

Catholic Diocese of Charleston



*Then they  
opened their  
treasures and  
offered him*

## GIFTS OF GOLD, FRANKINCENSE, AND MYRRH.

*Matthew 2:11*

January 8, 2023 • The Epiphany of the Lord

### The Star of Bethlehem

Almost every year at Christmastime, you can find a newspaper article or TV documentary about the star of Bethlehem. Astronomers give various theories about whether the magi saw a supernova, or a comet, or a conjunction of two or more planets. But for us, the star has a deeper meaning.

In Matthew's Gospel, light is used as a symbol of the good news of Jesus coming into the world. That's why verse 9 of the Gospel has the image of the star preceding the wise men and stopping over the house where Jesus was. By following the star, they become followers of Christ. So what do the magi show us about following Jesus? First, they take the initiative. They saw the star, figured out what it meant, and made their journey. As followers of Jesus, we can look for what needs to be done (in our family, parish, or community) and do it.

Second, they expressed their faith in Jesus by the gifts they brought: gold—a gift for a king, who is worthy to be followed; frankincense—Jesus is worthy to be worshiped as Son of God; and myrrh—Jesus becomes king by dying for us all. We can express our faith in many ways. We can volunteer to help the poor, the elderly, or the disabled. We can teach our children how to pray and tell them about all that God has done for us.

Third, they were not afraid to take risks for Jesus. How often do we take risks for the Lord, by openly speaking about our faith, or giving God credit for the good that we do? Let the star of Bethlehem remind us that Jesus is the star of our lives.

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

## 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

Mon. through Fri.	11:30 am Mass
Thurs.	9:30 am School Mass
All are welcome and invited to attend the School Mass.	
Attendees who are not affiliated with Nativity School	
are requested to please sit toward the back of the church and away from the students.	

Saturday Vigil Mass	5:30 pm
Sunday Mass	9:00 am and 11:30 am

### Weekly Hour of Eucharistic Adoration

Thursday	12:00 noon
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### Weekday Rosary in the Church

Mon. through Fri.	12:00 noon
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### 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  
e-mail: [Office@NativityCharleston.org](mailto:Office@NativityCharleston.org)

*All the nations will worship you, Lord*  
...Today's Psalm PS 72

## 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 5<sup>th</sup> 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 2<sup>nd</sup> grade, must also have participated in a 1<sup>st</sup> grade PSR or Catholic school program. Children planning to receive the sacrament of Confirmation in the 8<sup>th</sup> grade must also have participated in a 7<sup>th</sup> 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](http://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](mailto: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](http://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](mailto:LibertoV@jspaluch.com) or at 504-250-9697.  
Please support our Advertisers whose funding makes this bulletin possible.

### Liturgical Ministers for Jan 14—Jan. 15

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

#### 5:30 pm Mass

**Greeters:** Patrick Kelley & Kathy Wiley

Tom & Marcia McNamee

**Altar Servers:** Isabella Cunningham,

Jake Hoeft

**Eucharistic Ministers:** Mary Bieda

Mike Bieda

**Lector:** Carl Borick

**Ushers:** Emmett Alphonse, Brendan Reed,  
Patrick Kelley, Leroy Holseberg

#### 9:00 am Mass

**Greeters:** Maureen Hinson,

Hornier Family

**Altar Servers:** Charlotte Curry, Liam Manning,

Jack Perry

**Eucharistic Ministers:** Kathy Murphy,

Kirby Preston

**Lector:** Jimmy Craven

**Ushers:** Richard Bragiel, Walter Machowski,  
Steve Molony, Joe Dubois

#### 11:30 am Mass

**Greeters:** Paul Miller,

Susan La Via

**Altar Servers:** Jackson Gintz,

Megumi Tran

**Eucharistic Ministers:** Pam Everitt

Kathy Hepner

**Lector:** John Lavelle

**Ushers:** Lewis Doscher, Chuck Everitt

Sheila Griner, Gilbert O'Brien

### Offerings Dec 19 — Dec 25

Collections at Mass (Dec 24—Dec 25)	\$ 5, 279. 00
Mail in Offerings (Dec 19—Dec 23)	\$ 4, 310. 00
myEoffering (Dec 19—Dec 23)	\$ 3, 222. 33
Budget (1 week)	<u>\$ 16, 367. 31</u>
Difference	\$ - 3, 555. 98
Registered Households	668
Envelopes Used (Dec 24—Dec 24)	153
Active myEoffering Families	172
MyEoffering Family Donations (Dec 19—Dec 23)	99

**Christmas Offerings:** \$20, 845. 00

**Second Collections for January are:**

**Jan. 22: The Church in Latin America**

**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. Please place your offering 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.

<https://members.myeoffering.com>



Now available online at  
[nativitycharleston.org](http://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: Arlene and Billy Crosby**

**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, Angela Harbuta, Terry Harris, 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](mailto:Office@NativityCharleston.org).

### Intentions

**Mass: This Week**

Sat.	7	5:30 pm	Leslie McDermott+
Sun.	8	9:00 am	Marti Turner+
		11:30 am	Tommy Eiserhardt+
Mon.	9	11:30 am	
Tues.	10	11:30 am	
Wed.	11	11:30 am	
Thurs.	12	9:30 am	Joe Conti+
		11:30 am	
Fri.	13	11:30 am	
Sat.	14	5:30 pm	Marcia Smith+
Sun.	15	9:00 am	Philip Eacock+
		11:30 am	Robert Handschiegel+

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](http://www.nativity-school.com) or our FaceBook page at [www.facebook.com/NativitySchoolKnights](https://www.facebook.com/NativitySchoolKnights). or contact the School Office at 843-795-3975

**Best wishes to our Students.**



**Catholic Schools Week**  
**Jan. 29 through February 4.**

See upcoming bulletins for more details!

### **Nativity Ladies Guild is Planning a Fundraiser for Catholic Schools Week!**

The Ladies Guild has adopted the "Giving Tree" model for this fundraiser. The "Tree" will be at the main entrance of Nativity Church starting this weekend and continuing through Jan. 29.

The tree will have envelopes that identify specific classroom and educational items and their cost. These items have been requested by the teachers at Nativity School.

#### **You know how this works:**

- Take an envelope for an item (or items) that you would like to donate.
- Purchase the item(s) or include the appropriate donation in the envelope.
- Please make checks payable to the Nativity Ladies Guild.
- Return the envelope and your donation or item(s) to the church entrance or the Nativity Parish Office before January 29.

For more information, please contact Miriam Hoffman at [m.hoffman@earthlink.net](mailto:m.hoffman@earthlink.net)

**Thank You for Supporting Nativity School**



**Help Needed  
Sunday, Jan. 8  
@ 1:00 pm**

We now need to remove the Christmas decorations from the Church for Christmas. We need volunteers to assist with this work. The more participants, the better.

**Thank you for your help!**



Then, opening their treasures, the magi presented to him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. Mt 2:11



**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS COUNCIL 6250  
PANCAKE BREAKFAST THIS SUNDAY (JAN. 8)  
10:00 AM IN THE NATIVITY PARISH LIFE CENTER.  
THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!**



## The Catechism of the Catholic Church in a Year Podcast Series Started January 1, 2023 But you can start at any time.

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

- Understand the essentials of the Catholic Faith and why they matter.
- Understand how Church teaching is rooted in Sacred Scripture.
- Absorb over 2,000 years of Sacred Tradition.
- Encounter God's plan of sheer goodness for your life.

Each 15-20 minute episode includes: a guided prayer to help you enter into each episode, a reading from the Catechism of the Catholic Church and an explanation from Fr. Mike Schmitz about the reading.

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

## Senior Adult Ministry



**Wednesday, Jan 18 at 12:30 pm  
in the Parish Life C**

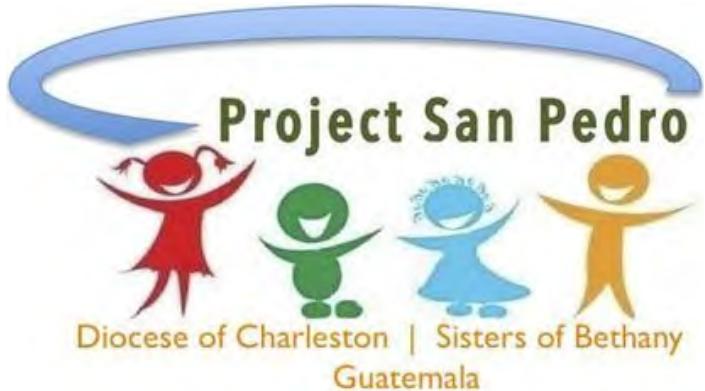
**Fellowship, Games, Lunch.  
It is all FREE but you need to sign up.**

Please contact Mary Smith or the Nativity Parish office at 843-795-3821 and provide names, email addresses and phone numbers of those planning to attend.



**Margaret Camille "Maisie" Horner**  
daughter of Katie and Robert Horner,  
was welcomed into our faith community on  
Saturday, December 31<sup>st</sup>.

**Congratulations to this new member of our church.**



### Doctors, Dentists, and Nurses are needed!

to participate in the next medical mission trip to Guatemala in the Spring of 2023. For over 14 years, the Diocese of Charleston has sent medical teams to San Pedro La Laguna to assist the Sisters of Bethany in their ministry in this rural, Mayan territory. The next trip to this Central American country is from Mar. 5 —> Mar. 12, 2023.

For more information, or to sign up, please visit  
<https://www.missions-doc.org>  
or contact Deacon Gabriel Cuervo at 843-628-6205.

### Our Sympathy

We extend our deepest sympathy  
to the family and friends of

**Marianna Elizabeth  
DiGiacomo Egan,**

whose funeral was held at Nativity  
on Wednesday, January 4.



**May she rest in peace.**

### 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/>  
YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/ChurchoftheNativity>  
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/NativityCharleston>  
and <https://www.facebook.com/groups/NativityFamily>  
Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/NativityCharleston/>



**Our new Nativity Rectory is nearing completion and will be “Move In” ready before long.  
However...**

many things are needed to turn the completed construction site into a comfortable and hospitable home. And you can help with this “House Warming” effort. A registry has been established at Bed, Bath and Beyond which identifies some of the items needed to convert the new building into a home. Here is the link to the registry.

<https://www.bedbathandbeyond.com/store/giftregistry/viewregistryquest/552119183>

If you are reading an electronic copy of this announcement, just click the link to visit the registry.

Plan B is to visit <https://www.bedbathandbeyond.com/>, click on the **registry** “button” and enter “Nativity Rectory” or “Fr Kingsley” in the form. This will get you to the list of needed items.

**Thank you for your consideration and generosity.**



**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS COUNCIL  
6250 SAINT JOHN XXIII**



### *Fish Fry for Seminarians!*

*Saturday, January 28 from 5:30 to 7:30 pm  
In the Nativity Parish Life Center (dine in or carry out).*

Three men studying for the priesthood for the Diocese of Charleston have ties to Nativity Parish:  
Michael Tracy, Michael Ghattas, and Paul Sizemore.

We will provide more information about these men in a future bulletin.

All the proceeds from this event will help provide for their financial support.

**Menu:** Two flounder filets, red rice, coleslaw, hush puppies and a drink.

**ALL FOR JUST \$13.00**

**JUST CLICK THIS LINK TO PURCHASE YOUR DINNER TICKETS.**

[HTTPS://TINYURL.COM/2SPZN382](https://tinyurl.com/2spzn382)

*and join us for a great event on Jan 28!*



In Memoriam

## POPE EMERITUS BENEDICT XVI

April 16, 1927 – December 31, 2022

Papacy:

April 19, 2005 – February 28, 2013



Joseph Alois Ratzinger was born in Marktl am Inn, Bavaria, on April 16, 1927—Holy Saturday—and baptized that same day—the first person baptized in the new Easter water. It was a sign of blessing, he wrote in a memoir, that his life from the beginning was thus immersed in the Easter mystery. He entered the minor seminary in 1939 at the age of twelve, but his studies were interrupted by World War II, when the seminary was closed and Joseph, along with most of his class, was drafted into the army at the age of sixteen.

After the war he resumed his education in philosophy and theology, and together with his brother, Georg, was ordained a priest in 1951. During the course of a twenty-year career as a professor of dogma and theology at several German universities, he earned a reputation as a gifted lecturer and learned scholar, and was present as a *peritus*, or theological advisor, at all four sessions of the Second Vatican Council.

He was ordained an archbishop in May of 1977 and elevated to the College of Cardinals a month later. He settled in Rome in 1981 and went on to become one of the most influential men in the Roman curia. Of the many offices he held, he was best known as the Prefect of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, an authoritative advisor on doctrinal issues during his predecessor's pontificate. When he was elected the 265th successor of Peter in 2005 at the age of seventy-eight, he became the first German pope since Victor II in the eleventh century. A central theme of his papacy was the staunch defense of core Christian values against what he saw as moral decline across much of Europe. At the same time, he sought to improve relations with other religions, trying to determine if a “cultural synthesis” was possible without losing the identity of the faith while engaged in discourse with the Lutheran World Federation, Judaism, Islam, the Anglican Communion, and Christian Orthodox Churches. He also spoke out against human rights abuses and ongoing political conflicts and warfare, and advocated better protection of the environment. He called for a radical rethinking of the global economy, criticizing the growing divide between rich and poor, and pressed for a “true world political authority” to oversee the economy and work for the common good.

Ever true to his episcopal motto, “Fellow Worker in the Truth,” Pope Benedict XVI’s teaching and prolific writings always defended traditional Catholic doctrine and values.

On February 11, 2013, Pope Benedict XVI announced that on February 28, 2013, he would resign as supreme pontiff due to his advanced age and deteriorating health and that a conclave would be convened shortly thereafter to elect a new pope. He returned to Rome and remained there as Pope Emeritus after Jorge Bergoglio succeeded him as Bishop of Rome.

*Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon him.*

**Dennis P. Baars**  
Certified Public Accountant  
Taxes • Accounting  
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843-795-6632 | 843-437-0775 C.



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