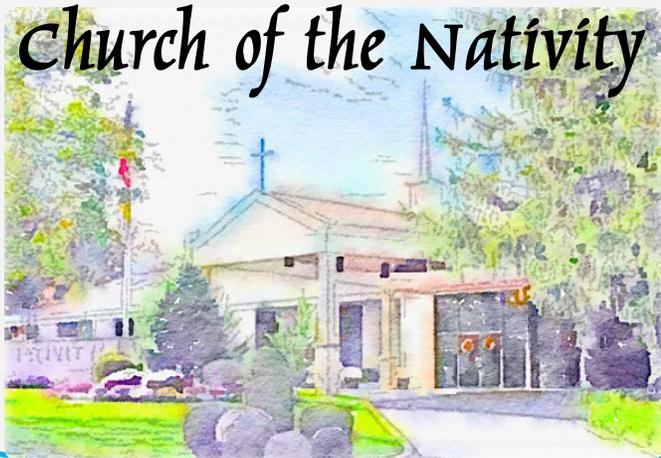


Church of the Nativity



Mass Schedule

LIVE on Facebook

Sunday: 10:15am

Daily Mass - Monday-Saturday 7:30am

Check our website for information
and updates at nativitynj.org

A Stewardship Parish

April 26, 2020

315 Prospect Street ♦ Midland Park ♦ NJ ♦ 07432
Parish Website: www.nativitynj.org

Church Office: 201.444.6362 FAX 201.444.5056 Email office@nativitynj.org
Religious Education Office: 201.447.1776 Email religioused@nativitynj.org

Third Sunday of Easter 2020



Jesus raises Lazarus from the dead (John 11:1-45)

MASS Intentions

During this time of pandemic all weekday Masses are at 7:30am and Sunday Mass is at 10:15am

This Week At Nativity

Week of April 27th

Time	Mass Intention	Mass Requested By
Saturday April 25th		
12:10PM	Fred Tinoso	Linda Tinoso
5:00PM	Eileen Smyth Al Melzl	Donaghy Family Mike & Karen Doherty
Sunday April 26th		
8:00 Mass	Claire Saccomanno	Saccomanno Family
10:15 Mass	Al Melzl Rose O'Hagan	Vincent & Paula Mollica Patrick & Janet O'Hagan
12:00 Mass	Michael Nagel	Marilyn Nagal
Monday, April 27th 12:10PM	Carin Leigh Cantilina <i>55th Birthday with the Lord</i>	Cantilina Family
Tuesday, April 28th 12:10PM	George & Josephine Thompson <i>63rd Wedding Anniversary</i>	Thompson Family
Wednesday April 29th 12:10PM	John Richard Passant	Fr. George & Fr. Jason
Thursday, April 30th 12:10PM	Joanne E. O'Connell	Fr. George & Fr. Jason
Friday, May 1st 12:10PM	Dorothy St. Denis	St. Denis Family
Saturday May 2nd		
12:10PM	Howard Peterman	Anonymous
5:00PM	Nancy McNamara DiPietro Anna Homer	Joan Gross Fred & Barbara Barbi
Sunday May 3rd		
8:00 Mass	Deceased Members of Rosary Society	Rosary Society
10:15 Mass		
12:00 Mass	Angiolina Mastrovita	Fr. George



*Easter Flower
Collection*

In Memory of...

Laura Patterson

Frank J Moore

Robert & Kathleen Scavone

Ryan Daniel Peters

Deceased Members of the
Walter & Judith Fitzgerald

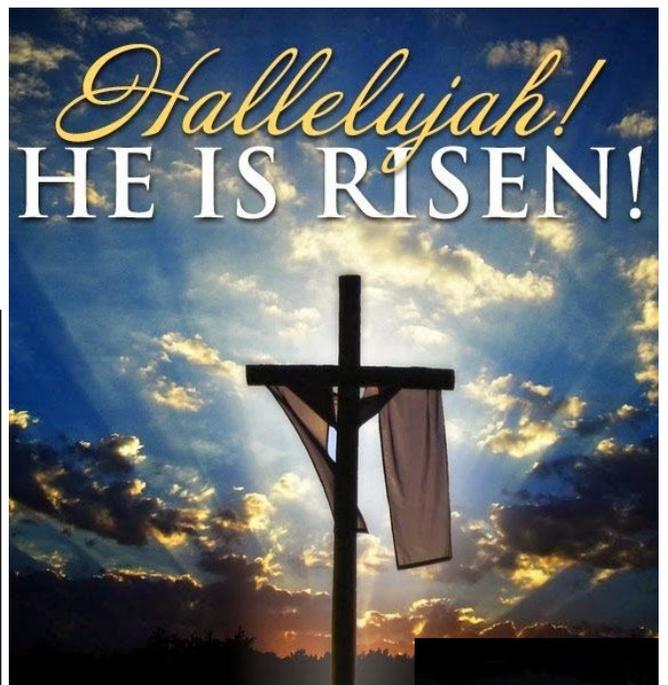
Marilyn Jane Nichols

Every Week in...

this time,

Please... pray for each other.

Check on your neighbors



*Please remember in your prayers the sick
who have asked for our prayer*

Pat Birrer, Terry DeSimone, Begonia Ceron

*Please remember in your prayers
the recently deceased*

**Nick Gismondi, Anthony Fortunato, Helen Gruber,
James Doran, Rosemary Van Cott, Margaret
McPherson, Howard Peterman, Fred Tinoso, Rev.
Jorge Ortiz, Rev. Gioacchino Basile**

*A Word
from the
Pastor*



Who were those disciples on the road to Emmaus?

One of the Gospels we read during the Easter season is St. Luke's account of the appearance of Jesus to two disciples on the road to Emmaus after his resurrection. Who were these disciples, and how did this account get into Luke's Gospel?

We don't know the answers to those questions, but we can speculate. Traditions in the Church in the Holy Land give us some hints.

Luke said that one of the disciples was Cleopas, but he doesn't name the other. St. John's Gospel says that Mary the wife of Clopas was among those standing by the cross when Jesus died. We believe that "Clopas" and "Cleopas" were the same person. Furthermore, we believe that this person was also known as Alphaeus. Both Catholic and Orthodox traditions believe that Clopas was the younger brother of St. Joseph, the husband of Mary and foster father of Jesus. Clopas, or Cleopas, was Mary's brother-in-law. This would explain why "Mary the wife of Clopas" was standing by the cross. She was trying to comfort her sister-in-law. I think this sheds light on who the other disciple on the road to Emmaus might have been—Mary, the wife of Cleopas.

I like to believe that Cleopas and his wife Mary were close to Joseph and his wife Mary, and that relationship continued with Mary after Joseph's death. Since Cleopas and Mary lived only seven miles from Jerusalem in Emmaus, they undoubtedly would have gone there for the Jewish feasts, especially for Passover. Since they were family, Jesus' mother Mary might have stayed with them while they were all in Jerusalem.

Perhaps they were there for the week before Jesus' crucifixion. They watched while Jesus rode a donkey in a great procession on the Sunday before his death. Perhaps they were among those who spread palm branches on the ground.

They would have been there, too, when Jesus was arrested and crucified. Cleopas probably watched from some distance, as did all the men except John, but his wife was by the cross.

Cleopas and Mary would have observed the Sabbath in Jerusalem, but then it was time for them to return to their home in Emmaus. Cleopas had been away for a week, and it was time for him to get back to work. But before they left, they heard that some women had gone to Jesus' tomb and couldn't find his body. They returned to report a vision of angels who announced that Jesus was alive.

So they were discussing all this when a man caught up with them and started to walk with them. This man went on to interpret things that referred to the Messiah in the Scriptures.

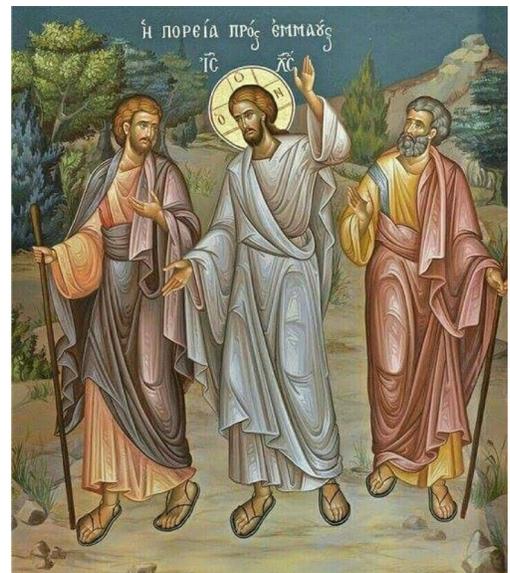
When they arrived at Emmaus, Mary and Cleopas invited the man to stay with them. Mary hurried to prepare supper. When they sat down, the man took some bread, said a blessing, broke the bread and gave it to them. At that, their eyes were opened and they recognized Jesus. But just as they did, he vanished.

So Cleopas and Mary hurried back to Jerusalem to tell the Apostles what happened to them, and how they recognized Jesus in the breaking of the bread.

In a writing from 180 A.D., the historian Hegesippus wrote that Cleopas and Mary were the parents of Simon, Jesus' cousin, who became the second bishop of Jerusalem after the martyrdom of James in the year 62. Simon led the Christians across the Jordan River to Pella before the destruction of Jerusalem in 70 and then back again when it was safe. He built the first Christian church on Mount Zion. Some scholars believe that it was Simon, rather than his mother, who was accompanying his father on the road to Emmaus. It seems more likely to me, though, that his parents would have been traveling together.

Scholars believe that Simon may have told Luke about the Emmaus experience, which is why it appears only in Luke's Gospel.

Today the Arab village of El-Qubeibeh (pronounced Co-baby), seven miles from Jerusalem, has a church built over what is believed to be Cleopas's home. There is also a Franciscan monastery there.



(John F. Fink is editor emeritus of The Criterion.) †
Published by Archdiocese of Indianapolis - April 13, 2018



CATECHETICAL MINISTRY

April 26, 2020

Religious Education K-8 Program

All families presently enrolled in our CCD program will receive re-registration letters for the Fall Sessions shortly. We are grateful to the catechists, assistants, helpers, students and especially parents for all they have done to make this year meaningful to so many.

First Communion Program

Children should continue to review their "Blessed" First Communion book, not only to enrich your child's formation, but to inspire your entire household of faith. As soon as we hear from the Archdiocese of Newark, we will communicate with you regarding the new directives to the celebration of the sacrament.

Confirmation Programs

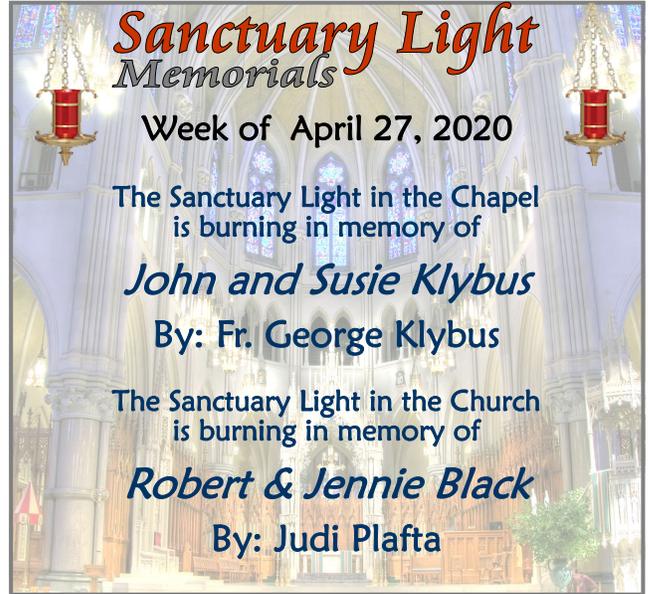
Just a few reminders...
ALL forms are overdue. Please give your immediate attention to this matter. If you have any questions or concerns, please call the Religious Education Office 201-447-1776

Religious Education – Summer Option for grades K-6

Children attend 10 days, Monday – Friday; 9:00 AM – 12:30 PM and must attend Advent and Lent sessions and Sunday masses during the school year for continued Religious Education. The Summer Option will run from Monday, August 10 to Friday August 21, 2020. Registration forms were mailed and also are available at the Religious Ed. Office.



The **Legion of Mary** is a lay apostolate group devoted to Our Blessed Mother. and devote yourself to Mother Mary.



Sanctuary Light Memorials

Week of April 27, 2020

The Sanctuary Light in the Chapel is burning in memory of

John and Susie Klybus

By: Fr. George Klybus

The Sanctuary Light in the Church is burning in memory of

Robert & Jennie Black

By: Judi Plafta



Paschal Candle Memorial

Deceased Members of the Casertal Musco Family
By: Elisa Musco

Rosella Murgia
By: Louis Murgia

Deceased Members of the Bruno & Mullady Families
By: Francesca Mullady

James Kevin Sullivan
By: Marlene Nardone

Members of the Gallagher Family
By: Hugh Gallagher

Memorialize the Paschal Candle in the name of a loved one, in thanksgiving, to honor a special birthday or anniversary or other occasion in your family. This year's Paschal Candle will be used all year long for funerals and baptisms.

Your Name _____

Phone _____

This offering is in memory/honor of:

The Church of the Nativity Prayer Chain is accepting prayer requests. Please call the rectory with your request.



The Supper at Emmaus.



Though less familiar, that is, less reproduced, it is more famous. And everyone who knows the painting knows who painted it: Caravaggio.

The passionate Italian Catholic who has risen nearly to the top of history's greatest painters would himself be the subject for an article. But my subject is the subject painted. He has emphasized a different part of the story.

As someone who grew up loving the Bible, I was particularly drawn to this story because it was about Jesus explaining the Bible. The disciples were distressed at the death of Jesus, and amazed at the reports of his resurrection, but then Jesus surprised them by saying, "O foolish men, and slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken! Was it not necessary that the Christ should suffer these things and enter into his glory?" It was the next verse that especially grabbed me: "And beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them in all the scriptures the things concerning himself."

I tried to imagine the things Jesus said as he went through the whole Old Testament and explained all the messianic references, all the prophecies of his suffering, death, and resurrection. It would have been the Scripture in all its fullness. And it captures the rapt attention of the two disciples listening to the Teacher.

Caravaggio's painting captures what happened next. When the three travelers reached Emmaus, the two disciples urged the stranger to stay and eat with them. When Jesus sat down at the table with them, "he took the bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it them." Then, just as they suddenly recognized him, he vanished out of their sight.

Naturally they were astonished. They rushed back to Jerusalem and told the Apostles that the Lord had indeed risen. They had seen him.

Caravaggio's incomparable painting captures that precise instant of the disciples recognizing Jesus just before he vanishes, that sudden astonishment. They have had a supernatural experience. Christ himself is present.

Week of April 27, 2020

The Bread and Wine
in the Church are offered
in memory of

Elizabeth Campbell

By:
Fred & Pat Shaver



Nativity has expanded its Daily Mass Schedule

**We now have Mass
every day LIVE on Facebook
at 7:30am**

Externally nothing revealed her rich mystical interior life. She zealously performed her tasks and faithfully observed the rule of religious life. She was recollected and at the same time very natural, serene, and full of kindness and disinterested love for her neighbor. Although her life was apparently insignificant, monotonous and dull, she hid within herself an extraordinary union with God.

It is the mystery of the Mercy of God which she contemplated in the word of God as well as in the everyday activities of her life that forms the basis of her spirituality. The process of contemplating and getting to know the mystery of God's mercy helped develop within Sr. Maria Faustina the attitude of child-like trust in God as well as mercy toward her neighbors.

Sister Maria Faustina, consumed by tuberculosis and by innumerable sufferings which she accepted as a voluntary sacrifice for sinners, died in Krakow at the age of just 33 on October 5, 1938, with a reputation for spiritual maturity and a mystical union with God. The reputation of the holiness of her life grew as did the cult to the Divine Mercy and the graces she obtained from God through her intercession.

You can have a loved one fondly remembered by sponsoring the Bread and Wine at Mass in the Church or the Chapel in memory of them.

Please complete the form and return it to the Church Office with your donation of \$10 for a Bread & Wine offering for a week.



(Please check one)

- Church Bread & Wine
- Chapel Bread & Wine

Week starting, Monday _____

Your Name _____

Phone _____

This offering is in memory / honor of:
(Please circle one)

Pro Life Corner

Three Strikes & They're Out! Throwing Abortion Advocates a Curveball with the Facts

A woman should have the right to do what she wants with her own body.

STRIKE 1: The unborn baby is not a part of the woman's body; he has his own body. A new unique individual human being. The woman's body has her genetic code & the baby has his very own genetic code, totally different. He also has his own blood type, nervous system, and be of a different sex than his mother. How can a part of a woman's body be male? Besides, parents are legal guardians of their children, not legal owners. Unborn babies possess an inherent dignity & the right to life because they are a part of the human family.

STRIKE 2: There are legal limits on human behavior and social constraints for the common good, including a woman's body. An individual's right to act ends where another's right to life begins. **Killing someone is obviously the greatest violation of another's rights.**

STRIKE 3: Abortion has nothing to do with "reproductive choice". Once fertilization takes place, reproduction has already occurred and the woman is carrying a child. **And once pregnant, her choices are life or death for her unborn baby.**



Sanctuary Light Memorials



Would you like the Sanctuary Light to burn in either the Church or the Chapel...

- in memory of a loved one
- in thanksgiving
- or to honor a special birthday or anniversary or occasion in your family

The Sanctuary Light offering, in either the Church or Chapel, is available for one week in memory/honor of a loved one.

Please complete the form and return it to the Church Office with your contribution of \$10 per week.

(Please check one)

- Church Sanctuary Light
- Chapel Sanctuary Light

Week starting, Monday _____

Your Name _____

Phone _____

This offering is in memory / honor of:
(Please circle one)

The Road to Emmaus and the Journey of Discipleship

Where are you on this road of discipleship? Are you just beginning to meet him? Where do you recognize him? Take time to see and meet Jesus and let him touch your heart! Do you recognize the Risen Lord in his Word and in the breaking of the bread? With disciples on the Road to Emmaus, after a Liturgy of the Word, *Jesus took bread, pronounced the blessing, then broke the bread and began to distribute it to them. With that their eyes were opened and they recognized Him.* Let us too fully enter into the Sunday celebration of the Mass. May Sunday Mass be the center of our day and our life. May we continue to recognize Jesus in the daily readings and partake of the Eucharist to encounter him. Let the Eucharist be food for our journey so that it does not end with Easter, but begins anew and continues transformation by his presence to share his news of salvation!

Kathi Andreoni, Director of Adult Ministry-St. Joseph Wauwatosa, WI