

See the Holy Spirit

In the readings on Pentecost Sunday, the Spirit is described as a driving wind and tongues of fire. Knowing that the Holy Spirit is a Person of the Trinity, we seem to be able to picture the Spirit only in terms of what the Spirit does. In our second reading, Paul tries to explain just that. Though the English translation sounds vague, let's jump in.

First, Paul says that we cannot know Jesus as Lord without the Spirit. The Spirit is the way Jesus is present today, so anyone who truly believes in Jesus is guided by the Spirit. The Spirit never contradicts Jesus, so anyone claiming to have new knowledge that is opposed to what Jesus taught is not using the Spirit. So, for example, if someone starts a cult that teaches that we no longer need to love our enemies, we know that the Spirit is not in them.

Second, Paul acknowledges that the Spirit works in many ways. As examples, he mentions there are many different gifts and services in the church. He emphasizes that all these differences come from one and the same God. Even today we see this happening; people serve the Church in different ways and with different abilities. People even have different ways of looking at things. Some have more patience than others, some are better listeners, and some are great organizers. The point is that all these differences come from the same source, God.

When we think of the strength of the Church, we usually
Continued next column —>

Catholic Diocese of Charleston



Church of the Nativity

1061 Folly Road
Charleston, South Carolina 29412

Pentecost Sunday May 31, 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

Sacrament of Reconciliation

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

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.**

think of its unity, i.e., one baptism, one faith, one Lord. But we also draw strength from the diversity of gifts and services that people offer to God. No one person can do all it takes to bring the world to Christ. Even Jesus shared his work of spreading the gospel with his disciples. If sin brought a multitude of problems to the world, then the Spirit brings a multitude of gifts to help us through these problems. As Paul says, this diversity of gifts is all part of one Body of Christ. So look at the gifts of those around you, and you may be able to see the Holy Spirit more clearly.

...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!

Revitalization

Lord, send out your Spirit,
and renew the face of the earth.

...Today's Psalm: PS 104

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 18 — May 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.

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

Thank you for your Generosity.

Please use your envelopes.

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

Liturgical Ministers

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 | 30 | 5:30 pm | RCIA Candidates |
| Sun | 31 | 9:00 am | |
| | | 11:30 am | |
| Mon | 1 | 11:30 am | |
| Tues | 2 | 11:30 am | |
| Wed | 3 | 11:30 am | |
| Thurs | 4 | 11:30 am | |
| Fri | 5 | 11:30 am | |
| Sat | 6 | 5:30 pm | |
| Sun | 7 | 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.



Anointing of the Sick

Priests are not being allowed into the hospitals, nursing homes and assisted living facilities at this time.

If you are having a procedure and want to be anointed beforehand, please contact Fr. Kingsley to schedule a time to be anointed at the church office.

Please Plan Ahead!

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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: 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

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To sign up for our regular Email Newsletters please visit

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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=>

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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 is closed until August.
Until then, Stay Well and God Bless You!**

Saturday afternoon confessions from 4:15 – 5:00 pm will resume June 6

Bishop Guglielmone has established the following guidelines for going to confession:

- ⇒ Please exam your conscience and know your sins before you go to confession. During these extraordinary times, there will only be a few minutes to have your confession heard. So please be brief.
- ⇒ You may wear a mask if you wish.
- ⇒ Ensure six feet of separation between yourself, other people waiting in line, and the priest. If you choose to go behind the screen, the priest will sit six feet away from the screen.
- ⇒ Disinfecting wipes will be available in the confessional. On your way out, please take a wipe and wipe any surface you may have touched, such as the kneeler, a chair, and the door knob.
- ⇒ It is recommended that you wash your hands after going to confession.



Saint Charles Lwanga and His Companions

(martyred in Uganda 1886-87)

The feast of Charles and his martyred companions is celebrated on June 3

"Master of Pages," reputedly the handsomest man in all Uganda, Charles Lwanga, a lay catechist, courageously led about forty teenaged boys, Catholics and Anglicans, on a forty-mile forced march to martyrdom for their common Christian faith. Teaching each other the hymns of their different churches, they strengthened one another for the ordeal ahead. King Mwanga, himself barely twenty, had ordered them executed for being "those who pray."

These royal pages were the king's male harem, who, now Christians, refused what pious accounts demurely describe as his "unreasonable demands." Some were clubbed to death, most burned alive. The youngest was thirteen-year old Saint Kizito, whom Charles had often shielded from the King's lust. The most tragic was Saint Mbaga, whose own father was his executioner!

In 1964, Paul VI canonized the young Catholics and praised their Anglican companions.

The pope praised the heroism of early Christianity's African martyrs, which we modern Christians of far less faith never expected to see repeated. Forty years after the pope's words, what does our faith cost us? Heroism aside, how generous is our response?

...Peter Scagnelli, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

TEXT AND EMAIL SCAMS

Some members of Nativity Parish continue to receive **SCAM email and text messages**, ostensibly from Fr. Kingsley. And/or other members of our staff.

- These emails are not from any other member of the Nativity Staff.
- Our Parish email accounts has not been 'hacked'.
- There is no action we can take to prevent these types of scams.

Beware! You are receiving these messages from someone unknown to us who wants to steal from you.

What to do? Delete the original message!

Do not click 'reply'. To do so will connect you directly to the thief. If you are uncertain about messages you receive that appear to be from Father Kingsley or members of the Nativity staff, please contact the Nativity parish office for clarification. (Office@NativityCharleston.org or 843-795-3821).



For by one Spirit we were all baptized into one body,
whether Jews or Greeks, whether slaves or free,
and we were all made to drink of one Spirit. 1 Cor 12:13



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.**

CHILD PROTECTION SERVICES ASKS YOU TO



PLEASE REPORT!

The Catholic Church is committed to respect for the dignity of each human person. Acts of sexual exploitation or abuse, particularly against children or the vulnerable, will not be tolerated by the Diocese of Charleston.

If you have been abused by a member of the clergy or any other representative of the church, we encourage you to call the **Victim Assistance Coordinator, Louisa Storen, at 800-921-8122**.

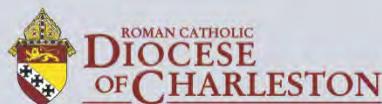
Additionally, if you are reporting abuse by a sitting bishop, you can make a report online at reportbishopabuse.org or call 800-276-1562 after contacting law enforcement.

If you suspect abuse has occurred within a family:

- **Contact the Department of Social Services within the county the abuse took place.**
- **Contact the diocese at 843-261-0430 to report the status.**

If you suspect an abuse has occurred that involved diocesan personnel (priests, deacons, teachers, employees or volunteers):

- **Contact the local police department immediately.**
- **Call the Victim Assistance Coordinator at 843-856-0748 or 800-921-8122.**





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