

# December 31, 2023

## Feast of the Holy Family



### Crown of Joy and Cross of Sorrow

After Jesus' birth, Mary fulfills the Jewish right of purification after childbirth. Since she could not afford the customary offering of a lamb, she gives instead two pigeons as an offering of the poor. This rite, along with circumcision and the redemption of the first-born point to the fact that **children are gifts from God**. Jesus was born in an ordinary home where there were no luxuries. Like all godly parents, Mary and Joseph raised their son in the fear and wisdom of God. He, in turn, was obedient to them and grew in wisdom and grace. The Lord's favor is with those who listen to his word with trust and obedience.

Simeon blessed Mary and Joseph and he prophesied to Mary about the destiny of this child and the suffering she would undergo for his sake. There is a certain paradox for those blessed by the Lord. Mary was blessed by being the mother of the Son of God. That blessing also would become a sword which pierced her heart as her Son died upon the cross. But her joy was not diminished by her sorrow because it was fueled by her faith, hope, and trust in God and his promises. Jesus promised his disciples that "no one will take your joy from you" (John 16:22). The Lord gives us a supernatural joy which enables us to bear any sorrow or pain and which neither life nor death can take away.

... Don Schwager at <https://www.dailyscripture.net>

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  
Wed.. 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 5:30 pm  
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](mailto:Office@NativityCharleston.org)

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*The Lord remembers his covenant for ever.*

...Today's Psalm PS 105

## 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 <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 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](http://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](mailto:Pastor@NativityCharleston.org), 843-795-3821 x 105

**Office Manager:** Mrs. Vicki Vázquez

[Admin@NativityCharleston.org](mailto:Admin@NativityCharleston.org), 843-795-3821 x 101

**Financial Secretary:** Mrs. Carolyn Miller

[Finance@NativityCharleston.org](mailto:Finance@NativityCharleston.org), 843-795-3821 x 102

**Maintenance Supt:** Mr. Robbie Weaver

[Office@NativityCharleston.org](mailto:Office@NativityCharleston.org), 843-795-3821 x 101

**Music Director:** Mrs. Courtney Reed

[Music@NativityCharleston.org](mailto:Music@NativityCharleston.org), 843-795-3821 x 103

**Religious Education:** Mrs. Mary L. Smith

[DRE@NativityCharleston.org](mailto:DRE@NativityCharleston.org), 843-795-3821 x 104

**School Principal:** Mrs. Patti Dukes

[pdukes@nativity-school.com](mailto: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 ———>>>>

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.



**Please support our Advertisers whose funding makes this bulletin possible.**

### Liturgical Ministers for Jan. 6—Jan. 7

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:** Alena Novak, Daniel Salceda  
**Eucharistic Ministers:** Patty Edwards, Meg Hoeft, Carolyn Smith, Mary Smith, John Warren  
**Lector:** Cava Riley  
**Ushers:** Emmett Alphonse, Patrick Kelley, Leroy Holseberg, Lamar Watkins

**9:00 am Mass**  
**Greeters:** Horner Family, Knight Family  
**Altar Servers:** Mia Caughey, Abram Delaney, Jack Perry  
**Eucharistic Ministers:** Mark Hollifield, Liisa Machowski, Kathy Murphy, Hal Perry, Pat Perry,  
**Lector:** Michael Dennis  
**Ushers:** Richard Bragiel, Joe Dubois, Walter Machowski, Steve Molony

**11:30 am Mass**  
**Greeters:** Susan La Via, Péchon Family  
**Altar Servers:** Gavin Gilreath, Megumi Tran, Kenji Tran  
**Eucharistic Ministers:** Irene Bennett, Lynn Curry, Jackie Doscher, Pam Everitt, Kathy Hepner  
**Lector:** Tara Hasenberg  
**Ushers:** Lewis Doscher, Chuck Everitt, Joe Ginn, Sheila Griner

### Offerings December 11— December 17

Collections at Mass (Dec 16—Dec 17)	\$ 7,989.00
Mail in Offerings (Dec 11—Dec 15)	\$ 5,245.00
myEoffering (Dec 11—Dec 15)	\$ 5,397.73
Budget (1 week)	\$ 16,557.69
Difference	\$ + 2,074.04
Registered Households	643
Envelopes Used (Dec 16—Dec 17)	135
Active myEoffering Families	173
MyEoffering Family Donations (Dec 11—Dec 15)	126

**Offerings for  
Solidarity Fund—Church in Africa: \$442.00**

**Second Collection for January:  
January 28: Church in Latin America**

**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.**

**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](mailto:Office@NativityCharleston.org).

### Intentions

#### Mass: This Week

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 of Nativity
Tues.	2	11:30 am	One year death anniversary of Joe Caraviello+
Wed.	3	11:30 am	Wendy Craven+
Thurs.	4	11:30 am	Joe Tierney+
Fri..	5	11:30 am	
Sat.	6	5:30 pm	One year death anniversary of Delores Wrenn+
Sun.	7	9:00 am	Nancy Nixon+
		11:30 am	Jerrie Finnegan+

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—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 [www.nativity-school.com](http://www.nativity-school.com) or our FaceBook page at [www.facebook.com/NativitySchoolKnights](https://www.facebook.com/NativitySchoolKnights).  
or contact the School Office at 843-795-3975

**We welcome our students back on January 3.**

## Community Fellowship Next Weekend

Parish Potluck Meals Hosted by the Nativity Ladies Guild



**Potluck**  
Everyone Brings Something to the Table.

**Saturday, January 6, after the 5:30 Mass**  
Bring your favorite dinner dish to share.

**Sunday, January 7, after the 9:00 Mass**  
Bring your favorite breakfast dish to share.

**Sunday, January 7, 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!**



### Young Adult Ministry

Join us for an evening of faith, food, and fellowship.

Theology is on Tap in Charleston on Wed. Jan. 17 at 7:00 pm at

**Henry's on the Market**

**All young adults are welcome.**

For more information about the Young Adult Ministry and our events, please contact [shillbc93@gmail.com](mailto:shillbc93@gmail.com)



**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 .**

*Ladies  
Guild*

### **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](mailto:pastor@nativitycharleston.org)

#### *Want to Validate your Marriage or Renew your Marriage Vows?*

Please contact Fr. Kingsley at  
[pastor@nativitycharleston.org](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:applications@scmarriagematters.org)  
or at 803-810-9602.

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



*Weekly Hour of  
Eucharistic Adoration  
Every Thursday  
at 12:00 noon*

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 until the National Eucharistic Congress on July 17, 2024.

*This is a Great Opportunity  
to stop by and have a Little Talk  
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  with 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

This year, the First Christmas Fund will support the new Holy City Mobile Pregnancy Center. This new ministry of ProLife Charleston takes care 'on the road' and delivers services directly to women in need throughout the local community. The services include pre and post natal care, ultra sound and other exams, education, counseling, referrals and support.

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 New Year!**

**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](mailto: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 [admin@nativitycharleston.org](mailto:admin@nativitycharleston.org) 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](mailto: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 [ryckie.watkins@gmail.com](mailto:ryckie.watkins@gmail.com).

### **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](mailto: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](mailto:ben.curry@curryfirm.com)

**So Just Pick Your Color and Join In!**



## Looking For Some New Year's Resolutions? Consider Good H.A.B.I.T.S.

- H** – Holy hour: Start with 10 minutes of daily prayer and watch it grow over time to an hour.
- A** – Accountability: Be transparent with at least one friend who will hold you accountable to being a disciple.
- B** – Bible prayer and study: Let God's Word transform your mind and connect you to Jesus in prayer.
- I** – Invest in your parish: Contribute and serve in the mission of the parish.
- T** – Tell: others about your faith and invite them to faith in Jesus.
- S** – Sacraments: Participate as frequently as you can.

### Good H.A.B.I.T.S. Can Get You To Heaven!



#### **Nativity Ladies Guild is Conducting a Fundraiser for Catholic Schools Week!**

The Ladies Guild has adopted the "Giving Tree" model for this fundraiser. The "Tree" will be at the main entrance of Nativity Church starting this weekend and continuing through Jan. 28.

The tree will have envelopes that identify specific classroom and educational items and their cost.

These items have been requested by the teachers at Nativity School.

#### **You know how this works:**

- Take an envelope for an item (or items) that you would like to donate.
- Purchase the item(s) or include the appropriate donation in the envelope.
- Please make checks payable to the Nativity Ladies Guild.
- Return the envelope and your donation or item(s) to the church entrance or the Nativity Parish Office before January 29.

For more information, please contact Jackie Doscher at 843-276-5002 or at [jackiedoscher@gmail.com](mailto:jackiedoscher@gmail.com)

**Thank You for Supporting Nativity School.**

**Read and Understand the Bible  
with *The Bible in a Year* Podcast  
with Fr. Mike Schmitz!**

"As cradle Catholics, we hear Scripture at Mass and occasionally in self study but never like this. *The Bible in a Year* brings it all together."  
—Ignacio G.

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place to listen to *The Bible in a Year*.



## FORMED

is a digital platform (aka online service) that provides access to feature films, audio presentations, eBooks, and video-based study programs presented by the Church's foremost teachers. So **FORMED** is like a big, online library with many different resources.

In addition **FORMED** is **FREE** to all members of Nativity. To take advantage of this opportunity, you only need only to Visit <https://formed.org>, click "Sign Up" and select "I belong to a Parish". Find Church of the Nativity on the list, type in your email address and you are in. You will receive a link in your e-mail. A Smart phone app is also available.

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