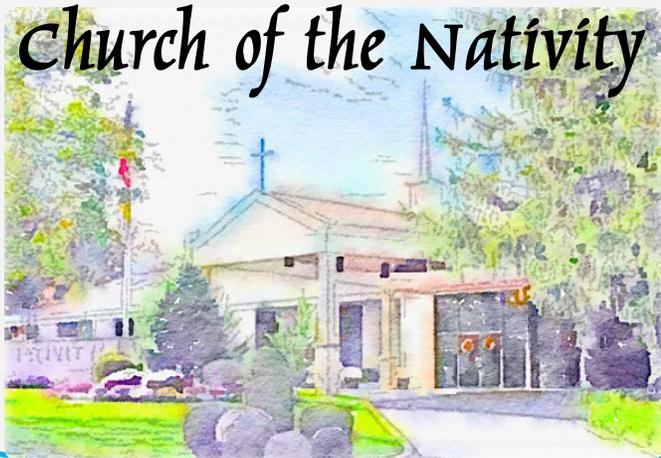


Church of the Nativity



Mass Schedule

LIVE on Facebook & our website
Sunday: 10:15am

Daily Mass - Monday-Saturday 7:30am

Check our website for information
and updates at nativitynj.org

A Stewardship Parish

May 31, 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

Pentecost 2020



MASS Intentions

During this pandemic all weekday Masses are at 7:30am and Sunday Mass is at 10:15am LIVE on our website and Facebook

Time	Mass Intention	Mass Requested By
Saturday	May 30th	
12:10PM	Stella Raulentis	Suzanne Cavalier
5:00PM	Nancy McNamara DiPietro	Audrey Sweeney
Sunday	May 31st	
8:00 Mass	Jack Komsa	Phil & Karen Fracassini
10:15 Mass	Grace Caldiero 15th Anniversary	Joseph & Anna Caldiero
12:00 Mass	John & Sally O'Hagan	Patrick & Janet O'Hagan
Monday, June 1st 12:10PM	William DeRoker	Nativity Parish
Tuesday, June 2nd 12:10PM	Anthony Fortunato	
Wednesday June 3rd 12:10PM	Nick Gismondi	
Thursday, June 4th 12:10PM	Thomas Johnston	
Friday, June 5th 12:10PM	Robert Balog	The Nativity Shepherds
Saturday	June 6th	
12:10PM	Tom Vanacore	Nativity
5:00PM	Anthony Kahwaty	Vincent & Paula Mollica
Sunday	June 7th	
8:00 Mass	Deceased Members of Rosary Society	Nativity Rosary Society
10:15 Mass	Phil & Janice Fracassini	Fran & Tia Patterson
12:00 Mass	Kathleen Scavone	Scavone Family

MOTHER'S DAY MASS REMEMBRANCE

- Barbara DeSantis & Teresa DeSantis
By: John & Alice DeSantis
- Mary Ellen Brosnan & Josephine Antonucci
By: Tom and Elin Antonucci
- Ida Angelucci and Elvira Bockino
By: Diana Bockino
- Winefred Dunning & Mary Stella Kennedy
By: Tom and Brigit Kennedy
- Bridget Ferolano and Eleanor Romano
By: John and Diane Romano
- Cecilia G Paton and Marcie Mc Garr
By: Marcella Mc Garr
- Maria Cristina Rovetto
By: Tony and Phyllis Veli
- Margaret Yolman and Carolyn Taylor
By: John Yolman
- Lillian Torrone & Joan Torrone
By: Donald Torrone
- Mary Mollica & Rita Kahwaty
By: Vincent & Paula Mollica
- Jane F. Matthews & Marie V. Matthews
By: Gerald Matthews
- Catherine Zwirek & Susan Kiernan
By: Miss Joan Zwirek
- Elizabeth Scagleone & Mary Salge
By: John and Rhonda Salge
- Marilyn Vanderhoven & Eleanor Palumbo
By: Annmarie Palumbo
- Rosella Murgia & Grazia Murgia
Irene Monsu By: Louis Murgia
- Anna Gibbs Burns & Catherine McKeon Loughran
By: Catherine Loughran
- Helen E. Hufnagel & Lydia Clare Smith
By: Gerard Hufnagel
- Sarha & Angela Bruno, Mary Mullady
By: Mullady Family
- Helen Dwornik & Dorothy Hillman
By: Randy & Debbie Peters
- Susan F. Robertiello & Althea Philips
By: Dr. & Mrs. John Gangale
- Giovanna Mary Matilda
Theresa Patricia Stacey, Cathy
By: Rita & Joanne Daly
- Sophia Kwoidki & Alfreda Wymbs
By: Christian & Lorraine Wymbs
- Barbara Korpics
By: David Korpics

Please remember the sick who have asked for our prayer

Pat Birrer, Terry DeSimone, Begonia Ceron

Please remember in your prayers the recently deceased

Tom Vanacore, Michael DeMarco, Sr., Thomas Johnston, Andrew Ferrone, Margaret Zeman, Richard Cavalier, Anne Robbins, Anthony Panariello, Edward Sequeira, Amelia Tallon, Nick Gismondi, Anthony Fortunato, Helen Gruber,

*A Word
from the
Pastor*



The Feast of Pentecost

Today in the Gospel we read that the disciples of Jesus were hiding. They were hiding in fear behind closed and locked doors. They were shutting out the rest of the world which was hostile, persecuting and terrifying. They felt better huddled together, in isolation and planning what to do next, and where to go.

And then, Surprise! Into their isolation, Jesus comes. Through closed doors, He walks. Their reaction must have been one of surprise, then joy as they realized who it was.

Jesus tells them to get out of their isolation and fear, and go and announce the good news. You are the bearers of the Gospel, the announcers of salvation and forgiveness. You must go, you have a mission.

But they are scared and unsure, so Jesus promises them the Holy Spirit because the Spirit will enable them to do what they cannot do themselves. The same Holy Spirit who brooded over the waters when God made heaven and earth. The same Holy Spirit who spoke through the Old Testament prophets. The same Holy Spirit who overshadowed a young girl and made her the Mother of God. The same Spirit would descend upon the Apostles in tongues of fire and transform cowards into heroes.

That was then: does this happen now? The surprise of the Spirit in a cynical age?

Let me share with you a brief synopsis of Mother Teresa's life, who originally belonged to a community called the Sisters of Loretto, which is a cloistered teaching order. She was sent to the community school in India. It was 1947, and India became independent.

As soon as that happened, the Hindus and the Muslims slaughtered each other, it was civil war. For the first time in fifteen years, Mother Teresa left the cloister just to find food to feed the girls. That day, over five thousand had been killed, and fifteen thousand wounded. Mother Teresa came back to her cloister a changed woman. Out of fear, the sisters would not leave their convent again, but Mother Teresa said she felt the Holy Spirit calling her to do something about what she had seen. So she did something unheard of: she asked to leave the cloister to live among the people.

She moved out and found that the sick and the dying were everyday events. The turning point came when she found a woman dying on the streets. Mother Teresa went in search of help but there was no one, no hospitals, and no place to care for this woman so she took her to her small rented room, and took care of her.

Soon someone gave her a house. She gathered more poor and dying from the streets slowly at first, but then she was overwhelmed by the poor. But more volunteers came, and more houses, and now we see over 3,000 Sisters of Charity all over the world.

In the biography, Mother Teresa speaks of surprise. At her age, time and place, would she, could she do something different, be someone different? She was like the Apostles hiding behind the closed doors of her cloister. She said Christ surprised her. He came through the locked doors and breathed His Spirit on her. He called her to a second vocation.

The Spirit is full of surprises. We have to admit that secularism and affluence have muted the presence of God in our part of the world, but all is not lost. History has shown us that even in our worst moments, Jesus' ever-present Spirit can break through and raise up saints who turn things around. They call us back to the Gospel and give us hope.

A Francis of Assisi pops up out of the moral mess of the twelfth century. Maximilian Kolbe steps forward from the Nazi madness to die a martyr. Rosa Parks says no to racial prejudice and refuses to move to the back of the bus. Nelson Mandela rejects apartheid and goes to prison for twenty years.

Ascension and Pentecost tell us that God is still present, still speaks, still sends out disciples to make a difference, and still calls. Not just the St. Francis' and the Kolbe's and the Park's and Mandela's, but you and me. What Jesus said at Ascension still remains valid and indispensable: You be My witness. We are the Church, and what we do the Church does. And what we fail to do, the Church fails to do.



CATECHETICAL MINISTRY

May 31, 2020

Religious Education Program for Grades K-8:

Re-registration letters will be mailed to all families presently enrolled. Re-registration may be done by mail. NEW registration will be taken at the Religious Education Office once the social distancing measures have been lifted

To complete registration for our Parish Catechetical Program, a family:

- Must be registered members of the parish
- Present a certificate of Baptism for the child/ren and
- Registration fee

To ensure that we make adequate provision for all planning to attend in the summer or fall, we ask that ALL NEW REGISTRATION be completed by July 31st, 2020. Please relay this information to prospective new registrants who might not receive this bulletin, especially those planning to enroll first graders who have not been in our kindergarten this year. Thank you!

For our Junior High Students (Gr. 7 – 8) Service Project Forms are due back at the beginning of next school year.

FIRST COMMUNION

Please call us 201-447-1776 if you need special arrangements to pick up your banner materials.

CONFIRMATION JOURNEY:

The Confirmation journey the parish youth started back in the fall will continue as soon as all the restrictions are lifted.

Just a few reminders... ALL forms are overdue. There are still forms that have not been returned. Please give your immediate attention to this matter. If you have any questions or concerns, please call the CCD Office at 201-447-1776.

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 June 1, 2020

The Sanctuary Light in the Chapel is burning in memory of
Rev. Jason Mantich
 By: Claire Haycock

The Sanctuary Light in the Church is burning in memory of
Al Barcavage
 By: Ray & Barbara Cantwell

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

John J. Oates
 By: Louise Oates

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.



A Letter of Gratitude from Deacon John

Dear Fr. George and Parishioners of Nativity:

Now that my assignment as transitional deacon to Nativity Parish has come to an end, I can only offer all of you my sincere and deep thanks for the opportunity to have been a small part of your parish community over the last year. I am grateful, also, to the archbishop for having assigned me to Nativity in May of 2019.

I will remember with particularly great affection all those whom I met while visiting ill and homebound parishioners, and those at Mill Gardens and Valley Hospital. I have been praying for you all during this time of social distancing and physical separation.

The spirit of faith, community and service at Nativity is impressive. You are blessed to have such a cohort of dedicated parishioners who continue to stand up and serve the Church and one another through the wide variety of ministries. I thank the many kind parishioners who helped me to “learn the ropes”, especially in connection with the beautiful liturgies and the many visits to the sick and homebound.

I hope that I was able to assist in some small way during the past year. To Fathers George and Jason: thank you for your constant guidance, support, and generosity. Your faithful examples will help me to better serve, as a priest, the people and our Lord.

It now appears that the priestly ordinations will take place this June 21. Rest assured that wherever I am, a special place in my heart will be occupied by memories of the people of Nativity parish. I will pray for all of you. I only ask that you please pray for the intercession of the Blessed Mother, Saint Teresa Benedicta of the Cross (Edith Stein), and Pope Saint John Paul II that I shall remain faithful to the Lord and His Church, despite any and all challenges and the inevitable trials to come.



Sincerely yours in Christ –

Week of June 1, 2020

**The Bread and Wine
in the Chapel are offered
in memory of**

John & Susie Klybus

**By: Fr. George &
Anna Brancatella**

*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

Hello Nativity Parishioners,
Happy Spring! I know that the current circumstances are not the best, but I hope you and your family are feeling well and looking forward to better days. One way to feel better is to get outside for some fresh air and also to help those in need. I am inviting you to join us in the Nativity Community Garden this season.

Even if you do not have a green thumb or any previous gardening experience, come learn with us, get some exercise, and feel good about helping others. Last year, as a very small group, we successfully grew tomatoes, peppers, string beans, zucchini, eggplant and herbs, and donated over a dozen bags of produce to the local Love Fund.

Families, partners, or individuals are welcome, and the garden makes working and meeting easy for natural social distancing. Since there is no early scheduled Parish Spring Clean-Up this year, we are preparing the garden for the season.

If you are interesting in joining us, or have a way to help us with plants, mulch,... contact Fr. George, or feel free to contact me directly. Stay safe and be well! We'd love you to join us!

Jolie Kurz, Coordinator
Nativity Community Garden
(201-715-4409) jolie104@optonline.net

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

Abortion is necessary to stop overpopulation which causes poverty and famine.

STRIKE 1: Is the world overpopulated? Did you know that every single person living in the world today, all 7.023 billion of us, could fit standing together in the town of Jacksonville, Florida? On average, women must have 2.1 children in their lifetimes for a society to replenish itself, accounting for infant mortality and other factors. The United States' fertility rate is 2.05, almost at replacement. According to statistics gathered by the Central Intelligence Agency, only one country in Europe – Albania – has a fertility rate above 2. Russia's fertility rate is 1.41. In Japan, it's 1.21. Some countries are painfully aware of the potential economic and security problems caused by low fertility rates (not enough babies being born). **Russia, Australia, France, Italy, and Poland are providing monetary incentives for each additional baby born.**

STRIKE 2: Fewer people does not mean less poverty. Contrary to popular belief, there is no direct correlation between population density (number of people per square mile) and poverty. **In fact, some of the most populated places in the world are also the most prosperous.** For example, Hong Kong, Singapore, and Taiwan are very densely populated and are among the richest nations in Asia. Taiwan has a population density of 1,650 people per



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)

square mile, while China has a population density of 360 people per square mile. Yet, Taiwan's per capita gross domestic product (a measure of economic activity) is \$31,900, while China's is only \$6000. By the way, New Jersey is much more populated than China with a population density of 1134 people per square mile, but is one of the richest places on earth with a per capita state product of \$47,908. **The reality is: people are our most valuable resource!**

STRIKE 3: The world is producing more than enough food (**Note, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 64% of the population of the United States is overweight or obese**). Globally, food supplies continue to grow faster than population. Sadly, the world's food supply is not distributed adequately throughout the world or within countries. **The world's 1 billion farmers produce cereals, meat, and other food products that could provide each person on the planet about 3800 calories per person per day.** This is well over the minimum daily calorie requirements even for people. **Hunger is caused by poverty, bad weather, war, and government policies.** For example, in 1984-1985 the communist Ethiopian government worsened a drought situation and caused full-blown famine by refusing to distribute food aid to rebel areas and uprooted 600,000 peasants from rebel areas, thus dramatically decreasing food production of farmers and diverting money and food aid to the military.