

Love Advent

December 19, 2021



OUR LADY of
GOOD COUNSEL
CATHOLIC CHURCH

8601 Wolftrap Road, Vienna, VA 22182-5026

Phone: 703.938.2828 Fax: 703.938.2829

www.olgcva.org ~ www.olgcschool.org

Administered by the Oblates of St. Francis de Sales

Mass Schedule

Mon-Sat - 8:30am, holidays are at 9am

Saturday Vigil 4pm

Sunday 8:00am, 10:00am,

12pm (en español), 5:00pm

Office Hours Mon - Fri 9am - 4:30pm,
closed 12-12:30pm for lunch

Chapel open for prayer Mon - Fri 9am - 5pm

Confessions Saturdays 9-9:30am or by appt

Join the Parish www.olgcva.org/register

Schedule an Event

www.olgcva.org/about-us/facilities

Add Item to Bulletin/Media

www.olgcva.org/about-us/communications

Mass Intention Request

www.olgcva.org/liturgy-worship/devotions/mass

Pastor Rev. Matthew Hillyard, OSFS.....frhillyard@olgcva.org
Parochial Vicar Rev. Mathias Kumar, OSFS.....mkumar@olgcva.org
Retired Rev. William Metzger, OSFS.....william.metzger@olgcva.org
Deacon Christopher Moore.....cgmoore@olgcva.org
School Principal Adrienne Jewett 703.938.3600.....ajewett@olgcschool.org
Liturgy/Music/Ministry of Care/Funerals Gerard Hall 703.896.7411....liturgy@olgcva.org
Faith Formation Amy W. de Bernardo 703.896.7414.....dre@olgcva.org
Children's Faith Formation Amy MacKinnon 703.896.7426.....amackinnon@olgcva.org
Youth Ministry Derek Rogers 703.896.7409.....youth@olgcva.org
Communications/Bulletin Irene Zaso 703.896.7412.....communications@olgcva.org
Director of Finance Brian Patterson 703.896.7402.....bpatterson@olgcva.org
Records/Child Protection Liaison Christine Moan 703.896.7413.....cmoan@olgcva.org
Advancement/Annual Giving Alison McKee & JoAnne Kinyon...development@olgcva.org
Events Manager Cheryl Jones 703.896.7418.....cjones@olgcva.org
Reception/Mass Intentions Maria Romero 703.896.7419.....welcome@olgcva.org
Información en español Maria Romero 703.896.7419.....welcome@olgcva.org
Pastoral Council (Russ Weaver).....PastoralCouncil@olgcva.org
Finance Council (Regina Stranix).....FinanceCouncil@olgcva.org
Society of St. Vincent DePaul (Linea de Ayuda) 703.938.3210.....svdp@olgcva.org
Respect Life /Gabriel Project Betsy Argauer 703.255.3744.....betstim@gmail.com
Knight of Columbus Santa Maria Council #4654.....www.knightsvienna.org
Counseling Catholic Charities **Consejería** Caridades Catolica.....703.425.0109

Moving Forward Together in the Service of God - Avanzando Juntos en el Servicio de Dios

Welcome to Our Lady of Good Counsel

We, as members of Our Lady of Good Counsel Parish, strive to witness to the Good News of Jesus Christ by proclaiming our faith, educating ourselves and our children, sharing our persons, resources and gifts in the care and service of one another. We are called to foster an environment of hospitality in accordance with the Spirituality of St. Francis de Sales.

Mass Intentions/Intenciones de la Misa

Sat. Dec. 18 & Sun. Dec. 19 - Presiders Fr Extejt, Fr Kumar, Fr Metzger, Fr Jean Marie, Fr Hillyard

+ Nahida & Robert Awad
+ Jose Ernesto Ponce Rodriguez
+ Anthony J. Bruno
+ Frances Sicola
The OLG Community

Monday, December 20, 2021 - Presider Fr Metzger

8:30am + Semaan E. Semaan

Tuesday, December 21, 2021 - Presider Fr Hillyard

8:30am + Robert Koetz

Wednesday, December 22, 2021 - Presider Fr Kumar

8:30am + Elizabeth Nihill

Thursday, December 23, 2021 - Presider Fr Metzger

8:30am + Eduardo Isaza

Friday, December 24, 2021 - Presiders Fr Hillyard, Fr Extejt, Fr Hillyard, Fr Kumar

4pm, 6pm, 8pm, 10pm Intention of the Presider

Saturday, December 25, 2021 - Presiders Fr Metzger, Fr Hillyard, Fr Kumar

8am, 10am, 12pm Intention of the Presider

Sunday December 26, 2021 - Presiders Fr Hillyard, Fr Extejt, Fr Hillyard, Fr Kumar

+ Robert Koetz
+ Joseph (Joe) Murphy
+ Rogelio Flores
Rosa Esther Flores

Please keep those listed in the prayer intention book and the recently deceased in your prayers including Rosalina Sarmiento Cervantes, sister of Adriano L. Sarmiento.

OLGC Funerals: www.olgcva.org/liturgy-worship/funerals.

Weekly Prayer of Faithful: www.olgcva.org/liturgy-worship.

Devotional Candles: www.olgcva.org/liturgy-worship/.

Church - +Haydee Rivera VDA de Argueta

Chapel - Special intention for John Hudson

Our Lady - Special intention for the Retired Oblates of St. Francis de Sales

Wedding Banns

None at this time

Readings for the Week/Lecturas de la Semana

Readings for the Week of December 19, 2021

Sunday Fourth Sunday of Advent

Mi 5:1-4a; Ps 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19;
Heb 10:5-10; Lk 1:39-45

Monday Is 7:10-14; Ps 24:1-2, 3-4ab, 5-6; Lk 1:26-38

Tuesday Saint Peter Canisius

Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a; Ps 33:2-3, 11-12,
20-21; Lk 1:39-45

Wednesday 1 Sm 1:24-28; 1 Sm 2:1, 4-5, 6-7, 8abcd;
Lk 1:46-56

Thursday Saint John of Kanty

Mal 3:1-4, 23-24; Ps 25:4-5ab, 8-9, 10 and 14;
Lk 1:57-66

Friday 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16; Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27
and 29; Lk 1:67-79

Saturday The Nativity of the Lord (Christmas)

Is 9:1-6; Ps 96:1-2, 2-3, 11-12, 13;
Ti 2:11-14; Lk 2:1-14

Sunday Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph 1 Sm 1:20-22, 24-28; Ps 84:2-3, 5-6, 9-10; 1 Jn 3:1-2, 21-24; Lk 2:41-52

Weekly & Second Collections drop off in boxes in Narthex, parish office, mail, use QR Code or give online via Faith Direct membership.faithdirect.net/VA875 or Text \$ amount to 703.810.7674. Thank you for your support.

Dec 5, 2021 [Christmas Flowers](#)

Dec 8, 2021 [Immaculate Conception](#)

Dec 12, 2021 [Catholic Charities of Arlington](#)

Dec 25, 2021 [Christmas](#)

Dec 2021 [Facility Improvement](#)

Jan 01, 2022 [Solemnity of Mary](#)

November Monthly Collections Fiscal Year July 2021—June 2022

Offertory	188,331.03
Total Budgeted	170,616.00
Variance	17,715.03
YTD Received	898,509.79
Budget YTD	948,388.00
Variance	(49,878.21)



Scan QR Code to
donate online

Quote of the week: "The Holy Virgin can be compared to the sun, because as the sun shines resplendent above all the stars, so Mary shines brightest among all the saints because she is so full of grace." - St. Francis de Sales

Cita de la semana: "La Santísima Virgen se puede comparar con el sol, porque así como el sol brilla resplandeciente sobre todas las estrellas, así María brilla más entre todos los santos porque está tan llena de gracia". - San Francisco de Sales

SUNDAY DECEMBER 19

Joy Of Christmas Giving 7:30AM - 5:30pm DeSales Hall
HL BB Games 11:30 AM - 7:30 PM Fr. Brisson Gym
Nightlife 6:00 PM - 7:30 PM DeSales Hall

MONDAY DECEMBER 20

No School Christmas Holiday
House/CYO BB-Practices 5:30 - 8:30 PM Fr. Brisson Gym
Advent Evening Prayer 7:00 PM - 7:45 PM Church

TUESDAY DECEMBER 21

No School Christmas Holiday
House/CYO BB-Practices 5:30 PM - 8:30 PM Fr. Brisson Gym
Youth Holy Hour 7:00 PM - 8:00 PM Chapel
Music Ministry (Hemmingson) 7:30 PM - 9:00 PM Church

WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 22

No School Christmas Holiday
Offices Closed - Church Staff Mtg & Lunch 11AM - 1PM Hall
House/CYO BB-Practices 5:30 PM - 8:30 PM Fr. Brisson Gym
Music Ministry (Jones) 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM Church
Men's Basketball 8:30 PM - 10:00 PM Fr Brisson Gym

THURSDAY DECEMBER 23

Christmas Holiday No School & Offices Closed
Decorate Church 6:30-9PM Church, Chapel & DeSales Hall
Rosary-Persecuted Christians 7:00 PM - 7:45 PM Virtual

FRIDAY DECEMBER 24 Christmas Eve

No School & Offices Closed
No 8:30am Mass
Christmas Eve Mass (Signup Required) 4:00 PM Church
Christmas Eve Mass (Signup Required) 6:00 PM Church
Christmas Eve Mass (Signup Required) 8:00 PM Church
Christmas Eve Mass (Signup Required) 10:00 PM Church

SATURDAY DECEMBER 25 Christmas Day

No Confessions
Christmas Mass (Signup Required) 8:00 AM Church
Christmas Bilingual Mass (Signup Required) 10AM Church
Christmas Mass (Signup Required) 12:00 PM Church
No 4pm Mass

SUNDAY DECEMBER 26

HL BB Games 11:30 AM - 7:30 PM Fr. Brisson Gym

MONDAY DECEMBER 27

Christmas Holidays No School & Offices Closed
House/CYO BB-Practices 5:30 - 8:30 PM Fr. Brisson Gym
CS 976 Adult Leader Mtg. 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM School-Loft

TUESDAY DECEMBER 28

No School Christmas Holidays
Memorial Mass & Reception David Weideman 11AM - 2PM
Church and De Sales Hall
House/CYO BB-Practices 5:30 PM - 8:30 PM Fr. Brisson Gym
CS 976 Bear Den Mtg. 6:30 - 8:30 PM School-Counsel Rm
Music Ministry (Hemmingson) 7:30 PM - 9:00 PM Church

WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 29

No School Christmas Holidays
House/CYO BB-Practices 5:30 PM - 8:30 PM Fr. Brisson Gym
Music Ministry (Jones) 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM Church
Men's Basketball 8:30 PM - 10:00 PM Fr Brisson Gym

THURSDAY DECEMBER 30

Christmas Holidays No School & Offices Closed
Music Ministry (Hall) 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM Church
Rosary-Persecuted Christians 7:00 PM - 7:45 PM Virtual

FRIDAY DECEMBER 31

New Year's Eve No School & Offices Closed
8:30am Daily Mass 8:30 AM - 9:00 AM Church
Solemnity Of Mary, Holy Day Mass 5PM - 6:00 PM Church

SATURDAY JANUARY 1

Solemnity Of Mary, Holy Day Mass 9 AM - 10:00 AM Church
Daisy Troop 50232 10:30 - 11:30 AM Multi-Media Center
4pm Epiphany Mass 4:00 PM - 5:00 PM Church

SUNDAY JANUARY 2

Donut Social 9:00 AM - 1:30 PM DeSales Hall
HL BB Games 11:30 AM - 7:30 PM Fr. Brisson Gym
Undecorate the Church 6:00 - 7:30PM Church

MONDAY JANUARY 3

Parish Offices Closed
School Resumes
GS Troop 50198 4:15 PM - 5:45 PM Multi-Media Center
Evening Prayer 7:00 PM - 7:45 PM Chapel

TUESDAY JANUARY 4

Shakespeare Club 3:15 PM - 4:30 PM DeSales Hall
House/CYO BB-Practices 5:30 PM - 8:30 PM Fr. Brisson Gym
CS 976 Lion Den Mtg. 6:00 - 8:00 PM School-Counsel Rm
JP2uesdays 7:00 PM - 8:00 PM Chapel
Women's Book Study 7- 8:30 PM St Joseph Ctr-Brisson Rm
Music Ministry (Hemmingson) 7:30 PM - 9:00 PM Church

Are you following the church and school on Social Media?

CHURCH - [Facebook](#) @OLGCVienna VA | [Twitter](#) @OLGCViennaVA | [Instagram](#) @olgcviennava
SCHOOL - [Facebook](#) @OLGCSchoolVA | [Twitter](#) @olgcschoolva | [Instagram](#) @olgcschoolva
YOUTH MINISTRY - [Facebook](#) @OLGCYouthMin | [Twitter](#) @olgcym | [Instagram](#) @olgcyouthministry
YouTube Channel - www.youtube.com/channel/UCjlaNF7IY4lrWCgSVzVtDw



Parish Updates & Events



REMINDERS: If you are sick or not feeling well please do not attend Mass or events on campus. If you have been identified as being a close contact with someone with COVID-19, the Fairfax County Health Department recommends that unvaccinated persons remain home in quarantine for 14 days after their last exposure. Those who are fully vaccinated and are symptom-free may return to in-person activities. It is recommended to get tested 5-7 days after exposure and wear a mask in public indoor settings for 14 days, see info at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/health/novel-coronavirus.

Advent Evening Prayer: Monday, Dec. 20th at 7pm in the Church. Opportunity for Confessions will follow. "When evening approaches and the day is already far spent, evening prayer is celebrated in order that 'we may give thanks for what has been given us, or what we have done well, during the day.'" We gather together as a parish community to pray Evening Prayer during Advent every Monday evening at 7pm in the Church. All are welcome. For more information, please contact Gerard Hall at liturgy@olgva.org.



Advent Evening Prayer
Prayer with and for the Parish

We need your help preparing the Church for Christmas. We will be decorating the Church, Chapel and Narthex for Christmas. The "fun" begins at 6:30pm on Thursday, December 23rd. Pizza and salad will be provided. The work includes lifting, climbing ladders, moving flowers and other tasks. Young and old are welcome. This is a great opportunity for families to work together or for young people looking for service hours! For more information and to sign up call Gerard Hall at 703-896-7411 or email liturgy@olgva.org.



The parish offices will be closed for the Christmas & New Year Holidays from December 23rd - December 27th and then from December 30th - January 3rd.

The school is closed from December 20th - January 2nd.

2022 Calendars courtesy of Monday & King Funeral Home are available after Mass in the Narthex.

The Knights of Columbus Santa Maria Council #4654 will be sponsoring the Annual Basketball Free Throw Competition at OLGC on Sunday, January 9th from 2:45 pm to 4:00 pm. All boys and girls ages 9-14 are eligible to enter. Winners will go on to the State Championship in Richmond! No advance registration is necessary. Come to the OLGC Fr. Brisson Gym ready to shoot! For more information contact Andrew Zaso, andrewzaso@gmail.com.

Knights of Columbus Free Throw Contest
Sunday, January 9th 2:45 pm to 4:00 pm



All boys and girls ages 9-14 are eligible to enter.
No advance registration necessary.
Come to the OLGC Fr Brisson Gym ready to shoot!

Tuesday Scripture Study starts Jan 11th: Come and explore First Corinthians: The Church and the Christian Community from Ascension Press. Presenter Tim Gray examines Paul's advice for living an authentic Christian life in a pagan culture as well as his teachings about the nature of grace, the Church as the body of Christ, and the most powerful gift of all—the Eucharist. This study will meet Tuesday mornings via Zoom from 9:45 am to 11:45 am starting January 11th. To purchase the Study Pack, please visit <https://ascensionpress.com/products/first-corinthians-the-church-and-the-christian-community-study-set-1>. To sign up or for any questions, please email Fran Davenport at bwdavenport@cox.net or call her at 703-242-7440 (home phone).

Tuesday Morning Scripture Study
9:45 to 11:45 am via Zoom
Sign up & get materials, visit online.



Limited number of White House Ornaments available The OLGC Parish Office is selling the White House Historical Association's 2021 Official White House Christmas Ornament commemorating the presidency of Lyndon Baines Johnson for \$25; and the cloisonné and clay Our Lady of Good Counsel Ornaments for \$10. Check, cash & credit card accepted. **Stop by parish office M-F 9am - 4:30pm or call 703.938.2828 or email Maria Romero welcome@olgva.org.** If the Sunday Welcome Desk is staffed, you can purchase there as well.



Monthly Outreach Project: OLGCV's Joy of Christmas Giving

This weekend is the drop off for all gifts. Thank you so much for your support and generosity!



Gift giving to families (formerly Adopt-A-Family): Families are referred to the program by the Society of St. Vincent de Paul, Vienna Public Schools, and OLGCV families. If you would like to adopt a family by yourself or team up with friends, co-workers, or parish groups, contact Fran Davenport at 703.242.7440, Maria Madocks at 703.319.0010, or via email olgchristmasgiving@gmail.com to receive a family.

Gift giving to individuals through local charitable organizations (formerly Giving Tree): All gifts and a description of each organization is noted in a SignUpGenius. Click on one of the organizations to see the wish lists [New Generations of Fairfax County](#), [Second Story](#), [Retired Oblates](#), [The Lamb Center](#), [Retired Sisters of St. Joseph in Chestnut Hill](#), and [Society of St. Vincent de Paul](#). Click through the tabs at the top of the SignUpGenius to see each organization. Contact: Chris Desmarais chrisdesmarais526@gmail.com & Theresa Caputy ctlc26@aol.com with any questions.

Monetary Donations can be given for the following, please note in the memo line your desire:

[liff Nursing & Rehabilitation Center Pediatric Unit](#), provides extended-stay nursing care to seniors with varying levels of disability; the pediatric unit is a long-term and short-term care facility specializing in providing exceptional care for children with complex medical conditions.

[Gabriel Project and Project Rachel](#), help fund a mother's maternity care and provide counseling and healing retreats to those suffering the effects of abortion.

Volunteer Opportunities: Volunteers are needed every December to help with the logistics of organizing and delivering gifts. Please click here for the SignUpGenius to volunteer www.signupgenius.com/go/30e044ea8a72ea7fc1-volunteer5.

Christmas Mass Schedule: Prior to 2016, the two early Christmas Eve Masses were ticketed only to School and CCF families, and there were overflow Masses in DeSales Hall. In 2017, we opened up the Masses to all parishioners and added an additional Christmas Eve Mass. However, because of the significant demand to attend these Masses, signup was still required for every person, and there were no overflow Masses. The church and parking lot have limited capacity per Mass. In 2019, we did not have a ticket system, which proved NOT to be a success. The number of people in the Church was over capacity limits, and getting into and out of Mass was highly unsafe in the Narthex and in the parking lot. During COVID, we used SignUpGenius for signing up for Mass, and it went exceptionally well, so we will be using that process again this year.

Signup will be on a first-come, first-served basis for ALL Masses. The link to signup was sent to all parishioners and went live on Dec. 13th at 9 am. The signup will then be open to non-parishioners on Monday, December 20th and will be posted on the website at www.olgcv.org/liturgy-worship/christmas.

The 4pm Mass on Christmas Eve will be livestreamed on www.youtube.com/c/StreamingOLGCV/.

Mass Schedule:

Fri. 12/24, Christmas Eve, 4pm (live-stream), 6pm, 8pm & 10pm

Sat. 12/25, Christmas Day, 8am, 10am (bilingual), & 12noon

No 4pm Mass

Sun. 12/26, Feast of Holy Family, 8am, 10am, 12noon (Español) 5pm

Fri. 12/31, New Year's Eve, Mary Mother of God, 5pm

Sat. 1/1, New Year's Day, Mary Mother of God, 9am (bilingual)

Sat. 1/1, Epiphany, 4pm

Sun 1/2, Epiphany, 8am, 10am, 12noon (Español), 5pm



Parish Updates

OLGC Inclement Weather Policy: Please check webpage for updates. In case of inclement weather, we follow the Fairfax County Public Schools schedule, which is announced on TV, radio, and www.fcps.edu. We will also post the announcement on the school and church websites. This includes closures, delayed openings, or afternoon/evening activities being canceled.



On full closure days, OLGC will follow the announcement and take the day off as a snow day. If inclement weather days become numerous or run consecutively, the decision for OLGC School to eLearn will be made by the OLGC Administrative Team and that decision will be communicated to OLGC School families via email and text. Announcements will also be posted on the school website. **When OLGC School is closed, all activities on campus are canceled for the entire day, except for the celebration of Mass (the church will be closed after Mass).** All are advised to use extreme caution when making the decision about attending Mass and keep in mind your personal safety and the safety of others. If you decide to attend Mass, please enter through the Niblick entrance. The lower parking lot and bell tower lot will be plowed first.

All Zoom scheduled classes, meetings, and activities will take place no matter the weather, as long as the facilitator has electricity and internet.

On 2-hour delay days, OLGC School will follow the announcement and open at 10am. Students may be dropped off no earlier than 9:30am and we will follow the inclement weather carpool process. OLGC Church offices will open at 11am and any activities scheduled after that time will proceed as scheduled.

If FCPS is not in session on an inclement weather day, OLGC will make the decision. OLGC School parents will receive an email message from OLGC on school days and announcements will also be posted on the school and church websites. You can sign up for [FCPS News You Choose](#) to subscribe and receive emails of Delayed Openings and School Closings. Due to the speed of updating, the official [@FCPSnews Twitter](#) account is generally the first and fastest mode of communication.

Lois Steffensen had been a parishioner since 1969 and was active with the widowers' support group and is an example of someone who exemplified Live Jesus! After her graduation from St. Regis College, a Catholic women-only college at the time, she taught second grade for one year. As a military spouse, she became an expert at creating a new home for her family in each of the 17 locations (both in the US and abroad) to which her husband was assigned throughout his career with the US Air Force. After his death, she was proud to have lived independently in Vienna and was a dedicated volunteer at Fairfax Hospital for 25 years, logging 4,258 hours of service. Given her abiding Catholic faith and half-century attendance at OLGC, her family knew a gift to OLGC would be a loving tribute. Because of her interest in education, the gift went toward tuition for an elementary-aged student.



If you would like to nominate someone, please send their name and why they should be highlighted to info@olgcv.org.

Youth Ministry High School Students Derek Rogers youth@olgcv.org

Check out all events and register to be on the email list at www.olgcv.org/faith-formation/children-youth/youth-ministry. Sunday Nightlife after 5pm Mass in DeSales Hall or other weekend excursions, see calendar and website for details.

Sunday Nightlife (6-7:30pm in De Sales Hall), December 19th is our White Elephant Christmas Party, Ugly Christmas Sweater Contest, and wrapping of our OLGC *Joy of Christmas Giving* Adopted Family Gifts.

High School Workcamp 2022

[Registration for High School Workcamp 2022 is now open!](#) We will be serving Scranton, PA on July 3-9th! Students in 9-12 grade are invited to join on this week-long service trip that many teens say is their favorite memory of the year!

What is Workcamp? We showcased these two videos about OLGC's Experience at Workcamp this summer:

[OLGC Workcamp 2021-22 Teen Witness Promotional Video](#)

[OLGC Workcamp 2021 Imperial PA Music Video](#)

To reserve your spot, register online www.olgcv.org/faith-formation/children-youth/youth-ministry/hs-workcamp

OLGC School Applications for the 2022-23 school year are only being accepted online www.olgcschool.org/admissions. The next Open House is Sunday, January 30, 2022, from 10:30am - 1:00pm with a Principal Presentation at 11:30am in Fr. Brisson Gym.



Congratulations to our two Aviat Award winning teachers:

Ms. Stephanie Gonzales and Mr. Shane Sugianto! This award is made in honor of Elizabeth White, OLGC Graduate and former OLGC 2nd grade teacher, who is remembered for her vivacious laugh and infectious smile. We are blessed to have so many wonderful teachers and staff here at OLGC! Please see comments that were sent in on their behalf at www.olgcschool.org/support/aviat-award.



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 Letter - 2021

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

Today is born our Savior, Christ the Lord (Lk 2:11).

How blessed are we to celebrate with profound joy the birth of Jesus, Son of God and Son of Mary and Joseph! He is "Light from Light," and for more than 2,000 years, we have walked in the light that he brought the world at his birth.

Born in the midst of darkness, Jesus' light heals the world. He calls us in turn to carry that light and, by his grace, to illuminate a world in desperate need of his compassion, love and healing. The Wise Men followed a star shining in the sky, and, because of their trust and faithfulness, they saw the face of Christ. Likewise, each time we choose to follow the Lord and share his light, he transforms us little by little, and we grow closer to the newborn King, the King of Kings.

As we reflect on the challenges we have experienced this past year, we should consider whether we journey through our circumstances like the Wise Men, journeying closer to God in trust. This Christmas season, reflect on the word Emmanuel, which means "God with us." No matter our challenges and experiences, God is with us and wants to accompany us on our earthly journey.

Throughout this Christmas season and into the coming year, we have a unique opportunity to welcome Christ into our lives more deeply. In anticipation of our Golden Jubilee in 2024, I have called for two preparatory years in advance. The first year, which began on November 21, is devoted to the Eucharist. I encourage you to participate in one of the many 40 Hours Eucharistic devotions taking place throughout the Diocese this Christmas season. In adoration of Our Lord, we remember that he truly is with us—he is Emmanuel.

At this time of great joy and celebration, let us ask Our Lord to help us grow in love of him and of our neighbor and to trust in him just as the Wise Men trusted in him. He is our Light, our God.

Please be assured of my prayers for you, and may the peace and abundant blessings that only Jesus can give be yours at Christmas, throughout the New Year, and always.

Sincerely in Christ,

Most Reverend Michael F. Burbidge
Bishop of Arlington

Información Parroquial en español

Toda preguntas o sugerencias en español comuníquese con Maria Romero, Coordinadora de Bienvenida y/o Enlace con la comunidad de habla hispana, welcome@olgcva.org, 703.896.7419.

Horario de misas (debe registrarse para las misas (En www.olgcva.org/liturgy-worship/christmas el cupo es limitado).

24 de dic. vnes. Nochebuena 4pm (será transmitida en vivo), 6pm, 8pm y 10pm

25 de dic. sáb. Día de Navidad 8am [10am](#) (Bilingüe) y 12 del mediodía.

26 de dic. dom. La Sagrada Familia de Jesús, María y José 8am, 10am, 12 del mediodía (español) 5pm.

31 de dic. vnes. La Solemnidad de Santa María Madre de Dios / Año Nuevo 5:00 pm.

1 de ene. sáb. [La Solemnidad de Santa María Madre de Dios /](#) Año Nuevo 9am (bilingüe)

2 de ene. dom. La Epifanía del Señor 8am, 10am, 12pm (español), 5pm

Las oficinas parroquiales estarán cerradas durante las fiestas de Navidad y Año Nuevo del 23 al 27 de diciembre y luego del 30 de diciembre al 2 de enero. La escuela está cerrada del 20 de diciembre al 2 de enero.

• **Confesiones:** últimas oportunidades para la confesión durante el mes de diciembre en español serán el sábado 18 de 9am a 9:30am y el lunes 20 de diciembre de 7:30pm a 8pm. Puede llamar y hacer una cita con el Padre Mateo durante la semana al 703-938-2828 ext. 108. o envíe un correo electrónico a frhilliard@olgcva.org. No se escuchan confesiones los domingos en ninguna de las misas ni antes o después de ellas.

• Ya comenzaremos a recibir las intenciones de misas para el año 2022. El proceso será el mismo que en los años pasados, debido al limitado número de misas celebradas en nuestra parroquia y la abrumadora solicitud de intenciones para misas, cada persona se limitará a tres intenciones de misas por el año. Sin embargo, hay intenciones de misas ilimitadas celebradas por los sacerdotes oblatos retirados en Childs Maryland en la casa de retiro. Puede presentar su solicitud para las misas en línea <https://www.olgcva.org/liturgy-worship/devotions/mass/olgc> en persona imprimiendo el formulario <https://resources.finalsite.net/images/v1635846711/olgc/yidaxvdt503zedcrsyfe/MassIntentionsRequestForm.pdf>, en las oficinas parroquiales, o en el Centro de Bienvenida. Las misas se otorgarán en el orden que sean recibidas.

• **Registrarse en la Parroquia:** Para recibir una carta de padrinos, preparación sacramental (bautismo, catequesis, matrimonio etc.), una carta de recomendación, una carta de inmigración o nuestros correos electrónicos semanales, es necesario estar registrado en la parroquia por lo menos 6 meses, entre otros requisitos. Para registrarse en la parroquia, visite nuestro sitio web www.olgcva.org/register.

• **Formación de Fe/Catequesis:** para adultos, niños y bautismo de niños mayores de 6 años comunicarse con Guadalupe Saenz ccofficeassist@olgcva.org - 703.896.7415 igualmente comuníquese con ella para inscribir niños de preescolar a octavo grado para la catequesis.

• **Sacramento de matrimonio:** Completar por lo menos 6 meses antes el formulario en el enlace siguiente <https://www.olgcva.org/sacraments/matrimony> o llamar al Sr. Hall 703-896-7111.

• **Sacramento del bautismo:** Para Bautismos de niños menores de 6 años y Charlas de padres y padrinos deben inscribirse de antemano, <https://www.olgcva.org/sacraments/baptism> una vez completada esta y entregado los documentos requeridos le confirmaremos su fecha del bautizo. Igualmente se puede comunicar con Maria Romero al 703.896.7419 o welcome@olgcva.org.

• **Línea de asistencia** 703.938.3210 ó svdp@olgcva.org dejar un mensaje, alguien le regresará su llamada.

• **Rezar el Rosario:** Acompañemos en el jardín de Ntra. Sra. del Buen Consejo, los domingos a las 11:15am y los lunes a las 7:30pm vía Zoom. Comuníquese con Carlos Berrios berrioscg@gmail.com.

• **El Condado de Fairfax** Según la guía actualizada publicada por los Centros para el Control y la Prevención de Enfermedades (CDC) la semana pasada, el Departamento de Salud del Condado de Fairfax recomendó que todos, incluidas las personas completamente vacunadas contra COVID-19, usen mascarillas en entornos públicos cerrados. <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/covid19/spanish/blog/indoor-maskin>. Por favor, no venga a las instalaciones si está enfermo o ha estado cerca de alguien que está enfermo. Le pedimos por favor consideren usar sus mascarillas cuando asista a misa, incluyendo las personas completamente vacunadas contra COVID-19, dado que el número de casos de sigue aumentando con la propagación de la variante Delta. Les recordamos que los niños menores de 5 años no pueden ser vacunados, por caridad hagamos todos lo posible para protegerlos.

• **Los niños de 5 a 11 años son elegibles para vacunarse contra el COVID-19** para más información visite el sitio web <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/covid19/spanish/blog/children-ages-5-11-now-eligible-for-covid-19-vaccination>.



FOR UNTO US A CHILD IS BORN – May Christmas fill your home with light and your heart with love! And may the very special birthday we'll be celebrating at the end of this week find you surrounded with those nearest and dearest! Merry Christmas!

A REFLECTION ON CHRISTMAS - I'm not sure many have had the same experience that's been mine each December as we wait for the day of Jesus's birth. Every year the strongest memories I have of this time are those of my childhood. It was a magical month of anticipation and preparation. Santa Claus figured pretty heavily in my early years until my mother, totally out of patience with my expectations, told me at about 2 pm on December 24, that there was no Santa Claus. I was devastated. (She could have waited until July, right?) Since then, I've been wistful, loving the idea of this magical figure who showed up with presents.

Aside from that, I remember that there was much, much less "hype:" about Christmas. There were only a couple of gifts per person under the tree. In the 1930's, as our country tried to work its way out of the Great Depression, there wasn't much money to be had. In our house a sense of reverence and holiness was in the air. We had solemn traditions that went back generations in the family, which I observe in my own home to this day.

When I was downsizing, the very thought of disposing of our large collection of Christmas ornaments broke my heart. They represented my husband's and my life together, a new one purchased every year, chosen to commemorate a special event; so many memories! I left the disposal task to the end, and saved the most precious ornaments – the very few that survived both of our childhoods up to now and the ones made by our children and grandchildren. There are paper stars, thread spools covered with foil that became bells, the half of a walnut shell with a bit of greenery, an intricate paper swan stapled together, and a fancy 4-sided paper ornament that's become a bit lopsided over the years.

All of this reminded me of the piece written years ago by American Humorist Erma Bombeck. Called "The Chimes", it makes my heart sing. You've seen it here before, but it bears repeating.

"Everything is in readiness. The tree is trimmed. The cards taped to the doorframe. The boxes stacked in glittering disarray under the tree. Why don't I hear chimes?

Remember the small boy who made the chimes ring in a fictional story years ago? As the legend went, the chimes would not ring unless a gift of love was placed on the altar. Kings and men of great wealth placed untold jewels on the altar, but year after year the church remained silent.

Then one Christmas Eve a small child in a tattered coat made his way down the aisle, and without anyone noticing he took off his coat and placed it on the altar. The chimes rang out joyously throughout the land to mark the loving gift of a small boy. I used to hear chimes. I heard them the year one of my sons gave me a tattered piece of construction paper on which he had crayoned two hands folded in prayer and a moving message, "Oh, come holy spit!"

I heard them the year I got a shoebox that held two baseball cards, and the gum was still with them. I heard them the Christmas they all got together and cleaned the garage.

They're all gone, aren't they? The years of the lace doilies fashioned into snowflakes, the hands traced in plaster of paris, the Christmas trees made of pipe cleaners, the thread spools that held small candles. They're gone. The chubby hands that clumsily used up two dollars' worth of paper to wrap a cork coaster are sophisticated enough to take a number and have the gift wrapped professionally. The childish decision of when to break the ceramic piggy bank with a hammer to spring the 59 cents is now resolved by a credit card. The muted thump of pajama-covered feet padding down the stairs has given way to the click of her knee-high fashion boots.

It'll be a good Christmas. We'll eat too much. Make a mess in the living room. Throw the warranties into the fire by mistake. Drive the dog crazy, taping bows to his tail. Return cookies to the plate with a bite out of them. Listen to Christmas music.

But, Lord, what I would give to bend low and receive a gift of toothpicks and library paste and hear the chimes one more time." (Erma Bombeck) Often the smallest, simplest things in life mean the most.' Merry Christmas!

ELDER WISDOM – "Life is made up, not of great sacrifices or duties, but of little things, in which smiles and kindness, and small obligations given habitually are what preserve the heart and secure comfort." (Humphry Davy)

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