

#### It's All About Relationship

It's not uncommon to hear people complain that we Catholics often fail in communicating our faith. Fair enough. We can and should improve there. But it's interesting to notice that Jesus himself was implicitly accused by his disciples of a similar failure. This week in Matthew's gospel they are perplexed that he speaks to the crowds in ambiguous parables. The Lord's riddles leave many people more confused than before. He responds by pointing out that his parables have an intentional dual purpose: to hide (for some) and to reveal (for others) his Gospel: "Because knowledge of the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven has been granted to you, but to them it has not been granted" (Matthew 13:11). Is Jesus being unnecessarily difficult, obscurantist, or, worse, elitist?

No. We have to remember that all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge lie hidden in him (c.f., Col. 2:3). He is the word of God from heaven to be planted in the earth of our humanity to bear great fruit. However, like a lover delicately pursuing his beloved, we're dealing with a *relationship*, not new data. When we aren't willing to personally accept Jesus into our lives, the "info" of the Gospel will simply not make sense to us. It'll seem bizarre, esoteric, or like incoherent religious-speak. But when we are willing to accept Jesus into our lives, everything else starts to make sense. When others don't understand the Church or the Lord, let's be patient. Love is patient. Sometimes it has to hide before it is revealed.

...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

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

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/

#### 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 July 22—July 23**

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

**5:30 pm Mass** 

Greeters: John & Meg Hoeft,

Patrick Kelley & Kathy Wiley

Altar Servers: Isabella Cunningham,

Jake Hoeft

**Eucharistic** Barbara Coddington, Meg Hoeft, Ministers: Carolyn Smith, Mary Smith,

John Warren

Lector: Cava Riley

Ushers: Emmett Alphonse, Patrick Kelley,

Leroy Holseberg, Lamar Watkins

9:00 am Mass

Greeters: Horner Family, Knight Family
Altar Servers: Eliza Cellars, Abram Delaney,

Jacob Perry

**Eucharistic** Suzanne Decker, Kathy Murphy, **Ministers:** Kirby Preston, Becky Warriner,

Gary Warriner

Lector: Andrew Preston

**Ushers:** Richard Bragiel, Joe Dubois,

Walter Machowski, Steve Molony

11:30 am Mass

Greeters: Sheila Griner, Susan La Via Altar Servers: Gavin Gilreath, Liam Hale,

Can'n Hasanbara

Caryn Hasenberg **Eucharistic**Lynn Curry, Jackie Doscher,

Ministers: Pam Everitt, Christine Lewis

Phu Tran

Lector: David Knab

**Ushers:** Lewis Doscher, Chuck Everitt,

Joe Ginn, Sheila Griner

#### Offerings June 26 — July 2

Collections at Mass (Jul 1—Jul 2) Mail in Offerings (Jun 26—Jun 30)	\$ \$	12,039.00 3,715.00
myEoffering (Jun 26—Jun 30)	\$	3,558.49
Budget (1 week)	\$	16,557.49
Difference	\$	+ 2,754.50
Registered Households		615
Envelopes Used (Jul 1—Jul 2)		101
Active myEoffering Families		158
MyEoffering Family Donations (Jun 26-	–Ju	n 30) <b>109</b>

Offerings for Peter's Pence: \$956.00

**Second Collections for July are:** 

**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



### 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.

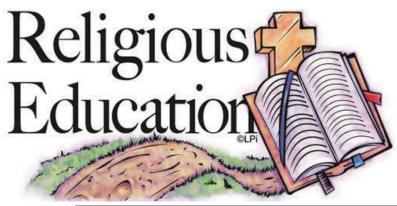
To have names added or removed from these lists, please contact the parish office at 843-795-3821

#### Intentions

Mass: This Week				
Sat.	15	5:30 pm	Deceased classmates of Sumaya	
			Florez' Medical School Class on	
			the anniversary of their graduation	
Sun.	16	9:00 am	For the People of Nativity	
		11:30 am	Carl F. Kornahrens+	
Mon.	17	11:30 am	Don Easler+	
Tues.	18	11:30 am	Bill Egan+	
Wed.	19	11:30 am	Wedding Anniversary of	
			Steve & Jamie Molony	
Thurs.	20	11:30 am	Robert Kaiser+	
Fri.	21	11:30 am	Arnold Bennett+	
Sat.	22	5:30 pm	Kim Wade Roberts+	
	23	9:00 am	John Weston Massie+	
		11:30 am	Peter Ferra+	

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 <a href="https://www.nativity-school.com">www.nativity-school.com</a> or our FaceBook <a href="https://www.facebook.com/NativitySchoolKnights">www.facebook.com/NativitySchoolKnights</a>. 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 if 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



#### 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 <u>Rite</u> of <u>Christian Initiation of Adults</u>. It is a series of lessons aimed at explaining to adults what it means to be Catholic.

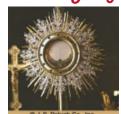
Nativity offers an opportunity to come together in a welcoming and accepting setting. Participants are encouraged to engage in the process with their questions, their insights, and their faith story. Sessions focus on the teachings and experience of the Church and are intended to prepare the participants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

## Weekly Hour of fucharistic Adoration is fvery 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.



#### Flowers

at the altar this weekend are in loving memory of

Carl F. Kornahrens. May he rest in peace.



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 <a href="mailto:alpha@nativitycharleston.org">alpha@nativitycharleston.org</a> or at 843-795-3821.

Please plan to attend and bring a friend!

## 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.

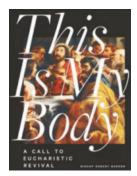


#### Rachel's Vineyard Retreat

is a supportive, confidential, non-judgmental 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: Sep 29—Oct 1 (Greenville, SC).

For more information or registration please contact Christy at 803 554 6088 or Kathy at 803 546 6010 or email us at <a href="mailto:Grace4healing@gmail.com">Grace4healing@gmail.com</a>



#### INTRODUCING A NEW SESSION OF THE WEDNESDAY, DINE AND DISCUSS BOOK CLUB

Our first session ended on June, 28.

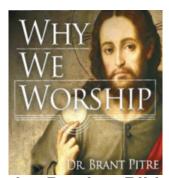
The discussion was inspiring and the potluck dinner was totally fabulous. We are looking to build on this success with this new session.

Our book is Bishop Robert Baron's "This Is My Body" - A Call to Eucharistic Revival.

Pick up your copy at the Nativity Parish office for the great price of just \$2.00 per copy. Read the book on your own and gather at the Parish Life Center at 6:00 pm on August  $9^{\text{th}}$  for a potluck dinner to

#### DINE AND DISCUSS.

For more information, please contact Andrea Gilliard at <a href="mailto:acgilliard@comcast.net">acgilliard@comcast.net</a> or Mary Smith at <a href="mailto:dre@nativitycharleston.org">dre@nativitycharleston.org</a>



#### 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=cmRrd2kvTmpEQzqvNE1ubE00NGZxdz09

Meeting ID: 872 4496 8092 and the Passcode: Nativity For more information, please contact Ryckie Watkins at ryckiewatkins1329@comcast.net

Please join us as often as you are able.

#### Our Lady of Mount Carmel



Feast is July 16

The origins of this feast reach all the way back to the Old Testament. In the book of Kings, we read the story of the prophet Elijah. Much of his prayer, fasting and public ministry occurred Carmel, a mountain in Israel. Christian hermits — seeking solitude — made their homes on the mountain during the first millennium. Over time, the hermits assembled into a community and were given a Rule of Life. They were

called Carmelites. They named their church after Mary — Our Lady of Mount Carmel.

Political upheaval forced the Carmelite order out of the Holy Land and into Europe, where they established monasteries for both men and women across the continent. Many great saints and doctors of the Church have come from the Carmelite order, including St. Teresa of Avila, St. John of the Cross, St. Therese of Lisieux, and Edith Stein.

While Our Lady of Mt. Carmel is the patron saint of the Carmelite Order, the basis for the universal Church honoring Mary under this title dates to her appearance to an English Carmelite St. Simon Stock in the 13th century. She gave him the Brown Scapular, a garment worn by religious over the neck and shoulders as an apron, to be worn by Carmelites "as a sign of her protection." It is a Marian devotional practice which, over the centuries, has spread to Catholics around the world.

## 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 Sep 8 thru 10 in Charlotte, NC. For more details, please contact <a href="mailto:retrouvaillenc@msn.com">retrouvaillenc@msn.com</a> or visit the web site at <a href="https://www.helpourmarriage.org">https://www.helpourmarriage.org</a>

#### 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 Nov. 10 thru 12 in Myrtle Beach, SC.

For more information visit our website at:
<a href="https://SCMarriageMatters.org">https://SCMarriageMatters.org</a>
Or contact us at <a href="mailto:applications@scmarriagematters.org">applications@scmarriagematters.org</a>
or at 803-810-9602.



## Nativity School Renovations



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