

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: 7-24: Michele Bezel & Br. Ray, 7-25: Wendy Bryant,
7-26: Aimee Sergent, 7-28: Wilma Wilmer

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY: 7-28: Tom & Nina Zarro

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

July 28th & 29th

Seventeenth Sunday of Ordinary Time

Next week's Readings:

(2 Kings 4:42-44, Ephesians 4:1-6,
John 6:1-15)

Lectors:

4:00 Mary Miller
9:45 1. M. Johnston 2. C. Sutton

Ushers:

4:00 S. May & R. Miller
9:45 P. Adams, K. Alderman,
J. Deisinger, T. Roberts

Eucharistic Ministers:

4:00 Mark Miller C. Gillespie D. Scott
9:45 3. Sr. Elaine 4. J. Showlin

Ministers of Service:

4:00 W. Adams
9:45 1. C. Scott 2. K. Hurt

MASS INTENTIONS

Sixteenth Sunday of Ordinary Time

SATURDAY, July 21, 2018

4:00 Carl Miller (Family)
Allison and Alex Swim (Family)

SUNDAY, July 22, 2018

9:45 Patricia Cichowski (Family)

THURSDAY, July 26, 2018

11:00AM Brother Ray
(The Nativity Family)

Seventeenth Sunday of Ordinary Time

SATURDAY, July 28, 2018

4:00PM Brother Ray
(The Nativity Family)

SUNDAY, July 29, 2018

9:45 Thomas Scamihorn (Family)

PARISH DIRECTORY

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Raymond Stadmeier, OFM Cap-Pastor
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Mary Miller Parish Nurse

NATIVITY NEWS

5900 McClellan *July 21st & 22nd 2018* Detroit, MI

Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time



Brother Ray is away this weekend to celebrate what would have been his Father's 100th birthday with his family and so we offer some thoughts. As we looked at this Sunday's readings for a start, an excellent brochure came in the mail entitled "Welcoming the Refugee and Migrant," put out by the US Conference of Catholic Bishops. Some excerpts* from that document:

"Fear of the stranger and a desire to protect one's own family are ingrained in human behavior. Yet these are just a few of the responses that human beings are capable of. From ancient times till today there is also the impulse to extend hospitality and protection to those who are displaced, homeless or in great need.

The Catholic Church is consistent and forthright in support of migrants and refugees, calling all the faithful to welcome and protect them. This support is not the result of a political ideology or agenda, and the Church affirms the right of any country to protect its borders. Yet the deepest traditions and teachings of Judaism and Christianity encourage us to overcome our fears and aid the poor, the homeless and the stranger."

"The Holy Family became refugees when they fled to Egypt to escape Herod's slaughter of the innocents. Later in Matthew (8:20) Jesus describes himself as one without a home who *has nowhere to rest his head.*"

"The word *parish* reflects our own self-image as a pilgrim people. It comes from the Greek word *paroikos*, which means a body of migrants or sojourners living in a specific territory."

"In his visit to the US, Pope Francis spoke as a brother to us: *We, the people of this continent, are not fearful of foreigners, because most of us were once foreigners. I say this to you as the son of immigrants, knowing that so many of you are also descended from immigrants.*"

In the Gospel today, the apostles have just returned and were reporting to Jesus all they had done and preached. He says "Come away by yourselves to a deserted place and rest awhile." When they get to the deserted place, the crowd has followed, and while Jesus wants to sit down and rest, instead he begins to preach to the crowd. If each of us took a few minutes out of busy lives this week and did something about our migrant and refugee problem, perhaps we might make life a little better for one or two of our brothers and sisters. What if each of us took time this week to pray prayer each day that is inside the bulletin and joined that prayer with many others throughout the world?

The brochure also suggests some other concrete things we can do: **Pray:** for an end to the violence, poverty and hatred that force people to flee; **Share stories:** discover our own roots, talk to newcomers we meet, listen; **Reach out:** volunteer to help in ministries serving refugees and migrants; **Donate money:** some suggested ones - Catholic Charities, Catholic Relief Services, Migration and Refugee Services; **Exercise your right as a citizen:** contact our elected officials and ask them to fix our broken immigration system in a way that safeguards both our security and our humanity through legal immigration; **#ShareJourney** is an international initiative on behalf of migrants and refugees, inspired by Pope Francis to encourage Catholics to love their neighbors.

Our Faith Teaches "Welcoming the Refugee and Migrant" Catholic News Service

Fran and Chris