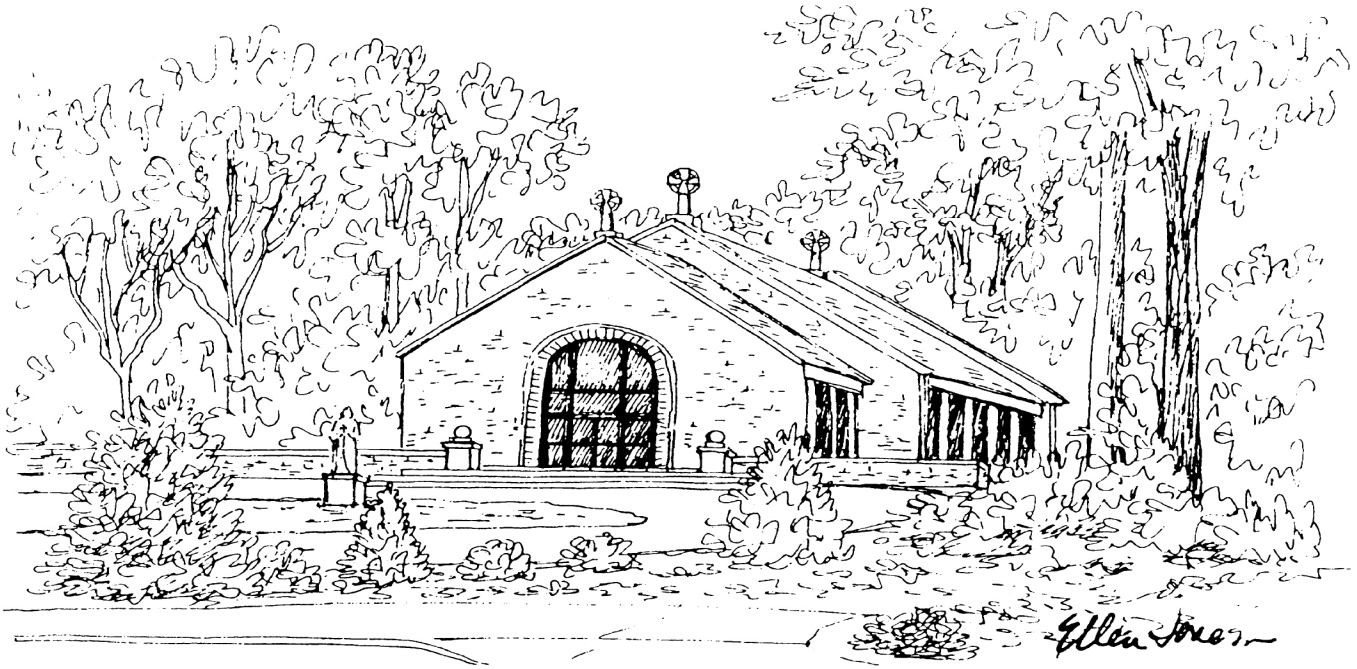


SAINT CLARE OF ASSISI CATHOLIC CHURCH

12409 HENDERSON ROAD

Clifton, Virginia

THE LITTLE CHURCH IN THE WOODS



*Mission Established
September 1980*

PASTOR
FATHER MICHAEL BAZAN
PERMANENT DEACON
MICHAEL J. MOCHEL

*Parish Established
August 11, 1996*

PASTOR'S RESIDENCE - OFFICE - MAILING ADDRESS:

12409 Henderson Road
Clifton, Virginia 20124-1115

PARISH REGISTRATION: Registration forms are available at the church after Mass each day. Catholic families and Catholic individuals who live within the parish boundaries are to be registered. Kindly complete the form and return it to the office. Receipt of completed forms will be acknowledged.

REGISTRATION IN THE PARISH is required for reception of Baptism and Matrimony, and to participate in the ELEMENTARY AND HIGH SCHOOL RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROGRAMS as well as in other parish activities.

BULLETIN NOTICES must be written and submitted to the office by 11:00 AM Friday for printing in the following Sunday's bulletin.

OFFICE HOURS: 8:30 AM - 3:30 PM, Monday - Friday

OFFICE PHONE: (703) 266-1310 **FAX:** (703) 266-7011

EMERGENCY AFTER HOURS: (540) 207-3054

EMAIL: Office/staff - office@stclareclifton.org

Pastor - Fr.bazan@stclareclifton.org

Deacon Mike - deaconmike@stclareclifton.org

WEBSITE: stclareclifton.org

OFFICE MANAGER: Hawla Donley

DIRECTOR OF FAITH FORMATION

Samantha Williams / samantha@stclareclifton.org

DIRECTOR OF ADULT FAITH FORMATION/RCIA

Deacon Mike Mochel / deaconmike@stclareclifton.org

MUSIC DIRECTOR & WEDDING COORDINATOR

Mary Dash / tesera25@verizon.net

MASSSES:

DAILY - MON. - FRI. 8:00 AM

SATURDAY - 8:00 AM and VIGIL MASS 5:30 PM

SUNDAY - 8:00 AM, and 10:30 AM

HOLIDAYS - To Be Announced

CONFESSIONS: SATURDAY 4:00 PM - 5:00 PM and by appointment

WEDDINGS: Catholic party(ies) must contact the office AT LEAST SIX MONTHS before proposed date of the wedding. After documents are in order, date will be confirmed.

BAPTISMS: Any Sunday except Easter, after 10:30 AM Mass, and on Saturdays by appointment. All parents must attend preparation meetings. Please call the office to schedule a meeting at least one month before the desired date for the baptism.

PARISHIONERS, who are **sick, homebound**, in the **hospital** or **nursing home** should be brought to the attention of the office, so that Father can visit them and provide the Sacraments of Penance, Holy Communion and the Anointing of The Sick.



FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT ✠ MARCH 17, 2024



Sunday, March 17	8:00 am	People of the Parish
	10:30 am	Intention of Vincent Bretney Req. by the Bretney Family
Monday, March 18	8:00 am	Intention of the Lee Family Req. by Mr. & Mrs. John Heininger
Tuesday, March 19	8:00 am	In Memory of Joseph Barros Req. by Maria Barros
Wednesday, March 20	8:00 am	In Memory of Peter Nam Nguyen Req. by the Nguyen Family
Thursday, March 21	8:00 am	In Memory of John Michael Sugrue Req. by the Sugrue Family
Friday, March 22	8:00 am	Intention of Ken & Debbie Sample Req. by their daughters
Saturday, March 23	8:00 am	Special Intention
	5:30 pm	In Memory of Caroline Abbas Req. by Hawla Donley

~~~~~ Upcoming Second Collections

March 29	Holy Land Shrines
March 31	Easter

~~~~~ **Irish Blessing**

May the road rise up to meet you.
May the wind always be at your back.
May the sun shine warm upon your face,
and rains fall soft upon your fields.
And until we meet again,
May God hold you in the palm of His hand



FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

First Reading: Jeremiah 31:31-34

The Lord comforted his people, who were exiled to Babylon, by telling them of the new covenant he planned to make with them. The Lord declared he would write his law upon their hearts, and that he would forgive their evil and forget the sins they had committed in the past.

Second Reading: Hebrews 5:7-9

Though God could have heeded his Son's prayers and spared him suffering, Jesus accepted his Father's will. Through his suffering, he learned obedience and became the source of eternal salvation for all people.

Gospel: John 12:20-33

Jesus was afraid of the suffering he knew he must face. Yet he explained just as a grain of wheat must die to be harvested, he had to face his hour of suffering to glorify his Father's name. Jesus explained that once he was lifted from earth, he could draw all people to himself, lifting them to eternal life.



Sunday

Jer 31:31-34; Heb 5:7-9; Jn 12:20-33

Monday

Dn 13:1-9, 15-17, 19-30, 33-62 or
13:41c-62; Jn 8:1-11

Tuesday

2 Sm 7:4-5a, 12-14a, 16; Rom 4:13, 16-18, 22;
Mt 1:16, 18-21, 24a or Lk 2:41-51a

Wednesday

Dn 3:14-20, 91-92, 95; Jn 8:31-42

Thursday

Gn 17:3-9; Jn 8:51-59

Friday

Jer 20:10-13; Jn 10:31-42

Saturday

Ez 37:21-28; Jn 11:45-56

Pastor's Message

As we continue our journey through Lent, we are reminded that we need to have a clean heart and that only God can make that happen; we hear it in our Psalm response "Create a clean heart in me O God." We are presented with the reality that God has made a New Covenant with his people and that the Covenant placed in their hearts is Jesus Christ. It is we who profess that Jesus is the New Covenant, which demands that we open our hearts to God's love and mercy, for only then are we truly God's people. So, as we are fast coming to the end of Journey of Lent, it culminates when we celebrate the Paschal Triduum; the great Three days that each year we celebrate at the end of Holy week. It is the Passion, Death and Resurrection of Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord. May we spend these last days of Lent looking into our hearts and minds to the voice of God calling us to repent of our sins and truly become a child of God by the way we express our love of God and neighbor. Next Sunday is Palm Sunday, the start of Holy Week. Let us come with open hearts to celebrate Jesus' entrance into Jerusalem.

This Wednesday and each Wednesday until Wednesday of Holy Week from 630 PM till 730 PM there will be Exposition of the Eucharist and an opportunity for you to go to confession before Easter.

Please keep those in our RCIA program who are getting ready to enter the Church at the Easter Vigil in your prayers.

Please remember to pray throughout Lent for the Bishops Lenten Appeal and help us reach our goal if circumstances permit.

Fr. Mike

WE NEED ALTAR SERVERS!

Calling all 4th graders and up! Join our altar serving team-boys and girls are welcome! No experience required. Please contact the office for additional information. 703-266-1310 or office@stclareclifton.org



Welcome! Our doors are open, and the light is on. **The Light is On For You**, is an initiative of the Archdiocese of Washington and the Diocese of Arlington in which all Catholic

churches across the DC metro area are open for quiet prayer and Confession, 6:30-7:30 p.m. on Wednesdays throughout Lent. Use our Confession Finder Map to locate times and locations near you! Visit [The Light is ON](http://TheLightisONwww.arlingtondiocese.org/BLA) www.arlingtondiocese.org/BLA or scan the QR.



Holy Week Schedule

Palm Sunday, March 24th

8:00 AM & 10:30 AM Masses

Tuesday, March 26th

6:30 PM – 7:30 PM: Lenten Penance Service
Multiple Priests will be available. This will be the last opportunity for going to confession at St. Clare's before Easter

Holy Thursday, March 28th

NO 8:00 AM MASS

8:00 PM: Mass of the Lord's Supper with Adoration after Mass.
9:00 PM – 12 Midnight: Reservation of the Most Blessed Sacrament, Basement
12 Midnight: Reservation Closing

Good Friday, March 29th

NO 8:00 AM MASS

3:00 PM: Liturgy of the Passion of the Lord.

Holy Saturday, March 30th

NO 8:00 AM MASS

12:00 -Noon: Blessing of the Easter Food
8:30 PM: Easter Vigil

Easter Sunday, March 31st

NO 8:00 AM Mass

7:30 AM, 9:30 AM & 11:30 AM Masses



Please Join us for RCIA!

**Every Wednesday Evening
at 7:30 pm**

Meet in the Church basement.

Please contact Deacon Mike for more information

deaconmike@stclareclifton.org

703-266-1310

Welcome, New Parishioners, to St. Clare of Assisi!



The St. Clare of Assisi Catholic community welcomes you! Please register with the parish by completing the blue registration form found in the vestibule. Ask an usher if you need assistance or call the parish office at (703) 266-1310.

The parish Office will be Closed!



Good Friday, March 29th &
Monday, April 1st
In observance of Easter

Children's Faith Formation News

March 24th - Palm Sunday- **NO CLASSES**

March 31st - Easter Sunday – **NO CLASSES**

April 7th – Regular Class Schedule

1st – 4th Grades; Sundays, 8:55 am – 10:15 am

5th – 8th Grades; Sundays, 7:00 pm – 8:30 pm

All classes meet in the basement.

~~~~~

### **EMBODYING THE LOVE OF CHRIST BY CARING FOR ONE ANOTHER**

Reflect on your Lenten journey thus far: What have you learned from our global family members in Uganda, El Salvador, and Indonesia? How does the Eucharist unite us with our sisters and brothers around the world? Consider how Christ is present in Adolf and Florence, Sandra and Santos, and Evita. Visit [crsricebowl.org](http://crsricebowl.org) to read this week's Story of Hope.

~~~~~

The Little Church in the Woods needs you!

We need additional Teachers, Aides, Substitutes, and even a door monitor or two for the classes immediately after Sunday 8 am Mass and 10:30 Mass (September 2024-April 2025). Please consider the lifelong memories you will build for yourself and a young person as you share the tenants of our faith. Classes follow the text of the Loyola Press, *Christ our Life*, and fosters the children's love of God. The series presents the authentic teachings of the Catholic Church and offers a variety of teaching methods and suggested activities. If interested please contact, **Samantha (Sam) Williams, Director of Faith Formation (DRE)** at Samantha@stclareclifton.org
P.S. We have fun!

Samantha Williams, Director of Faith Formation
samantha@stclareclifton.org
703-266-1310

2024

Bishop's Lenten Appeal (BLA)

The theme for the 2024 BLA is shared with the theme of our Diocesan Jubilee: "Behold, I make all things new." After reflecting upon the blessings God has given you, please prayerfully consider a pledge. As we look forward to the celebration of the 50-year Golden Anniversary of our diocese, let us renew our commitment to the Lord and be inspired to share what we have received from Him. You make a gift at: www.arlingtondiocese.org/BLA or Scan the QR code.



SCAN ME



HOLY FAMILY HOSPITAL
of Bethlehem Foundation

February 7, 2024

Ms. Hawla Donley
St. Clare of Assisi Catholic Church
12409 Henderson Rd
Clifton, VA 20124-2021

Dear Hawla,

Thank you for choosing to care for the mothers and babies of Bethlehem this Advent season through your parish. You and your parishioners are truly innkeepers, helping keep the doors of Holy Family Hospital open to all families even during a time of crisis in the region. No one is ever turned away.

Please share with your parishioners our profound appreciation for their contributions and compassionate gifts totaling \$1,063.31. We will send an updated gift total in June, as gifts trickle in through spring, with a bulletin announcement to share our thanks with your parish community.

We are including you and your parishioners in our March 21st Mass at the Church of the Nativity in Bethlehem as an expression of our gratitude. We hope we can count on you again next year in helping us on our mission to deliver love.

When the hostility in the Holy Land eases, please consider making a pilgrimage to the region and the Hospital. Please continue to keep the Hospital, its staff, and the Holy Land in your prayers.

Most gratefully,

*Thank you for
having a heart for
Michele Bettellon.*
Ambassador Michele B. Bowe, GCM
President

Kate
Kate Robinson
Foundation Director

*Many hands make
light work - Thank
you for all your help
with the Angel tags
this year. We
couldn't do it without
you!*



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LENT... IS A TIME FOR QUIET REFLECTION AND CONTEMPLATION

FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

"Some Greeks who had come to worship at the Passover Feast came to Philip... and asked him, 'Sir, we would like to see Jesus.' Philip went and told Andrew. Philip and Andrew went and told Jesus. Jesus answered them, 'the hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified.'"

If you asked someone 'would you like to see Jesus?', surely the reply would be 'Yes, but where can I find Him today?' The answer is clear, as we have Him present in the Blessed Sacrament, in the gift of grace and all the sacraments. The church is our sacrament of encounter with God.

How many people need us to be the Philip, the Andrew; to point out and bring them to Jesus. Jesus is present in the face of those in need, and we are to be the face of Jesus for them. May this be our task as our Lent will soon draw to a close.

HIS WORD TODAY

BY REV. WILLIAM J. REILLY
A FRESH PERSPECTIVE ON
THE SUNDAY READINGS

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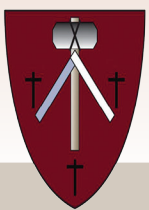
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