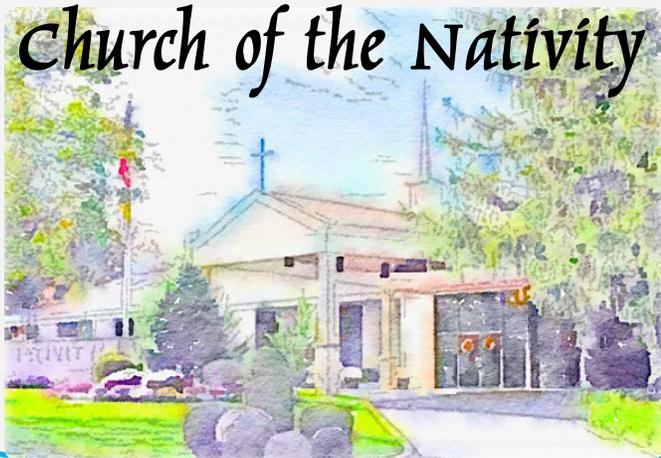


Church of the Nativity



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

June 7, 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

The Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity 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

This Week At Nativity

Week of June 7th



Time	Mass Intention	Mass Requested By
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
Monday, June 8th 12:10PM	James & Claire McElwain	Dave & Rosemary McElwain Kooreman
Tuesday, June 9th 12:10PM	Mary Smith	Michael & Nancy Magee
Wednesday, June 10th 12:10PM	Fred Tinoso	Robert Patterson
Thursday, June 11th 12:10PM	Lena Padovano	Nativity
Friday, June 12th 12:10PM	Jane Mathews (1st Anniversary)	Ron & Caroline Davi
Saturday June 13th		
12:10PM	Al Melzi	Audrey Kolpin
5:00PM	Nancy McNamara DePietro	Joan Gross
Sunday June 14th		
8:00 Mass	Clement Scalo	Ralph & Kathie Caserta
10:15 Mass	John & Pearl Komsa	Fran & Tia Patterson
12:00 Mass	Robert Scavone	Scavone Family

**CHURCH OF THE NATIVITY IS NOW OPEN
11:00AM TO 1:00PM DAILY!**

**The Church is
OPEN**

**11:00AM to 1:00PM
For Personal Prayer and Reflection
Confession Available**

FATHER'S DAY MASS REMEMBRANCE

As a spiritual gift, have your father remembered at the Altar of Sacrifice during our Father's Day Masses. Remember the names of (living and deceased) father, grandfathers, godfathers and other fatherly men in your life and the life of your family.

You may place your envelopes in the collection basket in the church entrance (11:00AM to 1:00PM) or drop them off at the Parish Office.

All Father's Day Masses, with the exception of the Saturday 5:30 Vigil Mass offered for all the People of Nativity, will be offered for these special intentions. The envelopes will then be placed near the Tabernacle for the remainder of the Month of June, dedicated to the Sacred Heart of Jesus.

*Basil Roger Brosnan & Harry Antonucci
By: Thomas & Elin Antonucci*

*Robert Patterson & Matt Garrity
By: The Patterson Family*

*Philip Scaglione & Edward Salge
By: John & Rhonda Salge*

*Lee Jacobs & Robert Perry
By: Ruth Jacobs*

*John Yolman & Robert P. Taylor
By: John Yolman*

*John A. Patron & Kevin McHugh
By: Marcella McGarr*

FATHER'S DAY MASS REMEMBRANCE

Please remember the sick who have asked for our prayer

Pat Birrer, Terry DeSimone, Begonia Ceron

Please remember in your prayers the recently deceased

Lena Padovano, Ethel Finnerty, Mark WoiTom Vanacore, Michael DeMarco, Sr., Thomas Johnston, Andrew Ferrone, Margaret Zeman, Richard Cavalier, Anne Robbins, Anthony Panariello, Edward Sequeira, Amelia Tallon,

*A Word
from the
Pastor*



The Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity

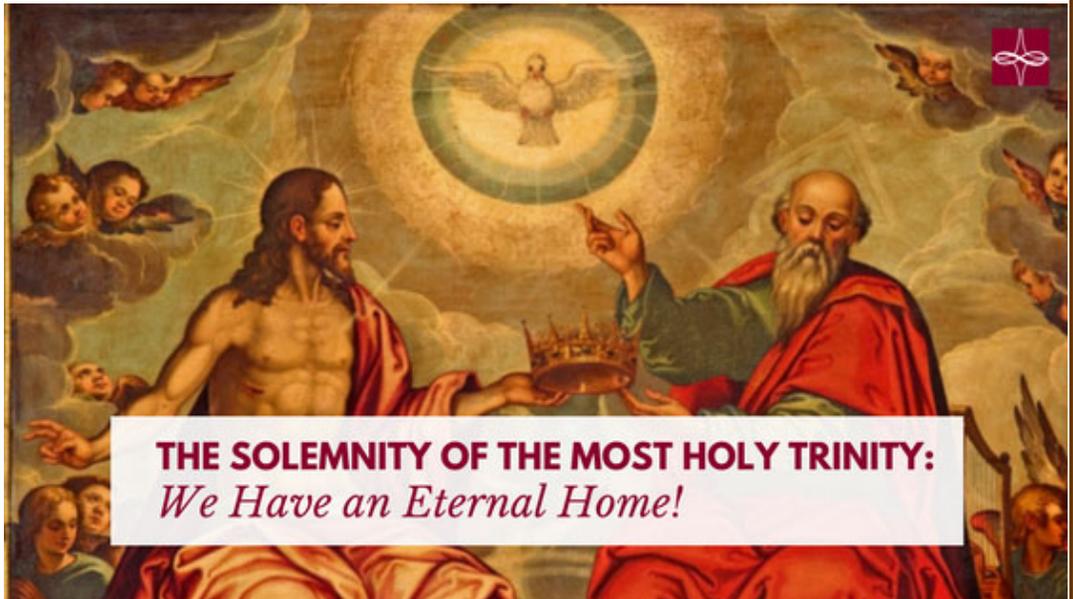
Each year on the first Sunday after Pentecost we celebrate the Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity, also known as Trinity Sunday. Although it wasn't until 1334 that Pope John XXII officially established the feast for universal observance in the Western Church, the mystery of the Holy Trinity has been the pulse of the Church's life since the very beginning. The Trinity is "the central mystery of Christian faith and life...[and is] the source of all the other mysteries of faith" (CCC 234). The whole of the Church's life flows from the central belief that the one true God exists as three divine Persons—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Since the very beginning of time, God has gradually revealed and communicated the truth of who he is as Trinitarian through what he has done in salvation history (see CCC 53-67). Although God gradually revealed himself throughout different stages of the Old Testament period of salvation history, mankind had no way of knowing the full truth of God's inner life of the Trinity before the time of Christ, since this mystery of our faith is "inaccessible to human reason alone...before the Incarnation of God's Son and the sending of the Holy Spirit" (CCC 237).

In his encyclical Spe Salvi, Pope Benedict XVI poses a challenging question: "So now we must ask explicitly: is the Christian faith also for us today a life-changing and life-sustaining hope...which shapes our life in a new way, or is it just 'information'" (Spe Salvi 10) that doesn't change us? Furthermore, what difference does this central mystery of our faith make in our daily lives?

Trinity Sunday is an invitation to remember that "[being] Christian is not the result of an ethical choice or a lofty idea, but the encounter with an event, a person, which gives life a new horizon and a decisive direction" (Deus Caritas Est 1). In revealing himself as Trinitarian, God hasn't merely shared impersonal facts *about* himself; rather, God has shared *himself* with us, and has invited us into his own inner life and communion of love, which alone is the origin, goal, and meaning of our life. As we read in the Catechism, "By sending his only Son and the Spirit of Love in the fullness of time, God has revealed his innermost secret: God himself is an eternal exchange of love, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, and he has destined us to share in that exchange" (CCC 221). On Trinity Sunday, the Church proclaims the truth about God—that God is love (1 John 4:8)—and the truth about us: we are made for this love. We eternally belong to God—we have an eternal home!

St. Elizabeth of the Trinity leads us more deeply into this reality by saying that "The Trinity—this is our dwelling, our 'home,' the Father's house that we must never leave." When speaking with his disciples before his Passion, Jesus directed the gaze of their hearts towards this truth: "In my Father's house there are many rooms...and when I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, that where I am you may be also" (John 14:2-3). Jesus continued to reveal more of the Father's loving plan: "I will not leave you orphans; I will come to you...If a man loves me, he will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we will come to him and make our home with him" (John 14:18, 23). Jesus reveals to his disciples the Father's breathtaking desire. He desires not only that we be at home in him when we get to heaven in the future, but he desires us to be at home in him now—and so, he comes to us, he makes his home among us (c.f., John 1:14) in order to make his home *in* us. Thus, with the Feast of Pentecost and the sending of the Holy Spirit, God fulfills his promise to never leave us orphans. This is why the Church celebrates Trinity Sunday the week after Pentecost: On Pentecost, "the Holy Trinity is fully revealed" (CCC 732).

"I will not leave you orphans!" If Jesus has promised to never leave us orphans, then that means we have a permanent home—we eternally belong to the Father as children of his heavenly household! This is the mystery into which the Church invites us more deeply on the Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity. Yet this truth is also the very gift that that we are invited to share with all whom God entrusts to us in



THE SOLEMNITY OF THE MOST HOLY TRINITY:
We Have an Eternal Home!

our daily lives: "Love one another as I have loved you" (John 15:12). Every human heart longs for its eternal home. Today, we invite the Trinity to be more at home in our hearts in order to make them a more welcoming home for others—that through our smile, our gentleness, our availability of heart, everyone whom the Father entrusts to us may experience the Love that is their eternal home.

Carolyn Leatherman is a high school theology teacher, campus minister, and soccer coach at St. Michael's Catholic Academy in Austin, Texas. In 2014 she graduated from the Augustine Institute in Denver, Colorado with an M.A. in Theology. (www.catholicapostolatecenter.org)



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.



SHINING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST
 2020 ANNUAL APPEAL
 ARCHDIOCESE OF NEWARK



Church Office:
office@nativitynj.org



Fr. George, Pastor
fr.george@nativitynj.org

Fr. Jason, Parochial Vicar
fr.jason@nativitynj.org

Sr. Lois Marie Parente C.S.S.F.,
Financial Affairs
sr.lois@nativitynj.org

Olivia Harrington,
 Coordinator of Religious Education
oharrington@nativitynj.org

Religious Education Office
religioused@nativitynj.org

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



What follows, is an excerpt of a letter written by St. Athanasius to Serapion of Thmuis.

It will not be out of place to consider the ancient tradition, teaching and faith of the Catholic Church, which was revealed by the Lord, proclaimed by the apostles and guarded by the fathers. For upon this faith the Church is built, and if anyone were to lapse from it, he would no longer be a Christian either in fact or in name. We acknowledge the Trinity, holy and perfect, to consist of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. In this Trinity there is no intrusion of any alien element or of anything from outside, nor is the Trinity a blend of creative and created being. It is a wholly creative and energizing reality, self-consistent and undivided in its active power, for the Father makes all things through the Word and in the Holy Spirit, and in this way the unity of the holy Trinity is preserved. Accordingly, in the Church, one God is preached, one God who is above all things and through all things and in all things. God is above all things as Father, for he is principle and source; he is through all things through the Word; and he is in all things in the Holy Spirit. Writing to the Corinthians about spiritual matters, Paul traces all reality back to one God, the Father, saying: Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; and varieties of service, but the same Lord; and there are varieties of service but the same Lord; and there are varieties of working, but it is the same God who inspires them all in every one.



Jesus Christ: The Second Person of the Most Blessed Trinity. Deësis mosaic (Detail) from Hagia Sophia, Istanbul.

Even the gifts that the Spirit dispenses to individuals are given by the Father through the Word. For all that belongs to the Father belongs also to the Son, and so the graces given by the Son in the Spirit are true gifts of the Father. Similarly, when the Spirit dwells in us, the Word who bestows the Spirit is in us too, and the Father is present in the Word. This is the meaning of the text: My Father and I will come to him and make our home with him. For where the light is, there also is the radiance; and where the radiance is, there too are its power and its resplendent grace.

This is also Paul's teaching in his second letter to the Corinthians (13:13): The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all. For grace and the gift of the Trinity are given by the Father through the Son in the Holy Spirit. Just as grace is given from the Father through the Son, so there could be no communication of the gift to us except in the Holy Spirit. But when we share in the Spirit, we possess the love of the Father, the grace of the Son and the fellowship of the Spirit himself.

The Letters to Serapion on the Holy Spirit were penned ca. 357, during Athanasius's third exile (356-362), which he spent in the refuge of monastic communities in the desert of Egypt.

Week of June 7, 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**

I am pro-choice not pro-abortion.

STIRKE 1: The term “pro-choice” gives the illusion that there is a middle ground on abortion. The problem with this term is that it is incomplete – it does not say what the person is choosing. In the abortion debate, **being “pro-choice” means the person believes that it is acceptable for an innocent unborn baby to be dis-membered and killed in her mother’s womb.** Abortion advocates don’t finish the sentence in saying what they are pro-choice about; they are reluctant to say they support the choice of killing an innocent baby.

STRIKE 2: Throughout history, nearly all human rights violations have been defended on the ground of the “right to choose.” In the 1800s those who were pro-choice about slavery considered their moral position to be sound since many of them didn’t personally own slaves. Yet it was not just the pro-slavery position, but



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 pro-choice-about-slavery position, that resulted in the exploitation, beatings, and deaths of innocent people in this country. Similarly, in the 1940s, most people in Germany did not personally favor the killing of the Jews. However, most did nothing to try to stop that killing. Today in the US, about **3300 innocent unborn babies die each day as a result of “choice.”**

STRIKE 3: The “pro-choice” position always overlooks the fact that the victim is deprived of his “right to choose.” Women don’t choose to be raped. African-Americans didn’t choose to be enslaved, Jews didn’t choose the Nazi gas chambers and **babies don’t choose to be killed by abortion.**

The mission of the Respect Life Office of the Archdiocese of Newark is to promote the Catholic Church's teaching on the respect, care and protection of human life from conception to natural death. Their office serves as a liaison to clergy, religious and laity in order to assist in affirming the dignity of life and provide support to people in need.
<https://www.rcan.org/offices-and-ministries/respect-life>