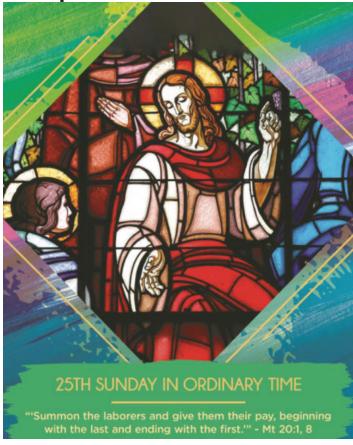
September 24, 2023



It's Just Not Fair

Once I gave my three-year-old niece a certain toy for Christmas. When she opened it, she was happy. Shortly thereafter her five-year old sister opened another present from me: the same toy, along with some play jewelry. The three-year-old cried out: "That's not fair! Why'd she get the jewelry, too?!"

Let's face it: there's something about God's grace in our religion which bugs us. We love to look at others' blessings and cry out: "That's not fair!" Catholicism is not fair in the sense that it is a religion founded on God's grace which is unmerited favor. God pours his mercy, love, and divine life upon us not because we're good but because He is infinitely good.

If you think the "not fair" quality of grace is easy to accept, consider how typically angry we get when we hear the parable of the workers who get paid way more than they deserve. The hyper-generous landowner says to the indignant hard workers, "Are you envious because I am generous?" Well, yes, they are, and so are we! Therefore, we have to reckon with this painful truth in order to move into the divine sphere of gifts, which is the world of Christ and his Church. Then we are able to move beyond a tit-for-tat world and into one where gifts are poured forth on those who don't deserve it — namely, upon us.

...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 Weekly Mass Schedule

Mon. through Fri. 11:30 am Mass
Thurs. 9:30 am School Mass
All are welcome and invited to attend the School Mass.
Attendees who are not affiliated with Nativity School are requested to please sit toward the back of the church and away from the students.

Saturday Vigil Mass Sunday Mass 5:30 pm

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

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 Sep 30—Oct 1

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: Jake Hoeft, Daniel Salceda

Eucharistic Wendy Bergstrom, Barbara Coddington,

Ministers: Eileen Easler, Carolyn Smith,

Mary Smith

Lector: Lisa Zuraw

Lector:

Ushers: Emmett Alphonse, Patrick Kelley,

Leroy Holseberg, Lamar Watkins

9:00 am Mass

Greeters: Grant Family, Kathy Grisillo **Altar Servers:** Eliza Cellars, Matthew Hart,

Liam Manning

Eucharistic Karen Cellars, Jimmy Craven, Judy Daugomah, Becky Warriner,

Gary Warriner Elena Smith

Ushers: Richard Bragiel, George Hill,

Walter Machowski, Steve Molony

11:30 am Mass

Greeters: Rebecca Beylotte, Natalie Zanolli Altar Servers: Rosalie Felix, Caryn Hasenberg,

Tomi Tran

Eucharistic Lynn Curry, Jackie Doscher, Ministers: Pam Everitt, Christine Lewis,

Maier Runyon

Lector: Cava Riley

Ushers: Lewis Doscher, Chuck Everitt,

Gilbert O'Brien, Natalie Zanolli

Offerings September 11 — September 17

•			
Collections at Mass (Sep 16—Sep 17)	\$,552.00
Mail in Offerings (Sep 11—Sep 15)	\$	1	,315.00
myEoffering (Sep 11—Sep 15)	\$	4	,425.32
Budget (1 week)	\$	16	<u>,557.69</u>
Difference	\$	+	734.63
Registered Households			615
Envelopes Used (Sep 16—Sep 17)			162
Active myEoffering Families			158
MyEoffering Family Donations (Sep 11-	–Se	p 15	i) 120

Second Collections for October are:

October 22: World Mission Sunday

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: Mary Bieda, Charlotte Hanna, Mariano La Via, Ruthie Mallard

From previous months: Allene Barans, Clydie Bevis, Beverly Blevins, Ray Blevins, Don Carcone, Anne Castelli, Ron Connick, Herman Connor, Wendy Craven, Arlene & Bill Crosby, Ed Defourneaux, 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, Jama Stilwell, Fran Taylor, Inge Thornley, Jerry Wade, 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

23	5:30 pm	Brady Lee+
24	9:00 am	For the people of Nativity
	11:30 am	For the people of Nativity
25	11:30 am	For the people of Nativity
26	11:30 am	Funeral Mass
27	11:30 am	
28	11:30 am	Dr. Frank Castellano+
29	11:30 am	
30	5:30 pm	Leslie McDermott+
1	9:00 am	For the people of Nativity
	11:30 am	For the people of Nativity
	24 25 26 27 28 29 30	24 9:00 am 11:30 am 25 11:30 am 26 11:30 am 27 11:30 am 28 11:30 am 29 11:30 am 30 5:30 pm 1 9:00 am

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 g<mark>rades.</mark>
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 page at www.facebook.com/NativitySchoolKnights. or contact the School Office at 843-795-3975

The School Year is off to a great Start!



Putting Faith Into Action!

Recently the Nativity 8th grade students visited Bishop Gadsden Episcopal Retirement Community "getting to know you" activity. Each student brought an item from home to describe themselves and talked about their item with the residents.





NATIVITY LADIES GUILD LUNCHEON

THIS SUNDAY, (SEP. 24) AT 12:45 PM IN THE PARISH LIFE CENTER

WELCOME ALL LADIES OF NATIVITY PARISH

RSVP TO: JACKIE DOSCHER PHONE OR TEXT 843-276-5002 EMAIL: <u>JACKIEDOSCHER@GMAIL.COM</u> OR

> SHARON DALE PHONE OR TEXT 843-795-6715 EMAIL: ASHSHARON1@AOL.COM







Do you like to knit or crochet? Would you like to help someone feel supported, comforted, or blessed?

The Prayer Shawl Ministry may be for you!

All you need is some yarn and knitting needles or a crochet hook. We will meet in the Parish Life Center on October 11th, 2023 from 1:00 – 2:30 pm. Light refreshments will be provided.

For more information, please contact Debbie Kennedy at natprayershawl@gmail.com



LADIES GUILD SEWING GROUP

Will Meet Every Saturday through Nov 18th in the Parish Life Center from 9:00 am to noon.

Everyone who has some time on Saturday and would like to help us is encouraged to participate. We are working on items to sell at the Fall Craft Festival in November.

You don't have to sew (but it helps if you have your own machine!) We really need people who can cut fabric, pin materials, use an iron as needed and other tasks.

We also enjoy the fellowship of catching up on what's going on in the neighborhoods!

For more information, please contact Marion Hoffman at m.hoffman@earthlink.net or at 803-397-2681

NO EXPERIENCE NEEDED. JUST SHOW UP WHEN YOU CAN!



Young Adult Ministry

Join us October 20-22 at the beautiful Diakonia Retreat Center for our annual Fall Retreat. This will be a weekend to relax and renew while being in community with other young adults from across the state

Our theme is "Restless Hearts: Finding Peace in Christ."

For more information or to register please visit: https://charlestondiocese.configio.com/pd/369/young-adult-fall-retreat-2023

All young adults are Invited.



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



JAMES ISLAND OUTREACH HELPING NEIGHBORS UNITING COMMUNITY

1860 Camp Road Office Ph: (843) 762-3653

Our Current Food Drive has a goal of 10,000 items. Every can counts! Please help feed our neighbors. Most needed items:

- Canned lima beans, peas, mixed veggies
- Baked beans
- Saltines and other crackers
- Pancake mix and syrup
- Canned pasta (Spaghettios and Ravioli)
- Flour and cooking oil
- Ketchup/mustard/mayo

Please bring your items with you to Nativity weekend Mass and place them into the containers at the church entrances.

Thank you for continuing to help feed our hungry neighbors.





Wednesday Evening Bible Study

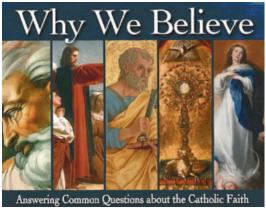
Our new study is Bishop Robert Barron's'

The Mass

Walk through the Liturgy with Bishop Barron and be transformed through insights on this most privileged and intimate encounter with our Lord Jesus Christ. See how the Mass brings us out of the fallen world and into the heavenly realm, how it resonates with a call from God and a response from his people, the Church, and, most importantly, how we are intimately jointed with the Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity of Jesus through the Holy Eucharist. *The Mass* will help you understand how to fully, consciously, and actively participate in the source and summit of the Christian life.

"In Person" Sessions are 5:45 pm to 7:15 pm in the Parish Life Center Meeting Room

For more information and to sign up, please contact Andrea Gilliard at (843) 696-2161 or acgilliard@comcast.net



Tuesday Bible Studies

Yes, it happened again. Tuesday Bible study has morphed and become twins.

The sessions are in person and online via ZOOM https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87244968092?
pwd=cmRrd2kvTmpEQzgvNE1ubE00NGZxdz09
<a href="mailto:meanth:meanth-mailto:meanth-meanth-mailto:meanth-mailto:meanth-mailto:meanth-mailto:meanth-mailto:meanth-mailto:meanth-mailto:meanth-mailto:meanth-mailto:mean

Tuesday Afternoon Bible Study is 12:30 pm to 2:00 pm in the Parish Life Center.

Tuesday Evening Bible Study is 6:00 pm to 7:30 in the Nativity Office Conference Room.

Both sessions will study "Why We Believe" by theologian Dr. Brant Pitre. This study is an eight week study presented in video format. No books are needed.

For more information, please contact Ryckie Watkins at 843-795-4194 or at ryckiewatkins1329@comcast.net.



"Partners in Charity."
Presentation by Sister Ann Billard, PhD, OLM The event was held on Friday Sept 15 in the Nativity Parish Life Center.

October is respect life month called to serve

In October, the Catholic Church in the United States celebrates Respect Life Month to help Catholics understand and value the gift of human life and help build a culture that cherishes and protects it.



Respect for Life—from conception to natural death—will be the focus at the weekend Masses



Nativity "Baby Everything" Drive

Throughout the month of October, The Nativity Ladies Guild and Respect Life Committee will be collecting items that a new mother needs in order to care for her new baby. **Donations of all New or Gently Used baby items are appropriate.** Preferred clothing and diaper sizes are for infants and toddlers 10 to 30 pounds.

Place your items in the containers at the church entrances when you come to weekend Mass or you can bring them with you to any Ladies Guild activity.

Your donations will assist clients of the Lowcountry Pregnancy Center and Birthright of Charleston.

For more information, please contact Christine Lewis at lewischristined@att.net

Thank you for caring for these new mothers and their babies.



Fall 2023 Campaign: Sep. 27 through Nov. 5

40 Days for Life is a focused pro-life campaign with a vision to access God's power through prayer, fasting, and peaceful vigil to end abortion in America.

Facts

- Currently over 700,000 abortions are reported yearly in the United States.
 - 40 Days for Life played a role in saving over 23,000 lived since 2007.

Local 40 Days for Life Events

Wed. Sep 27 through Sun. Nov. 5: 7:00 am to 7:00 pm—Daily Prayer Vigil at Planned Parenthood Charleston Health Center (1312 Ashley River Road Hwy. 61).

Wed. Sep 27 through Wed. Nov 1: 12:00 noon—Weekly Rosary for Life at Nativity Church

Thurs. Oct 19: 7:00 am to 7:00 pm—Nativity Prayer Vigil at Planned Parenthood Charleston Health Center (1312 Ashley River Road Hwy. 61).

Fri. Oct 20: 7:00 am to 7:00 pm—Nativity Prayer Vigil at Planned Parenthood Charleston Health Center (1312 Ashley River Road Hwy. 61).

Sun. Oct 22: 9:30 am—Mid-Way Rally at Planned Parenthood Charleston Health Center (1312 Ashley River Road Hwy. 61).

Sat. Nov 4: 10:00 am to 1:00 pm—Walk for Life at Wannamaker County Park)
For more information, please contact Christine Lewis at 843-813-3937 or at lewischristined@att.net

Sat. Nov 4: 5:30 pm—Victory Potluck Celebration (Location TBD) For more information, please contact Susan 703.328.2334

For more information regarding local 40 Days for Life Events, please visit:

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

Prayer to End Abortions.

Lord God, I thank you today for the gift of my life, and for the lives of all my brothers and sisters. I know there is nothing that destroys more life than abortion, yet I rejoice that You have conquered death by the Resurrection of Your Son. I am ready to do my part in ending abortion. Today I commit myself never to be silent, never to be passive, never to be forgetful of the unborn. I commit myself to be active in the pro-life movement, and never to stop defending life until all my brothers and sisters are protected, and our nation once again becomes a nation with liberty and justice not just for some, but for all, through Christ our Lord. Amen!

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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