

QUEEN OF THE APOSTLES CATHOLIC CHURCH

Iglesia Católica Reina de los Apóstoles

503 North Main Street, Belmont, North Carolina 28012, Phone: 704-825-9600, Fax: 704-825-1413, www.queenoftheapostles.org

Weekend Mass Schedule:
Saturday 5:00pm, 7:00pm (en Español); Sunday 9:15am & 11:15am; 1st Saturday of each month 9:00am

Weekday Mass Schedule:
Monday, Thursday & Friday 9:00am; Wednesday 5:30pm
Reconciliation: Sunday 8:15-8:45am; Monday 8:00-8:30am; Friday 7:30-8:30am; Saturday 3:30-4:30pm
Adoration: Thursday 5:30-6:30pm



Jesus, I Trust in You

SUNDAY OF DIVINE MERCY

APRIL 7, 2024

MISSION STATEMENT

With the Blessed Virgin Mary, the first disciple of Jesus Christ, as our example and patron, the mission of Queen of the Apostles Catholic Church is to live and proclaim the Gospel entrusted to us. We strive in our rich diversity to be a community of welcome and hospitality: one with the Risen Christ, each other, and the whole Church. Through the Word of God and the life of the Sacraments, especially the Eucharist, we are empowered to engage in a variety of ministries of service to the parish family and the communities where we live.

Liturgies This Week:

Saturday, April 6, 2024

3:30-4:30pm Reconciliation
5:00pm For the People
7:00pm Misa en Español

Sunday, April 7, 2024

8:15-8:45am Reconciliation
9:15am Roger Fenlon +
11:15am Jean Buonocore +

Monday, April 8, 2024

8:00-8:30am Reconciliation
9:00am Richard G. Reeves +
7:00pm Recitation of the Rosary in Creole

Tuesday, April 9, 2024

No Mass

Wednesday, April 10, 2024

5:30pm William Fox +

Thursday, April 11, 2024

9:00am Roger Fenlon +
5:30-6:30pm Adoration

Friday, April 12, 2024

7:30am-8:30am Reconciliation
9:00am Roger Fenlon +

Pastoral Staff

PASTOR

Father Paul Buchanan
officeofthepastor@queenoftheapostles.org
Emergency #: 704-825-9907

HISPANIC MINISTRY COORDINATOR

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DEACONS

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704-488-5822

Rev. Mr. John "Zeke" Panzica
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MUSIC COORDINATOR

Andrew Paluszak
andrewmusic@queenoftheapostles.org

CHRISTIAN INITIATION (RCIA)

Please call the church office

DIRECTOR OF MAINTENANCE

Dennis Kast
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704-825-9600 ext. 1009

PASTORAL COUNCIL CHAIRPERSON

Chris Deregó
chrisderegó@gmail.com

Liturgical Ministers:

Saturday, April 13, 2024-5:00pm

Altar Servers: Janette Blandford, Natalia Gomez
EMCs: Sharon Thrumbel, Diane Hess
Readers: Patricia Vasil Ryan, James Hefferan
Hospitality: Todd Morgan, Rich Ryan

Sunday, April 14, 2024—9:15am

Altar Servers: Daniel Sanchez, Lila St. Romain, Adam St. Romain, Caroline Thompson
EMCs: Mary Hooper, Tom Calabro
Readers: Richard Swakla, Tom Katsuleris
Hospitality: Bill McMaster, Joe Shirley

Sunday, April 14, 2024—11:15am

Altar Servers: Zoe Barthelemy, Phelps Reed, Sarah Forero, Natalie Hawkins
EMCs: Lorraine Long, Patrick Larkin
Readers: Bethsy SanMillan, Andrew Kloak
Hospitality: Billy McHenry, Mike Proud

Donut Ministry:

Sunday, April 14, 2024

Peggy & Wayne Robertson, Steve Bernard, Kimber Zappia



Collections from 03-24-2024: \$19,273.85
The collection for 03-31-2024 will be available
in the next bulletin.

Thank you for your support of the parish!

Our Weekly Tithes: The tithe from 03-24-2024 for *SOCKS* is \$963.00. The tithe for this week is for Shining Hope Farm which uses riding therapy to assist adults and children with developmental and other disabilities. Our tithe helps with clients who are in financial need.

From the Pastor's Desk

In the Roman universities, the end-of-semester examinations are often administered verbally, with a student and a professor one-on-one in a classroom, as the professor grills the student about virtually any of the topics from the entire semester's worth of lectures. One of my professors, however, gave us the questions in advance, so we could prepare ourselves adequately for the examination. His reasoning was simple: at our own judgment at the end of our lives, each of us will have a 'final exam,' a series of questions asked of us by Jesus, the divine teacher. My professor then reminded us that Jesus has already given us the questions that he'll ask us: through your service to the least among you, did you give me food when I was hungry? Did you give me drink when I was thirsty? Did you welcome me when I was a stranger? Did you clothe me when I was naked? Did you visit me when I was ill, or in prison? The professor felt confident that if Jesus has given us the questions to the ultimate final exam, then he was justified in giving out the questions to his exam.

Today is Divine Mercy Sunday. All of the questions that Jesus tells us that he'll ask at our judgment boil down to, "Were you merciful?" We have to realize, once again, that mercy must be the very foundation of each of our lives. For our lives to be founded upon mercy, we not only have to practice mercy but to be aware of the action of the Divine Mercy within us – conscious that there is no sin that is too big or too embarrassing or too painful to be healed by Divine Mercy.

Once we are convinced that we are loved by God, and that he offers us forgiveness for any sin, then we can put ourselves in today's Gospel story: Jesus made himself present to the disciples and showed them his hands and his side. Without shame, he showed them his wounds. There is vulnerability in mercy – this much is shown to us by Christ's wounds – but there is no shame in mercy, simply greater power to be revealed. When wounds come because of mercy, we have to remember that none of the Gospels end on Good Friday, with the unhealed wounds of Christ: the ultimate power of mercy isn't always shown until the Resurrection, when the wounds become symbols of the font of mercy, rather than painful reminders of brutality. This is what Divine Mercy does: transform sin, pain, brokenness, old wounds, and old sadness into hope. This transformation, when we allow it to take place in our hearts, makes us into a conduit of mercy, witnesses who can't help but share what the Lord has done for us. Today is the perfect day to open ourselves to God's mercy, and to bring to his wounds any of our old wounds, confident in his promise of peace.

While we live on earth, we have the opportunity to make mercy the foundation of our lives, and to show God's mercy to a tired world. This will cost us something. But what we gain is the confidence that our ultimate final exam will end, not with an A+, but with Jesus saying to us, "Well done, good and faithful servant. Come and share your master's joy."

As we celebrate Divine Mercy today, in the Church at 3:00 we will have the recitation of the Chaplet of Divine Mercy, adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, and reconciliation until 4:00 PM. Please join us if you can!

Looking ahead to next weekend, on Saturday at the 5:00 Mass, we will celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation for our parishioners. That means the Saturday Vigil will be a little bit longer next weekend! It'll be a beautiful occasion, though; all are welcome to attend.

Fr. Paul

Italy—2025 Jubilee Year

Queen of the Apostles next trip will be in Italy for the 2025 Jubilee Year of the Catholic Church in Rome! More information will be available soon!

Parish Office Hours

Monday—Thursday, 8:30am-4:30pm
Closed on Fridays.



Saints & Special Observances

Sunday: Second Sunday of Easter

Monday: The Annunciation of the Lord, St. Julie Billiart

Tuesday: St. Waldegrudis

Wednesday: St. Michael de Sanctis

Thursday: Saint Stanislaus

Friday: Saint Julius

Saturday: Saint Martin I

Online Prayer Ministry

Prayer requests can be sent to prayforme@queenoftheapostles.org or phoned in to the church office at 704-825-9600. If you would like to be part of our prayer line ministry and join us in praying for the needs of others, please call the church office or send an email to prayforme@queenoftheapostles.org.

Sick and Homebound

Please keep all of our sick and homebound in your prayers especially those who have asked to be remembered: Mary 'Mickey' Estridge, Patrick Bragg, Raphael Winters and Eddie McKnight

Weekly Rosary

On Mondays at 7:00pm the rosary will be recited weekly in-person as well as LiveStream. The rosary will be recited next on **April 8** in Tagalog; **April 15** in English, **April 22** in Creole and **April 29** in English.

Deployed Military

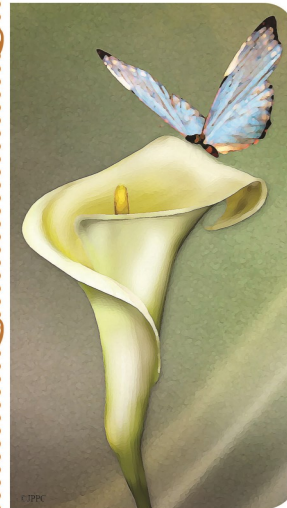
Please keep our deployed military in your prayers: Pvt. Mikhail T. Uloth

Online Giving

You have the option to give online through our parish website or click the QR code provided here in the bulletin. Whether you are making a repeat contribution or one-time gift, you can feel good knowing that your donation is made efficiently, accurately and on time.



ALTAR FLOWERS



With our larger worship space, we now have the opportunity for two flower arrangements at the weekend Masses. Flowers can be dedicated in loving memory of or in honor of loved ones. Please call the church office or visit the sign up in the Gathering Space.

DIOCESAN
SUPPORT
APPEAL 2024

ONE *Body in* CHRIST



Please be generous to the Diocesan Support Appeal 2024. Your contribution is a way to act with love for our sisters and brothers throughout the diocese and to continue the saving work begun by Jesus.

Pledge envelopes are now available to provide a donation or you may also go to <https://charlottediocese.org/giving/donation-dsa-pledge-payment/> to make a gift online.



DIOCESE OF CHARLOTTE

CMGConnect

Instructions for Complying with New Safe Environment Program

Virtus has changed to CMG Connect

1. Go to <https://Charlotte.CMGConnect.org>
2. **If you have previous safe environment certification (VIRTUS):** Your historical records may have been imported to CMG Connect. **Please do NOT create a new account.** Click **Sign In** located in the upper right corner of the page. On the Account Login screen, use the username format: **FirstnameLastname-rcdoc** (ex: JohnSmith-rcdoc) and password: **1234** *You will be prompted to update to a more secure password the first time you sign in. Once the new password is saved, return to the sign in page and use your new credentials to access your training.*
3. **If you are NEW to CMG Connect:** Please create a new account by completing all of the boxes under the *Register for a New Account* area. This will include your address, primary parish, and how you participate at your parish or school. Once your account is successfully created, you will automatically be brought to your training dashboard page.
4. Click **Start** to open the A. Safe Environment Policies for **MINORS (UNDER AGE 18) - Charlotte** module posted under the Required Trainings area of your dashboard.
5. If you have a valid email address associated with your account, you will receive notification from webmaster@cmgconnect.org when you have completed the curriculum and upon your approved certification.
6. After your account is certified by the Diocese, you can also download and/or print a certificate for the completed curriculum. To access login to your account, click **Print Certificate** under the finished module(s).

More information can be found in the Gathering Space of Church. Questions? Please contact the Church office at 704.825.9600 during office hours, Monday through Thursday, 8:30am-4:30pm. You may also contact the Diocese Safe Environment Office at safeenvironment@rcdoc.org.

March Monthly Food Collection—Collection will be on Saturday and Sunday, April 6 & 7

The April Food Collection will be as scheduled on April 27/28. The Food Collection for March goes to SOCKS in Belmont. They require peanut butter and jelly, cereal, canned corn and green beans, instant potatoes, flour, sugar, dried beans, and canned meats. The last weekend in March is Easter; please bring your donations to the back of the church and place them in the baskets provided. Thank you for your generosity and blessings for a Happy Easter.

**April 6 & 7
Food Collection for
March—
Due to Easter, the
March Food
Collection will be col-
lected on the first
weekend in
April .**

Widows: Side by Side- Monday, April 8, 1pm

Side by Side Widow's Group meets next at 1:00pm on **Monday, April 8** in the Conference Room. Contact Jeanne LaFrancis at pastorassoc@queenoftheapostles.org or call the office at 704-825-9600, ext 1005 with any questions.

Prayer Shawl Ministry—Will next meet on Tuesday, April 9

A group of over thirty women share their gift of crocheting and knitting God's love, care and warmth into shawls for those in need of comfort in our parish. The group usually meets on the first Tuesday morning of each month from 10:30am-12:30pm. Can't make the meeting time? That's okay! You can crochet or knit at home! Contact Elizabeth O'Connor at 704-964-2626 or ejoconnor81@gmail.com. The next meeting has been scheduled for the second Tuesday on **April 9** in the Conference Room.

Just for Ladies—Thursday, April 11, 7-8:30pm

Just for Ladies Bible Study will next meet on **Thursday, April 11** in the MAK Family Life Center from 7-8:30pm. All ladies are welcome to attend. The current study is reflections for the next Sunday's scripture. For more information, please contact Janet Blaylock at qoajustforladiesbiblestudy@gmail.com.

MOM's Group, Ministry of Mothers Sharing—Friday, April 12, 9-11am

MOMS Group will next meet on **Friday, April 12** following the 9am Mass and will go until 11am. KidZone will be available and open for the children. For more information or if you have any questions, please contact Cris Forero at cforero_perez@hotmail.com.

Community Breakfast—Saturday, April 13, 8-11am

Spring has sprung and the Easter bunnies are gone...but don't be fooled we still have a wonderful breakfast to look forward to! So come out and join us on **Saturday April 13** from 8 - 11am with our famous pancakes and sausage breakfast! Of course, all your other favorite breakfast items along with coffee and juice will be there as well. Hope to see and serve you again! The Breakfast Team

Young at Hearts' Potluck Dinner—Saturday, April 13, following the 5pm Mass

We want to invite all those that are Young at Heart, over 50 and love to have FUN, to come out to the next Young at Hearts' potluck dinner on **April 13** in the MAK Center! We are always extra excited to have new people join us too! Bring a favorite dish or dessert to share! It's a great time to meet friends and have a great dinner together! Dinner begins after 5 o'clock Mass in the MAK Center. You can drop off your dish before Mass from 4-5pm. So be sure to save the date and join us! For more information, please contact Rich Dudley at richardadudley@yahoo.com.

School of Community —Sunday, April 21, 2pm

The School of Community is a moment of dialogue organized by the local chapter of the Fraternity of Communion and Liberation. Its goal is to help us become aware of what the Lord is doing in our lives so that we might be surprised and changed by it. The next gathering is on **Sunday, April 21** at 2:00pm in Drexel Hall. All are welcome. **No RSVP is necessary.** For more information, please contact Alessandro Rovati at ale.rova@gmail.com.

Nursery Volunteers Needed at MiraVia

MiraVia, a safe haven and source of hope for women facing an unplanned pregnancy, has volunteer opportunities for childcare assistants at our Belmont Abbey location. If you love caring for babies, are over the age of 18 and can make a weekly commitment of an hour or more, you could make a tremendous difference in the lives of the women and children we serve. Other volunteer opportunities are also always available at both our Belmont and Charlotte locations. Call Liliana Caicedo, volunteer manager, at 980-357-9550, or email lilianacaicedo@miravia.org for more information and to sign up. Learn more about MiraVia at www.miravia.org.

Spanish Food Sale

Saturday, May 11, 9am

MAK Family Life Center

Please be sure to mark your calendars and come to the Spanish Food Sale on Saturday, May 11 in the MAK Family Life Center. The food sale begins at 9am.

faithformation

FAMILY FAITH FORMATION

This is Queen of the Apostles Church's primary Catechesis program and fulfills the religious education requirements for children in Grades PreK-8! **This program is opened to parishioners of all ages! A Family of Faith will be meeting next on Sunday, April 7!** The morning begins at 10:15am in the MAK Family Life Center with coffee and doughnuts followed by the meeting from 10:30am-11:00am. Families with children will meet in the church, Adults without children will meet in the MAK Family Life Center and the Spanish session will meet in the St. Katharine Drexel Hall. For more information or questions regarding this program, please contact Anthony Beauregard, the Director of Family & Youth Discipleship at 704-825-9600, ext. 1008 or email familyyouth@queenoftheapostles.org.

CONFIRMATION

Please keep our Confirmation candidates in your prayers as they continue in their preparation for the sacrament of Confirmation. Candidates will be confirmed at the 5pm Mass on **Saturday, April 13, 2024**.

FIRST EUCHARIST WORKSHOP

The next workshop for the First Eucharist Preparation Program will be on **Saturday, April 20** from 12-3pm. We ask that a parent attend with their child. We will have a lunch at the beginning of the workshop and will provide pizza and drinks. We ask that you bring a side dish or dessert. For more information or questions regarding this program, please contact Anthony Beauregard, the Director of Family & Youth Discipleship at 704-825-9600, ext. 1008 or email familyyouth@queenoftheapostles.org.

YOUTH MINISTRIES

Join us for our next Middle School and High School Youth Ministries program on **Sunday, April 7** from 5-7:30pm in the MAK Family Life Center!

Our program will be
Divine Mercy Night!

Dinner is provided—no cost to participate! Bring a friend and be sure to join us as we gather for fun, games and fellowship!

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL—**REGISTRATION OPENS NEXT WEEK!** Save the Date! June 23-27, 5-8pm

Be sure to save the date for this year's Vacation Bible School as we dive into ***Scuba—Diving into friendship with God!*** In you are interested in helping, please contact Anthony at familyyouth@queenoftheapostles.org.

Registration:

Registration for VBS opens the weekend of April 13/14! Look for the sign up area in the Gathering Space for details.

Donations needed!

Please start collecting the following items are being collected until June 1st and can be brought to the Gathering Space starting the weekend that registration opens: paper towel rolls,; plastic bottle tops ex: milk, soda, milk, apple juice, Gatorade; egg cartons and round yogurt containers. Also looking for large TV boxes or washer and dryer boxes. If you have pool noodles you can donate them as well. Items can be brought to the designated container starting the weekend of April 13/14 in the Gathering Space.



Amazon Registry:

We also have a registry created to help with VBS decorating and supply items that are needed. Please visit our amazon registry to see a list of items by clicking on the QR Code. You can also search in Amazon under the registry name, ***VBS Scuba 2024***.



noticias de nuestra comunidad hispana

Reflexión

LA DIVINA MISERICORDIA DEL SEÑOR ES ETERNA. ALELUYA, ALELUYA.

Jesús vuelve con los suyos. El tiempo de la Pascua, es un tiempo maravilloso y hermoso para reflexionar sobre la presencia de Jesús con sus discípulos, donde realiza una inmensa misión, haciéndoles entender cómo, la Muerte y Resurrección del Señor, es un acontecimiento extraordinario para quitarles; el temor, el miedo y hacerles saber que Jesús no ha muerto, que vive con ellos. De ahí que el apóstol San Pablo aclara firmemente: Si Cristo no hubiera resucitado, vana sería nuestra fe.

Este es un mensaje también para cada uno de nosotros que estamos celebrando este tiempo maravilloso de La Pascua de Resurrección. Desafortunadamente, muchas veces nos quedamos viviendo solo un tiempo histórico, del pasado, y como que no nos afecta a nuestra vida presente y por eso no vivimos de verdad la Muerte y resurrección del Señor. El hecho concreto, es que ni siquiera nos damos cuenta de la grandeza de nuestro Bautismo, el Sacramento de la Sagrada Eucaristía y los demás sacramentos. Todo debido a que desconocemos nuestra fe, y estamos más preocupados por las cosas del mundo, las cosas materiales, etc. Mi invitación es hacer un alto en el camino y saquemos tiempo especial para meditar sobre los misterios que nos trajeron nuestra salvación y de esa forma dar gracias a Dios por todos los beneficios que a diario recibimos del Señor y sobre todo agradecer los regalos de la resurrección del Señor que nos ha dado para nuestra salvación y son: el mandamiento del amor, la Sagrada Eucaristía y el Sacerdocio. Estos son necesario para entender el gran regalo de la vida que Jesús nos ha ofrecido con su vida, muerte y resurrección. Los invito a poner en práctica lo que Jesús hacía: Dedicarle más tiempo a la oración, meditar la Palabra de Dios, poner en práctica los mandamientos de la ley de Dios y viviendo los siete sacramentos. Si lo hacemos, poquito a poco podremos ir entendiendo el gran significado de la Pascua de Resurrección, es decir lo que estamos celebrando ahora mismo.

Reflexionemos: Felices Pascuas de Resurrección.

P. José Antonio Juya V.

¿Necesita información o asistencia?

¿Necesita información o ayuda para registrarse en español para educación religiosa y/o programas sacramentales? Si es así, puede programar una cita para recibir ayuda. Comuníquese con Reina Chicas al 704-825-9600 ext. 1007.



Bautismo: Este importante signo de iniciación se celebra los sábados por la mañana. Los padres deben completar el programa de preparación. Comuníquese con la oficina de la iglesia al menos dos meses antes de su fecha anticipada para el bautismo.

Matrimonio: Este sacramento proporciona una oportunidad para que una pareja se mantenga como un signo del amor de Dios en la comunidad. Con este fin, un período de preparación es importante y necesario. Comuníquese con la oficina de la iglesia al menos seis meses antes de la fecha de su matrimonio propuesto para comenzar este proceso.

KidZone

KidZone está abierto durante las misas de 9:15 am y 11:15 am para los miembros más jóvenes de nuestra iglesia de 6 meses a 3 años de edad. Se encuentra fuera del Espacio de Reunión al entrar en la iglesia.