

NATIVITY NEWS

5900 McClellan *March 10th & 11th, 2018* Detroit, MI

PASTOR'S PEN

Fourth Sunday of Lent

In the second reading (Paul's letter to the Ephesians), we are reminded:



“For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not from you; it is the gift of God; it is not from works, so no one may boast.”

As kids growing up, I think many of us felt we had to earn our salvation. We had to win our way to heaven. If we did a number of good things, we would win the heart of Jesus and he would let us into heaven at the end of our lives. The reality is that we can never earn our salvation; it's the gift of God. So rather than work so hard to please God, it may be better to live a life of gratitude for so great a gift. Whether we like it or not or whether we can believe it or not, God loves us deeply and sees us as one of His beloved, in spite of our weaknesses and sin. God just loves us! I think most of us spend our lives trying to accept that unconditional love. Most of our experiences of love have been a love which carried conditions with it. Experiencing this love and accepting the fact that our salvation is a gift from God should free us to live our lives in a new way. To believe in that love should give us a security that nothing or no one can shake.

Although salvation comes as a gift of God, it's not cheap. It 's been bought at a great price As we look at the crucifix, we realize the cost of so great a love. Many Christians feel it's enough to praise God for the gift of salvation and that's all there is to it. They get to church on Sundays, praise the Lord and don't feel they have any responsibility to those who are struggling. The truth is when we realize the gift of our salvation, we have even greater responsibility. We are called to respond to that love by pouring ourselves out for the world. As the song says, "I give myself away so You may use me.." On this Fourth Sunday of Lent, let's take some time to realize how deeply we are loved. We just have to look at the cross to realize the depths of Christ's love for us. After contemplating the cross for a time, then ask Christ, 'What is it you would have me to do?' Let's all have the courage to ask the question and be willing to hear the answer.

MISSION STATEMENT

Nativity is a diverse and inclusive Catholic Faith Community on Detroit's eastside dedicated to proclaiming the Gospel and sharing God's love through commitment to social justice, service to the neighborhood, the community and each other.

THIS WEEK'S BIRTHDAYS

HAPPY BIRTHDAY: 3-10: Mark Miller 3-11: Peggy Gulewicz & Sierra Jones
3-13: Evelyn Bledsoe & Airyanna Robinson, 3-15: Daniel Adams & Edna Boyd

WORSHIP SCHEDULE March 17th & 18th, 2018 5th Sunday of Lent

Next week's Readings:
Jeremiah 31:31-34, Hebrews 5:7-9
John 12:20-33

Lectors:

4:00 C. Kulchy
9:45 1. T. Calati 2. S. Carson

Ushers:

4:00 S. May & R. Miller
9:45 J. & K. Alderman, L. Canty,
M. Johnston

Eucharistic Ministers:

4:00 T. McGovern
9:45 1. C. Gillespie 2. M. E. White
3. N. Zarro 4. G. Stamper

Ministers of Service:

4:00 C. McLaughlin
9:45 1. H. Adams 2. W. Adams

MASS INTENTIONS

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

SATURDAY, March 10, 2018

4:00 Denise Bailey (The Kulchy Family)
Dick & Pat Couture (Therese McGratty)

SUNDAY, March 11, 2018

9:45 Denise Bailey (The Ushers)

THURSDAY, March 15, 2018

11:00 AM Sr. Jolene (The Nativity Family)

FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

SATURDAY, March 17, 2018

4:00 Fran Busacca (Buzz Busacca)
The Nativity Family

SUNDAY, March 18, 2018

9:45 Dorothy Scamihorn (Family)
Mary Beth Dietz
(Bill & Mickey Dietz)

PARISH DIRECTORY

5900 McClellan, Detroit, MI 48213
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Website: nativitydetroit.org
Email: nativityol@sbcglobal.net

Raymond Stadmeyer, OFM Cap-Pastor
Robert Wotypka, OFM Cap
Frances Carnaghi & Chris McLaughlin
Pastoral Ministers

Joni Scott Director of Faith Formation
Mary Miller Parish Nurse

Please make sure you received a hymnal on your way in and leave it at the door as you leave church. We hope this will encourage everyone to participate more fully in the singing.

GATHERING HYMN
(Silent Procession during Lent)

OPENING PRAYER

God, you have taught us to overcome our sins by prayer, fasting, and works of mercy. When we are discouraged by our weakness, give us confidence in your love. We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

1st READING:

2 Chronicles 36:14-16, 19-23

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Let my tongue be silenced, if I ever forget you!

2nd READING: Ephesians 2:4-10

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Praise and honor to you Jesus Christ. Glory to your name.

GOSPEL: John 3:14-21

OFFERTORY HYMN

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

LAMB OF GOD

COMMUNION HYMN

CLOSING HYMN

We pray for God's healing for:

Clara Allen, Brenda Banks, Judy Bartnik, Frank Candela, Brian Cavanaugh, Randy Clarke, Tom Davis, David Denomme, Kevin Dietz, Katie Estes, Juanita Farley, Dolores Ferschneider, Patty Godin, Rosa Gracey, Willie Harris, Art Hill, Theresa Hill, Billie Jean Jackson, Patrick Jansen, Journee Jones, Fran Kaucic, Lee Keenan, Alex Kelly, Debby Kinsel, Dolores Killewald, Gary Krueger, Clarence Lewis, Vicki McCuish, Beth McLaughlin, Traver Meathe, Andrea Milligan, Jennifer Mondalek, Joe Oldani, Allan Patterson, Sharon Povlitz, Emmie Roth, Phil Scamihorn, Margaret Sebastian, Geoff & Joyce Shahady, Larry Shelton, Jim & Marie Singer, Sheila Starke, Chris Turnbull, Sr. Jolene, Mary VanPoucker, Willie Williamson, Maura Corrigan's sister, Pat, Barbara Gabriel's sister Pearl, Joni Scott's mom, Annie, Roseann Schwartz's grandson, Gavin, Jan Shovlin's sister, Joan. & son Bradford, Shivaun Wois' student Jacqueline

YOU MAY BE INTERESTED IN.....

FRIDAY NIGHT LENTEN SERIES

Stations of the Cross
Light Meal of Soup
Jessie Cox : Weekly Speaker after Meal
March 16 St. Charles
March 23 Nativity
We will begin with the Stations at 6:00.
Soup to follow
Jessie Cox at 7:00

During the series we will be praying on the corner immediately following.

His Last Days, a story in song about the last days of Christ here on earth, will be presented on Sunday, March 18 at 7:00pm at St. Clare of Montefalco, 1401 Whittier, Grosse Pointe. All are welcome for this inspiring musical concert presented by members of various Parishes.

FILLING EASTER BASKETS

We are still trying to get those living in the neighborhood to join us for Mass each week. And one thing we have planned is to specifically invite our neighbors to Easter Sunday Mass. Since we always have baskets for the kids that day, we need help to make sure there will be enough. We are hoping to assemble 50 Baskets. There are post-it notes on a bulletin board, with items needed for baskets, for you to take and bring back anytime between now and March 25th. The Dollar Stores are stocked with all items listed. We appreciate anything you can do to help.

You can now read the bulletin on our website if you miss Mass. Website: nativitydetroit.org It is usually up by Tuesday afternoon or Wednesday. Past bulletins are under the resource tab.

WHAT'S HAPPENING

Nativity 400 Club Raffle

We did it. We the Nativity Parish Family met our goal. We have sold all 400 tickets. It can happen when we come together. Thanks to all our promoters, purchasers & sellers. Thanks to our generous parishioners, alumni, family & friends.

With appreciation,

The Fund Raising Committee

The drawing for the winners of the 400 Club Raffle will take place after Mass on Saturday, March 17th. We will have light refreshments and a little social time. Come and see if you are the big winner!

DON'T FORGET

Urban Parish Spirit Awards Thursday, March 15, 2018 @ 6:30 p.m. Sacred Heart Church 1000 Eliot St. | Detroit, MI 48207

Mark Your Calenders

March 29th: Holy Thursday Pot Luck, 6:00PM Dinner, Mass at 7:00PM **NOTE THE CHANGE: DINNER BEFORE MASS.** We will celebrate Mass and dinner here at Nativity with our St. Charles Family.

March 30th: Good Friday, Stations of the Cross 12:30PM, Service 1:00PM at Nativity, 7:00PM St. Charles

March 31st: Easter Vigil 8:00PM St. Charles-No Mass at Nativity

April 1st: Easter Sunday Mass 9:45AM Nativity, 11:30 St. Charles