



## One Small Step

This story in John's Gospel is one of the three longest Gospel readings next to the Passion stories. They are always read on the Sundays of Lent when those preparing for baptism celebrate the scrutinies. They are meant not only for catechumens, but also for all of us who are growing in faith. In today's Gospel, we see the Samaritan woman coming to faith. The steps she takes are our steps, too.

Though she needs Jesus' help, he approaches her first. In asking her for a drink, he is really thirsting for her faith. He invites us to make the journey of faith long before we start by putting us into a faithful family, giving us a curious heart that seeks the truth, sending us a friend or spouse whose example draws us to the Lord.

The next step is acknowledging our need and our sinfulness. The woman does this when she asks for living water and faces her behavior in having five husbands. Admitting our need for God, and especially for God's forgiveness, opens us to God's saving grace.

Another step is drawing closer to God in prayer. That explains the odd question about worshiping on a mountain. Jesus tells the woman, and us, that the best worship is honest and from the Spirit. That is more important than when or where we pray. God hears the prayers of a small congregation in a rural chapel just as well those of a thousand people in a large cathedral.

When we begin to share our faith with others, we take the  
Continued next column -->

Catholic Diocese of Charleston



## Church of the Nativity

1061 Folly Road  
Charleston, South Carolina 29412

### Third Sunday in Lent March 15, 2020

#### 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

#### Stations of the Cross During Lent

Wednesday 2:00 pm Living Stations  
Friday 5:30 pm, dinner to follow

#### 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)

step of living our faith. We make a difference in someone else's life and they begin to experience Jesus presence. Like the woman who told her neighbors about Jesus, we find that the people we have touched begin to find the Lord on their own. Our catechumens are taking these steps now, thanks to those who have helped them experience Jesus' invitation to faith.

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

*If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts .*

~ Today's Psalm PS 95

## 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 104.

**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 x 104.

**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 104.

**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 104

**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.

**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.

**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.

## 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!**

### God's Love

While we were still sinners Christ died for us.

... Today's Second Reading: Romans 5

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.

## Offerings March 2—March 8

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 Mar. 21-22

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

#### 5:30 pm Mass

**Greeters:** Marina Churchill  
Timothy & Carolyn Smith  
**Altar Servers:** Alexandra Lannie, Angel Salceda,  
Daniel Salceda  
**Eucharistic Ministers:** Paula Ballo, Ernest Bergstrom,  
Dawn Clancy, Terry Harris,  
Carolyn Smith, Alice Veyera,  
John Warren  
**Lector:** Claire Bergstrom  
**Ushers:** Emmett Alphonse, Patrick Kelley,  
Leroy Holseberg, Randall Lannie

#### 9:00 am Mass

**Greeters:** Knight Family, Sandy O'Neale  
**Altar Servers:** Christina Dake, Matthew Hart,  
Kevin Hart  
**Eucharistic Ministers:** Judy Daugomah, Suzanne Decker,  
Gary Hart, Hal Perry, Pat Perry,  
Daniel Suggs, Tamme Suggs  
**Lector:** Michael Dennis  
**Ushers:** Jim Anderson, Richard Bragiel,  
Jerry English, Walter Machowski

#### 11:30 am Mass

**Greeters:** June La Via  
**Altar Servers:** Drue Gilreath, Gavin Gilreath  
**Eucharistic Ministers:** Brian Dougherty, Pam Everitt,  
Kathy Hepner, Mariano La Via,  
Christine Lewis, Liisa Machowski  
**Lector:** Molly Cawley  
**Ushers:** Chuck Everitt, Joe Ginn,  
Sheila Griner, Gilbert O'Brien

## Baptism

### Leo Hunter Reeves,

son of Jen and Crispin Reeves ,  
was welcomed into our faith community  
on Saturday, March 7th.



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

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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: Brenda Kennerty

**From previous months:** Allene Barans, Arnold Bennett,  
Clydie Bevis, Beverly Blevins, Britt Lamarr Boswell, Joe  
Caraviello, Herman Connor, John Cordray, Jake DuPree,  
Jo Ann Frederick, Ellen Pate Futrell, Ruby Inez Germroth,  
Malcolm Hale, Linda Hames, Angela Harbuta, Terry  
Harris, James Michael Huber, Ronnie & Myrtis Jenkins,  
Fred Kornahrens, Teresa LaTorre, Tommy Lavelle,  
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, Kyle Souza, Fran Taylor, Inge  
Thornley, 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.**

## Intentions

### Mass: This Week

Sat	14	5:30 pm	Michael LaTorre+
Sun	15	9:00 am	Bob Rosol+
		11:30 am	Bernadette Sidebotham+
Mon	16	4:15 pm	
Tues	17	4:15 pm	
Wed	18	4:15 pm	
Thurs	19	9:30 am	Richard Guarnieri+
Sat	21	5:30 pm	
Sun	22	9:00 am	
		11:30 am	Adrian Molinroli+

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.

## Ladies Guild March Monthly Meeting

Monday March 23rd in the Nativity Parish Office.  
Refreshments at 6:30 pm and Meeting at 7:00 pm.

## 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 2020-2021 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.**

## Spring Vendor Fair

Brought to you by the Nativity School Athletic Association

**Saturday, March 28**

**10am—3pm**

**Nativity School Hall**

**Vendors, Food Trucks, Bird Feeder Craft,**

**Cupcake War Competition for the Kids and More!**

**Interested vendors & crafters please email**

**[aknight@nativity-school.com](mailto:aknight@nativity-school.com)**

Once again, the **Nativity Ladies Guild**, will be collecting Grocery Gift Cards. These will be given to Neighborhood House who will use them to purchase Easter meals for our hungry neighbors. This is a great way to practice Lenten almsgiving.



Here is how this works:

- Visit a grocery store and purchase a gift card.
- Any amount is great.
- Walmart and Food Lion are preferred but all local food stores are acceptable.
- Write the value of the card on the front of the card.
- Put the envelope in the collection at Mass between now and April 5.

It is that simple but if you want more information, please contact Kristi Roberts at [NurseKDV@gmail.com](mailto:NurseKDV@gmail.com) or at 843-812-2226.

**Thank you for your generosity!**

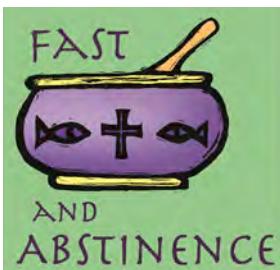


On Wednesday, March 18, doctors and researchers from MUSC's Department of Neuroscience will provide a **presentation about dementia and Alzheimer's**. This presentation will be at Indigo Hall (509 Standard Way, Charleston, SC 29412)

**All are invited to attend.**

# LENT: THE TIME FOR PRAYER, FASTING AND ALMSGIVING

## Lenten Penitential Requirements:



**Fasting** allows a person to eat one full meal. Two smaller meals may also be taken, not to equal one full meal. Fasting is obligatory for all who have completed their 18th year and have not yet reached their 60th year.

**Abstinence** (from meat) is observed on all the Fridays of Lent in addition to Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. It is obligatory for all who have reached their 14th year.

## The Exceptions:

Those that are excused from fast and abstinence include the physically or mentally ill, individuals suffering from chronic illness such as diabetes. Also excluded are pregnant or nursing women. In all cases, common sense should prevail, and ill persons should not further jeopardize their health by fasting.

Information from the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops

**All Fridays in Lent  
are days of abstinence.**

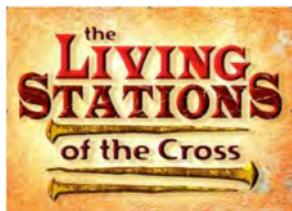
## Reconciliation Service

will be at Nativity Church **Thursday, March 26 at 6:30 pm**. There will be a communal prayer service followed by the opportunity for individuals to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation. 5 priests will be available.



Catholics are required to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation at least once per year. All are encouraged to take advantage of the Sacrament on a regular basis. This service provides Catholics the opportunity to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation to prepare themselves to receive Christ at Easter.

**All are encouraged to attend.**



**Presented by**

**the Students of Nativity School.**

**2:00 pm Wednesday Mar. 4 through Apr. 1**

**Nativity School Students will also provide Living Stations on Friday, April 3 at 5:30 pm.**

**All are invited to this inspiring devotion.**

## Friday Evening Stations

**5:30 pm through Apr 3.**



The stations are presented by the Nativity Ministries.

Please join us for the stations and stay for dinner in the Nativity School Hall.

The Friday evening menus:

March 20: Lenten Supper – Lector Ministry

March 27: Salad Bar – RCIA Ministry

April 3: Fish Fry – Knights of Columbus

Except for the Fish Fry, all dinners are free. However, your donations will be greatly appreciated.

**All are invited!**

## PRAYER VIGIL

**Thurs, Mar. 19 and Fri, Mar. 20**

**From 6:00 am to 10:00 pm**

All members of the Nativity community are invited to join us at the Planned Parenthood—Charleston Health Center (1312 Ashley River Road Hwy. 61) as we pray for all those who are wounded by their participation in abortion.

- ◆ K of C Council 6265: Both days from 6:00 am to 10:00 am and from 6:00 pm to 10:00 pm
- ◆ Nativity Ladies: Both days from 10:00 am to 6:00 pm.

**Women:** for more information or to sign up, please contact Christine Lewis at lewischristined@att.net or 843-813-4748.

**Men:** For more information or to sign up, please contact Malcolm Brennan at mbprolife@gmail.com or at 843-906-5511

**Thank you for your care and concern for the unborn!**



## Thoughts for Lent

In today's first reading, the story of the Israelites' grumbling and of God's response, grapples with the difficulties of the life of faith. Those who place their lives in the hands of God, as did the Israelites by following Moses into the desert, may soon face troubling and fearful moments. Sometimes we lose what we think we need, or somehow find it difficult to get what we really need. In our busy lives, it is easy to gradually forget God's presence and action in our lives.

Moses' prayer to God and God's response of providing water resolve the situation. Moses cried out to the Lord and he did not know how God might respond. Honestly expressing our needs in prayer is essential to the life of faith. Waiting in openness to God's response is equally important.



## Get on board!... Volunteers Needed!

We are evaluating our ability to offer Vacation Bible School Week here at Nativity on the week of June 22-26 from 9:00 am to 12:00 noon. This is such a wonderful way for us to proclaim the Gospel, the basic truth of our faith:

*God loves us, died for us and rose to life to give us the hope of eternal life with him forever in heaven!  
God wants to walk this journey of life with us.*

This is a message that our children need to hear! And often not only our children, but also us adults and teen volunteers! VBS requires a lot of volunteers to run smoothly. If you are able to commit to helping with VBS this year, please contact Ryckie at ryckiewatkins1329@comcast.net or at 843-795-4194 or contact Mary Smith at dre@nativitycharleston.org to find out more and volunteer!

*Your ticket is waiting!*

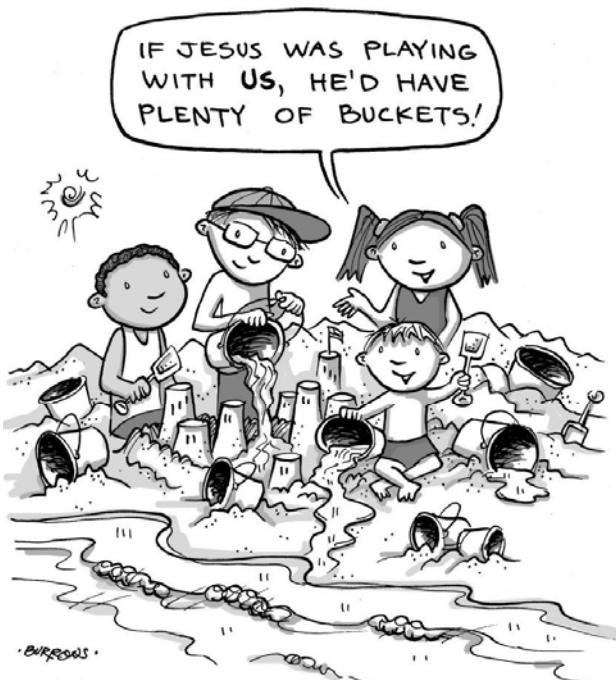


February 26 - April 5

## 40 DAYS FOR LIFE

### HELP SAVE LIVES IN CHARLESTON!

Try to make time this Lent to pray for all those affected by abortion. Prayer vigils are conducted daily from 6:00 am to 10:00 pm at Planned Parenthood (1312 Ashley River Road Hwy. 61).



The woman said to him,

"Sir, you have nothing to draw with and the well is deep; where then do you get that living water?" Jn 4:11



### Anointing of the Sick

**Sunday, March 22  
at 1:00 pm**

The Anointing of the Sick is a sacrament received by Catholics who are planning to have serious surgery, "in danger of death" or "advanced in years". "Advanced in years" is a judgment call. Examples of those "in danger of death" include those undergoing treatment for cancer or other life-threatening diseases. Also those planning surgery in which the patient is given general anesthesia can receive this sacrament.

Through the anointing and the prayer of the priest, the whole Church commends those who are sick to Christ. The anointed receive the Holy Spirit's gifts of strength, faith, peace, and courage. Their suffering is united with that of Christ.

**After the sacrament, the Nativity Ladies Guild will provide refreshments in the School Hall for the anointed and their families.**



**Easter Egg Hunt:** The Ladies Guild is planning an Easter Egg Hunt to be held at 10:00 am Sunday, April 5th in the Nativity School Playground. We need your help to plan this event. To assist, please contact April Ulichnie at [aprilu33@gmail.com](mailto:aprilu33@gmail.com).

**Help us if you are able.**



**MARCH OFFICERS MEETING:** Thursday, March 19 at 7:30 pm at Planned Parenthood (1312 Ashley River Hwy. 61).

**YOU DO NOT NEED TO BE KNIGHT TO PRAY TO END ABORTION.  
ALL MEN OF NATIVITY ARE INVITED TO COME AND PRAY WITH US.**

**MARCH FIFTH SUNDAY ROSARY:** Sunday, March 29 at 10:00 at Nativity.

**ALL ARE INVITED TO JOIN US IN OUR PRAYER FOR THE DOMESTIC CHURCH.**

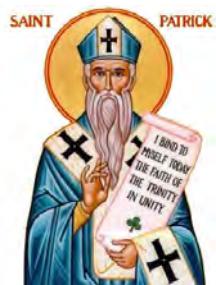
**LENTEN FISH FRY:** Friday, April 4 at 6:00 pm. Dine in or carry out.  
See future bulletins for menu and ticket price.

**MARK YOUR CALENDAR AND PLAN TO BRING ALL YOUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS!**

### **ST. PATRICK'S DAY, MARCH 17**

**BORN CIRCA 385 ...DIED CIRCA 461**

In Christian parlance, a saint's "birthday" is not the day of his or her earthly birth, but the day of death. If a person is honored as a saint, it is understood that the day of death is the day of new birth into heaven. After thirty years as bishop in Ireland, Patrick died on March 17, in AD 461. In the early 16th century his feast took on a more civic nature in Ireland, becoming a nationwide celebration. While the "wearin' o' the green" is an honored tradition for people of Irish descent (and those who wish they were on St. Pat's day), the color itself was not associated with St. Patrick until much later. St. Patrick's blue is still an official color in Ireland, and is seen on the coat of arms and the presidential standard of the country.



**THE CHARLESTON CELEBRATION OF ST. PATRICK DAY IS TUESDAY MARCH 17TH.**

Festivities begin with Mass at 8:00 am at St. Patrick's Church, (134 St. Philip Street). Bishop Guglielmino presiding. The Parade begins at 10:00 am at King and Radcliffe Streets, proceeding down King Street and ending at the Cathedral of St. John the Baptist on Broad Street.

**ALL ARE WELCOME!  
"HAPPY ST. PAT'S DAY!" (WHETHER YOU'RE IRISH OR NOT.)**

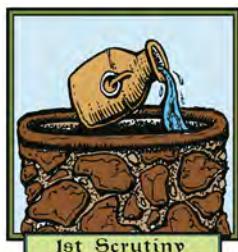
#### **Nativity's Nursery Ministry Needs your Help.**

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 [admin@nativitycharleston.org](mailto:admin@nativitycharleston.org).

Note: 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.



#### **Scrutiny Rites of Lent**



are communal prayers celebrated to strengthen the Elect to overcome the power of sin in their lives and to help them to grow in virtue. To scrutinize something means to examine it closely. Since all of us are called to continual conversion throughout our lives, **we join with the Elect in scrutinizing ourselves**

**and praying to God for the grace to overcome the power of sin** that still has a hold on us, and to be strengthened in the virtues.

#### **James Island Outreach Food Collection is Next Weekend (Mar 21—22).**



**JAMES ISLAND  
OUTREACH**

We are now a Wellness Client Choice Pantry. Low-salt/low-sugar items are preferred but all **non-perishable and in date** food is welcome.

Please place items in the containers at the Nativity Church entrances before 1:30 pm on Sunday.

**Members of Nativity donated 542 pounds of food in January, 2020 and a total of 3,520 pounds during 2019.**

**Thank You for your generosity to our hungry neighbors!**

#### **Rachel's Vineyard**

Upcoming Weekend Retreats

April 17-19, 2020 in Rock Hill (English)  
November 6-8, 2020 in Charleston (English)

For more information on retreats, please contact Christy at 803-554-6088

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(Across From True Value Hardware)

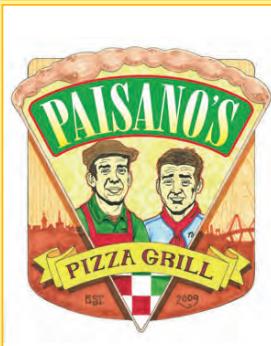
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