

Do What You Can

The reading from the prophet Isaiah this Sunday contains a remarkable prediction—the end of war between nations (Isaiah 2:4). While most of the good predictions of the prophets were fulfilled in Jesus, we still await the end of all wars. So why hasn't that one been fulfilled? We can look to the second reading and the Gospel for some hints.

Both readings talk about being awake and ready for our salvation (Romans 13:12) or the coming of the Son of Man (Matthew 24:39). Being awake doesn't mean consuming lots of coffee or turning the music volume all the way up. Paul calls it "putting on the Lord Jesus Christ" as a soldier would put on armor before a battle. He even mentions rivalry and jealousy as attitudes to avoid. Both of those vices have been the cause of many wars in our history. What if we not only avoided them, but also taught our children to avoid them? What if everyone eventually learned not to be jealous and hateful?

We are a long way from ending all wars. There are still people who teach hate to the poor instead of helping to feed them. There are still people who get rich selling the weapons of war. This brings us back to the first reading, in which Isaiah speaks of beating swords into plowshares. Do we have enough faith in God's love to stop building weapons and use those resources to feed the hungry or cure diseases in underprivileged countries? Until we convert everyone to following Jesus, that's not likely. The Gospel calls us to be ready. Maybe we need to be ready to share our faith. Maybe we have to be awake to any

Continued next column —>>

Catholic Diocese of Charleston



Church of the Nativity

1061 Folly Road
Charleston, South Carolina 29412

First Sunday of Advent December 1, 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., Thursday	4:15 pm 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

opportunity to show God's love to those around us. Are we afraid to offer to pray for someone in need? Maybe we need to put on the "armor of light," as St. Paul calls it. Instead of trying to stop all wars, could we at least show forgiveness to someone who has hurt us?

Jesus never said to do the impossible. If we can be ready to see Jesus in those around us, to show his love to those who need it, or just be patient with other people's faults and weaknesses, we may not stop all wars, but we will be prepared for the coming of the Prince of Peace.

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

Stay awake! Be prepared! The Son of Man will come when you least expect.

~ Today's Gospel Matthew 24

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 digital platform that gives our parish access to video-based study programs, feature films, audio presentations, and eBooks from the Church's foremost presenters. You just need an e-mail to sign in. No password.

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!

Peace and Tranquility

They shall beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks; one nation shall not raise the sword against another, nor shall they train for war again.

... Today's First Reading, Isaiah 2: 1-5

To advertise in our bulletin, please contact Pat Falco at falco@jspaluch.com or at 910-200-8383.
Please support our Advertisers whose funding makes this bulletin possible.

Stewardship

"Let the person with two coats give to the person who has none." (Luke 3:11)

Offerings November 18—24

The weekly offerings information was not available by the publishing deadline for this week's bulletin. The information will be provided in a future bulletin.

Thank you for your Generosity.

Please use your envelopes.

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

Liturgical Ministers for Dec. 7-8

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

5:30 pm Mass

Greeters: Tom & Marcia McNamee
Bob & JoAnne Sisnoy
Altar Servers: Angel Salceda, Daniel Salceda,
Michael Smith
Eucharistic Ministers: Ernest Bergstrom, Patty Edwards,
Terry Harris, Gene McDermott,
Carolyn Smith, John Warren,
Maritza Zeisel
Lector: Eileen Easler
Ushers: Emmett Alphonse, Patrick Kelley,
Leroy Holseberg, Randall Lannie

9:00 am Mass

Greeters: Caughey Family, Decker Family
Altar Servers: Sofia Adaro, Pilar Adaro, Tomas Adaro
Eucharistic Ministers: Jimmy Craven, Wendy Craven,
Donica Dennis, Gary Hart,
Mark Hollifield, Kirby Preston,
Becky Warriner
Lector: Gary Warriner
Ushers: Jim Anderson, Richard Bragiel,
Steve Molony, Michael O'Neale

11:30 am Mass

Greeters: Susan La Via
Altar Servers: Jackson DeLoach, Caryn Hasenberg,
Emma Jakubowski
Eucharistic Ministers: Irene Bennett, Ed Defourneaux,
Lewis Doscher, Pam Everitt,
Christine Lewis, Liisa Machowski,
Phu Tran
Lector: Pam Everitt
Ushers: Chuck Everitt, Joe Ginn,
Sheila Griner, Gilbert O'Brien

Flowers

at the altar this weekend, are in memory of

Ted DeLorme.
May he rest in peace.



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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: Tommy Lavelle

From previous months: Allene Barans, Arnold Bennett,
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, James
Michael Huber, Ronnie & Myrtis Jenkins, Fred
Kornahrens, Teresa LaTorre, Delores Lopez, Paul
Madden, Paul & Carole Moran, Suzette Nowak, 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	30	5:30 pm	Michael LaTorre+
Sun	1	9:00 am	Robert Joseph Wilkie+
		11:30 am	Robert Wiser+
Mon	2	4:15 pm	Lucy Bartuccellii+
Tues	3	4:15 pm	Dick & Mildred Freeman++
Wed	4	4:15 pm	Ted DeLorme+
Thurs	5	9:30 am	
Sat	7	5:30 pm	Shawn M. Rhoad+
Sun	8	9:00 am	Paul Aimar+
		11:30 am	Linda Nugent Graves+

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



Do you dream of a school where each child is accepted, included, and valued? Are you looking for a school that stands as the model of academic excellence, moral ideals, and spirituality? Have you searched for a values-based education in the Catholic tradition?

Look no further!

Discover Nativity School, James Island's best kept secret for K4-8 grades.

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

For more information, please visit us at www.facebook.com/NativitySchoolKnights or call us at 843-795-3975.

Don't miss this great Catholic Education opportunity for your children.



Nativity School Christmas Production

Thursday, December 5, at 6:00 PM
in the School Hall

Students at Nativity School will perform
Christmas Songs and a skit at their annual
Christmas Program.

All Are Invited To Attend!

PTO will be selling pizza
from 5:30 to 6:00 pm

**Come Early and
Bring your Appetite!**



Living Nativity

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 13,

5:30 pm to 8:30 pm.

In the Nativity Church parking lot

This festive event will feature Nativity
Students dressed as Mary, Joseph, wise
men, angel, etc. complete with live
animals.

Come see the animals up close (cow, donkey, camel, and sheep), sing along with our children's choir
and experience the joy of the first Christmas!

We are partnering with Palmetto Carriage (www.palmettocarriage.com)

to offer, short, FREE carriage rides through the local neighborhood from 5:30 to 7:30 pm. First come, first served.

MacDaddy Food Truck (www.cravekitchenandcocktails.com)
will also be available for those wanting to purchase light fare

Free cookies and hot chocolate!

There is no charge for admission . All are invited. Please come join us!

*Ladies
Guild*

Coffee and Donuts this Sunday (December 1)

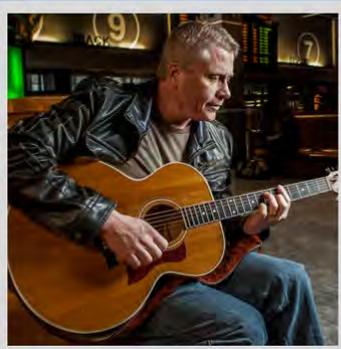
in the School Hall after the 9:00 am Mass.

There is no charge but your donations are greatly appreciated.

**Stop by, talk with us about our activities
and check out the beautiful Crèche Display!**



Catholic Youth Stand Up for Life Rally



Saturday, January 11, 2020
Township Auditorium - Columbia, SC

Key Note Speaker - Sean Forrest

This activity includes a Rally at the State House with speakers, Citizens for Life, followed by the march to the Youth Rally Program at Township Auditorium, Music & Keynote Message, and Mass w/ the Bishop. All 6 through 12 grade students are invited and encouraged to participate. Registration forms and more information are available at the Nativity Church entrances. For more information, please contact Mary Smith at DRE@NativityCharleston.org or at 843-795-3821 x 104.

Early Registration and Tee shirt order deadline is Sunday December 1.

Final Registration deadline is Wednesday, December 18 (no Tee shirt orders accepted).



Ladies Guild 5th Annual Crèche Display
Sunday, December 1 after the 9:00 and 11:30 Masses
in the Nativity School Hall.

Please come view some beautiful Crèche displays and Christmas traditions as we begin our Advent journey.

A special thanks to all those who participated in this special event.

Those participating in the Crèche Display should pick up their items from the Nativity School Hall by 1:00 pm Sunday, December 1st.



Christmas Wreath Pick Up



Sat. Dec. 7th from 9:00 am to Noon
in the Nativity parking lot

If you cannot pick up your wreath at that time, please have a friend or one of the Knights pick up your wreath and deliver it to you. We have no provisions to store the wreaths after noon on Dec. 7.

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Jesus said to his disciples, "Therefore be on the alert, for you do not know which day your Lord is coming." Mt 24:42

Lectors: Please pick up your workbook for the 2020 Liturgical Year. These are in the sacristy. We started using the new workbooks this weekend.

Parish Life Center



Thank you all for your most generous support of the Church of the Nativity Parish Life Center.

Our Capital Campaign will formally conclude on December 31, 2019. We are proud to share with you that as of November 19th our campaign results are just slightly below our revised goal of \$2 million:

Cash on Hand:	\$1,691,859.00
Pledges:	\$171,879.00
Total:	\$1,863,739.00
Goal:	\$2,000,000.00
Balance to Reach our Goal:	\$136,260.00

While we will continue to accept gifts and pledges after the campaign's close, there is a financial incentive to contribute prior to that deadline for all parishioners who have not yet committed to a gift or pledge. As of January 1, 2020, all new pledges and gifts will be subject to a 10% assessment by the diocese. Thus, the Parish Life Center will only receive 90% of your gift.



It is important to note that all outstanding pledge payments on pledges made prior to December 31st will NOT be assessed the 10% regardless of when the payment is made. The Parish Life Center will receive 100% of your gift.

We are continuing to move forward with permits, plans and approvals. Our hope is to zero in on a groundbreaking date in the relatively near future and we will share those exciting plans with you as soon as possible.

Thanks, again, for your continued support and prayers.

DECEMBER 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Creche Display 9:00 AM Mass 10:00 AM Coffee & Donuts 10:00 AM No PSR 10:00 AM RCIA 11:30 AM Mass	2 3:50 PM Rosary 4:15 PM Mass	3 3:50 PM Rosary 4:15 PM Mass	4 3:50 PM Rosary 4:15 PM Mass 6:00 PM Bible Study 7:00 PM Choir Practice	5 9:30 AM Mass 6:00 PM Christmas Program	6	7 4:15 PM Sacrament of Reconciliation 5:30 PM Mass
8 Immaculate Conception 9:00 AM Mass 10:00 AM Breakfast with Santa & Ornament Workshop 10:00 AM PSR 10:00 AM RCIA 11:30 AM Mass	9 11:45 AM Leisure Club 3:50 PM Rosary 4:15 PM Mass	10 3:50 PM Rosary 4:15 PM Mass	11 3:50 PM Rosary 4:15 PM Mass 6:00 PM Bible Study 7:00 PM Choir Practice	12 9:30 AM Mass	13 5:30 PM Living Nativity	14 4:15 PM Sacrament of Reconciliation 5:30 PM Mass 7:00 PM Ladies Guild & Knights of Columbus Christmas Party
15 9:00 AM Mass 10:00 AM Confessions 10:00 AM PSR 10:00 AM RCIA 11:30 AM Mass 12:30 PM Confessions	16 3:50 PM Rosary 4:15 PM Mass	17 3:50 PM Rosary 4:15 PM Mass	18 3:50 PM Rosary 4:15 PM Mass 6:00 PM Bible Study 7:00 PM Choir Practice	19 9:30 AM Mass	20	21 4:15 PM Sacrament of Reconciliation 5:30 PM Mass
22 9:00 AM Mass 10:00 AM Confessions 10:00 AM No PSR 10:00 AM No RCIA 11:30 AM Mass 12:30 PM Confessions	23 3:50 PM Rosary 4:15 PM Mass	24 Christmas Eve Office Closed 4:00 PM Mass 7:00 PM Mass	25 Christmas Office Closed 10:00 AM Mass	26 Office Closed 9:30 AM Mass	27 Office Closed	28 4:15 PM Sacrament of Reconciliation 5:30 PM Mass
29 9:00 AM Mass 10:00 AM No PSR 10:00 AM RCIA 11:30 AM Mass	30 3:50 PM Rosary 4:15 PM Mass	31 Office Closed 3:50 PM Rosary 4:15 PM Vigil Mass - Solemnity of Mary	1 Office Closed 10:00 AM Mass - Solemnity of Mary - Holy Day of Obligation	2 9:30 AM Mass	3	4 4:15 PM Sacrament of Reconciliation 5:30 PM Mass



SANTA TEAMS UP WITH THE KNIGHTS NEXT SUNDAY (DEC. 8) FOR THE PANCAKE/SAUSAGE BREAKFAST WITH SANTA

AND

MRS. CLAUS TEAMS UP WITH THE NATIVITY LADIES GUILD

FOR THE CHILDREN'S ORNAMENT WORKSHOP

This event will be in the School Hall after the 9:00 Mass. Adults pay \$3.00 for the breakfast but all children eat free. Not only that, the children get to meet Santa, turn in their Christmas wish list and get a little treat from one of Santa's elves and make some memorable and treasured Christmas ornaments.



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