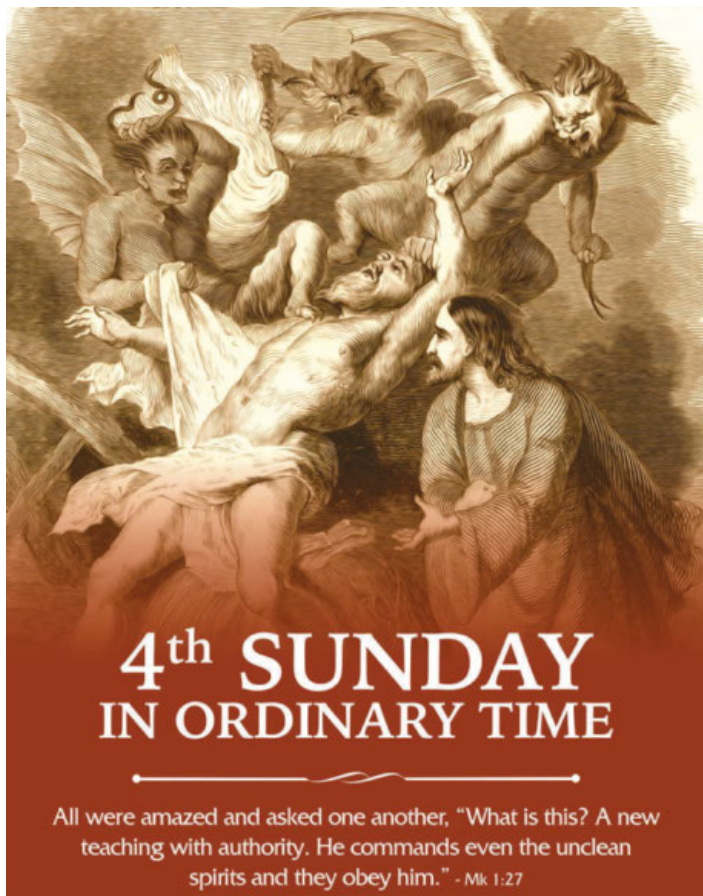


January 28, 2024

Catholic Diocese of Charleston



Teaching With Authority

This dramatic healing of the demoniac in the Capernaum synagogue is the first action that Mark narrates after the calling of the first disciples. Precisely what connection does Mark want us to make between teaching and deliverance from demonic power?

One thing is crystal clear. What Jesus has to communicate is not simply a new idea, an alternative lifestyle that might catch the fancy of a few people. It is nothing less that the announcement of the coming of God in power to rescue God's people (that is what "Gospel of God" means in the language of Isaiah) and a demonstration of that announcement.

To say that the "kingdom of God" is at hand is to draw upon the apocalyptic world view and to say that God is about to manifest divine kingship by rescuing God's people from whatever oppresses them. The dramatic healing of the demoniac by an authoritative word is a demonstration of God's reign in their midst. And the people recognize it as such. This rescue from evil power is indeed new teaching, sustained by an authority that enacts what it claims: God's kingly power is at hand to rescue.

If we find ourselves depressed and oppressed by the evil we detect in others, perhaps we best hear the authoritative teaching of Jesus as a call to our own further conversion.

... Dennis Hamm, SJ at <https://liturgy.slu.edu>



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 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

*If today you hear his voice,
harden not your hearts.*

...Today's Psalm PS 95

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. Robbie Weaver
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 Feb. 3 — Feb. 4

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: Mia Caughey, Daniel Salceda
Eucharistic Ministers: Patty Edwards, Meg Hoeft, Carolyn Smith, Mary Smith, John Warren
Lector: Carl Borick
Ushers: Emmett Alphonse, Patrick Kelley, Leroy Holseberg, Lamar Watkins

9:00 am Mass
Greeters: Mary Catherine Dubois, Grant Family
Altar Servers: Sully Cellars, Savanna Owens, Jack Perry
Eucharistic Ministers: Kirby Preston, Kristi Roberts, Daniel Suggs, Tamme Suggs, Becky Warriner
Lector: Ainsley Knight
Ushers: Richard Bragiel, Joe Dubois, Walter Machowski, Steve Molony

11:30 am Mass
Greeters: Rebecca Beylotte, Sheila Griner
Altar Servers: Liam Hale, Alena Novak, Megumi Tran
Eucharistic Ministers: Irene Bennett, Lynn Curry, Jackie Doscher, Pam Everitt, Mary Gallagher-Coyle
Lector: Scott Runyon
Ushers: Joe Ginn, Sheila Griner, Gilbert O'Brien, Natalie Zanolli

Offerings January 15 — January 21

Collections at Mass (Jan 20—Jan 21)	\$ 9,300.00
Mail in Offerings (Jan 15—Jan 19)	\$ 11,326.00
myEoffering (Jan 15—Jan 19)	\$ 4,094.28
Budget (1 week)	\$ 16,557.69
Difference	\$ + 8,162.59
Registered Households	643
Envelopes Used (Jan 20—Jan 21)	178
Active myEoffering Families	173
MyEoffering Family Donations (Jan 15—Jan 20)	120

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>

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: Sharon Dale, Terry Parsons

From previous months: Allene Barans, Mary Bieda, Beverly Blevins, Ray Blevins, Don Carcone, Anne Castelli, Ron Connick, Herman Connor, Arlene & Bill Crosby, Ed and Vi Defourneaux, William Doherty, Jake DuPree, Angela Harbuta, Terry Harris, 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, 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.	27	5:30 pm	Brian James O'Connor+
Sun.	28	9:00 am	Wendy Craven+
		11:30 am	Rena Madigan+
Mon.	29	11:30 am	Helen Bieda+
Tues.	30	11:30 am	
Wed.	31	11:30 am	
Thurs.	1	9:30 am	
		11:30 am	
Fri.	2	11:30 am	
Sat.	3	5:30 pm	Frederick Klemm+
Sun.	4	9:00 am	Wendy Craven+
		11:30 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—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 or our FaceBook page at www.facebook.com/NativitySchoolKnights.
or contact the School Office at 843-795-3975

Teaching Values for Life!



NATIVITY SCHOOL DEDICATION CEREMONY

1/28/2024 ♦ 12:30-2:00

1125 Pittsford Circle
Charleston, SC 29412



Baptism

George Stephen Buffington,

son of Hannah and Brien Buffington,
was welcomed into our faith community
on Saturday, January 20.

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

Baptism

Saylor McKinley Myers,

daughter of Sharyn and Travis Myers,
was welcomed into our faith
community on Sunday, January 14th.

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



Catholic Schools Week

2024

Sunday, January 28
Dedication Ceremony
12:30pm - 2pm
Everyone Welcome!

Monday, January 29
Mixed up Monday
Students wear Mixed up clothes

Paisano's Pizza Spirit Day/Night
11:00am - Midnight
(a portion of sales supports Nativity School)

OPEN HOUSE
8:30am to 11:30am
(For Prospective Families)

Tuesday, January 30
Tournament Tuesday
Students versus Teachers versus
Parents and Alumni , in a Kickball
Tournament to defend the Title!



Catholic Schools
United in Faith and Community

Wednesday, January 31
Win It Wednesday
Games for all grade levels

Thursday, February 1
Thoughtful Thursday
Double Penny Wars Points

Friday, February 2
Family and Faith Friday
Student Scavenger Hunt
First Friday Lunch
PTO provided dessert

Week Long Events
Penny Wars daily!
Proceeds to benefit
Birthright.

Nativity School has been celebrating
Catholic Schools for over 60 years.
Please continue to support the wonderful
mission of Catholic education. We are truly
honored to be a part of Catholic education.

Please continue to pray for the students,
families, and faculties of all
Catholic Schools.

If you have any questions about the exciting event
happening at Nativity School, please call the
school office at 843-795-3975.



Meet Sumy and Hermes Florez

After near 25 years of service in South Florida, Sumy and Hermes Florez, both Catholic public health physicians, relocated to Charleston. They joined the Church of the Nativity in May, 2020 during the pandemic.

In Charleston, Hermes started his journey serving as Department Chair of Public Health Sciences at the Medical University of South Carolina (MUSC). He also serves as an Endocrinologist at the Veterans Affairs Medical Center (VAMC) in Charleston.

Hermes joined the Diocese of Charleston Deaconate Formation Program, Class of 2025. He was admitted to Candidacy in the Permanent Deaconate Program by Bishop Robert Guglielmone (September, 2021) and has since been installed into the Ministries of Reader (October, 2022) and Acolyte (October, 2023) by Bishop Jacques Fabre-Jeune. Hermes just completed the Master in Theology course work at St Leo University, and started the final year of his deaconate training.

Sumy is a Eucharistic minister on the team that regularly visits Roper Hospital and serves at the Barrier Island Free Medical Clinic on Johns Island.

One of the passages that Sumy and Hermes have embraced in their years of service in Charleston is from the Gospel of Matthew (9:37-38): "the harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few". Both feel blessed to part of the Nativity Family!

We joyfully look forward to his future ordination and service as a deacon for our parish. Please keep both Sumy and Hermes in your prayers as they continue to minister to our community.



Flowers

at the altar this weekend
are in loving memory of
Delores and Chuck Wrenn,
May They Rest in Peace.

Our Sympathy

We extend our deepest sympathy
to the family and friends of

Libby Conway,

whose funeral was held at Nativity
on Saturday, January 20th.

May she rest in peace.



According to tradition, Blaise was of noble birth, became a physician, was educated in the Catholic faith and eventually became bishop of Sebastia, a city in Turkey. Blaise was martyred in 316 AD for the crime of being a Christian. The feast of Saint Blaise is observed on February 3.

We know more about the devotion to Saint Blaise than we know about the saint himself. He was known to be a very holy priest. Legend has it that a mother came to Blaise with her young son, who had a fish bone lodged in his throat. Through Blaise's prayers, the child was able to cough up the bone. Thereafter, St. Blaise became the patron for the cure of throat illnesses. Many Catholics have long sought the annual Saint Blaise blessing of their throats.

**There will be blessing of throats
after the weekday Masses on Feb. 1 and 2
and after the weekend Masses next week
(Feb 2 and 3).**

Baptism

Natalie Marie Hager,

daughter of Sarah and Joey Hager,
was welcomed into our faith community
on Sunday, January 21.

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





Nativity Belltower and Digital Carillon System

Many of you may have heard the digitally created bell sound Christmas songs first played through Nativity's new electronic carillon system before and after the Christmas Masses this past December.

Beginning the weekend of Jan 20/21, we began playing the "call to worship" before all Masses as well as the Angelus daily.

Our carillon system gives us the ability to play the peal for weddings, toll for funerals, and an extensive library of Catholic music for various occasions and liturgical seasons.

We are also in the process of acquiring a steel-framed belltower, with a 400lb striker bell, currently being cast and tuned in the Netherlands by the Royal EIJSBOUTS Bell Foundry. We hope to receive the bell and have the tower installed in the center courtyard between the Church and Parish Life Center by the summer of 2024.

The purchase of the bell, tower, and carillon are made possible through the generosity of Phyllis Cafiero and family.

It is their desire that the ringing of the bell and carillon will draw hearts and minds to God so that all may joyfully worship Him.



Seder/Passover Meal Learning Experience, at Nativity 5:30 pm on February 25, 2024 In the Parish Life Center

Enter more deeply into the Passion of Christ and gain a greater spiritual understanding of the Passover and Holy Week. Those who attend will be active participants praying together and learning the meaning behind the rituals. We will also share a meal together.

Because of the style of this learning experience, we recommend it to adults and those in the 4th grade and up.

Advance ticket purchase is required. Tickets are \$15 per person and will be on sale after Masses the weekends of Jan 27/28 & Feb 3/4. Tickets are also available from the church office during regular office hours.

Please purchase tickets by February 11th.

Community Fellowship Next Weekend

Parish Potluck Meals Hosted by the Nativity Ladies Guild



Potluck
Everyone Brings Something to the Table.

Saturday, February 3, after the 5:30 Mass
Bring your favorite dinner dish to share.

Sunday, February 4, after the 9:00 Mass
Bring your favorite breakfast dish to share.

Sunday, February 4, 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!

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