

Mass Schedule

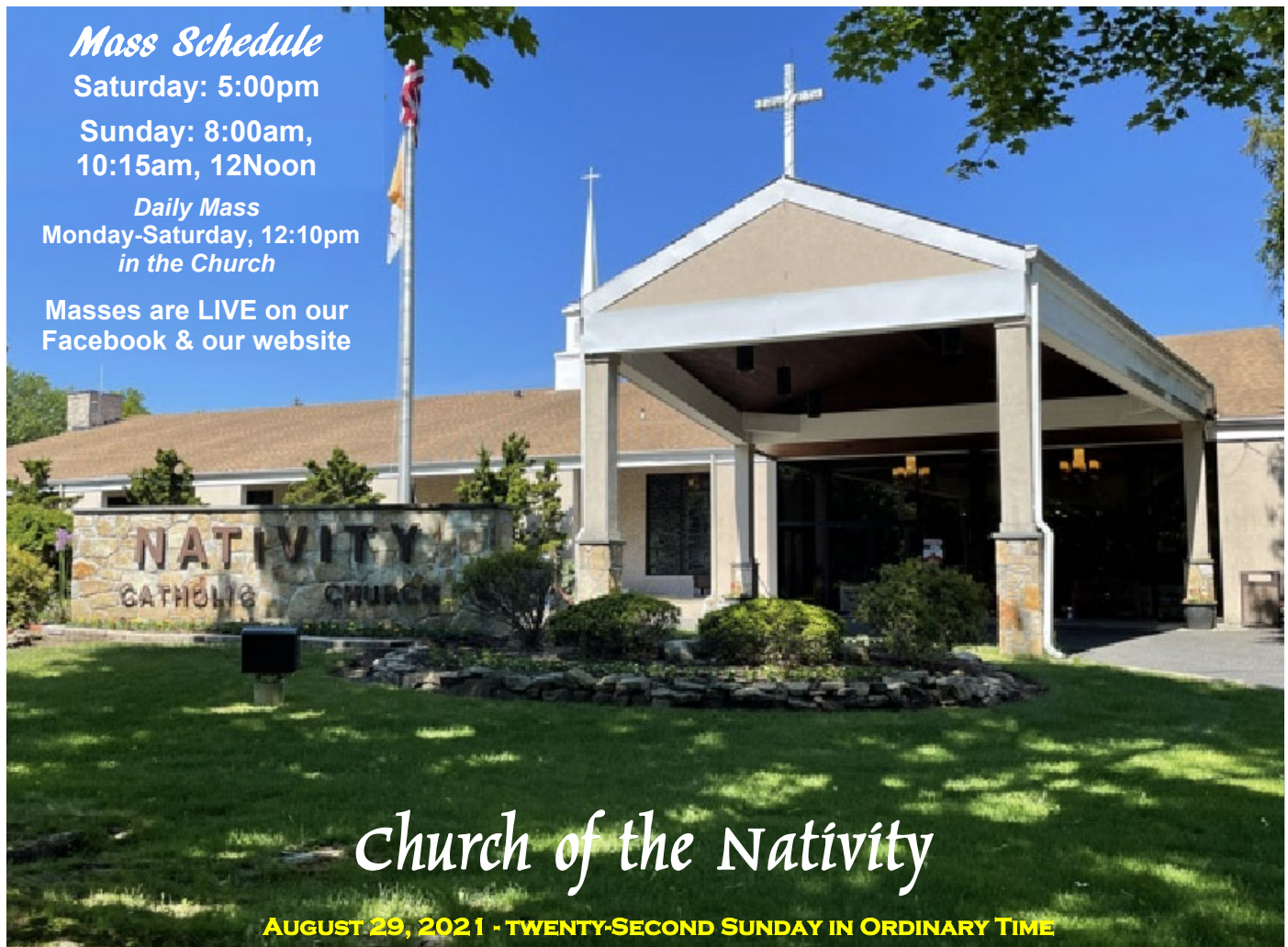
Saturday: 5:00pm

Sunday: 8:00am,
10:15am, 12Noon

Daily Mass

Monday-Saturday, 12:10pm
in the Church

Masses are LIVE on our
Facebook & our website



Church of the Nativity

AUGUST 29, 2021 - TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Pastoral Staff

Rev. George Klybus, *Pastor*

Rev. Jason Mantich, *Parochial Vicar*

Rev. Mr. Peter Volz, *Transitional Deacon*

Sr. Lois Marie Parente C.S.S.F., *Financial Affairs*

Olivia Harrington, *Religious Ed. Coordinator*

Alexander Birchwale, *Organist*

Ciarán Sheehan, *Cantor*

Roberto Hurtado, *Maintenance Supervisor*

Pedro Herrera, *Maintenance Staff*

Parish Trustees: Russell Kamp & Tia Patterson

Parish Membership

Every family is encouraged to register. Forms are available in the church or at the Church Office. If you want to make any changes to your family information contact the Church Office.

Check our website for information at nativitynj.org

Penance / Reconciliation

Saturdays at 4:10pm in the church, or by appointment.

Baptisms

Baptism arrangements are made by contacting the Church Office before or after the birth of the baby. Baptismal catechesis is required of all first time parents.

Rite of Christian Initiation (R.C.I.A.)

Anyone interested in becoming a Roman Catholic, or any adult Catholic who has not received all their Sacraments of Initiation and would like to receive these Sacraments, please contact the Church Office.

Marriage

The Common Policy for Marriage for all Dioceses of the State of New Jersey require notification of marriage at least ONE YEAR in advance. Please contact one of the parish priests to set a date.

Anointing

If anyone is ill, homebound, or in hospital, please notify the Church Office.

Our Parish
is
Accessible



315 Prospect Street ♦ Midland Park ♦ NJ ♦ 07432 Church Office: 201.444.6362
FAX: 201.444.5056 Parish Website: www.nativitynj.org Email: office@nativitynj.org
Religious Education Office: 201.447.1776 Email: religioused@nativitynj.org

MASS Intentions

Mass Intention & Time

Saturday August 28th

12:10PM

James GriffinLiving Intention
Mary Ann Griffin

5:00PM

Ralph Lombardi

Ray & Barbara Cantwell

Sunday August 29th

8:00 Mass

Barbara Stuhr

Jim & Debbie Priestner

10:15 Mass

Mrs. Armstrong

Gordon & Nan Alessio

12:00 Mass

Kathleen Priestner Thomas

The Priestner Family

Clem & Mary Scalo

Chris Pinkler

Monday, August 30th

12:10PM

Judith Joyce

William Joyce, Jr.

Tuesday, August 31st

12:10PM

Dan Corkery

Diane Nahas

Wednesday September 1st

12:10PM

Marion LaFemina

Ray & Barbara Cantwell

Thursday September 2nd

12:10PM

Larry, Michael**& Bobby Murgia**

The Murgia Family

Friday September 3rd

12:10PM

Chris Massaglia

Fletcher & Diana Hock

Saturday September 4th

12:10PM

Jean Sales

Ann Roda

5:00PM

Ralph Lombardi

Mike & Karen Doherty

Sunday September 5th

8:00 Mass

**Living & Deceased Members
of the Rosary Society**

The Rosary Society

10:15 Mass

Mary O'Flaherty

Anne Roda

12:00 Mass

Dennis Priestner

The Priestner Family

Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

First Reading: *Deuteronomy 4:1-2,6-8*

Moses tells the Israelites to observe the commandments that God gave them.

Responsorial Psalm: *Psalm 15:2-3,3-4,4-5*

Those who do justice will find favor with God.

Second Reading: *James 1:17-18,21b-22,27*

James teaches that Christians should be doers of the Word.

Gospel Reading: *Mark 7:1-8,14-15,21-23*

Jesus teaches that it is that which comes from our hearts that defiles us.

Background on the Gospel Reading

This Sunday, our lectionary returns to Mark's Gospel after a number of Sundays in which we heard the Bread of Life discourse from the Gospel of John. Recall that we focus on the Gospel of Mark in Lectionary Cycle B, but substitute John's report of the multiplication of the loaves and fishes for Mark's report of this event.

In today's Gospel, Mark provides a significant amount of information about the Jewish observance of ritual-purity laws. Most scholars believe that Mark includes this information because his audience includes Gentile Christians who have no knowledge or experience of these laws. We can infer, therefore, that many in Mark's community were not Jewish Christians.

In this Gospel, Mark addresses the question of which Jewish practices would also be observed in the newly emerging Christian community. This was a significant question for the early Christian Church, especially in communities that included both Jewish and Gentile converts to Christianity. We also hear this question addressed in the letters of Paul with regard to table fellowship. In Gospel passages such as the one today, we see the Gospel evangelists finding justification for a Christian practice distinct from Judaism in the remembrances of Jesus' teaching and the practice of his first disciples.

Jesus first criticizes the Pharisees for putting human tradition above God's Law. Here, Jesus is referring to the tradition of the elders, the teachings of the Pharisees, which extended the ritual-purity laws of Temple worship to everyday Jewish life. Jesus criticizes the Pharisees for making this tradition equal to and as binding as the Law of Moses.

Next, Jesus comments on the meaning behind the Pharisees' language of holiness—clean and unclean. Jesus teaches that a person is not defiled by the food that enters his or her body, but rather by sin that emerges from his or her words and actions. In this teaching, Jesus unmasks a deeper question behind the one posed to him by the Pharisees. The real issue is holiness, which is not found in external acts alone. Holiness comes from within and is evidenced in the actions and attitudes that emerge from a person's life.

If we read today's Gospel carefully, we will see a pattern in Jesus' teaching method that will be repeated in the weeks ahead. Jesus' first teaching is directed to the Pharisees who questioned him. Jesus' words are then directed to the crowd, teaching that a person is defiled by his or her words and actions, not by the food that he or she eats. In verses omitted in today's reading, we learn that Jesus returned home with his disciples, who in turn questioned him about what he had taught. The words we read at the conclusion of today's Gospel are addressed to Jesus' disciples.

Mark's narrative shows several audiences for Jesus' teaching: his antagonists, the crowds, and Jesus' disciples. As we see in this reading, the words to the Pharisees are often words of challenge. The teaching to the crowds is often a general, sometimes cryptic, message. With the disciples, who often misunderstand Jesus' words, further explanation is offered about his message and its meaning.

Jesus' words challenge us. In our desire to show that we are holy, we might also give too much credence to following rules without thinking about the intention behind them. Jesus reminds us that we do not make ourselves holy by our actions. We become holy when we allow God's Spirit to transform us. Our actions should be an expression of the conversion of our heart to God and to God's ways. *Loyolapress.com*

A Word
from the
Pastor



Mark Your Calendars NOW!

GOLF OUTING

**September 9th
at Meadows Golf Club**

Check our website or the book rack for sign up forms



**Anointing Mass - October 16 at
12:10PM**

Register at (201) 444-6362 or office@nativitynj.org

The Nativity Parish Picnic will be September 18th

**Starts with Mass on the Grass at 4:00PM
Picnic to follow - Free Food and Fun!**



**Wedding Anniversary Mass and Dinner
November 13th**

More Great Fall Events Coming!

**Adoration of the Blessed
Sacrament
in the Church
Fridays - 11:00AM**



This summer, while you are in these seats...



Please don't forget about these seats!



Summer is days and weeks filled with great weather, no school and fun vacations. We ask that you continue to remember Nativity during the summer months with your prayers and contributions. Please consider mailing your donation or using our **On-Line Giving Program.**

<https://www.myowngiving.com/Default.aspx?cid=624>

*Please remember the sick
who have asked for our prayers*

**Seal Bowles, Patti Hill, Rosemary Maso,
Doug Maso, Terry DeSimone, Jesica Tasca,**

*Please remember in your prayers the recently
deceased*

**Rev. Oscar Martin, Joan Zwirek, Lois Del
Pizzo, Anne Hoog, Omar del Valle, Helen
Donohue, George L. Ford, Marie Lutz, Caroline
Ginty, Mary O'Flaherty, Diego Padilla, Marie
Terese Tobin, Marion LaFemina, Dan Bardzell,
Patricia Ferrone,
Ralph Lombardi, Colette Mitchell, Elizabeth
Eide, Maria Martinez, Fr. Pius Sammut,
John Mohlmann, Fr. Pius Sammut,
Cloris Leachman, Vincent Gallagher, Tom
Kennedy, Anne Palumbo, Alex Trebeck,**



CHILDREN'S CATECHETICAL MINISTRY

August 30, 2021

THIS SEMESTER, ARCHDIOCESAN REQUIREMENTS

Religious Education Program for Grades 1-8:

Empowered by the Holy Spirit and the blessing of Mary, our Blessed Mother, we commit ourselves to the mission entrusted us by Jesus Christ, *"Go out to the world and proclaim the Good News to all the people"* (Mark 16:16); Religious Education at Nativity will continue forward to show and to share the mandate of Jesus Christ.

Registration Information and links were emailed to all families presently enrolled.

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

In person classes on Thursdays is FULL and CLOSED.

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 September 10, 2021. Please relay this information to prospective new registrants who might not receive this bulletin, especially those planning to enroll first graders. Thank you!

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

Kindergarten and Pre-K

Due to COVID, we have suspended our Kindergarten and Pre-K programs until further notice.

CAN YOU HELP?

Our Religious Education Program is once again in need of catechists for grades K-6, for either Sunday morning or Thursday afternoon in our Fall program. We are especially in need of catechists to teach a small group (6-8 students) in their home for 7th and 8th grade. The Religious Education Coordinator will provide both group and individual sessions to prepare you for this vital ministry to our young children. If you feel called to this ministry, or even if you are curious about what is involved, please call the Center @ 201-447-1776 for information.

CONFIRMATION 2022

Letters regarding details of our program and coming events will be mailed to all students who will be in freshman year of high school by the Fall of 2021 and who are considering taking part in next year's Confirmation program. If you do not receive a letter, and wish information, please call the Center at 201-447-1776.



ATTENTION ALL MINISTRY VOLUNTEERS AGE 18 AND OVER

The Church of the Nativity must ensure that children and youth who worship, study, or participate in activities sponsored by our parish can do so in the safest and most secure setting possible. As you are probably aware, the Archdiocese of Newark is requiring that all volunteers who participate with minors or can potentially be in contact with minors must undergo training related to prevention, identification, response and reporting sexual abuse.

PROTECTING GOD'S CHILDREN WORKSHOP

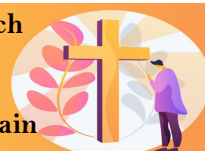
All NEW parish volunteers – in any capacity – must attend this training workshop and have a criminal background check done. Workshops are being offered at Nativity (Check website) and neighboring parishes throughout Bergen County.

Please register online only visiting www.virtus.org.

St. Gregory the Great—September 3

St. Gregory, senator and prefect of Rome, then in succession monk, cardinal and pope, governed the Church from 590 to 604. England owes her conversion to him. At a period when the invasion of the barbarians created a new situation in Europe, he played a considerable part in the transitional stage, during which a great number of them were won for Christ. At the same time he watched over the holiness of the clergy and preserved ecclesiastical discipline, as well as attending to the temporal & spiritual interests of his people of Rome and To him the liturgy owes several of its finest prayers, and the name "Gregorian chant" recalls this great Pope's work in the development of the Church's chant.

The Church
of the
Nativity
Prayer Chain



Please call the rectory with
your prayer request.

Prayer
CHAIN



**Former hostage, Father Maccalli:
Pray for captives held in the Sahel.**

Italian Priest Fr. Pierluigi Maccalli, a member of the Society of African Missions, kidnapped in Niger (2018 to 2020) by a Malian jihadist group, has called on the faithful to pray for those living the drama of kidnapping.

Released last October 2020, after nearly two years in captivity, Fr Maccalli spoke to **Vatican News** about the need to pray for those still in captivity. In particular, he urges prayers for Sister Gloria Cecilia Narváez Argoti, a Colombian religious of the Congregation of the Franciscan Sisters of Mary Immaculate. Sr Gloria was kidnapped from her mission in Karangasso, southern Mali, on the evening of 7 February 2017.

Thanksgiving pilgrimage to Fatima

"We ask the Lord for the release of Sister Gloria and all the other hostages," said Father Maccalli. He recently undertook a pilgrimage to the Shrine of Our Lady of Fatima in Portugal. The pilgrimage was in thanksgiving for his release from captivity.

Sister Gloria recently sent a message to her brother courtesy of the *International Red Cross*: "I send my warmest greetings to everyone," she wrote in Spanish. The note in capital letters confirmed her confinement and that she was now under the captivity of a different Jihadist group.

In recent days, Sister Gloria's situation has been the focus of a conversation between Father Maccalli and *Aid to the Church in Need* (ACN), a Pontifical Foundation that focuses on assisting the Church wherever it is persecuted, oppressed or in material need.

Prayer is a valuable aid for people of faith. Fr Maccalli told **Vatican News** that while in captivity, the biggest challenge he faced was loneliness. He said this feeling leads one to think that everyone has forgotten about them. It is essential to make people who have been kidnapped feel, even when they are released, that

Week of August 30, 2021

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

Fred J. Hanratty

By: Sally Mille & Family



they are not alone, he emphasised. For people held hostage, receiving a picture of their loved ones can fill up the heart and give them courage in their confinement. "When I was freed," Father Maccalli recalls, "I saw the 'river of prayer' that accompanied my two years of captivity."

He added, "Prayer is certainly something that we can all do. I firmly believe that, not least because of my own experience. Prayer is certainly a valuable aid for people of faith. It is crucial to make hostages feel that they have not been forgotten even when they come back. You have the feeling, but I found out that many people had prayed and hoped for my liberation. I only discovered this when I came back.

Let us not forget hostages and the suffering of their families

"Let us not forget all the hostages in the Sahel and in so many parts of the world. Let us continue to pray, support and ask for their release. I would like this to be said and remembered. Let us not forget the suffering of these people and their families," responded Fr Maccalli.

According to Fr Maccalli, "Feeling alone is perhaps even more dramatic than the violence of the kidnapping...

There is a great sense of loneliness and the impossibility of having anything written. I have also asked all the people who are involved, who may be leading negotiations, to do everything they can to send a signal, a photograph. It may be difficult to send a written text because it will be thrown away. But something neutral, a sign that says: The family, the world will not forget you. A picture of your family and friends would be enough. This is a great help for those who live in a lonely situation," he said.

Amedeo Lomonaco and Vatican News English Africa Service.

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

The Most Important Lesson of American History

In the modern world, virtually everyone everywhere condemns slavery. Yet, it is not long ago in our nation's history that this was not the case and human beings were deprived of their "inalienable rights" including the rights to "life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness."

This provides the most important lesson of American history and the continuing battle against contemporary forms of slavery and exploitation. First, we must oppose all forms of modern relativism, which attempt to establish "no absolutes." If a practice (such as slavery) is morally wrong, it is wrong and unacceptable under all conditions in any society. In other words, a moral evil does not become good simply because sociological or political views might change, or even if it is the prevailing law at a particular time.

Slavery is just one offence against human dignity. Today, abortion is the most heinous and extensive violation of human rights.

On-Line Giving Program



Online giving also saves the Parish processing costs. If you are already On board, thanks! If not, getting started is easy just visit our website

www.churchofthenativitynj.com

and click our Online Giving link.

<https://www.myowngiving.com/Default.aspx?cid=624>

When you participate, your gift will be securely transferred directly into the parish bank account!

Watch Us Online!!

www.nativitynj.org

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Vimeo.com Coming soon!

Youtube.com Coming soon!

Each and every Daily Mass

And Sunday 10:15AM full of music and singing!

Nativity is now part of...

amazonsmile

You shop. Amazon gives.

Look for Nativity

the next time you log on to shop!

Abortion like slavery refuses to recognize the fact that a human being is precisely that, a human being and instead, reduces human beings to "things" or chattels. The moral of the story is that we must always vigorously oppose any measure which undermines the dignity of any human being and reduces them to the status of means rather than ends.

This is precisely what abortion-on-demand and the culture of death does and why it is so vitally important that we work unceasingly to oppose it!

Pro-Life Articles