

NATIVITY NEWS



5900 McClellan *August 16, 2020* Detroit, MI 48213

PASTOR'S PEN

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

THIS WEEK'S BIRTHDAYS

HAPPY BIRTHDAY: 8-16: Andrea Liss, **8-18:** Charvala Adams, **8-20:** Marty Gulewicz, **8-21:** Terri Wilson, **8-22:** Melissa Elmore
HAPPY ANNIVERSARY: 8-18: Keith & Anne Crowe

We pray for God's healing for:

Brenda Banks, Judy Bartnik, Marianne Boe (sister of Kathy Walsh), Hedwig Buczek, Frank Candela, Brian Cavanaugh, Frank Candela's brother-in-law, Ed, Randy Clarke, Gabriel Crowe, Tom Davis, John Deisinger, Bill Dietz, Diane Ferschneider, Douglas Frattini, Rosa Gracey, Neidra Halthon, Bart Houston, Art Hill, Patrick Jansen, Journee Jones, Mia Halthon-Jones, Alex Kelly, Genevieve and Rosy Krembel, Mickala Lewis, Clarence Lewis, Deborah Marshall, Kathy McDonald's Granddaughter, Ryan, Beth McLaughlin, Traver Meathe, Andrea Milligan, Jennifer Mondalek, Allan Patterson, Helen Randall, Yvonne Rottach, Phil Scamihorn, Geoff & Joyce Shahady, Larry Shelton, Rose & Tom Sheehy, Jim & Marie Singer, Sheila Starke, Marianne Szymanski, Phyllis Treece, Sr. Jolene, Pat Wimple, Nikki Zapinski, Carolyn Sutton's friend, Molly, Barbara Gabriel's sister Pearl, Joni Scott's mom, Annie, Rosanne Schwartz's grandson, Gavin, Shivaun Wois' mom and student Jacqueline, Kathy Walsh's sister, Marianne, Joanne Pierick's sister, Suzanne, The Benigni and Chida Families

MASS INTENTIONS

TWENTIETH SUNDAY

SUNDAY, August 16, 2020

9:30 Darius May
(Nancy Silveri & Tony Novara)
Patty Godin & Tom McLaughlin
(Jim & Cookie Kulchy)
Sr. Barbara Johns, IHM
(Frances Carnaghi)

TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY

SUNDAY, August 23, 2020

9:30 Kirtis III & Rose Thomas
(Family)
Mary Hanna & Fred Hanna
(The Benigni Family)
Margaret Sebastian (Tina Roberts)
Denise Bailey (Kim Milligan)

PARISH DIRECTORY

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

Raymond Stadmeier, OFM Cap-Pastor
Frances Carnaghi & Chris McLaughlin
Pastoral Ministers
Joni Scott Director of Faith Formation

Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Isaiah says in the first reading:

"Thus says the Lord:

Do what is right, do what is just;

for my salvation is about to come, my justice about to be revealed.

The foreigners who join themselves to the Lord, ministering to him,

loving the name of the Lord, and becoming his servants –

all who keep the Sabbath free from profanation and hold to my covenant, them I will bring to my holy mountain and make joyful in my house of prayer."

In this reading, those who may have seen themselves as the privileged ones are reminded by Isaiah that no one is deemed "holy" just because of ethnicity or social standing. The foreigners who do what is right and just and remain faithful to the covenant will be welcomed into God's house. In a time of so much division in our country and in our world, we are reminded that God is on the side of those with a pure heart. God welcomes those who stand up for what is right and just. God has a special love for those treated unjustly and excluded from society. It's a great reminder for me to continue to try to look at the world with the lens of God rather than my narrow lens. Being a Capuchin, being a priest, being a Catholic is not my free pass to live a life filled with judgmental attitudes, narrow opinions, and exclusive ideas of who is saintly and who is not. We are continually called to conversion of heart so that we might have a tenderness that welcomes the stranger, sees the wonder of those who are broken, leaves judgments for God and has the humility to realize none of us see the whole picture. May we look at those we have excluded in our personal life or as church or as a country and ask ourselves if that is truly of God or is based on our own fears and insecurities. May we have the courage to welcome the "foreigner" in all their many disguises (mothers and children on the border, mentally ill on our streets, those addicted and struggling to get through the day, LGBTQ community and all those we have judged as "not like us."). May the good God forgive us of all our self-righteousness and give us humble hearts.