



Gifts of the Spirit

Part of Isaiah's hopeful description of the Messiah contains the traditional seven gifts of the Holy Spirit. As we prepare to celebrate the birth of the Messiah, and looking forward to his coming in glory, let us take a look at those gifts and see how we can use them.

Wisdom is the gift of seeing God in creation. It means that we value the things of this world only as they help us to know and love God more. The second gift, understanding, follows from wisdom. We understand what God expects of us in dealing with creation and other people. This gift helps us know how to act in a world that seems to ignore God.

Counsel follows from understanding as the gift of making correct judgments on how to act. For example, understanding can lead us to love others; counsel guides us to love them in appropriate ways.

Strength, or fortitude, is the gift that enables us to do those things inspired by understanding and counsel, even if they are difficult. John the Baptist displays that gift in the Gospel. Fortitude gave him the courage to die for his faith.

Knowledge is similar to counsel in that we begin to see what God wants for us in this world. Knowledge leads us to deeper revelations of the truths of our faith. This can lead to the sixth gift, piety (seventh in Isaiah's text—"delight in the Lord"), a willingness to worship and love God, a desire to be close to God in prayer.

The final gift, fear of the Lord, is the awe and wonder of recognizing how great God is, how much God loves us, and how much we want to stay close to God. And the desire to be close to God circles back to the wisdom with which we see God in creation.

...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.

Daily Mass Options—This Week Only

Changes are due to the
**Feast of the Immaculate Conception
on Thursday December 8.**

Mon, Tues, Wed, 11:30 am Weekday Mass

**Wednesday, Dec 7 6:30 pm
Immaculate Conception Vigil**

Note that Immaculate Conception is Holy Day of
Obligation and all Catholics are required to attend Mass.

**Thursday, Dec 8
9:30 am School Mass**

All are welcome and invited to attend.
Attendees who are not affiliated with Nativity School
are requested to please sit toward the back of the church
and away from the students.

11:30 am Holy Day Mass

No Eucharistic Adoration at Noon on December 8

Fri. Dec 9. 11:30 am Regular Weekday Mass

Sat. Nov 5. 5:30 pm Saturday Vigil Mass

Sun. Nov 6. 9:00 and 11:30 am Sunday Mass.

Weekday Rosary in the Church

Mon. through Fri. After 11:30 am Mass

**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

Sunday, after both Sunday Masses
and by appointment

Regular Office Hours

Monday - Friday: 8:00 am to 3:00 pm

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

Office Manager: 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 Vince Liberto at LibertoV@jspaluch.com or at 504-250-9697.
Please support our Advertisers whose funding makes this bulletin possible.

Liturgical Ministers for Weekend Masses Dec. 10—Dec. 11

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

5:30 pm Mass
Greeters: Daniel Forsberg Family,
 Timothy & Carolyn Smith
Altar Servers: Isabella Cunningham,
 Jake Hoeft
Eucharistic Ministers: Wendy Bergstrom
Ministers: Meg Hoeft
Lector: Kathleen Janech
Ushers: Emmett Alphonse, Brendan Reed,
 Patrick Kelley, Leroy Hulseberg

9:00 am Mass
Greeters: Caughey Family,
 Decker Family
Altar Servers: Wyatt Knight, Liam Manning,
 Connor Richey
Eucharistic Ministers: Karen Cellars
Ministers: Judy Daugomah
Lector: Ainsley Knight
Ushers: Richard Bragiel, Walter Machowski,
 Steve Molony, Joe Dubois

11:30 am Mass
Greeters: Sheila Griner,
 Natalie Zanolli
Altar Servers: Gavin Gilreath,
 Jackson Gintz
Eucharistic Ministers: Brian Dougherty,
 Pam Everitt
Lector: Betsy DesNoyer
Ushers: Chuck Everitt, Joe Ginn,
 Sheila Griner, Gilbert O'Brien

Offerings Nov 14 — Nov 27

Collections at Mass (Nov 19—Nov 20)	\$ 8,386.00
Collections at Mass (Nov 26—Nov 27)	\$ 8,315.00
Mail in Offerings (Nov 14—Nov 25)	\$ 4,430.00
myEoffering (Nov 14—Nov 25)	\$ 7,732.65
Budget (2 weeks)	\$ 32,734.62
Difference	\$ - 3,870.97
Registered Households	668
Envelopes Used (Nov 19—Nov 20)	159
Envelopes Used (Nov 26—Nov 27)	145
Active myEoffering Families	172
MyEoffering Family Donations (Nov 14—Nov 25)	197

Second Collections for December are:
Dec. 11 – Retirement Fund for Religious
Dec. 18 — Solidarity Fund—Church in Africa

Thank you for your Generosity.

Please use your envelopes.

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

If you do not use envelopes or you are unable to attend Mass, please consider contributing to the needs of the parish.



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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: Allene Barans, Clydie Bevis, Beverly Blevins, Ray Blevins, Britt Lamarr Boswell, Joe Caraviello, Anne Castelli, Ron Connick, Herman Connor, Wendy Craven, Vi Defourneaux, Jake DuPree, Jo Ann Frederick, Angela Harbuta, Terry Harris, Darcy Hill, James Michael Huber, Dan & Mary Hughes, Myrtis Jenkins, Fred Kornahrens, Delores Lopez, Katherine and William Manning, Paul & Carole Moran, Charlie Organ, James Parker, 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.	3	5:30 pm	Robert Kaiser+
Sun.	4	9:00 am	Elizabeth Frost+
		11:30 am	Charlie Rickard+
Mon.	5	11:30 am	
Tues.	6	11:30 am	Eldridge Stroble+
Wed.	7	11:30 am	
		6:30 pm	
Thurs.	8	9:30 am	Danny Vicente+
		11:30 am	Fred Herrmann+
Fri.	9	11:30 am	
Sat.	10	5:30 pm	Leslie McDermott+
	11	9:00 am	Joan H. Ellen+
		11:30 am	Mary Ann Rickard

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 for the 22—23 School Year.

To learn more about Enrollment and the School Year Start Up activities please visit our website at www.nativity-school.com or our FaceBook page at www.facebook.com/NativitySchoolKnights. or contact the School Office at 843-795-3975

Thank you for your interest in and support of Nativity School!



Nativity School Silent Auction This Friday, Dec. 9 From 6:00 pm to 9:00 pm in the Nativity Parish Life Center.

This event is for parents, family, and friends (21 years or older only). Come and view all of the auction items in person, while enjoying a beverage, hors d'oeuvres, dessert and music. This is one of our school's largest fundraising events and the proceeds will help fund the technology in the school. This year's theme is 'Christmas Gift Giving'.

Tickets are \$15 in advance and \$20 at the door.

To purchase tickets 'text' this message: **NATIVITYCHRISTMAS2022** to 843-606-5995

For more information please contact Summer Turner at 843-737-2124 or at summerturner.myitworks@gmail.com

Thank you for Supporting Nativity School!



Nativity Ladies Guild Creche Display and Craft Sale In the Nativity Parish Life Center

This Saturday, Dec. 3 from 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm and after the 5:30 pm Mass.
And on Sunday, Dec. 4 after the 9:00 am and 11:30 am Masses until 1:30 pm

Refreshments will be available after all the Masses.

All are invited to this festive and inspiring display

December Schedule for Mass and Reconciliation

Feast of the Immaculate Conception Thursday, Dec. 8

Note that Immaculate Conception is Holy Day of Obligation and all Catholics are required to attend Mass.

Wed. Dec. 7 6:30 pm Vigil Mass for the Feast of the Immaculate Conception

Thurs. Dec. 8 9:30 am School Mass for the Feast of the Immaculate Conception

All are welcome and invited to attend.

Attendees who are not affiliated with Nativity School are requested to please sit toward the back of the church and away from the students.

Thurs. Dec. 8 11:30 am Holy Day Mass for the Feast of the Immaculate Conception

Attendance at either the 6:30 pm, 9:30 am or the 11:30 am Mass fulfills the obligation to attend Holy Day Mass.

Sunday Opportunities to Receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation

Sun. Dec. 11 After the 9:00 and 11:30 am Masses

Sun. Dec. 18 After the 9:00 and 11:30 am Masses

The Sacrament of Reconciliation is also offered every Saturday at 4:15 pm, **except Saturday Dec. 24.**

You can also schedule to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation by appointment.

Please contact the parish office at 843-795-3821

Christmas Mass Schedule

Sat. Dec. 24 4:00 pm Christmas Mass

Mass video, audio and additional seating will be available in the Parish Life Center. Ministers from the church will offer Eucharist.

Sat. Dec. 24 7:00 pm Christmas Mass

A concert of Christmas music will start at 6:30 pm. Please come early and join in the singing.

Sun. Dec. 25 10:00 am Christmas Mass

9:00 am and 11:30 am Sunday Masses are cancelled on Christmas Day.

The Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God

Sat. Dec. 29 5:30 pm Feast Day Mass

Sun. Jan. 1 9:00 and 11:30 am Feast Day Mass

The Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God is a Holy Day of Obligation. All Catholics are required to attend Mass.

Regular Church Mass and Reconciliation Services will continue throughout December except as noted above.

Feast of the Immaculate Conception Thursday, December 8th,

Is a Holy Day of Obligation

ALL Catholics are required to attend Mass.

At Nativity, Mass will be celebrated on Wednesday, Dec 7 at 6:30 pm, and Thursday, Dec 8 at 9:30 and 11:30 am



The Immaculate Conception means that **Mary**, whose conception was brought about the normal way, **was conceived without original sin or its stain** — that's what "immaculate" means: without stain. The essence of original sin consists in the deprivation of sanctifying grace, and its stain is a corrupt nature. Mary was preserved from these defects by God's grace; from the first instant of her existence she was in the state of sanctifying grace and was free from the corrupt nature original sin brings.

A biblical reference of the Immaculate Conception is found in the angel Gabriel's greeting to Mary. "Hail, full of grace, the Lord is with you" (Luke 1:28). The phrase "full of grace" expresses a characteristic quality of Mary.

In the 15th-century Pope Sixtus IV established the feast of the Immaculate Conception to be celebrated on December 8. In 1854 Pope Pius IX issued a solemn decree declaring that the Immaculate Conception is an essential dogma for all the church.



Everybody Enjoys Singing Christmas Music And the Nativity Music Ministry could use your help.

We rehearse on Wednesday evening from 6:30 to 7:30 pm. Rehearsals during the Advent and Lent seasons may be a bit longer.

For more information, please contact Courtney Reed at Music@NativityCharleston.org or at 843-795-3821 x103.

We look forward to having you join us!



**SANTA TEAMS UP WITH THE KNIGHTS
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 18
FOR THE PANCAKE/SAUSAGE
BREAKFAST WITH SANTA
AND
MRS. CLAUS TEAMS UP
WITH THE NATIVITY LADIES GUILD**



FOR THE CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS ORNAMENT WORKSHOP

This event will be in the Nativity Parish Life Center after the 9:00 Mass. Adults pay \$3.00 for the breakfast but **all children eat free**. Not only that, the children get to meet Santa, turn in their Christmas wish list and get a little treat from one of Santa's elves. Come make some memorable and treasured Christmas ornaments.

**THIS IS A REALLY FUN FAMILY EVENT
AND IT JUST WON'T BE THE SAME IF YOU'RE NOT THERE!**



*Weekly Hour of
Eucharistic Adoration
12:00 Noon Every
Thursday.
(except Dec 8)*

U.S. Bishops launched a 3-year Eucharistic Revival. The intent is to nudge Catholics toward a deeper personal relationship with Jesus in the Holy Eucharist.

The revival will include eucharistic processions and other events of adoration and prayer around the country. It will continue for three years; until the 2024 National Eucharistic Congress on July 17, 2024.

*This is a Great Opportunity to
Prepare Your Soul for Christ's
Coming on Christmas.*

**Special for Advent
Sacrament of Reconciliation
on Sundays!**

December 11 and December 18,
10:15 to 11:15 am and
12:45 to 1:45 pm

(after the 9:00 am and 11:30 am Sunday Masses).

The sacrament of Reconciliation is also provided on Saturday at 4:15 to 5:00 pm (except Dec 24.) and by appointment.

Catholics are required to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation at least once per year. All are encouraged to take advantage of the Sacrament on a regular basis.

**There is no better way
to Prepare for Christmas!**



Marriage Assistance

Planning to get Married?

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.



Need to Declare a Marriage Invalid?

Please contact Fr. Kingsley at
pastor@nativitycharleston.org

*Want to Validate your Marriage
or Renew your Marriage Vows?*

Please contact Fr. Kingsley at
pastor@nativitycharleston.org

Does your Marriage need Help?

Retrouvaille is a lifeline for married couples. The next nearby event is Jan. 13 thru 15 in Charlotte, NC. For more details, please contact retrouvaille@msn.com or visit the web site at <https://www.helpourmarriage.org>

Want to Strengthen your Marriage?

Marriage Encounter is a weekend for married couples who value their relationship and desire a richer, fuller life together. The next nearby event is Jan. 27 thru 29 in Myrtle Beach, SC.

For more information visit our website at:

<https://SCMarriageMatters.org>

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

*Marriage is a Sacrament that
the Church is here
to uphold and protect.*



The Catechism of the Catholic Church in a Year Podcast Series begins January 1, 2023

Fr. Mike Schmitz guides you through the entire Catechism of the Catholic Church in 365 episodes, providing explanation, insight, and encouragement along the way.

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For more information please visit: <https://ascensionpress.com/pages/catechisminayear>

This is an easy way to learn more about our Faith!



ABOUT THE ADVENT WREATH

Traditionally, Advent wreaths are constructed of a circle of evergreen branches into which four candles are inserted, representing the four weeks of Advent. Ideally, three candles are purple and one is rose, but white candles can also be used.

The purple candles in particular symbolize the prayer, penance, and preparatory sacrifices and good works undertaken at this time. The rose candle is lit on the third Sunday, Gaudete Sunday, when the priest also wears rose vestments at Mass; Gaudete Sunday is the Sunday of rejoicing, because the faithful have arrived at the midpoint of Advent, when their preparation is now half over and they are close to Christmas.

The progressive lighting of the candles symbolizes the expectation and hope surrounding our Lord's first coming into the world and the anticipation of his second coming to judge the living and the dead.

O COME, O COME EMMANUEL



Bereavement Ministry Blue Christmas Remembrance

Wednesday, December 21 at 4:30 pm

The holidays can be a difficult time for anyone suffering loss. This service is offered to comfort and support those grieving the loss of a loved one.

The service begins in the church at 4:30 pm with prayers and reflections. It is followed by a reception in the Parish Life Center.

The church will remain open for private prayer until 6:30 pm.

For more information, please contact the Nativity Parish Office at 843-795-3821.

All Are Welcome

Rachel's Vineyard Retreat

is a supportive, confidential, nonjudgmental weekend retreat for women and men who have had an abortion experience. The retreat offers an opportunity to find healing and peace.

**Our next retreat in South Carolina is
December 9 thru 11 (Charleston, SC).**

For more information or registration please contact Christy at 803 554 6088 or Kathy at 803 546 6010 or email us at Grace4healing@gmail.com



James Island Outreach Holiday Food Drive.

Again this Christmas Season, James Island Outreach is collecting food for Christmas distribution.

All "in date" non-perishable food is welcome. Your financial donations are also greatly appreciated.

Collection barrels will be at the Nativity Church entrances.

**Thank You for helping to feed
our hungry neighbors!**

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/>

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