MAY 14 • 2023

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER





8601 Wolftrap Rd., Vienna, VA 22182-5026 P: 703.938.2828 • F: 703.938.2829 www.olgcva.org • www.olgcschool.org Administered by the Oblates of St. Francis de Sales

Mass Schedule

Mon-Sat - 8:30am; 9am on holidays

Saturday Vigil 4pm Sunday 8am, 10am (online), 12pm (en español), 5pm

View Mass Online
www.voutube.com/c/StreamingOLGC

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

Confessions Saturdays 9:00am or by appointment

Office Hours

Mon - Fri 9am - 4:30pm, Closed 12-12:30pm for lunch

"Let us run to Mary, and, as her little children, cast ourselves into her arms with a perfect confidence."

- St. Francis de Sales

"Corramos hacia María, y, como sus pequeños, arrojémonos a sus brazos con perfecta confianza".

- San Francisco de Sales

The Special Angel

nce upon a time there was a child ready to be born. So, one day he asked God, "They tell me you are sending me to earth tomorrow, but how am I going to live there—being so small and helpless?"

God replied, "Among the many angels out there, I chose a special one just for you. She will be waiting for you and will take care of you."

"But" the child asked, "Here in heaven, I don't do anything else but sing and smile, and that's quite enough for me to be happy."

And so, God answered, "Your angel will sing for you, and she will also smile for you every day. And you will feel your angel's love, and so that will make you happy."



"But" the child asked again, "How am I going to be able to understand when people talk to me if I don't know the language that they speak?"

And God patiently replied, "Your angel will tell you the most beautiful and sweet words you will ever hear, and—with much patience and care—your angel will teach you how to speak."

"But" the child argued, "What am I going to do when I want to talk to you?"

God said, "Your angel will place your hands together, and she will teach you how to pray."

"I've heard that on earth there are bad men," said the child. "Who will protect me?"

God replied, "Your angel will defend you—even if it means risking her life." "But" said the child again, "I will always be sad because I will not see you anymore."

God answered, "Your angel will always talk to you about me, and she will teach you the way for you to come back to me, even though I will always be next to you."

At the moment, there was much peace in Heaven; however, voices from earth could already be heard, and so the child hurried asked softly: "Oh, God! If I am about to leave now, please tell me my angel's name." God answered, "Your angel's name is of no importance. You will call your angel "Mommy."

Happy Mother's Day to all the Angels.

-Rev. Mathias Kumar

Mass Intentions/ Intenciones de la Misa

Presider schedule available at: bit.ly/OLGC-Presider-Schedule

Sat./Sun., May 13/14, 2023

- + James & Hellen Reilly
- + Tarah Lynn Weaver
- + Felicita Rodriguez
- + Irma Umaña Giron Rosa Esther Flores

Monday, May 15, 2023

8:30am The OLGC Community

Tuesday, May 16, 2023

8:30am Emily Suzanne Tarazi

Wednesday, May 17, 2023

8:30am + Francisco Pineda

Thursday, May 18, 2023

8:30am + Romana Mills,

Marciano Fernandez Jr. & Marciano Fernandez II

Friday, May 19, 2023

8:30am + Erlinda Del Rosario

Saturday, May 20, 2023

8:30am + Anthony "Tony" Cutonilli

Sat./Sun., May 20/21, 2023

- + Nahida, Robert & Sami Awad Joannie & + Bud Candee
- + Peter M. Palermo
- + Jimmy & Nicole Durbin
- + Antoinette Hall

Please keep those listed in the prayer intention book and the recently deceased in your prayers.

- + Philip Scott, brother of Catherine Cissel
- + Gloria Joan Quinones
- + Robert J. Clark
- + Maggie Eckert, sister of Christopher Eckert

Please pray for those for whom candles are lit:

Church In loving memory of

Joe Pellegrino

Chapel In loving memory of

Javier Gomez

OL Votive In thanksgiving for the

Alexander Family

Welcome to Our Lady of Good Counsel

e, 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.

Please be in contact with our staff if you have questions about any matter related to the life of the church. Below is a list of the many people here to help.

Pastor Rev. Matthew Hillyard, OSFSfrhillyard@olgcva.org
Parochial Vicar Rev. Mathias Kumar, OSFSmkumar@olgcva.org
Retired Rev. William Metzger, OSFS william.metzger@olgcva.org
Retired Rev. Lewis Fiorelli, OSFSlfiorelli@oblates.org
Deacon Christopher Moore
School Principal Robin Williams 703.938.3600 rwilliams@olgcva.org
Liturgy/Music/Funerals Paul Ciotti 703.896.7411 liturgy@olgcva.org
Children's Faith Formation Amy MacKinnon 703.896.7426 amackinnon@olgcva.org
Faith Formation Office Jackie Madden 703.896.7415 jmadden@olgcva.org
Youth Ministry/Young Professionals Derek Rogers 703.896.7409 youth@olgcva.org
Communications/Bulletin Maude Hales 703.896.7412 communications@olgcva.org
Director of Finance Emilynda Clomera 703.896.7402 eclomera@olgcva.org
Records Manager John League 703.896.7413records@olgcva.org
Child Protection Liaison Christine Moan 703.896.7423 cmoan@olgcva.org
Advancement/Annual Giving Alison McKee & JoAnne Kinyon . advancement@olgcva.org
Events Manager Frank Fletcher 703.896.7418 events@olgcva.org
Events & Fellowship Coordinator Pam Trimble 703.896.7457 ptrimble@olgcva.org
Reception Maria Romero 703.896.7419 welcome@olgcva.org
Intentions/Ministry of Care Maria Romero 703.896.7419 welcome@olgcva.org
RCIA/Adult Sacraments Barb Steele rcia@olgcva.org
Información en español Maria Romero 703.896.7419 welcome@olgcva.org
Pastoral Council (Tina Wickham)
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

Our website, OLGCVA.org, is a source of lots of information about our parish life. There are a number of ways you can communicate with staff for specific needs through the site. The links below provide first steps to various things you may need.

 $OLGC\ Funerals: \underline{www.olgcva.org/liturgy-worship/funerals}$

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

Join the Parish: olgcva.org/register

Schedule an Event: <u>olgcva.org/about-us/facilities</u>

Add Item to Bulletin/Media: <u>olgcva.org/about-us/communications</u>
Mass Intention Request: <u>olgcva.org/liturgy-worship/devotions/mass</u>

MAY OUTREACH PROJECT • MAY 20-21 Yellow Ribbon Fund



Honor our Wounded Heroes by supporting OLGC Yellow Ribbon Fund Days and help improve the lives of wounded veterans.

The mission of Yellow Ribbon Fund (YRF) is to enable families facing medical crises to stay together during the critical recuperation phase. Every year, 1,700 military families nationwide—representing every branch of the United States Military—receive assistance from YRF. 400 of those families are our neighbors living right here in the DMV!

YRF relies on donations to provide practical support such as rental cars, hotel stays, and fully-furnished apartments at no cost to military families while their service member is receiving medical treatment. And the needs of wounded service members and



their caregivers remain constant.

Your donations will be earmarked exclusively for military families in the DMV!



Donations will be collected before and after all weekend Masses, Sat. & Sun., May 20 & 21.

Please volunteer a bit of your time to accept donations on Armed Forces Day weekend. Sign up at bit.ly/OLGC-YRF-volunteers.

Please contact Cheryl Jones at cheryl.mcmillan.jones@gmail.com with questions.

Preschool Openings

Spots are available in the Preschool for next year!

The OLGC Preschool has limited openings in both the 3-year-old and 4-year-old classes for the 2023-2024 school year. Please email preschool@olgcschool.org for more information.





FR. MATT'S MUSING:

St. Joseph

Joseph, who, during his earthly life, was entrusted with the care and protection of Mary and Jesus, is now in eternity entrusted with the spiritual care of the universal church....

Read more at <u>bit.ly/</u> <u>FrMattsMusing-May2</u>

QUESTION OF THE WEEK

6th Sunday of Easter

How can I respond with grace and respect to someone who maligns me or strongly disagrees with me? Can I imagine my response defusing the disagreement?

PREGUNTA DE LA SEMANA

VI Domingo de Pascua

¿Cómo puedo responder con gracia y respeto a alguien que me calumnia o está en total desacuerdo conmigo? ¿Puedo imaginar mi respuesta desactivando el desacuerdo?

Readings for the Week/ Lecturas de la Semana

For the Week of May 14-21, 2023

SUNDAY Sixth Sunday of Easter Acts 8:5-8, 14-17; Ps 66:1-3, 4-5, 6-7, 16, 20; 1Pt 3:15-18; Jn 14:15-21

MONDAY Memorial of St. Isidore the Farmer Acts 16:11-15; Ps 149:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6a and 9b; Jn 15:26–16:4

TUESDAY

Acts 16:22-34; Ps 138:1-2ab, 2cde-3, 7c-8; Jn 16:5-11

WEDNESDAY

Acts 17:15, 22–18:1; Ps 148:1-2, 11-12, 13, 14; Jn 16:12-15

THURSDAY Saint John I, Pope and Martyr Acts 18:1-8; Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4; Jn 16:16-20

FRIDAY

Acts 18:9-18; Ps 47:2-3, 4-5, 6-7; Jn 16:20-23

SATURDAY Saint Bernardine of Siena, Priest, Religious

Acts 18:23-28; Ps 47:2-3, 8-9, 10; Jn 16:23b-28

SUNDAY Ascension of the Lord

Acts 1:1-11; Ps 47:2-3, 6-7, 8-9; Eph 1:17-23; Mt 28:16-20

Monthly Collections

Fiscal Year July 2022—June 2023 Feb. 2023 Mar. 2023 Offertory 180,930 267,019 Total Budgeted 184,645 174,960 Variance (3,715)92,059 YTD Received 1,584,912 1,851,931 Budget YTD 1,587,664 1,762,624 Variance (2,752)89,307

Weekly & Second Collections

You may give with checks or cash via envelopes, give online at membership.faithdirect.net/VA875, or text amount to 703.810.7674. Thank you.

May Second Collections

21 Catholic Communications Campaign

Calendar (Subject to change, updates at www.olgcva.org/about-us/calendar)

May 14-20

SUNDAY			14
Children's Liturgy of the Word	10 - 10:30 AM	Chapel	
RCIA Breaking Open the Word	10:30 -11 AM	Chapel	
Nightlife	6 -8 PM	DeSales Hall	
MONDAY			15
Little Rock Scripture Study	10 - 11:30 AM	Zoom	
Quilters	11:30 AM - 3 PM	Mary's Garden &	
		SJC-Brisson Rm	
Girl Scout Troop 5689	4:30 - 5:30 PM	DeSales Hall	
Catechist Appreciation Dinner	6 -8 PM	DeSales Hall	
TUESDAY			16
Youth Adoration	7 - 8 PM	Chapel	
Music Ministry (Hemmingson)	7:30 - 8:45 PM	Church	
WEDNESDAY			17
PTO Parent Coffee-Middle School Paren	its 9:15 AM	DeSales Hall	
BSA Troop 976 Mtg	7 - 8:30 PM	Counsel Rm	
Music Ministry (Jones)	7 - 8:30 PM	Church	
RCIA Catechumenate	7:30 - 9 PM	SJC-Brisson Rm	
RCIA Mystagogy	7:30 - 9 PM	SJC-Aviat Rm	
Small Faith Group	7:30 - 8:30 PM	Zoom	
SVDP Mtg	7:30 - 9 PM	DeSales Hall	
Men's Basketball	8:30 - 10 PM	Fr. Brisson Gym	
THURSDAY			18
Prayer Shawl Ministry	9:30 - 11 AM	SJC-Brisson Rm	
Seasoned Citizens Luncheon	12 - 2 PM	DeSales Hall	
CS Pack 976 Wolf Den Mtg	6 -8 PM	offsite	
Music Ministry (Choir)	7 - 8:30 PM	Church	
Preschool Parent Information Night	7 - 8:30 PM	DeSales Hall	
Men's Basketball	8:30 - 10 PM	Fr. Brisson Gym	
FRIDAY			19
Lamb Center Lunch	10 - 10:15 AM	Parking Lot-Bell Tower	
GS Troop 50118	3:30 - 4:30 PM	DeSales Hall	
Game Night	6 -9:30 PM	DeSales Hall	
SATURDAY			20
Confessions	9 - 9:30 AM	Reconciliation Room	



Salesian Spirituality Helps Moms

By Paula M. Riley, Excerpt from Live Jesus! PA

often find myself reflecting on who helps me be a mom. I rely on my own mother's example daily but also find Salesian Spirituality a powerful parenting tool.

Saint Francis tells us to "Be who we are and be that well." It is so important to let our children be the person God has called them to be. This can be a challenge for me! I find myself saddling my kids with assumptions and expectations. Accepting them as they are can be tough sometimes.



Our patron offers us parenting guidance. Francis encourages us to live lives based on little virtues—patience, gentleness and humility. As a mother to three teenage boys and a 20-year-old daughter I try to live these virtues but the older my kids get, the harder it is! Their lives are more complicated and choices have deeper consequences. We argue about their weekend plans, what's appropriate behavior with girlfriends, alcohol use, and why every moment doesn't need to be documented on TikTok.

In these conflicts, I seek guidance from Francis as I draw upon the Salesian call to try to live a life of gentleness. When my kids test my greatest limit, when I want to scream at them, and when they do *exactly* what I told them not to, I try to remember Francis' words: "When you encounter difficulties and contradictions, do not try to break them, but bend them with gentleness and time."

"Bending but not breaking" is such a wonderful image for parenting. Being an engaged parent is a precarious role and bending gently can require great patience. Francis tells us it's easier to be patient with those whom we do not greatly esteem, because we do not expect great charity from them. But in family relationships, the familiarity makes this call harder. In these exchanges, we must demonstrate the most amount of patience.

Patience. Humility. Gentleness. Francis' reminders help me be a better mom. As does his popular maxim to be who you are and be that well. His words help me enjoy, celebrate, and treasure the *opportunity* to change a messy diaper, sit through a painful piano recital, comfort a child after a loss, make dinner for six, or stand at the sidelines on a cold, blustery day.

Each moment I am mother to these children I am engaging in a holy act. That is what I have learned from Francis. He tells us that when we perform simple, ordinary acts in an extraordinary way, we are living Jesus.

There is true beauty and grace in the mundane tasks of caring for children and running a household. Whatever we are doing, when we use the gifts we've so generously been given, we are being holy.

Tonight, I will set the table for dinner, help my son study for his AP exam and discuss 'summer rules' with my college sophomore. In so doing, I will be engaging in holy and meaningful acts. I will be parenting the Salesian way.

Read full take here.

First Holy Eucharist

Congratulations to our First Communicants who were welcomed to the table last weekend.

to the table	iast weeken	u.
Penelope	Aleksander	Violet
Iza	Camilla	Rhett
Maita Kristel	Nathaniel	Lorenzo
Isabella	Sophia	Emma
Ben	Will	Caline
Marcell	Julia	Dylan
Matthew	Gracie	Thomas
Cora	Russell	Rebecca
Nathan	Delaney	Iris
Nicholas	Connor	Kelly
Hollis	Landon	Ava
Alessandra	Joshua	Stella
Jason	Easton	Luke
John	Veronica	Francis Jay
Elliott	0scar	Anna
Dalton	Alana	Tessa
Camryn	Alexander	Mara
Julia	Sofia	Susanna
Cian	Nora	Emiliana
Warren	Celina	Noah
Isabella	Emery	Abigail
Luca	Claudia	Elizabeth
Benjamin	Sophia	Elise
Dylan	Jason	Mia
Annabelle	Lindsay	Hanley
Louis	Stella	Jorge
Cecilia	Jack	Alexandra
Anais	Charles	Arthur
Julia	Madison	Harrison
Brooke	Anna	Mariana
Corinne	Ella	Arden
Kamea	Miles	Elodie
Grayson	Tyler	Alexandra
Sofia	Liv	Evelina
Lauren	Zoe	Caitlin
Tyler	Mia	Diego
Cameron	Garrett	Kevin
David	Sawyer	Caroline
Charlotte	John	Sophia
Lucia	Elizabeth	John
Alexandria	Ethan	Sabrina
Amelia	Catherine	Theodore
James	Andrew	Jackson
Keyan	Blair	Rafael

Enroll Now for Religious Education!

2023-24 CCF Registration bit.ly/CCF-in-person-2023-24

2023-24 Homeschool Registration bit.ly/CCF-homeschool-2023-24



Celebrate OLGC Volunteers!

Church and school volunteers are the heart of OLGC! Saturday, June 3rd, after Mass, we will recognize and celebrate all those who give so generously of their time and talent, and we'll welcome future volunteers!

- Join us for a special recognition at 4 pm Mass
- Enjoy heavy hors d'oeuvres and refreshments in DeSales Hall
- Get a sneak peek at the upcoming OLGC event calendar
- Sign up to volunteer for events, including opportunities for leadership roles

If you are a current volunteer, past volunteer, or future volunteer, please join us!

RSVP at bit.ly/OLGC-Volunteers

DINING FOR DOLLARS Maggio's Family Restaurant

Grab dinner at Skorpios Maggio's Family Restaurant on Tuesday, May 16th from 4-8pm and support OLGC PTO. Remember to mention OLGC when ordering. Orders can be placed in person for dine-in or take-out or through their QR code for pick up. (3rdparty delivery orders do not qualify).



Game Night

Friday, May 19 in DeSales Hall 6:00-9:30 pm

Bring your favorite game from home and gather with friends new and old for an evening extravaganza of entertainment and fun. Find your playing companions at the event.

OLGC will supply food and beverages. You bring your enthusiasm and skill!



OLGC Co-Ed Softball League

The OLGC Co-ed Softball League is back for another fun season!! We are looking forward to our seventh season after some fantastic games with a great group of men and women. We hope to maintain four teams this season so WE NEED YOU! We will hold informal practices on Friday evenings starting in June. The games will be played on Sunday afternoons beginning in July and wrapping up in August/September with a leaguewide tournament culminating in a celebratory league wide end-ofseason party. All skill levels are welcome. New players will be added to existing teams by the league with player input, with the goal of equalizing teams. There is a player fee of \$30. If you order a jersey, there will be an additional fee of

\$20. Please complete the form at bit.ly/OLGC-Softball-2023 to register. If you have any questions, please contact Jackie Madden at ifkmadden@gmail.com.





Summer Camps



St. Paul VI Catholic High School is hosting a variety of camps and clinics this summer, including theatre, band, basketball, football, volleyball, and much more. All will take place on our new campus at 42341 Braddock Rd. Chantilly, VA. Visit www.paulvi.net/student-life/summer-camps for details and to register.

Informacion Parroquial en español

Preguntas o sugerencias, ofrecer misas, pedir oración durante la misa por recién fallecidos, funerals, comuníquese con Maria 703.896.7419, mromero@olgcva.org

"Estoy haciendo algo nuevo."

SACRAMENTO DEL BAUTISMO DE NIÑOS MENORES DE 6 AÑOS:

Comuníquese con Maria Romero 703.896.7419 welcome@olgcva.org Sacramento del bautismo: para Charlas de padres y padrinos deben inscribirse de antemano, una vez completada esta y entregado los documentos requeridos le confirmaremos su fecha del bautizo. olgcva.org/sacraments/baptism

CATEQUESIS

iInscríbase AHORA para la Catequesis! Deberá registrarse antes del 14 de junio, para poder obtener el descuento de registro temprana en nuestro sitio CCF 2023-24 bit.ly/CCF-in-person-2023-24 o comuníquese con Amy MacKinnon, 703.896.7426, amackinnon@olgcva.org.

CONFESIONES

Confesiones en español durante el mes de mayo son el sábado 27 de 9 - 9:30 a.m. o de lunes a jueves únicamente con cita. Puede llamar para hacer una cita con el Padre Mateo al 703.938.2828 o envíe un correo electrónico a frhillyard@olgcva.org. No se escuchan confesiones los domingos antes o después de la misa.

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.

¡LA PETICIÓN CUARESMAL DEL OBISPO DEL 2023 YA EMPEZÓ!

La correspondencia sobre la Petición Cuaresmal Del Obispo del 2023 se envió recientemente a los feligreses. El lema de este año es "Mi Alma Se Regocija En El Señor". Después de reflexionar sobre las bendiciones que Dios nos ha dado, en espíritu de oración piensen en hacer una promesa de contribución. www.arlingtondiocese.org.

VOLUNTARIOS

"La oportunidad de hacer grandes cosas no llega a menudo, pero en todo momento, podemos hacer pequeños actos con gran amor." - San Francisco de Sales: Como seguidores de Cristo, somos llamados por medio de nuestro Bautismo a servir a nuestros hermanos en nuestra parroquia, comunidad, país y el mundo entero. Es nuestra esperanza que todos los feligreses tengan la oportunidad de descubrir y desarrollar sus dones dados por Dios. Si desea participar como Sacristán, Ministro Extraordinario de La Sagrada Comunión, Lector, Portero/Ujier, Ministerio de La Bienvenida o Monaguillo por favor pase por el mostrador de Bienvenida o llame al 703.896.7419 o visite nuestra página web de la parroquia para ver la variedad de formas en que puede ayudar en olgcva.org/outreach/ serve.

UN CAMINO DE JUBILEO CON MARÍA

A María se le han dado títulos de las Escrituras, de las enseñanzas de la Iglesia y de muchos casos en los que María visitó lugares de la tierra para animar a las personas a pasar más tiempo en oración con Jesús. Hay 12 iglesias en la Diócesis de Arlington que llevan el nombre de María o uno de sus muchos títulos.

Como parte del segundo año de preparación para el Jubileo de Oro, el Obispo Burbidge le anima a visitar estas diversas iglesias y pasar tiempo allí en oración. Estas miniperegrinaciones lo ayudarán a usted o a su familia a aprender más sobre un título particular de María, conocer la vasta historia de las parroquias de la Diócesis y lo animarán a pasar tiempo en oración con el Señor. Hay una oración para este año de preparación que se encuentra a <u>arlingtondiocese.org/</u> Jubilee/Year-II-Praver-Card-Spanish.pdf y hermosas reflexiones del rosario para coincidir con este año de preparación que se encuentran aquí: www.arlingtondiocese.org/ prayerguides.

SEGUNDA COLECTA DE ESTE MES: La colecta anual de la Campaña de Comunicación Católica que ayuda a difundir el Evangelio se realizará el 21 de mayo.

"A través del Espíritu Santo tenemos el coraje y la sabiduría para compartir el mensaje del Evangelio con nuestros hermanos y hermanas aquí encasa y en todo el mundo", dijo el Obispo Joseph J. Tyson, de Yakima, Washington, presidente de la Subcomisión de la Campaña de Comunicación Católica del Comité de Comunicaciones de la Conferencia de Obispos Católicos de Estados Unidos (USCCB). "Nuestro llamado a difundir el Evangelio se responde a través del apoyo a esta colecta. Gracias a su generosidad, las personas de todo el mundo tienen los recursos para llevar la presencia de Cristo a todos los lugares". Más información sobre la Campaña de Comunicación Católica se puede encontrar en www.usccb.org/ccc

Senior Moments

Marge Van Lierde Gitkagirl@gmail.com 571.831.3951



HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY!

Following is a reflection written by Erma Bombeck, the beloved columnist who wrote about motherhood, parenthood, and the joys and pains of both in a way that always made us smile, our hearts skip a beat, or leave a tear in our eye. I came across an old, very yellowed copy of a tribute she wrote for Mother's Day that I'd like to share with you today.

"Mothers. You've met the ones today on the greeting cards surrounded by roses whose very name rhymes with "no other." The perfect one with the saintly smiles and the gentleness of a water softener.



But in reality, who is she? She's an enigma who is faster than a speeding bullet, more powerful than a gold American Express card, and able to leap over cars at the drive-in to order you home before 11. Is she really life set to poetry? 'My mother was Genghis Khan in drag. When she lived with us the world stopped while she napped.' 'Mother drives me crazy. I'm 60 years old and she still pours me half a glass of milk and tells me not to spill it.' 'You wanna talk guilt? I even apologized for having emergency surgery on her birthday.'

She's an awesome force who has a hold on you that no one can explain,

even if you never saw her. She is also a bundle of contradictions. 'Answer me right now and don't talk with food in your mouth.' 'I know you love him, but dump him. I want you to be happy.' 'You have got to start standing on your own two feet and being responsible for yourself. You can live at home while you're doing it.'

She has a scary quality knowing what you do when she doesn't see it, what you said when she doesn't hear it, and what you mean when you don't say it. You spend a lifetime trying to please her and become what she wants you to be. Just when you think you've pulled it off, she pulls in the string, nearly choking you to death.

You can't seem to sort out the emotions you feel for herapprehension, disappointment, anger, frustration, love. A mother has another mysterious quality that defies explanation. Although your father is often bigger, louder, and pays the bills, she is the glue that holds the family together. 'Your brother's birthday is next week. Be there!' 'See you at Aunt Kate's funeral. You don't have to know what she looks like, I'll point her out to you.' 'Get rid of this stupid answering machine or you're out of the will."

Whether she is a good mother or a difficult mother, know that when she dies, nothing will be the same again. Without her, the family drifts. No one can take the place of the eyes that have seen it all, the hands that reached out and healed, the very presence that brought you comfort and stability just by being there.

The greeting card mothers are nice. But they don't even begin to capture that complex woman who touches our lives in such a way that when she goes the pain is unbearable."

SEASONED CITIZENS' LUNCHEON

"Celebrating Mothers, Celebrating Love!" is the theme of the last luncheon of the season to be held on **Thursday, May 18** at noon in DeSales Hall. The menu will feature food with an Italian flavor, and the



Book Swap table will be up and running. Whatever is left will be donated to charity. Reservations are necessary. E-mail seasonedcitizens@olgcva.org, call Dagny at 703.281.5525 or RSVP to bit.ly/Seasoned-Citizens-May2023. The luncheons will resume in the Fall.

BREAFAST BUFFET

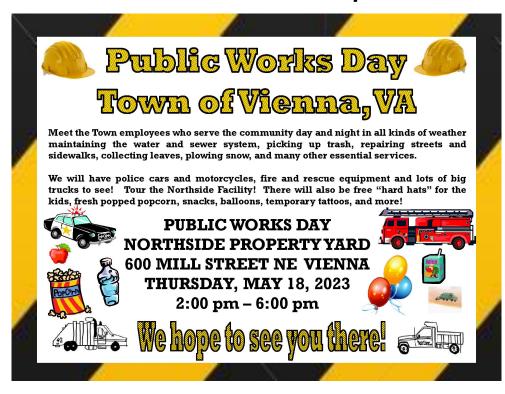
Next **Sunday, May 21** will be the next time you can enjoy this sumptuous meal at the American Legion Hall, 330 Center St. N. in Vienna. It runs from 8 am-noon. There'll be something on the menu that you'll find appealing: made-to-order omelets, scrambled eggs, bacon, pancakes, biscuits and sausage gravy, fresh fruit, and juices along with coffee. Adults pay \$12, \$5 for children under 12.

Elder Wisdom

The irony of aging: Just when you start to get it together mentally, your body starts to fall apart.

DIOCESAN & COMMUNITY NEWS

Town of Vienna Public Works Open House



Battle of the Badges

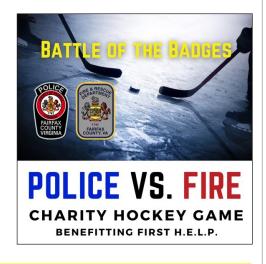
Fairfax County Police and Fire Departments are facing off for a Battle of the Badges!

Come out and cheer for these heroes!

Join us Saturday, May 20, 1-3 p.m. at The St. James (6805 Industrial Rd, Springfield) for a charity hockey game benefitting the national nonprofit First H.E.L.P.

It is the mission of First H.E.L.P. to reduce mental health stigma through education, advocate for benefits for those suffering from post-traumatic stress, acknowledge the service and sacrifice of first responders we lost to suicide, support families after a suicide and to bring awareness to suicide and mental health issues

The game is FREE! Donations will be accepted at the door. There will also be t-shirts for sale onsite.



MAY 20TH | 1PM TO 3PM @ THE ST. JAMES 6805 INDUSTRIAL PARK, SPRINGFIELD

Upcoming Diocesan Events

Visit arlingtondiocese.org/all-events for details

Marian Art and Concert Series featuring Caitlin Solan

May 19 | 7:00pm

Padayon Pagsayaw May 20 | 4:00pm

Mornings of Mercy for Divorced Catholics May 20 | 9:00am

Prayer Service for the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity May 23 | 7:00pm

Free Prayer Cards: **Pray for Our Priests**

Free prayer cards to encourage faithful to pray for our priests, perfect for parish groups, schools, etc. Prayer cards are now available with the name of each of our Diocesan priests, one priest per card. To request FREE cards, call 703.841.2550 or email familylife@arlingtondiocese.org.

Virtual Support Call for **Family Caregivers**

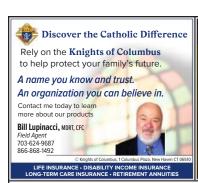
How Do We Manage Difficult/Challenging **Behaviors of Those with Memory Impairments?**

Tuesday, May 9 | 7:00 - 8:00 p.m.

Alzheimer's disease and other dementias are often accompanied by challenging behaviors that we are not always prepared to handle. When loved ones become anary or aggressive, it is not unusual to feel hurt or frustrated. Reminding ourselves that the exacerbated behavior we are seeing is a result of the disease and not the person's choice may help us better cope with these feelings. Join us for this invaluable and empowering caregiving discussion. Sponsored by Fairfax County Department of Family Services. Register for this virtual discussion at bit.ly/

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