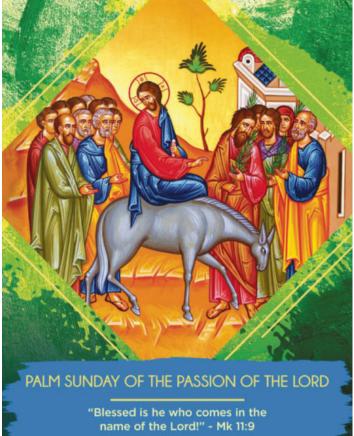
March 24, 2024



With Friends Like These

This year, we hear the Passion from the gospel of Mark. One thing unique about this reading is the emphasis on Jesus being abandoned by his disciples. First, the leaders of the disciples cannot even support Jesus in his agony in the garden: They fall asleep, three times. Then there is Judas, who seeks out the chief priests to make a deal with them, Peter, who denies Jesus three times, and the crowds who cried, "Hosanna!" a few days before, now call for him to be crucified.

What does this tell us? With friends like these, who needs enemies? No, the point is that Jesus died specifically for these people, not because they were once friends, but because they were sinners, who needed Jesus. When we find ourselves in sin, when we think that everything we do is wrong, or when we think we can't possibly deserve to be loved by God—that is when God can help us, if we just stop hating ourselves and start loving and trusting the Lord. It is not the time to pretend we have avoided the big sins, or to brag about some of the good we may have done. Instead simply agree that you need his help. God loves sinners who know they need his forgiveness and don't deserve it.

But maybe you have already been forgiven and wonder what's next. Remember the ones you would not expect to support Jesus: the centurion proclaiming him Son of God, Joseph giving him a burial place, the women who followed Jesus. These were people who did not claim to be worthy, just did what they could to show their love. Ask Jesus each morning when you wake up, "What can I do for you today?" and do what you can.

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

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.

Weekly Mass Schedule

Mon. 11:30 am Mass

Tues. 11:30 am Communion Service

Wed. 11:30 am Mass Thurs.—Fri 11:30 am No Mass

Holy Week Services

Thurs. 7:00 pm Mass

Adoration after Mass until 9:00 pm

in the Parish Life Center

Fri. 3:00 pm the Passion of the Lord

Sat. 8:00 pm Easter Vigil Mass

Easter Sunday Mass

9:00 am and 11:30 am Mass in the Church Extra seating in the Parish Life Center

Weekday Rosary in the Church

Mon. through Wed. 12:00 noon

Church is open Daily for Private Prayer and Devotion

Mon. through Wed.: 8:00 am to 3:00 pm

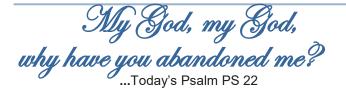
Sacrament of Reconciliation

Reconciliation during Holy Week is by appointment only.

Holy Week Office Hours

Monday - Wednesday: 8:00 am to 3:00 pm Office is closed Thursday and Friday.

Office: 843-795-3821 / Fax: 843-795-2714



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 Mary Smith 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 843-813-4238. 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:

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 Mar 28 — Mar 31

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

7:00 pm Mass Holy Thursday

Greeters: Kathy Wiley & Patrick Kelley,

Tom & Marcia McNammee

Altar Servers: TBD

Eucharistic Kathy Murphy, Barbara Coddington,

Ministers: Daniel Suggs, Tamme Suggs,

Becky Warriner, Christine Lewis

Lector: Kathleen Janech

Ushers: Emmett Alphonse, Patrick Kelley,

Natalie Zanolli, Gary Warrined

3:00 pm Good Friday

Greeters: Kathy Wiley & Patrick Kelley,

Becky Warriner

Altar Servers: TBD

Eucharistic Kathy Murphy, Barbara Coddington, Kathy Murphy, Christine Lewis

Lector: Eileen Easler, Gary Warriner Ushers: Patrick Kelley, Richard Braigel,

Gary Warriner

8:00 pm Easter Vigil

Greeters: TBD Altar Servers: TBD

Eucharistic Kathy Murphy, Barbara Coddington

Ministers: Claire Bergstrom, Carl Borick, Eileen Easler, David Knab,

Lector: TBD

Ushers: Emmett Alphonse, Patrick Kelley,

George Hill

The Masses for Easter Sunday are 9:00 am and 11:00 am. Many Liturgical minister needs have not yet been filled. If you can help out, please sign up on the sheets at the church sacristy or contact the parish office at 843-795-3821.

Offerings March 11 — March 17

The weekly offerings information was not available by the publishing deadline for this week's bulletin. The information will be provided in a future bulletin.

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: Leslie Boyer, Glenna Kornahrens, Barbara Wade

From previous months: Allene Barans, Mary Bieda, Beverly Blevins, Ray Blevins, Don Carcone, Anne Castelli, Ron Connick, Herman Connor, Arlene & Bill Crosby, Sharon Dale, 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, Charlie Organ, James Parker, Terry Parsons, 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.

Intentions

| Mass: This Week | | | |
|-----------------|----|----------|------------------------------------|
| Sat. | 23 | 5:30 pm | In honor of Anhson's 31st Birthday |
| Sun. | 24 | 9:00 am | John Madden+ |
| | | 11:30 am | Michael Tran+ |
| Mon. | 25 | 11:30 am | Major Gordon Spillinger+ |
| | | | USAF retired |
| Tues. | 26 | 11:30 am | Communion Service |
| | | | Fr. will be away at Chrism Mass |
| Wed. | 27 | 11:30 am | Judy West+ |
| Thurs. | 28 | 7:00 pm | Holy Thursday Mass |
| | | | Eucharistic Adoration |
| Fri | 29 | 3:00 pm | Passion of Our Lord Good Friday |
| Sat. | 30 | 8:00 pm | Easter Vigil Mass |
| | | | RCIA Catechumens Baptism |
| Sun. | 31 | 9:00 am | Soledad Torres+ |
| | | 11:30 am | Roy Ross+ |

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.



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

Nativity School is accepting applications for admittance for grades K4 through 8 for the 24—25 School Year.

To learn more about Enrollment 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!



At 2:00 pm every Wednesday during Lent, Nativity School Students provided Living Stations for our community.

These weekly devotions were very well done and very inspiring.



Vacation Bible School at Nativity

June 24 through 28 from 9:00 am to noon.

Take kids deep into an amazing undersea adventure where they'll experience the ever-flowing, never-ending love of God. At Totally Catholic Scuba VBS, kids will be immersed in the Sacred Scripture and discover what living water is really all about!

But SCUBA is not just for kids. Everyone can join in the fun. Just contact Mary Smith at 843-795-3821 ext. 104 or at dre@nativitycharleston.org to find out how you can help.

Note: All adults working with youth must complete the "Creating Safe Environments Program". For more information on "Creating Safe Environments" contact Mary Smith.

Mark Your Calendars and Plan to Participate!!!



10:00 am This Sunday (March 24) at the Nativity School Playground.

This event is for children age 10 and younger and is presented by the Nativity Ladies Guild.

Bring your Easter Basket and join us for friendship, games and fun!



SECRETARY/RECEPTIONIST NEEDED

Church of the Nativity is looking for a secretary/receptionist to work 30-40 per week.

Receptionist duties include: answering telephone calls ◆ assisting walk-in guests, ◆ preparing families and appropriate staff for funerals.

Secretarial tasks include: • updating church registers with sacramental information, • maintaining church database,

- preparing quarterly Church ministry schedules,
- screening and reporting for Safe Environment,
- ◆ drafting letters,
 ◆ overseeing bulletin and parish communications.
 ◆ entering data,
 ◆ assisting the pastor and other staff members in administrative tasks.

Candidate skills include: competence with Microsoft Word and Excel applications, • ability to learn other office applications as needed.

The candidate should possess strong organizational and time management skills, • strong interpersonal skills,

- the ability to communicate effectively and with empathy,
- function with a high level of confidentiality.

Knowledge of the Catholic faith is preferred, but not required.

If you are interested, please send a resume, cover letter, and salary expectations to

Fr. Thomas Kingsley C/O Church of the Nativity 1061 Folly Rd. Charleston SC 29412.

This is a very family friendly position for a parent/caregiver of school age children.



This Post Abortion Healing Retreat is a supportive, confidential, nonjudgmental weekend retreat for women and men who have had an abortion. On the retreat you can find peace and closure and strengthen your relationship with God.

Come discover God's love, mercy and Forgiveness.

The next retreat in South Carolina is:
April 19-21, 2024-- Fort Mill-English
May 31-June 2-Fort Mill- Spanish
For more information or registration

Christy 803 554 6088 Kathy 803 546 6010
Or email us at Grace4Healing@gmail.com



Please return your Grocery Cards This Weekend

Nativity Ladies Guild, requested donations of Grocery Gift Cards during lent. The cards will be delivered to Neighborhood House and James Island Outreach. These ministries will distribute your donations to families in need of food for Easter.

Thank you for your generosity To our hungry neighbors.



Anointing of the Sick, Sunday, March 10

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 by those in advanced years.

Through the anointing and the prayer of the priest, the whole Church commends those who are sick to Christ. Those anointed receive the Holy Spirit's gifts of strength, faith, peace, and courage. Their suffering is united with that of Christ.

Please pray for our parishioners who daily struggle with chronic and/or life-threatening burdens.



Palm Sunday

Historically, this the first day of the last week of Jesus' earthly life. He went to Jerusalem to celebrate the religious feast of the Passover.

For 100 years the Romans managed to subdue Palestinian uprisings and maintained a strained relationship with the Jewish people, particularly the religions leaders. Many questioned if there would be another Messianic rebellion if Jesus appeared in Jerusalem for the Passover.

The very manner in which He entered Jerusalem stirred controversy. As was prophesied of the Messiah (Zechariah 9:9), Jesus rode into Jerusalem on a donkey to the cheers of His followers. They waved palm branches and shouted, "Hosanna" (save us, we pray)!

Word spread quickly throughout the city (whose population had tripled with religious tourists) of the "King who comes in the name of the Lord" (Luke 19:38).

This was tremendously offensive to the religious establishment because it meant that Jesus was announcing that He was the long awaited Messiah. The religious leaders saw Jesus as a deluded religious fanatic who was misleading people. They perceived this Man from Galilee to be a threat to the precarious balance of authority with Rome and a dangerous test of Rome's patience. Because His ministry had become so controversial and threatening, the religious establishment was plotting to kill Him.

From a political perspective the crowds were eager to proclaim Jesus a king. Many were beginning to see Jesus as the Messiah. They expected Jesus to free the Jews from Roman dominance and restore the national freedom, independence and respect that was previously experienced during the kingships of David and Solomon.

So in Jerusalem that day, power structures were on 'high alert', tension was soaring, the crowds were agitated, diverse agendas were being pushed. The stage was set and action was already underway for the intense, tragic, unjust, sorrowful, magnificent and glorious events that were to transpire throughout the week.

Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest!



Holy Week Services Schedule

March 24, Palm Sunday
Weekend Masses at Regular times
Distribution of Palms at all
Masses

March 28, Holy Thursday
(No 11:30 am mass)
7:00 pm Mass
Adoration after mass until 9:00 pm
in the Parish Life Center

March 29, Good Friday 3:00 Passion of the Lord

March 30, Holy Saturday 8:00 pm Vigil Mass RCIA Sacraments during Mass

March 31, Easter Sunday
9:00 am and 11:30 am Masses
Additional Seating (both Masses)
in the Nativity Parish Life Center

Radio

Good Friday is an obligatory day of fast and abstinence.



Catholic Radio in SC on WLTQ 730 AM and 106.7 FM

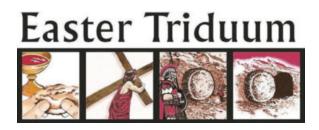
These stations broadcast Catholic Radio content twenty four hours a day. In addition to radio show offerings from the

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

For further convenience, Catholic 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: Many Great Programs to connect with Jesus During Holy Week.



Easter is fast approaching. The Catechism of the Catholic Church says that "Easter is not simply one feast among others, but the "Feast of feasts," the "Solemnity of solemnities," just as the Eucharist is the "Sacrament of Sacraments." (Catechism of the Catholic Church topic 1169)

In an article entitled "Fire and Water: Preparing to Celebrate the Triduum" by Kate Ristow, we are struck by a very relevant point. Kate writes, "While Easter Sunday Masses are jam-packed with families, it is as if an audience has arrived for the last act. So much has been missed if that is the only part of the Triduum a family experiences." How true this is! It is like skipping to the last few pages or the last chapter of a book and only reading that part of the story.

The Easter Triduum, the heart of our liturgical year, includes Holy Thursday, Good Friday, and Easter.

Holy Thursday is our entrance into the Triduum. The institution of the Eucharist is celebrated. Symbolically we wash the feet of the Apostles this night, yet the importance of the celebration rests in the reality of what it means to be a Christian. This is our commission – to follow the one who gave his life for all.

Good Friday we proclaim and celebrate the Lord's Passion. We share the Liturgy of the Word, pray beautiful intercessions and venerate the Cross. We are also privileged to receive Holy Communion this day.

The Easter Vigil begins after nightfall on Saturday. We need to experience the power of darkness before the light of the Risen One can fully be appreciated. The Easter Vigil Liturgy is more beautiful and meaningful than words can explain. The symbolism of fire and water in harmony with the music and the sacred scriptures combine to make this the most powerful and profound celebration that we can share.

The focus of this liturgy is the reception of the catechumens and candidates into full communion with the Church. The celebration of Baptism and Confirmation of the new Catholics as well as the opportunity to renew our Baptismal promises, intensify the sanctity of the Easter Vigil Liturgy.

Easter Sunday liturgy is a continuation of the Vigil and as always, all are welcome to celebrate.

While we as parents often don't think our kids can sit through added or longer church services, the rich symbolism and ritual that surrounds all these celebrations may actually be enough to keep their attention.

We invite All to attend our Triduum and Easter celebrations:

Holy Thursday, Mass of the Lord's Supper -- 7:00 pm, March 28 with the opportunity for Adoration after Mass until 9:00 pm in the Parish Life Center.

Good Friday Passion Service and Veneration of the Cross -- 3:00 pm, March 29

Easter Vigil Mass -- 8:00 pm, Saturday, March 30 with the opportunity to attend the reception immediately afterwards in the Parish Life Center. The reception is to welcome the newest members of our Church

Easter Sunday Masses -- 9:00 and 11:30 am, March 31

Come Celebrate God's Great Work of Love and Mercy!



HENRY STUHR INC. FUNERAL CHAPELS

& CREMATORY 232 Calhoun Street Charleston South Carolina Downtown

SMILE Dale Probst, D.M.D. www.cDale2Smile.com 1708 Central Park Rd.

Charleston, SC 29412

843-795-3332

Mary Ann Meyers Charleston Realty Inc. Office 795-6221 Cell 708-1965 Since 1979

maryanngmeyers@aol.com

A.C. HEAting & Air Conditioning Service 1943 Belgrade Av. Suite 1 Charleston, S.C. 29407 843-556-7641 Fax 843-556-2091

Diana Thompson Sales & Service

843-723-2524

This Button SAVES Live As Shown GPS.

CALL NOW! 800.809.3352 GPS Tracking w/Fall Detection Nationwide, No Land Line Needed MDMedAlert EASY Set-up, NO Contract 24/7 365 Monitoring in the USA



PEARLE COVISIO

Dr. Michele Donovan - Optometric Physician Gene Gebhard - Licensed Optician

North Charleston 824-2878

✓Police **✓**Fire

Friends/Family FREE Shipping

Mt. Pleasant 849-0822

West Ashley 763-0554

DOES YOUR NONPROFI ORGANIZATION NEED A NEWSLETTER?

24 Hour Protection at HOME and AWAY!

✓ Ambulance Solutions as Low as \$19,95 a month

FREE Activation

NO Long Term Contracts

Engaging, ad-supported print and digital newsletters to reach your community.

Visit Ipicommunities.com

FREE

AD DESIGN

with purchase of this space

800-477-4574

CALL



SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS!

catholicmatch® South Carolina



CatholicMatch.com/my\$C

Amy Bolan Realtor at Re/Max FullSail

30 Years of Experience you can count on

843.806.7971 | www.aboutcharlestonsc.com

abolan.remax@gmail.com 520 Folly Road, Suite 15 • Charleston, SC 29412

A portion of my commissions go to Childrens Miracle Network in YOUR name and stays right here at the MUSC's Children's Hospital!





BE YOURSELF. BRING YOUR PASSION. WORK WITH PURPOSE

Contact us at

NEVER MISS OUR BULLETIN!

SUBSCRIBE

Have our bulletin emailed to you every week.

Visit www.parishesonline.com

Place Your Ad Here and Suppor our Parish!

AD CREATOR STUDIO





Serving The Lowcountry Since 1981!

Call today for our seasonal specials!

Maintenance contracts available for residential & commercial customers

• FREE REPLACEMENT ESTIMATES

SERVICE ALL MAKES & MODELS

"THE PROBLEM SOLVERS"

Heating & 7

INDOOR AIR QUALITY EXPERTS

Visit our website for more details!

843-554-8600

MORELLIAIR.COM

