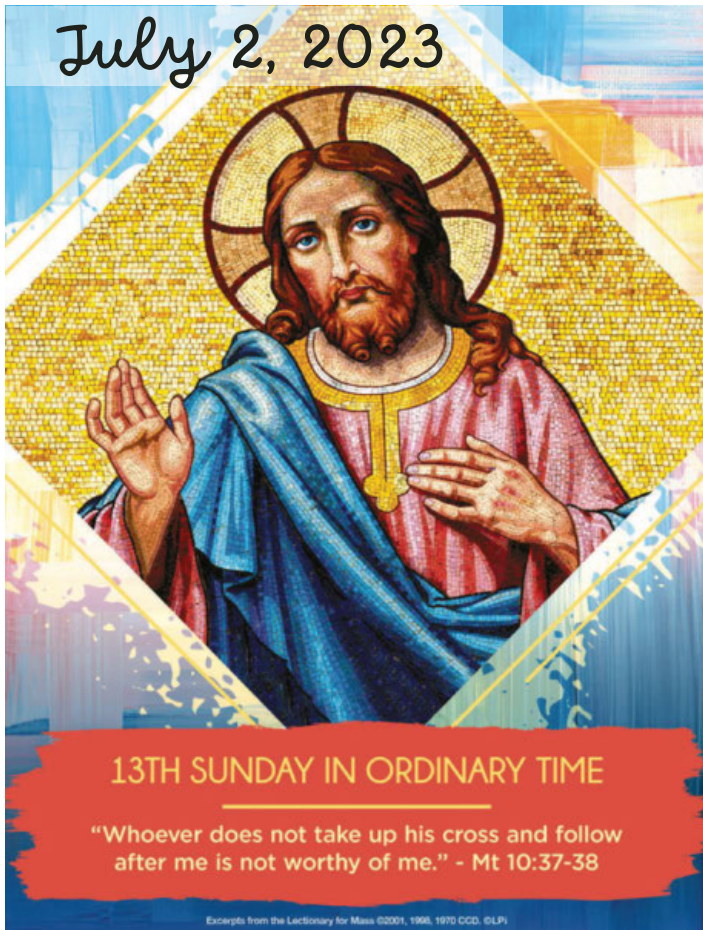


July 2, 2023



13TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

"Whoever does not take up his cross and follow after me is not worthy of me." - Mt 10:37-38

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1988, 1970 CCC, ©LPI

Chutes versus Ladders

As a boy my favorite board game was "Chutes and Ladders". The players roll dice to move from the start to the finish, from the bottom of the board to the top. If you land on a chute, you slide back and down. It was a bummer. Land on a ladder, you jump well up the board and near the goal. It was a thrill to find a ladder and draw closer to the goal. That's life, isn't it? At every moment, we're either moving closer or farther from the goal of our lives.

How do we win? Jesus tells us the secret of life's chutes and ladders hinges on getting our loves rightly ordered. What we love in life is meant to be a ladder, drawing us up into God's love — including our family, friends, work, play, food, and drink. Even to give your water to someone out of love for Christ leads to a sure reward.

But those ladders of our loves can become chutes. If we love even our family members more than Christ, we slide down and back. If we love the persons and things in our life for the sake of Christ, He says we "surely will not lose our reward." The key difference between a chute and ladder, between our spiritual regression and advancement, is our willingness to renounce everything — even our own life — for the love of Jesus. To allow everything and everyone we love to draw us to love him more — that's the difference between chutes and ladders.

...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..	11:30 am Mass
Saturday Vigil	5:30 pm
Sunday	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

Office Hours This Week

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

Stay in touch with us at Nativity



For the latest updates, sign up for 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/>

Forever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.

...Today's Psalm PS 89

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!



Please support our Advertisers whose funding makes this bulletin possible.

Liturgical Ministers for July 8—July 9

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

5:30 pm Mass
Greeters: Patrick Kelley & Kathy Wiley, Timothy & Carolyn Smith
Altar Servers: Isabella Cunningham, Daniel Salceda
Eucharistic Ministers: Barbara Coddington, Patty Edwards, Carolyn Smith, Mary Smith, John Warren
Lector: Eileen Easler
Ushers: Emmett Alphonse, Patrick Kelley, Leroy Holseberg, Lamar Watkins

9:00 am Mass
Greeters: Knight Family, Becky Warriner.
Altar Servers: Matthew Hart, Wyatt Knight, Maisie Lewis
Eucharistic Ministers: Karen Cellars, Jimmy Craven, Wendy Craven, Suzanne Decker, Kirby Preston
Lector: Ainsley Knight
Ushers: Richard Bragiel, Joe Dubois, Walter Machowski, Steve Molony

11:30 am Mass
Greeters: Sheila Griner, Susan La Via
Altar Servers: Rosalie Felix, Liam Hale
Eucharistic Ministers: Lynn Curry, Jackie Doscher, Pam Everitt, Kathy Hepner, Christine Lewis
Lector: Pam Everitt
Ushers: Chuck Everitt, Joe Ginn, Sheila Griner, Gilbert O'Brien

Offerings June 19 — June 25

Collections at Mass (Jun 24—Jun 25)	\$ 8,746.00
Mail in Offerings (Jun 19—Jun 23)	\$ 2,105.00
myEoffering (Jun 19—Jun 23)	\$ 3,825.05
Budget (1 week)	\$ 16,367.31
Difference	\$ - 1,691.26
Registered Households	689
Envelopes Used (Jun 24—Jun 25)	170
Active myEoffering Families	162
MyEoffering Family Donations (Jun 19—Jun 23)	115

Second Collections for July are:

July 2: Peter's Pence
July 16: Infirm Priests

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: William Doherty,
Benjamin Noyd, Frances O. O'Leary

From previous months: Allene Barans, Clydie Bevis, Beverly Blevins, Ray Blevins, 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

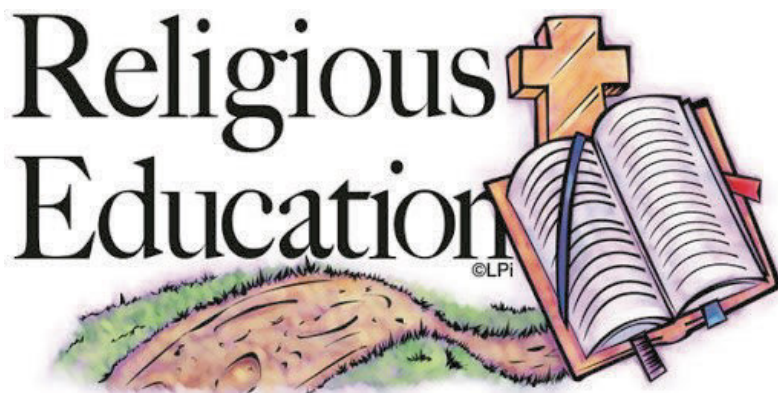
Intentions

Mass: This Week

Sat.	1	5:30 pm	Norman Ballo+
Sun.	2	9:00 am	Debbie Hill+
		11:30 am	William O'Leary+
Mon	3	11:30 am	
Tues.	4	11:30 am	
Wed.	5	11:30 am	For the people of Nativity
Thurs.	6	11:30 am	
Fri.	7	11:30 am	
Sat.	8	5:30 pm	For the people of Nativity
Sun	9	9:00 am	3rd Ordination Anniversary of Fr. Michael Cellars
		11:30 am	Col. Thomas O'Donnell+

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.



**The primary duty of parents
is to present to their children
the Good News
and to communicate the
Christian faith to them.**

This is a tough job but Nativity provides not one, but two ministries to help you succeed in your mission.

- **Nativity School**
- **Nativity Parish School of Religion**

Nativity School

**dedicated to the academic and
spiritual growth of our students**

Discover Nativity School, James Island's
best kept secret for grades K4 through 8.

**Nativity School is accepting applications for
admittance for the 23–24 School Year.**

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

Teaching Values for Life!

Nativity Parish School of Religion

PSR is offered for parish children, grades K4
through 8, enrolled in non-parochial schools.
Nativity PSR is accepting applications for the
23–24 School Year.

Registration packets are available
at the church entrances and online at
<https://nativitycharleston.com/formation/>

Register by July 24 to avoid the \$20 late registration fee.

**For more information, please contact Mary Smith
at 843-795-3821 x 104.**



Catholic Campus Ministry in the Diocese of Charleston

exists to help bring college students into a personal relationship with Jesus Christ. Campus Ministry engages students with the life and mission of His Church, and provides a safe place where students can grow and mature in their faith.

What do we do?

The ministry on each campus provides events, programming, and other activities centered on the intellectual and spiritual growth of students in an atmosphere that is welcoming and fun!

What are some typical activities?

Off-campus retreats, diocesan wide gatherings, on-campus small group studies on Scripture and Theology, opportunities to gather for devotional prayer, small group faith sharing, service projects in the local community, guest speakers to discuss the Church's response to current events, tailgates, game nights, fun excursions off campus, RCIA for those seeking to become Catholic, and more.

Where will you find us?

Allen University, Benedict College, Claflin University, Clemson University, Coastal Carolina University, College of Charleston, Columbia College, Converse College, Francis Marion University, Furman University, Lander University, Medical University of South Carolina, Orangeburg Calhoun Technical College, Presbyterian College, South Carolina State University, Southern Wesleyan University, The Citadel, Tri-County Technical College, University of South Carolina, University of South Carolina-Upstate, Winthrop University, Wofford College

Sounds good! How do I get started?

Simple, just contact the Nativity Parish Office and give us your contact information (name, cell phone, email address, the SC college you will attend). We will take it from there. The campus ministry will contact you soon after you arrive on campus. But wait! We know this is going to be a busy summer. So save yourself some time;

Just have your parents or grandparents handle these details for you!

For more information please contact Mary Smith at DRE@NativityCharleston.org or at 843-795-3821 ext 104

Nativity School

Catapult Learning



Enroll Your Child Today!

Nativity School is proud to offer Summer Journey, a **FREE**, fun and engaging summer school program. Catapult's Summer Journey Program offers robust educational opportunities and engaging activities that allow students to learn throughout the summer while also having fun. Our comprehensive program addresses academic, social, and emotional learning by incorporating instruction, enrichment activities, and family support elements.

Nativity School Highlights:



Literacy: Improves students' skills across the Big 5—phonics, phonological awareness, fluency, comprehension, and vocabulary



Math: Helps struggling learners build confidence and improve their math skills



STEM: Engages students in fun, project-based learning to expand critical thinking skills



Life Skills: Fosters growth-mindset and helps students communicate effectively

Grades:

K-5

Dates:

July 10-21

Times:

Monday - Friday
9am-12pm

Location:

Nativity School



To register, please visit <https://forms.gle/jgyNZsmTBAV57y6H9> or scan this QR Code.




Catholic Radio in SC

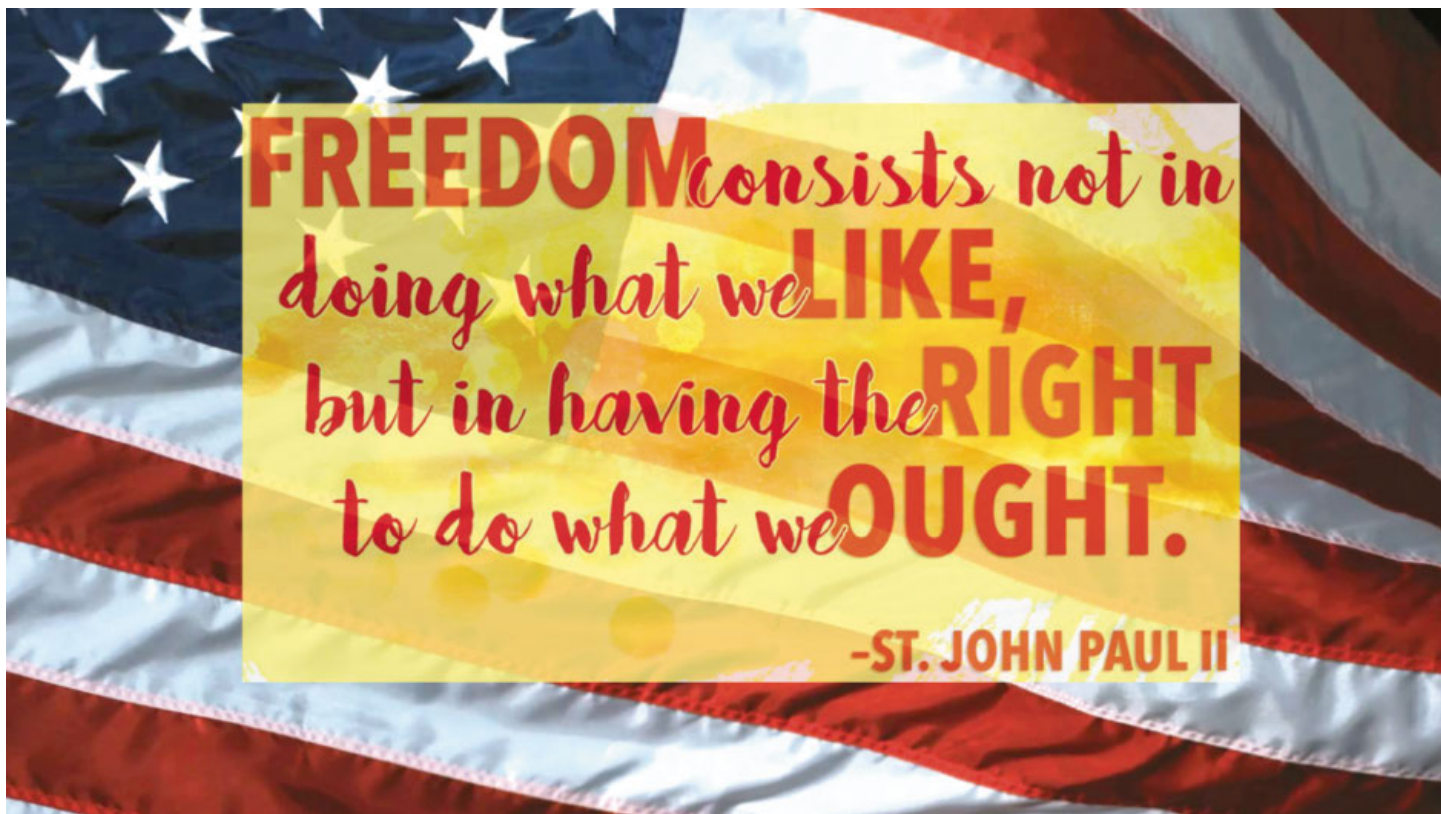
on WLTQ 730 AM and 106.7 FM

These stations broadcast Catholic Radio content twenty four hours a day. In addition to radio show offerings from the Eternal Word Television Network (EWTN), the station broadcasts short interviews, special features, and announcements of local interest.

For further convenience, Catholic Radio in South Carolina has released an app so that inspirational and programming materials can be accessed 24/7 via tablets and smart phones.

To get the app for your mobile device, just scan this QR code  with your device's camera. The App is free.





**July 4th — Have a safe and enjoyable Independence Day—
And appreciate those who have sacrificed so much!**



**Starts again on
Tuesday, September 5, 2023 at 6:15 pm
in the Parish Life Center Ave Maria Hall**

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

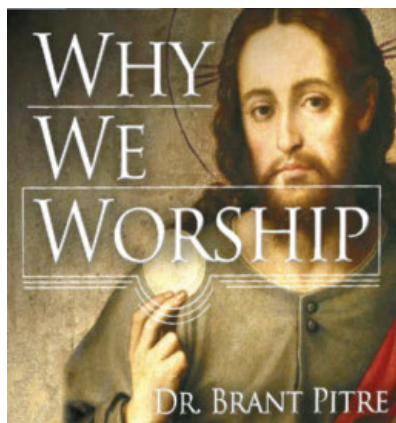
Please plan to attend and bring a friend



Flowers

at the altar this weekend are in honor of the
20th Anniversary of the priestly ordination of

*Fr. Thomas Kingsley.
May you have many more.*



**Tuesday Daytime Bible Study
12:30 to 2:00 pm in the Parish Life Center**

This study is a series of 6 DVD presentations (one at each meeting) with group prayer and discussion. The sessions are in person and online via ZOOM

[https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87244968092?
pwd=cmRrd2kvTmptEQzgvNE1ubE00NGZxdz09](https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87244968092?pwd=cmRrd2kvTmptEQzgvNE1ubE00NGZxdz09)

Meeting ID: 872 4496 8092 and the Passcode: Nativity

For more information, please contact Ryckie Watkins at ryckiewatkins1329@comcast.net

**July 4 is 'Replay Tuesday'!
We will replay a video you missed or one that you found
particularly meaningful—Participant choice.**



Perhaps You or someone you know

- ? Are interested to know more about our Catholic Faith.
- ? Have pondered the notion of becoming a Catholic but do not know where to start?
- ? Was baptized Catholic as a child, but may not have received the Sacraments of Confirmation and Eucharist?

Well then, RCIA may be just the thing for you!

So what is RCIA anyway? RCIA is an acronym that means the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults. It is a series of lessons aimed at explaining to adults what it means to be Catholic.

Nativity offers an opportunity to come together in a welcoming and accepting setting. Participants are encouraged to engage in the process with their questions, their insights, and their faith story. Sessions focus on the teachings and experience of the Church and are intended to prepare the participants to celebrate the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist during the Easter season.

The RCIA classes are held from 10:00 am to 11:15 am on Sunday morning in the Parish Life Center Meeting Room.

This year's program begins on Sunday, August 27 at 5:30 pm with a 'Meat and Greet' Cookout!

For more information, please contact Vicki Vázquez at admin@nativitycharleston.org or at 843-795-3821.



Saint Maria Goretti, An Exemplar of Heroic Virtue—Feast is July 6

Maria Goretti was born in October 1890 in Italy. She was the third of seven children of a poor peasant family. In order to make ends meet, Maria's father, Luigi entered into partnership with a man named Serenelli. The Goretti family also shared a residence with Serenelli and his two sons, one of whom was named Alessandro.

Maria's father died of malaria in 1900 but the family continued to live with the Serenelli family. Maria was

naturally pious, kind, and helpful. She took over household duties while her mother, brothers, and sister worked in the fields.

Alessandro Serenelli was a crude and callous predator.

... see Goretti, next column —>

<— continued from Goretti, previous column

He often made advances against Maria and threatened to kill her if she told her mother. Maria resisted his repeated harassment and narrowly managed to escape. However, one day, Alessandro arranged things so that he would be alone in the house with Maria and he assaulted her. Maria fought him off and told him she would rather die than allow him to do what he wanted to do to her. He became enraged and stabbed her—many times.

Maria was taken to the hospital where she died a day later on July 6, 1902. But before her death she specifically forgave her attacker. She was 11 years old.

Maria Goretti was beatified by Pope Pius XII on April 27, 1947 and was canonized by him in 1950. Her mother, Assunta Goretti, was present, the only mother ever to attend her child's canonization. Also present were other members of the Goretti family and possibly her now converted attacker, Alessandro Serenelli.

Maria's chastity was not just bodily purity, but an even greater virtue. She so loved her enemies that she wished them to be with her in heaven. She wanted Alessandro to become holy. These virtues are what make this eleven year old girl remarkable.

Catechists Needed!

LOVE YOUR FAITH?
SHARE IT!

The word 'catechesis' means 'to echo'. Literally, we are to echo the good news of Jesus Christ to others. This not a suggestion: it is a command of our Lord.

Specifically, we need more catechists in order to be able to offer the Nativity Parish School of Religion for the 2023-2024 school year. We need some class teachers, substitute teachers and class assistants.

If you love your faith and would be willing to share that blessing with the children of our parish, please contact Mary Smith at 795-3821ext 104.

Dennis P. Baars
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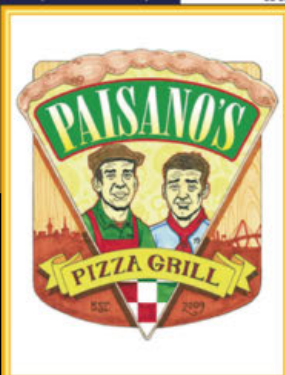
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