

Catholic Diocese of Charleston



**Jesus endured the cross,
despising its shame,
and has taken his seat
at the right of the throne of God.**

HEBREWS 12:2

at the right of the throne of God.

**Twentieth Sunday
in Ordinary Time
AUGUST 18, 2019**

Set Our Hearts on Fire

The Prince of Peace wants to set the world on fire? This Sunday's Gospel can sound more intense than what we may be accustomed to. It's a passage of contradictions. Jesus so clearly prays for unity, yet here he speaks of division. Why would our God who comes as an offering of love speak so frankly about causing relationships to be torn apart?

The sobering truth is that Jesus is divisive. We see this throughout the Gospels, as the Pharisees critique him, the Romans condemn him, and not everyone in the crowd is enthusiastic about his words. Jesus has not come for the purpose of dividing, but what he does is so radical that it upends the status quo. And it doesn't end with his preaching and miracles! "There is a baptism with which I must be baptized." Jesus isn't talking about his baptism at the Jordan River, which has already occurred, but the passing through the waters of death on the Cross and rising again to new life in the resurrection. This is divisive stuff! Christ's spiritual fire turned the "fathers" - the Jewish people and Pharisees - against the "sons" - the common people. Not everyone wants the Gospel Jesus is preaching. Not everyone wants to be set on fire with the desire to love others. Some prefer to put on a warm sweater and curl up in front of the TV.

In living and loving as Jesus did, we, too, might ruffle
Continued next column —>

Church of the Nativity

1061 Folly Road
Charleston, South Carolina 29412

**Twentieth Sunday
in Ordinary Time
August 18, 2019**

Mission Statement

We strive to be a faith-centered, Catholic community. By virtue of Baptism, we are called forth to minister to one another the Gospel message of Jesus Christ through education, evangelization, social justice and ecumenism. We reach out in love, respect and support for all as we seek to do the will of God.

Weekly Mass Schedule

Saturday Vigil	5:30 pm
Sunday	9:00 and 11:30 am
Mon. Tues., Wed.,	4:15 pm
Thursday	9:30 am

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday 4:15 to 5:00 pm and by Appointment

Weekday Rosary in the Church

Mon, Tues, Wed 3:50 pm

Regular Office Hours

Monday - Friday: 8:00 am to 3:00 pm
Office: 843-795-3821 / Fax: 843-795-2714
website: www.nativitycharleston.org
e-mail: Office@NativityCharleston.org

some feathers. In disciplining our teenage child for sneaking out, we may cause some division (temporarily, we hope!). In standing up to gossip and the spread of cruel rumors in our workplace, we might cause division. In emphasizing the dignity of both the desperate mother and the unborn child, we might cause division. Not everyone wants the Gospel Jesus is preaching. Not everyone wants the Gospel we are invited to live. But that's no excuse not to live it.

...Tom Schmidt, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co

Lord, come to my aid!

~ Today's Psalm PS 40.

THINGS TO KNOW

Nursery: Is available for children age 6 weeks to 4 yrs. old during the Sunday 9:00 am Mass. It is located on the right side of the school's breezeway entrance. For more information or to volunteer to help, please contact Vicki Vázquez at admin@nativitycharleston.org or at 843-795-3821.

Children's Liturgy of the Word: Is offered to children age 4 years through 5th grade during the 9:00 am Mass on Sundays. The children are dismissed after the opening prayers and re-join their family for the Liturgy of the Eucharist.

Religious Education Programs: Nativity School serves students in grades K4 through 8. The Parish School of Religion (PSR) is offered for other parish children, grades K4 through 8. PSR classes are held in the School Building from 10:00 to 11:15 am on Sunday mornings during the school year. To register, please contact Mary Smith at 843-795-3821 x 24.

Creating Safe Environments: All volunteers who minister in programs involving children at Nativity Parish or School are required to complete the Safe-Haven Online Abuse Prevention Training program. To complete this program, please visit <http://charleston.CMGconnect.org>. For more information please contact Vicki Vázquez at 843-795-3821.

Baptism: To schedule a Baptism preparation class, a parent should be an active parishioner. For more information please contact Mary Smith at 843-795-3821 x 24.

Sacraments of First Reconciliation, First Eucharist and Confirmation: A two year preparation period is required for these sacraments. Children planning to receive First Reconciliation and First Eucharist in the 2nd grade, must also have participated in a 1st grade PSR or Catholic school program. Children planning to receive the sacrament of Confirmation in the 8th grade must also have participated in a 7th grade PSR or Catholic school program. For more information please contact Mary Smith at 843-795-3821 x 24

Alpha: is a series of sessions that explore the Christian faith. These sessions provide an opportunity to explore life's big questions, to say what you think and to hear other people's points of view. Each session considers a different question of our faith via a video presentation and interactive discussion designed to create conversation. All are welcome and encouraged to participate. For more information and/or to sign up, please visit www.nativitycharleston.org/alpha.

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA): is a program to prepare adults for entry into the Catholic Church. For information or to register please contact Vicki Vázquez at 843-795-3821.

FORMED.org: is a online service that provides access to electronic media (video studies, feature films, eBooks, audio presentations) from the Church's foremost presenters. Unlimited free access is provided to members of Nativity parish. Sign up at www.nativitycharleston.formed.org.

Sacrament of Marriage: Couples need to contact the priest at least six months prior to the proposed wedding date. Please contact the parish office at 843-795-3821 x 27.

Care of the Sick and Homebound: We care about you. To arrange for a pastoral visit, please contact the parish office at 843-795-3821 x 21

Sacrament of the Sick: Anointing of the Sick is the sacrament that is received by those who are suffering from a potentially life-threatening illness, those planning to have serious surgery and those in advanced years. Please do not wait until the 'last minute' to request the Anointing of the Sick. For more information or to request this sacrament, contact the parish office at 843-795-3821 x 21.

STAFF

Pastor: Rev. Thomas Kingsley
Pastor@NativityCharleston.org, 843-795-3821 x 105

Director of Administration: Mrs. Vicki Vázquez
Admin@NativityCharleston.org, 843-795-3821 x 101

Financial Secretary: Mrs. Carolyn Miller
Finance@NativityCharleston.org, 843-795-3821 x 102

Music Director: Mrs. Courtney Reed
Music@NativityCharleston.org, 843-795-3821 x 103

Religious Education: Mrs. Mary L. Smith
DRE@NativityCharleston.org, 843-795-3821 x 104

School Principal: Mrs. Patti Dukes
pdukes@nativity-school.com, 843-795-3975

Diocesan Office of Child Protection Services:
843-853-2130 x 209

Diocesan Victim Assistance Minister:
800-921-8122

Note from the Finance Council

You can provide for the needs of future generations of Catholics by remembering Nativity in your will. You may also choose to make a gift through a charitable trust or an annuity. For more information about joining the newly established Catholic Heritage Society or to learn more about legacy gifts, please contact Carrie Mummert at (843) 261-0435 or email cmummert@catholic-doc.org.

All inquiries are handled in confidence.

An Active Parishioner

- is registered with the parish for at least 3 months,
- attends liturgies weekly
- makes regular and identifiable contributions by using parish envelopes or myEoffering.

These criteria are used to verify parishioner status for Weddings, Sacramental Preparation, Parish School of Religion enrollment, Sponsor Certificates for Baptism and Confirmation, and to receive parishioner tuition rates at Catholic schools. An extended time with no activity will place a person or family on inactive status.

Please be an active parishioner



New to Our Community?

To register in our parish, please fill out a registration form on our web site: www.NativityCharleston.org.

Forms are available at the church entrances. However, for immediate access, just scan this image with your smart phone
——>>>

For more information, please call the parish office at 843-795-3821.



Please consider joining our parish family!

Occupancy

The value of life does not depend upon the place we occupy. It depends upon how we occupy that place.

...St. Thérèse of Lisieux

To advertise in our bulletin, please contact Jim Zupancic at zupancicj@jspaluch.com or at 708-764-0044.
Please support our Advertisers whose funding makes this bulletin possible.

Stewardship

*Never forget: God Provides.
Are you His vessel this week or
His recipient?*

Offerings August 5 – August 11

Collections at Mass (Aug 10 - Aug 11)	\$ 12,212.00
Mail in Offerings (Aug 5 - Aug 9)	\$ 1,190.00
myEoffering (Aug 5 - Aug 9)	\$ 2,602.24
Budget (1 week)	\$ 14,326.92
Difference	\$ + 1,677.32
Registered Households	647
Envelopes Used (Aug 10 – Aug 11)	258
Active myEoffering Families	122
MyEoffering Family Donations (Aug 5 - Aug 9)	62

Thank you for your Generosity.

Please use your envelopes.

If you need envelopes, call the parish office.
at 843 795-3821.

Liturgical Ministers for August 24-25

Please arrange for a substitute if you are unable to fulfill
your ministry as scheduled

5:30 pm Mass

Greeters: Terry Harris

Patrick Kelley & Kathy Wiley

Altar Servers: Nathanael Borick, Jake Hoeft,
John Hoeft

**Eucharistic
Ministers:** Claire Bergstrom, Ernest Bergstrom,
Eileen Easler, Patty Edwards,
Terry Harris, Gene McDermott,

Mary Smith

Elena Smith

Emmett Alphonse, William Jensen,
Patrick Kelley, Leroy Holseberg

9:00 am Mass

Greeters: Pat Palmer, Vazquez Family

Altar Servers: Christina Dake, Bush Khong,
Louis Khong

**Eucharistic
Ministers:** Patricia Palmer, Hal Perry, Pat Perry,
Kirby Preston, Kristi Roberts,
Daniel Suggs, Tamme Suggs,

**Lector:
Ushers:** Cava Riley
Jim Anderson, Richard Bragiel,
Steve Molony, Michael O'Neale

11:30 am Mass

Greeters: Susan La Via

Altar Servers: Drue Gilreath, Gavin Gilreath
Sharon Doniphian, Lewis Doscher,
Kathy Hepner, Mariano La Via,
Christine Lewis

**Eucharistic
Ministers:** Keith Tapscott
Chuck Everitt, Joe Ginn,
Sheila Griner, Gilbert O'Brien



Now available online at
www.nativitycharleston.org

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code with your smart phone ----->



**Don't forget to update your account
with your current credit card expiration date.**

For more information, please contact the parish office.

Let Us Pray

**For members of our community who have
requested our prayers**

**Recently Added: Arnold Bennett, James
Michael Huber, Suzette Nowak**

From previous months: Allene Barans, Clydie Bevis,
Beverly Blevins, Britt Lamarr Boswell, Joe Caraviello,
Cathy Clarey, Herman Connor, Jake DuPree, Jo Ann
Frederick, Ellen Pate Futrell, Ruby Inez Germroth,
Malcolm Hale, Angela Harbuta, Terry Harris, Ronnie &
Myrtis Jenkins, Frank Koonts, Fred Kornahrens, Teresa
LaTorre, Delores Lopez, Paul Madden, Paul & Carole
Moran, Charlie Organ, Irene Parmenter, Brenda Pearson,
Ed and Terry Pop, Betty Ann Quinn, James Romero,
Rosemary Saari, Michael Scarborough, Kyle Souza, Fran
Taylor, Inge Thornley, Lois Ulichnie, Rachel
Villeponteaux, Courtney Wilson, Sally Wojcik

**For our service men and women and their
families throughout the world.**

**For Members of our Community who have
recently lost loved ones.**

To have names added or removed from these lists,
please contact the parish office at 843-795-3821
or at Office@NativityCharleston.org.

Intentions

Mass: This Week

Sat	17	5:30 pm	Michael LaTorre+
Sun	18	9:00 am	54th Anniversary of Pat & Hal Perry
		11:30 am	Carmen Tovar Diaz+
Mon	19	4:15 pm	Bob Clark+
Tues	20	4:15 pm	
Wed	21	4:15 pm	
Thurs	22	9:30 am	Alice Herrmann+
Sat	24	5:30 pm	Gilbert & Marion Molony O'Brien+
Sun	25	9:00 am	68th Anniversary of Esther & Walter Machowski
		11:30 am	Anne Kingsley+

Envelopes for Sanctuary Candle and Mass Intentions are
at the church entrances. Please fill one out and put it in
the collection basket. Please include your telephone
number in case your requested date is unavailable.

**Intention requests cannot be accepted
more than 3 months in advance.**

Nativity School—dedicated to the academic and spiritual growth of our students



Nativity School is accepting applications for grades K4 through 8
for the 2019-2020 school year.

To learn more about us please visit our website at www.nativity-school.com or our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/NativitySchoolKnights.

Nativity School is accepting applications for the 2019-2020 school year.

Classes for the 2019/2020 School Year begin on Monday, August 19!

Best wishes for a happy and successful School Year!



REGISTRATION FOR THE 2019-2020 SCHOOL YEAR IS UNDERWAY!

PSR provides weekly religious instruction for the children of Nativity Parish families who do not attend a Catholic grade school.

Classes begin on Sunday, September 8 at 10:00 am.

Registration Forms are now available at the Nativity Church entrances.

DON'T DELAY, REGISTER TODAY!



And so they took Jeremiah
and threw him into the cistern of Prince Malchiah,
which was in the quarters of the guard, letting him down with ropes.

There was no water in the cistern, only mud,
and Jeremiah sank into the mud. Jer 38:6

Our Sympathy

We extend our deepest sympathy
to the family and friends of

John Albers,

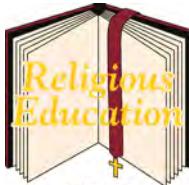
whose funeral was held at Nativity
on Tuesday, August 6.

May he rest in peace.



Catechists Needed for Parish School of Religion 2019–2020

*"Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations,..
teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you."*
... Mt 28:19a,20a



Through baptism, we are called to share the Good News. Serving as a PSR catechist is an incredible way to fulfill this mission. We are seeking a number of catechists for the upcoming school year. If you love your faith and would be willing to share that blessing with the children of our parish, please contact Mary Smith at 843-795-3821 x 104.

All volunteers who minister in programs involving children at Nativity Parish or School are required to complete the Safe-Haven Online Abuse Prevention Training program.



UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

Monday August 26—Ladies Guild Monthly Meeting
in the Nativity Parish Office.

- ◆ Food at 6:30 pm
- ◆ Meeting at 7:00 pm

**ALL WOMEN OF NATIVITY PARISH
ARE INVITED TO ATTEND.**



The RCIA process (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults)

ARE YOU SOMEONE OR DO YOU KNOW SOMEONE WHO...

- Has expressed an interest in becoming Catholic?
- Was baptized Catholic as a child, but has not celebrated the Sacraments of Confirmation and Eucharist?

The Church of the Nativity offers an opportunity to come together in a small group to learn more about our faith. Sessions focus on the teachings and experience of Church and prepare individuals to celebrate the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist during the Easter season. You are welcome to participate in the process with your questions, your insights, and your faith story in a warm, welcoming, and accepting setting.

**This year's program kicks off Next Sunday, August 25 at 5:30 pm
with a 'Meet and Greet' Cookout!**

The RCIA classes are held from 10:00 to 11:15 am on Sunday mornings in the Nativity Parish Office.

This year's class will begin on Sunday, September 8.

For more information, please contact Vicki Vázquez at admin@nativitycharleston.org or at 843-795-3821

Sign Up Now!

**♪ Choir rehearsal resumes on Wednesday, August 28 at 7:00 pm in the church. ♪
Please join us! Our music will just not be the same without you!!**

**Do you play an orchestral
or band instrument?**



The Nativity Music Ministry needs YOU!!!

The minimum grade level is middle school (6th grade and above). All instruments are welcome: flutes, oboes, clarinets, string, brass and percussion.

For more information, please contact Courtney Reed at Music@NativityCharleston.org or at 843-795-3821 x103.

Help us Make a Joyful Noise unto the Lord!

**The Nativity Music Ministry
needs more singers!**



We rehearse on Wednesday evening from 7:00 to 8:30 pm. Rehearsals during the Advent and Lent seasons are a bit longer but never last beyond 9:00 pm.

For more information, please contact Courtney Reed at Music@NativityCharleston.org or at 843-795-3821 x103.

We look forward to having you join us!

**Nativity's Nursery Ministry
Needs your Help.**

This is a valuable and well used ministry for our community. However, we need more volunteers to be able to continue to provide this service. The nursery is in operation during the 9:00 am Mass on Sundays. If you think you can help at least one Sunday per month, please contact Vicki Vázquez at 843-795-3821 or at Office@NativityCharleston.org.

Note: All Nativity volunteers who minister in programs involving the children of Nativity Parish/School are required to complete the Diocesan Safe Environments Screening Program.



Pregnant? Need Help?

Nationwide Toll Free:

800-395-HELP
www.pregnancycenters.org

Lowcountry Pregnancy Center

225-3010 in West Ashley or
553-3505 in North Charleston



Many resources available to help people who have been hurt by their experience with abortion. For more information please contact the Diocese of Charleston: Office of Family Life

<https://charlestondiocese.org/respect-life/post-abortion-healing>
or contact us directly at (803) 547-5063 or at
kschmugge@charlestondiocese.org



We are continuing to progress through all the steps required by the city and diocese for the building of the Parish Life Center. Thank you for your consideration and generosity! Together we will make this a reality! For more information, please visit nativitycharleston.com/parishlifecenter/

Thursday Evening Bible Study Returns September 5.

Why We Believe

Answering Common Questions about the Catholic Faith

Dr. Brant Pitre

This is an 8 part video series that explores the most commonly asked questions about the Catholic faith and provides clear and compelling biblical answers.

- **Does God Exist?** How can we know it?
- **Is Jesus God?** Did Jesus claim to be God? And why should we believe him?
- **Peter and the Papacy?** Did Jesus establish the Catholic Church? What is the historical evidence?
- **How Did We Get the Bible?** From where did the Bible come? Who decided which books got in and which didn't?
- **Is the Eucharist Jesus' Real Presence?** What does the Bible teach about Jesus' Real Presence in the Eucharist?
- **Why Confess to a Priest?** Did Jesus arrange for us to confess our sins to a priest of the new covenant?
- **Do Catholics Worship Mary?** What does the Bible teach about her?
- **Purgatory and Prayers for the Dead?** Where is Purgatory in the Bible? Why do Catholics pray for the dead?

If you've been asked any of these questions but weren't quite sure how to answer, this is your chance to know for sure!

Thursday Night Bible Study is held 6:30 to 8:00 pm at the home of Ryckie Watkins. For more information please contact Ryckie at 843-795-4194 or at ryckiewatkins1329@comcast.net

Please join us. All are welcome and Encouraged to Participate!

LADIES GUILD LUNCHEON

ALL LADIES OF NATIVITY WELCOME

SEPTEMBER 8, 2019 · 12:45PM
IN THE SCHOOL HALL

RSVP TO SHARON DALE
PHONE OR TEXT 843-795-6715
EMAIL ASHSHARON1@GMAIL.COM

Vocation Cup Program Weekly at the 9:00 Sunday Mass

Each week at Mass, a family is invited to take the gifts up at the Offertory Procession. At the end of Mass, the family is called by the priest to come forward and receive the chalice. The family takes the chalice home and puts it in a place of honor. Each day for a week, the family prays for an increase of and perseverance in vocations. The following Sunday the family returns the chalice for another family to take home.



who will you invite?



**Alpha Fall Evening Session:
Starts Tuesday, Sept. 3
6:15 pm in the School Hall**

We're all searching for more.

What is the point of life? / Why is there suffering in the world? /
What happens when we die? / Is forgiveness possible?

What is Alpha?

The Alpha course is a practical introduction to the Christian faith that gives guests an opportunity to explore the meaning of life. Alpha is fun, relaxed and totally non-pressured (that's probably why over 19 million people around the world have participated in Alpha!)

Listen, learn, discuss, and discover. Ask anything. Alpha is a place where no question is off limits.

Alpha's Three Main Elements:



Good Food



Alpha Talk



Discussion

How does it work?

Each Alpha course session begins with food, followed by a short talk looking at a different aspect of the Christian faith. After that, there is a time for discussion in a friendly small group.

Who is Alpha for?

Alpha is for everyone, especially:

- Those who have given up on church
- Those wanting to investigate Christianity
- Those who are new to the Christian faith
- Those wanting to grow in understanding and faith

What is the cost?

There is no charge for the Alpha course, although there will be a basket out if you are able to donate toward the cost of food.

Alpha is offered worldwide. See what it's all about at alphausa.org/stories

View the Alpha at Nativity Fall Schedule at nativitycharleston.org/alpha

Join us by contacting Vicki Vázquez | alpha@nativitycharleston.org | 843-795-3821

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Why Choose a Catholic Cemetery?

A Catholic Cemetery is the sacred resting place for those who are baptized, who worshiped and lived their Christian faith, and in death complete their baptismal commitment by laying at rest with their companions in faith.

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Call 843-795-2111 to learn more.
Holy Cross Cemetery - St. Lawrence Cemetery



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