

**Nativity of Our
Lord Catholic
Church**

5900 McClellan,
Detroit, MI 48213

Email:

nativityol@sbcglobal.net

**WORSHIP
SCHEDULE:**

Sunday 9:30 AM

Thursday 9:00 AM

NATIVITY NEWS



February 8, 2026
5th Sunday of the Year



REFLECTION FROM Fr. RICHARD

Dear Eastside Family and Friends,

Quite recently three American cardinals urged the Trump administration in a joint statement to step back from his foreign policy strategies and goals. The cardinals added the voice of Pope Leo XIV to their statement, citing a recent warning from Pope Leo about a resurgence of a “zeal for warmaking.” Below is their statement. Due to limited space, I left out one paragraph and a few sentences. Otherwise, it’s the full statement.

Fr. Richard

Charting A Moral Vision of American Foreign Policy

In 2026, the United States has entered into the most profound and searing debate about the moral foundation for America’s actions in the world since the end of the Cold War. The events in Venezuela, Ukraine and Greenland have raised basic questions about the use of military force and the meaning of peace. The sovereign rights of nations to self-determination appear all too fragile in a world of ever greater conflagrations. The balancing of national interest with the common good is being framed within starkly polarized terms.

For all of these reasons, the contribution of Pope Leo in outlining a truly moral foundation for international relations to the Vatican diplomatic corps this month has provided us an enduring ethical compass for establishing the pathway for American foreign policy in the coming years.

He stated:

“A diplomacy that promotes dialogue and seeks consensus among all parties is being replaced by a diplomacy based on force, by either individuals or groups of allies. War is back in vogue and a zeal for war is spreading. The principle established after the Second World War, which prohibited nations from using force to violate the borders of others, has been completely undermined. Peace is no longer sought as a gift and desirable good in itself...”

Our nation’s debate on the moral foundation for American policy is beset by polarization, partisanship, and narrow economic and social interests. Pope Leo has given us the prism through which to raise it to a much higher level. We will preach, teach, and advocate in the coming months to make that higher level possible.

Signed:

Cardinal Blasé J. Cupich, Archbishop of Chicago

Cardinal Robert W. McElroy, Archbishop of Washington

Cardinal Joseph W. Tobin, C.Ss.R., Archbishop of Newark

DETROIT LOWER EASTSIDE FAMILY OF PARISHES WEEKEND MASS SCHEDULE

Nativity of Our Lord: Sunday, 9:30AM, live-streamed.

Our Lady Queen of Heaven: Sunday, 9:00AM

Sacred Heart: Saturday, 5:00PM, Sunday, 8:00AM & 10:00AM

St. Augustine and St. Monica: Sunday, 10:00AM

St. Charles Borromeo: Sunday, 11:30AM

St. Elizabeth: Sunday, 12:00PM

St. Jude: Saturday, 4:00PM, Sunday, 10:30AM

St. Raymond: Saturday, 4:00PM, Sunday, 10:30AM

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 Joseph Taylor at the Parish House at 313-922-0033.

THIS WEEK'S SCRIPTURE READINGS

Fifth Sunday

First Reading:

Isaiah 58:7-1

Responsorial Psalm

The just man is a light in darkness to the upright.

Second Reading:

1 Corinthians 2:1-5

Gospel Reading:

Matthew 5:13-16

NEXT WEEK'S SCRIPTURE READINGS

Sixth Sunday

First Reading

Sirach 15:15-20

Responsorial Psalm

Blessed are those who follow the law of the Lord!

Second Reading:

1 Corinthians 2:6-10

Gospel Reading:

Matthew 5:17-37

EVANGELIZATION COMMITTEE BIBLE QUESTION OF THE WEEK

In today's Gospel, Jesus uses familiar metaphors of salt and light to describe the life of discipleship. He said to His disciples, ***"You are the salt of the earth. But if salt loses its taste, with what can it be seasoned? It is no longer good for anything but to be thrown out and trampled underfoot. You are the light of the world. Just so, your light must shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your heavenly Father."*** In the Bible, salt symbolizes purity, durability, covenant fidelity, and preservation against corruption. As a "covenant of salt," it represents an unbreakable, everlasting bond with God. Scripture states that "God is light, and in Him is no darkness at all." This signifies His absolute holiness, purity, and the absence of any sin or evil. As followers of Christ, we are instructed to let the light of Christ shine through by performing good deeds that reflect God's character to the world. Today's Gospel prompts us to analyze our experience as being the salt and light to understand the mission that is ours as Christians. What does it mean to you to be salt and light of the earth? How does it manifest in your life's journey?

Reference: [Matthew 5:13-16](#);



NATIVITY WOMEN'S WEEKEND RETREAT

THEME: Navigating Turbulent Waters Finding Calm, Courage, and Christ in the Storm

February 20-22, 2026: At St. Paul Retreat Center

See details posted in Church (By Mary's Altar side)

To register visit: stpaulretreat.org

WHAT'S HAPPENING

PANTRY NEEDS

We are so grateful for your continued support of the pantry. This week we need pork & beans, mac & cheese and Valentines Candy.

**ASH WEDNESDAY MASSES
FEBRUARY 18th**

- St. Augustine/St. Monica: 9:00AM
- Nativity: 12:00PM
- Sacred Heart: 12:00PM
- St. Elizabeth: 2:00PM
- Sacred Heart: 5:00PM
- St. Charles: 6:00PM
- St. Raymond: 6:00PM

We are planning the Friday night Stations of the Cross/Soup Suppers during Lent.

We will begin at 6:00PM. Trying to get the rotation set this week.

Women's Lenten Mini-Retreat

The Christmas decorations are down, Paczki Day is coming, and Lent is right around the corner – it's not too early to start making those Lenten plans! Grab some friends (or come solo and make new ones) and join us for our revival of the One-Day Women's Lenten Retreat, hosted by Our Lady Queen of Apostles Parish in Hamtramck, on Saturday, March 14, 2026, from 9:00am – 3:30pm (optional Mass at 8:30am). Discover how this year's theme, "Strong" applies to you, wherever you are in your journey. Registration fee is \$25 (Early Bird Special - \$20 by 2/23/26), and includes light breakfast, luncheon, all take-aways and take-home materials, keynote speakers, small group interaction, and more! Call the Queen of Apostles Rectory at 313-891-1520 (8:30am-1:30pm) for more registration information or mail in the form below. Deadline to register is March 6, 2026. Hope to see you there!

Name _____

Phone number _____

Email address (if applicable) _____

Make checks payable to "Our Lady Queen of Apostles" and mail with form to:
Queen of Apostles Rectory
Attn: Women's Lenten Retreat
3851 Prescott
Hamtramck, MI 48212



**WE PRAY FOR GOD'S
HEALING FOR**

Mary Jane Accavitti, Laura Accavitti, Brandon Adams, Judy Bartnik, Judy Brooks, Hedwig Buczek, Frank Candela, Frank Candela's brother-in-law, Ed, Fran Carnaghi, Brian Cavanaugh, Erin Cronin, Kingsley Croul, Teri DeHem, John Deisinger, Diane Ferschneider, Douglas Frattini, Rosa Gracey, Neidra & Mia Halthon, Jackie Hoskins, Bart Houston, Art Hill, Journee Jones, Mia Halthon-Jones, Alex Kelly, Genevieve and Rosy Krembel, Clarence Lewis, Olga Ludwick, Deborah Marshall, Kathy McDonald's Granddaughter, Ryan, Melvin & Theresa McCoy, Jennifer Mondalek, Richard Morecki, Gail Northcutt, Allan Patterson, Helen & Keith Randall, Yvonne Rottach, Phil Scamihorn, Joyce Shahady, Larry Shelton, Jim Singer, Sheila Starke, John Stuart, Marianne Szymanski, Jim Turnbull, Sr. Jolene, Rosanne Schwartz's grandson, Gavin, the Benigni and Chida Families, the Gracey Family, Mia Halthon-Jones' mother-in-law, Victoria, Wilma Wilmer, and all those who need our prayers. **(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. Amen

On the Rise Bakery Cafe

At the Solanus Casey Center
1780 Mt. Elliott, Detroit, MI 48207
Hours: Tuesday-Saturday 9:30 AM to 4:00 PM
GLUTEN FREE TREATS AVAILABLE ALSO

REMINDERS:

The Live-stream 9:30 Sunday Mass is on the Parish Facebook site: <https://www.facebook.com/NativityDetroit>

Sunday Mass can also be viewed on YouTube at <https://www.youtube.com/@NativityofOurLord-cm8we>

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 the front of the church.

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

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time
February 8, 2026

Rosemary Benivegna
(Nancy Silveri & Tony Novara)

Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time
February 15, 2026

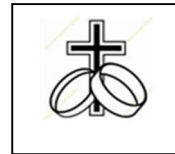
Nate Standing (Cookie & Jim Kulchy)
Helen Randall (Nativity Family)

BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK

02-09: Sr. Ellen Burkhardt

02-10: Cassidy & Kyle Hurt

02-14: Helen Randall



WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES THIS WEEK

**ARE WE MISSING YOU? PLEASE LET US
KNOW IN THE OFFICE IF YOUR BIRTHDAY
OR ANNIVERSARY WAS MISSED.**

PARISH DIRECTORY

Fr. Frances Asomkase, SSJ, Moderator-Priest in Solidum

Fr. David Preuss, Priest in Solidum

Fr. Richard Baumann, Priest in Solidum

Fr. Charles Nwamadi, SSJ, Priest in Solidum

Deacon John Wright

Joseph Taylor, Pastoral Minister Coordinator

Anne Crowe, Parish Secretary

PARISH COUNCIL MEMBERS

Hermenia Adams

Mashauna Adams

Sr. Ellen Burkhardt

Jerry Burns

Tish Colett

Maura Corrigan

Linda Cunningham

Norma Danzie

Willie Lewis

Chris McLaughlin

Kim Milligan

Mark Miller

Sharon Mudloff

Charvala Wheeler

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.