

## NOVA'S WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS

FROM MARCH 29:

### CALENDAR:

**Holy Thursday, 6 pm, April 2** – 222 N. Washington St., Falls Church. Reservations are closed.

**Good Friday, 7 pm, April 3 at Kenmore** – **Please note time change from original schedule!**

**Easter Sunday, 10:15 am, April 5 at Kenmore** – Agape to follow.

**Sunday, April 18, after liturgy** – The Nova Book Group will meet at the Mog home. We will discuss “Only the Beautiful” by Susan Meissner. All are welcome to attend.

### ANNOUNCEMENTS:

**Two reminders for Easter Sunday, April 5:** An agape will follow our 10:15 a.m. liturgy at Kenmore. Please email Sally Keyes ASAP to let her know what you can contribute. And wear your Easter bonnets!

**The Nova Book Group** will meet on Sunday, April 18 at the Mog home after liturgy. We will discuss “Only the Beautiful” by Susan Meissner. All are welcome to attend.

#### From Tom Clarkson:

– **Let the Children Live Campaign:** Our friend Fr. Jacek has asked us to support Gaza's Children. Here is a link that will take you to their signup page: <https://cmep.org/let-children-live/> where You will Receive the Name of a Palestinian Child Alive Today and Lift them up in Prayer and Advocacy. The same link is at the top of the new NOVA Directory.

– **Call Congress for Gaza**, it's easy and influential. One way for busy people to influence Congress is by calling their two Senators and their Congressional Representative once a week. Congressional staff keep track of the numbers of callers and their issues. Every call from a constituent represents a potential vote at election time, and votes matter to your Congress people. Calling is easy to do once you get started if you save their specific office phone numbers on your phone. To get started call the Capitol Switchboard, (202) 224-3121. Ask the operator to connect you with the office of your U.S. Senator or Representative. When you're connected to their office you usually have the option to speak to their staff or leave a message. It's better to speak to a person. Be polite. Say that you're a constituent and you want them to save the people of Gaza and Palestine. Use any words you like. Get the office's direct number before you hang up and you won't have to go through the Capitol Switchboard next time. Repeat once a week every week, until Gaza is free.

– **Letters from “Priests Against Genocide.”** Also, Fr. Jacek has sent us 2 open letters from “Priests Against Genocide” urging Catholic Church leaders not to participate in Trump's Board of Peace. Here are the links:

[https://drive.google.com/file/d/115VUWC\\_L4VsDD6P38Q4E1150BII2vUPb/view?usp=sharing](https://drive.google.com/file/d/115VUWC_L4VsDD6P38Q4E1150BII2vUPb/view?usp=sharing)

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– **Video from Fr. Bashar.** Fr. Jacek says: I welcomed the New Year at the Tent of Nations - a family farm of Daoud Nassar 6 miles west of Bethlehem. I spent 1.5 weeks on the farm helping to cultivate and protect the land. Then I traveled to Taybeh where I spent time with Fr. Bashar, one of the most JPIC-involved Catholic, diocesan, Palestinian priests in the Latin Patriarchate. [”Here is a short video message from him.](#)

– **GARDEN WORK FOR RONALDO.** Ronaldo Vail (father of our refugee family from Guatemala) is available for garden work, however, his schedule at Target varies. Please call

Ronaldo directly @ 731-618-1459 to set up a time. He welcomes extra work around the garden and home. Please click [here](#) for [directions to his home](#)

**Please remember to bring food donations** to liturgy for the Arlington Food Assistance Center (AFAC), which is currently serving 4,200+ families every week. Boxes of cold cereal are important items to bring. AFAC also has put out the word that they need: low-sodium canned vegetables; low-sodium canned beans; low-sodium soup; and canned meat.

**Next Sunday is Easter.** The presider is Ted Keating, SM, and the planners are Gloria Mog, Victoria Robinson and Tim White. The scribe will be Judy Christofferson, who needs all announcements in writing. – submitted by Markie Harwood.

#### **FROM MARCH 22:**

##### **CALENDAR:**

**Tuesday, March 24** – Arlington County Board meeting.

**Friday, March 27** — VOICE meeting on after-school programs, 7 to 8:15 pm, Kenmore Middle School.

**Saturday, March 28** – another demonstration day for No Kings.

**Holy Thursday, 6 pm, April 2** – 222 N. Washington St., Falls Church. Reservation required.

**Good Friday, 7 pm, April 3 at Kenmore** – Please note time change from original schedule!

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**From Gloria Mog:** A reminder about another No Kings Day Demonstration on Saturday, March 28. There is a desire for many people to assemble – along Glebe Road in Arlington, for example.

**Nova's Holy Thursday celebration** will be at 6 pm Thursday, April 2, at the Center for Spiritual Enlightenment, 222 North Washington Street, Falls Church. If you are new to Nova, this is a full liturgy, which includes foot washing and a shared meal. There will be assigned seating and reservations are necessary. You can make your reservation by completing the form you will find at <http://tinyurl.com/holythurs> before March 29. Please plan to arrive by 5:45 so that we can begin on time. Parking nearby can be tricky. We suggest the public parking garage on Park Place, just beyond Whole Foods garage, or the second and third levels of the Kaiser Permanente garage on Park Avenue across Washington Street from the venue. Seating is limited, so be sure to sign up soon!

**VOICE meeting March 27** — Everyone, even non-Arlingtonians, are urged to attend a VOICE meeting at Kenmore Middle School on Friday, March 27, from 7 to 8:15 pm. The purpose of the

gathering is to persuade the Arlington County Board to continue funding after-school programs for teens, including one that has been piloted at Kenmore. It is important to register to attend. You can use this link to register (and get full information about the meeting):

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**We ask Nova Catholic Community members** to consider attending the Arlington County Board of Supervisors public hearing on Tuesday, March 24, starting around 6:30-7:30 pm to support Clair Lamb who will present our community request to the county board that continues or expands funding for the lowest-income renters in Arlington. The hearing will be at the Arlington County Board office, 2100 Clarendon Boulevard. We will later provide an exact time when Clair will speak. Nova members will stand behind her with signs of support. Contact John Reeder at JReeder123@msn.com for more information.

**The Nova Book Group** will meet on Sunday, April 18 at the Mog home after liturgy. We will discuss "Only the Beautiful" by Susan Meissner. All are welcome to attend.

**From Tom Clarkson:**

– Let the Children Live Campaign: Our friend Fr. Jacek has asked us to support Gaza's Children. Here is a link that will take you to their signup page: <https://cmep.org/let-children-live/> where You will Receive the Name of a Palestinian Child Alive Today and Lift them up in Prayer and Advocacy. The same link is at the top of the new NOVA Directory.

– Call Congress for Gaza, it's easy and influential. One way for busy people to influence Congress is by calling their two Senators and their Congressional Representative once a week. Congressional staff keep track of the numbers of callers and their issues. Every call from a constituent represents a potential vote at election time, and votes matter to your Congress people. Calling is easy to do once you get started if you save their specific office phone numbers on your phone. To get started call the Capitol Switchboard, (202) 224-3121. Ask the operator to connect you with the office of your U.S. Senator or Representative. When you're connected to their office you usually have the option to speak to their staff or leave a message. It's better to speak to a person. Be polite. Say that you're a constituent and you want them to save the people of Gaza and Palestine. Use any words you like. Get the office's direct number before you hang up and you won't have to go through the Capitol Switchboard next time. Repeat once a week every week, until Gaza is free.

– Letters from "Priests Against Genocide." Also, Fr. Jacek has sent us 2 open letters from "Priests Against Genocide" urging Catholic Church leaders not to participate in Trump's Board of Peace. Here are the links:

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– Video from Fr. Bashar. Fr. Jacek says: I welcomed the New Year at the Tent of Nations - a family farm of Daoud Nassar 6 miles west of Bethlehem. I spent 1.5 weeks on the farm helping to cultivate and protect the land. Then I traveled to Taybeh where I spent time with Fr. Bashar, one of the most JPIC-involved Catholic, diocesan, Palestinian priests in the Latin Patriarchate. ["Here is a short video message from him.](#)

– GARDEN WORK FOR RONALDO. Ronaldo Vail (father of our refugee family from Guatemala) is available for garden work, however, his schedule at Target varies. Please call Ronaldo directly @ 731-618-1459 to set up a time. He welcomes extra work around the garden and home. Please click [here](#) for [directions to his home](#)

– Send Fr. Henriot a letter. Fr. Peter Henriot sent his greetings to NOVA. He's mostly bedridden and only able to read letters and cards. He'd appreciate it if you sent him one. Here's his address: Peter Henriot S.J.; Sacred Heart Jesuit Center; Room 1766; 300 College Ave; Los Gatos, CA 95030.

**Please remember to bring food donations** to liturgy for the Arlington Food Assistance Center (AFAC), which is currently serving 4,200+ families every week (which is a sad testament to income inequality in US society). Boxes of cold cereal are important items to bring. AFAC also has put out the word that they need: low-sodium canned vegetables; low-sodium canned beans; low-sodium soup; and canned meat.

**Finally, NOVA received a very nice Thank You note** with some posters and buttons. In part, it read: "Thank you for your pledge to work together to end all support of Israel's apartheid regime, settler colonialism and military occupation. You are one of 166 congregations and over 1,000 communities who have made this commitment."

**Next Sunday is Palm Sunday.** The liturgical color for Palm Sunday is red if you'd like to wear some red. The planners are Francis Gargani, CSsR and Teddi Ahrens and her Team. The scribe will be Markie Harwood, who needs all announcements in writing.

#### **FROM MARCH 15:**

##### **CALENDAR:**

**Thursday, March 19** – Two VOICE activities. See below.

**Tuesday, March 24** – Arlington County Board meeting.

**Friday, March 27** — VOICE meeting on afterschool programs, 7 to 8:15 pm, Kenmore Middle School.

**Holy Thursday** – 6 PM, April 2, 222 N. Washington St., Falls Church. Reservation required.

**Good Friday** – 8 PM, April 3 at Kenmore.

**Easter Sunday** – 10:15 AM, April 5 at Kenmore. Agape to follow.

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**VOICE invites you** to join in the ribbon cutting celebration of the Northern Virginia Adolescent Treatment Center on March 19 10am-12pm, 4211 Walney Road, Fairfax. Come join in the celebration, the culmination of years of community engagement with VOICE working in partnership with NAMI, the Association of Chiefs of Police, and the Virginia Hospital and Health care Association. This Crisis Receiving Center is the second in a network of Crisis Receiving Centers across Virginia....finally a place for young people to go when in crisis. Last fall the first of these Crisis Receiving Centers opened in Prince William.

**VOICE also invites us** as a member organization to participate in an Immigration Solidarity Listening session via Zoom on March 19 7:30-8:30. The session will be an opportunity to share perspectives on what seems most urgent right now; to learn what VOICE institutions are already doing on the ground to support immigrant communities; to discuss how VOICE can build short- and long-term power to push back against harmful federal policies. To attend the Zoom session you must RSVP using the sign up button on Nancy's email of 3/14.

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**Next Sunday** is the Fifth Sunday in Lent. The planners are Gino Correa OFM and Archer and Jim Heinzen. The scribe will be Linda Christie who needs all announcements in writing.

## **FROM MARCH 8:**

### **Upcoming Events/Dates to Remember**

**Wednesday** — Nova’s Lenten Mini-Retreat, 10 am to 3 pm, at Missionhurst in Arlington.

**Friday, March 27** — VOICE meeting on afterschool programs, 7 to 8:15 pm, Kenmore Middle School.

### **Announcements**

**1) Lenten Mini-Retreat on Wed.** — Gloria Mog reminded us about the Lenten Mini-Retreat that Nova will hold from 10 am to 3 pm at Missionhurst Retreat Center, 4651 25th St. N, Arlington. Fr. Gino Correa will lead the program, which consists of a day of prayer, inspiration, and reflection to deepen and support our Lenten journey together. There were still 7 spaces available this morning; if you want to attend, please register by contacting Linda Christie at [jacklinc@verizon.net](mailto:jacklinc@verizon.net). Gloria said there is a suggested donation at the door: \$20/person. She said there would be coffee and doughnuts provided but asked that you bring your own lunch and a water bottle.

**2) VOICE meeting March 27** — Meg Tuccillo again asked us to attend a VOICE meeting at Kenmore Middle School on Friday, March 27, from 7 to 8:15 pm. The purpose of the gathering is to persuade the Arlington County Board to continue funding after-school programs for teens, including one that has been piloted at Kenmore. Meg said it was important to register to attend. She had forms at Mass. If you didn’t do that today or you weren’t at Nova, you can use this link to register (and get full information about the meeting):

[https://secure.everyaction.com/C-V3go-s\\_ECbq3FVL6Yfnw2](https://secure.everyaction.com/C-V3go-s_ECbq3FVL6Yfnw2)

**3) Teddi's book** — Teddi Ahrens said that at liturgy next Sunday, she will have copies of a book she wrote about Russia. Contact Teddi for more details.

**4) Virginia special election on redistricting** — Tom Clarkson urged anyone who is registered to vote in Virginia to get information on the April 21st special election on congressional redistricting in the Commonwealth. Early voting has started.

**5) Food for AFAC** — Finally, remember to bring food donations to liturgy for the Arlington Food Assistance Center (AFAC), which is currently serving 4,200+ families every week (which is a sad testament to income inequality in US society). Boxes of cold cereal are important items to bring. AFAC also has put out the word that they need: low-sodium canned vegetables; low-sodium canned beans; low-sodium soup; and canned meat.

**Next Sunday** will be a Community-led Liturgy at Kenmore. The planners are Clair Lamb and Jeanne Clarkson. The scribe for announcements will be Cathy Goldschmidt, who needs (as always) written copies of announcements made. — submitted by Phil and Alicia Cackley

## **FROM MARCH 1:**

### **Calendar**

**Monday, March 2** - NOVA Women's Journey Group, 4 p.m. meeting on Zoom.

**Wednesday, March 11** - NOVA Lenten Mini-Retreat, 10 a.m.-3 p.m. at Missionhurst Retreat Center in Arlington.

**Friday, March 27** - VOICE Action Meeting, 7 p.m. at Kenmore.

### **Announcements**

**The Women's Journey Group** will meet at 4 p.m. Monday on Zoom. Jeanne Clarkson emailed the Zoom link. Even if you haven't attended previous meetings, you are encouraged to attend.

**A Lenten Mini-Retreat Day** will be held 10 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. on Wednesday, March 11, at Missionhurst, 4651 25th St. N, Arlington. Fr. Gino Correa will lead a day of prayer, inspiration and reflection to deepen and support our Lenten journey together. There are still 11 spaces available so register as soon as possible. To register, contact Linda Christie at [jacklinc@verizon.net](mailto:jacklinc@verizon.net). Suggested donation at the door: \$20/person. Please bring your own lunch; coffee/tea/water will be provided.

**A VOICE Action Rally** - Keep Kids Learning! A 275+-person Action will be held at 7 p.m. March 27 to tell the County Board: Preserve progress on afterschool programming for at-risk kids and develop a road map for expanding it to help youth in need!

**Let the Children Live Campaign:** Our friend Fr. Jacek has asked us to support Gaza's children. Here is a link that will take you to their signup page:

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**Food for AFAC** - Each Sunday try to bring food donations for the Arlington Food Assistance Coalition, which needs our boxes of cold cereal, jars of peanut butter, and cans of tuna, beans, or low-salt vegetables. In October, AFAC was serving 4,000 families each week. Please be generous.

**Next Sunday** is the 3rd Sunday of Lent. The planners are Charlie Miller, OFM, and Kopp and Cece Michelotti. The scribes will be Alicia and Phil Cackley, who need all announcements in writing. **NOTE: Daylight saving time begins on March 8. Set your clock(s) one hour forward so you won't be late for the liturgy next Sunday.**

**FROM FEB. 22:**

**CALENDAR:**

**Wed., Feb 25th** – Nova Game day at Keyes', 1-4 p.m.

**Sat., Feb. 28th** - Game Evening at Marie Schum-Brady's, 7 p.m.

**Sat., Feb. 28th** - Alexandria Singers Concert.

**Wed. March 11th** — Lenten mini-retreat in Arlington, 10 a.m.-3 p.m.

**Fri., March. 27th** - VOICE Action at Kenmore 7 p.m.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

**The next NOVA Game Day** will be on Wednesday, Feb 25th at Joe and Sally Keyes' home from 1-4 p.m. Please RSVP to Sally if you plan to come. They will have 8 or more dice, card, and board games available.

**Marie Schum-Brady** is also offering a Game Night next Sat., Feb. 28th at 7 p.m. at her home.

**From Katie Ahrens Kiskovec:** Kara is a Brownie in Girl Scouts this year and is having fun with many of her peers, learning a lot about herself and getting involved in her community. She set a goal to sell 100 boxes of cookies, and she appreciates your help with reaching that goal. Online sales are pretty easy. You can either click on or cut and paste the link (just below) that will take you to a page where you then put in her specific code. General Girl scout cookie page:

[gsdigitalcookie.com/code](https://gsdigitalcookie.com/code). You will be prompted to enter a code for which girl scout you want to buy from, and you put in Kara's code: FUA722PD. Choose "Get In-Person delivery" to avoid shipping charges, and I will bring orders on Sundays in the next few weeks as they are processed. I will not be here next week though, as we are going to NJ for the weekend. If you prefer to order "the old fashioned way" on paper and with cash, that's fine too. I can take your order and record it and collect money when cookies arrive. I will contact you via email to let you know when orders arrive so you know when to bring payment. Thank you so much for your support!

**On Friday, March 27th**, there will be a VOICE action at Kenmore at 7 p.m. This is to request Arlington approve funds for an extension of the very successful two years Pilot Program at Kenmore regarding after school activities for MS and HS students. Meg has attended some of these 'classes' that have included cooking, coding and other really interesting courses.

**The Alexandria Singers** will hold their annual cabaret on February 28, featuring solos by our own Eileen Joyner and her husband. Please contact Eileen for details.

**Lenten mini-retreat** on March 11th —The March 11th Lenten mini-retreat will take place at Missionhurst in Arlington. Fr. Gino Correa is expected to lead the retreat, which will be from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. If you plan to go, please register with Linda Christie as soon as possible so Gloria and other planners know how many to expect. You can email Linda at [jacklinc@verizon.net](mailto:jacklinc@verizon.net). As of now, 11 spaces remain.

**Let the Children Live Campaign:** Our friend Fr. Jacek has asked us to support Gaza's Children. Here is a link that will take you to their signup page: <https://cmep.org/let-children-live/> where You will Receive the Name of a Palestinian Child Alive Today and Lift them up in Prayer and Advocacy.

**Palestine Immersion Experience:** Christians for a Free Palestine members are organizing the Palestine Immersion Experience, an evening rooted in faith, truth, and solidarity, taking place on February 28, 5:45-9 p.m. at St. Augustine Catholic Church in Washington. All are welcome to this free event! Please register, spread the word, consider donating, and sign up to volunteer.

[REGISTER](#)

[DONATE](#)

[VOLUNTEER](#)

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<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1pb-Z4XPdzaTL07OrUxxurhBwFddRyNym/view?usp=sharing>

**Fr. Jacek Feb. 25 report on his visit to the West Bank.** Fr. Jacek says: On Wednesday, February 25 at 7 p.m., I'll be giving a personal testimony focused on my recent two weeks in the

West Bank and the opportunities for action during this special Jubilee Year focused on St. Francis of Assisi and the need for contemporary witness for peace. The Catholic Caucus of the Christians for Free Palestine is providing a zoom forum for me. Here is the link to register:

<https://zoom.us/meeting/register/AJo4ERX2Qgu7KWlIxKhMRw#/registration>

**New Nova Directory:** Tom Clarkson sent out a new NOVA Directory, February 2026 Edition. If you didn't receive it in your email, please notify Tom at [toclarkson@gmail.com](mailto:toclarkson@gmail.com).

**GARDEN WORK FOR RONALDO:** Ronaldo Vail (father of our refugee family from Guatemala) is available for garden and home work, however, his schedule at Target varies. Please call Ronaldo directly @ 731-618-1459 to set up a time. Please click [here](#) for [directions to his home](#).

**Food for AFAC:** The 4,000 clients who rely on AFAC every week are always glad for the cereal that Nova contributes regularly. They also need: Canned chicken and tuna, Canned fruit, low sodium soup with pop tops, plain pasta and rice, Cooking oil in plastic containers, and peanut butter

**Next Sunday March 1st** is the Second Sunday in Lent. The planners are Quinn Conners, O.Carm and Pat Sodo. The Scribe will be Judy Christofferson who, as always, needs announcements in writing.

**FROM FEB. 15:**

**CALENDAR:**

**Wed. Feb. 18** — Ash Wednesday service at the Clarksons' house, in Vienna, at 12 noon.

**Sun., Feb. 22** — VOICE annual meeting at UUCA, in Arlington, at 3:30 pm.

**Wed., Feb 25** – Nova Game day at Keyes', 1-4 pm.

**Wed. March 11** — Lenten mini-retreat in Arlington, 10 am-3 pm.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

**Ash Wednesday service Feb. 18** — a community-led liturgy is planned for Ash Wednesday, at noon, at the Clarksons' home in Vienna. A simple lunch of soup will follow the service. Please let Jeanne know if you plan to attend, so she can prepare accordingly. Her email address is [jeannenova2018@gmail.com](mailto:jeannenova2018@gmail.com)

**VOICE annual meeting Feb. 22** —the VOICE annual meeting will be at the UUCA, in Arlington (just down Rte 50 from Kenmore). VOICE is hoping that three to five representatives will attend from each faith community. Let Meg, Joe Keyes or Chuck Albert know if you plan to attend.

**The next NOVA Game Day** will be on Wednesday, Feb. 25 at Joe and Sally Keyes' home from 1-4 pm. Please RSVP to Sally if you plan to come. They will have 8 or more dice, card and board games available.

**The Alexandria Singers** will hold their annual cabaret on February 28, featuring solos by our own Eileen Joyner and her husband. Contact Eileen for details.

**Let the Children Live Campaign:** Our friend Fr. Jacek has asked us to support Gaza's children. Here is a link that will take you to their signup page: <https://cmep.org/let-children-live/> You will receive the name of a Palestinian child and lift them up in prayer and advocacy.

**Palestine Immersion Experience:** Christians for a Free Palestine members are organizing the Palestine Immersion Experience, an evening rooted in faith, truth and solidarity, taking place on February 28 at 5:45-9pm at St. Augustine Catholic Church in Washington, DC. All are welcome to this free event! Please register, spread the word, consider donating, and sign up to volunteer.

[REGISTER](#)

[DONATE](#)

[VOLUNTEER](#)

**Lenten mini-retreat on March 11** —The March 11 Lenten mini-retreat will take place at Missionhurst in Arlington. Fr. Gino Correa is expected to lead the retreat, which will be from 10 am to 3 pm. If you plan to go, please register with Linda Christie as soon as possible so Gloria and other planners know how many to expect. You can email Linda at jacklinc@verizon.net.

**Garden work for Ronaldo** — Ronaldo Vail (father of our refugee family from Guatemala) is available for garden work, Tom wanted us to remember. Ronaldo's regular job is at Target; however, his schedule varies. Please call Ronaldo directly at 731-618-1459 to set up a time. He welcomes extra work around the garden and home. Please click [here](#) for [directions to his home](#).

**Food for AFAC:** The 4,000 clients who rely on AFAC every week are always glad for the cereal that Nova contributes regularly. They also need: canned chicken and tuna, canned fruit, low sodium soup with pop tops, plain pasta and rice, cooking oil in plastic containers, and peanut butter.

**Next Sunday** is the First Sunday in Lent. The planners are Charley Miller OFM and Clair Lamb. The scribe will be Linda Christie who, as always, needs announcements in writing.

#### **FROM FEB. 8:**

##### **Upcoming events/Dates to Remember**

**Wed. Feb. 18** — Ash Wednesday service at the Clarkson's house, in Vienna, at 12 noon.

**Sun., Feb. 22** — VOICE annual meeting at UUCA, in Arlington, at 3:30 pm.

**Wed. March 11** — Lenten mini-retreat in Arlington, 10 am-3 pm.

##### **Announcements**

**1) Nova directory corrections due today** — Tom Clarkson said he needs any final corrections by midnight tonight (Sunday, Feb. 8) to the latest edition of the Nova directory. Tom has sent several emails, most recently yesterday (Saturday), with an attached draft of the directory. If you have not done so already, please find that email and check your family's entry, and get any corrections to Tom so he can incorporate them in the new directory (which is available on the password-protected page of the Nova website; we stopped printing copies of the directory several years ago). Tom asks that you email him with corrections at toclarkson@gmail.com. Alternatively, if you didn't receive an email from Tom with a draft directory attached, please email him and he will send you one.

**2) Ash Wednesday service Feb. 18** — Jeanne Clarkson reminded us about the community-led liturgy that is planned for Ash Wednesday, at noon, at the Clarksons' home in Vienna. A simple lunch of soup will follow the service. Please let Jeanne know if you plan to attend, so she can prepare accordingly. Her email address is jeannenova2018@gmail.com

**3) Lenten mini-retreat on March 11** — Gloria Mog repeated her announcement concerning the March 11 Lenten mini-retreat that will take place at the Missionhurst location in Arlington. Fr. Gino Correia is expected to lead the retreat, which will be from 10 am to 3 pm. If you plan to go, please register with Linda Christie as soon as possible so Gloria and other planners know how many to expect. You can email Linda at jacklinc@verizon.net

**4) Voice annual meeting Feb. 22** — Meg Tuccillo wants us to remember that there will be a VOICE annual meeting at the UUCA, in Arlington (just down Rte 50 from Kenmore). VOICE is hoping that three to five representatives will attend from each faith community. Let Meg, Joe Keyes or Chuck Albert know if you plan to attend.

**5) Palestine Immersion Experience Feb. 28** — Tom Clarkson also mentioned (again) the Palestine Immersion Experience that Christians for a Free Palestine members are organizing for Feb. 28, from 5:45 to 9 pm, at St. Augustine Catholic Church in Washington DC. Contact Tom for more information about how to register. In addition, Tom said our friend Fr. Jacek has asked us to support children living in Gaza. Here is a link that will take you to their signup page: <https://cmep.org/let-children-live/> where you will receive the name of a Palestinian child alive today and lift them up in prayer and advocacy.

**6) Garden work for Ronaldo** — Ronaldo Vail (father of our refugee family from Guatemala) is available for garden work, Tom wanted us to remember. Ronaldo's regular job is at Target; however, his schedule varies. Please call Ronaldo directly at 731-618-1459 to set up a time. He welcomes extra work around the garden and home. Please click [here](#) for [directions to his home](#).

**7) Food for AFAC** — Finally, please continue to bring boxes of cold cereal and canned protein (e.g. tuna) or low-sodium vegetables to liturgy each week. Eric Carroll takes them to the Arlington Food Assistance Coalition (AFAC), which continues to serve as many as 4,000 clients per week. In these wintry weeks, when schools are closed, many families don't have a regular source of meals (such as school lunches) — which means support from AFAC is all the more important.

**The presider and planners for next Sunday's liturgy** will be Fr. Francis Gargani, CSsR, and the Peace and Social Justice Team. The scribe for announcements will be Cathy Goldschmidt, who (as usual) needs written copies of announcements made. — submitted by Phil and Alicia Cackley

#### **FROM FEB. 1:**

##### **Calendar**

**Monday, Feb. 2, 4 p.m.** -- Women's Journey Group meeting on Zoom.

**Tuesday, Feb. 3, 7:30 p.m.** – Bible Study Group meeting on Zoom.

**Sunday, Feb. 8, after Liturgy** – NOVA Book Group discussion at the Goldschmidts' home.

**Wednesday, Feb. 18, 12 noon** – Ash Wednesday service at the Clarksons' home.

**Wednesday, Feb. 22, 3 p.m.** – VOICE Annual Meeting at Arlington UUCA

**Wednesday, March 11, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.** – Lenten Mini-Retreat at the Missionhurst Retreat Center in Arlington.

##### **Acknowledgements**

**Following NOVA's liturgy on Zoom today**, Dianne and Markie led community members in a review and discussion of the Community's Peace and Social Justice projects. Amazingly, the meeting, which included helpful slides, explanations of proposed funding increases and decreases, community questions, answers, and approvals, was concluded in about an hour. Kudos to Dianne, Markie, and all those who contributed.

**Linda Christie's birthday** is tomorrow! As an active community member, Linda arranges the schedule of those of us who email the weekly announcements and emails the monthly birthday list of community members. She also provides much-appreciated help with setting up and putting away of accoutrements ("stuff") for our liturgies at Kenmore, just to name a few of her community contributions. Happy Birthday, Linda!

## **Announcements**

**Tomorrow, the Women's Journey Group** will meet at 4 p.m. on Zoom. Gloria Mog will email the Zoom link. Even if you haven't attended previous meetings, you are encouraged to attend.

**On Tuesday at 7:30 p.m.** the Bible Study group will meet on Zoom. The group is currently reading and discussing The Separation of Church and Hate. Chapters 7 and 8 will be discussed at this meeting. John Vedhuis leads this group..

**Next Sunday, Feb. 8,** the NOVA Book Group will meet following the liturgy at the home of the Goldschmidts. The group will discuss The Separation of Church and Hate by John Fugelsang. If you plan to attend this meeting, please notify Cathy Goldschmidt by tomorrow.

**On Ash Wednesday, Feb. 18,** at noon, there will be a community-led liturgy and simple soup meal at the Clarksons' home. If you plan to attend, RSVP Jeanne Clarkson at [jeannenova2018@gmail.com](mailto:jeannenova2018@gmail.com).

**On Sunday, Feb. 22,** at 3:30 p.m., there will be a VOICE annual meeting at the Arlington UUCA. They are hoping that 3 to 5 representatives will attend from each faith community. Let Meg, Joe K. or Chuck know if you plan to attend.

**Save the date** for a March 27 at Kenmore for a VOICE Action Rally - Keep Kids Learning! A 275+-person Action - to tell the County Board: Preserve progress on after-school programming for at-risk kids and develop a roadmap for expanding it to help youth in need!

**From Linda Christie:** On Wednesday, March 11, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. there will be a Lenten Mini-Retreat Day at Missionhurst Retreat Center in north Arlington. Fr. Gino Correa will be leading those who attend through a day of prayer, inspiration and reflection to deepen and support our Lenten journey together. If you wish to attend, please register with Linda Christie at [jacklinc@verizon.net](mailto:jacklinc@verizon.net). Suggested donation at the door: \$20/person. Please bring your own lunch; coffee/tea/water provided.

**NOVA Draft Directory:** Today after Mass Tom Clarkson sent an email to everyone on the NOVA mailing list or in the current NOVA Directory with a copy of the new NOVA Directory attached. Please review your families' entries and send an email to [toclarkson@gmail.com](mailto:toclarkson@gmail.com) by midnight Sunday, Feb. 8, with any corrections or additions. If you did not receive an email of the draft directory, please send Tom an email asking for it.

**Let the Children Live Campaign:** Our friend Fr. Jacek has asked us to support Gaza's Children. Here is a link that will take you to their signup page: <https://cmep.org/let-children-live/> where You will Receive the Name of a Palestinian Child Alive Today and Lift them up in Prayer and Advocacy.

**Palestine Immersion Experience:** Please see below an invitation to learn about what life is like in Christian Palestine. This immersive program will guide participants through a series of stations that illuminate key aspects of Palestinian life, followed by a keynote speaker and a shared meal for reflection and connection. The event takes place on Saturday, Feb. 28, from 5:45 to 9 p.m. at St. Augustine Catholic School/Church, 1421 V St. NW, Washington, DC 20009. Registration is limited to 150 people. To register or donate, please click on this link: [https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeLhNylKjQPBdl1z\\_YPhkcRQKIFuLXQU6WxtVdhlCOusVnzwA/viewform](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeLhNylKjQPBdl1z_YPhkcRQKIFuLXQU6WxtVdhlCOusVnzwA/viewform). For more information, please see the flyer by clicking [here](#).

**GARDEN WORK FOR RONALDO:** Ronaldo Vail (father of our refugee family from Guatemala) is available for garden work, however, his schedule at Target varies. Please call Ronaldo

directly @ 731-618-1459 to set up a time. He welcomes extra work around the garden and home. Please click [here](#) for [directions to his home](#).

**Food for AFAC** - Please continue to bring food donations for the Arlington Food Assistance Coalition, which needs our boxes of cold cereal, jars of peanut butter, and cans of tuna, beans, or low-salt vegetables. In October, AFAC was serving 4,000 families each week. That number was expected to increase with the threats to SNAP benefits by the Trump administration. Please be generous.

**Next Sunday** is the Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time. The planners are Charley Miller, OFM, the Christies and the Ruths. The scribes will be the Cackleys, who need any announcements in writing.