

NOVA'S WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS

FROM MAY 5:

Here are the announcements from Nova's May 5 liturgy:

At the end of today's liturgy, Linda and Jack Christie were thrilled to introduce **Diego Lemus, one of NOVA's Marie Pinho and Marie Keefe Stipend Scholarship recipients.** Diego will graduate soon from Mary Baldwin University with a degree in marketing. Diego spoke about how helpful the scholarship was to him and thanked NOVA for it. He also spoke about going to Mass in Guatemala with his grandparents. Linda invited him to come to NOVA liturgies whenever he would like to, and he indicated that he would be back. He hopes to move to Alexandria soon. Diego is the sixth graduate we have had in this program. We truly believe the two Maries would be very proud of what has been accomplished in their names. Linda also said that Kathy Scheimer is the committee member who gets the \$300 per academic month to these scholars. Unfortunately, Kathy is still battling Covid and could not be present today. Prayers for her, please.

Circle of Leaders: Joe Keyes announced that this year's "Circle of Leaders" has been formed, based on responses to the recent Commitment Form Meg Tuccillo sent to all Community members. This form included a question about whether the respondent was willing to serve as a member of this year's "Circle of Leaders" to select a community co-chair to serve a two-year term. The Circle will meet at the Keyes' home (at a time to be determined) in the next two weeks. Circle volunteers this year are Teddi Ahrens, Eric Carroll, Jeanne Clarkson, Barbara Formoso, Archer Heinzen, Grace Kelly, Claire Lamb, Helen Michie, David Mog, Gloria Mog, John Mooney, and Carol Reeder. Current co-chairs, Meg and Joe, will also participate in this meeting.

Job leads for a new immigrant: Yesenia ("Jessie"), who is from Bolivia, asked the community for help finding job leads. She has been in the U.S. about a year. She used to work in a medical office and would be happy to find work in that field again. If you have ideas or leads, please contact Carmela or Victoria Robinson, who can pass the information along to her.

Arlington County gun buyback program: Clair Lamb noted that the Arlington County Board has approved a gun buyback program but needs donations from the community to fund it. They estimate the program will cost \$30,000. Supporters can donate through this link: https://arlc.fcsuite.com/erp/donate/create/fund?funit_id=4894 The link takes you to a page on the Arlington Community Foundation website, which has more details about the program. The foundation is spearheading the effort to gather donations to make the buyback possible.

Synodal process: Clyde Christofferson has asked community members to read the email he sent on April 20, which is a summary he drafted of how the community functions. He would appreciate your thoughts and comments so that he can incorporate them into the Community's submission to the Vatican as part of the Church's ongoing synodal process. (The deadline is May 15.)

Tom Clarkson has 2 announcements:

1. [VIDEOS ON THE JOB GUARANTEE](#)

You're two mouse clicks away from receiving a weekly video reminder to ask your Congressperson to enact a Job Guarantee. 1. Click on callsforjobs@gmail.com. That will bring up an email already addressed to callsforjobs@gmail.com. 2. Then hit SEND on that email. No need to write anything. The 40 million workers who earn less than \$18/hour thank you.

2. GARDEN WORK FOR RONALDO

Ronaldo Vail (father of our refugee family from Guatemala) has received his work permit renewal, but Target hasn't given him a starting date. Until he starts again there, he is available 7 days/week for yard work or other household tasks Please call Ronaldo @ 731-618-1459 if you'd like his help. Click [here](#) for [directions to his home](#). https://drive.google.com/file/d/1tQpYkslyWGYwMr_Mfsvzx-Um6zXPDvQM/view?usp=sharing

Food for AFAC: Please continue to bring cold cereal, protein (such as peanut butter, canned tuna, etc.) and other food donations for the Arlington Food Assistance Center to liturgy each Sunday. Pick up a box of cold cereal when you go grocery shopping: this was one method that Ken Himes used to talk about as keeping the poor in our lives. The following food items are also needed: canned soup (in pop-top cans), canned fruits, canned beans, plain pasta, and peanut butter.

Planners for the May 12 Liturgy: Betsy and Mike Marron and Mark Horak, S.J.
Announcements Scribes: Alicia and Phil Cackley

FROM APRIL 28:

Calendar

On April 28th and beyond: . continuation of process to select a chairperson for upcoming term.

May 4th - 30 Year Anniversary Concert (See details below).

Sun., May 5th - Agape Sunday with Coffee and Snacks after Mass

Sun., May 5th - Discussion of the book *Poverty, By America* by Matthew Desmond at Carol & John Reeder's home after Mass. (Details below)

Congratulations to Simon Costello on his First Holy Communion today. Fr. Gargani and many members of Simon's Family made it very special. The music Simon selected was beautifully led by the NovaTones.

Please see the commitment form that Meg sent out via email earlier today. The request is for everyone to fill it in and return it via email or at NOVA soon.

From Carol & John Reeder: After Mass next Sunday you are invited to the Reeder's home for a discussion of the book *Poverty, By America* by Matthew Desmond. Please let Reeder's know if you plan on coming. Carol's email is csreeder1812@hotmail.com Their address is 1812 N. Huntington St. in Arlington.

From Carolyn Miller: NOVA and the Reunion Music Society is presenting the NOVA Symphony Orchestra in concert on Sat., May 4th at 8p.m. Tickets are required but the parking is free at the Rachel M. Schlesinger Concert Hall, 4915 East Campus Drive, Alexandria, VA.

Ticket prices:

General Admission - \$20

Non-NOVA students - \$15

Current NOVA Students FREE

Children 12 and under FREE

More information at www.NOVASymphony.org

Sally Keyes asks that people let her know if they can bring snacks for next Sunday's Agape Sunday. You can reach Sally at jskeyes@verizon.net or at 703-528-1247. Thank you.

From Teddi Ahrens: If at all possible, please bring paint and painting supplies that you no longer have use for next week. Teddi will take them to Eve Birch. Thank you.

Job leads for a new immigrant -- Yesenia ("Jessie"), who is from Bolivia, asked the community for help finding job leads. She has been in the U.S. about a year. She used to work in a medical office and would be happy to find work in that field again. If you have ideas or leads, please contact Carmela or Victoria Robinson, who can pass the information along to her.

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Food for AFAC — please continue to bring cold cereal, protein (such as peanut butter, canned tuna, etc) and other food donations for the Arlington Food Assistance Center to liturgy each Sunday. Pick up a box of cold cereal when you go grocery shopping: this was one method that Ken Himes used to talk about as keeping the poor in our lives.

Dianne Carroll recently contacted AFAC and learned the following are also appreciated:

low sodium soups in pop-top cans

canned fruit in light syrup

peanut butter

plain pasta

canned beans

cooking oil

*I, Linda, will add this list every time I am the Scribe.

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Next Sunday, May 5th is the Sixth Sunday of Easter. The Planners are Charley Miller, OFM and Judy & Clyde Christofferson. The Scribe will be Judy C and, as always, Judy needs written announcements please submitted to her. Thank you for doing that. ~submitted by Linda Christie

FROM APRIL 21:

Calendar

Sunday, April 28: Two Activities --

1. Continuation of process to select a new chair.
2. Postcard writing to your U.S. congressperson(s) regarding current issues.

Announcements

On April 28. continuation of process to select a chairperson for upcoming term:

Following today's liturgy, Joe and Meg began Nova's Discernment Process for selecting our next chair to replace Joe as he completes his term. The new co-chair will begin a two-year term by joining Meg for the coming year. **Attached to this newsletter is Nova's commitment form** to submit next week after you think about how you will share your gifts with the community.

Postcard writing opportunity: Archer Heinzen announced that following the liturgy on April 28, the Heinzens and the Reederes will lead a postcard-writing opportunity. They will provide 100 postcards and address labels to write our senators and congresspeople. Please come ready to turn your faith into action and express your thoughts about the genocide in Gaza or whatever else you feel your representatives are not attending to sufficiently.

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Reminders from Tom Clarkson

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Cereal for AFAC: Please remember to continue bringing cold cereal or other food donations for AFAC (the Arlington Food Assistance Center) to liturgy each Sunday. Despite the warm spring weather, the need of food-insecure families in Arlington (and elsewhere in our area) has not gone away. Hunger is not just a winter-time thing.

Next Sunday is the Fifth Sunday of Easter. The planners are Father Francis Gargani, CSsR, and Stefanie Costello. Simon Costello will make his First Communion.
Scribe: Linda Christie

FROM APRIL 14:

Upcoming events/dates to remember

April 21 — start of Calling Forth "season," after Nova liturgy at Kenmore

April 21 — Freecycle Swap after Nova liturgy at Kenmore Middle School

April 21 — VOICE potluck in Herndon, 2-4 pm

April 21 — Christians for a Free Palestine, mobilizing call, on video conference, 8 pm

Announcements

1) **Calling Forth season** — Meg Tuccillo announced that Calling Forth (for new Nova chair/s for the coming year) will begin following liturgy next Sunday, April 21. She said we should plan to stay for 20 minutes, to hear an explanation of the process, and be thinking about how we want to respond to the commitment sheets that will be handed out.

2) **Freecycle Swap** — Gloria Mog reminded us about next Sunday's Freecycle Swap (in honor of Earth Day, which is the day after), which will take place after liturgy (along with the Calling Forth meeting). In the spirit of "reducing and recycling" bring two or three items in good condition that you no longer need and can pass on to someone else. Put the items out on designated cafeteria tables at Kenmore and then do your "shopping" for anything you CAN use after liturgy. There will also be a Book Swap table – again no more than two or three books per household. If your items don't get picked up, please take them home and donate them – you've already decided you're done with them. The whole idea behind this is reduce/recycle.

3) **VOICE potluck April 21** — Nancy Veldhuis told us about a VOICE potluck dinner that will take place from 2 to 4 pm next Sunday, in Herndon. The purpose of the dinner is to help VOICE members work with and build relationships with people of diverse faiths and diverse cultural backgrounds. The dinner will be held at Trinity Presbyterian Church, 651 Dranesville Rd, Herndon, Virginia. Please RSVP by this Wednesday, April 17, so that VOICE can send pre-reading materials to all attendees and plan space accordingly. To sign up, click on this [link](#) (which also has more details about the event).

4) **Palestine mobilizing call** — Carmela Ormando asked us to consider signing on for a mass mobilizing call concerning Palestine. Christians for a Free Palestine calls the Christian community to use our voice and collective power to challenge Christian Zionism and demand an immediate ceasefire. Join the next national mass mobilizing call on Sunday, April 21 at 8 pm and learn what comes next for this important movement. Click on the following links for more info or to sign up to get the video conference link for the Sunday night call.

<https://christiansforafreepalestine.com/>

<https://christiansforafreepalestine.com/events/aprilmasscall>

5) **Job leads for a new immigrant?** — Yesenia ("you can call me Jessie"), who is from Bolivia, asked Nova for help finding job leads. She has been in the US about a year. She used to work in a medical office and would be happy finding work in that field again. If you have ideas or leads, please get in touch with Carmela or Victoria Robinson, who can pass the info along to her.

6) **Arlington County gun buyback program** — Clair Lamb noted that the Arlington County Board has approved a gun buyback program, but needs donations from the community to fund it. They estimate the program will cost \$30,000. Supporters can donate through this link:

https://arlc.fcsuite.com/erp/donate/create/fund?funit_id=4894 The link takes you to a page on the Arlington Community Foundation website, which has more details about the program. The foundation is spearheading the effort to gather donations to make the buyback possible.

7) **Tom Clarkson's announcements** — Tom asked the community to continue supporting legislation for a job guarantee, as well as noting that Ronaldo Vail continues to look for garden work. Here are the details: [SHORT VIDEO REMINDER ON THE JOB GUARANTEE](#) You're two mouse clicks away from receiving a weekly video reminder to ask your Congressperson to enact a Job Guarantee. Click on callsforjobs@gmail.com. That will bring up an email already addressed to callsforjobs@gmail.com. Then hit SEND on that email. No need to write anything.

GARDEN WORK FOR RONALDO Ronaldo Vail (father of our refugee family from Guatemala) has received his work permit renewal but Target hasn't given him a starting date. Until he starts again there, he is available seven days/week for yard work or other household tasks. Please call Ronaldo at 731-618-1459 if you'd like his help. Click [here](#) for directions to his home.

8) **Synodal process** — Clyde Christofferson noted that it's only about a month until Nova should send its submission to the Vatican for the synodal process (deadline is May 15). Look for an email from Clyde in the next few days with full information on this.

9) **Cereal for AFAC** — Finally, please remember to continue bringing cold cereal or other food donations for AFAC (the Arlington Food Assistance Center) to liturgy each Sunday. Despite the warm spring weather, the need of food-insecure families in Arlington (and elsewhere in our area) has not gone away. Hunger is not just a winter-time thing.

The presider and planner for next Sunday's liturgy (at Kenmore and on Zoom) will be "the Joes" — Fr. Joe Kenna and Joe Formoso. The scribe for announcements will be Judy Christofferson, who (as usual) needs written copies of announcements made. — submitted by Phil and Alicia Cackley

FROM APRIL 7:

Calendar

Monday, April 8 and Tuesday, April 9 -- Christians for a Free Palestine mass mobilization.

Thursday, April 11, 7-8:30 p.m. – VOICE presence at Alexandria City Council to support affordable housing.

Sunday, April 14 – Nova book group discusses "The Heaven and Earth Grocery Store" at Goldschmidts. RSVP now.

Sunday, April 21 - Freecycle event after liturgy.

We are called to speak truth to power—here is an opportunity. Affordable housing can't wait! Budget Accountability Action. **VOICE needs our presence April 11** from 7-8:30 p.m. at Mark Center in Alexandria. VOICE seeks funding from the Alexandria City Council for two affordable housing projects that have already been approved by the Alexandria City Council. This is our moment to show key elected leaders our organized power, to share stories from impacted people and hold our elected officials accountable to voting for housing justice in May and beyond. We need to pack the house!

The **Nova Book Club** will meet after liturgy on Sunday, April 14 at the Goldschmidts' home. We will discuss "The Heaven and Earth Grocery Store" by James McBride, and entertain suggestions for our next reading selection. If you are planning to come, please RSVP to Cathy Goldschmidt: cmgolds@comcast.net.

Earth Day Freecycle Swap: Sunday, April 21 after liturgy. In the spirit of "reducing and recycling" bring 2-3 items in good condition that you are ready to let go. Anything that you never used or no longer use. Put out on designated cafeteria tables before liturgy and then do your shopping for anything you CAN use after liturgy. There will also be a Book Swap table – again no more than 2-3/household. If your items don't get picked up, please take them home and donate them – you've already decided you're done with them! Let's have fun with this.

Christians for a Free Palestine is calling for a mass mobilization April 8-9 in Washington to challenge Christian Zionism, advocate for a permanent ceasefire, demand an end to U.S. military aid to Israel, and ensure a long-lasting, just and sustainable peace for Palestinians and Israelis.

It is important to [register here](#). Here is the schedule:

Monday, April 8 (all events at Washington Church of the Brethren, 337 North Carolina Ave SE, wheelchair accessible) [Check out this transportation guide](#)

10am-1pm - Art Build

1pm - Lunch Provided (vegan- and vegetarian-friendly)

2-5pm - Optional workshops, hymn singing, affinity groups, and down time

5pm - Dinner Provided (vegan- and vegetarian-friendly)

6-8pm - Direct Action Training (MANDATORY for Red Action Participants (I think that means willing to be arrested), masking mandatory.

Tuesday, April 9

9am - Breakfast provided for Red Action Participants

10am - Public Communion Service & Commissioning (location TBA)

12pm - Red Action (nonviolent)

12:15pm - Lunch Provided (Washington City Church of the Brethren, vegan- and vegetarian-friendly)

More ways to volunteer:

– Call for crafters and artists! Message Margaret Ernst at margaretanneerst@gmail.com if you have these skills and would like to be on a team to do this. We are in need of your help for the Art Build starting at 10AM on Monday.

– Donations for meals and snacks are needed, and this could be a way for folks at NOVA to support this action. If you can help serve lunch or dinner on Monday or check people in at the welcome desk, email jay@germantownmennonite.org.

– Monetary donations can be made [here](#).

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Next Sunday is the Third Sunday of Easter. The planners will be Quinn Conners, O.Carm., Jack and Linda Christie. The scribes will be the Cackleys, who are expecting announcements in writing.

FROM MARCH 31:

Calendar

Through Sunday, April 7 -- Special collection for families of victims of Baltimore bridge collapse.

Sunday, April 7 — Timpane memorial walk-a thon AND CEREAL DRIVE.

Thursday, April 11, 7-8:30 p.m. --VOICE presence at Alexandria City Council to support affordable housing.

Sunday, April 14 – NOVA book group discusses “The Heaven and Earth Grocery Store” at Goldschmidts.

NOVA is taking a **special collection this week** to support the families of the men who were victims of the Baltimore bridge collapse – families both here in the U.S. and in their native Central American countries who relied on the men's manual labor for all of their livelihoods. We will be in touch with CASA, which provides critical services to immigrant and working-class families and advocates for their rights, about how best to make our donation. Make checks payable to NOVA Catholic Community or donate on the NOVA website [here](#). Please indicate your donation is for “Bridge victims and survivors.”

Path Forward walk-a-thon AND CEREAL DRIVE April 7. Sign up for the Mike and Gen Timpane memorial walk-a-thon, to be held at Kenmore following the April 7 liturgy. Please also bring cereal to be served at Path Forward's breakfasts. NOVA will dedicate our cereal donation on April 7 to Path Forward. We can support the unhoused with our generous donation of cereal. Meg said it's possible to use a QR code to fill out a sign-up form and make an online registration payment of \$35 per adult or \$50 for a family. To get the QR code or for more information, contact Meg.

Path Forward also needs volunteers to help serve lunch and dinner.

Christians for a Free Palestine is calling for a mass mobilization April 8-9 in Washington to challenge Christian Zionism, advocate for a permanent ceasefire, demand an end to U.S. military aid to Israel, and ensure a long-lasting, just and sustainable peace for Palestinians and Israelis.

- On Tuesday, April 9, hundreds of Christians will hold the largest ecumenical Christian action for Palestine since this genocide began. It will include a public peace service outside the Capitol, praying, singing and breaking bread together.
- On Monday, April 8, there will be comprehensive training to prepare all those who plan to take peaceful action.
- In addition, donations for meals and snacks are needed, and this could be a way for folks at NOVA to support this action. Donations are needed for dinner on Sunday, April 7; and for lunch, snacks and dinner on Monday, April 8. All deliveries to Washington Church of the Brethren. Sign up [here](#) to register and receive more information.

VOICE needs our presence April 11 from 7-8:30 p.m. at Mark Center in Alexandria. We seek funding from the Alexandria City Council for two affordable housing projects that have already been approved by the Alexandria City Council Elbert Avenue Apartments, approved Feb 2023 and Park view Apartments approved Feb 2022. These two projects would provide hundreds of affordable housing units and stop the loss of decent housing for low-income families in the area.

The **Nova Book Club will meet after liturgy on Sunday, April 14** at the Goldschmidts' home. We will discuss [The Heaven and Earth Grocery Store](#) by James McBride, and entertain suggestions for our next reading selection. If you are planning to come, please RSVP to Cathy Goldschmidt: cmgolds@comcast.net.

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Donations to Nova in Gen Timpane's memory should be marked as such on your check.

Happy Easter to all and thanks to the many people who worked so hard to prepare meaningful Holy Week services for us.

Next Sunday is the 2nd Sunday of Easter and the presider is Francis Gargani, CSsR, with planners Eileen Joyner and Kathy Scheimer. The scribe will be Cathy Goldschmidt who needs all announcements in writing. ~ submitted by Markie Harwood

FROM MARCH 24:

Calendar

Thursday, March 28 — Holy Thursday liturgy (reservations ended March 24); it will also be ZOOMed.

Friday, March 29, 8 PM – Good Friday liturgy at Kenmore.

Sunday, March 31 10:15 AM -- Easter Sunday liturgy at Kenmore.

Sunday, April 7 — Timpane memorial walk-athon (sign up online now or with Meg Tuccillo).

Thursday, April 11, 7-8:30 --Voice presence at Alexandria City Council to support affordable housing.

Sunday, April 14 – Nova book group discusses The Heaven and Earth Grocery Store at Goldschmidt's.

** After the Easter Liturgy next Sunday, there will be an Agape. Everyone, please bring some type of finger food for this! Thanks.**

**Holy Week liturgies will be ZOOMed, but no interaction will occur. **

Donations to Nova in Gen Timpane's memory should be marked as such on your check.

Nova's Holy Thursday liturgy/dinner will be at 6 pm on March 28 at the Center for Spiritual Enlightenment, 222 North Washington Street, in downtown Falls Church. Please plan to gather by 5:45. Reservations required because seating is limited. You can make your reservation by using this link BEFORE Sunday, March 24: tinyurl.com/holythurs. It is also being ZOOMed.

Path Forward walkathon April 7. Sign up for the Mike and Gen Timpane memorial walkathon, to be held at Kenmore following the April 7 liturgy. Meg said it's possible to use a QR code to fill out a form and make an online registration payment of \$35 per adult or \$50 for a family. To get the QR code or for more information, contact Meg.

Path Forward is also looking for volunteers to help out with serving at lunch and dinner. For breakfast, they need cereal, so Nova will be dedicating our cereal donation on April 7 to Path Forward. We can support the unhoused with our generous donation of cereal on April 7.

Zoom lite — Steve Ruth mentioned that he will send out information concerning "Zoom lite" informal gatherings. If you are interested in participating, contact him at ruth@gmu.edu

Voice needs our help April 11 from 7-8:30 at Mark Center in Alexandria. We seek funding from the Alexandria City Council for two affordable housing projects that have already been approved by the Alexandria City Council Elbert Avenue Apartments, approved Feb 2023 and Park view Apartments approved Feb 2022, These two projects would provide hundreds of affordable housing units and stop the loss of decent housing for low income families in the area where re Veldhuis' email of March 13 for more information and a sign-up link. For a related plea, see Rev. Rodriguez's letter in to today's Washington Post.
<https://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/2024/03/15/alexandria-affordable-housing-casino-wizards/>

On Sunday, March 14 the Nova book group will meet after liturgy at Goldschmidts' to discuss The Heaven and Earth Grocery Store by James McBride. This house is more accessible than Millers'. Please RSVP to Cathy if you plan to come.

Time to ready your garden for Spring! Gardening work for Ronaldo — Ronaldo Vail (father of our refugee family from Guatemala) is temporarily out of work because his work permit renewal has been delayed. For the next week or two he'll be available 7 days/week for yard work or other household tasks. Please call Ronaldo at 731-618-1459 if you'd like his help. Please click [here](#) for directions to his home. Tom also wants us to consider calling Congress to support a jobs guarantee. See below.

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Thursday, April 11, 7-8:30 --Voice presence at Alexandria City Council to support affordable housing
Sunday, April 14 – Nova book group discusses *The Heaven and Earth Grocery Store* at Goldschmidt's.

Donations to Nova in Gen Timpane's memory should be marked as such on your check.

Nova's Holy Thursday liturgy/dinner will be at 6 pm on March 28 at the Center for Spiritual Enlightenment, 222 North Washington Street, in downtown Falls Church. Please plan to gather by 5:45. Reservations are required because seating is limited. You can make your reservation by using this link BEFORE Sunday, March 24: tinyurl.com/holythurs

Path Forward walkathon April 7 sign up for the Mike and Gen Timpane memorial walkathon, to be held at Kenmore following the April 7th liturgy. Meg said it's possible to use a QR code to fill out a form and make an online registration payment of \$35 per adult or \$50 for a family. To get the QR code or for more information, contact Meg.

Path Forward is also looking for volunteers to help out with serving at lunch and dinner. For breakfast, they need cereal, so Nova will be dedicating our cereal donation on April 7 to Path Forward. We can support the unhoused with our generous donation of cereal on April 7.

Zoom lite — Steve Ruth mentioned that he will send out information concerning "Zoom lite" informal gatherings. If you are interested in participating, contact him at ruth@gmu.edu

Voice needs our help April 11 from 7-8:30 at Mark Center in Alexandria. We seek funding from the Alexandria City Council for two affordable housing projects that have already been approved by the Alexandria City Council Elbert Avenue Apartments, approved Feb 2023 and Park view Apartments approved Feb 2022, These two projects would provide hundreds of affordable housing units and stop the loss of decent housing for low income families in the area where rent was increased this year by as much as \$400 with no increase in salary. Refer to Nancy Veldhuis' email of March 13 for more information and a sign-up link. For a related plea, see Rev. Rodriguez's letter in to today's *Washington Post*.
<https://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/2024/03/15/alexandria-affordable-housing-casino-wizards/>

March 19 is St. Joseph's day, as Rosemarie reminded us. Give thanks for someone named Joseph today!

On Sunday, March 14 the Nova book group will meet after liturgy at Goldschmidts' to discuss The Heaven and Earth Grocery Store by James McBride. This house is more accessible than Millers'. Please RSVP to Cathy if you plan to come.

Time to ready your garden for Spring! Gardening work for Ronaldo — Ronaldo Vail (father of our refugee family from Guatemala) is temporarily out of work because his work permit renewal has been delayed. For the next week or two he'll be available 7 days/week for yard work or other household tasks. Please call Ronaldo at 731-618-1459 if you'd like his help. Please click [here](#) for directions to his home. Tom also wants us to consider calling Congress to support a jobs guarantee. See below.

Food for AFAC — please continue to bring cold cereal, protein (such as peanut butter, canned tuna, etc) and other food donations for the Arlington Food Assistance Center to liturgy each Sunday. Pick up a box of cold cereal when you go grocery shopping: this was one method that Ken Himes used to talk about as keeping the poor in our lives.

SHORT VIDEO REMINDER ON THE JOB GUARANTEE

You're two mouse clicks away from receiving a weekly video reminder to ask your Congressperson to enact a Job Guarantee. 1. Click on callsforjobs@gmail.com. That will bring up an email already addressed to callsforjobs@gmail.com. 2. Then hit SEND on that email. No need to write anything. Thank you

Next Sunday is Palm Sunday. The planners will be Charley Miller, OFM and Teddi Ahrens and team. The scribe will be Linda Christie, who will need written announcements. Because of the solemn nature of the liturgy, spoken announcements will be kept to a minimum.

FROM MARCH 10:

Upcoming events/Dates to remember

Monday, March 11 — VOICE appeal to attend Alexandria City Council budget meeting, at 5:15 pm

Wednesday, March 13— 2nd Zoom meeting for Nova's synodal process, at 8 pm

Thursday, March 28 — Holy Thursday liturgy (sign up now for a space at the dinner/liturgy)

Sunday, April 7 — Timpane memorial walk-a-thon (sign up online now)

Announcements

1) Dream Project fundraising raffle — Emma Violand-Sanchez introduced members of the parents group of the Dream Project, who were on hand to sell tickets to a fundraising raffle that will take place in June. Former Dream Project scholar Girasol O'Neill (now an art teacher in Arlington Public Schools) showed his painting and explained the symbolism behind its composition. A full-sized reproduction of the painting is first prize in the raffle. There are a number of other prizes, including cash amounts. Tickets are \$10 each. If you didn't get a ticket at liturgy today, you can purchase them online, using Venmo or Zelle mobile payments apps. Check with Emma for details or look at her March 8 email.

2) VOICE appeal to Alexandria council — Nancy Veldhuis said VOICE is looking for NOVA members who live in Arlington and Fairfax to show up tomorrow night at an Alexandria City Council budget hearing to help advocate for two approved affordable housing projects, yet to be funded for the third year in a row. 5:15 pm to 7 pm, Alexandria City Hall, 301 King Street, Alexandria. You can sign up here: <https://secure.everyaction.com/Metqc-gBzU2jeAjXJIFZdg2>

3) Synodal process Zoom meeting Wednesday — Clyde Christofferson let us know that over the last two years Nova has submitted two documents to the Synod Office in Rome. A third submission is due May 15. To prepare that submission, he hopes to hear from as many members of the community as possible. One meeting is still to be held, beginning at 8 pm on Wednesday night, over Zoom.

4) Holy Thursday sign-ups — Cathy Goldschmidt noted that Nova's Holy Thursday liturgy/dinner will be at 6 pm on March 28 at the Center for Spiritual Enlightenment, 222 North Washington Street, in downtown Falls Church. Reservations are required because seating is limited.

5) Bunk beds for Afghan family — Carolyn Miller asked us to be on the lookout for a bunk bed that could be donated to the Afghan refugee family that Nova is helping. They have 5 children, who are currently sleeping on the floor. Mattresses aren't needed, only the frame. Contact Carolyn for more info or to help.

6) Gardening work for Ronaldo — Tom Clarkson said that Ronaldo Vail (father of our refugee family from Guatemala) is temporarily out of work because his work permit renewal has been delayed. For the next week or two he'll be available 7 days/week for yard work or other household tasks. . Tom also wants us to consider calling Congress to support a jobs guarantee. See below.

7) Path Forward walkathon April 7 — Meg Tuccillo urged us to sign up for the Mike and Gen Timpane memorial walkathon, to be held at Kenmore following the April 7th liturgy. Scott Miller, from Path Forward (formerly ASPAN), was at liturgy last week. Meg said it's possible to use a QR code to fill out a form and make an online registration payment of \$35 per adult or \$50 for a family. To get the QR code or for more information, contact Meg.

8) Zoom lite — Steve Ruth mentioned that he will send out information concerning "Zoom lite" informal gatherings.

9) Food for AFAC — please continue to bring cold cereal, protein (such as peanut butter, canned tuna, etc) and other food donations for the Arlington Food Assistance Center to liturgy each Sunday. Pick up a box of cold cereal when you go grocery shopping: this was one method that Ken Himes used to talk about as keeping the poor in our lives.

Tom's other announcement:

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FROM MARCH 3:

Calendar

This Week – Ronaldo needs our (notarized) letters of support (see Clarkson notice)

Sun., March 10th Fourth Sunday of Lent/Laetare Sunday - Rose or Pink are appropriate colors

Sun., March 17th - 4-6p.m. ,ini Lenten Retreat via ZOOM w/ Fr. Ted Keating

Thu, March 21 – Shane MacCarthy's tour of Capitol Bldg, 11:30am

Sun, April 7 – Mike & Gen Timpane fundraising walk for PathForward

Sun., April 14th - NOVA Book Club meets after M

Announcements

Shane MacCarthy's invite to join him, Thurs March 21 @ 11:30am, for several-hour **docent tour of Capital Bldg** (busy scene because it'll be Cherry Blossom time.)

Carolyn M thanked Community for generous response of household stuff, kids' clothes & money for 3 (new to US) **Afghan families**. She is tutoring one of 8 kids (and the Mom) in English.

Both Tom C. & Marie S-B spoke of the need for us to work to **get poor people registered to vote**, get them rides to the polls, etc. Tom C and others participated in this week's DC "March on Poverty" event. He reinforced message that all needs for housing, healthcare, food security would be underwritten if Fed legislation provided \$16/hour guaranteed wage! (See Tom's simple 2 clicks – 2 Congress effort to push for this.)

Scott Miller (Director of **PathForward**, formerly ASPAN), reported that 700 individuals have been provided with indep housing units, while PathForward still staffs the Courthouse area 24/7 homeless shelter. They seek daytime volunteers to work with chef & serve breakfast (often 30 people), lunch at Noon (often 60 people) and dinner @ 6Mark your calendars for post-liturgy 1st Sunday in April (4/7) Mike & Gen Timpane fundraising WALK @ Kenmore. Walk & donate, or just donate if walking ain't easy. See Clyde C's earlier Emails for Weds & Sun mtgs about continued efforts toward RC Church synod plans.

From Yaneth Spaine on behalf of Little Friends For Peace: Join the **2024 Best Buddies Walk** at 9 a.m. Saturday April 27 on the National Mall at 7th and Madison Drive. See Yaneth for the QR code to register.

From John & Carol Reeder: There will be a **trip to Senator Tim Kaine's Capitol Hill Office**. Please contact John for details.

From Ted Miller: There is a program on Apple TV currently called **Masters of the Air**. It is getting ready to air its final episodes 8, 9 and 10 which will feature Carolyn Miller's Dad. Her maiden name is Clark. The program airs on Fridays.

From Joe Keyes A **mini report from the committee working on NOVA's future**; if you have a need of help from NOVA, please contact Cathy Goldschmidt, Anne Passin or Ted Miller (emails and phone numbers in the NOVA Directory). Joe also said that Stephen Ruth will be working with folks on ZOOM.

A Conversion of the Heart: From Chardin to Laudate Deum, a Lenten mini-retreat with Fr. Ted Keating, SM on Sunday March 17 on Zoom. Please join us for an afternoon of inspiration, reflection, prayer and music with Fr. Ted Keating, beloved priest, lecturer, seeker and lifelong supporter of Intentional Eucharistic Communities. The work of Teilhard de Chardin has fascinated Fr. Ted for decades. In this retreat he will bring together the “conversion of heart” in relation to the earth and all beings that Chardin imagined and Pope Francis demanded in his latest Encyclical document: Laudate Deum. Participants will benefit from reading Pope Francis’ Laudate Deum book (35 pages) before the retreat or watching a summary video of the document.

From Cathy Goldschmidt: If you are interested in an **informal Zoom chat** every few weeks with other members on fun or interesting topics please contact Steve Ruth at ruth@gmu.edu. We might consider favorite books or TV shows, effect of technologies on lifestyles or security concerns, travel stories - whatever subject intrigues the group. This is open both to friends who only attend by Zoom, and to those who attend in person as well.

Food for AFAC —Don’t forget to bring food donations for the Arlington Food Assistance Center to liturgy every Sunday. Even in a community as wealthy as Arlington, there still is tremendous need (AFAC typically serves more than 2,700 clients per month). Bring cold cereal, cans of low-sodium vegetables, proteins such as canned tuna or salmon, or beans. Next Sunday is the Fourth Sunday in Lent. It is Laetare Sunday and Rose or Pink is the appropriate color. The planners will be Mark Horak, SJ and Emma Violand. The scribes will be Alicia & Phil Cackley who require announcements in writing. ~submitted by Victoria Robinson

Tom Clarkson has 3 announcements today:

1. [SHORT VIDEO REMINDER ON THE JOB GUARANTEE](#)

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2. GARDEN WORK FOR RONALDO

Ronaldo Vail (father of our refugee family from Guatemala) is available 2 days/week for yard work or other household tasks. Please call Ronaldo @ 731-618-1459 if

you'd like his help on MON, or TUES. (The other days he works at Target.) Please click [here](#) for [directions to his home](#).

3. LETTERS OF SUPPORT FOR RONALDO AND HIS FAMILY

Ronaldo & Nohemi's asylum lawyer has asked for friends to send letters saying good things about him, especially if they have done something for you, for NOVA, or for others. Please notarize your signature (lots of UPS stores have notary services) and give them to Tom next Sunday. Click [here](#) for the lawyer's instructions.