

NATIVITY NEWS

5900 McClellan *September 13, 2020* Detroit, MI 48213

PASTOR'S PEN



I am writing this on September 11th after a funeral this morning for Katie Estes of Nativity who asked that her family hold her funeral on her birthday (September 11th). She would have been 90 today! It was a wonderful celebration of a good life. She was widowed at 33 with 6 children to care for and she was valiant in her strength and courage to take on this most difficult task. Her children and grandchildren all spoke so powerfully of how deeply she cared for them. It was inspiring to see these grown children, all successful in their walks of life, holding each other's hands as they processed out of the church. One child said, "Mom was the glue that kept all of us together and now each of us have that glue for one another and for our own families."

September 11th is also the anniversary of my own mom's death and every year I think back to our last year with her. I remember her strength and courage as she received the news that her cancer was in the last stages. I remember her faith as she reminded us that this was not the end of her story. I remember how she lived the last year of her life with so much determination to make it a good year filled with wonderful memories for her children and grandchildren. I remember in her last hour standing with my sisters and brother holding on to each other as we said good-bye to the woman who had been with us from the moment we were conceived. 9/11 was already a powerful date for our family since 1998.

In 2001, 9/11 became the horrendous day filled with immense hardship and grief when two planes jetted into the Twin Towers in New York and killed 2900+ people. We also remember the planes that came down in the fields of Shanksville, Pennsylvania and the Pentagon. What a day! We can all remember where we were and what we were doing on that tragic day. The day was filled with heroes who gave up their lives so that the plane they were in could not be used as a weapon to kill so many others. The battle cry, "Let's Roll!" became the chant calling us to deep wells of courage as we faced this terrible tragedy. Do you remember how close we all felt at that moment? How proud we were to be Americans those days! We were united in those weeks that called a whole nation to mourn for all those we lost. We weren't Democrats or Republicans, Conservatives or Liberals, Black or white, rich or poor, gay or straight. We were just "us" trying to take care of each other in the midst of an awful tragedy. The personal and national 9/11s of our lives call us to remember our basic compassionate humanity and our need for one another. COVID 19 is another 9/11 but somehow we have not been able to come together as a country as we did 19 years ago. How Sad for all of us! May we find that compassion again.

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: 9-13: Malcolm McIntyre, **9-14:** Bert McAlister, **9-15:** Anne Crowe, Renee Heimes, **9-16:** Marty Gulewicz, and **9-19:** Mia Halthon-Jones

We pray for God's healing for:

Mary Jane Accavitti, Brenda Banks, Judy Bartnik, 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, Kathy Walsh's sister, Marianne, Joanne Pierick's sister, Suzanne, The Benigni and Chida Families

MASS INTENTIONS

TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 2020

9:30 Lisa Sacino &
Marissa Marroco-White
(Vicky Ruhf)
Patty Godin & Tom McLaughlin
(Therese McGratty)

TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 2020

9:30 Dorothy Kroetsch
(Family)
Kirtis III & Rose Thomas
(Family)
RoseMary & Joe Oldani
(Mary Jane Accavitti)

PARISH DIRECTORY

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