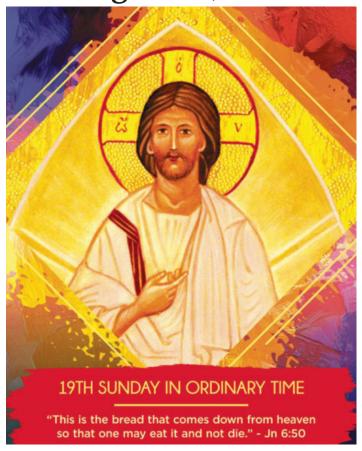
August 11, 2024



God—The Highest Possible Good.

This week we hear Jesus say, "He that believes in me, has eternal life" (John 6:47). These straightforward words, uttered by human lips, sound - how to put this? insane. Who could possibly say such a thing? Jesus says things that are so high, so demanding, so beyond our capacity to fathom, we hardly know what to do with them and (if you're like me), they usually go in one ear and out the other. So, let us ask: how can believing in him lead to eternal life?

To believe in something means not just to acknowledge its existence, but also to orient yourself entirely to it. If a football player believes in his team, it means he puts his life totally at the service of that goal. If a student believes in her dream to become a doctor, she gives everything she has to her studies and preparation for her MCAT test. Belief means to move boldly toward something we love, and trust is possible to attain.

What is the highest possible good at which we can aim? It is God himself, the gift of eternal life without end. Jesus has made this "good" possible in and through his human nature. To believe in him means to have him as our ultimate goal. Believe the truth of these words and make practical decisions to orient ourselves toward what we see available in him: eternal life

...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

Mon. through Wed. 11:30 am Mass

Thurs. Aug 15—Holy Day of Obligation Feast of the Assumption of Mary

6:30 pm Holy Day Vigil Mass Wed. Aug 14 Thurs. Aug 15 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.

Thurs. Aug 15 11:30 am Holy Day Mass

11:30 am Mass

5:30 pm Saturday Vigil Mass

9:00 am and 11:30 am Sunday Mass

Weekly Hour of Eucharistic Adoration

12:00 noon Thursday

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

THINGS TO KNOW

Nursery

For children ages 6 wks to 4 yrs. old during the Sunday 9 AM Mass. It is located on the right side of the school's breezeway entrance. *Temporarily closed due to site renovations.*

Religious Education Programs

Nativity School serves students in grades K4 through 8. The Parish School of Religion (PSR) is offered for other parish children (K4-Gr 8), enrolled in non-parochial schools. For information, please contact the Director of Religious Education.

Safe Environments Training for Volunteers

All volunteers who minister in programs involving children at Nativity Parish or School are required to complete prevention education and a background check. To initiate the process and volunteer, please contact the Parish Office Administrator.

Baptism

To schedule a Baptism preparation class, a parent should be an active parishioner. Godparents for Baptism must be active parishioners of Nativity or another Catholic parish. For information, please contact the Director of Religious Education.

Sacraments of First Reconciliation, First Eucharist and Confirmation

These sacraments require a 2-year preparation period. To receive First Reconciliation and First Eucharist in the 2nd grade, children must have participated in a 1st grade PSR or Catholic school program; to receive the sacrament of Confirmation in the 8th grade children must have participated in a 7th grade PSR or Catholic school program. For information, please contact the Director of Religious Education.

Sacrament of Marriage

Couples must contact the priest at least six months prior to the proposed marriage date. For inquiry, contact the Parish Office.

Ministry to the Sick and Homebound

This pastoral ministry provides compassionate presence, prayer, and sacraments to parishioners confined to their home, hospital, or nursing home. It includes Extraordinary Ministers to the Sick and Eucharistic Ministers who bring Holy Communion. To arrange a pastoral visit, please contact the Parish Office.

Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick

This sacrament 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 sacrament; contact the Parish Office.

Alpha

"Alpha" is a time to connect in a small group with others who are open to exploring life, faith, and meaning. Weekly sessions include sharing a meal, a brief video on an element of the Christian faith, and an opportunity for sharing individual thoughts and questions. All are welcome and encouraged to participate. For information, please visit www.nativitycharleston.org/alpha. *Online option available.*

Order of Christian Initiation of Adults (OCIA)

OCIA meets in a small group and online to learn more about our faith. Sessions focus on the teachings and experience of Church and prepare adults to celebrate the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist during the Easter season. For information, please contact Vicki Vázquez, 843-813-4238.

FORMED.org

FORMED is an online resource for our parishioners to access video-based study programs, feature films, audio presentations, and eBooks from the Church's foremost presenters. An email is needed to access FORMED.org; no password is required.

STAFF

Pastor: Rev. Thomas Kingsley
Pastor@NativityCharleston.org, 843-795-3821, ext. 5

Office Administrator: Mrs. Catherine Bowen Admin@NativityCharleston.org, 843-795-3821, ext. 1

Financial Secretary: Mrs. Carolyn Miller Finance@NativityCharleston.org, 843-795-3821, ext. 2

Maintenance Supt: Mr. Robbie Weaver Maintenance@NativityCharleston.org, 843-795-3821

Music Director: Mrs. Courtney Reed Music@NativityCharleston.org, 843-795-3821, ext. 3

Director of Religious Education: Mrs. Mary L. Smith DRE@NativityCharleston.org, 843-795-3821, ext. 4

School Principal: Mrs. Patti Dukes pdukes@nativity-school.com, 843-795-3975

Diocesan Office of Child and Youth Protection: ocyp@charlestondiocese.org, 843-853-2130

Diocesan Victim Assistance Coordinator: 843-856-0748, 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: 843-261-0435, cmummert@charlestondiocese.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 complete a "new parishioner form" from www.nativitycharleston.org or collect a form from the church

foyer. You can also scan this QR code for the same form here. You may email, mail, or drop off the form to the church office anytime, and please contact us for more information.

Please consider joining our parish!



Please support our Advertisers whose funding makes this bulletin possible. To advertise in our bulletin please contact Steve Conn (LPI) at (843) 819-7906.

Liturgical Ministers for Aug 17 — Aug 18

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

5:30 pm Saturday Vigil Mass

Dianne Piri, Timothy & Carolyn Smith **Greeters: Altar Servers:** Mia Caughey, Daniel Salceda **Eucharistic** Barbara Coddington, Eileen Easler,

Patty Edwards, Carolyn Smith,

John Warren Lector: Carl Borick

Ministers:

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

Leroy Holseberg, Lamar Watkins

9:00 am Sunday Mass

Greeters: Péchon Family, Daniel & Tamme Suggs

Maisie Lewis, Savanna Owens, **Altar Servers:**

Jack Perry

Eucharistic Mark Hollifield, Liisa Machowski, Ministers:

Kristi Roberts, Daniel Suggs,

Tamme Suggs Jimmy Craven

Lector: **Ushers:** Richard Bragiel, George Hill,

Walter Machowski, Steve Molony

11:30 am Sunday Mass

Shiela Griner, Susan La Via **Greeters:** Liam Hale, Jenna Hasenburg, Altar Servers:

Liam Manning

Eucharistic Jackie Doscher, Pam Everitt,

David Knab, Christine Lewis, Phu Tran, Ministers:

Lector: Tara Hasenberg

Lewis Doscher, Joe Ginn, **Ushers:** Sheila Griner, Gilbert O'Brien

Offerings July 22 — Aug 4

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, 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,

Or mail your donation to the parish office or make a donation via your myEoffering account.

https://members.myeoffering.com

"Hold your eyes on God and leave the doing to Him. That is all the doing you have to worry about."

... Saint Jeanne de Chantal. whose memorial is celebrated on August 12.

St. Jeanne was a mother of 4 children and widowed at age 28. In 1610 she founded the Order of the Visitation of Our Lady for widows and other women. St. Jeanne directed the Order and oversaw the founding of more than 60 convents.



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.

We pray for: Allene Barans, Beverly Blevins, Leslie Boyer, Phyllis Cafiero, Don Carcone, Anne Castelli, Ron Connick, Herman Connor, Arlene & Bill Crosby, Ed & Vi Defourneaux, William Doherty, Jake DuPree, Kathy Fowler, Angela Harbuta, Terry Harris, James Michael Huber, Dan Hughes, Myrtis Jenkins, Glenna Kornahrens, Tommy Lavelle, Mariano LaVia, Delores Lopez, Ruthie Mallard, Paul Madden, Katherine & William Manning, John Minaudo, Paul & Carole Moran, Charlie Organ, James Parker, Terry Parsons, Brenda Pearson, Ed Pop, Louis Richter, James Romero, Fran Taylor, Barbara Wade, Jerry Wade, Courtney Wilson, Sally Wojcik

For the people of the Church of Nativity.

For renewal of God's Spirit in our hearts.

To have someone added or removed from this prayer list, please contact the parish office administrator. Admin@NativityCharleston.org.

Intentions

Mass: This Week

Sat.	Aug. 10	5:30 pm	Robert Blessing
Sun.	Aug. 11	9:00 am	Mary Jo Ross ₽
		11:30 am	Edward P. Richards, Jr.₩
Mon.	Aug. 12	11:30 am	
Tues.	Aug. 13	11:30 am	Edward P. Richards, Jr. ₽
Wed.	Aug. 14	11:30 am	For the People
	Aug. 14	6:30 pm	60th Anniversary of Lloyd &
			Barbara Whitnak
Thurs.	Aug. 15	9:30 am	
	Aug. 15	11:30 am	
Fri.	Aug. 16	11:30 am	
Sat.	Aug. 17	5:30 pm	Richard McKinney⊕
Sun.	Aug. 18	9:00 am	Chris Fisher⊕
		11:30 am	For the People

Envelopes for Sanctuary Candle and Mass Intentions are at the church entrances. Please place them in the collection basket. Be sure to include your phone number or email in case of date changes or unavailability. Thank you!

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?

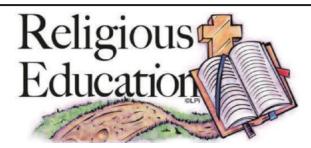
Look no further!



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

The Fall Semester Begins Monday, Aug. 12.



Nativity Parish School of Religion

PSR is offered for parish children, grades K4 through 8, enrolled in non-parochial schools. Nativity PSR is accepting applications for the 24—25 School Year.

Registration packets are available at the church entrances and online at https://nativitycharleston.com/formation/

For more information. please contact Mary Smith at 843-795-3821 x 4.

Classes Begin Sunday September 8

Late Enrollment Fees now Apply

Sign Up Now!

Catechists Needed!

LOVE YOUR FAITH? SHARE IT!

Specifically, we need more catechists in order to be able to offer the Nativity Parish School of Religion for the 2024-2025 school year. We need class teachers, substitute teachers and class assistants.

All of us are called to echo and share the Gospel message. Parents are the first and primary catechists in a child's life. But we also are important catechists in the lives of our coworkers, our spouses, our relatives and friends

If you love your faith and would be willing to share that blessing with the children of our parish, please call Mary Smith at 795-3821 ext 4.

Fellowship Weekend Returns This Weekend.

Parish Potluck Meals will be hosted after all the weekend Masses by the OCIA.





Saturday, August 10, after the 5:30 Mass Bring your favorite dinner dish to share.

Sunday, August 11, after the 9:00 Mass Coffee and Donuts Only—No Potluck.

Sunday, August 11, after the 11:30 Mass Bring your favorite lunch dish to share.

Drop off food at the PLC before all Masses.

This event is being jointly hosted by the Nativity Ladies Guild and the Nativity OCIA Program. Everyone is invited and encouraged to participate.



Following the sum-

mer break we will be meeting the **18**th of **September from** 1:00 - 2:30 pm in the Parish Life Center. One time meeting change, normally the second Wednesday of the month. The next meeting will be Wednesday, October 9th.

For more information, please email Debbie Kennedy at:

natprayershawl@gmail.com.

LADIES GUILD SEWING GROUP



Returns with Renewed Energy and **Boundless Enthusiasm** On Saturday Aug 10 and 24 From 9:00 to Noon in the Parish Life Center.

We will start this year's work by cutting materials for burp cloths and bibs for distribution in October.

During these first sessions we will be cutting only (no sewing or assembly). All materials will be provided. These are tasks that everyone can do. So bring your scissors and join in the fun.

> For more information, please contact Marion Hoffman at nativityladiesguild@gmail.com or at 803-397-2681

NO EXPERIENCE NEEDED, JUST SHOW UP.

9:00 am Sunday Nursery Is Returning

Nativity Parish has not offered a nursery during the 9:00 am Sunday Mass since before Covid. Now that the school renovations have been completed, we are planning to rejuvenate the Nursery ministry this fall.

When the nursery closed, all the nursery furnishings and toys were donated. Now we need to re-facilitate. However, we need to do so with foresight because this space will need to serve multiple functions.

We are currently looking for 3 or 4 'child sized' tables with chairs (2 or 4 topper and one or 2 oval shaped 'coffee table' pieces (not more than 18 inches high, and with no sharp edges).

We also need children's board books, several 'large piece' puzzles, and toys appropriate for 1-4 year olds. These items should be packaged and sized so that they can be stored on book shelves when not in use. Note that toys that require batteries or that have small pieces are not appropriate for 1 to 4 year olds.

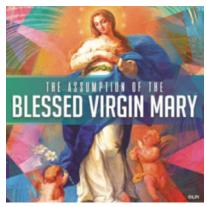
Please contact Mary Smith (dre@nativitycharleston.org) at the church office with any questions.

Please help us Re-equip the Nursery.



Weekly Hour of fucharistic Adoration fvery Thursday at 12:00 noon

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



August 15—Holy Day of Obligation

The church has always held to the belief that Mary was assumed, body and soul, into a heavenly state, even though the belief was not declared as dogmatic until 1950. The early church had a robust tradition of revering relics from the saints of the day. The complete lack of relics from the Mother of Jesus was seen as evidence of this Marian belief. The celebration of the event as a feast dates back to the fourth century in the East and the seventh century in the West.

Since Mary was untouched by the stain of sin, she was unable to experience the "wages of sin," which is death. But her Assumption also says something about humanity as well. Sin only has power over us if we allow it. Mary was freed from the power of sin in her Immaculate Conception, and when she responded "yes" to God. We were freed from the power of sin when Jesus died and rose, conquering death.

Now, we must respond "yes" to claim the victory that was already won for us. On this feast, we should not only celebrate the great works God has done for us through Our Lady, but also celebrate the truth that we have the opportunity to one day spend eternity with her and her Son, Jesus.

Please plan to join us at Mass.

Wednesday, August 14th at 6:30 PM or Thursday, August 15th at 9:30 AM (School Mass) or 11:30 AM



Theology on Tap For College Students And Young Adults

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

Theology is on Tap in Charleston on Wednesday, August 14 at 7:00 pm at

Tommy Condon's Irish Pub (Abbey Room)

We have the room reserved until 10:00 pm, and dinner is provided! No RSVP necessary.

For more information about the Young Adult Ministry and our events, please contact Scott at shillbc93@gmail.com

Tuesday Bible Studies

These Bible Study sessions are offered in person and online via ZOOM

https://us06web.zoom.us/j/88988721703? pwd=OFdYRWZ5YzRWT2xIQkJndjFDbXIzQT09

Meeting ID: 889 8872 1703 and the Passcode: Nativity

Tuesday Afternoon Bible Study is 12:30 pm to 2:00 pm. Tuesday Evening Bible Study is 6:00 pm to 7:30 pm. All meetings are in the Nativity Parish Life Center.

Tues. Aug 6 and 13

Two Session Video presentation by Brandt Pitre, titled "Wives Do What?". This study addresses St. Paul's teaching on spousal responsibilities and equality.

Tues. Aug 20 and 27

Two Session Video presentation by Brandt Pitre, titled "The Fourth Cup and the New Passover". This study addresses the Passover practices at the time of Christ and their meaning in terms of Christ's sacrifice.

For more information, please contact Ryckie Watkins at 843-795-4194 or at ryckie.watkins@gmail.com

All are Invited to Participate.



Charles Dalton Vealey,

son of Lindsay Farris was welcomed into our faith community on Sunday, July 28.

Congratulations to this new member of our church.

Mom's Prayer Group
Returns MONDAY August 19
8:00 am to 9:00 am
Nativity Parish Life Center Meeting Room

Nativity Parish Life Center Meeting Room

We will be watching the

Formed "Catholic Feminism" Series.

Coffee is provided and young children are welcome.

For more information, please text Vicki at 843-813-4238

Start the week in prayer, devotion and uplifting support.



So what is OCIA anyway?

Well, RCIA is no more! This program has been rebranded as OCIA, Order of Christian Initiation for Adults. New Name but the Same Goal! OCIA is a series of lessons aimed at explaining to adults what it means to be Catholic.

At Nativity this program 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.

Individual Sessions focus on the teachings and experience of the Church. While most converts enter the Church at the Easter Vigil, this new structure acknowledges that converts could be baptized or welcomed into the Church at any point in the year, or even taking multiple years before making their final decision.

The **OCIA** classes are held from 10:00 am to 11:15 am on Sunday morning in the Parish Life Center Meeting Room.

This year's program begins Sunday, September 8th at 10:00 am Also, there is an OCIA 'Meet and Greet' at the Fellowship Weekend meals on August 10 and 11.

For more information, please contact Vicki Vázquez at OCIA@NativityCharleston.org or at 843-813-0615.



We're all searching for more.

What is the point of life? / Why is there suffering in the world? / What happens when we die? / Is forgiveness possible?



What is Alpha?

Alpha is a series of interactive sessions that explore the basics of the Christian faith. Alpha provides a relaxed setting for connecting with other people who are open to exploring life, faith, and meaning.

Alpha is an 11 week program.

Alpha is fun, relaxed and totally non-pressured

Alpha's Three Main Elements:







Alpha Talk

How does it work?

Each Alpha session begins with food, followed by a short video that explores a different aspect of the Christian faith. After that, there is a time for discussion in a friendly small group.

Who is Alpha for?

Alpha is for everyone, especially:

- Those who have given up on church
- Those wanting to investigate Christianity
- Those who are new to the Christian faith
- Those wanting to grow in understanding and faith

What is the cost?

There is no charge for the Alpha course, although your donations will be greatly appreciated.

View the Alpha at Nativity Fall Schedule at https://nativitycharleston.com/alpha/ Join us by contacting Vicki Vázquez | alpha@nativitycharleston.org | 843-813-0615

> The fall Alpha program starts Tuesday, Sep.3, at 6:15 pm In the Nativity Parish Life Center Join us for Alpha and bring all your friends.



Flowers

at the altar this weekend are in celebration of the 59th Wedding Anniversary of Pat and Hal Perry. May God grant them many more years of happiness together.



Ph: 617-852-9839 Email: catherine@thesixtysevenproject.net Web: thesixtysevenproject.net





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