

## **Transfiguration Manifestation**

It may seem odd to hear the Gospel of the Transfiguration of Jesus during Lent. Wouldn't it fit better after Easter? An answer is found a few verses after our Gospel selection. Jesus tells the disciples that he will suffer (Matthew 17:12). The vision of Jesus' glory shared by Peter, James, and John was meant to help them not to become discouraged by Jesus' death on the cross. Some of the details in the Gospel can help us understand how Lent leads to Easter.

First, we hear about Jesus' appearance, that "his face shone like the sun" (Matthew 17:2). If the disciples didn't believe that Jesus was the Son of God before, they surely did now. For us this can be a reminder that God is with us during this season of Lent, helping our faith to grow.

Next, the three disciples see Moses and Elijah, symbols of the Old Testament. Peter wants them to stay, but the voice of God interrupts and tells them that now they should listen to Jesus. The Gospel tells us to keep our eyes on Jesus throughout Lent. Do I grumble about Lent, seeing it is as another set of laws to be obeyed? Perhaps I'm forgetting that Lent is not about how much I do for God, but a time to reflect on what God has done for me.

The last line of the Gospel has Jesus telling the three not to tell anyone about their vision until after his resurrection. Maybe the disciples were tempted to brag that they were better than the other followers of Jesus. This reminds us that the sacrifices of Lent don't just make us look holy; they lead us to the new life of Easter.

...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**

Mon. through Fri.
Thurs.
9:30 am Mass
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

## Weekday Rosary in the Church

Mon. through Fri. 12:00 noon

## **Weekly School Living Stations**

Wednesday

2:00 pm

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

## Friday Evening Stations

Friday

5:30 pm

## **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

Lord, let your mercy be on us, as we place our trust in you. ...Today's Psalm PS 33

## 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. **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!

#### Liturgical Ministers for Mar. 4—Mar. 5

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

**5:30 pm Mass** 

Greeters: John & Meg Hoeft,

Tom & Marcia McNamee

Altar Servers: Isabella Cunningham, Jake Hoeft

**Eucharistic** Carolyn Smith, Mary Smith,

Ministers: John Warren Lector: Mary Bieda

Ushers: Emmett Alphonse, Brendan Reed,

Randall Lannie, Lamar Watkins

9:00 am Mass

Greeters: Horner Family, Knight Family Altar Servers: Maisie Lewis, Liam Manning,

Jack Perry

**Eucharistic** Suzanne Decker, Daniel Suggs,

Ministers: Tamme Suggs Lector: Gary Warriner

Ushers: Richard Bragiel, Walter Machowski,

Steve Molony, Joe Dubois

11:30 am Mass

**Greeter:** Susan La Via

Altar Servers: Rosalie Felix, Gavin Gilreath Eucharistic Jackie Doscher, Kathy Hepner,

Ministers: Christine Lewis Lector: Pam Everitt

Ushers: Chuck Everitt, Sheila Griner,

Gilbert O'Brien, Natalie Zanolli

## Offerings Feb 20 — Feb 26

Collections at Mass (Feb 25—Feb 26) Mail in Offerings (Feb 20—Feb 24) myEoffering (Feb 20—Feb 24)	\$ \$ \$	9,288.00 2,875.00 3,912.00
Budget (1 week)	\$	16,367.31
Difference	\$	- 292.31
Registered Households		677
Envelopes Used (Feb 25—Feb 26)		N/A
Active myEoffering Families		172

Active myEoffering Families
MyEoffering Family Donations (Feb 20—Feb 24)

Offerings for the Church in Centeral
and Eastern Europe: \$175.00

**Second Collections for March:** 

Mar 19: Catholic Relief Services

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

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: Don Carcone, John Minaudo

From previous months: Allene Barans, Clydie Bevis, Beverly Blevins, Ray Blevins, Britt Lamarr Boswell, Anne Castelli, Ron Connick, Herman Connor, Wendy Craven, Arlene and Billy Crosby, 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 our service men and women and their families throughout the world.

For our parishioners who daily struggle with chronic and/or life-threatening burdens.

#### Intentions

#### **Sanctuary Candle:**

Mar. 4 — Mar 10 Bill Egan+

**Mass: This Week** 

108

Sat.	4	5:30 pm	Bea Amato+
Sun.	5	9:00 am	Eugene J. Witchger+
		11:30 am	Suzette Nowak+
Mon	6	11:30 am	Irene Parmenter+
Tues.	7	11:30 am	Francelina Rebscher+
Wed.	8	9:30 am	All the souls in purgatory
Thurs.	9	9:00 am	Students at Nativity School
		11:30 am	Margie Spangenberg (healing)
Fri.	10		Sue Richards Clark+
Sat.	11	5:30 pm	Ruth Easler+
Sun.	12	9:00 am	Rebecca Gilliard+

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.

11:30 am Robert Handschiegel+

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 23—24 School Year.

To learn more about Enrollment and the School Year Start Up activities please visit our website at <a href="https://www.nativity-school.com">www.nativity-school.com</a> or our FaceBook page at <a href="https://www.facebook.com/NativitySchoolKnights">www.facebook.com/NativitySchoolKnights</a>.

or contact the School Office at 843-795-3975

## Charity 50/50 Raffle

- Only 400 Tickets, \$50 Each
- Win \$10,000 (assuming all tickets sell)
- Other Half to Mobile Pregnancy Center
- Drawing 3/30/23 or When All Tix Sold
- More at kofc6250.org or Scan QR to Buy

Benefits the ProLifeCharleston's Mobile Pregnancy Center
Sponsored by Knights of Columbus Council 6250 on James Island
Rules at https://tinyurl.com/rules5050







Note that this fund raiser is sponsored and conducted by the Knights of Columbus Council 6250. All proceeds will be donated to the Mobile Pregnancy Center, which is operated by Pro-Life Charleston.



## Anointing of the Sick Sunday, Mar 19 at 1:00 pm. In the Church

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 by those in advanced years.

Through the anointing and the prayer of the priest, the whole Church commends those who are sick to Christ. Those anointed receive the Holy Spirit's gifts of strength, faith, peace, and courage. Their suffering is united with that of Christ.

After the sacrament, the Nativity Ladies Guild will sponsor a reception in the Parish Life Center

for the anointed and their families.

## Reconciliation Service Tues. March 14 @ 6:30 pm

There will be a communal prayer service followed by the opportunity for individuals to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Several priests will be available.



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. This service provides Catholics the opportunity to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation to prepare themselves to receive Christ at Easter.

## All are encouraged to attend

Led by the Students of Nativity School 2:00 pm Wednesdays through Mar. 29 in Nativity Church



All are invited to this inspiring devotion.

Guests are requested to sit behind the student sections

## LENT: THE TIME FOR PRAYER, FASTING AND ALMSGIVING



The Diocese of Charleston and the Office of Spiritual Direction is offering a Lenten Series at the Church of the Nativity,

Thursday Afternoon from noon to 1:30 pm. in the Nativity Parish Life Center Remaining sessions are Mar. 9, Mar 16, Mar. 23, and Mar. 30)

These sessions present reflections and discussion on the Sunday Mass readings of Lent. The facilitator is Sister Kathy Adamski, OSF, Director of the Diocese of Charleston Office of Spiritual Direction.

There is no charge, and you do not need to be a member of the Nativity parish to attend this series.

Note: Refreshments will not be provided but you can bring your own lunch if you prefer.

Please register if you plan to attend.

For more information or to register, please contact Sr. Kathy at kadamski@charlestondiocese.org.

## Please join us for as many sessions as you are able.

Good Friday is an obligatory day of fast and abstinence.

In addition, all Fridays in Lent are days of abstinence.



Once again, the Nativity Ladies Guild, will be collecting Grocery Gift Cards. The cards will be delivered to Neighborhood House and James Island Outreach. These ministries will

distribute your donations to families in need of food for Easter.

Here is how this works:

- Visit your favorite grocery store and purchase a gift card (any store, any amount).
- 2. Write the value of the of the card on the front of the card (this is really important).
- 3. Put the card in an envelope and write "Ladies Guild" on the outside of the envelope.
- Put the envelope in the collection at Mass between now and April 2 (Palm Sunday).

It is that simple but if you want more information, please contact Jackie Doscher at jackiedoscher@gmail.com

This is a great way to practice Lenten almsgiving.

Thank you for your generosity



The Thursday noon
Weekly Hour of Eucharistic
Adoration is PAUSED
until after Easter.

## Friday Evening Stations 5:30 pm through Mar 31.



These are traditional stations led by Nativity Ministers.

Please join us for the stations followed by dinner (6:15 pm) in the Nativity Parish Life Center.

**March 10:** The Music Ministry leads stations and the Nativity Ladies Guild will provide dinner.

**March 17:** The Respect Life Ministry leads stations and will provide a Shrimp & Grits dinner.

March 24: RCIA Ministry leads stations and will provide a Salad Bar dinner.

**March 31:** Father Kingsley leads stations and the Knight of Columbus will provide a Fish Fry.

All dinners are free.

But, your donations will be great appreciated.

All are invited to Attend Stations and Stay for Dinner and Fellowship.

## **Our Sympathy**

We extend our deepest sympathy to the family and friends of

## Roy Anthony Ross,

whose funeral was held at Nativity on Tuesday, February 28<sup>th</sup>.

May he rest in peace.

# HELP SAVE LIVES IN CHARLESTON!

Here's how to take part in 40 Days for Life in our community:

**Vigil location:** Outside Planned Parenthood @ 1312 Ashley River Rd.

(Corner of Fuseler Ave.) Charleston 29407

Vigil hours: 7 am to 7 pm, 7 days/wk

For more information, please contact us.

Susan @ (703) 328-2334 or szeleniak2@gmail.com and Alexander @ (843) 810-7517 or charleston40daysforlife@gmail.com

**get involved** ... and sign up for prayer times at by visiting our campaign at our website!

https://www.40daysforlife.com/en/Charleston





## PRAYER VIGIL

Thurs, Mar 30 and Fri, Mar 31 From 7:00 am to 7:00 pm

All members of the Nativity community are invited to join us at the Planned Parenthood—Charleston Health Center (1312 Ashley River Road Hwy. 61) as we pray for all those who are wounded by their participation in abortion.

For more information or to sign up, please contact

Christine Lewis at lewischristined@att.net or Malcolm Brennan at 843-906-5577 or mbprolife@gmail.com

Thank you for your care and concern for the unborn!



Nativity RCIA Right of Sending and Right of Election on Sunday, Feb. 26.



# LET'S BE TOGETHER.



## MAKE YOUR GIFT TODAY

Last weekend, our parish conducted Pledge Sunday for the 2023 Catholic Appeal of South Carolina. Thank you to all of those who have already made the commitment to support this year's Appeal. If you have not yet had the opportunity to participate, it's not too late to make your commitment! Please use the donation form below to make your contribution.

Thank you for making a difference!

Ministry & Outreach \$1,500,000

Vocations-Seminarians-Priest Retirement \$975,000

Catholic Charities \$850,000

Catholic Schools \$750,000

College Campus Ministry \$650,000

Youth & Young Adult Ministries \$275,000







The Catholic Diocese of Charleston

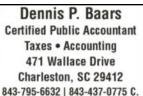
First Name	Middle Ini	tial Last Name	Last Name	
Address	City	State Zip	0	
Signature	Date	Parish		
Pledge: Down Payment:	\$ \$	Down Payment: \$month Please complete pledges by December 2023.	 ns	

Please make checks payable to: Catholic Appeal of South Carolina and mail to: PO Box 31257, Charleston, SC 29417

Pledge Forms are also available at the church entrances.









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