

EASTER SUNDAY

March 31, 2024



Why does this matter?

Christ's Resurrection from the dead changes everything! It is the be-all and the end-all of the Christian faith. As Paul himself put it: "If Jesus is not raised from the dead, our preaching is in vain and we are the most pitiable of men."

It's no good, of course, trying to explain the resurrection away or rationalize it as a myth, a symbol, or an inner subjective experience. None of that does justice to the novelty and sheer strangeness of the Biblical message. The Resurrection isn't just a subjective event or symbol.

It comes down finally to this: if Jesus was not raised from death, Christianity is a fraud and a joke; if He did rise from death, then Christianity is the fullness of God's revelation, and Jesus must be the absolute center of our lives. There is no third option.

So on Easter Sunday, let us not domesticate the stunning and disturbing message of the Resurrection. Rather, let us allow it to unnerve us, change us, set us on fire.

Christ is Risen, Alleluia!

...adapted from Bishop Robert Barron, www.wordonfire.org

Catholic Diocese of Charleston



**Extra Seating is available for the 9:00 am and 11:30 am
Easter Sunday Mass in the Nativity Parish Life Center.**

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

Eucharistic Adoration

Thursday: 12:00 noon to 1:00 pm

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

Tuesday - Friday: 8:00 am to 3:00 pm



Stay in touch with us at Nativity

Sign up on our social media
platform at FlockNote.

<https://nativityfamily.flocknote.com/>

Visit us at

Web page: <https://nativitycharleston.com/>

You Tube: <https://www.youtube.com/ChurchoftheNativity>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/NativityCharleston>

And

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/NativityFamily>

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/NativityCharleston/>

Quiet Room is Available

For parents and their young children. It is located just inside the church entrance nearest the school building. The room is equipped with a half bath room, audio, and closed circuit video.



**The Quiet Room is available during all
Masses and events in the church.**



What's that you say?

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 it after Mass.

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 until site renovations are completed.**

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 Apr 6 — Apr 7

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

5:30 pm Saturday Vigil Mass
Greeters: Dianne Piri, Timothy & Carolyn Smith
Altar Servers: Alena Novak, Declan Smith
Eucharistic Ministers: Mary Bieda, Mike Bieda,
Wendy Bergstrom, Barbara Coddington
Lector: Eileen Easler
Ushers: Emmett Alphonse, Patrick Kelley
Leroy Holseberg, Lamar Watkins

9:00 am Sunday Mass
Greeters: Knight Family, Bonnie Nixon
Altar Servers: Finley Feary, Jack Perry, Connor Richey
Eucharistic Ministers: Matthew Cellars, Jimmy Craven,
Judy Daugomah, Suzanne Decker,
Gary Hart
Lector: Mary Catherine Dubois
Ushers: Richard Bragiel, Joe Dubois,
Walter Machowski, Steve Molony

11:30 am Sunday Mass
Greeters: Rebecca Beylotte, Sheila Griner
Altar Servers: Gavin Gilreath, Liam Hale,
Kenji Tran
Eucharistic Ministers: Lynn Curry, Jackie Doscher,
Brian Dougherty, Christine Lewis
Scott Runyon
Lector: Cava Riley
Ushers: Lewis Doscher, Chuck Everitt,
Joe Ginn, Sheila Griner

Offerings March 11 — March 17

Collections at Mass (Mar 16—Mar 17)	\$ 10,231.00
Mail in Offerings (Mar 11—Mar 15)	\$ 4,989.08
myEoffering (Mar 11—Mar 15)	\$ 5,167.04
Budget (1 week)	\$ 16,557.69
Difference	\$ + 3,829.43
Registered Households	643
Envelopes Used (Mar 16—Mar 17)	228
Active myEoffering Families	173
MyEoffering Family Donations (Mar 11—Mar 15)	133

Thank you for your Generosity.

Please use your envelopes.

If you need envelopes, please contact 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.**

**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.	30	8:00 pm	Easter Vigil Mass RCIA Catechumens Baptism
Sun.	31	9:00 am	Soledad Torres+
		11:30 am	Roy Ross+
Mon.	1	11:30 am	Sr. Maureen O'Carm+
Tues.	2	11:30 am	Tito Maresca+ & Marianne Maresca+
Wed.	3	11:30 am	Special Intention
Thurs.	4	9:30 am	
		11:30 am	Mailinh Tran 38th Birthday
Fri..	5	11:30 am	Samuel Maresca & Samuel Jr.++
Sat.	6	5:30 pm	In thanksgiving and continued healing of Sally Wojcik
Sun.	7	9:00 am	Patsy Warren+
		11:30 am	Tricia Milner+

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!



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!



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!!!

FORMED

What is FORMED and how do I get it?

FORMED is kind of like a big, online library with many different resources. Because people really like videos, our catechists and evangelists are using more and more **FORMED** video media as part of their programs.

In addition **FORMED** is **FREE** to all members of Nativity. The parish has a subscription that allows every one of us to access/use this 'library' at zero personal expense. To take advantage of this opportunity, you need only to go through a few simple steps to sign up.

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.

Now wasn't that easy?

- ? Are you interested to know more about the Catholic Faith?
 ? Have you pondered the notion of becoming Catholic but do not know where to start?
 ? Were you baptized Catholic as a child, and now want to receive the Sacraments of Confirmation and Eucharist?



Well then, RCIA may be just the thing for you!

RCIA is an acronym that means the **R**ite of **C**hristian **I**nitiation of **A**dults. It is a series of lessons aimed at explaining to adults what it means to be Catholic. Nativity offers an opportunity to come together in a welcoming and accepting setting. Participants are encouraged to engage in the process with their questions, their insights, and their faith story. Sessions focus on the teachings and experience of the Church and are intended to prepare the participants to celebrate the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist during the Easter season.

The RCIA sessions are held from 10:00 am to 11:15 am on Sunday morning in the Parish Life Center Meeting Room. The program begins in late August and runs through the Easter season.

For more information, please contact Vicki Vázquez at 843-813-4238.

God May Be Calling You.



TRY ALPHA YOU'RE INVITED!

Alpha is a place to connect with other people who are open to exploring life, faith, and meaning. Each session includes a time to connect with others (over a free meal), presents a brief video on an element of the Christian faith, and provides an opportunity for each person to share their own thoughts and questions in a small group setting.

We'd love to hear your perspective!

**Try Alpha this Fall | September 3,
2024 | 6:15 pm
At the Nativity Parish Life Center.**

For more information, please contact Victoria at 843-813-4238 or visit <https://nativitycharleston.com/alpha/>

SECRETARY/RECEPTIONIST NEEDED



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

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 Apr. 12 thru 14 and Sep 27 thru 29 in Charlotte, NC.

For more details, please contact
retrouvaille@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 Nov. 15 thru 17 in Myrtle Beach, SC.

For more information visit our website at:

<https://SCMarriageMatters.org>

Or contact us at 803-810-9602.

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



Father Brian O. McDermott, S.J. conducted a Day of Reflection on March 9. This was a great program and was well attended despite the torrential rain that occurred that morning.

Spirituality Gifts Retreat



Saturday, April 13
10:00 am — 2:00 pm
Nativity Parish Life Center

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

Please mark your calendars and plan to attend.

Our Sympathy

We extend our deepest sympathy
to the family and friends of

**Frances O'Keefe
O'Leary,**

whose funeral was held at Nativity
on Wed. March 19th.



May she rest in peace.

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