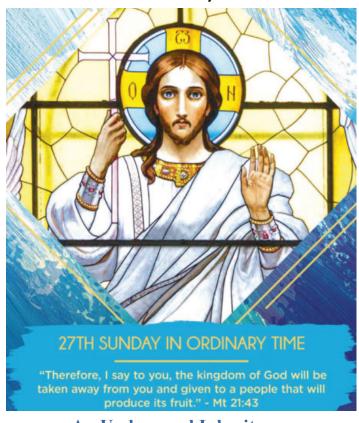
October 8, 2023



An Undeserved Inheritance

Jesus' parables are much stranger than most people realize. This week is an attention-getting example. He tells the religious leaders a parable about a completely absurd situation. Blood-thirsty and insane tenants violently abuse and kill the servants of their landlord. Inexplicably, the owner keeps sending them more victims of increasing value - up to and including his own son. Weird.

Usually, we hear this parable and assume it's an allegory: Jesus is the murdered son, the servants the prophets, etc. Fair enough. But notice — and here is where the weirdness deepens - Jesus seems to disagree with the Pharisees' interpretation that the landowner should and will punish the inheritance-obsessed murderers. So, is Jesus praising the psychotic and greedy murderers?! You can imagine the furrowed brows and deriding laughter as the scoffing crowd shuffles away.

If we stay with this tough parable, perhaps this truth emerges: God wants us to have an over-the-top obsession with a totally undeserved inheritance. Of course, we are forbidden to use violence. But the parable's violence gets our attention because it highlights the crazy goodness of the landowner. Jesus reveals that God is not merely in the business of rewarding the good and punishing the bad. He is playing a much stranger game - one marked by a kind of over-the-top mercy, a breathtaking giving of what is not deserved. What would our week look like if we embraced this kind of desire for God's kingdom on earth, even if others think we're nuts? This week let's seek God's kingdom with a passionate confidence in God's desire to give the good things we don't deserve.

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. Thurs.

11:30 am Mass 9:30 am School Mass

All are welcome and invited to attend the School Mass. Attendees who are not affiliated with Nativity School are requested to please sit toward the back of the church and away from the students.

5:30 pm Saturday Vigil Mass Sunday Mass 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

The vineyard of the Lord is the house of Israel ...Today's Psalm IS 5

...Father John Muir

THINGS TO KNOW

Nursery: Is offered to children age 6 weeks to 4 yrs. old during the Sunday 9:00 am Mass. It is located on the right side of the school's breezeway entrance. The Nursery is temporarily closed while the school is under construction.

Children's Liturgy of the Word: Is offered to children age 4 years through 5th grade during the 9:00 am Mass on Sundays. The children are dismissed after the opening prayers and re-join their family for the Liturgy of the Eucharist. **This ministry is currently unavailable as we assess space and volunteer needs.**

Religious Education Programs: Nativity School serves students in grades K4 through 8. The Parish School of Religion (PSR) is offered for other parish children, grades K4 through 8, enrolled in non-parochial schools. For more information. please contact Mary Smith at 843-795-3821 x 104.

Creating Safe Environments: All volunteers who minister in programs involving children at Nativity Parish or School are required to complete the Safe-Haven Online Abuse Prevention Training program. To complete this program, please visit http://charleston.CMGconnect.org. For more information please contact Vicki Vázquez at 843-795-3821 x 104.

Baptism: To schedule a Baptism preparation class, a parent should be an active parishioner. For more information please contact Mary Smith at 843-795-3821 x 104.

Sacraments of First Reconciliation, First Eucharist and Confirmation: A two year preparation period is required for these sacraments. Children planning to receive First Reconciliation and First Eucharist in the 2nd grade, must also have participated in a 1st grade PSR or Catholic school program. Children planning to receive the sacrament of Confirmation in the 8th grade must also have participated in a 7th grade PSR or Catholic school program. For more information please contact Mary Smith at 843-795-3821 x 104

Alpha: is a series of sessions that explore the Christian faith. These sessions provide an opportunity to explore life's big questions, to express your own thoughts and hear other people's points of view. Each session considers a different question of our faith via a video presentation and interactive discussion designed to create conversation. All are welcome and encouraged to participate. For more information and/or to sign up, please visit www.nativitycharleston.org/alpha. **Online option available.**

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA): is an opportunity to come together in a small group online to learn more about our faith with sessions focused on the teachings and experience of Church and prepare adults to celebrate the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist during the Easter season. To inquire, please contact Vicki Vázquez at 843-795-3821. **Online option available.**

FORMED.org: is a digital platform that gives our parish access to video-based study programs, feature films, audio presentations, and eBooks from the Church's foremost presenters. You just need an e-mail to sign in. No password.

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

Care of the Sick and Homebound: We care about you. To arrange for a pastoral visit, please contact the parish office at 843-795-3821.

Sacrament of the Sick: Anointing of the Sick is the sacrament that is received by those suffering from a potentially life-threatening illness, those planning to have serious surgery and those in advanced years. Please do not wait until the 'last minute' to request the Anointing of the Sick. To request this sacrament. contact the parish office at 843-795-3821.

STAFF

Pastor: Rev. Thomas Kingsley Pastor@NativityCharleston.org, 843-795-3821 x 105

Office Manager: Mrs. Vicki Vázquez Admin@NativityCharleston.org, 843-795-3821 x 101

Financial Secretary: Mrs. Carolyn Miller Finance@NativityCharleston.org, 843-795-3821 x 102

Maintenance Supt: Mr. Scott Smith Office@NativityCharleston.org, 843-795-3821 x 101

Music Director: Mrs. Courtney Reed Music@NativityCharleston.org, 843-795-3821 x 103

Religious Education: Mrs. Mary L. Smith DRE@NativityCharleston.org, 843-795-3821 x 104

School Principal: Mrs. Patti Dukes pdukes@nativity-school.com, 843-795-3975

Diocesan Office of Child Protection Services: 843-853-2130 x 209

Diocesan Victim Assistance Minister: 800-921-8122

Note from the Finance Council

You can provide for the needs of future generations of Catholics by remembering Nativity in your will. You may also choose to make a gift through a charitable trust or an annuity. For more information about joining the newly established Catholic Heritage Society or to learn more about legacy gifts, please contact Carrie Mummert at (843) 261-0435 or email cmummert@catholic-doc.org.

All inquiries are handled in confidence.

An Active Parishioner

- is registered with the parish for at least 3 months,
- attends liturgies weekly
- makes regular and identifiable contributions by using parish envelopes or myEoffering.

These criteria are used to verify parishioner status for Weddings, Sacramental Preparation, Parish School of Religion enrollment, Sponsor Certificates for Baptism and Confirmation, and to receive parishioner tuition rates at Catholic schools. An extended time with no activity will place a person or family on inactive status.

Please be an active parishioner



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

New to Our Community?

Forms are available at the church entrances. However, for immediate access, just scan this image with your smart phone ____>>>



For more information, please call the parish office at 843-795-3821.

Please consider joining our parish family!

Please support our Advertisers whose funding makes this bulletin possible.

Liturgical Ministers for Oct 14—Oct 15

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

	5:30 pm Mass
Greeters:	Dianne Piri,
	Timothy & Carolyn Smith
Altar Servers:	Jake Hoeft, Daniel Salceda
Eucharistic	Wendy Bergstrom, Eileen Easler,
Ministers:	Patty Edwards, Carolyn Smith,
	John Warren
Lector:	Mary Bieda
Ushers:	Emmett Alphonse, Patrick Kelley,
	Leroy Holseberg, Lamar Watkins

9:00 am Mass

Greeters:Horner Family, Becky WarrinerAltar Servers:Horner Family, Becky WarrinerAltar Servers:Maisie Lewis, Jacob Perry,
Emma Grace TurnerEucharisticKaren Cellars, Hal Perry, Pat Perry,
Kirby Preston, Kristi Roberts
Jimmy CravenUshers:Richard Bragiel, Joe Dubois,
Walter Machowski, Steve Molony

11:30 am Mass

Greeters: Altar Servers:	Sheila Griner, Natalie Zanolli Zoe Cuzmar, Gavin Gilreath,
	Liam Hale
Eucharistic	Lynn Curry, Jackie Doscher,
Ministers:	Kathy Hepner, Christine Lewis,
	Maier Runyon
Lector:	Sheila Elsey
Ushers:	Joe Ginn, Sheila Griner
	Gilbert O'Brien, Natalie Zanolli

Offerings October 2 — October 8

Collections at Mass (Oct 1—Oct 24)	\$		80.00
Mail in Offerings (Sep 25—Sep 29)	\$		40.00
myEoffering (Sep 25—Sep 29)	\$	4,3	73.49
Budget (1 week)	<u>\$</u>	<u>16,5</u>	57.69
Difference	\$	+ 1,2	35.80
Registered Households			615
Envelopes Used (Oct 1—Oct 2)			164
Active myEoffering Families			158
MyEoffering Family Donations (Sep 25-	-Se	ep 29)	112

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

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: Mary Bieda, 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 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 or at <u>Office@NativityCharleston.org</u>.

Intentions

Mass: This Week

Sat.	7		Dominick Minotti+
Sun.	8	9:00 am	25th wedding anniversary of Peter and Martha Khong
		11:30 am	Deceased classmates of the
			Bishop England Class of 1973
			& 50th graduation anniversary
Mon	9	11:30 am	Charles Cafiero+
Tues.	10	11:30 am	
Wed.	11	11:30 am	
Thurs.	12	11:30 am	Jimmy White+
Fri.	13	11:30 am	
Sat.	14	5:30 pm	Brady Lee+
Sun.	15	9:00 am	James Lyon, Jr.
		11:30 am	Carol Elaine Chiusano+

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.





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 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 continues. Please pray for our students.







NATIVITY SCHOOL FALL CARNIVAL

Join us for Fall Family Fun at the

Nativity School Annual Fall Carnival!

October 20, 2023

3:30pm-8pm



Please Mark Your Calendar and Plan to Attend!!



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 <u>m.hoffman@earthlink.net</u> 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/youngadult-fall-retreat-2023

All young adults are Invited.



Flowers

at the altar are given in thanksgiving for the 25th Wedding Anniversary of

Martha & Peter Kong May you have many more.

Altar Server Training

Father and our parish need altar servers!

If your child is ready and wants to become an altar server, here is some good news! Servers need to be Catholic, have celebrated their 1st Holy Communion and are 10 years



ed their 1st Holy Communion and are 10 years old.

Those qualified and interested need to attend the training session on

• Sunday October 8th at 10am (immediately following the 9am Mass).

The training session will be in the church.

This is also a refresher training for current servers who would like extra training.

Everyone interested in serving is encouraged to attend.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 13 - SATURDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2023

Marian Eucharistic Conference



Martignon



Rev. John Jim Bartunek, LC Wahlberg

Registration

General Admission: \$125, Youth: \$75 Registration required by OCT. 2 by mail. Registration after Oct. 2: \$135. Buffet dinner on Friday and buffet lunch on Saturday are included. Friday dinner choice: chicken or fish.

> For more information: MeConferenceSC.net or call 864-354-7160.

GREENVILLE CONVENTION CENTER 1 Exposition Dr., Greenville, SC 29607

Our Sympathy

We extend our deepest sympathy to the family and friends of

Charlotte Hanna,

whose funeral was held at Nativity on Friday, September 29.

May she rest in peace.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS COUNCIL 6250 PANCAKE BREAKFAST 10:00 AM THIS SUNDAY IN THE NATIVITY PARISH LIFE CENTER





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

Now 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).

Now Through Wed. Nov 1: 12:00 noon—Weekly Rosary for Life at Nativity Church

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 <u>lewischristined@att.net</u>

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

Radical Solidarity Prayer

O Blessed Mother, at the angel's word you went in haste to the aid of your cousin Elizabeth. Although pregnant yourself, you placed her needs before your own. By your example of radical solidarity, teach us to reverence and protect those in need, without conditions or expectations. Ask your Son to give us unfailing determination to witness to the profound dignity of every person, at every stage and in every circumstance. In that first Eucharistic procession, you carried Jesus to Elizabeth in her time of need. Obtain for us the grace to bring Christ to any expectant mother who is alone and afraid. May our support help them to find hope and strength in the Lord. Amen.



Thurs, Oct 19 and Fri, Oct 20 From 7:00 am to 7:00 pm

All members of the Nativity community are invited to join us at the Planned Parenthood—Charleston Health Center (1312 Ashley River Road Hwy. 61) as we pray for all those who are wounded by their participation in abortion.

For more information or to sign up, please contact

Christine Lewis at 843-813-3937 or at lewischristined@att.net

Or Malcolm Brennan 843-906-5511 or at mbprolife@gmail.com

Thank you for your care and concern for the unborn!



JAMES ISLAND OUTREACH HELPING NEIGHBORS

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

Please help feed our neighbors. Most needed items:

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

Learn about our Faith

The RCIA process (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults)

Classes are Sunday from 10:00 am to 11:15 am in the Nativity Parish Life Center. For more information, please contact Vicki Vázquez at <u>admin@nativitycharleston.org</u> or at 843-795-3821

Alpha-A series of sessions that explore the Christian faith

Sessions are Tuesday from 6:15 pm to 8:00 pm in the Nativity Parish Life Center. For more information please contact Vicki Vázquez at <u>alpha@nativitycharleston.org</u> or at 843-795-3821.

Tuesday Afternoon Bible Study–Why We Believe (Brandt Petri)

Sessions are Tuesday at 12:30 pm to 2:00 pm in the Nativity Parish Life Center in person and via ZOOM: <u>https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87244968092?pwd=cmRrd2kvTmpEQzgvNE1ubE00NGZxdz09</u> Meeting ID: 872 4496 8092 and the Passcode: Nativity For more information, please contact Ryckie Watkins at 843-795-4194 or at ryckiewatkins1329@comcast.net.

Tuesday Evening Bible Study-Why We Believe (Brandt Petri)

Sessions are Tuesday at 6:00 pm to 7:30 pm in the Nativity Parish Office in person and via ZOOM: <u>https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87244968092?pwd=cmRrd2kvTmpEQzgvNE1ubE00NGZxdz09</u> Meeting ID: 872 4496 8092 and the Passcode: Nativity For more information, please contact Ryckie Watkins at 843-795-4194 or at <u>ryckiewatkins1329@comcast.net</u>.

Wednesday Evening Bible Study—The Mass (Bishop Robert Baron)

Sessions are Wednesday at 5:45 pm to 7:00 pmin the Nativity Parish Life Center. For more information, please contact Andrea Gilliard at <u>acgilliard@comcast.net</u> or at 843-696-2161

Please give these Soul Foods a try.



There are many Catholic pets at Nativity. Many have increased holiness through the intersession of Saint Francis and the Blessing of Father Kingsley.



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