

"Smoting" or Non-"smoting"?

Some times I get angry at things that frustrate me. So I have to struggle with the line in our first reading, where the disciples were "rejoicing that they had been found worthy to suffer dishonor for the sake of the name" (Acts 5:41).

Imagine rejoicing over pain and suffering. These disciples had seen Jesus on the cross. When he rose from the dead, they began to see that his suffering was not a tragic loss, but a sign of his glory. And when they suffered because they believed in him, as in today's reading, they saw that as a way to imitate Jesus on the cross. Those who had followed him in life could also follow him to the cross.

Most of us today find ourselves suffering because we have done wrong. God does not use special interventions to smite sinners. Think of the times we were punished as a child. Think of the times we lost a friend because of a cruel remark. These are the result of our actions. These are sufferings that we would rather avoid.

Jesus, however, suffered for our sins when he was totally innocent. If he could do that, could we not accept suffering for our own sins when it comes? If we behave differently because of it, if we can grow to be better persons, then that suffering can be our way of accepting the cross.

Of course, not all suffering is caused by the sins of the person suffering. The suffering of the innocent is a great mystery, a cause for sorrow and a challenge to help where we can. But like growing pains, **all suffering is a step to new life in Christ.** And that is what Easter is about.

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

Catholic Diocese of Charleston



Church of the Nativity

1061 Folly Road

Charleston, South Carolina 29412

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

Thursday	9:30 School Mass
Monday through Friday	11:30 am
Saturday Vigil	5:30 pm
Sunday	9:00 am and 11:30 am

Church is open Daily for Private Prayer and Devotion

Weekdays: 8:00 am to 3:00 pm

Sacrament of Reconciliation

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

Regular Office Hours

Monday - Friday: 8:00 am to 3:00 pm
 Office: 843-795-3821 / Fax: 843-795-2714
 website: <https://nativitycharleston.org>
 e-mail: Office@NativityCharleston.org

Stay in touch with us at Nativity



Sign up on our social media platform at FlockNote.
<https://nativityfamily.flocknote.com/>

Visit us at

Web page: <https://nativitycharleston.com/>

You Tube: <https://www.youtube.com/ChurchoftheNativity>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/NativityCharleston>

and <https://www.facebook.com/groups/NativityFamily>

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/NativityCharleston/>

THINGS TO KNOW

Nursery: Is offered to 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. **The Nursery is temporarily closed while the school is under construction.**

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. **This ministry is currently unavailable as we assess space and volunteer needs.**

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, enrolled in non-parochial schools. For more information, 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 express your own thoughts and 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. **Online option available.**

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA): is an opportunity to come together in a small group online to learn more about our faith with sessions focused on the teachings and experience of Church and prepare adults to celebrate the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist during the Easter season. To inquire, please contact Vicki Vázquez at 843-795-3821. **Online option available.**

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 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. 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

Maintenance Supt: Mr. Scott Smith
Office@NativityCharleston.org, 843-795-3821 x 101

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!

To advertise in our bulletin, please contact Eric Luoto at LuotoE@jspaluch.com or at 904-945-2425.
Please support our Advertisers whose funding makes this bulletin possible.

Liturgical Ministers for Weekend Masses May 7—May 8

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

5:30 pm Mass
Greeter: Tom and Marcia McNamee,
 Timothy and Carolyn Smith
Altar Server: Jake Hoelt
Eucharistic Ministers: Eileen Easler
 Meg Hoelt
Lector: Claire Bergstrom
Ushers: Brendan Reed, Patrick Kelley,
 Leroy Hulseberg, Randall Lannie

9:00 am Mass
Greeter: Maureen Hinson, Horner Family
Altar Server: Matthew Hart
Eucharistic Ministers: Hal Perry
 Pat Perry
Lector: Michael Dennis
Ushers: Richard Bragiell, Walter Machowski
 Steve Molony, Joe Dubois

11:30 am Mass
Greeter: June La Via, Susan La Via
Altar Server: Megumi Tran
Eucharistic Ministers: Lynn Curry
 Pam Everitt
Lector: Jon Ply
Ushers: Lewis Doscher, Chuck Everitt

Offerings April 11 — April 17

Collections at Mass (Apr 16—Apr 17)	\$	5,603.00
Mail in Offerings (Apr 11—Apr 15)	\$	2,949.00
myEoffering (Apr 11—Apr 15)	\$	5,477.31
Budget (1 week)	\$	13,668.46
Difference	\$ +	362.85
Registered Households		653
Envelopes Used (Apr 16—Apr 17)		???
Active myEoffering Families		158
MyEoffering Family Donations (Apr 11—Apr 15)		161

Second Collections for April:

Good Friday – Holy Land Offerings: \$2,376.00

Easter Offerings: \$13,070.00

Catholic Home Missions:

Thank you for your Generosity.

If you do not use envelopes and want to contribute to the needs of the parish, please place your check in the collection baskets in the rear of the church, mail your donation to the parish office or make a donation via your myEoffering account.

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

Please use your envelopes.

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



Now available online at
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.

From previous months: Norman Ballo, Allene Barans, Irene Bennett, Clydie Bevis, Beverly Blevins, Ray Blevins, Britt Lamarr Boswell, Joe Caraviello, Anne Castelli, Wendy Craven, Herman Connor, Vi Defourneaux, Jake DuPree, Jo Ann Frederick, Darcy Hill, Ellen Pate Futrell, Malcolm Hale, Angela Harbuta, Terry Harris, James Michael Huber, Myrtis Jenkins, Fred Kornahrens, Teresa LaTorre, Delores Lopez, Paul & Carole Moran, Suzette Nowak, Charlie Organ, Brenda Pearson, Ed and Terry Pop, James Romero, Rosemary Saari, Kyle Souza, Fran Taylor, Inge Thornley, Courtney Wilson, Sally Wojcik

For members of our community who have requested our prayers

For our service men and women and their families throughout the world.

To have names added or removed from these lists, please contact the parish office at 843-795-3821 or at Office@NativityCharleston.org.

Intentions

Mass: This Week

Sat.	30	5:30 pm	William Brockenfelt+
Sun.	1	9:00 am	Les Ulichnie+
		11:30 am	Robert Handschiegel+
Mon	2	11:30 am	
Tues.	3	11:30 am	Edward J. Parent+
Wed.	4	11:30 am	Marion Molony O'Brien+
Thurs.	5	11:30 am	Paulette Miklaszewski+
Fri.	6	11:30 am	
Sat.	7	5:30 pm	Alice Herrmann+
Sun.	8	9:00 am	For the mothers of Nativity
		11:30 am	Carlos Alfredo De la Ossa+

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.

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 admittance to Nativity School.

For more information, please visit us at www.facebook.com/NativitySchoolKnights or call us at 843-795-3975.

Students! We wish you great success.

Nativity School Needs a Spanish Teacher



Nativity School is seeking a qualified, energetic individual who has a passion for children and can share their expertise of Spanish language and culture with elementary aged students. Grades range from K4-8th, with 8th grade taking Spanish 1 for a Carnegie credit. Applicants must possess a valid teaching certificate with a concentration in Spanish or a Bachelor's or Master's degree in Spanish. Compensation will be based on degree, certification and experience.

All interested applicants should send a resume to Patti Dukes at info@nativity-school.com.



Baptism

Liam Nix,

son of Lindsay and Christopher Nix was welcomed into our faith community on Wed. April 20.

Congratulations to this new member of our church.



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS COUNCIL 6250 MONTHLY MEETING

THURSDAY, MAY 5 AT 7:00 PM

at American Legion Post 147 (968 Folly Road)

All Knights of Council 6250 are encouraged to attend!



THE RESULTS ARE IN!

During lent, the Ladies Guild sponsored grocery card donations. Your generous donations totaled \$2,450. Most gift cards were for Food Lion, with Harris Teeter, Walmart and Publix following close behind. We also received a Visa Gift card.

The grocery cards were delivered to Our Lady of Mercy Neighborhood House and to James Island Outreach to assist our hungry neighbors.

Many Thanks to the Nativity Community for their Care and Concern for our Neighbors in need.

James Island Outreach



- Canned Pasta
- Canned peas, lima beans, carrots, collards
- Instant/dried/canned potatoes
- 64oz Juice (100% juice preferred)
- Ketchup, Mustard, Mayo

Please place your donation in the collection containers at the Nativity Church Entrances,

Thank You for your Help



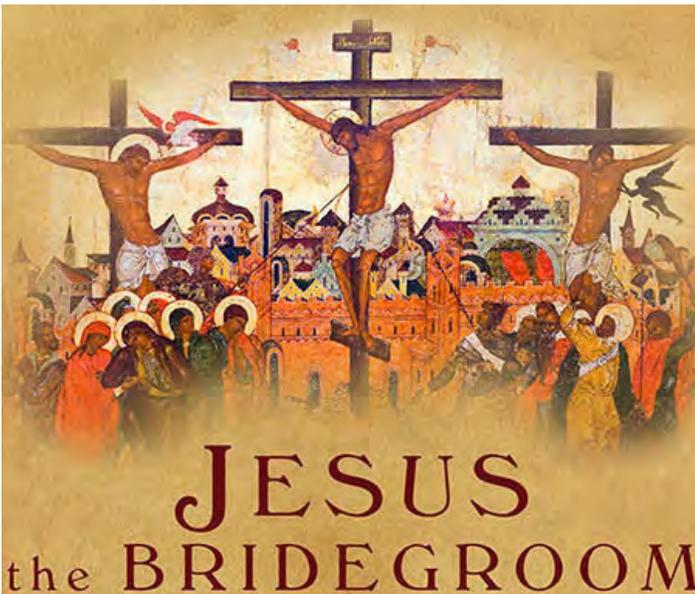
Bishop-elect Jacques E. Fabre, CS, will be ordained and installed on Friday, May 13 at 2:00 p.m. The celebration will be held at the North Charleston Convention Center, 5000 Coliseum Drive in North Charleston.

He will formally take possession of his episcopal seat at Mass at the Cathedral on Sunday, May 15.

As part of this momentous occasion, all Catholic school students are excused from school on ordination day, May 13. Please encourage families to pray for the new bishop that day, follow along with the livestream of the event, and enjoy the long weekend together as we celebrate.

Wednesday Evening Bible Study

Sessions are 5:40 pm in Nativity Parish Life Center



This new, Audio Video series by Dr. Brant Pitre starts May 3.

Christians are called to have Personal Relationship with Jesus Christ. But How to do this? Scripture describes the relationship between Jesus and the Church as the love of a "Bridegroom" for his "Bride". So just how does this work? Guess you will need to come to Wednesday Evening Bible Study and find out.

For more information, please contact Andrea Gilliard at acgilliard@comcast.net or at 843-696-2161.

Don't Miss this Exciting new Study.

Coffee and Donuts

Sponsored by the Nativity Ladies Guild This Sunday (May 1) after the 9:00 Mass in the Nativity Parish Life Center.

There is no charge but your donations are greatly appreciated.

Please join is for food and fellowship and stay for the May Crowning.



Worldwide Marriage Encounter

Make a commitment to take time for your marriage.

The Worldwide Marriage Encounter Experience helps married couples to communicate in all areas of their relationship. Get your marriage on the right path by attending a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Experience

Sign up today to attend the upcoming virtual Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend:

Jun 24-26, 2022 in Bluffton, SC

For more information visit our website at:

<https://SCMarriageMatters.org>

Or contact us at applications@scmarriagematters.org or 803-810-9602.

Early sign up is recommended. Sign up today.

Respect Life

Monthly Rosary Sat. May 21: from 8:00 to 9:00 am at the Charleston Planned Parenthood abortion facility (1312 Ashley River Road Hwy. 61). A member of the Charleston clergy will be on hand to lead the Rosary and prayers. The organization, Priests for Life, has called for each Catholic to pray fervently for the closing of their local abortion facility. For information call Stephen Boyle at 763-0681.



Pregnant? Need Help?

Nationwide Toll Free:

800-712-4357

<https://www.optionline.org/>

Lowcountry Pregnancy Center

843-5553-3505 or

<https://lowcountrypregnancycenter.com/>



Please Pray to End Abortion and the abuse of these women in distress.



Traditionally, the month of May has been a month dedicated to our Blessed Mother. But why is this?

The roots of Mary's month reach back into the ancient world. At least in the northern hemisphere, May is a month of new life and growth, where the effects of winter have been fully removed, May came to occupy a special meaning in the lives of Greeks and Romans. This sentiment of May being the starting point of new growth was also prominent in the early years of Christianity as well as through the medieval period.

Honoring Mary during the entire month of May became widespread by the early 1800s. This may have been influenced, in part, by the number of Marian apparitions that occurred during May. There have also been several feast days attributed to Mary within the month of May.

Of the various individual traditions within Mary's month, the May Crowning might be the most beautiful. The crowning of Mary goes back to very early art, where it is common to find images of the infant Jesus and Mary wearing crowns. Also, ancient Jewish customs emphasize the importance of the Queen-Mother (the mother of the King).

Each May we recognize and crown Mary as Mother of Jesus Christ, the King of the Universe, We ask her to point us continually toward him and to bring us always to him.

First Communion was celebrated on Saturday, April 30.

We ask that our parish family continue to keep these children in your prayers.



We are in need of volunteers

who can share their talents and time with us to help the community in the many programs and services that we provide.

We offer many programs and services including:

- ◆ Basic and Emergency Needs (financial, clothing, food and job assistance)
- ◆ Education (ESL & GED classes and after-school programming)
- ◆ Wellness (Women's Health and Dental)

Current volunteer opportunities include:

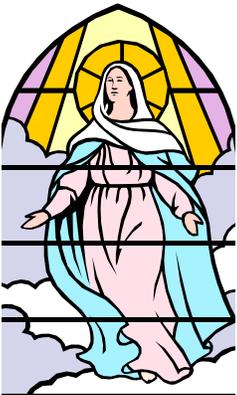
- ♥ **D**ental **P**rofessionals (Dentists, Hygienists, Assistants)
- ♥ **Y**es, **I** **C**an! After School Tutor
- ♥ **F**ront **D**esk **R**eceptionist
- ♥ **G**ED **L**anguage **A**rts **T**utor
- ♥ **S**ubstitute **C**lothing **R**oom **A**ssistant
- ♥ **S**ubstitute **F**ood **P**antry **A**ssistant
- ♥ **V**an **D**river
- ♥ **C**lerical **A**ssistant

For more information call us at (843) 559-4109
email jennifer.meshanko@olmoutreach.org,
or visit <https://www.olmoutreach.org/>

We really appreciate your help!

Stewardship:

Jesus asks us to commit ourselves to be good stewards of the gifts entrusted to us, to share our time, our talent and our treasure as an outward sign of the love and gratitude we have for Him.



May Procession and Crowning

The Parish School of Religion May Crowning of the Blessed Virgin Mary will be in the Nativity Parish Life Center

Sunday, May 1 at 10:45 am.

This devotion is the closing event for the 2021-2022 PSR year.

All are invited to attend



Catholic Radio in SC on WLTQ 730 AM and 106.7 FM

These stations broadcast Catholic Radio content twenty-four hours a day. In addition to radio show offerings from the

Eternal Word Television Network (EWTN), the new signal will air short interviews, special features, and announcements of local interest.

For listeners outside the AM and FM coverage areas, Catholic Radio in South Carolina provides a means to access its broadcast by phone. Just dial (605) 781-4104. Any phone with a dial tone becomes a personal Catholic Radio listening device. If your plan has unlimited long distance calling, you can listen all day, every day for free.

Catholic Radio is a great way to Walk with Jesus while driving in your car.



Confirmation of the RCIA Class at the Easter Vigil.



Throngs of worshippers on Easter Sunday.



Adoration on Divine Mercy Sunday.

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