



QUEEN OF APOSTLES CATHOLIC CHURCH

*O God, who through your Word
reconcile the human race to yourself
in a wonderful way, grant, we pray,
that with prompt devotion and eager faith
the Christian people may hasten toward
the solemn celebration to come.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the
Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.*

4401 Sano Street, Alexandria, VA 22312
(703) 354-8711
www.queenofapostles.org

CLERGY

Fr. Leopoldo M. Vives, DCJM, Pastor
Fr. Javier O'Connor, DCJM, Parochial Vicar
Fr. Ignacio de Ribera, DCJM, In Residence
Deacon Richard C. Caporiccio

SUNDAY MASS SCHEDULE

Vigil Masses on Saturday: 5:00 pm, 7:00 pm (in Spanish)
Sunday: 7:30 am, 9:00 am, 10:30 am,
12 Noon, 2:00 pm (Ghana Community)

WEEKDAY MASS SCHEDULE

Monday-Friday: 6:30 am and 9:00 am
No 6:30 am Mass on Federal Holidays
Saturday: 8:00 am

HOLY HOUR SCHEDULE

Thursday: 7:30-8:30 pm

CONFESSION SCHEDULE

Monday-Friday: 7:00-7:30 am
Wednesday: 6:30 pm until last penitent
Thursday: 7:30-8:30 pm during Holy Hour
Saturday: 4:00-5:00 pm and 6:00-7:00 pm
Sunday: 8:30-9:00 am and 10:00-10:30 am

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Monday 7 am through Saturday 7:45 am

QUEEN OF APOSTLES CATHOLIC SCHOOL

4409 Sano Street,
Alexandria, VA 22312
Mrs. Jodi Reagan, Principal
Mrs. Maria Fox, Secretary
(703) 354-0714
www.queenofapostlesschool.org



Queen of Apostles Vision Statement

To be a family of families committed to growing in discipleship of Christ and eager to invite others to join our family.

Joining Our Parish Family

Welcome to Queen of Apostles! We warmly invite you to join our parish family. So that you might receive all of our parish communications, and so that our clergy and staff may respond appropriately to your various sacramental needs, we encourage you to register at Queen of Apostles through the Parish Office. Parish registration forms are available in the Church vestibule and at the Parish Office, located at 4329 Sano St. (next door to the church). Please notify the Parish Office of any family status changes or if you have moved outside of the parish by calling (703) 354-8711, or e-mail general@queenofapostles.org.

Mary, Queen of Apostles, pray for us.

Altar Servers Schedule for Lent, Easter Altar servers are asked to sign-up to serve Stations of the Cross on Fridays at 7 pm and for Holy Week and Easter liturgies. Thank you for your service to the parish! Saints John Berchmans and Tarcisius, pray for us.

*O Most Sacred Heart of Jesus and
Immaculate Heart of Mary, pray for us.*

Emmaus High school and 8th grade students are invited to join Emmaus on Saturday evenings, 8:15-10 pm at Christendom Graduate School (CGS) located at 4407 Sano Street for fellowship, activities, faith discussions, and prayer. For more information email s.calvino@queenofapostles.org, or text QofA to 84576 to join our contact list and receive information about upcoming events.

The Lord is kind and merciful.

Entering Into Holy Week as a Family On Saturday, **Apr. 13**, there will be a morning of reflection for families. The day will begin with 8 am Mass and Rosary in the church, followed by a potluck breakfast and program in the school. We will finish at 1 pm. Adults and any nursing infants will spend the day with Father Javier. There will be catechesis, games, and crafts for the children. To register your family, please go to the parish website. To volunteer to assist with the children's programs, please email anne.souser@gmail.com.

Early Bulletin Deadlines Please make a note of the upcoming bulletin deadlines, and email your bulletin announcements to Mayra Saunders at m.saunders@queenofapostles.org.

The deadline for submitting announcements for the and **Apr. 7** bulletins was Monday, **Mar. 25**.

The deadline for submitting announcements for the **Apr. 14** bulletins is Monday, **Apr. 1** by 9 am.

The deadline for submitting announcements for the **Apr. 21** bulletins is Monday, **Apr. 8** by 9 am.

The deadline for submitting announcements for the **Apr. 28** bulletins is Monday, **Apr. 15** by 9 am.

Religious Education Religious Education will not meet on **Apr. 14** (Palm Sunday) and **Apr. 21** (Easter Sunday).

Registration for the **2019-2020** Religious Education school year begins on **Apr. 27**. New students need to provide birth and baptismal certificates to register.

Thank you Religious Education families for organizing the Mar. 24 potluck breakfast. \$535 was raised for the Queen of Apostles Capital Campaign!

First Holy Communion Students: Parents of grade 2 - high school Religious Education students who desire First Holy Communion have a meeting with Fr. Leopoldo this Sunday, **Mar. 31** at 9 am (English) or 9:30 am (Spanish) in All Saints Hall/Library.

Sacraments of Initiation students: The Elect and their godparents are to attend the Scrutinies on **31**, and **Apr. 7** during the 7 pm vigil (Spanish) or 10:30 am (English) Masses at QofA.

What are scrutinies? Scrutinies are held on the 3rd, 4th, and 5th Sundays of Lent for the unbaptized children and adults who are preparing to receive the Sacraments of Initiation during the Easter season. *Scrutinies, are meant to uncover, and then heal all that is weak, defective, or sinful in the hearts of The Elect; to bring out, then strengthen all that is upright, strong, and good. For the scrutinies are celebrated in order to deliver The Elect from the power of sin and Satan, to protect them against temptation, and to give them strength in Christ, who is the way, the truth, and the life. These rites, therefore, should complete the conversion of The Elect and deepen their resolve to hold fast to Christ and to carry out their decision to love God above all.* (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults, 141)

RCIA The Elect, along with their godparents/sponsors, are to attend Scrutinies on **Mar. 31**, and **Apr. 7** during the 7 pm vigil (Spanish) or 10:30 am (English) Masses at QofA.

Abstinence During Lent Everyone over 14 years of age is bound to observe abstinence (no meat). Abstinence is to be observed on all Fridays during Lent.

Thank You for your generous contribution to the Poor Box. This weekend's collection will go toward the **Parish Charity**. Next weekend's collection will go toward the **Parish Charity**.

Pastor's Letter

I Am The Light Of The World

The Lenten Liturgy is a Catechesis on Baptism. We visit those scenes where Jesus reveals who he is. The Christian, in Baptism, becomes God's child, being transformed into Christ: "So whoever is in Christ is a new creation: the old things have passed away; behold, new things have come" (2 Cor 5:17)

On this Fourth Sunday of Lent, "Laetare Sunday" the theme is the light. Baptism is a bath in those waters which spring from Jesus' heart. In Baptism, we are enlightened by Jesus, who is the Light of the World (Jn 8:12). Cycle A's Gospel reading, which we read for the Scrutinies, is the healing of the blind man. Jesus gives sight to the man born blind. This miracle leads to his confession of faith.

In this year's cycle C, the Gospel is the prodigal son. We can read the parable as a conversion which goes from blindness to sight. That younger son who left his father's house didn't know who his father was. Ignorant of the father's love, he was blind. It is only when he is embraced by his father that his eyes are opened and he can see the truth. His great sin was not to injure his father and squander his inheritance on a life of dissipation. His sin was to neglect the father's love. Truth is only revealed with the father's love.

In his first encyclical, Pope Francis beautifully speaks about faith, truth and love: "Love and truth are inseparable. Without love, truth becomes cold, impersonal and oppressive for people's day-to-day lives. The truth we seek, the truth that gives meaning to our journey through life, enlightens us whenever we are touched by love. One who loves realizes that love is an experience of truth, that it opens our eyes to see reality in a new way, in union with the beloved" (The Light of Faith #27).

Both the prodigal son and the healing of the blind men are about the encounter with God's love and truth. This encounter is the spark which ignites faith and discipleship.

How was the life of the prodigal son and the blind man after their healing? We don't know for sure. What is my life after Baptism? This is the real question. And today's readings tell us: "For you were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Live as children of light, for light produces every kind of goodness and righteousness and truth. Try to learn what is pleasing to the Lord. Take no part in the fruitless works of darkness; rather expose them" (Eph 5:8-11).

We have been transformed by Christ. Now we are children of the light. Let's walk as such.



Prayer to Mary for a Good Confession O my God, help me to make a good confession. Mary, my dearest Mother, pray to Jesus for me. Help me to examine my conscience, enable me to obtain true sorrow for my sins, and beg for me the grace rather to die than to offend God again. Lord Jesus, light of our souls, who enlightens every man coming into this world, enlighten my conscience and my heart by Thy Holy Spirit, so that I may perceive all that is displeasing to Thy divine majesty and may expiate it by humble confession, true contrition, and sincere repentance. Amen.

Prayer After Confession My dearest Jesus, I have told all my sins to the best of my ability. I have sincerely tried to make a good confession and I know that you have forgiven me. Thank you dear Jesus! Your divine heart is full of love and mercy for poor sinners. I love You dear Jesus; you are so good to me. My loving Savior, I shall try to keep from sin and to love You more each day. Dearest Mother Mary, pray for me and help me to keep all my promises. Protect me and do not let me fall back into sin. Dear God, help me to lead a good life. Without Your grace I can do nothing. Amen.

This Week In Our Parish

Fourth Sunday of Lent - Lactare Sunday, March 31:

School 9:00-10:15 am Religious Education
Parish Office 9:00-11:00 am Stephen Ministry
Notre Dame Graduate School 9:00-11:00 am
Hogares de Santa Maria
Hannan Hall 2:00-5:30 pm Ghana Group
Adoration Chapel 6:00-8:00 pm Prayer Group

Monday, April 1:

Church *Organ Delivery and Installation (4/1-5)*
Hannan Hall 3:45-5:30 pm Nazareth
Hannan Hall 7:00-9:00 pm Young Adult Bible Study
Cupertino Room 6:30-9:00 pm Hispanic Legion of Mary
Notre Dame Graduate School 7:30-9:00 pm RCIA in English

Tuesday, April 2:

Hannan Hall 10:00-11:30 am Bible Study
Parish Office 5:45-7:15 pm Bible Study
Hannan Hall 6:00-10:00 pm Choir Practice

Wednesday, April 3:

Hannan Hall 7:00-9:00 pm Ghana Prayer Group
Notre Dame Graduate School 7:30-9:00 pm RCIA in Spanish

Thursday, April 4:

Hannan Hall 3:00-4:30 pm Children's Choir Practice
Parish Office 6:30-8:00 pm Legion of Mary
Hannan Hall 6:30-9:00 pm Caminantes de Emaus
Church 7:30-8:30 pm Holy Hour
School 9:00-10:30 pm St. Joseph Men's Group

Friday, April 5:

Adoration Chapel 11:00-11:30 am Children's
Adoration Hour
Church 1:15-2:15 pm School Stations of the Cross
Adoration Chapel 3:00-4:00 pm Divine Mercy Chaplet
Hannan Hall 6:30-9:00 pm Caminantes de Emaus
Church 7:00-8:00 pm Stations of the Cross
Hannan Hall 9:00 pm-8:00 am First Friday Adoration Vigil

Saturday, April 6:

Hannan Hall 8:30 am-12 pm GCC St. Theresa Conf.
Parish Office 1:00-6:00 pm Stephen Ministry
School 4:00-6:30 pm Spanish Prayer Group
School 7:00-9:00 pm Ghana Choir
Notre Dame Graduate School 8:30-10:00 pm Emmaus

Stations of the Cross

Join us for Stations of the Cross every Friday during Lent.

Mothers for Priests All mothers in the parish are invited to participate in an apostolate to pray for all priests. Please come to the Holy Hour this Thursday, **Apr. 4**, at 7:30 pm to pray especially for priests. For more information, please contact Genevieve Erkens at (703) 719-7955 or gerkengal@gmail.com.

Post-Abortion Healing Retreat for Women An Entering Canaan Day of Prayer & Healing for women who have experienced abortion will be held on Saturday, **Apr. 6**. For more information and confidential registration, please contact Project Rachel Ministry at 888-456-HOPE (4673).

Vocations



"I am the light of the world, says the Lord." Are you called to bring the Light of Christ to the world through a vocation to the priesthood or consecrated life? Contact Fr. Leopoldo Vives DCJM at general@queenofapostles.org, or Fr. Michael Isenberg at (703) 841-2514 or m.isenberg@arlingtondiocese.org.

Fourth Sunday of Lent For the faithful response of all persons now being called to seek out those who are lost and bring them back to life in Christ by serving Him and His Church as priests, deacons, sisters and brothers, we pray to the Lord.

Mass and Rosary for Life with Bishop Burbidge

Join us in thanking God for the gift of life and praying for its protection at all its stages. Mass will be offered by Bishop Michael Burbidge next Saturday, **Apr. 6** at 8 am at QofA Parish. The Bishop will then lead a rosary at the abortion facility located nearby at the intersection of Whiting Road and Stevenson Avenue.

Family Rosary Queen of Apostles' Knights of Columbus Council 4522, Pope John Paul II, invite and encourage all parishioners to join us immediately following the Noon Mass this Sunday, where Sir Knight Fr. Leopoldo Vives will lead us in praying the Holy Rosary for the unborn.

KOVAR Collections (Tootsie Roll Campaign)

Before and after all Masses the weekends of **Apr. 6/7** and **27/28**, the Knights of Columbus, Pope John Paul II Council #4522 will be collecting your generous donations towards support of KOVAR. KOVAR is a charitable 501(c)(3) corporation established by the Virginia Knights of Columbus in 1971, dedicated to serving Virginians with intellectual disabilities. KOVAR collects and distributes funds in the form of grants and loans to tax-exempt organizations that serve people with intellectual disabilities in Virginia. Thank you in advance for your generosity!

All Saints Car Raffle

Tickets for the annual 5 Car Raffle have been mailed. This is the same raffle that we have participated in for the last number of years. You will notice one change, the ticket returns are being processed at All Saints again this year. This is a new requirement by the Department of Charitable Gaming. The raffle continues to benefit our parish and many other charitable causes throughout the diocese. We hope that you will support our efforts by buying or selling your tickets!



Divine Mercy

"Child, speak no more of your misery; it is already forgotten. Listen, My child, to what I desire to tell you. Come close to My wounds and draw from the Fountain of Life whatever your heart desires. Drink copiously from the Fountain of Life and you will not weary on your journey. Look at the splendor of My mercy and do not fear the enemies of your salvation. Glorify My mercy."

(Diary of St. Faustina, 1485)

Nourishing Our Souls With Holy Scripture

Readings for Next Week

Fifth Sunday of Lent

Is 43:16-21 Ps 126:1-2, 2-3, 4-5, 6
Phil 3:8-14 Jn 8:1-11

Bánica Mission Breakfast/Brunch Fundraiser Sunday, April 7 in Hannan Hall After All Masses

Every featuring pancakes, eggs, sausage, pastries, fruit, juice, coffee and tea. A free will donation will be gratefully accepted. Your donations will help buy building supplies to Raise the Roof for a Family in need and build them a brand new home. Thank you for your generous support!

Women's Group The Queen of Apostles Women's Group will have their monthly meeting on Wednesday, **Apr. 10** at 10 am in Hannan Hall. The speaker for our meeting is Larry Cirignano, the DC representative for the Children First Foundation. All parishioners are cordially invited.

Bishop's Lenten Appeal The Bishop's Lenten Appeal is in full swing and we are asking every household to support this appeal to the extent they are able. The BLA funds many programs, services and ministries that serve people in need and furthers the Gospel mission of Jesus Christ in our diocese. Queen of Apostles currently has reached 66% of our BLA goal, with 19% of parish families having made a pledge. Take a BLA pamphlet from the back of the church or visit arlingtondiocese.org to make your pledge in support of our parish and diocese today.

Our Lady of Sorrows, pray for us.

Its Coming...And Its No April Fools'! Our beautiful new Rogers Infinity Organ is scheduled for delivery on **Apr. 1!** Electricity, speaker, and organ wiring have already been pulled. Work will begin after the 9 am Mass on **Apr. 1.** The old organ will need to be disassembled, new speakers need to be installed, then the new organ will undergo final assembly in the choir loft. Testing, training, fine tuning—the entire process is expected to last the entire week. We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause you as the nave will be unavailable Monday through Friday, except for the 6:30 and 9 am Masses. Our goal was to have the new organ installed and ready for the beautiful Easter liturgy. God heard our prayers and delivered once again, as he does every day! Praise be to God!

Queen of Apostles Catholic School

Congratulations to our Queen of Apostles School 8th grade class for their High School Acceptances. We are happy to announce that our 8th graders have been accepted into the following schools for the 2019-2020 school year:

- *Thomas Jefferson High School *Bishop Ireton
- *Bishop O'Connell *John Paul the Great
- *Paul VI *Gonzaga

We wish all of our 8th graders the best as they finish this year and look towards their next year in high school.

Fourth Sunday of Lent - Laetare Sunday Masses this Week

Fourth Sunday of Lent - March 31:

7:30 am +Graham Stilwell
9:00 am +Joseph Paiva
10:30 am Living and Deceased Parishioners
12:00 pm +Efren Policarpio

Monday, April 1:

6:30 am +Fr. Keith R. Ramey
9:00 am +Carlos Suarez

Saint Francis of Paola - Tuesday, April 2:

6:30 am +Graham Stilwell
9:00 am +Alex Samantela

Wednesday, April 3:

6:30 am +Graham Stilwell
9:00 am +Kathy-Ann York Walther

Saint Isidore - Thursday, April 4:

6:30 am +Graham Stilwell
9:00 am +Graham Stilwell

Saint Vincent Ferrer - Friday, April 5:

6:30 am +Florencio León-Duarte
9:00 am +Arbert Brendentains

Saturday, April 6:

8:00 am +Sylvia Baldini
5:00 pm +Olga and Elizabeth Bertrand
7:00 pm +Carmen Solis

Fifth Sunday of Lent - April 7:

7:30 am +Sophia Barsh
9:00 am +Dolores Perez
10:30 am Living and Deceased Parishioners
12:00 pm +Annemarie Lang

*I will get up and go to my Father
and shall say to him:*

Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you.



Please pray for the members of our parish who are ill

Marilyn Cole, Frank Subalusky, Betty Jane Davis, Kevin Bonko, Olivia Castillo Asnis, Leo Monterroso, Anna Anderson, Daniel O'Donohue, Etelvina León-Duarte, Michelle Jacobeen, Pedro Baiza, Jean McDermott, Maria Reyes, Anne Kemble, Tesfa Haile, Virginia Shea, Joseph Lipari, Rosa María Santos, Carmelita Mate, Leonor Cabrestane, Roger Trozado, Jeanie Miller, Maddie Respicio-Cabatic, Helen Brooks, Charles Ferris, Dominic Blansett, Dick Owens, Linda Intihar, Melencio Morales, Reyes Duran, Luong Bui, Nick Tullier, Rose Maalouf, Nicole Pack, Barbara J. Banis, Numa Osuna, Jr., Timmy Burnway, Kristi Burns, Kathleen Donohoe, Mark Bush, Margaret Peiffer, David Stemcosky, Rita Sulit, Jason Banis, Emma Collins, Juana Mejia, Lisa Nyce, Monique Brooks, Debby Sprah, Consuelo Jocson, Cheryl McGlynn, Theresa Corcoran, Cordelia Carcamo