

# NATIVITY NEWS

5900 McClellan \*April 28th & 29th, 2018\* Detroit, MI

## Pastor's Pen

### *Fifth Sunday of Easter*



In the Gospel today, we hear the words of Jesus to his disciples and to us:

“I am the vine, you are the branches. Whoever remains in me and I in them will bear much fruit, because without me you can do nothing.”

I was thinking about how beautiful cut flowers are when they're delivered and for the next 5 days, or maybe a week, they bloom and look great but then they droop and begin to wither and die. They are not connected to the “vine” any longer and can't grow without that source of life. Jesus is saying it's the same with us, Unless we're connected to our source of life, we won't make it. We may look pretty good for a while like those cut flowers but we will wither.

I think there's a difference between existing and living fully. Many can exist without the connection to the source but their lives become empty and meaningless, shallow and predictable and basically quite boring. They are quite content being the dead branch and just existing. They cover their existence with all their accomplishments, their looks and personality, their money and status, and all the stuff that makes them feel important. All of this just makes them think they're alive and connected but they're not connected to the source who gives true life and deep peace. For those who know they need their connection to the Divine, there continues to be an excitement and gratitude in their lives. They don't have to control everything but can allow God to handle that and they find a peace within themselves and with others that's better than any accomplishment.

Most of us are somewhere in the middle between existing some days and feeling the power of God's Spirit on other days. It's often when we stumble or experience a tragedy that we realize we can't do it ourselves and we need God. Those are moments of grace. May we look back at our lives this week to see all the ways God has saved us from ourselves and been connected to us even when we thought we were doing it on our own! May we live in gratitude this week for the Source of our being!

## Happy Birthday to those born in May!

Kiara Adams 5-01	Olivia Thompson 5-12	Airik Buford 5-22
Willie Lewis II 5-01	Barbara Kelly 5-13	Candyce Estes 5-22
Adrian Gabriel 5-05	Norma Danzie 5-16	Zoe Kent 5-23
Lori Vawter 5-05	Serenity Jones 5-16	Traver Meathe 5-23
Sara Johnston 5-06	Mashauna Adams 5-18	Buzz Busacca 5-26
John Urso 5-06	Shonte Carson 5-20	Zachary Schmitt 5-29
Harry Wimble 5-06	Carole Clemons 5-20	Deborah Fish 5-29
Melvin McCoy 5-07	Brandon Wilmer 5-20	Gloria Stamper 5-30
Kentrell Gabriel 5-07	Alexandria Ragland 5-21	Laurie Murphy 5-30
Paul Schmitt 5-11		

## And Happy Anniversaries!

Kathy & Jerry Alderman 5-05, Jerry & Delores Susko 5-19, Rashid & Airika Buford 5-28

### May 5th & 6th

#### Sixth Sunday of Easter

Next Week's Readings:

Acts 10:25-26, 34-35, 44-48

1John 4:7-10, John 20:19-31

#### Lectors:

4:00 T. McGratty

9:45 1. M. Adams 2. M. Corrigan

#### Ushers:

4:00 R. Miller & S. May

9:45 M.J. Accavitti, A. Calati,  
J. Deisinger, R. Duddy, C. Gillespie

#### Eucharistic Ministers:

4:00 C. Kulchy

9:45 1. M. Johnston 2. M. J. Accavitti  
3. H. Wimble 4. T. Novara

#### Ministers of Service:

4:00 S. Wois

9:45 1. J. Dupre 2. H. Adams

### MASS INTENTIONS

#### FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

##### SATURDAY, April 28, 2018

4:00 Dorothy Mudloff (Family)

Louis & Helen Randall

(The Nativity Family)

9:45 The Deceased of the Mudloff,  
Kresmery, and Johnston Families  
(Family)

##### THURSDAY, May 3, 2018

11:00 AM Those Grieving

#### SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

##### SATURDAY, May 5, 2018

4:00 Sandra Turnbull (William Rex)

Ed McGratty (Therese McGratty)

##### SUNDAY, May 6, 2018

9:45 First Communion Children

### PARISH DIRECTORY

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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

### 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.*

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

### OPENING PRAYER

God our Creator, look upon us with love. You redeem us and make us your children in Christ. Give us true freedom and bring us to the inheritance you promised. We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

**1<sup>st</sup> READING:** Acts 9:26-31

### RESPONSORIAL PSALM

I will praise you, Lord, in the assembly of our people.

**2<sup>nd</sup> READING:** 1 John 3:18-24

### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia ...

**GOSPEL:** John 15:1-8

### 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, 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.....

All are invited to the Detroit Catholic Pastoral Alliance's Annual Meeting on Wednesday, May 16 at Sacred Heart Activities Center. Spaghetti Dinner at 6 and Meeting starts at 6:45. Dinner is free and you don't need to be a member to attend, though you can join that night if you wish (memberships start as low as \$5). Nativity Parish is a member of the Alliance. Come and hear about the good work of the Alliance!

A few years ago some people from Freedom House Detroit came and spoke at a Soup Supper. Some parishioners have continued to donate items they need and we recently delivered some flip flops, toilet paper, kleenex and some toiletries. They were very thankful for everything! There is a white bin in back of church near the library marked "Freedom House" if you wish to make a donation at any time. In addition to items listed above, they are in need of pretty much any disposable item you would need in your home. For more detailed information, you can access their Wish List at: <https://www.freedomhousedetroit.org/index.php/support/wish-list>

### WHAT'S HAPPENING

**Next Sunday is First Communion Sunday. There will be light refreshments after Mass. All are invited to come down.**

**The 2018 Father Singer Nativity Scholarship Program** application forms and guidelines are available in the back of the church, or via email request sent to the scholarship committee at [wimble85@comcast.net](mailto:wimble85@comcast.net)

#### Ladies Night Out

Friday, May 11, 2018 at St. Charles. Sign up on the sheet on the music stand. There is a cost of \$5.00 per person.

#### SAVE THESE DATES

**May 6th:** St. Pat Senior Center's 41st Annual Irish Festival. From 1:00-9:00PM.

**May 20<sup>th</sup>** Confirmation: Bishop Gumbleton will preside.

**June 3<sup>rd</sup>** Blessing of children, teens, and Catechists.

**Vacation Bible School** will be a four week program, two weeks at Nativity and two at St. Charles beginning June 25<sup>th</sup> and ending July 20<sup>th</sup>. The first two weeks will be held at Nativity. More details to come.