

# SAINT AMBROSE CATHOLIC CHURCH

October 15, 2023 | 28th Sunday in Ordinary Time



WHERE THE CHURCH IS, THERE ARE HIS MYSTERIES  
- SAINT AMBROSE -

**Very Reverend Andrew J. Fisher, V.F., Pastor**  
**Reverend Michael T. Nugent, Parochial Vicar**  
**Reverend Anthony Appiah, In Residence**

## **MASS SCHEDULE**

Sunday | 8 a.m., 10 a.m., Noon, 5 p.m.

Monday - Friday | 7 a.m., 9 a.m.

Saturday | 9 a.m., 5 p.m. (Vigil)

Holy Days | As announced

## **SACRAMENT OF PENANCE**

Saturday | 9:30 a.m., 3 - 4 p.m.

## **MIRACULOUS MEDAL NOVENA**

Saturday | After 9 a.m. Mass

## **EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION**

First Friday | 9:30 a.m. - 7 p.m. (Benediction)

## **SAINT AMBROSE CATHOLIC SCHOOL**

703-698-7171 | [stambroseschool.org](http://stambroseschool.org) | [info@stambroseschool.org](mailto:info@stambroseschool.org)

3901 WOODBURN ROAD | ANNANDALE, VA 22003 | 703-280-4400 | [STAMBROSEVA.ORG](http://STAMBROSEVA.ORG)



### Welcome!

Whether you are a parishioner, a visitor, seeking a parish home, returning to the practice of your Catholic faith, or interested in learning more about the Catholic Church, we welcome you to St. Ambrose and invite you to become a member of our growing parish family.

#### PARISH OFFICE

Monday - Friday | 9 am - 4 pm  
3901 Woodburn Road | Annandale, VA 22030  
703-280-4400 | [stambroseva.org](mailto:stambroseva.org)  
email: [dvasilakos@stambroseva.org](mailto:dvasilakos@stambroseva.org)

#### CLERGY

**Very Rev. Andrew J. Fisher, V.F., Pastor**  
[rfisher@stambroseva.org](mailto:rfisher@stambroseva.org)

**Rev. Michael T. Nugent, Parochial Vicar**  
[frnugent@stambroseva.org](mailto:frnugent@stambroseva.org)

**Rev. Anthony Appiah, In Residence**  
[tonyapia50@yahoo.com](mailto:tonyapia50@yahoo.com)

**Ted Devlin, Permanent Deacon**  
[tdevlin@stambroseva.org](mailto:tdevlin@stambroseva.org)

#### STAFF

**Donna Vasilakos, Parish Secretary**  
[dvasilakos@stambroseva.org](mailto:dvasilakos@stambroseva.org)

**Margaret Kelty, Administrative Assistant**  
[mkelty@stambroseva.org](mailto:mkelty@stambroseva.org)

**Carla Yaglou, Business Manager**  
703-280-4400 | [businessmanager@stambroseva.org](mailto:businessmanager@stambroseva.org)

**Maria Tejada, School Principal**  
703-698-7171 | [principal@stambroseschool.org](mailto:principal@stambroseschool.org)

**Youth Ministry** | 703-280-4400

**Director of Religious Education** | 703-280-4400

**Jon Laird, Director of Music**  
703-280-4400 | [jlaird@stambroseva.org](mailto:jlaird@stambroseva.org)

**Alfonso Dominguez, Plant & Facilities Manager**  
703-280-4400 | [facilities@stambroseva.org](mailto:facilities@stambroseva.org)

#### BULLETIN NOTICES

Please email your announcement request to Donna Vasilakos.  
Bulletin deadline is **14 days before publication**.

#### ISSUES AFFECTING THE CATHOLIC CHURCH

The Diocese of Arlington website provides a resource page with information about recent events affecting the Church. Child protection policies and responses to the crisis, from Bishop Burbidge and the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, are available at [arlingtondiocese.org/childprotection](http://arlingtondiocese.org/childprotection)



O Lord, who hast mercy upon all,  
take away from me my sins,  
and mercifully kindle in me  
the fire of thy Holy Spirit.  
Take away from me the heart of stone,  
and give me a heart of flesh,  
a heart to love and adore Thee,  
a heart to delight in Thee,  
to follow and enjoy Thee,  
for Christ's sake, Amen.

*Prayer of St. Ambrose*

## SACRAMENTAL INFORMATION

**Baptism:** First-time, expectant parents must attend an instruction prior to the Sacrament of Baptism. Call the Parish Office to make the necessary arrangements. Baptisms are normally celebrated on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month following the Noon Mass.

**Matrimony:** Registered parishioners who wish to be married at St. Ambrose, or to be prepared for marriage in another parish, must, by Diocesan policy, begin the required preparation at least six months prior to the proposed date for their marriage. Contact the Parish Office for an appointment.

**Returning to the Church:** If you are Catholic and returning to the Sacraments, or to the practice of the faith, we welcome you back! If you have any questions or need assistance, please contact a priest at the Parish Office or after Sunday Mass. We're happy to help you come back home to the Catholic Church.

**Initiation of Adults and Children: The Rite of Christian Initiation (RCIA)** is the process through which a person becomes initiated into the full sacramental life of the Catholic Church through weekly instruction. If you or someone you know would like to inquire about the life of Jesus Christ and the beliefs and teachings of His Church, please call 703-280-4400.

**Sick Calls:** Contact the Parish Office to schedule visits to the sick and/or homebound for the Sacraments of Penance, the Eucharist & the Anointing of the Sick.

**Parish Membership:** Parish Membership is necessary for Baptism, Matrimony, or Sacramental Sponsor Forms. In order for a Sponsor Form to be issued, one must be a registered/participating member of the Parish for at least three months. Please notify the Parish Office of any changes on your registration form, telephone number, address, temporary absence, etc. Forms are available in the Parish Office and at [stambroseva.org](http://stambroseva.org)

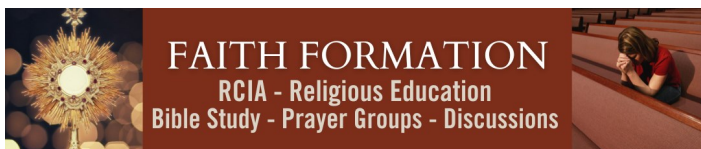
#### FAITH DIRECT

Plan your recurring Offertory donations through Faith Direct. Visit [membership.faithdirect.net/VA401](http://membership.faithdirect.net/VA401) or click Donate tab on [stambroseva.org](http://stambroseva.org)

## PARISH MINISTRIES

Visit [stambroseva.org](http://stambroseva.org) + click on Ministries tab for details and contacts

Adult Choir	Altar Servers	Altar Society
Bereavement Group	Bible Prayer Group	Christ House Meals
Eucharistic Adoration	Gabriel Project	Garden & Grounds Club
Intercessory Prayer Tree	Knights of Columbus	Knitting Group
Lectors	Religious Education	Rosary Makers
St. Ambrose for Life	St. Ambrose Samaritan Group	Ushers
Vocations Committee	Women of St. Ambrose	Young Adults Group
Youth Choir	Youth Ministry	



## FAITH FORMATION

RCIA - Religious Education  
Bible Study - Prayer Groups - Discussions

See each program's details at [stambroseva.org](http://stambroseva.org)

### THE RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS (RCIA) [stambroseva.org/RCIA](http://stambroseva.org/RCIA)

September - May | Mondays | 7-8 pm | Parish Hall

RCIA is the Church's process for people over the age of seven who want to become Catholic and are

- unbaptized or baptized in another Christian tradition
- Baptized Catholics who have not received First Communion and/or Confirmation

### RELIGIOUS EDUCATION [stambroseva.org/RE](http://stambroseva.org/RE)

Grades K-7 | Sundays | 8:45-9:45 am | School

Grade 8 | Mondays | 7-8 pm | Parish Hall

Classes for public /non-Catholic school students. Instruction includes required preparation for First Penance, First Communion, and Confirmation.

### JESUS, MARY & A CUP OF JOE [stambroseva.org/JMJ](http://stambroseva.org/JMJ)

September - May | Sundays | 8:45-9:45 am | Parish Library

Learn more about the faith. Enjoy fellowship, coffee and conversation.  
All adults welcome!

### APOLOGETICS DISCUSSION GROUP [stambroseva.org/BibleStudy](http://stambroseva.org/BibleStudy)

Second Tuesday of the Month | 7:30 - 9pm | Parish Hall

Grow in your knowledge & ability to evangelize & defend our Catholic faith.  
Facilitator: Lee Cena

### ADULT BIBLE STUDY [stambroseva.org/BibleStudy](http://stambroseva.org/BibleStudy)

The Bible Timeline: The Story of Salvation

- September - May | Wednesdays | 10 am-Noon | Parish Hall
- Facilitators: Ron + Mary DeSantis, Chrissy Rabayda

### BIBLE PRAYER GROUP [stambroseva.org/faith-formation/bible-prayer-group](http://stambroseva.org/faith-formation/bible-prayer-group)

Fridays | 9:30-11 am | Parish Library

Adults read and reflect on the following Sunday's Gospel.

### WOMEN'S PRAYER GROUP [stambroseva.org/WSA](http://stambroseva.org/WSA)

Sundays | 6 pm | Parish Library

Take time for God! Open to all women of the parish.

Director of Religious Education | 703-280-4400

### Stewardship Reflection

"My God will fully supply whatever you need..."  
*Philippians 4:19*

God really does provide for those who are grateful and generous. This is very difficult for people that don't live a stewardship lifestyle to believe. People are skeptical and say it's just coincidence. If you are skeptical, try living a stewardship lifestyle for just one month - be generous with your gifts of time in prayer, talent in charitable works, and treasure, then see how God provides for your needs.

## YOUTH MINISTRY



### GOD SQUAD

High School Youth Ministry

[stambroseva.org/GodSquad](http://stambroseva.org/GodSquad)

September-May | Sundays | 6-8 pm | School Gym

Open to everyone in Grades 9-12  
Bring a friend! See you there!

### BE NOT CONFORMED TO THIS WORLD: Having the Mind of Christ in an Age of Error

How should a Catholic man respond to Christ's challenge to have his mind totally transformed? *The 25th Annual Christ the King Men's Day of Recollection*, directed by The Very Reverend Paul D. Scalia, will be held on Saturday, October 28, 9:15 am -1:15 pm at St. Raymond of Peñafort Catholic Church, 8750 Pohick Road, Springfield VA 22153. There's no charge, but you must register at [www.waywomen.com/mensretreat](http://www.waywomen.com/mensretreat) by October 22 to attend. Donations gratefully accepted. For more details, contact Robin Maas at [rmvmaas@gmail.com](mailto:rmvmaas@gmail.com).

## YOUNG ADULTS GROUP [STAMBROSEVA.ORG/YOUNGADULTS](http://STAMBROSEVA.ORG/YOUNGADULTS)



- **Young Adults Women's Group** meets weekly on Tuesday nights from 7:30-9 pm. Come for community and time to discuss how God is working in our lives. All single, engaged, or married women ages 21-35 are welcome! For more information, please contact [youngadults@stambroseva.org](mailto:youngadults@stambroseva.org)
- **Join us** on Friday, November 3, 6-7 pm for Eucharistic Adoration. A social follows at Glory Days on Nutley Street, Fairfax.

### Retreat for Young Adults: Finding Jesus with Frassati November 14-16 | San Damiano Center | White Post, VA

*Come climb with us!* Join us at the Arlington Diocese's San Damiano Retreat Center for a weekend of spiritual adventure as we ascend "the Heights" with Pier Giorgio Frassati & Jesus Christ. Cost is \$285 and financial assistance may be available. For more details and/or to register, visit [arlingtondiocese.org/frassati2023/](http://arlingtondiocese.org/frassati2023/)

### Diocesan Pilgrimage | National Eucharistic Congress Indianapolis | July 17-21, 2024 | [bit.ly/nec2024](http://bit.ly/nec2024)



We are inviting you to participate in this pivotal moment in the Church! Join our diocese at the National Eucharistic Congress and draw into a deeper intimacy with our Lord. Scan the QR Code at the right for more information.



[Learn More](#)



## MASS INTENTIONS

### Monday

7:00 a.m.  
9:00 a.m.

**October 16: Wkdy; St. Hedwig, Religious; St. Margaret Mary Alacoque, Virgin**  
Bob Murray †  
Maria Lomboy †

### Tuesday

7:00 a.m.  
9:00 a.m.

**October 17: St. Ignatius of Antioch, Bishop & Martyr**  
Pearl W. Domzalski †  
Gesuno Manca †

### Wednesday

7:00 a.m.  
9:00 a.m.

**October 18: St. Luke, Evangelist**  
Patricia Sobun †  
Bob Murray †

### Thursday

7:00 a.m.  
9:00 a.m.

**October 19: USA; Sts. John de Brebeuf & Isaac Jogues, Priests' & Companions, Martyrs**  
Frank Palladino †  
Bob Murray †

### Friday

7:00 a.m.  
9:00 a.m.

**October 20: Wkdy; USA: St. Paul of the Cross, Priest**  
Bob Murray †  
Peter Yaglou †

### Saturday

9:00 a.m.  
5:00 p.m.

**October 21: Weekday, BVM**  
Bob Murray †  
Jen & Jeff Midili

### Sunday

8:00 a.m.  
10:00 a.m.  
12:00 noon  
5:00 p.m.

**October 22: 29th Sunday in Ordinary Time**  
John Messiter  
Megan Elizabeth Elder  
Bob Murray †  
People of the Parish

## First Friday Adoration | November 3

9:30 a.m.-7:00 p.m. (Benediction)

During the week before Adoration, sign up in the binder in the Church Narthex or call the Parish Office, 703-280-4400

## PRAYER INTENTIONS

### For the Sick

Irene Anderson, Katie Bader, Josephine Crosby, John Crowley,  
Kathy d'Alelio, Conor Doyle, Bill Foster, Therese Fruet,  
Marianne Haley, Amy Hobbs, Kathleen Johnson, Robert Koldys,  
Helen (Dolly) LaViolette, Thomas LaViolette, John Maskeny, Lou Osborn,  
Liz Post, Marcelina Respueto, Lisa Rhoads, Lewis Rhodes,  
Jean Reed Saylor, Joseph Schechtel, Fr. Spsychala,  
Jim Smith, Irene Symm, Nicole A. Tramonte, Lilian Yetman

### For Our Diocesan Priests

Oct 16 Very Rev. Paul D. Scalia  
Oct 17 Rev. William B. Schardt  
Oct 18 Rev. Nicolas J. Schierer  
Oct 19 Rev. William B. Schierer  
Oct 20 Rev. Stephen J. Schultz  
Oct 21 Rev. James R. Searby  
Oct 22 Rev. Eric L. Shafer



For the repose of the soul of  
**Mary Jo Hile Schaffner**



## 28<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

"Come to the feast." - Mt 22:4bc

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

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## ANNUAL MEMORIAL MASS & RECEPTION

Saturday | November 4 | 9 am



St. Ambrose's annual Memorial Mass & Reception is a special remembrance of those whose funerals were celebrated in the parish during the past year. We invite you to include the names of your loved ones who've died since November 2022, even if the funerals were celebrated elsewhere. Please contact the Parish Office (703-280-4400) by October 24 to provide the names for the Memorial Mass program and RSVP for the Reception. The Memorial Mass & Reception are hosted by the Bereavement Group and the Women of St. Ambrose.

## Welcome back to St. Ambrose, Father Gruber!

Father Jacob Gruber will celebrate the 10 am Mass on Sunday, October 22. Ordained in June for the Diocese of Pittsburgh, Father Gruber served at St. Ambrose while completing his studies at Theological College and the Catholic University of America, Washington, D.C. A reception follows in the Parish Hall, hosted by the Women of St. Ambrose. Stop by and congratulate Father Gruber.

*"Many are called, but few are chosen."*

Consider following Christ more closely as a priest, deacon or in consecrated life. Contact Fr. Michael Isenberg, Vocations Director, 703- 841-2514 or [vocations@arlingtondiocese.org](mailto:vocations@arlingtondiocese.org)

### St. Ambrose Knights Pro-Life Holy Hour & Novena

Tuesday | October 17 | 7 - 8 pm | Church

The Ambrose Council will begin a nine-day Pro-Life Novena, starting with a Holy Hour on October 17. Through October 25, please join us wherever you are in praying to end abortion (novena prayer at [bit.ly/prolifeprayer](http://bit.ly/prolifeprayer)). The novena is a part of 40 Days for Life, an internationally coordinated campaign that aims to end abortion locally through prayer and fasting, community outreach, and a peaceful all-day vigil in front of abortion businesses. For more information, visit [40daysforlife.com](http://40daysforlife.com)



YOU ARE INVITED

## ICON PAINTING

PRESENTATION BY  
VERONICA ROYAL

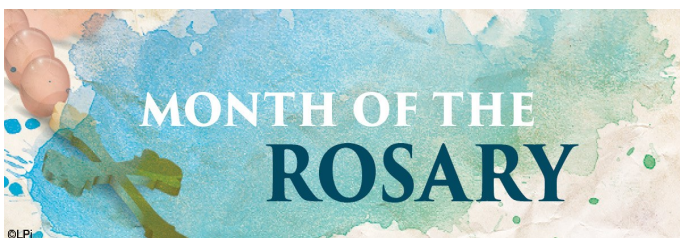
Saturday | October 21 | 9:45 am | Parish Hall



Hosted by the Women of St. Ambrose

Everyone is welcome to attend a presentation by Iconographer Veronica Royal on Saturday, October 21 at 9:45 am in the Parish Hall. She has studied icon writing with Russian, Greek, and American master iconographers since 1995. She has been painting commissioned works for private individuals and public institutions worldwide. Her studio has been featured on/in *EWTN*, *National Catholic Register*, *Arlington Catholic Herald* and the *Catholic News Service*. Visit her website at [royaliconstudio.com](http://royaliconstudio.com) for more information. This event is hosted by the Women of St. Ambrose.

**Loving Through Loss** is a one-day Couple's Workshop for families who have experienced the loss of a child from pregnancy through adulthood. The workshop helps couples understand how the trauma of child loss affects the family dynamic, while teaching them how to love each other through the complexity of child loss. The Workshop begins with Mass at 9 am (optional) on Saturday, October 28 and runs from 10 am - 4:30 pm, at St. Thomas à Becket Church, 1421 Wiehle Ave, Reston. Light breakfast and lunch included. \$80 per couple. Register at [arlingtondiocese.org/redbird](http://arlingtondiocese.org/redbird).



## ST. AMBROSE CATHOLIC SCHOOL

3827 Woodburn Road | Annandale, VA 22003

703-698-7171 | [info@stambroseschool.org](mailto:info@stambroseschool.org)  
[stambroseschool.org](http://stambroseschool.org)

"Christ is Everything to Us" - St. Ambrose

Saint Ambrose School offers open enrollment and availability throughout the school year for all grades. Please visit the school website or call the school office.



## SCHOOL NEWS

Dear St. Ambrose Community,

If it's fall, it is time to consider purging those closets of those coats and winter wear for our annual **WINTER WEAR DRIVE** for those in need.

**The Winter Wear Drive starts Monday, October 23 and ends on Monday, November 20.** We again ask you to donate only WASHED or DRY CLEANED and in GOOD CONDITION items you would be happy to receive if it were your family in need. We appreciate all those who have donated professionally cleaned and brand-new items as well in the past. Donations will be donated to our Mobile Response Team of Catholic Charities. We also donate some adult coats for the INOVA Mental Health Institute which helps clients get mentally well to get steady employment (men's ties are appreciated too). We hope to have a banner year in donations for our less fortunate neighbors. The Drop Box is in the School Lobby. God bless your charity and kindness!

Saint Ambrose Preschool Little Lambs 3 Year Old Class: it's not too late to enroll your preschooler at Saint Ambrose. We currently have a few openings in our 3 year old half-day program. If you would like to see our program and learn more, please contact Marybeth Cuccias [mcuccias@stambroseschool.org](mailto:mcuccias@stambroseschool.org) with any questions or to arrange a tour.

Yours in Christ,

Maria Teresa Tejada, Principal | [principal@stambroseschool.org](mailto:principal@stambroseschool.org)

### ST. AMBROSE SCHOOL MISSION

Fostering a faith-filled and academically strong environment, Saint Ambrose Catholic School works with families and the faith community to encourage the formation of the whole child through the examples and teachings of Jesus Christ.

"Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening."

## RETREATS | DAYS OF RECOLLECTION

Diocese of Arlington Retreats  
[bit.ly/arlingtonretreats](http://bit.ly/arlingtonretreats)

Our Lady of Bethesda Retreat Center  
[ourladyofbethesda.org](http://ourladyofbethesda.org)



## Catholic Investments for Catholic Families Knights of Columbus Asset Advisors' advisory services



Learn more about our faith-based investments at  
our upcoming Financial Seminar and Social.

**October 24, 2023 7:00 p.m.**

St. Ambrose Catholic Church  
3901 Woodburn Road, Annandale, VA 22003



**Knights of  
Columbus**  
Asset Advisors®

RSVP free but required:  
abbatekofc.com/events  
1-866-868-1492  
The Abbate Agency



## All Saints Peg Doll Swap + Potluck

**Friday | October 27 | 5:30 - 8:30 pm | Parish Hall**

Everyone is welcome! —————→ [stambroseva.org/WSA](http://stambroseva.org/WSA)



## 31<sup>st</sup> International WEEK of PRAYER & FASTING

Theme: Miracles of the Eucharist

**Friday, October 20 – Saturday, October 28, 2023**

in collaboration with the Legion of Mary

[iwopf.org](http://iwopf.org)

*"...with glad adoration a song let us raise!"*

## ADULT CHOIR | YOUTH CHOIR [bit.ly/stambrosevachoir](http://bit.ly/stambrosevachoir)

REHEARSALS | CHOIR ROOM | PARISH HALL

Youth Choir | Mondays | 4:30-5:20 pm

Adult Choir | Thursdays | 7:30-9 pm



**USHERS NEEDED**  
[emailushers@stambroseva.org](mailto:emailushers@stambroseva.org)

## PRO-LIFE CORNER

St. Ambrose for Life | [stambroseva.org/pro-life](http://stambroseva.org/pro-life)

### Next Diaper Drive November 4 + 5 at all Masses

St. Ambrose Parish helps The MaRiH Center by providing diapers, formula and wipes to moms & their babies. Collected at all Masses on the first weekend of each month, the most urgently needed items are: all sizes of diapers; formula (especially Similac Advance); wipes, and diaper rash ointment. To donate other critical items, please visit [stambroseva.org/pro-life](http://stambroseva.org/pro-life) or contact The MaRiH Center, 703-370-4774, marih.org.



### Rosary for Life | Wednesdays | Noon - 1 pm

#### 40 Days for Life

September 27 - November 5 | 7 am-7 pm daily

Help save lives by praying for an end to abortion.

Falls Church Healthcare Center, 900 S Washington St, Falls Church.

[www.40daysforlife.com/en/fallschurch](http://www.40daysforlife.com/en/fallschurch)

#### Mass in Celebration for Respect Life Month

Please join the Most Reverend Michael F. Burbidge, Bishop of Arlington, on Sunday, October 29 at 11 am at St. Joseph's Catholic Church, Alexandria, for the Mass to Celebrate Respect Life Month. All are welcome!

#### Help + Hope + Healing

visit [stambroseva.org/pro-life](http://stambroseva.org/pro-life) for more resources

**Gabriel Project**  
[helpforpregnantwomen.org](http://helpforpregnantwomen.org)  
703-841-3810  
[info@h4pw.org](mailto:info@h4pw.org)

**Diocese of Arlington  
Catholic Charities**  
703-841-3830  
[www.ccda.net](http://www.ccda.net)

**Project Rachel**  
[helpafterabortion.org](http://helpafterabortion.org)  
703-841-2504  
[info@helpafterabortion.org](mailto:info@helpafterabortion.org)

## respect life month

OCTOBER 2023



**HumbleBee Highlights**

<https://stambroseva.org/humble-bee>



In this week's Gospel, a king invites people to a wedding feast for his son, but several times, they refuse. This represents those who have refused the invitation to the Kingdom of God. The invitation is then extended to everyone, even though many are undeserving of such an invitation, and this illustrates for us the grace of God, that He should want all people, unworthy though we are, to accept His invitation and join Him in His eternal Kingdom!

#### FAMILY DISCUSSION

In what ways do we accept or refuse God's invitation? At times, what makes it challenging to accept God's invitation? How can we help each other accept God's invitation? Are there others around us who have not yet accepted the invitation? How can we help those people understand the gift presented to them and awaiting their acceptance?

**See The Bee for more faith + fun!**