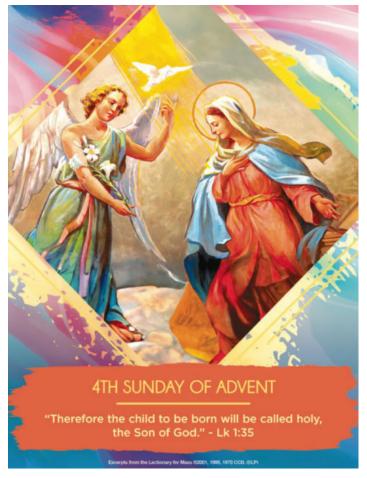
## December 24, 2023



## Do not be afraid!

Life is troubling. Who among us has not struggled with anxiety and difficulties, sometimes massive ones? I certainly have, as have many of my loved ones. If we do, does this mean that we don't trust the Lord or just need to toughen up?

I don't think so. How encouraging for us anxious and troubled souls to hear Luke describe the Blessed Mother Mary in these words, "But she was greatly troubled at what was said." An archangel has visited her. An inconceivable promise has been made to her. Her life has become wildly unpredictable, perhaps more so than any person before or since. The first point for us: the Lord is with her precisely when she is troubled. Her anxiety and God's presence are not mutually exclusive. Christianity is not about a trance-like robotic indifference. It's about the presence of divine love. Especially in troubled circumstances.

Our troubled soul can become our greatest treasure. What seems so troubling at first to Mary becomes the best possible thing. Jesus, the Savior and Lord, is now her son. All the difficulties and troubles remain; and yet her movement into the fullness of God is accelerated. This scripture invites us to hear the Lord's messenger say to us what he said to Mary, "Do not be afraid! You have found favor with God."

...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**

## **Christmas Masses**

Sunday Dec 24 4:00 pm and 7:00 pm

Monday Dec 25 10:00 am

No 11:30 am Mass on Monday. Dec. 25

Tues. - Fri. 11:30 am
Thurs. 9:30 am No School Mass
School Mass Will Return on January 3

Saturday Vigil 5:30 pm

Sunday 9:00 am and 11:30 am

# **Church is open Daily for Private Prayer and Devotion.**

Weekdays: 8:00 am to 3:00 pm

## Weekly Hour of Eucharistic Adoration Paused—Will Return in January

## **Weekday Rosary in the Church**

Tues. 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

For ever I will sing
the goodness of the Gord.
...Today's Psalm PS 89

## THINGS TO KNOW

## **Have Difficulty Hearing Well in Church?**

Nativity's personal listening devices work well and have been well received by the community. You might want to try one out for yourself. Just ask one of the ushers before Mass.

## Please be sure to return the listening device after Mass.

**Religious Education Programs:** Nativity School serves students in grades K4 through 8<sup>th</sup>. The Parish School of Religion (PSR) is offered for other parish children, grades K4 through 8<sup>th</sup>, enrolled in non-parochial schools. Please register by contacting 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 <a href="http://charleston.CMGconnect.org">http://charleston.CMGconnect.org</a>. 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 say what you think and to 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.

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.

**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 who are 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. For more information or 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

#### **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: https://tinyurl.com/ycjtqb4j

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

ate our

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

Please consider joining our parish family!

### Just Visiting? We are happy to see you!

Want to know more about our community, visit our web site: https://tinyurl.com/y95v9fxj

If you leave us a note, we will follow up with you. For immediate access, just scan this image with your smart phone. ——>>>>



Thank you for spending part of your Christmas Holiday with us.

## **Liturgical Ministers for Dec. 24—Dec. 25** Updated to reflect latest information.

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

4:00 pm Christmas Vigil Mass

(Sun. Dec. 24)

James Daugomah and K of C 6250 **Parking Lot:** 

Patrick Kelley & Kathy Wiley, **Greeters:** 

Tom and Marciia McNamee ->In PLC: Vázquez Family

Rosalie Felix. Eliza Cellars. **Altar Servers:** 

Sully Cellars

**Eucharistic** Lynn Curry, Barbara Coddington, Brian Dougherty, Donica Dennis, Ministers: ->In PLC: Scott & Maier Runyon,

Patty Edwards,

Also available: Pam Everitt.

John Warren

Jack and Jacob Perry, Sonoma Brasco Lector:

Patrick Kelley, Chuck Everitt, **Ushers:** 

Joe Ginn, Lamar Watkins In PLC: Gilbert O'Brien Also available: Brendan Reed

7:00 pm Christmas Vigil Mass

(Sun. Dec. 24)

**Greeters**: Jackie and Lewis Doscher

Others TBD

Caryn and Jenna Hasenberg, **Altar Servers:** 

Megumi Tran

**Eucharistic** Pat & Hal Perry, Jackie Doscher, Ministers: Phu Tran, Liisa Machowski

Jackie Doscher, others TBD

Lector: **TBD** 

Emmett Alphonse, Lewis Doscher, **Ushers:** 

George Hill, Leroy Holseberg,

10:00 am Christmas Day Mass

(Mon. Dec. 25)

Natalie Zanolli, Timothy & Carolyn Smith Greeters:

Liam Hale, Maisie Lewis **Altar Servers: Eucharistic** Becky and Gary Warriner, Ministers: Judy Daugomah, Carolyner

Eileen Easler Lector:

Joe Dubois, Richard Braigel, **Ushers:** 

Steve Molony, Natalie Zanolli

## Offerings December 4— December 10

| Collections at Mass (Dec 9—Dec 10)   | 3   | 10,542.00         |
|--------------------------------------|-----|-------------------|
| Mail in Offerings (Dec 4—Dec 8)      | \$  | 4,405.00          |
| myEoffering (Dec 4—Dec 8)            | \$  | 3,754.15          |
| Budget (1 week)                      | \$  | <u> 16,557.69</u> |
| Difference                           | \$  | + 2,143.46        |
| Registered Households                |     | 632               |
| Envelopes Used (Dec 9—Dec 10)        |     | 180               |
| Active myEoffering Families          |     | 176               |
| MyEoffering Family Donations (Dec 4- | –De | c 8) <b>121</b>   |
|                                      |     |                   |

## Thank you for your Generosity.

## Liturgical Ministers for Dec. 30—Jan. 1

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

**5:30 pm Mass** 

Tom & Marcia McNamee **Greeters:** 

Dianne Piri

Emma Grace Turner, Daniel Salceda **Altar Servers:** 

**Eucharistic** Mary Bieda, Mike Bieda,

Ministers: Wendy Bergstrom, Barbara Coddington,

Eileen Easler

Kathleen Janech Lector:

**Ushers:** Emmett Alphonse, Patrick Kelley,

Leroy Holseberg, Lamar Watkins

9:00 am Mass

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

Matthew Hart

Judy Daugomah, Suzanne Decker, **Eucharistic** 

Ministers: Gary Hart, Becky Warriner,

Gary Warriner

Lector: Jimmy Craven

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

Walter Machowski, Steve Molony

11:30 am Mass

Rebecca Beylotte, Sheila Griner **Greeters: Altar Servers:** Caryn Hasenberg, Jenna Hasenberg,

Megumi Tran

Brian Dougherty, Kathy Hepner, **Eucharistic** 

**Ministers:** Christine Lewis, Maier Runyon,

Scott Runyon

Lector: Pam Everitt

Joe Ginn, Sheila Griner, **Ushers:** 

Gilbert O'Brien, Natalie Zanolli

11:30 am Mass Jan. 1

**Greeters:** Patrick Kelley and Kathy Wiley,

**Becky Warriner** 

Hermes Florez **Altar Servers:** 

**Eucharistic** Hermes Florez, Sumaya Florez, **Ministers:** Hal Perry, Pat Perry, Pam Everitt

Lector: Cava Riley

**Ushers:** Patrick Kelley, Natalie Zanolli,

Gary Warriner, Sheila Griner

## **Intentions**

| Mass:  | This | s Week   |                               |
|--------|------|----------|-------------------------------|
| Sat.   | 23   | 5:30 pm  | Tina Myatt Melfi+             |
| Sun.   | 24   | 9:00 am  | Paul Aimar+                   |
|        |      | 4:00 pm  | All the children              |
|        |      | 7:00 pm  | For the people                |
| Mon.   | 25   |          | Roy Ross+                     |
| Tues.  | 26   | 11:30 am | Fr. Jerome Powers+            |
| Wed.   | 27   | 11:30 am | John S. Wilson+               |
| Thurs. | 28   | 11:30 am | Stephen Luan Nguyen+          |
| Fri.   | 29   | 11:30 am | Arthur & Ellen Rooney++       |
| Sat.   | 30   | 5:30 pm  | Ann McDonald Engelstad+       |
| Sun.   | 31   | 9:00 am  | One Year Death Anniversary of |
|        |      |          | Marianna Egan+                |
|        |      | 11:30 am | Mary Tran+                    |
| Mon.   | 1    | 11:30 am | For the people                |
|        |      |          |                               |



## Nativity School—dedicated to the academic and spiritual growth of our students

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?

## Look no further!



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 the School Year Start Up activities 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">www.facebook.com/NativitySchoolKnights</a>. or contact the School Office at 843-795-3975

## Teaching Values for Life!

May the Lord grant you and your loved ones love, joy and goodwill this Christmas and all the New Year.



Rev. Thomas Kingsley And the staff of Nativity School and Parish.



## **KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS COUNCIL 6250 TEAMS UP WITH THE NATIVITY LADIES GUILD** FOR 5TH SUNDAY ROSARY SUNDAY, DECEMBER 31 AFTER THE 9:00 AM MASS.



A GREAT WAY TO CELEBRATE NEW YEAR'S EVE AND ALL ARE INVITED.

## The Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God



## Mon. Jan. 1 — 11:30 am **Feast Day Mass**

This year, the Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God, is not a Holy Day of Obligation and Mass attendance is not required.

**But going to Mass** is a great way to start the New Year!

## 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 Jan. 19, 2024 in Charlotte, NC. For more details, please contact retrouvaillenc@msn.com or visit the web site at https://www.helpourmarriage.org

## 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 Jan. 26 thru 28 in Myrtle Beach, SC.

For more information visit our website at: https://SCMarriageMatters.org Or contact us at applications@scmarriagematters.org or at 803-810-9602.

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



Weekly Hour of Lucharistic Adoration Returns 12:00 Noon En Thursday, Dec.28.

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.

The revival will include eucharistic processions and other events of adoration and prayer around the country. It will continue for three years; until the 2024 National Eucharistic Congress on July 17, 2024.

This is a Great Opportunity to stop by and have a fittle Jalk with Jesus.



## Catholic Radio in SC on WLTQ 730 AM and 106.7 FM

These stations broadcast Catholic Radio content twenty four hours a day. In addition to radio show offerings from the

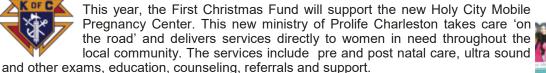
Eternal Word Television Network (EWTN), the station broadcasts short interviews, special features, and announcements of local interest.

For further convenience. Catholic Radio in South Carolina has released an app so that inspirational and programming materials can be accessed 24/7 via tablets and smart phones.

To get the app for your mobile device, just scan this QR code Twith your device's camera. The App is free.

Catholic Radio is a great way to Walk with Jesus while driving in your car.

## 2023 Annual First Christmas Fund



Your donations will provide services to pregnant women and their families who are in great need.

Make your tax deductible donation to:

Knights of Columbus Council 6250

On the memo line write:

First Christmas Fund

Please place your donation in the Nativity collection or snail mail it to:

First Christmas Fund K of C Council 6250 1061 Folly Road Charleston, SC 29412

For more information please contact Malcolm Brennan, Director of Prolife Ministries, K of C Council 6250 at 843-906-5511 or mbprolife@gmail.com

## May God grant you a very Blessed and Peaceful Christmas!

# In addition to Worship, Nativity Offers Many Other Opportunities to Get to Know Our God Better.

Sunday: The RCIA process (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults)

This program is for those who are considering to become Catholics. Sessions are from 10:00 am to 11:15 am in the Nativity Parish Life Center.

For more information, please contact Vicki Vázquez at admin@nativitycharleston.org or at 843-795-3821

## Monday: Mother's Morning Prayer Group

This is a program of prayer, devotions and support for moms.

Sessions are from 8:00 am to 9:00 am in the Nativity Parish Life Center.

For more information please contact Vicki Vázquez at <a href="mailto:admin@nativitycharleston.org">admin@nativitycharleston.org</a> or at 843-795-3821.

#### Tuesday: Afternoon Bible Study Group

This is a program of bible related studies using multi session audio/video presentations of renown scholars. Sessions are from 12:30 pm to 2:00 pm in the Nativity Parish Life Center in person and via ZOOM For more information, please contact Ryckie Watkins at 843-795-4194 or at ryckie.watkins@gmail.com.

## Tuesday: Evening Bible Study Group

The evening program is a repeat of the afternoon bible study session.

Sessions are from 6:00 pm to 7:30 pm in the Nativity Parish Life Center in person and via ZOOM For more information, please contact Ryckie Watkins at 843-795-4194 or at <a href="mailto:ryckie.watkins@gmail.com">ryckie.watkins@gmail.com</a>.

## Wednesday: Evening Bible Study Group

This program focuses on faith and liturgy related studies using audio/video series presentations of renown scholars.

Sessions are from 5:45 pm to 7:00 pm in the Nativity Parish Life Center.

For more information, please contact Andrea Gilliard at acgilliard@comcast.net or at 843-696-2161

## Thursday: Men's Scripture Study Group

This program focuses on the scriptures for the upcoming Sunday and weekday Masses.

Sessions are from at 7:00 am to 8:30 am in the Nativity Parish Life Center.

For more information, please contact Ben Curry at ben.curry@curryfirm.com

So Just Pick Your Color and Join In!



## The Meaning of Christmas – God Became One with Us!

The feasts that make up Christmas Time all illuminate in their own way, the fundamental mystery of the Incarnation that stands at the heart of this sacred season. Each celebration sheds its own distinct light on our conviction that, in the birth of Jesus, earth and heaven have been joined together for the sake of our salvation. The feasts of Jesus' Birth, the Holy Family, Mary the Mother of God, Epiphany, and the Baptism of the Lord all have their own particular histories. But they have been

intertwined in a single seasonal narrative that invites us to trace the unfolding meanings of the Incarnation from different perspectives. As we follow the evolving meanings of Jesus' birth, his participation in family life, the meaning of Mary's motherhood, the significance of the Magi's visit, and the beginning of Jesus' public ministry, we are invited to explore the staggering truth. Jesus has shared completely in our human experience; He truly become one with us; He is fully human while remaining fully divine.



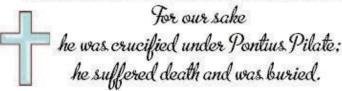


## JESUS CHRIST

the only Son of God, God from God, Light from Light

# Through him all things were made.

For us men and for our salvation he came down from heaven and was made man.



## ON THE THIRD DAY HE ROSE AGAIN

in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,

AND HIS KINGDOM

will have no end!

...Yvon Prehn, Effective Church Communications, https://www.effectivechurchcom.com

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