



SIXTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

JULY 19
2020

A Mighty God

The first reading says that God's might is the basis for divine justice. We might take this to mean that God uses mighty power to punish sinners, in the legal sense of justice. But the reading also talks about God's lenience and clemency. So maybe God's power is so great that punishment is not necessary. Sinners can be forgiven. After all, we usually punish those we fear will hurt us again. But God is too powerful to be injured by our sins. God can afford to wait for us to repent. That is the point of the parable of the wheat and the weeds.

We are used to expecting swift justice. We like TV shows in which the bad guy is caught and convicted in an hour. The idea of God giving sinners until the end of time to repent is almost un-American--at least, until we realize that we are sinners, too. "But my sins are so minor." Even the smallest sin says that we know better than God what is right. Yet God is still willing to wait for all of us to repent.

On the other hand, we hear people who say they don't deserve to be forgiven. True, but no one could ever deserve forgiveness. That is the wonder of God's love, that God's Son came to die for sinners, even before we sinned. As we experience that forgiveness, we learn the depth of God's love for us. Hopefully, we also learn to share that love with others.

Of course, that means that we also share forgiveness with others. If God waits till "the end of the age" before burning the weeds, shouldn't we be willing to forgive those who hurt us? The Church encourages us to celebrate the

Continued next column -->

Catholic Diocese of Charleston



Church of the Nativity

1061 Folly Road
Charleston, South Carolina 29412

Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time July 19, 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.

sacrament of reconciliation often. Many people today wait till they have a lot of sins, or at least one whopper, to confess. But the more often we go, the more we are reminded of God's love and forgiveness. Those reminders can help us to be more willing to show mercy ourselves. Let us ask God for the courage to seek forgiveness and the strength to forgive.

...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

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For more information, please call the parish office at 843-795-3821.



Please consider joining our parish family!

Justice

Is a biblical term meaning "to make right".

Thus, "Justice" is a relational term; people living in right relationship with God, one another, and with the natural creation.

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 July 6 — July 12

| | |
|---|---------------------|
| Collections at Mass (Jul 11—Jul 12) | \$ 5,728.00 |
| Mail in Offerings (Jul 6—Jul 10) | \$ 6,246.00 |
| myEoffering (Jul 6—Jul 10) | \$ 4,072.59 |
| Budget (1 weeks) | <u>\$ 13,653.85</u> |
| Difference | \$ |
| Registered Households | 668 |
| Envelopes Used (Jul 11—Jul 12) | |
| Active myEoffering Families | 154 |
| MyEoffering Family Donations (Jul 6—Jul 10) | |

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 25—26

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

5:30 pm Mass

Altar Servers: Angel Salceda
Eucharistic Ministers: Patty Edwards
Lector: Carolyn Smith
Ushers: Elena Smith
Brendan Reed, Patrick Kelley,
Leroy Holseberg, Randall Lannie

9:00 am Mass

Altar Server: Wyatt Knight
Eucharistic Ministers: Jimmy Craven
Lector: Kristi Roberts
Ushers: Robert Horner
Jim Anderson, Richard Bragiel,
Steve Molony, Michael O'Neale

11:30 am Mass

Altar Server: Megumi Tran
Eucharistic Ministers: Jackie Doscher
Lector: Lewis Doscher
Ushers: Louis Khong
Lewis Doscher, Joe Ginn,

Baptism

Carolyn Delaine Hooper

daughter of Caitlin and Al Hooper,
was welcomed into our faith commun-
ity on Saturday, July 11.

Congratulations to this
new member of our church.



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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 | 18 | 5:30 pm | Bill Egan+ |
| Sun | 19 | 9:00 am | For the people |
| | | 11:30 am | For Fr. Michael Cellars and the Cellars Family |
| Mon | 20 | 11:30 am | Don Easler+ |
| Tues | 21 | 11:30 am | Arnold Bennett+ |
| Wed | 22 | 11:30 am | |
| Thurs | 23 | 11:30 am | Kim Wade Roberts+ |
| Fri | 24 | 11:30 am | For Nativity School |
| Sat | 25 | 5:30 pm | Kim Wade Roberts+ |
| Sun | 26 | 9:00 am | Gilbert & Marion Molony O'Brien++ |
| | | 11:30 am | James Langmeyer+ |

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.



Many thanks to all who participated in the Blood Drive at Nativity last Sunday.

Your generous gift helped save the lives of others!

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/Formations

Please register by July 31

so that we can order the needed materials and plan appropriately for COVID conditions that may impact our Religious Education Program.

There will be an additional \$20 late registration fee after July 31st to cover additional administrative and shipping costs for class materials.

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 DRE@nativitycharleston.org. or at 843-795-3821 x 104

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.



Flowers

Flowers at the Altar are given in thanksgiving for Fr. Michael Cellars and the Cellars Family.

James Island Outreach Food Collection is This Weekend (Jul 18—19).



We are 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.

Thank You for helping to feed our hungry neighbors!



The Spirit also helps our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we should, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words. Rom 8:26



Michael P. Cellars Ordination to the Priesthood, July 10, 2020

Michael Cellars is a graduate of Nativity and Bishop England schools. He recently completed theology studies at St. Mary's Seminary in Houston TX. Father Cellars will soon leave the Charleston area to continue his ministry in the Greer area of South Carolina.

Please keep Father Michael P. Cellars in your Thoughts and Prayers.



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

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.



ST. JAMES

Saint James the Apostle—Son of Thunder—Feast is July 25

James is the older brother of John, the Evangelist, and is sometimes called James the Greater. James and John were called by Jesus as they worked with their father, Zebedee, operating a fishing business on the Sea of Galilee.

James was one of the first disciples called by Jesus. As such, he must have witnessed many of Jesus' miracles and heard much of His preaching and teaching. James was also one of the favored three apostles (along with Peter and John), who witnessed the raising to life of Jairus' daughter, Jesus' Transfiguration, and the agony in Gethsemani.

Apparently, James had a fiery, ambitious and 'goal oriented' temperament. So much so that Jesus gave him the nickname, "Son of Thunder". Jesus taught James that the purpose of authority is to serve. Over time, James came to understand the sanctifying value of humble service:

After Jesus' resurrection and legends to the contrary, James appears to have spent the rest of his life in Judea. He labored to convert Jews to Christianity. At that time, Herod Agrippa, the grandson of Herod the Great, reigned as king over that area. Herod showed great regard for the Mosaic law and sought to please the Jews. On the occasion of the Passover of A.D. 44, Herod perpetrated cruelties upon the Christians, whose rapid growth incensed the Jews. The zealous temper of James and his leading role in the Jewish Christian communities probably led Herod to choose him as the first victim. Herod killed James with a sword. Thus, James was apparently the first of the apostles to be martyred.



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