

A Royal Priesthood

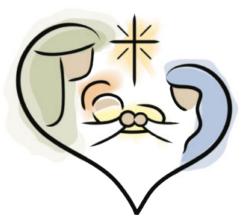
If you had to summarize the essential core of the Christian life, what would it be? Mercy, truth, or love, perhaps? The readings today suggest another word which may surprise you. That word is *priesthood*.

St. Peter says to us, "You are a 'chosen race, a royal priesthood..." To be part of a priesthood is to offer a particular sacrifice in order for the community to survive and thrive. Jesus is the great high priest because he offers the one perfect sacrifice which heals and perfects the entire human race. Peter the Apostle wants us to know that all the baptized share in this priestly ministry. The whole of our lives, including every detail, is meant to become our acceptable offering to God.

The baptized exercise this priesthood in many ways, I'll mention three. At Sunday Mass, in private prayer, and in daily work. At Mass, we offer the sacrifice of our lives with that of the priest, who symbolizes Christ the Priest. In our prayer, a "morning offering" prayer is a great way to offer up all the joys and sufferings of the day to come. In our daily work, we sacrifice our time, comfort, money, and energy to do good for others. All this gives the deepest possible meaning to our lives: we share in the priesthood which saves the world. That's at the core of our faith.

...Father John Muir

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.

Mass Schedule This Week

Mon. through Fri. Thurs 11:30 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 5:30 pm Sunday 9:00 am

9:00 am and 11:30 am

Weekly Hour of Eucharistic Adoration

Thursday

12:00 noon

Weekday Rosary in the Church Mon. through Fri. 12:00 noon

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

Office Hours This Week

Tuesday - 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.

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



To register in our parish, please fill out a registration form on our web site: www.nativitycharleston.org.

New to Our Community?

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!

Please support our Advertisers whose funding makes this bulletin possible.

Liturgical Ministers for May 13—May 14

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

	5:30 pm Mass
Greeters:	John & Meg Hoeft,
	Timothy & Carolyn Smith
Altar Servers:	Emma Grace Turner,
	Daniel Salceda
Eucharistic	Meg Hoeft, Carolyn Smith,
Ministers:	Mary Smith
Lector:	Eileen Easler
Ushers:	Emmett Alphonse, Patrick Kelley
	Randall Lannie, Lamar Watkins

9:00 am Mass

Greeters: Altar Servers:

Eucharistic

Ministers:

Lector:

Ushers:

Horner Family, Knight Family Matthew Hart, Jacob Perry, Connor Richey Kathy Murphy, Hal Perry, Pat Perry Andrew Preston Richard Bragiel, Walter Machowski, Steve Molony, Jerry English

11:30 am Mass

Greeters:	Sheila Griner, Susan La Via
Altar Servers:	Jackson Gintz, Liam Hale,
	Caryn Hasenberg
Eucharistic	Jackie Doscher, Kathy Hepner,
Ministers:	Christine Lewis
Lector:	Betsy DesNoyer
Ushers:	Joe Ginn, Sheila Griner
	Gilbert O'Brien, Natalie Zanolli

Offerings Apr 24 — Apr 30

Collections at Mass (Apr 29—Apr 30)	\$,463.00
Mail in Offerings (Apr 24—Apr 28)	\$,000.00
myEoffering (Apr 24—Apr 28)	\$	3	,487.59
Budget (1 week)	\$	16	,367.31
Difference	\$	-	416.72
Registered Households			869
Envelopes Used (Apr 29—Apr 30)			181
Active myEoffering Families			162
MyEoffering Family Donations (Apr 24-	-Apr	28)	109

Second Collections for May are:

May 14: Catholic Charities

May 21: Catholic Communications

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. <u>https://members.myeoffering.com</u>



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: William Doherty, Frances O. O'Leary

From previous months: Allene Barans, Clydie Bevis, Beverly Blevins, Ray Blevins, Britt Lamarr Boswell, Don Carcone, 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, Paul Madden, Katherine and William Manning, John Minaudo, Paul & Carole Moran, Charlie Organ, James Parker, Brenda Pearson, Ed and Terry Pop, James Romero, 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.

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

Intentions

Mass: This Week

Sat.	6	5:30 pm	Jack Kennerty+	
Sun.	7	9:00 am	Ronnie Jenkins+	
		11:30 am	"Ita" Ana Canino+	
Mon	8	11:30 am		
Tues.	9	11:30 am		
Wed.	10	11:30 am		
Thurs.	11	9:30 am	Students of Nativity School	
		11:30 am		
Fri.	12	11:30 am		
Sat.	13	5:30 pm	James McRae+	
Sun.	14	9:00 am	Marianna Egan+	
		11:30 am	Sr. Margaret O'Dwyer, D.C.+	

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 23—24 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 Supporting Nativity School.



Coffee and Donuts this Sunday (May. 7)

after the 9:00 am Massin the Parish Life Center .

There is no charge but your donations are greatly appreciated.

Stop by, enjoy Coffee and Donuts And stay around for the May Crowning.



So What is a May Crowning?

May has been Mary's month since the medieval period. May was considered the end of winter and the start of a new season of growth. It's a time for new beginnings of gratitude and devotion. May is a special month to celebrate the "Queen of Heaven".

The May Crowning is a ceremony in which we 'crown' Mary with flowers. This is symbolic recognition of Mary's position as Queen of Heaven and of our lives.

- Mary is considered the "Queen of Heaven."
- She was a perfect follower of Christ, and so is considered the crown of creation
- She is also the Mother of the Son of God, Jesus, who is the King of the universe.
- She is the most important woman of our faith, and our spiritual mother.

Please come to Coffee and Donuts after 9:00 am Mass This Sunday (May 7) in the parish Life Center and Stay for May Crowning.



Weekly Hour of Eucharistic Adoration is Every Thursday at 12:00 Noon.

In July 2022, the 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.

All members of the Nativity Community are encouraged to participate in the Eucharistic Revival.

Cannot Make Eucharistic Adoration at Nativity at Noon on Thursday? Here is Another Option.

Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church (Savannah Hwy, West Ashley) has been blessed with Eucharistic Adoration in our chapel for over 30 years. As with many ministries, we had to pause during the Covid-19 epidemic. Currently our chapel is open during the day from Monday through Friday. We also have some late at night and early morning hours and are striving to expand our hours of prayer and adoration.

If you can commit to spending one hour per week in our chapel, please contact Patti Brassington at <u>pattibrassington@gmail.com</u> or at 843-901-9467.



Jesus wants to spend some quality time with you!

The Seven Sisters Apostolate is a ministry to strengthen the Church by ensuring that a Holy Hour is prayed each day of the week for the intention of a specific priest or bishop.

- A group of at least seven women and alternates work together
- Each 'Sister" prays a weekly Holy Hour in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament
- A Holy Hour is prayed each day of the week (Sunday through Saturday)
- The Holy Hours are coordinated so that one "Sister" is assigned one day per week.
- The time and location of the daily Holy Hour is decided by the "Sister of the Day".
- The commitment is one year.

For more information about the Seven Sisters Apostolate, please visit <u>https://sevensistersapostolate.org/</u>

To sign up for this ministry please contact Barbara at omabarb07@gmail.com or at (828) 713-4551

Thank you for your interest in the Seven Sisters Apostolate.

Continuing Food Collection for James Island Outreach

James Island Outreach continues to need non-perishable food to stock their food pantry.

- <u>All non-perishable and in date food items are wel-</u> come.
- We are a Wellness Client Choice Pantry. Low salt / low sugar items are preferred.
- Donations of cash, checks and grocery cards are greatly appreciated.

Place all items in the bins located at the Nativity Church entrances.

Thank you for continuing to help feed our hungry neighbors.



VIRGIN MARY

Thursday Evening Bible Study

Continues the study of the Virgin Mary for the next few weeks.

The "in-person" sessions are Thursday evening from 6:30 pm to 8:00 pm in the Nativity Parish Life Center.

There is also an on-line option via ZOOM:

https://us06web.zoom.us/j/88988721703? pwd=OFdYRWZ5YzRWT2xIQkJndjFDbXIzQT09

Meeting ID: 889 8872 1703 and the Passcode: Nativity For more information, please contact Ryckie Watkins at 843-795-4194 or at ryckiewatkins1329@comcast.net.





Our Lady of Fatima Feast is May 13

Mary has appeared many times in recent history. One of the most powerful of Mary's apparitions in modern times was to three peasant children near Fatima, Portugal in May of 1917. The three children were Lucia dos Santos, Francisco, and Jacinta Marta. They saw the figure of a lady brighter than the sun, standing on a cloud in an evergreen tree. The Lady appeared to these chil-

dren six times between May and October of 1917. Each apparition took place on the 13th of the month, except in August, when the date was the 19th.

On October 13th, when Lucia asked the Lady who she was and what she wanted, Mary replied: I am Our Lady of the Rosary; I wish to have a chapel built on this spot in my honor and continue to recite the Rosary every day.

People must mend their ways, ask pardon for their sins, and no longer offend our Lord, who is already too much offended.

Mary's message at Fatima was to accept life's sufferings and continue to pray for all people throughout the world.



Alpha Team Interest Dinner

Tue. May 16 at 6:15 pm In the Parish Life Center

Alpha kicks off again this Fall and we are gathering our team of past Alpha participants to join together in preparation for it. Team roles include, hospitality, technology support, small group helper, and prayer.

For more information please contact Vicki Vazquez at alpha@nativitycharleston.org or 843-795-3821 to sign up to learn more.

All interested people are encouraged to attend this Dinner.

Gacristan Needed St. John the Baptist Cathedral

The Cathedral of St. John the Baptist in Charleston, South Carolina, is seeking a part-time Sacristan. The Sacristan performs duties which are concerned with the care and upkeep of the Cathedral church building and sacristies. ... continued next column --->

Senior Adult Ministry



Wednesday, May 17 at 12:30 pm in the Parish Life Center

Lunch is \$15 per plate.

The catered lunch will be served at 12:30 pm, and will be followed by interesting and entertaining activities. This event will end at approximately 2:00 pm.

Please contact the Nativity Parish Office by May 14 to order your lunch.

When you order your lunch, we will update your contact information so that we can keep you informed about important senior activities.

For more information please contact Mary Smith at 843-670-7519



Are needed for all Weekend Masses

Greeters are members of our Hospitality Ministry and they help to build a spirit of community among us.

Greeters have the opportunity to welcome members and visitors to the church, answer questions, and help guide them to their seats. This vol-

unteer position is ideal for those who enjoy interacting with others and have a welcoming and friendly demeanor.

When they are scheduled to serve, greeters are asked to arrive approximately 15 minutes before the start of Mass.

For more information or to volunteer to help, please contact Victoria at the parish office, 843-795-3821 or at Admin@NativityCharleston.org.

-->...Sacristan from previous column

Duties include:

- preparing the Cathedral for Mass and other liturgical functions;
- directing volunteers to help in cleaning the church and setting up for liturgies;
- keeping inventories of items such as altar bread, wine, candles, charcoal and incense, and notifying appropriate staff when to order;
- polishing metalware as needed;
- making sure candles are replenished for use in the liturgy;
- keeping sacristies clean and organized;
- and other duties as assigned by the Rector.

Hours are flexible. Must have working knowledge or willingness to learn the workings of the sacred liturgy and liturgical seasons of the Catholic Church.

If interested, please email Stephanie Stewart at executive.assistant@charlestoncathedral.com

The Leper Priest of Moloka'l

Lived (1840-1889) Feast is May 10

Some saints transcend religious and ethnic boundaries to touch the heart that beats in each human being: Damien was a most extraordinarily compassionate man.

Born Joseph de Veuster in Tremelo, Belgium, he quit school at 13 so he could work on the family farm. Feeling called for more, however, he entered the Congregation of the Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary six years later, where he took the name of a fourth-century physician and martyr. His brother, a priest from the same congregation, fell ill and was unable to go to his assigned location. Damien guickly volunteered in his place and found himself on the Hawaiian Islands in 1864. Two months after arriving, he was ordained a priest of Honolulu and assigned to the Island of Hawaii.

In 1873, he visited the Hawaiian government's leper colony on the island of Moloka'l, where he petitioned to stay permanently to care for their physical, medical, and spiritual needs. There he built decent homes, opened schools, established clinics and planted farms. He also shared the sufferings and the social stigma of those with whom he delighted to identify: "We lepers," he would proudly say when he finally contracted the disease. St. Damien was canonized by Pope Benedict XVI on October 11, 2009.

Since the 1800's, medical science has developed cures for leprosy. Moreover, many of us are not called to a life of ministry on an island in the middle of the Pacific Ocean. However, we are all called to examine our compassion and imitate Damien's radical love for our neighbors in our own island community.

Sunday, May 21 at 10:00 am in the Parish Life Center

Here are some of our current activities that need your effort:

Greeters; Ushers; Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist; Homebound Visitation; Altar Servers; Cantors, singers and musicians; Bible Study; Children's Liturgy of the Word;

H.O.M.E. Works; Church Environment; Bereavement Ministry; Ladies Guild; for Knights of Columbus; Nursery; Alpha; Support for Nativity School; Nativity School PTO; Meals on Wheels; Respect Life; James Island Outreach; Parish School of Religion; Vacation Bible School; Audio, Video and Lighting Technician; Information Network Specialist; Computer User Support: Facilities Maintenance; Youth and Young Adult Outreach.

We know we are not doing everything that should/could be done. Please email us your suggestions (Admin@NativityCharlestion.org) and how you are planning to help.

All are invited to this fantastic opportunity to learn more about "What's Happening" and how you can make a difference.





For ad info. call 1-800-477-4574 • www.4lpi.com