



**The Cathedral of Saint Thomas More**  
3901 Cathedral Lane Arlington, VA 22203  
Most Rev. Michael F. Burbidge, Bishop of Arlington



**THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD**

*See Pg. 4 to learn about our Bulletin Cover Project*

**Clergy**

Most Rev. Michael F. Burbidge, Bishop of Arlington  
Very Rev. Patrick L. Posey, V.F., Rector  
Rev. Kevin Dansereau, Parochial Vicar  
Rev. Eliberto de Jesus Garcia Pareja, Parochial Vicar  
Rev. Michael D. Weston, In Residence  
Deacon Michael Nugent

**Rectory Office Hours: Monday through Friday**

9:00am-4:00pm; Closed for lunch 1:00-1:45pm  
Phone: 703-525-1300  
stmparishoffice@cathedralstm.org;  
Website: www.cathedralstm.org

**Religious Education**

703-525-1300, ext 26

Mr. Benjamin Paczak

**School**

105 N. Thomas Street  
Arlington, VA 22203  
Phone: 703-528-6781; Fax: 703-518-5048  
www.stmschool.org  
Mrs. Catherine Adams Davis, Principal

**Christian Initiation**

Rev. Kevin Dansereau 703-525-1300

**Music**

703-525-1300, ext 31  
Fr. Vincent Ferrer Bagan, O.P. Director of Music

**Hispanic Apostolate**

703-841-3883  
200 N. Glebe Road, Ste. 820, Arlington, VA 22203

**Sacramental Information**

**PENANCE:**

Thursday 7:00pm to 8:00pm  
Saturday 3:30pm-4:30pm and by appointment;  
Sunday en Español: 12:15pm—1:00pm

**BAPTISM AND MATRIMONY:** Please contact the Rectory or go to the website for information. In-class preparation is required. Please call the Rectory to register.

**ANOINTING of the SICK:** Please contact the Rectory for a priest.

**Mass Schedule**

Monday-Friday: 7:00am & 12:05pm\*  
Tuesdays: 7:00pm (en Español)  
Saturdays: 9:00am\*  
Saturday Vigil: 5:00pm  
Sundays: 7:00am, 9:00am, 11:00am\*  
1:00pm\* (en Español) and 7:00pm  
Federal Holidays: 10:00am  
**\*LIVE-STREAMED**  
Community Evening Prayer: Adoration, Benediction and Confession Every Thursday 6:30-8:00pm  
Community Rosary 11:40am before Daily Mass

## Parish Staff

Beth Blaine, Receptionist  
[bblaine@cathedralstm.org](mailto:bblaine@cathedralstm.org)

Patty Kain, Bi-lingual Administrative Assistant  
[pkain@cathedralstm.org](mailto:pkain@cathedralstm.org)

Maria Stillone, Bookkeeper / Spanish Liaison  
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Fr. Vincent Ferrer Bagan, O.P., Director of Music  
[music@cathedralstm.org](mailto:music@cathedralstm.org)

## From Our Rector

**"For Zion's sake I will not be silent, for Jerusalem's sake I will not be quiet ..."**

Three weeks ago we heard Isaiah proclaim that we were to "prepare the way of the LORD." Our time of waiting was nearing its conclusion. This passage is one oft quoted, from Handel to Stephen Schwartz who wrote the music for the Broadway play, "Godspell." From hallowed cathedral aisles to stages across the world, this simple message resonates: "Jerusalem, herald of good news! Fear not to cry out and say: Here is your God!"

"Here is your God." We gather in this Church, at this time, to celebrate. We have left trees and gifts, decorations, and cards to be at this moment: here. In an increasingly secular world, what you're doing is crazy. How can you believe when there is so much that pulls you away? Why are you trudging yourself, your kids, your senior relatives out from the comfort of your home either late at night, early in the morning or in the middle of your festivities? Is it out of a sense of duty? Because it's what you always do?

The beauty of this miracle, of God becoming man for our sake, is that for whatever reason you're here, God's grace is already at work in your life. Sometimes, even in spite of ourselves, we echo the yes said by both Mary and Joseph in the compassion we show others; in the courage of our convictions; in the respect we give each other.

While I love the beautiful song "Silent Night," I say don't be quiet. Proclaim Christ as your savior. Live Jesus, as St. Francis de Sales has said. Be open to Words spoken today at Mass. Let them find room in your heart and expression in your deeds. Come back for More next Sunday and beyond and see this gift grow in your soul. I promise that you will find peace, comfort, strength, and yes, even joy that will sustain you long after the creche is packed away.

On behalf of my brother priests, deacon, faculty and staff, I wish you a blessed Christmas. May God protect you if you are traveling. If you are visiting us, welcome; I'm glad you can spend time with us. I hope you find spiritual fulfillment in this holy season. Please know of our prayers and support if you find this Christmas challenging due to illness, loss, or worry. We are here for you not just today, but always. Thank you for the privilege of walking with you in times of celebration and sorrow. God bless. Fr. Posey

### EXPLORE MORE at THE CATHEDRAL!

**WELCOME** and thank you for joining us. The Cathedral is the Mother Church of the Diocese, and home to many events throughout the year, as well as an award-winning School. Whether you need to update your contact information, or want to register, the process is easy. Registration forms can be found at the Cathedral entrances or you can go to [Registration - Cathedral of St. Thomas More \(cathedralstm.org\)](http://Registration-Cathedral-of-St.-Thomas-More.cathedralstm.org)



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**Bulletin deadline is two weeks prior to publication date.**  
Please send submissions to <https://bit.ly/2YDnyPH>





DIocese of ARLINGTON

Office of the Bishop

200 North Glebe Road, Suite 914 • Arlington, Virginia 22203 • Office (703) 841-2511 • Fax (703) 524-5028

Christmas 2022

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Today we rejoice in the birth of Our Savior! His arrival, foretold by prophets throughout the centuries, brings to the world a great mystery of our faith: this tiny baby, wrapped in swaddling clothes and laid in a humble manger - born of a virgin - was both human and divine. He is both our Creator and our Savior; both the Eternal Word, who existed before the beginning, and a man, who dwells among us.

In response to this mystery, our Blessed Mother proclaims, "*My soul rejoices in the Lord!*" These words are also the theme for this second preparatory year toward our diocesan Golden Jubilee celebration in 2024. We rejoice with her, as we celebrate the birth of Jesus, the incarnate Savior.

Jesus' birth was marked by a star shining in the sky. The light that Christ brought into the world on this day has shone brightly for two millennia. It has revealed God's glory as it has guided Christians to love one another, protect the vulnerable, care for the poor, serve those in need, educate children, heal the sick, welcome the newcomer, work for justice and live in peace with our neighbors.

As we celebrate the true Light coming into the world, may we strive daily to walk in that light always! May we also renew our promise to bring others into the light by sharing the love that God has for us, his beloved sons and daughters.

Please be assured of my prayers for you! May *your* soul rejoice in the Lord and may his peace and abundant blessings be yours this Christmas and always.

Sincerely in Christ,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Michael F. Burbidge".

Most Reverend Michael F. Burbidge  
Bishop of Arlington



DIOCESE OF ARLINGTON

Office of the Bishop

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Navidad 2022

Queridos hermanos y hermanas en Cristo,

¡Hoy nos alegramos por el nacimiento de Nuestro Salvador! Su llegada, anunciada por los profetas a lo largo de los siglos, trae al mundo un gran misterio de nuestra fe: este pequeño bebé, envuelto en pañales y acostado en un humilde pesebre -nacido de una virgen- era a la vez humano y divino. Es a la vez nuestro Creador y nuestro Salvador; a la vez el Verbo Eterno, que existía antes del principio, y un hombre, que habita entre nosotros.

En respuesta a este misterio, nuestra Santa Madre proclama: "*¡Mi alma se alegra en el Señor!*". Estas palabras son también el lema de este segundo año preparatorio para la celebración de nuestro Jubileo de Oro diocesano en 2024. Nos alegramos con ella, mientras celebramos el nacimiento de Jesús, el Salvador encarnado.

El nacimiento de Jesús estuvo marcado por una estrella que brilló en el cielo. La luz que Cristo trajo al mundo en este día ha brillado con fuerza durante dos milenios. Ha revelado la gloria de Dios al guiar a los cristianos a amarse unos a otros, a proteger a los vulnerables, a cuidar de los pobres, a servir a los necesitados, a educar a los niños, a curar a los enfermos, a acoger al recién llegado, a trabajar por la justicia y a vivir en paz con nuestros vecinos.

Mientras celebramos la llegada de la verdadera Luz al mundo, ¡que nos esforcemos diariamente por caminar siempre en esa luz! Que también renovemos nuestra promesa de llevar a otros a la luz compartiendo el amor que Dios nos tiene, sus amados hijos e hijas.

Por favor, tengan la seguridad de que estoy rezando por ustedes. Que su alma se regocije en el Señor y que su paz y abundantes bendiciones sean suyas en esta Navidad y siempre.

Sinceramente en Cristo,

Mons. Michael F. Burbidge  
Obispo de Arlington

## Today's Readings

First Reading	Isaiah 52:7-10
Responsorial:	Psalms 98:1-6
Second Reading:	Hebrews 1:1-6
Gospel:	John 1:1-18 [1-5, 9-14]

## Readings for the Week

Monday:	Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59; Ps 31:3cd-4, 6, 8ab, 16bc, 17; Mt 10:17-22
Tuesday:	1 Jn 1:1-4; Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12; Jn 20:1a, 2-8
Wednesday:	1 Jn 1:5 — 2:2; Ps 124:2-5, 7b-8; Mt 2:13-18
Thursday:	1 Jn 2:3-11; Ps 96:1-3, 5b-6; Lk 2:36-40
Friday:	Sir 3:2-6, 12-14 or Col 3:12-21 [12-17]; Ps 128:1-5; Mt 2:13-15, 19-23
Saturday:	1 Jn 2:18-21; Ps 96:1-2, 11-13; Jn 1:1-18
Sunday:	Nm 6:22-27; Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8; Gal 4:4-7; Lk 2:16-21

### REQUEST A MASS INTENTION

Did you know? The custom of requesting a Mass for a specific intention, even when one cannot be physically present at the Mass, is a longstanding tradition in the Church. Masses can be offered to celebrate Baptisms, Birthdays, Anniversary, Confirmations, Special Intentions, and/or to commemorate the anniversary of a loved one's death. Please contact the Rectory Office 703-525-1300. Your offering can be mailed or done online at <https://membership.faithdirect.net/VA326>

### Remember in your prayers the sick of our parish

**especially:** Lourdes Batol, Maria Cassidy, Fernando Delos Reyes, Carolina Gomes, Owen Keel, Ann Kelly, Karen Kelly, Barbara Ilacqua, Walter Quinn, Adm. Dave Rogers (Ret.), James Saunders, Raymond Sy, Josephine Whibley. Please call the Rectory to submit prayer requests for the sick, or to remove a name from the list.

Join us to pray the Rosary, daily at 11:40am, before the 12:05pm Mass.

## Daily Mass Intentions

### Saturday, Dec. 24

5:00pm	Virginia Billian (D)
8:00pm	Parishioners
10:00pm	Agnes Connors

### Sunday, Dec. 25

#### The Nativity of the Lord (Christmas)

7:00am	James Murphy (D)
9:00am	Roger Olivette (D)
11:00am	Patricia M. McKee (D)
1:00pm	Julio Villa Acuna (D)
7:00pm	Guillaume Turpin (D)

### Monday, Dec. 26

#### St. Stephen; Kwanzaa begins

10:00am	Rainer Montero Castillo (D)
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### Tuesday, Dec. 27

#### St. John

7:00am	Joe Bielskie (D)
12:05pm	Ada Segalini (D)

### Wednesday, Dec. 28

#### The Holy Innocents

7:00am	Patricia Wissler (D)
12:05pm	Maria Giordano (D)

### Thursday, Dec. 29

#### St. Thomas Becket; Fifth Day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord

7:00am	John Franklin Pierce (D)
12:05pm	Tomas B. Guzman

### Friday, Dec. 30

#### The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph

7:00am	Gregg Fujii (D)
12:05pm	The Peel Family

### Saturday, Dec. 31

#### St. Sylvester I; New Year's Eve Seventh Day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord

9:00am	Jose Jun Eusebio (D)
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### Please pray for those serving our country:

Major Timothy P. Blaine, USMC; LTJG. Bradley Buchter, USN; 1st Lt. Dylan Cate, USA; 1st Lt. Robert P. Coffin, USMC; Major Anthony Colella, USAF; Lt. Col. Justin M. Coons, USMC; Pvt. James Gnecco, USA; 1st Lt. James Law, USMC; ENS. Mikayla Patrick, USN; Cpl. Joseph A. Patrick, USMC; Nick Tengtio; SSG. Ryan Wagner, USAF; Lt. Col. Thomas J. Wissler, USMC



### Stewardship



**The Second Collection today is for our Parish Charities.** You are the reason we can do, and be, MORE for those in need within our community. Your stewardship is a blessing! Please scan the QR code or go to [www.membership.faihtdirect.net/va326](http://www.membership.faihtdirect.net/va326) Thank you for your generous support.

#### Make a Gift to the Parish from your IRA

You can take your RMD and use it as a qualified charitable gift. These qualified direct distributions to charity are not added to taxable income. For information, contact your financial institution, or call the parish office or Visit or visit <http://www.arlingtondiocese.planmylegacy.org>

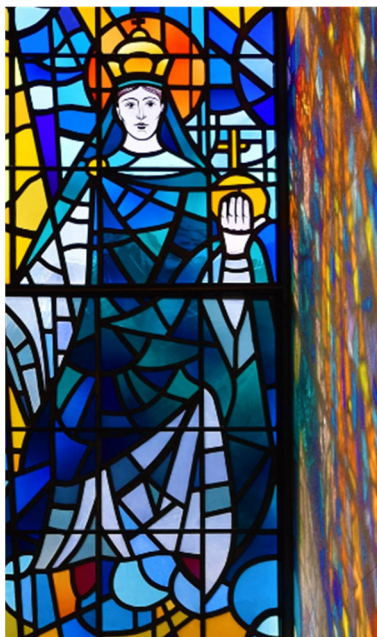
Thank you for keeping the Cathedral among your charities which you support. You enable all of us to be God's servants first. **Please consider a special end of year gift to STM.** Please click the QR code or go online to Faith Direct. You may also utilize the Offertory basket or drop your donation at the Rectory.



**THANK YOU FOR REMEMBERING US  
THIS CHRISTMAS**

**Special Religious Development (SPRED)** is a program designed to support and serve children with developmental disabilities, such as Down syndrome, Autism, and Learning Disabilities. The SPRED program invites those with disabilities to come together in a small faith community to discover God's presence in their lives and to receive the Sacraments of Initiation, based on individual levels of readiness. We seek to bring SPRED to STM in early 2023. If you are over 18 volunteering with the SPRED Program. You will receive far more than you can ever give! Questions about volunteering or seeking to enroll your child can be sent to the Director of Faith Formation, Benjamin Paczak, at [BPaczak@cathedralstm.org](mailto:BPaczak@cathedralstm.org).

**Notice a change on our front cover?** STM Students will be our guest artists depicting how they interpret the Sunday Readings. This week's was designed by Matthew Klinko, William Del Bangno and Kyle Jayme. May you find hope, peace, joy, and love today and throughout the year. Let God's gift to you be the gift you reveal in your daily lives.



*Solemnity of the  
Blessed Virgin Mary,  
the Mother of God  
Mass Schedule*

December 31 Vigil  
5:00pm,  
7:00pm en Español

January 1  
7:00am, 9:00am,  
11:00am,  
1:00pm en Español,  
7:00pm

#### Christmas Closings:

The School will be closed for Christmas break from December 21 to Tuesday, January 3. The Rectory Office will be closed from December 22 through January 3. Daily Mass will still occur and if you have a Sacramental emergency, please call the Rectory 703-525-1300. There will be one Daily Mass on December 26 and January 2 at 10:00am

**Do you have an hour to give to the Lord?** We invite you to commit to Adoration each Thursday anytime between 12:30pm to 6:30pm. We have a special need to fill the 3:30-4:30 and 4:30-5:30 time slots. Those who can commit to the 5:30 to 6:30PM period are encouraged to stay for evening prayers and Benediction.

*"The rediscovery of prayer in various forms, and particularly Eucharistic Adoration, is a source of hope for the Church to grow and take root." Pope Francis*



#### **DIVINE MERCY CHAPLET** Join the STM

Divine Mercy Group to pray the Chaplet on weekdays 15 minutes after the conclusion of the 12:05pm Daily Mass.



**We're a Winner! We've been named the Best Private School (Grades Kinder-8th) by readers of Arlington Magazine!**

From our Rector Fr. Posey:  
"The readers know what we've known for closed to 80 years: STM provides MORE to our students. With an inclusive,

imaginative, and individualized education, our students are formed to be responsible citizens prepared to be servant leaders. With Christ as our Master teacher, in partnership with parents, at STM we show that each child is **#DesignedforMore.**"



**SAVE THE DATE:** The Third Annual Royal Open travels to Army Navy Club in Fairfax, Monday, October 30, 2023.

Make sure to mark your calendars for a day of fun, fellowship and a chance to win a car from Ted Britt Automotives!

You gotta be in it to win it. Look for sponsorship and Early Bird registration information in the New Year.

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION/ EDUCACIÓN RELIGIOSA

**Registration for the 2022-2023 School year has closed.** Contact Benjamin Paczak at [BPaczak@cathedralstm.org](mailto:BPaczak@cathedralstm.org) or call 703-525-1300, ext. 26.

**Religious Education will not have classes on December 28 and will meet again at 6:30 p.m. on January 4.**

**La inscripción para el curso escolar 2022-2023 se ha cerrado.** Comuníquese con Benjamin Paczak al [BPaczak@cathedralstm.org](mailto:BPaczak@cathedralstm.org) o llame al 703-525-1300, ext. 26.

**No habrá clases de Educación Religiosa el 28 de Diciembre, nos reencontraremos el 4 de Enero 2023, a las 6:30pm**

## AROUND THE DIOCESE



**Bishop Burbidge Podcasts** <http://bit.ly/3UiwUv1> Bishop discusses chairing pro-life committee, update on Life Is VERY Good, a Jubilee cookbook and More!

Begun on the weekend of November 27-28, 2021 parishes throughout the Diocese will hold the **Forty Hours Devotion throughout the year.** The celebration is part of the Diocesan-wide preparation for the Golden Jubilee in 2024. For a listing of parish dates, go to: [40 Hours Schedule \(arlingtondiocese.org\)](http://arlingtondiocese.org)

### **Sign Up For the Diocesan E-Newsletter!**

Receive special video messages from our bishop, learn about unique opportunities to get involved.

### **Diocesan Events**

Please go to <https://www.arlingtondiocese.org/all-events/> for the most update information.



All are welcome to join main celebrant and homilist, Bishop Michael F. Burbidge, at the Mass in Observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day at St. Bernadette Catholic Church at 11 a.m.

Following Mass, a light reception will be held.

**Do you love to cook? Have a special cultural dish you love to share?** The Multicultural Sub-Committee is producing a cookbook including recipes from every culture submitted by you! Recipes will be selected by a diverse panel, and then published in a keepsake cookbook in commemoration of the Diocesan Golden Jubilee. Find out more here and access the submission form: <https://www.arlingtondiocese.org/jubilee-gather-at-the-table>.

## THIS WEEK AT THE CATHEDRAL:

## THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD

<b>Sunday, December 25</b>	<b>CHRISTMAS DAY! OUR SAVIOR IS BORN! MASSES AT 7:00am, 9:00am (with Bishop Burbidge), 11:00am, 1:00pm (Spanish) and 7:00pm</b>	
<b>Monday, December 26</b>	<b>Rectory &amp; School Closed Federal Holiday: One Daily Mass</b>	
10:00am	Daily Mass	Cathedral
7:00-8:00pm	English Legion of Mary	School Library
<b>Tuesday, December 27</b>	<b>Rectory &amp; School Closed</b>	
<b>Wednesday, December 28</b>	<b>Rectory &amp; School Closed</b>	
7:00pm	Emmaus Meeting	Burke Hall
<b>Thursday, December 29</b>	<b>Rectory Office Closed</b>	
11:00am-2:00pm	Christ House Meal Prep	Burke Hall
12:30-6:30pm	Adoration	Cathedral
6:45pm	Community Evening Prayer, Adoration & Confessions	Cathedral
<b>Friday, December 30</b>	<b>Rectory Office Closed</b>	
<b>Saturday, December 31</b>	<b>Vigil for the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God</b>	
3:30pm	Confessions	Cathedral
5:00pm	New Year's Eve Vigil Mass	Cathedral



*Merry Christmas  
Feliz Navidad*



### RICA (Rito de Iniciación Cristiana de Adultos)

Si no ha recibido los Sacramentos de la Iniciación Cristiana que son: Bautismo, Comunión y Confirmación – este programa es para usted. RICA (Rito de Iniciación Cristiana de Adultos). Las clases se iniciarán el 14 de Enero, 2023 los días Sábados de 6:30pm a 7:30pm en Burke Hall. Celebraremos los Ritos y Bendiciones del RICA el 28 de Mayo, 2023. Para registrarse o información adicional, por favor contactarse con Patty Kain a al 703-525-1300 Ext.12.

¿Te encanta cocinar? ¿Tiene un plato cultural especial que le encanta compartir? El Subcomité Multicultural está producir un libro de cocina que incluya recetas de cada cultura enviada por usted! Las recetas serán seleccionadas por un panel diverso y luego publicadas en un recuerdo. recetario en conmemoración del Jubileo de Oro Diocesano. Para más información: <https://www.arlingtondiocese.org/jubilee-gather-at-the-table>.

Caridades Católicas de la Diócesis de Arlington ofrece clases de inglés, computación básica, GED, clases de capacitación de empleo y ciudadanía. Las clases están ubicadas en Manassas, Woodbridge, Sterling, Falls Church y virtual con diferentes horarios disponible. Inscripciones empiezan en agosto. Ofrecemos varios niveles de clases. Las clases son de bajo costo por el semestre e incluye el libro. Llame a 571-208-1572 para más información

### Necesitamos catequistas para el programa de Educación Religiosa

para los Miércoles de 6:30pm-8:30pm (Setiembre-Mayo). Sea parte de inculcar la fe en los jóvenes a medida que crecen en la Iglesia. Se proporcionan esquemas de lecciones y libros de trabajo, lo que facilita la preparación de la clase. ¿Enseñar suena difícil? Los catequistas tienen asistentes, recursos y el Director de Formación en la Fe les brinda apoyo y los guía en el camino de ser un catequista. Comuníquese con el Director de Formación de Fe para obtener más información sobre esta gratificante oportunidad en la Iglesia: [bpaczak@cathedralstm.org](mailto:bpaczak@cathedralstm.org)



### APOYE A NUESTRA CATEDRAL CON FAITH

**DIRECT** Insírbase una vez para recibir apoyo continuo o haga una donación única: <https://bit.ly/2X15PBv> Text-o-para dar: 703-382-5722 o escanee el código QR



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