

NATIVITY NEWS

5900 McClellan *August 23, 2020* Detroit, MI 48213

PASTOR'S PEN

Twenty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time

Traditionally, we have heard the Gospel as setting Peter as the leader and Rock of the church and giving him and future priests the power to forgive sins.

"I will give you the keys to the Kingdom of heaven. Whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in Heaven."

Maybe it's not just about the priest's power to tell a penitent that they have been forgiven by God. Maybe it's also the call for each of us to "loose" all the stuff that we might be carrying around with us. We may have bound up resentments from childhood, jealousies of siblings, old hurts from friends, messages that kept telling us we aren't good enough, prejudices and biases that may be subconscious, past sins, the attitudes that keep us from trusting one another, the feuds we have with family members over the pettiest things, the disappointments of our lives, the "if only" tapes we play back over and over and all the "stuff" that we carry around through our lives. For many of us, we have become so accustomed to carrying this extra weight that it is just part of our identity. We have no idea the freedom we could have if we could just "loose" it. Maybe God gives us the authority and the power to bind or loose. Maybe God allows that to be our choice. If we want to choose to walk through life bound up with so much baggage, God will not intervene. If we have a desire to be free and don't want to carry the stuff any longer, God will obey those wishes as well. I think it might be the desire to want to be free that has to be our choice. With that choice comes the honesty to say that I can no longer carry these heavy burdens and I beg you Lord to loose them from my life. It always takes great courage to change and to come to the point of realization that when we bind up the pains, struggles and sorrows, they deplete our joy and, ultimately, our life.

Maybe this week, we can look at some of the stuff we have bound up in our life and loose it with the help of God. I don't believe God wants any of us to live miserable lives or lives without joy. It is our call to bind and loose the burdens of our life and then help the others to loosen their burdens. Let's allow the power of God into our lives in new ways this week and begin to live in the freedom of the children of God!



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: 8/24: Diane Wingo, & Nina Zarro, 8/26: Bill Dietz, 8/27: Mary Crawford, 8/29: Benjamin Schmitt

We pray for God's healing for:

Mary Jane Accavitti, 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 Wimble, 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

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)

TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY SUNDAY, August 30, 2020

9:30 Glennis Deisinger
(Family)

Tom Zarro

(Nancy Silveri & Tony Novara)

Joan Nessehauf

(Therese McGratty)

PARISH DIRECTORY

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Raymond Stadmeier, OFM Cap-Pastor

Frances Carnaghi & Chris McLaughlin

Pastoral Ministers

Joni Scott Director of Faith Formation