

Parables, Anyone?

When Jesus answers the apostles' question about why he speaks in parables, it may seem as if he is using them to confuse people. We know he is trying to spread the good news of God's kingdom. So he talks to the crowds in parables, easily understood stories that usually have a moral or that end with a question for the hearers. He uses these stories to teach the crowd.

Jesus threw out parables like a farmer sowing seeds. Some of them fell on the ears of those who would be disciples. But most fell on the ears of people not ready to understand. So how do we receive his word? Do we hear it without understanding, letting it go in one ear and out the other? Do we hear it joyfully, but then forget it when troubles or difficulties come along? Do we listen to the word but ignore it in the face of some later temptation?

If we want the word to grow strong in us, we can take steps to help ourselves understand it. We can come to church early and spend a few minutes with the readings before Mass. After Mass we can talk about the readings or the homily with our family over breakfast. We can pick out one practical point to practice that week.

Keeping the word in difficult times is not easy. The cross teaches us to expect troubles, but we have to endure them to really learn that we can go through suffering to a new life.

To be strong enough to resist temptations, we have to decide each day that we want to follow Jesus' word. We can pray for that strength and ask God to help us

Continued next column —>>

Catholic Diocese of Charleston



Church of the Nativity

1061 Folly Road
Charleston, South Carolina 29412

**Fifteenth Sunday
in Ordinary Time**
July 12, 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

Mon. through Fri.	11:30 am
Saturday Vigil	5:30 pm
Sunday	9:00 am and 11:30 am

Make reservations for Weekend Mass attendance.

**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

**Face Mask and Social Distancing guidelines
must be observed at all times.**

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.**

remember that word when temptations come. And we can decide to stay away from the places, people, or situations that so tempt us.

God's word can be likened to a ball game. We can sit back and watch, not really involved or caring who wins. Or we can jump in and participate and make the game ours. Let us ask God how we can take the word and run with it.

...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!

Where is God?

In everything,
be it a thing sensed or a thing known,
God is hidden within

...St. Bonaventure whose feast is Wednesday, July 15

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

Offerings June 22 — June 28

Collections at Mass (Jun 27—Jun 28)	\$ 4,697.00
Mail in Offerings (Jun 22—Jun 26)	\$ 3,475.00
myEoffering (Jun 22—Jun 26)	\$ 3,175.78
Budget (1 weeks)	\$ 14,326.92
Difference	\$ - 2,979.14
Registered Households	668
Envelopes Used (Jun 27—Jun 28)	
Active myEoffering Families	154
MyEoffering Family Donations (Jun 22—Jun 26)	

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 for July 18—19

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

5:30 pm Mass

Altar Servers: Alexandra Lannie
Eucharistic Ministers: Eileen Easler,
 Mary Smith
Lector: Mary Hajny
Ushers: Brendan Reed, Patrick Kelley,
 Leroy Hulseberg, Randall Lannie

9:00 am Mass

Altar Server: Kevin Hart
Eucharistic Ministers: Mark Hollifield,
 Kirby Preston
Lector: Larry Fisk
Ushers: Jim Anderson, Richard Bragiel,
 Larry Fisk, Walter Machowski

11:30 am Mass

Altar Server: Kenji Tran
Eucharistic Ministers: Karen Cellars,
 Lynn Curry,
Lector: Pam Everitt
Ushers: Lewis Doscher, Joe Ginn,
 Sheila Griner, Gilbert O'Brien



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: Rob Barker

From previous months: Allene Barans, Clydie Bevis,
 Beverly Blevins, Britt Lamarr Boswell, Joe Caraviello,
 Herman Connor, 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, Chet Nowak,
 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.**

Intentions

Mass: This Week

Sat	11	5:30 pm	Gilbert & Marion Molony O'Brien++
Sun	12	9:00 am	Bill Reed+
		11:30 am	Jacquelyn Everitt+
Mon	13	11:30 am	Victoria Chytla+
Tues	14	11:30 am	
Wed	15	11:30 am	
Thurs	16	11:30 am	
Fri	17	11:30 am	
Sat	18	5:30 pm	Bill Egan+
Sun	19	9:00 am	For the people
		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.

Our Sympathy

We extend our deepest sympathy
 to the family and friends of

Evelyn Thomas

whose funeral was held at Nativity on
 Wednesday, July 8.

May she rest in peace.





**THE BLOOD
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Blood Drive

Church of the Nativity - James Island

1061 Folly Rd, Charleston, SC

Sun, July 12 | 8:30 AM–1:30 PM

Donors will receive two \$10 VISA gift cards.

Blood donors may choose to re-gift cards to the Church of the Nativity but are under no obligation to do so.

**All donors will be tested for COVID-19 Antibodies
with every blood donation.***

*This is not COVID-19 diagnostic testing. Positive test results do not confirm infection or immunity.


**Scan to make
an appointment!**



donate.thebloodconnection.org



Fr. Michael P. Cellars Will Celebrate Mass at Nativity At 11:30 am on Sunday, July 19.

Michael Cellars is a graduate of Nativity and Bishop England schools. He recently completed theology studies at St. Mary's Seminary in Houston TX. Fr Cellars was ordained to the priesthood on July 10.

Please attend this Mass and Pray with Father Cellars.

Weather permitting, the Nativity Ladies Guild will provide an outdoor reception and refreshments after the Mass.

Face Mask and Social Distancing guidelines must be observed at all times.

Parish School of Religion (PSR) Registration

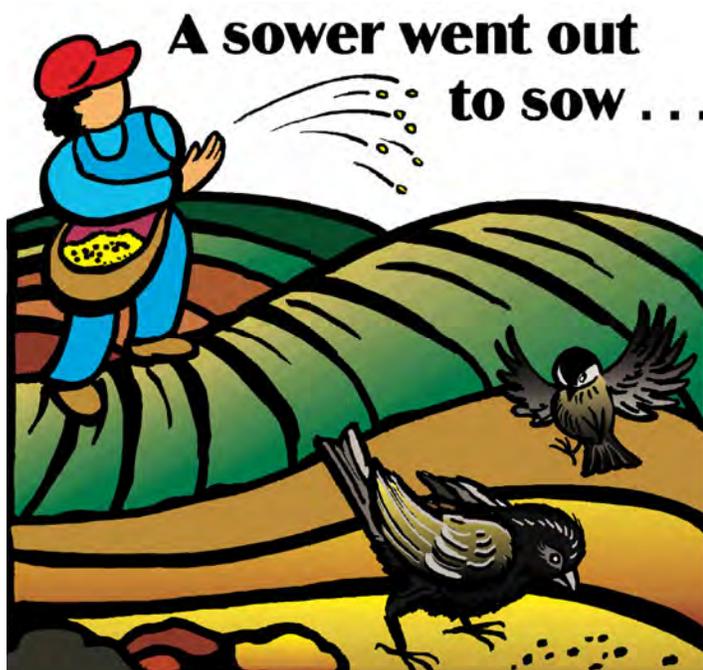


for parish children who will attend non-parochial schools for the 2020-2021 school year is underway. Registration forms are available at the church entrances. PSR Registration information is also available at

www.NativityCharleston.org/Formation

Please register by July 31, 2020 to allow time for textbooks and materials to be ordered. There will be an additional \$20 late registration fee for those registering after July 31st to cover additional administrative and shipping costs.

Please register early so that we can plan appropriately for COVID conditions that may impact our Religious Education Program.



Catechists Needed for School of Religion

for the upcoming school year. If you love your faith and are willing to share that blessing with the children of our parish, please contact Mary Smith at 843-795-3821 x 104 or at DRE@nativitycharleston.org.

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.

**Thank you for helping us teach
your children about their God.**



“And other seed fell on the good soil and yielded a crop, some a hundredfold, some sixty, and some thirty. He who has ears, let him hear.” Mt 13:8-9

Prayer During an Epidemic

Lord Jesus,

Hear our pleas, our good shepherd and divine physician. We implore your mercy in the wake of an outbreak of serious illness and disease.

Guide our efforts to prevent contagion and make preparations to care for those most vulnerable. Assist all professionals and volunteers who work to eradicate the epidemic now spreading. May our actions be marked by your steadfast love and selfless service and never by panic or fear.

Bestow your comfort and healing to the sick, sustain and strengthen them by your grace. May they know your closeness as they carry the cross of illness.

And may all you have called from this life come to worship you eternally with all the saints as you grant consolation and peace to their mourners. Amen.

Holy Mary, Health of the Sick, pray for us.

St. Joseph, Hope of the Sick, pray for us.

St. Rocco, protector against epidemics, pray for us.



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For further information, please call the Parish Office.

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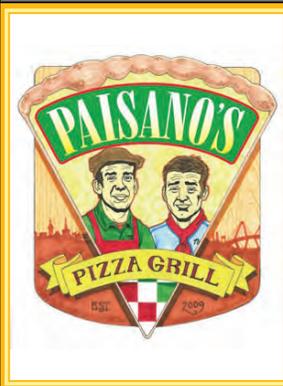


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