

NATIVITY NEWS

Nativity of Our Lord Catholic Church

5900 McClellan,
Detroit, MI 48213

WORSHIP SCHEDULE:

Nativity:

Sunday 9:30 AM



**May 21, 2023
Seventh Sunday of
Easter**



Praised Be JESUS CHRIST!

A note from your DJ (Deacon John)

God's Embrace

The celebration of sacraments has always been important, but the church seems to highlight them during the Easter Season. Many of us have seen that firsthand with our newly Baptized, Confirmed, and First Communicants.

We begin by recalling the historic definition that many of us learned many years ago: A sacrament is an outward sign instituted by Christ to give grace. I remember memorizing that line when in the third grade and it still resides in my head. There are certain words and actions that are a part of the ritual when someone is baptized, receives the Eucharist, and are anointed for Confirmation which bring about a practical and consistent ceremony. This is important, but we should focus on what can happen in the person's heart and the involvement of the Holy Spirit in the sacraments. What we can see behind the definition of a sacrament can be the embrace of God.

In the sacraments, we can think and pray about the concept that the sacraments are the physical embrace God gives us. The words are important, but we often can also see clearly the language of ritual. We feel this touch in some fashion. Following is a quote from Ronald Rolheiser appearing in his book, "Our One Great Act of Fidelity."

"The Eucharist is God's kiss. We need more than words; we need to be physically touched. This is what happens in the Eucharist and it is why the Eucharist and every other Christian sacrament always has something tangible, physical element to it -- a laying on of hands, a consuming of bread and wine, an immersion in water, an anointing with oil. An embrace needs to be physical."

Do we feel touched and embraced by God or when we witness someone being embraced by God when receiving a sacrament? It just so happened that God's embrace has taken place in the State Macomb Prison where I serve. There is a young man named Michael that has been meeting with a spiritual director for several months to help him to understand the Catholic faith and what the meaning is behind the Sacraments he will receive. I spoke with him after our service a couple of weeks ago and we talked briefly about what should happen as far as getting there on time and being prepared. In the interest of trying to have things in place, we arrived early on Sunday, bringing a Bishop who was happy to celebrate the Mass that would provide all the sacraments for him. After going through security and getting to the room we use, the first person I saw sitting there in the front row was Michael.

He said to me plainly, "I wanted to get here early." Michael smiled and then had the sacrament of reconciliation with the bishop, was baptized, confirmed, and received his First Communion during Mass. He smiled again! There was applause for him and another smile. I believe that he was embraced by God.

We all try to remember Jesus' touch and embrace whenever we are a part of the sacraments that he instituted. God is present in these times. That would grant the grace which was in that definition I learned in 3rd grade and the sharing of His life with us all. We try to feel that presence as we are part of it and as we go forth. We've witnessed water touching the babies -- giving God's kiss. Each week we can feel God's touch in a special way in the Eucharist. Those embraces by God bring us into communion with God and with one another. We are thankful for the risen Lord Jesus who continues to enter our lives no matter what goes on. We thank you, God, for the gift of your presence in the sacraments we experience in our lives and the lives of others. This quote from Ron Rolheiser fits well with Michael and us all as we go through our lives.

"Christianity is, without doubt, the earthiest of all religions. It doesn't call you out of the physical, out of the body, or out of the world. Rather it tells you that God enters the physical, becomes one with it, blesses it, redeems it, and there is no reason to escape from it."

This can take place through the sacraments. Enjoy that embrace!

Go forth in the peace of that embrace from God as we experience the ritual and the touch of God in our hearts.

FAMILY DAILY MASSES

(The services at St. Charles and at St. Augustine/St. Monica parishes are in brackets)

Seventh Sunday of Easter, May 21st 9:30 AM Mass livestreamed/ Presider and Preacher: Father David.

Tuesday, May 23rd [5:00 PM Mass at Sacred Heart; SSAM: SVDP Food pantry, Men's Faith Sharing/6:00 PM].

Wednesday, May 24^h [9:00 AM Mass at SSAM/ Zoom Rosary: 7:00 PM on Zoom. Email Joni Scott @ jlscott820@gmail.com to receive the Zoom link].

Thursday, May 25th Nativity, 9:00 AM Mass; Emergency Food Pantry: Open 1:00-4:00 PM [SSAM 8:15 PM Holy Hour for priests and vocations].

Friday, May 26th [11:00 AM Mass at St. Charles].

Pentecost Sunday May 28th 9:30 AM Mass livestreamed with social distancing/Priest and preacher: Fr. David.

WELCOME NEW PARISH MEMBERS!



How Do I Join Nativity Parish?

If you are interested in becoming a member, please call the Parish Office at 313-922-0033 or complete a registration form available in the back of the church and drop it in the collection basket.

Want to learn more about the Catholic Faith or religious education programs? Contact Joni Scott, Director of Formation at the Parish House at 313-922-0033.

Evangelization Committee Bible Question of the Week

This Sunday, the question is about the Ascension of our Lord. The readings and Gospel all speak about the commission and empowering of the disciples to carry on the ministry of Jesus. In the 1st reading we hear, *"But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, throughout Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."* "When he had said this, as they were looking on, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him from their sight." In the Gospel, Jesus speaks to the eleven disciples and says to them, *"All power in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, until the end of the age."* In the 2nd reading, Paul writes to the church at Ephesus and refers to the "church, which is the body of Christ." You may want to go back and read it. Then consider the following questions. As a member of the body of Christ, do you recognize your call as a disciple and feel empowered to respond? Are you more confident in light of these scriptures?

References: [Acts 1:1-11](#); [Eph 1:17-23](#); [Mt 28:16-20](#)

2023 Father Singer Memorial Scholarships

The submission period for applications for this year's scholarship ends June 1, 2023. Application forms can be obtained by downloading and printing from the About Us/Our Work section of the Nativity website: Nativitydetroit.org

TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READINGS

7th Sunday of Easter

First Reading:
Acts 1:12-14

Responsorial Psalm
I believe that I shall see the good things of the Lord in the land of the living.

Second Reading:
1 Peter 4:13-16

Gospel Reading:
John 17: 1-11

NEXT WEEK'S SCRIPTURE READINGS

Pentecost Sunday

First Reading:
Acts 2:1-11

Responsorial Psalm
Lord, send out your Spirit, and renew the face of the earth.

Second Reading:
1 Corinthians 12:3-7, 12-13

Gospel Reading:
John 20:19-23

WHAT'S HAPPENING

Coffee and donuts are served downstairs after Mass this Sunday. Thank you to the Strangers No Longer Circle for hosting.

Food Pantry

We are grateful for your continued support of the pantry. Your weekly donations make a difference. This week we need Fruit, Side Dishes and Peanut Butter. Again, thank you never seems to be enough, but THANK YOU!

CSA 2023

Many of you have received a mailing from the Archdiocese about the 2023 CSA. Our target for 2023 is \$18,343. In 2022 we met our goal, Thank God! That meant we didn't have to use parish funds to pay it off. Any money donated past our goal is returned to the parish. Last year we had 55 families donate towards our goal. We had donations from \$20 to \$2,450 and everything in between. Sometimes people have a good year and sometimes not and we are grateful for all gifts. Anything you can do will be greatly appreciated. If you have not received the mailing from the Archdiocese, there are extra forms by all three entrances. The forms have Nativity of Our Lord Detroit 612 on the top. Please use the form so we get the credit if you are paying by check. **Checks should be made out to the Archdiocese of Detroit-CSA.** Directions for giving online are at: www.givecsa.org if you prefer to give that way and if you do, make sure you choose Nativity of Our Lord Detroit 612.

If you put your donation in the collection basket, please put it in a separate envelope and make the check out to the Archdiocese of Detroit - CSA. Thanks for whatever you can do!

Strangers No Longer

Join SNL members during Advocacy Week, May 19th thru the 25th, in making driver's licenses for all a reality. We need your help. We want to get as many of us, including you, to be part of teams of parishioners & friends contacting their state Representative & Senator during that week. We are asking you to contact your legislators via email & or phone asking them to support the drive safe bills. This legislation would allow immigrants to get driver's licenses & or state ID's regardless of their immigrant status. In the Senate the bill numbers are 0265, 0266, 0267. In the House the bill numbers are 4410, 4411, 4412. If you need help identifying your legislators or have any questions, please talk to Nancy Silveri or Mary Traub. Thank you always for your support.



WE PRAY FOR GOD'S HEALING FOR

Mary Jane Accavitti, Brandon Adams, Brenda Banks, Judy Bartnik, Michele Bezel, Christine Bookmyer, Hedwig Buczek, Frank Candela, Brian Cavanaugh, Frank Candela's brother-in-law, Ed, Erin Cronin, Gabriel Crowe, John Deisinger, Diane Ferschneider, Douglas Frattini, Rosa Gracey, Neidra Halthon, Bart Houston, Art Hill, Jansen Family, Journee Jones, Mia Halthon-Jones, Fran Kaucic, Alex Kelly, George Kent, Genevieve and Rosy Krembel, Clarence Lewis, Olga Ludwick, Deborah Marshall, Kathy McDonald's Granddaughter, Ryan, Melvin McCoy, Jennifer Mondalek, Richard Morecki, Gail Northcutt, Allan Patterson, Helen Randall, Yvonne Rottach, Phil Scamihorn, Joyce Shahady, Larry Shelton, Trudy Shiemke, Jim Singer, Sheila Starke, John Stuart, Marianne Szymanski, Phyllis Treece, Jim Turnbull, Sr. Jolene, Pat Wimble, Carolyn Sutton's friend, Molly, Barron Scott's mom, Vicky, Rosanne Schwartz's grandson, Gavin, Joanne Pierick's sister, Suzanne, the Benigni and Chida Families, Pat Wimble, and Mia Halthon-Jones' mother-in-law, Victoria, **(Please notify Anne Crowe at the Parish Office when a name should be removed from this list.)**



Lord, you are the source of health and healing. In you, there is calm and true peace. In pain, anxiety, or fear, teach us to yield ourselves to your care, knowing that your love and power surround us to give us health and strength through Jesus Christ, Our Lord. Amen

On the Rise Bakery Cafe

REOPENED!

At the Solanus Casey Center
1780 Mt. Elliott, Detroit, MI 48207

Hours: Tuesday-Saturday 9:30AM to 4:00PM

GLUTEN FREE TREATS AVAILABLE ALSO

REMINDERS:

The Live-stream 9:30 Sunday Mass is on the Parish Facebook site: <https://www.facebook.com/NativityDetroit>
Church Library: Feel free to take and use books and other resources available in the back of the church.
Coins for Haiti Jug: Donations are welcome. The jug is located in front of the church near the collection basket
Parish Website: <https://www.nativitydetroit.org>
Parish Instagram Page: https://www.instagram.com/nativitycatholicchurch_detroit/



Online Giving

DONATE HERE or go to the giving site at: <https://giving.parishsoft.com/App/Giving/nativity>

MASS Intentions

7th Sunday of Easter May 21, 2023

Chico Mondalek (Dee Lamberti)
Sam Scamihorn (Marrian Louis)
Greg McCaffrey (Friends of Nativity)
Ruth, Truman, & Jimmy Dupre (Diane Schram)

Pentecost Sunday May 28, 2023

Louis Randall (Nativity Family)
Mae Johnson (Family)
Kresmery Family (Family)

BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK

5-21: Alexandria Ragland
5-22: Airik Buford & Candyce Estes
5-23: Zane Kent & Trevor Meathe



WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES THIS WEEK

5-21: Mike & Loretta Peralta

Please let the Parish Office know if we missed someone.

PARISH DIRECTORY

5900 McClellan, Detroit, MI 48213

Parish Phone: 313-922-0033

Email: nativityol@sbcglobal.net

Monsignor Daniel Trapp, Pastor

Deacon John Wright

Joseph Taylor, Pastoral Minister Coordinator

Joni Scott, Director of Faith Formation

Anne Crowe, Parish Secretary

PARISH COUNCIL MEMBERS

Hermenia Adams

Norma Danzie

Mashauna Adams

Willie Lewis

Sr. Ellen Burkhardt

Kim Milligan

Jerry Burns

Mark Miller

Maura Corrigan

Sharon Mudloff

Linda Cunningham

Charvala Wheeler

Jarel Adams-Alt.

Nativity's 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 a commitment to social justice, and service to the neighborhood, the community, and each other.