

Look, Up in the Sky!

Around holidays, people tend to look fondly back on past celebrations and romanticize old relationships. For some, remembering the past is the best part of their holiday. That is the image we get from the first reading as the apostles look up to heaven after the Ascension. They think it is Jesus' last Resurrection appearance and that they will never see him again. Maybe they were still amazed at seeing him ascend that way. Or maybe they were remembering all the things he said and did with them.

We too sometimes look at the great feasts of Christmas and Easter in that way. We may dwell on the beauty of the decorations, on the innocence of the baby Jesus, on the horror of his passion and death, or on the wonder of his resurrection. Then when the holy day is over, we go back to our normal routine. Perhaps we need an angel to chide us for "looking at the sky."

The angels were trying to tell the apostles two things. One was that Jesus would return as he left--in glory. This was not a time to say goodbye but a time of hope; the Lord who had changed their lives so radically would change the world next. While they certainly should remember Jesus and all he taught them, they should also expect to see him again. Once they received the Holy Spirit, they would see how Jesus was present in the church, the mystical Body of Christ.

The second thing the angels were telling them was to
Continued next column -->

Catholic Diocese of Charleston



Church of the Nativity

1061 Folly Road
Charleston, South Carolina 29412

The Ascension of the Lord

May 24, 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. through Fri.	11:30 am

**Social distancing guidelines must be observed
at all times and it is advised to
make reservations for Mass attendance.**

**All other services in the church
are cancelled until further notice.**

Church is open Daily for Private Prayer and Devotion.

Weekdays and Saturday: 12:00 noon to 5:00 pm

For Sacrament of Reconciliation

By appointment only.

Parish Office Hours

**The parish office remains open but
many of the staff are working remotely.
Please call before you visit to make sure
someone is available to assist you.**

begin following Jesus' command to spread the good news to all nations. They would soon realize that Jesus was alive in them, not just as a fond memory, but with the power of his Spirit. With this power they would do mighty deeds in Jesus' name and be his witnesses to the world.

Because of what the apostles accomplished, we are now Jesus' witnesses to the world. We celebrate his death and resurrection not as a fond memory, but to encourage each other to spread the Good News. We too have the hope of seeing Jesus come in glory, even as we see him now with the eyes of faith.

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

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 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 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 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.

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.

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!

Fanfare

God mounts his throne to shouts of joy:
A blare of trumpets for the Lord.

...Today's Psalm: PS 47

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

Offerings May 11 — May 17

Collections at Mass (May 16—May 17)	\$ 9,765.00
Mail in Offerings (May 11—May 15)	\$ 15,502.00
myEoffering (May 11—May 15)	\$ 5,928.46
Budget (1 week)	\$ 14,326.92
Difference	\$+ 16,868.54
Registered Households	668
Envelopes Used (May 16—May 17)	
Active myEoffering Families	154
MyEoffering Family Donations (May 11—May 15)	

Total Easter Offerings (to date): \$12,365.08

Total Offerings for Catholic Charities: \$525.00

If you are unable to attend Mass,
Please consider making your regular offerings by
mail or online (myEoffering).

Thank you for your Generosity.

Liturgical Ministers

Regularly scheduled Masses will resume on Monday, May 11. The ministry lists are being revised to comply with the new Mass attendance guidelines.

The ministry schedules will be emailed to the ministers and posted in the bulletin when these changes have been integrated.

We are sorry for the inconvenience and appreciate your understanding during this period of change.

Intentions

Mass: This Week

Sat	23	5:30 pm	
Sun	24	9:00 am	Patrick Gibbons+
		11:30 am	All veterans, living and deceased
Mon	25	11:30 am	
Tues	26	11:30 am	
Wed	27	11:30 am	
Thurs	28	11:30 am	
Fri	29	11:30 am	
Sat	30	5:30 pm	RCIA Candidates
Sun	31	9:00 am	
		11:30 am	

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.**



Now available online at
www.nativitycharleston.org

For immediate access, just scan this QR 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: Chet Nowak

From previous months: Allene Barans, 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, Brenda Kennerty, 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.**

Help Us to Keep You Informed

To sign up for our regular Email Newsletters please visit
<https://mailchi.mp/4e9c1476cd5b/nativitynews>

Or scan this QR code with your smart phone app.



To sign up to receive a weekly email copy of the
Nativity bulletin, please visit

[https://ebulletins.jspaluch.com/#/
parish-bulletin/17Js5BrYrd?pid=](https://ebulletins.jspaluch.com/#/parish-bulletin/17Js5BrYrd?pid=)

Or scan this QR code with your smart phone app.





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

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 or call us at 843-795-3975.

Nativity School remains closed through the end of the school year.

Please check with the school teachers and staff regarding details and schedules for class assignments and further details regarding the close out of the school year.
You can also keep up with school activities by visiting the Facebook page at
<https://www.facebook.com/NativitySchoolKnights/>



Vacation Bible School — Cancelled

The plan was to offer Vacation Bible School Week at Nativity during the week of June 22 through June 26. Due to current Covid-19 distancing guidelines, we are unable to offer this program as initially planned. If circumstances change, we will consider options to offer this program at a later date. We apologize for the inconvenience this may cause you.

Thank you for your understanding and continued support!

Memorial Day is observed Monday, May 25



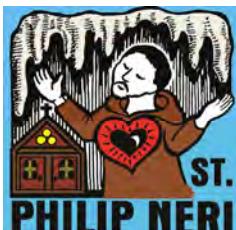
This day is far more significant than simply the beginning of the summer vacation season!

It is a day for remembering and honoring military personnel who died in the service of their country, particularly those who died in battle or as a result of wounds sustained in battle.

Memorial Day was originally called Decoration Day and was established on May 5, 1868. The purpose was to remember the sacrifice of veterans killed in action during the Civil War and to decorate their graves with flowers. The first large observance was held that year at Arlington National Cemetery. By the end of the 19th century, Memorial Day observances were being held on May 30 throughout the nation.

After World War I, the day was expanded to honor those who have died in all American wars. In 1971, Memorial Day was declared a national holiday, that is celebrated on the last Monday in May.

A Time To Honor America's Heroes



St Philip Neri (born 1515, died 1595) Feast is May 26

In a shop near the Vatican, a group of Americans laughed as the shopkeeper showed off his fluent English and latest souvenir, a key ring whose papal portrait, when pressed, activated a recorded blessing. Through the shop window, two clerics scowled disapproval. The shopkeeper grunted, "They're a very somber order who've left the Church. I recognize them." "By their long robes?" an American asked. "Many in Rome wear robes," replied the shopkeeper. "It's their long faces!"

When Philip Neri arrived in sixteenth-century Rome, there was reason to be somber. Swiss Guards had been massacred on Saint Peter's steps defending the pope. Parts of Europe were abandoning the Church. But Philip resolved to be an "apostle of joy," drawing especially the young to Christ (and frequent confession and Communion) by his sincere interest in their problems, his prayerful example, and gentle humor. His "Oratory," which is a movement as a place, provided recreation and devotion in a joyful atmosphere of companionship, service, and liturgy. Philip Neri challenges each of us to begin improving Church and world by changing ourselves with unfailing joy.

...Peter Scagnelli, Copyright (c) J. S. Paluch Co., Inc.



Church of the Nativity

1061 Folly Road
Charleston, SC 29412

843-795-3821
www.nativitycharleston.org

May 4, 2020

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

I'm happy to share with you some good news. Beginning Monday, May 11, Bishop Guglielmone will allow limited celebrations of public Masses. The limitations are designed to protect your health. The main limitation will be the number of people who can attend each Mass. Our church has a seating capacity of 734. The Bishop has limited us to 25% of seating capacity. However, out of an abundance of caution, we will limit the number of people at each weekday Mass to 50, and the number at each weekend Mass to 125. That will allow plenty of room for social-distancing.

The Bishop's dispensation from attending Sunday Mass remains in effect during this transition period. Those with underlying health conditions and the elderly should consider not coming to Mass.

The sick and vulnerable should definitely not come to Mass. If you would feel more comfortable with a smaller number of people, then you may wish to attend a weekday Mass instead and use that as your "Communion day". Below is our **interim Mass schedule:**

Day	Time	Maximum number
Monday	11:30 am	50
Tuesday	11:30 am	50
Wednesday	11:30 am	50
Thursday	11:30 am	50
Friday	11:30 am	50
Saturday	5:30 pm	125
Sunday	9 am and 11:30 am	125 at each Mass

Once we reach our maximum number, then no one else can come to that Mass. We will send you a link so you can reserve places for you and your family at the weekend Masses. If we see the need, we will add additional weekend Masses. Those who are not signed up will only be allowed if spaces remain. If you cannot access the signup list via "SignUpGenius", please call the church office and leave a message with Mass time and number of attendees. We will register you and only call you back if spaces are full for requested Mass time.

Here is the link to Reserve your space at Mass.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040a4caaad29a2f58-confirm>

Don't like to type that many characters? Try this shorter link

<https://bit.ly/2YR2mr6> (note that short links like this are case sensitive)

Or even easier, just scan the QR code at right with your smart phone app. —>>>



**Pick the option that works best for you.
Just remember to sign up early and often!**

.....Continued next page

If you would like to schedule a Mass intention, then please put your Mass intention envelope in the basket at the back of the church, or through the mail slot in the parish office door, or email me at Pastor@NativityCharleston.org. The parish office will be manned at irregular times during this transition period so the staff can work from home as much as possible.

Other Safety Guidelines at Mass

- ⇒ You may wish to wear a protective mask.
- ⇒ Please use the restroom only when absolutely necessary.
- ⇒ Stay at least six feet away from non-family members at all times.
- ⇒ Please don't use the hymnals. We will provide disposable worship aids.
- ⇒ There will be no sign of peace.
- ⇒ Communion will only be distributed in the hand.
- ⇒ There will be no social events, such as coffee and doughnuts, before or after Mass.
- ⇒ We will ensure proper cleaning of frequently touched surfaces after each Mass.
- ⇒ There will be no Children's Liturgy, Nursery or Quiet Room available during this time.
- ⇒ Please take crying children outside if needed.

Other Sacraments

- ⇒ RCIA members will be welcomed into full communion with the Church on May 30, the vigil of Pentecost, at the 5:30 pm Mass.
- ⇒ Weddings and funerals may be celebrated with the limitations stated above.
- ⇒ We will inform you of the dates for First Communion and Confirmation once they are determined.
- ⇒ Confessions on Saturdays from 4:15 – 5 pm are tentatively scheduled to resume on June 6.
- ⇒ For Baptisms, contact Mary Smith at DRE@NativityCharleston.org.

Offertory

I want to sincerely thank all of you who have continued to generously support our parish during this quarantine period. You have used electronic giving, mailing in your collection envelopes, or else putting your envelopes through the mail slot in the office door. As you know, not even a pandemic can stop the bills from coming in. In the interests of your health, we will not be taking up a collection during the weekend Masses. However, there will be a basket in the back of the church by the restrooms where you can place your donation.

Final thoughts

The events surrounding this virus have been hard on all of us. Graduations and other family events have been cancelled. People have suffered financially and in terms of their health. Many people are lonely because they can't touch loved ones and embrace them. Also, I know that many of you have missed receiving the Eucharist and being with our parish community. By the Grace of God, it appears that this difficult time is almost over. Still, we need to keep praying. Please know that all of you are remembered in my prayers every day.

Yours in Christ,

Rev. S. Thomas Kingsley
Pastor



Recognizing our Parish Graduates!

We know that recent events have caused the cancellation or postponement of many high school and college graduation ceremonies. We are planning to recognize our parish graduates and spread the joy. If you want your child to be included in this recognition, please send your graduate's name and photo, and name of school from which they are graduating. Additionally, you may also include any honors and/or scholarships they received at graduation. If they are continuing their education you may also include the name of school they plan to attend. The additional information will be published based on space availability. By providing this information you are consenting to the information and photo being placed in the bulletin and social media. **Please send your information by June 3rd to Vicki Vazquez at Admin@NativityCharleston.org.**

The bishop extended a dispensation to those who remain uneasy about attending public worship.

....."Although we will do all we can to provide a safe environment, the risk of contracting COVID-19 will still exist. Therefore, I am still granting dispensation to those who are uncomfortable attending weekend Mass and those who are high risk until further notice".....

Here are some additional devotional resources to consider.

This list is certainly not an 'all inclusive' but offers some great options.

Adoration

There are many perpetual adoration chapels around the world who livestream for devotion. Pick a chapel and spend some quiet time with Jesus.

<https://virtualadoration.home.blog/>

Eternal Word Television Network

Mass is broadcast daily on its television network. Check the schedule for your local times.

<https://www.ewtn.com/tv/schedule>

Daily Mass at EWTN

<https://www.ewtn.com/catholicism/daily-readings>

Diocese of Charleston

Live Streamed Liturgies and other devotional and informational resources.

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCR_eSxFBVn0pBj2Y0aOapQ/videos

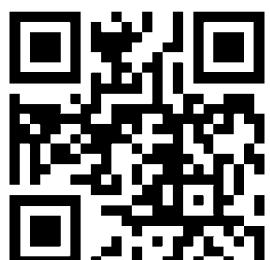
Can not watch at the scheduled time? No Problem! You see, the internet is a huge video recorder and most of the videos are available on demand after the initial presentation. So time shift at will! This remains a period of trial and change. Please try to use some new tools to strengthen and deepen your personal relationship with Our God. You will be glad you did!



Nativity Church (along with the other Catholic Churches in the Diocese of Charleston) opened again for communal Mass on May 11. Our concern for the well being of each other required some adjustments to our worship and socialization practices. Some of these are mentioned in other announcements in this bulletin. It is a blessing to worship our God once again in our church.



Earlier last week, Channel 5 did a news story about re-opening Charleston Catholic Churches. They interviewed Father Kingsley and made videos at the Church of the Nativity. You can see this video by scanning the QR code at the right with your smart phone app. -->



Protecting **Seniors**
Nationwide



Medical Alert System

\$29.95/Mo. billed quarterly

- One Free Month
- No Long-Term Contract
- Price Guarantee
- Easy Self Installation



Call Today! Toll Free 1.877.801.8608

Dr. Anthony C. Ross
Island Chiropractic Centre
Spinal Decompression • Laser Therapy
Chiropractic Sports Physician
3546 Maybank Hwy. • Johns Island
843-559-9111
Serving the Sea Islands Since 1987



Consider Remembering Your Parish in Your Will.
For further information, please call the Parish Office.

J HENRY STUHR INC.
FUNERAL CHAPELS & CREMATORIUM
232 Calhoun Street
Charleston
South Carolina
Downtown
843-723-2524



Dale Probst, D.M.D.
www.cDale2Smile.com
1708 Central Park Rd.
Charleston, SC 29412
843-795-3332

Mary Ann Meyers
Charleston Realty Inc.
Office 795-6221
Cell 708-1965
Service & Sales
Since 1979
maryannmeyers@aol.com

A.C. Heating &
Air Conditioning Service
1943 Belgrade Av. Suite 1
Charleston, S.C. 29407

843-556-7641

Fax 843-556-2091

Diana Thompson
Sales & Service



Family Owned Business, Since 2009
Martha is a Person of the Year 2017
Awarded by South Carolina SBA
Contact us: 768-2299 or 373-0637
Website: IslandOakMedicalSpa.com
Employment Opportunity, please contact Martha@MHRC.US

E.T. 1961
PEARL EOVISION™
Dr. Michele Donovan - Optometric Physician
Gene Gebhard - Licensed Optician
Local Parishioners
North Charleston 824-2878 Mt. Pleasant 849-0822 West Ashley 763-0554

catholicmatch®
South Carolina
 CatholicMatch.com/mySC

Excellence in Eyecare / Eye Wear Since 1991

Angel Oak Eye Center
Dr. Paul Bohac & Assoc.
Medical Eyecare
Contacts • Glasses
Most Insurance Accepted

843-559-5333
Charleston Diocese Parishioner
2875 Maybank Hwy. Johns Island, SC 29455
(Across From True Value Hardware)

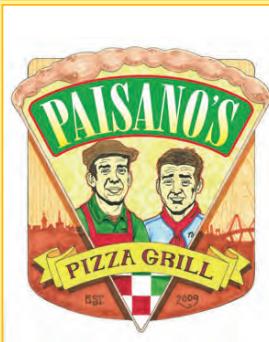
**FRED
HOLLAND
REALTY**

Center Street • Folly Beach

Sales • Management • Appraisals

LaJuan Kennedy

50 Center Street • P.O. Box 270, Folly Beach, SC 29439
Office: 843.588.2325 • Cell: 843.670.3521 • Home: 843.588.9225
Fax: 843.588.2562 • info@fredhollandrealty.com
www.fredhollandrealty.com



ONE PARISH

Grow in your faith,
find a Mass, and
connect with your
Catholic Community
with OneParish!



Download Our Free App or Visit
MY.ONEPARISH.COM

**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.

Compassionate, faith centered care.
Full body or cremation burial,
monuments and markers.

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

Come Home to

24/7 On-site staff
Our resident-centered focus on assisted living and memory care means each person receives individualized care in addition to luxury amenities.
509 Standard Way • Charleston, SC 29412
(843) 406-4747

INDIGO HALL
ASSISTED LIVING & MEMORY CARE

**24 HOUR
EMERGENCY SERVICE**

**INDUSTRIAL • COMMERCIAL
RESIDENTIAL**

**FREE ESTIMATES
SERVICE ALL
MAKES & MODELS**

"Serving Charleston Since 1981"

**2470 Faber Road
www.morelliair.com**

MORELLI
THE PROBLEM SOLVERS

**HEATING & AIR
CONDITIONING, INC.**

554-8600

COUNTY LIC. M-96 • STATE LIC. 1032

"ASK ABOUT OUR PARISHIONER DISCOUNT"

www.jspaluch.com

644800 Nativity Church

For Ads: J.S. Paluch Co., Inc. 1-800-432-3240