

## Gifts of the Spirit

The reading from the prophet Isaiah is a very hopeful description of the Messiah. Part of that description in verses 2–3 contains the traditional seven gifts of the Holy Spirit. As we prepare to celebrate the birth of the Messiah, and looking forward to his coming in glory, let us take a look at those gifts and see how we can use them.

Wisdom is first, but it is not simply a matter of tossing out proverbs and sayings. This wisdom is the gift of seeing God in creation. It means that we value the things of this world only as they help us to know and love God more. The second gift, understanding, follows from wisdom. As we appreciate God in creation, we understand what God expects of us in dealing with creation and other people. This gift helps us know how to act in a world that seems to ignore God.

Counsel follows from understanding as the gift of making correct judgments about how to act, how to follow those commands of God. For example, understanding can lead us to love others; counsel guides us to love them in appropriate ways.

Strength, or fortitude, is the gift that enables us to do those things inspired by understanding and counsel, even if they are difficult. John the Baptist displays this gift in the Gospel when he challenges the Pharisees. Fortitude gave him the courage to die for his faith.

Knowledge is similar to counsel (knowing how to act) in that we begin to see what God wants for us in this world. It includes an understanding of the scriptures and how God's word applies to our lives. Knowledge leads us to

Continued next column -->

Catholic Diocese of Charleston



## Church of the Nativity

1061 Folly Road  
Charleston, South Carolina 29412

### Second Sunday of Advent

December 8, 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](http://www.nativitycharleston.org)

e-mail: [Office@NativityCharleston.org](mailto:Office@NativityCharleston.org)

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deeper revelations of the truths of our faith. This can lead to the sixth gift, piety (seventh in Isaiah's text—"delight in the Lord"). Piety is a willingness to worship and love God, a desire to be close to God in prayer. Piety leads us to rely totally on God and humbly ask God's help.

The final gift, fear of the Lord, is more than just being afraid. It is the awe and wonder of recognizing how great God is, how much God loves us, and how much we want to stay close to God. And the desire to be close to God circles back to the wisdom with which we see God in creation.

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

*Justice shall flourish in his time, and fullness of peace for ever*

~ Today's Psalm PS 72

## 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 5<sup>th</sup> 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 2<sup>nd</sup> grade, must also have participated in a 1<sup>st</sup> grade PSR or Catholic school program. Children planning to receive the sacrament of Confirmation in the 8<sup>th</sup> grade must also have participated in a 7<sup>th</sup> 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](http://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](http://www.NativityCharleston.org).

Forms are available at the church entrances. However, for immediate access, just scan this image with your smart phone  
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For more information, please call the parish office at 843-795-3821.



### Please consider joining our parish family!

#### Peace and Hospitality

Glorify God by living in harmony with one another, welcoming each other as Christ welcomed you

... Today's Second Reading, Romans 15: 4-9

To advertise in our bulletin, please contact Pat Falco at [falcop@jspaluch.com](mailto:falcop@jspaluch.com) or at 910-200-8383.  
Please support our Advertisers whose funding makes this bulletin possible.

## Stewardship

*Giving of our time, talent and treasure is not about giving until it hurts. Rather, it is about giving until you feel good about what you have given.*

### Offerings November 18—24

Collections at Mass (Nov 23 - Aug 24)	\$ 10,725.00
Mail in Offerings (Nov 18 - Nov 22)	\$ 5,445.00
myEoffering (Nov 18 - Nov 22)	\$ 1,692.67
Budget (1 week)	<u>\$ 14,326.92</u>
Difference	\$ + 3,535.75
Registered Households	655
Envelopes Used (Nov 23 – Nov 24)	238
Active myEoffering Families	100
MyEoffering Family Donations (Nov 18 - Nov 22)	63

**Thank you for your Generosity.**

### Liturgical Ministers for Dec. 14-15

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

#### 5:30 pm Mass

<b>Greeters:</b>	Marina Churchill
	Timothy & Carolyn Smith
<b>Altar Servers:</b>	Jake Hoeft, Alexandra Lannie, Phillip Smith
<b>Eucharistic Ministers:</b>	Paula Ballo, Claire Bergstrom, Carolyn Smith, Mary Smith, Alice Veyera, John Warren, Maritza Zeisel
<b>Lector:</b> <b>Ushers:</b>	Elena Smith Emmett Alphonse, Patrick Kelley, Leroy Holseberg, Randall Lannie

#### 9:00 am Mass

<b>Greeters:</b>	Maureen Hinson, Horner Family
<b>Altar Servers:</b>	James Elliott Handal, Matthew Hart, Kevin Hart
<b>Eucharistic Ministers:</b>	Judy Daugomah, Mark Hollifield, Hal Perry, Pat Perry, Kristi Roberts, Daniel Suggs, Tamme Suggs,
<b>Lector:</b> <b>Ushers:</b>	Michael Bolchoz Jim Anderson, Richard Bragiel, Jerry English, Larry Fisk

#### 11:30 am Mass

<b>Greeters:</b>	Ann & Joe Ginn
<b>Altar Servers:</b>	Finn Duffy, Drue Gilreath, Gavin Gilreath
<b>Eucharistic Ministers:</b>	Karen Cellars, Lynn Curry, Sharon Doniphan, Jackie Doscher, Lewis Doscher, Kathy Hepner, Mariano La Via
<b>Lector:</b> <b>Ushers:</b>	Tara Hasenberg Chuck Everitt, Joe Ginn, Sheila Griner, Gilbert O'Brien



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**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](mailto:Office@NativityCharleston.org).

## Intentions

### Mass: This Week

Sat	7	5:30 pm	Shawn M. Rhoad+
Sun	8	9:00 am	Paul Aimar+
		11:30 am	Linda Nugent Graves+
Mon	9	4:15 pm	Veronica & John Eckert++
Tues	10	4:15 pm	Fred Herrmann+
Wed	11	4:15 pm	Monsignor Armand Rotondi+
Thurs	12	9:30 am	
Sat	14	5:30 pm	Daniel Parker+
Sun	15	9:00 am	Marjorie Gilmartin+
		11:30 am	Dollie Ulichnie+

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](https://www.facebook.com/NativitySchoolKnights) or call us at 843-795-3975.

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



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](http://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](http://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!**

## 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.



**SANTA TEAMS UP WITH THE KNIGHTS**

**THIS SUNDAY (DEC. 8)**

**FOR THE PANCAKE/SAUSAGE  
BREAKFAST WITH SANTA**

**AND**

**MRS. CLAUS TEAMS UP**

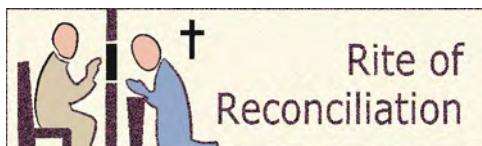
**WITH THE NATIVITY LADIES GUILD**

**FOR THE CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS 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. Come make some memorable and treasured Christmas ornaments.

**THIS IS A REALLY FUN FAMILY EVENT  
AND IT JUST WON'T BE THE SAME IF YOU'RE NOT THERE!**



Rite of  
Reconciliation

Will be offered on Sunday December 15 and 23 after the 9:00 and 11:30 am Masses. These times are in addition to the regular time at 4:15 pm on Saturday.

Please take this opportunity to accept God's forgiveness, grace and peace conferred by this sacrament.

## Baptism

**Andrew John Wiedemann,**

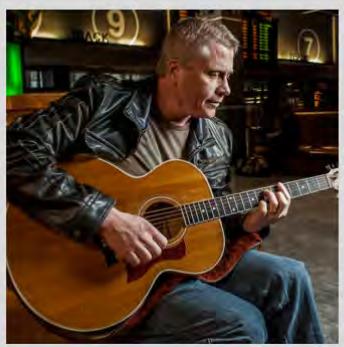
son of Ashleigh and Wiedemann,

was welcomed into our faith community  
on Saturday, November 23.



**Congratulations to this  
new member of our church.**

# 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.

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



## Dec. 8 Feast of the Immaculate Conception But what does this mean?

The Immaculate Conception means that **Mary**, whose conception was brought about the normal way, **was conceived without original sin** or its stain — that's what "immaculate" means: without stain. The essence of original sin consists in the deprivation of sanctifying grace, and its stain is a corrupt nature. Mary was preserved from these defects by God's grace; from the first instant of her existence she was in the state of sanctifying grace and was free from the corrupt nature original sin brings.

In the 15th-century Pope Sixtus IV established a feast of the Immaculate Conception to be celebrated on December 8. In 1854 Pope Pius IX issued a solemn decree declaring the Immaculate Conception an essential dogma for all the church.



John himself had a garment of camel's hair and a leather belt around his waist; and his food was locusts and wild honey. Mt 3:4

**LOVED THE WEDDING.  
INVITE ME TO THE MARRIAGE.  
.....LOVE, GOD**



A Worldwide Marriage Encounter weekend can help you do that! Marriage Encounter is 44 hours where married couples can get away from jobs, kids, chores, and phones, and focus just on each other. Attend one of the upcoming Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekends. Jan 31—Feb 2, 2020 in North Myrtle Beach, SC and Jul 17—19, 2020 in Beaufort, SC. Early sign up is recommended.

For more information visit <https://SCMarriageMatters.org>  
or contact us at  
[applications@scmarriagematters.org](mailto:applications@scmarriagematters.org) or 803-810-9602.

**Nativity Leisure Club  
At Smokey Oak**  
Monday, December 9 at 11:45 am

This is a seniors' fellowship group, members age 50+, who meet monthly for lunch. Parishioners interested in learning more about the Leisure Club or wanting to be contacted about upcoming events are invited to contact Mary Smith (845-795-3821) for more information.



Nativity Ladies Guild and Knights of Columbus Christmas party is Saturday, December 14 at 7:00 pm in the Nativity School Hall. All NLG and Council 6250 are invited to attend, accompanied by their 'Significant Other'.

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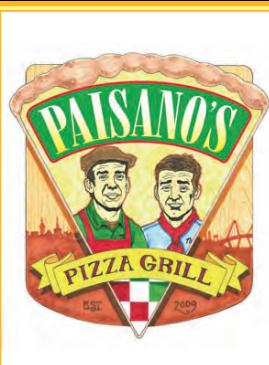
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