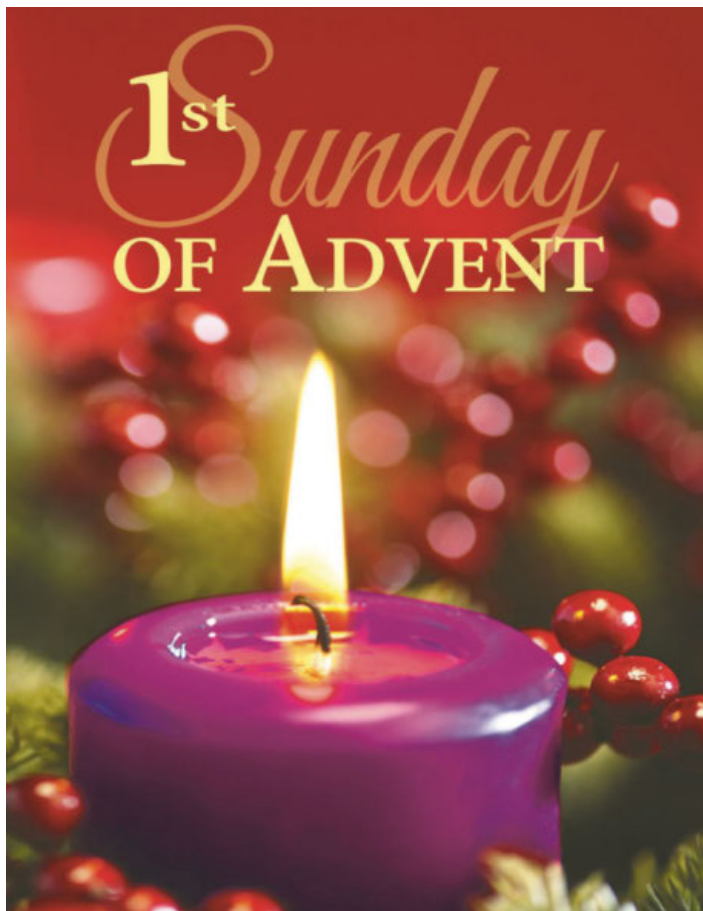


December 3, 2023

Catholic Diocese of Charleston



Watch Out!

In Advent, we celebrate our hope that the Lord might come more fully into our lives. The first reading from Isaiah voices the hope of sinners for a redeemer. Unlike Isaiah, we know that God has come to bring us back, when the Father sent his Son, Jesus, to save us. Our faith in Jesus leads us to a new way of looking at the world. We can see what God is doing as well as remembering what God has done.

Like the gatekeepers in Jesus' Gospel parable, we need to keep our eyes open for him. When we only look out for ourselves, we may miss the signs of God's presence around us. Instead of looking at the difficulties of life as obstacles, we can watch for them as opportunities to stretch our faith, to rely on God, or to show God's love to a friend. The recent re-translation of the prayers of the Mass can be an opportunity to stretch our faith and our understanding of the Eucharist.

The Corinthians were also watching for the Lord to come. They were thinking of Jesus as coming in glory. Though we don't see the full glory of the Lord, part of that glory is his presence in the sacraments. In them we celebrate not just the coming of the Lord, but his working in the world. He shares his life with us in baptism, gives us his Spirit in confirmation and himself in the Eucharist, heals us in reconciliation and the anointing of the sick, and calls us to make him present to others in holy orders and matrimony. You could almost say his second coming is taking place now. Watch for it.

...Tom Schmidt, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co



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 Thurs. 11:30 am Mass

Fri. Dec 8—Holy Day of Obligation Feast of the Immaculate Conception

Thurs, Dec 7 6:30 pm Holy Day Mass
Fri, Dec 8 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.

Fri, Dec 8 11:30 am Holy Day Mass

Saturday Vigil Mass 5:30 pm
Sunday Mass 9:00 am and 11:30 am

Weekly Hour of Eucharistic Adoration

Paused—Will Return after Advent

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

*Lord, make us turn to you; let us see
your face and we shall be saved.*

...Today's Psalm PS 80

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 Dec. 9—Dec. 10

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: Emma Grace Turner, Daniel Salceda
Eucharistic Ministers: Patty Edwards, Meg Hoeft, Carolyn Smith, Mary Smith, John Warren
Lector: Mary Bieda
Ushers: Emmett Alphonse, Patrick Kelley, Leroy Holseberg, Lamar Watkins

9:00 am Mass
Greeters: Bolchoz Family, Bonnie Nixon
Altar Servers: Finley Feary, Maisie Lewis, Jack Perry
Eucharistic Ministers: Karen Cellars, Matthew Cellars, Jimmy Craven, Judy Daughomah, Suzanne Decker
Lector: Andrew Preston
Ushers: Richard Bragiel, George Hill, Walter Machowski, Steve Molony

11:30 am Mass
Greeters: Sheila Griner, Susan La Via
Altar Servers: Liam Hale, Kenji Tran, Megumi Tran
Eucharistic Ministers: Lynn Curry, Jackie Doscher, Kathy Hepner, Christine Lewis, Phu Tran
Lector: Betsy DesNoyer
Ushers: Lewis Doscher, Sheila Griner, Gilbert O'Brien, Natalie Zanolli

Offerings November 13— November 26

Collections at Mass (Nov 18—Nov 19)	\$ 10,087.00
Collections at Mass (Nov 25—Nov 26)	\$ 10,567.00
Mail in Offerings (Nov 13—Nov 24)	\$ 7,055.00
myEoffering (Nov 13—Nov 24)	\$ 8,743.48
Budget (2 weeks)	\$ 33,115.38
Difference	\$ + 3,337.10
Registered Households	632
Envelopes Used (Nov 18—Nov 19)	154
Envelopes Used (Nov 25—Nov 26)	164
Active myEoffering Families	162
MyEoffering Family Donations (Nov 13—Nov 24)	232

Offerings for Guatemala Mission: \$437.00

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.**

From previous months: Allene Barans, Mary Bieda, Beverly Blevins, Ray Blevins, Don Carcone, Anne Castelli, Ron Connick, Herman Connor, Arlene & Bill Crosby, Ed Defourneaux, Vi Defourneaux, William Doherty, Jake DuPree, Angela Harbuta, Terry Harris, Darcy Hill, James Michael Huber, Dan & Mary Hughes, Myrtis Jenkins, Mariano LaVia, Delores Lopez, Ruthie Mallard, Paul Madden, Katherine and William Manning, 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.**

**For our service men and women and their
families throughout the world.**

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

Intentions

Mass: This Week

Sat.	2	5:30 pm	Sgt. Joshua Harris+
Sun.	3	9:00 am	All the souls in purgatory+
		11:30 am	Brian J. O'Connor+
Mon	4	11:30 am	Robert Lizotte+
Tues.	5	11:30 am	Fr. William Ladkau+
Wed.	6	11:30 am	Ann McDonald Engelstad+
Thurs.	7	11:30 am	JoAnn Watson Frederick+
		6:30 pm	
Fri.	8	9:30 am	Ted & Susie DeLorme++
		11:30 am	Wendy Craven+
Sat.	9	5:30 pm	Brady Lee+
Sun.	10	9:00 am	Nancy Nixon+
		11:30 am	Brian J. O'Connor+

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!

Do you dream of a school where each child is accepted, included, and valued? Are you looking for a school that stands as the model of academic excellence, moral ideals, and spirituality? Have you searched for a values-based education in the Catholic tradition?

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

To learn more about Enrollment and the School activities 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



Nativity School Christmas Silent Auction



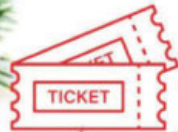
Live
Music



December 8
6-9pm



Food &
Drinks



TEXT NativityChristmas2023
to (843) 606-5995

**This Event will be in the Nativity Parish Life Center.
All are invited to join us for this exciting event!!**



Baptism

Emily Anne Edwards

daughter of Becca and Mike Edwards,
was welcomed into our faith community on
Sunday, November 26.

**Congratulations to this
new member of our church.**

December Schedule for Mass and Reconciliation

Feast of the Immaculate Conception Friday, December 8

Note that Immaculate Conception is a Holy Day of Obligation and all Catholics are required to attend Mass.

See Bulletin Front Cover for Mass Schedule Sunday Opportunities to Receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation

Sun. Dec 10 After the 9:00 and 11:30 am Masses

Sun. Dec 17 After the 9:00 and 11:30 am Masses

The Sacrament of Reconciliation is also offered every Saturday at 4:15 pm.

You can also schedule to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation by appointment.

Please contact the parish office at 843-795-3821

Fourth Sunday of Advent

Sat. Dec. 23 5:30 pm Advent Sunday Mass

Sun. Dec. 24 9:00 am Advent Sunday Mass

Christmas Mass Schedule

Sun. Dec. 24 4:00 pm Christmas Mass

Mass video, audio and additional seating will be available in the Parish Life Center. Ministers from the church will offer Eucharist.

Sun. Dec. 24 7:00 pm Christmas Mass

A concert of Christmas music will start at 6:30 pm. Please come early and join in the singing.

Mon. Dec. 25 10:00 am Christmas Mass

Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

Sat. Dec. 30 5:30 pm Holy Family Mass

Sun. Dec. 31 9:00 and 11:30 am Holy Family Mass

Regular Church Mass and Reconciliation Services will continue throughout December



Our Sympathy

We extend our deepest sympathy to the family and friends of

Ronald E. Hanna, Jr.

whose funeral was held at Nativity on Friday, December 1st.

May he rest in peace.

Journey through Advent With Sacred Scriptures



continues Every Thursday
of Advent

Sessions are in the
Nativity Parish Life Center
from 12:30 pm to 2:00 pm

These sessions present reflections and discussion on the Sunday Mass readings of Advent.

The facilitator is Sister Kathy Adamski, OSF, a sister of St. Francis of the Neumann communities who has ministered in the Diocese for the last 15 years.

There is no charge, and you do not need to be a member of the Nativity parish to attend this series.

Note: Refreshments will not be provided but you can bring your own lunch if you prefer.

Please register if you plan to attend.

For more information or to register, please contact Sr. Kathy at kathleen.adamski@gmail.com.

All are invited to attend these sessions as part of our spiritual preparations for Christmas.

Feast of the Immaculate Conception Friday, December 8th,

Is a Holy Day of Obligation

ALL Catholics are required to attend Mass.



The Immaculate Conception means that **Mary**, whose conception was brought about the normal way, **was conceived without original sin or its stain** — that's what "immaculate" means: without stain. The essence of original sin consists in the deprivation of sanctifying grace, and its stain is a corrupt nature. Mary was preserved from these defects by God's grace; from the first instant of her existence she was in the state of sanctifying grace and was free from the corrupt nature original sin brings.

A biblical reference of the Immaculate Conception is found in the angel Gabriel's greeting to Mary. "Hail, full of grace, the Lord is with you" (Luke 1:28). The phrase "full of grace" expresses a characteristic quality of Mary.

In the 15th-century Pope Sixtus IV established the feast of the Immaculate Conception to be celebrated on December 8. In 1854 Pope Pius IX issued a solemn decree declaring that the Immaculate Conception is an essential dogma for all the church.

**The Breakfast with Santa and the Mrs. Claus Christmas Ornament Workshop
Are at 10:00 am on Sunday, Dec. 17. in the Parish Life Center.**

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**Next Sunday in the Nativity Parking Lot.
Sign up Now and tell all your friends.**

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
3 <i>St. Francis Xavier</i> First Sunday of Advent I will spend a few extra minutes in prayer today.	4 I will do my work well today and with joy for God.	5 I will obey my parents, my teachers, and others in charge of me.	6 <i>St. Nicholas</i> I will donate like-new toys and books I've outgrown to needy families.	7 <i>St. Ambrose</i> I will be a peacemaker today in school and at home.	8 <i>Immaculate Conception of Mary</i> I will honor Mary in a very special way today by being cheerful.	9 I will eat more of what is good for me today and less of what is not.
10 Second Sunday of Advent I will secretly do a kind act for someone.	11 I will do some work for my parents to help them rest after a day of work.	12 <i>Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe</i> I will ask Mary to help me make room for Jesus in my heart.	13 <i>St. Lucy</i> I will find a quiet place and sit for a few minutes, just letting God love me.	14 <i>St. John of the Cross</i> I will try to be more thoughtful of others.	15 I will try to show special love for someone who seems unhappy or lonely.	16 I will be satisfied with the things I have instead of asking my family for more.
17 Third Sunday of Advent I will try to be patient today.	18 I will thank God for all he gives to me.	19 I will work hard today and do my best.	20 I will keep calm and not lose my temper when I am pushed or treated rudely.	21 <i>St. Peter Canisius</i> I will make a special effort to be kind to those I find it hard to like.	22 I will be helpful at home these last days before Jesus' birthday.	23 I will speak kindly to all I meet today.
24 Fourth Sunday of Advent I welcome Jesus with great love and offer him all the good acts I have performed and the prayers I have said during Advent.	25 Merry Christmas!	ADVENT 2023		May Christ our Savior bring light into the darkness of this world, and to us, as we wait for his coming.		LOYOLA PRESS. A JESUIT MINISTRY <small>Copyright © LOYOLA PRESS.</small>

A few thoughts about the kinds of things we might do to prepare for Christ's coming on Christmas!

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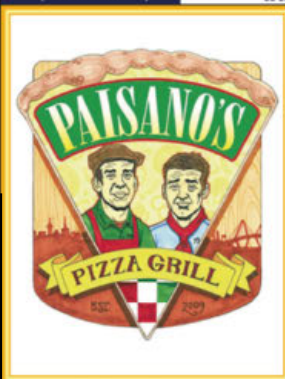
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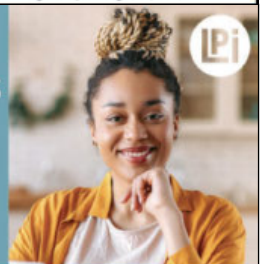
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