

# QUEEN OF APOSTLES CATHOLIC CHURCH

4401 Sano Street, Alexandria, VA 22312 (703) 354-8711 [www.queenofapostles.org](http://www.queenofapostles.org)

**26th Sunday in Ordinary Time - September 27, 2020**



## CLERGY

Fr. Alexander Díaz, Pastor  
Fr. Joseph Rampino, Parochial Vicar  
Deacon Richard C. Caporiccio  
Deacon Vincent Kapral

## MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday: 8:00 am, 7:00 pm (*Spanish*)  
Sunday: 8:00 am, 10:00 am, 12:00 pm  
1:30 pm (*Spanish*) 3:00 pm (*Ghana Community Mass*)  
Monday-Saturday: 8:00 am

## CONFESSION SCHEDULE

Wednesday: 8:30-9:00 am  
Thursday: 7:00 pm until last penitent  
Friday: 6:30 pm until last penitent  
Saturday: 3:30 pm until last penitent

## EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Wednesday 8:30 am-8pm  
Thursday: 7:00-8:00 pm



## QUEEN OF APOSTLES CATHOLIC SCHOOL

*FAITH, EXCELLENCE, JOY*

4409 Sano Street  
Alexandria, VA 22312  
[www.queenofapostlesschool.org](http://www.queenofapostlesschool.org)

### SCHOOL OFFICE HOURS:

Mon – Thurs, 8:00 am – 3:15 pm  
Friday, 8:00 am – 2:15 pm

### STAFF

Anne Arias, Principal  
Maria Fox, Secretary  
Fr. Joseph Rampino,  
Chaplain  
Phone: (703) 354-0714



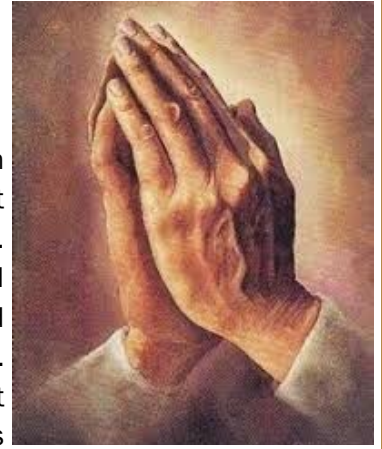
*With Mary, "the first disciple of her son" (Redemptoris Mater, 20), Queen of Apostles Catholic School is rooted in faith, excellence, and joy. We flourish by embracing our call to holiness, advancing in virtue and academics, and cultivating the many talents God has given us.*

*Est. 1966*

## PASTOR'S LETTER

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

What happiness to share with all of you again the joy of living and walking hand in hand with God; I believe that every day, week, and month that we live is a divine gift that should inspire us to seek holiness and the desire to live in the presence of God. I want to ask you not to lose contact with God in prayer and the sacramental life. I have realized that in this challenging time that we live, there is a lot of anger and frustration, and I am not referring to you as parishioners but the world in general. The world is experiencing a very challenging time, and for this reason, I believe that we need to pray more intensely to find peace and strength when we feel that all is lost.



I want to talk this week on some essential points of our parish life, which should help us grow more as a community of faith, family, and brothers and sisters.

One of them is flower donations. I want to ask if you can donate flowers: I have seen that many bring flowers and leave them by the statues on the side of the temple, I would like if you can donate them between Thursday and Friday, and we would use them to decorate the altar for the weekend Masses. The cost of flowers is relatively high, and if we all collaborate, we would have a beautiful altar with the flower offerings you can make.

The parish activities are essential for the parish to have life, grow, and evangelize; therefore, we will have several activities that help us grow in our contact with God. The first is the blessing of the animals; this will be on Saturday, October 3rd, on the eve of the Feast of Saint Francis of Assisi; if you have pets bring them, we will give them the blessing.

Also, write in your calendar the celebration of Our Lady of Fatima. It will be on October 10th at 5:30 pm; it will be a procession with candles through the parish neighborhood. We will pray the rosary in different languages, as a sign of the universality of the church, we will have candles for sale so that we can all carry one, then we will have a bilingual Mass, for the Mass you will need to RSVP because the number of seats is limited. Please visit the parish website for more information.

Finally, I want us to prepare in advance for a week dedicated to life, next month is Respect Life Month, and the theme for this year is: "Live the Gospel of Life: to imitate Christ and follow in his footsteps." We will spend a week dedicated to praying for life; we will have different prayers where everyone can participate. Each day, a ministry or group in the Parish will be in charge. I invite you to participate. In the same way, let's look for ways to help this cause. There are many resources and programs that we can support. The diocesan Respect Life office offers us many opportunities to show our commitment to the sanctity of dignity of every human being. I encourage all of you to visit the diocesan Respect Life office or reach out to our parish Respect Life Leader to find ways to help. Please call the parish office for information.

I hope you have a happy and blessed week, and do not forget that God is great and is always with us. May Mary, Queen of the Apostles, intercede for us!

God is great

*Fr. Alex*

## Masses This Week

### Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time - September 27:

8:00 am (L) Sybella Debasa Family  
 10:00 am Living & Deceased  
 12:00 pm +Kevin O'Brien  
 1:30 pm +Enrique Espino

### St. Wenceslaus - Monday, September 28:

8:00 am (L) Kenneth G. Florence

### The Archangels - Tuesday, September 29:

8:00 am (L) Cora Wack

### St. Jerome - Wednesday, September 30:

8:00 am (L) Gustavo Dupuy

### St. Therese - Thursday, October 1:

8:00 am +Miguel Antonio Alvarez

### Holy Guardian Angels - Friday, October 2:

8:00 am (L) Carmen Fox

### Saturday, October 3:

8:00 am +Catalino Aquino  
 7:00 pm +Victoria Elizabeth Perea

*\*Please note that since we currently have a modified Mass schedule due to COVID, Mass intentions not listed will be said at private Masses said by our priests. We are sorry for any inconvenience this may have caused. Please call the parish office at (703) 354-8711 ext. 10 with any questions\**

*Have you signed up for Parish electronic giving through Faith Direct?* To join Faith Direct, start by simply focusing your phone camera on this QR code! You can also visit [faithdirect.net](http://faithdirect.net) and enroll online using our Parish code: **VA234**



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**Thank you for your support!**

### **Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

"None of us lives for oneself, and no one dies for oneself." Is God calling you to live for others as a priest, sister or brother? Contact Fr. Michael Isenberg at (703) 841-2514, or [michael.isenberg@arlingtondiocese.org](mailto:michael.isenberg@arlingtondiocese.org)



## Rosary Rally for our Police

**Saturday, September 26, 2020**

**Join us in praying the Rosary for police officers! We will be praying the Rosary directly after 8am Mass, around 9:15am at the Mason District Government Center on Columbia Pike.**



### **Please pray for the sick members of our parish**

Jin C. Navarro, Leo Monteroso, Etelvina León-Duarte, Ginny Cook, Olivia Castillo Asnis, Maria Reyes, Anna Anderson, Jean McDermott, Anne Kemble, Virginia Shea, Joseph Lipari, Rosa María Santos, Carmelita Mate, Leonor Cabrestane, Roger Trozado, Jeanie Miller, Maddie Respicio-Cabatic, Helen Brooks, Charles Ferris, Dominic Blansett, Linda Intihar, Melencio Morales, Reyes Duran, Luong Bui, Nick Tullier, Rose Maalouf, Nicole Pack, Barbara J. Banis, Numa Osuna, Jr., Timmy Burnway, Mark Bush, Margaret Peiffer, Rita Sulit, Jason Banis, Emma Collins, Juana Mejia, Lisa Nyce, Monique Brooks, Debby Sprah, Consuelo Jocson, Cheryl McGlynn, Theresa Corcoran, Cordelia Carcamo, Russ and Jill Amerling, Kathy Ippolito, Richard Esterlund, Margaret Fiore, Michael Robertson, Mr. Cervantes, Jocelyn Reyes, Wilma Robles, Maryann McNutt

## The Archangels: September 29

The liturgy celebrates the feast of these three archangels who are venerated in the tradition of the Church. Michael was the archangel who fought against Satan and all his evil angels, defending all the friends of God. He is the protector of all humanity from the snares of the devil. Gabriel announced to Zachariah the forthcoming birth of John the Baptist, and to Mary, the birth of Jesus. His greeting to the Virgin, "Hail, full of grace," is one of the most familiar and frequent prayers of the Christian people. Raphael is the archangel who took care of Tobias on his journey.



## Men's Silent Retreat

Register for the annual **Men's Silent Retreat weekend!** It includes daily Mass, conferences, time for private prayer, confession and spiritual direction.

## MEN'S SILENT RETREAT

### THE WAY FORWARD: PERFECTION, COURAGE, & HOPE

OCTOBER 16 AT 6:30PM -  
OCTOBER 18 AT 12PM



Register at

[Arlingtondiocese.org/retreatformen](http://Arlingtondiocese.org/retreatformen)

San Damiano Spiritual Center, White Post, VA  
 \$325 before Sept. 10; \$360 afterwards



# † RELIGIOUS EDUCATION †

## Thank you Catechists!

We are blessed to have dedicated catechists, aides, and volunteers who assist parents in the important task of bringing children closer to Christ and His Church: **Magdalena, Lorynie, Lourdes, Natalie, Kene, Chris, Benedict, Gladys, Sister Eneyda, Vincent, Blanca, Maria, Jessica.** I received from the Lord What I also handed on to you is the theme for Catechetical Sunday, now scheduled for **Sept. 20, 2020.** Catechists will be recognized for their vocation to the ministry of catechesis.



## RCIA

*Were you baptized Catholic but missing Confirmation, Eucharist? Are you interested in Learning about the Catholic Faith? Are you in a Sacramental Marriage?*

If you answered "Yes" to any of these questions, you should register for RCIA! The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) is the process through which adults join or complete their initiation into the Catholic Church. RCIA is for 3 groups of adults:

- \* Those who are not baptized.
- \* Those who were baptized into another Christian denomination and wish to enter into full communion with the Catholic Church.
- \* Baptized Catholics who were not fully formed in the Catholic faith and have not completed their initiation: those who have not received the Sacraments of Confirmation and/or Eucharist.



If you are missing Sacraments, not in a Church marriage, or thinking about becoming Catholic, please join our weekly English or Spanish adult faith formation classes. **RCIA in English** will be held on **Tuesdays, 7-8:30pm** beginning **Sept 22** with Fr. Rampino. **RCIA in Spanish** will be held on **Wednesday, 7-8:30pm** beginning **Sept 23** with Mr. Mercado. Both classes will be held in the parish office (4329 Sano Street).

Please stop by the parish office (4329 Sano Street) to register for the next school year (Sept 2020-June 2021) or email [s.gray@queenofapostles.org](mailto:s.gray@queenofapostles.org). Please provide your birth certificate, and, if applicable, your baptismal certificate dated in the last 6 months.

For couples married outside of the Church, our priests are willing to help you prepare for Holy Matrimony. Please contact the office and set an appointment to meet with a priest.

## Religious Education Information

**Dates:** The Queen of Apostles Religious Education Program is in full swing! Thank you to our families, students, catechists, aides, and volunteers for working together to comply with health and safety protocols. On **Sunday, Sept 27**, doors will open at **8:30am** and students are asked to arrive no later than **8:45am** for the **9am** class. Please park close to the school and escort your child to the check-in. Students will enter the school and find his/her classroom. Please observe safety when entering and exiting the parking lot. Parents are to meet their student/s along the walkways near the school by **10:15 a.m.**

Parents of students using the on-line/at-home learning option (for students in grades 1-8, through [MyCatholicFaithDelivered.com](https://www.mycatholicfaithdelivered.com) (MCFD) + a monthly Sunday morning class via video with the catechist and in-person class) have been sent MCFD log-in information. Each week, a message will be sent to the student's parent about the lesson the student is to complete.

**Safety:** Remember to perform a self-screening of symptoms before arriving on campus. On-site, temperatures will be checked and questions about coronavirus symptoms will be asked. Family members displaying any symptoms are not to attend RE class. To comply with safety protocols, class size is limited, 6' distance between families/students, masks/face shields are to be worn by everyone, hand sanitizer will be used upon entering the school building, students will report directly to class, only catechists, aides, and registration volunteers may enter the school, and disinfection will occur before and after classes. Students must bring his/her own pen/pencil, paper, folder, bottled water, hand sanitizer, etc. to class each week. Please, no sharing of supplies.

**Requirements:** Each RE school year builds on the next year of faith formation, therefore, students must attend **at least 2 consecutive years** of Religious Ed before a Sacrament is administered. A student is to show **evidence of desire** and preparation for a Sacrament and **not have more than 3 absences** during the school year. Generally, baptized children receive First Penance/Holy Communion in grade 2 and up and Confirmation is received in grade 8 and up. Families with unbaptized children under 7 years old or homeschool families with children preparing for Sacraments this upcoming school year are asked to call the parish office at 703-354-8711 ext. 10



## 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 or on our website [queenofapostles.org](https://www.queenofapostles.org). Parish registration forms are available in the Church vestibule and at the Parish Office, located at 4329 Sano Street. Please notify the Parish Office of any family status changes or if you have moved outside the parish by contacting (703) 354-8711 ext. 10, or [general@queenofapostles.org](mailto:general@queenofapostles.org)

## Gospel Commentary for 26th Sunday in Ordinary Time: Being Honest with God

*Fr. Joseph Rampino*



When God chooses David as King of Israel, despite being the youngest and most humble of the sons of Jesse, He says through Samuel the prophet: "the Lord sees not as man sees; man looks on the outward appearance, but the Lord looks on the heart." So also Christ tells us in the Gospel this weekend. He tells the parable of two sons, one who only obeys in words with no actions to follow, and the other who despite initial resistance, later does act according to the will of the Father.

Our Lord is clear that this parable is a challenge to those who think that the external trappings of faith will be sufficient before God without conversion of heart. Why are "tax collectors and prostitutes entering the kingdom of God before" the "chief priests and the elders?" They enter first because they have actually passed through the moment of conversion which is essential for friendship with God. Appearance and lip service do not count for anything before God, who is truth itself, and sees everything hidden within the human heart. He calls us to real friendship, which requires acts of humility, repentance, and obedience on our part, no matter who we are. There must be an honesty before God in order to enter the kingdom of heaven, and it is this honesty that Christ finds in repentant sinners, and not in the chief priests and elders of His day.

So we have to ask ourselves, am I honest before God? Do I try to hide myself behind the trappings of faith without confronting the necessities of real religion? Am I willing to be converted in my heart, and with humility turn away from sin towards God, or will I remain behind a wall of self-assurance, telling myself and God that I am basically good, that I am holy enough, that I'm better than other folks who are far from God?

The truth is that the moment we decide to be totally honest before God, we have nothing to fear. The Lord already knows that on our own, we cannot be holy, and that we need His mercy at every moment. He came specifically to call sinners, not the righteous, and opens heaven to everyone who confesses their sins, and who turns to do the good with their whole heart, recognizing their need for the Lord's constant help and presence. We cannot trick God, certainly, but He is also not trying to pull one over on us, and is extending the hand of His grace to draw us closer to Him. No matter which son in the parable we take after, so long as we are alive, we can choose to turn to the Lord and do as He has asked.



### *Procession and Rosary for Our Lady of Fatima*

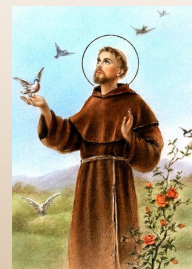
A Rosary procession will be held at Queen of Apostles on **Sun., Oct. 10th, at 5:30 p.m.** in honor of Our Lady of Fatima, followed by Mass. It will be led by the parish priests, followed by bearers carrying a statue of Our Lady of Fatima. We will pray the Rosary in different languages. The procession will begin at St. Gabriel's Convent. Please contact the Parish Office for further information

**St. Ann's Homeschool Group** New to homeschooling? Queen of Apostles' St. Ann's Homeschool Group is here for you! For more information about our group and events, please contact Genevieve Erkens at 703-719-7955. We look forward to hearing from you!

**Queen of Apostles Young Adults** Our mission is to inspire single and married young adults, ages 18-39, to answer the universal call to sainthood through fellowship and formation. On **Saturday, October 10 at 6:00 p.m.**, we'll be joining the Frassati Annandale YA group for a virtual event. We'll be watching "The Chosen", which is a great series based on the life of our Lord. For more information or to get added to our list, contact John Cosgayon at 571-265-9208 or [jncos95@outlook.com](mailto:jncos95@outlook.com) or text QOFA to 84576

### **Blessing of the Animals in Honor of St. Francis of Assisi**

There will be a Blessing of Animals on the eve of the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi on **Saturday, October 3rd, at noon and 5 PM** in the church parking lot. Parishioners are encouraged to bring their pets; dogs should be on leashes, and other pets should be in appropriate carriers. Please contact the parish office for further information.



**Wednesday Adoration** Every Wednesday, from **8:45am -8pm**, we will have Eucharistic Adoration in the main sanctuary. Please make an effort to spend time with our Lord in prayer! Confessions are available outside immediately following Exposition. Call the parish office at (703)-354-8711 ext. 10 if there is no one else in the church and you need to leave.