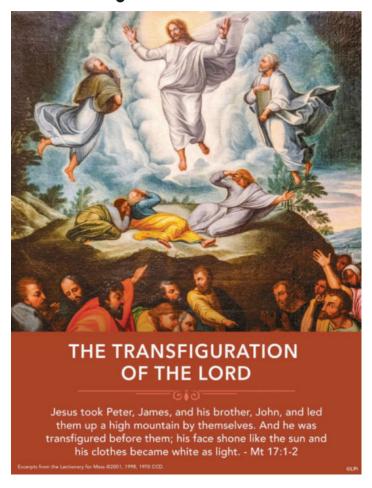
# August 6, 2023



### What is Christianity?

What is Christianity finally about? These days if you ask almost anyone who doesn't know the Bible, you'll probably hear an answer like this: "Being a good person" or "following the golden rule." No offense to the golden rule, but our faith is simply much stranger than that. This week's feast of the Transfiguration of the Lord is a luminous example of this. Jesus becomes radiantly and overwhelmingly beautiful. The glory of God literally shines forth from his body and even his clothes. Here we see that Christianity is not mainly a moral system, but a relationship with God in Christ, one that finally makes human beings gloriously beautiful.

Now we can see our good and bad deeds in a new and de-centered way. Our morality isn't about a heaven or hell scorecard. It's about lives open (or closed) to transfiguration, lives capable of revealing the glory of God in Christ to the world. Spouses, children, friends, co-workers, priests, consecrated women and men, and so on — we are all called to let the beauty of Jesus make our lives beautiful, little by little. His beauty in us is the center 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.. 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 Aug 12—Aug 13**

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

**5:30 pm Mass** 

Greeters: Tom & Marcia McNamee,

Dianne Pri

Altar Servers: Emma Grace Turner, Daniel Salceda

Eucharistic Mary Bieda, Mike Bieda, Eileen Easler,

Ministers: Patty Edwards, Mary Smith

Lector: Claire Bergstrom

Ushers: Emmett Alphonse, Patrick Kelley, Leroy Holseberg, Lamar Watkins

9:00 am Mass

Greeters: Cellars Family, Decker Family
Altar Servers: Liam Manning, Savanna Owens,

Jack Perry

**Eucharistic** Kathy Murphy, Hal Perry, Pat Perry,

Ministers: Kirby Preston, Kristi Roberts,

**Lector:** Jimmy Craven

Ushers: Richard Bragiel, George Hill, Walter Machowski, Steve Molony

11:30 am Mass

Greeters: Susan La Via, Natalie Zanolli

Altar Servers: Zoe Cuzmar, Liam Hale, Megumi Tran Eucharistic Jackie Doscher, Pam Everitt,

Ministers: Jackie Doscher, Pam Evenit,
Christine Lewis, Maier Runyon,

Maier Runyon

Lector: Cava Riley

Ushers: Lewis Doscher, Chuck Everitt, Gilbert O'Brien, Natalie Zanolli

### Offerings July 24 — July 30

Collections at Mass (Jul 29—Jul 30)	\$ 9,404.00
Mail in Offerings (Jul 24—Jul 28)	\$ 7,433.00
myEoffering (Jul 24—Jun 28)	\$ 3,964.62
Budget (1 week)	<b>\$ 16,557.49</b>
Difference	\$ + 4,265.93
Registered Households	615
Envelopes Used (Jul 29—Jul 30)	151
Active myEoffering Families	158

**Second Collections for August are:** 

MyEoffering Family Donations (Jul 24—Jul 28)

**August 20: Disaster Assistance** 

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

If you are unable to attend Mass, please consider making your regular offerings by mail or online (myEoffering).



## 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: Jama Stilwell

From previous months: Allene Barans, Clydie Bevis, Beverly Blevins, Ray Blevins, Don Carcone, Anne Castelli, Ron Connick, Herman Connor, Wendy Craven, Arlene & Bill Crosby, Vi Defourneaux, William Doherty, Jake DuPree, Angela Harbuta, Terry Harris, James Michael Huber, Dan & Mary Hughes, Myrtis Jenkins, Fred Kornahrens, Delores Lopez, Katherine and William Manning, Paul Madden, John Minaudo, Paul & Carole Moran, Frances O. O'Leary, 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.

### Intentions Darrell Nys+

Aug 5 — Aug 11

112

$\overline{}$	ug 5	_ ^	ug 11	Darrell Nys+
Mass: This Week				
S	at.	5	5:30 pm	Kim Wade Roberts+
S	un.	6	9:00 am	Benjamin Jantzen+
			11:30 am	Darrell Nys+
M	on	7	11:30 am	Wesley Walker+
Τι	ues.	8	11:30 am	Dominick Minotti+
W	/ed.	9	11:30 am	For the students of Nativity
TI	hurs.	10	11:30 am	For the teachers of Nativity
Fi	ri.	11	11:30 am	All the souls in purgatory
S	at.	12	5:30 pm	Dooley Fava+
S	un.	13	9:00 am	For the 72nd wedding anniversary
				of Esther & Walter Machowski
			11:30 am	For the 7th wedding anniversary
				of Dennis & Hien Bauhman

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—Teaching Values for Life!

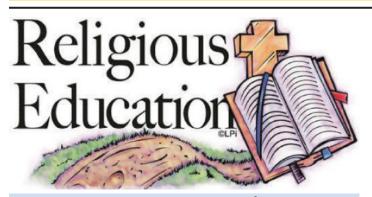
Discover Nativity School, James Island's best kept secret for K4-8 grades.

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

To learn more about Enrollment and our School, 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.c

Hope all enjoyed the summer vacation.

The fall semester starts Monday, August 14.



### 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/

Late registration of \$20 now applies.

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

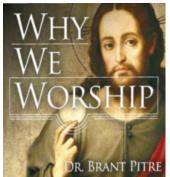
# Catechists Needed!

### 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.



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

We have completed our study. However, this series was so full of inspiration and meaning that we will be having 'Replay Tuesday' for the next few weeks.

These sessions are in person and online via ZOOM <a href="https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87244968092?pwd=cmRrd2kvTmpEQzgvNE1ubE00NGZxdz09">https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87244968092?pwd=cmRrd2kvTmpEQzgvNE1ubE00NGZxdz09</a>

Meeting ID: 872 4496 8092 and the Passcode: Nativity

For more information, please contact Ryckie Watkins at <a href="mailto:ryckiewatkins1329@comcast.net">ryckiewatkins1329@comcast.net</a>

Contact Ryckie and vote to replay the episodes of you choice.

### So what is RCIA anyway?



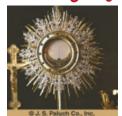
RCIA is an acronym that means the  $\underline{\mathbf{R}}$ ite of  $\underline{\mathbf{C}}$ hristian  $\underline{\mathbf{I}}$ nitiation of  $\underline{\mathbf{A}}$ dults. It is a series of lessons aimed at explaining to adults what it means to be Catholic. Nativity offers an opportunity to come together 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 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.

# Rachel's Vineyard Healing the trauma of abortion, one weekend at a time

### 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 Grace4healing@gmail.com



### The Way: Healing Retreat for Women

To: All priest and parishes

The Archdiocese of Atlanta is hosting *The Way*, a healing retreat for female survivors of abuse. The retreat will be held Sept. 22-24 at the Sautee Mountain Retreat in Clarkesville, Georgia.

"The Way is the path to take to find answers to these and many other questions for which your heart, mind, body, and soul have been searching. This is where your healing journey begins. These three days of guided meditations and prayer crafted around the Stations of the Cross will show you the steps Christ took to overcome dread, confusion, deep hurt, betrayal, and anger not only for his experience of abuse – which culminated in his death on the cross and new life in the Resurrection – but for your abuse as well. You can choose to walk The Way with him, learn his ways, transform your pain and suffering into a new life, the life God has always wanted for you but that the sins of another has disfigured in countless ways." -Sue Stubbs, Retreat Facilitator and Counselor.

The application deadline is **Sept. 14**. Please contact Sue Stubbs at 404-920-7554 or <u>sstubbs@archatl.com</u> to register.

### **Community Fellowship Weekend**

Parish Covered Dish Hosted by the Nativity Ladies Guild





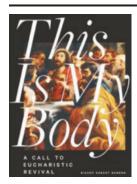
Saturday, August 5, after the 5:30 Mass Bring your favorite dish to share

**Sunday, August 6, after the 9:00 Mass** Bring your favorite breakfast dish to share

Sunday, August 6, after the 11:30 Mass Bring your favorite lunch dish to share

Drop off food at the PLC before all Masses.

### All are encouraged to participate in these Community Gatherings!



# WEDNESDAY DINE AND DISCUSS BOOK CLUB

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<sup>th</sup> 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>

### Choir Rehearsal Resumes Wednesday, Sep. 6 at 6:30 pm

The choir regularly rehearses on Wednesday evening. We usually finish by 7:30 pm.

# New singers are always welcome. No experience is needed. The only requirement is to show up.

Can't make a 10 month commitment? Consider "singing for a season". You might be able to join us in September and sing through Thanksgiving or join us in us in advent and sing through Christmas. (This is really a popular option because everybody likes to sing Christmas Carols).

For more information, please contact Courtney Reed (Director of Music) at 843-795-3821 x 103 or at Music@NativityCharleston.org

Please Come Join Us!

# Join a conversation...

Alpha is a series of group conversations that explore the basics of the Christian faith. Everyone's welcome. You're invited, no matter your background or beliefs.

- Connect with new people
- Watch an episode on a question of faith
- Share your thoughts and hear from others



### Marriage Assistance Ministries

### Planning to get Married?

Couples need to contact the priest at least six months prior to the proposed wedding date. Please call the parish office at 843-795-3821.

### Preparing for Marriage?

Catholic Engagement Encounter is a community of Catholics serving engaged couples by sharing our experiences of living out the values of a sacramental marriage. Weekend retreats are held in Simpsonville, SC and the next retreats are Aug 19-20 and Nov. 11-12.

For more information or to register, please visit <a href="https://southcarolina.engagedencounter.com/">https://southcarolina.engagedencounter.com/</a>

# Planning to re-marry in the Church? Please contact Fr. Kingsley at

pastor@nativitycharleston.org
to initiate the process of annulment of a previous
marriage.

# 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 Jan. 13 thru 15 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.

### Marriage is a Sacrament that the Church is here to uphold and protect.



The Nativity Ladies Guild officers for the year 23/24 were inaugurated at the 11:30 Mass on Sunday, July 30. Shown above: Christi Roberts—vice president, Jackie Doscher—president, and Lisa Turner—Treasurer. Not shown: Marion Hoffman—past president and Christine Lewis—secretary.

# Many thanks to the Nativity Ladies Guild for the many events and the activities that benefit our community.

### LADIES GUILD SEWING GROUP

Next Saturday (Aug. 12) from 9:00 am to 12 noon

in the Nativity Parish Life Center

We will be cutting fabric for bibs and burp cloths which will be donated to

local pregnancy centers in October. This week we will only be cutting the fabric. The fabric will be provided.

For more information, please contact Marion Hoffman at <a href="mailto:m.hoffman@earthlink.net">m.hoffman@earthlink.net</a> or at 803-397-2681

Anyone can help. Bring your best scissors.



### **Baptism**

### Sawyer Elizabeth Ray

daughter of Katie and Zachary Ray was welcomed into our faith community on Sunday, July 30.

Congratulations to this new member of our church.

# Give Generously... because it is really not your stuff!

Christian Stewardship instructs us to understand that God is the ultimate giver of the gifts we have. To give to God should be "from the top" – not what may be left over.

Dennis P. Baars **Certified Public Accountant** Taxes . Accounting **471 Wallace Drive** Charleston, SC 29412 843-795-6632 | 843-437-0775 C.



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