

NATIVITY NEWS



5900 McClellan *March 21, 2021* Detroit, MI 48213

PASTOR'S PEN

Fifth Sunday of Lent

On this fifth Sunday of Lent, the Responsorial Psalm is:

**Create a clean heart in me O God
Have mercy on me, O God, in your goodness;
In the greatness of your compassion wipe out my offense.
Thoroughly wash me from my guilt
And of my sin cleanse me.**

**A Clean heart create for me, O God,
And a steadfast spirit renew within me.
Cast me not from your presence
And your Holy Spirit take not from me.**

**Give me back the joy of your salvation,
And a willing spirit sustain in me.
I will teach transgressors your ways
And sinners will return to you.**

Maybe with only two weeks before Easter, it's a clean heart that we all need. The problem is we cannot make our hearts clean by our own will or our good works or any acts of fasting and self-discipline. A clean heart only comes with a surrender into the arms of the One who created us and has loved us from the moment we were conceived. God is the one who can create a clean heart. The surrender becomes almost impossible if we are carrying old "stuff." If we are to jump into the arms of God, we can't be carrying all kinds of old resentments, sins that have already been forgiven, fear and anxieties of all kinds, old wounds of grief and hurt, etc. I like the last stanza that says, "give me back the joy of salvation and a willing spirit sustain in me." A clean heart brings joy in spite of the circumstances of our lives and a willing spirit says "yes" to God and to all the twists and turns of our life. When we can say yes with a willing spirit and trust that God will be with us and bring light out of the darkness, we will bring back the joy of our salvation. After this year, we all need to bring back the joy of our salvation. Lord give us clean hearts and the joy of jumping into your arms!

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: 3-23: Brenda Banks & Jim Turnbull

3-24: Gail Urso, **3-25:** Sarah Awan, **3-26:** Judy Dupre, **3-27:** Roseanne Schwartz

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY: 3-21: Jim & Ruth Duddy, **3-25:** Danny & Shivaun Wois

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, Karen Foy, 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, 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, John Stuart, 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, Joanne Pierick's sister, Suzanne, The Benigni and Chida Families

MASS INTENTIONS

FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT SUNDAY, March 21, 2021

9:30 Erdo Graziani
(Nancy Silveri & Tony Novara)

Mary Beth Dietz (Family)

The Adrian Dominican Sisters
Lost to Covid 19
(Nancy Silveri & Tony Novara)

PALM SUNDAY SUNDAY, March 28, 2021

9:30 Mass of Thanksgiving
for the Nativity Family

Kirtis III & Rose Thomas (Family)

PARISH DIRECTORY

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Raymond Stadmeier, OFM Cap-Pastor

Frances Carnaghi & Chris McLaughlin

Pastoral Ministers

Joni Scott Director of Faith Formation