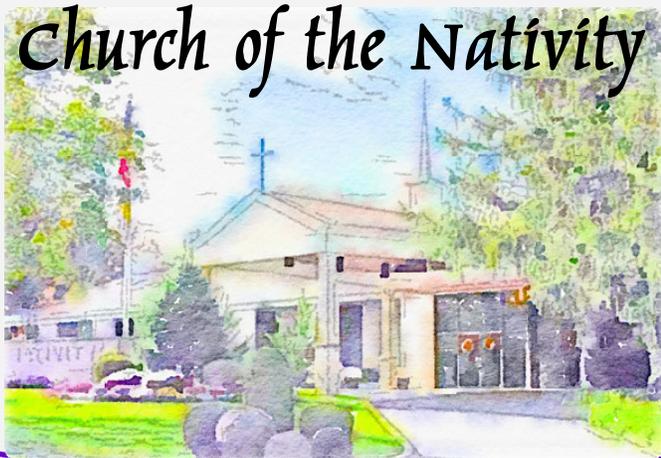


Church of the Nativity



Mass Schedule

Saturday: 5:00pm

Confession available at 4:15pm

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

**Daily Mass in the Church
Monday-Saturday, 12:10pm**

**Sunday 10:15am and 12:10pm Daily Masses
are LIVE on Facebook & our website**

A Stewardship Parish

November 29, 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

First Sunday of Advent



MASS Intentions

Time	Mass Intention	Mass Requested By
Saturday November 28th		
12:10PM	Mary Beth Lombardi & Kevin Jones	The Nativity Shepherds
5:00PM	Rita Kahwaty	Vincent & Paula Mollica
Sunday November 29th First Sunday of Advent		
8:00 Mass	Fred & Alice Schrader	Schrader Family
10:15 Mass	Matthew & Josephine Ferraro	Frances Gregory Burks
	Conception Llano	Enrique Giraldo
12:00 Mass	Bernardo Cuervo	The Cuervo Family
Monday, Nov. 30th 12:10PM	Paul Pullets	Diane Flynn
Tuesday, Dec. 1st 12:10PM	Ken Major, Jr.	Grandparents
Wednesday, Dec. 2nd 12:10PM	Margaret Griffin	Mr. & Mrs. J. Griffin
Thursday, Dec. 3rd 12:10PM	Maria Quesada	Enrique Giraldo
Friday, Dec. 4th 12:10PM	Luis Quesada Jeanne Tracey	Enrique Giraldo Mr. & Mrs. J. Griffin
Saturday December 5th		
12:10PM	James Tracey	Mr. & Mrs. J. Griffin
5:00PM	John & Madeline Gurry	Don & Eileen Rodda
Sunday December 6th Second Sunday of Advent		
8:00 Mass	Deceased Members of Rosary Society	Nativity Rosary Society
	Marge Montana	Fred & Judy Giannetto
10:15 Mass	Daniel Isalborn	Ron Robbins
12:00 Mass	Agnes Long <i>(Living Intention)</i>	Siobhan Donaghy

Our New St. Anthony Statue
Thanks to Al & Esther Vierheilg for their donation of this beautiful Statue.



Our maintenance guys put up a solid concrete base at the chapel for St. Anthony. We hope you will take advantage to stop by while out on your walks and say a prayer!

Christmas and New Years Schedule

Christmas Eve

Thursday, December 24, 2020

New 2:00PM – Christmas Eve Mass **New**

3:45 pm - Children's Family Liturgy

5:30 pm - Mass for Differently-abled People

7:00 pm - Christmas Eve Eucharistic Liturgy

10:00 pm - Christmas Eve Eucharistic Liturgy

New 12 Midnight – The Christmas Eve Mess **New**

Christmas Day

Friday, December 25, 2020

8:00am; 10:15am & 12:00 Noon
and 1:30PM **New**

Saturday, December 26, 2020

12:10PM – Weekday Mass (Feast of St. Stephen - Protomartyr)

5:00 pm – Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph

Sunday, December 29, 2020

Feast of Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph

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

New Year's Eve

Thursday, December 31, 2020

12:10PM – Weekday Mass

5:00 pm

Solemnity of the Blessed Virgin Mary Mother of God

New Year's Day

Friday, January 1, 2021

Solemnity of the Blessed Virgin Mary Mother of God

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

Please remember the sick who have asked for our prayer

**Terry DeSimone, Begonia Ceron, Joseph Rigolio,
Pat Keller, Pattie Hill, Marion LaFemmina,**

Please remember in your prayers the recently deceased

**Vittorio Mollica, Carlo DeMaria, Pat Birrer,
Mary Beth Lombardi, Kevin Jones,
Hilary Griffin, Brian Locking, Patricia Jordano,**

*A Word
from the
Pastor*



The First Sunday of Advent

For Catholics, the new Liturgical Year commences with the first Sunday of Advent. In this new liturgical year, the Church not only wishes to indicate the beginning of a period, but the beginning of a renewed commitment to the faith by all those who follow Christ, the Lord. This time of prayer and path of penance

that is so powerful, rich and intense, endeavors to give us a renewed impetus to truly welcome the message of the One who was incarnated for us. In fact, the entire Liturgy of the Advent season, will spur us to an awakening in our Christian life and will put us in a 'vigilant' disposition, to wait for Our Lord Jesus who is coming:

*'Awaken! Remember that God comes! Not yesterday, not tomorrow, but today, now! The one true God, "the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob", is not a God who is there in Heaven, unconcerned with us and our history, but he is the-God-who-comes.'*¹

The Season of Advent is therefore a season of vigilant waiting, that prepares us to welcome the mystery of the Word Incarnate, who will give the 'Light' to the womb of the Virgin Mary, but essentially this time prepares us not only to welcome this great event but to incarnate it in our lives. We could say that the true light enters the world through the immaculate womb of Mary but it does not stay there. On the contrary, this light flows out into our dark, obscure, sinful lives to illuminate them, so that we can become the light that illuminates the world. For this reason, let us live this time of waiting not only to celebrate a historical memory but to repeat this memory in our lives and in the service of others. To wait for the Lord who comes, means to wait and to watch so that the Word of Love enters inside us and focuses us every day of our lives.

As Blessed John Henry Newman reminded us in a homily for the Advent Season: "Advent is a time of waiting, it is a time of joy because the coming of Christ is not only a gift of grace and salvation but it is also a time of commitment because it motivates us to live the present as a time of responsibility and vigilance. This 'vigilance' means the necessity, the urgency of an industrious, living 'wait'. To make all this happen, then we need to wake up, as we are warned by the apostle to the Gentiles, in today's reading to the Romans: 'Besides this you know what hour it is, how it is full time now for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we first believed'" (Rm 13:11).

We must start our journey to ascend to the mountain of the Lord, to be illuminated by His Words of peace and to allow Him to indicate the path to tread (cf. Is 2:1-5). Moreover, we must change our conduct abandoning the works of darkness and put on the 'armor of light' and so seek only to do God's work and to abandon the deeds of the flesh (cf. Rm 13:12-14). Jesus, through the story in the parable, outlines the Christian life style that must not be distracted and indif-

ferent but must be vigilant and recognize even the smallest sign of the Lord's coming because we don't know the hour in which He will arrive (cf. Mt 24:39-44).



¹ Pope Benedict XVI, *Celebration of First Vespers of Advent, Vatican Basilica, December 2006* (Excerpted from the website of [Congregation for the Clergy](http://www.congregationforclergy.va))



CHILDREN'S CATECHETICAL MINISTRY

November 29, 2020

**THIS SEMESTER, ARCHDIOCESAN REQUIRMENTS
WE ARE VIRTUAL!!**

Religious Education Gr. K-6:

Just a reminder...
Please keep up with your work assigned online.

FIRST PENANCE PROGRAM:

All parents of children preparing for Sacramental Penance are reminded that next week's session is CHAPTER # 4 "Forgiveness and Healing", with the followings objectives: to demonstrate that forgiveness is key to healthy relationships; to explain that Jesus, the Good Shepherd, leads us to heaven and to teach that, in the Sacrament of Reconciliation, God proves that he is always willing to forgive us.

CONFIRMATION JOURNEY 2021

Enrollment Forms for the 2020 Confirmation Program will be mailed and need to be returned to the Religious Education Office on or before January 17, 2021. We ask that you give your attention to the return of the information.



Join us at the front of the Church for the
Christmas Tree Lighting
Next Saturday, December 5th after the 5PM Mass

The **Legion of Mary** is a lay apostolate group devoted to Our Blessed Mother. Let us humbly pray with the Virgin Mary.



Sanctuary Light Memorials

Week of November 30, 2020

The Sanctuary Light in the Chapel is burning in memory of
John & Susie Klybus
By: Fr. George & Anna Brancatella

The Sanctuary Light in the Church is burning in memory of
James K. Sullivan
By: Marlene



From the Rosary Society...

The Community Thrift Store is open for business and is accepting clothing and their usual items.

Please affix #18 to any donation

Their hours are limited:

Drop offs are Mondays only, 10 AM to 12 Noon.
Shopping is Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday
10 AM to 4 PM.

They will be closed Wednesday and Friday.



Please take a tag from the tree and return it to help a family in need.

Thank You!

Giving Tree

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



3 Pro-Life lessons of Advent

Tucked away in this season of waiting and expectation are a few profoundly pro-life messages.

We're halfway through our Advent celebration and preparation for the coming of Jesus. Tucked away in this season of waiting and expectation are a few profoundly pro-life messages — not only based on the very nature of Advent, but through some recently-observed liturgical feasts.

The Immaculate Conception



The December 8 feast of the Immaculate Conception celebrates life's beginning in the womb of St. Anne. Even more, the feast acknowledges God's action toward Mary, from the very first moments of her life. For the rest of believers, forgiveness of original sin occurs through the sacrament of Baptism, celebrated after birth. But for Mary, God spared her of original sin and concupiscence from the first moment she existed. By highlighting the conception of Mary, (and on March 25, the conception of Jesus) the Church conveys the teaching that life begins at conception.

Our Lady of Guadalupe

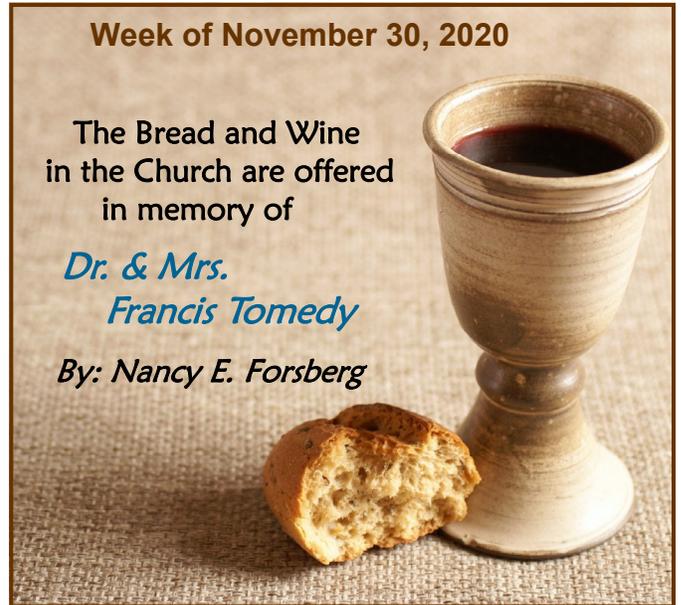
December 12, the feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe, suggests another pro-life message during this Advent season. The miraculous impression left on St. Juan Diego's *tilma* of *La Virgen Morena* contains many symbols of the Aztec culture. The black ribbon around Our Lady's waist indicates she is with child, allowing us to call to mind Mary's pregnancy and the sacredness of the womb that bore the son of the Eternal Father. The facts surrounding the practices of the Aztec religion at the time of Mary's apparition also lend itself to emphasize the sacredness of life. The Aztecs sacri-

Week of November 30, 2020

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

*Dr. & Mrs.
Francis Tometry*

By: Nancy E. Forsberg



ficed their own infants and children to their false gods. Then Our Lady enters in and points them to the God of Truth, guiding them to abandon those immoral practices. The pro-life movement has taken Our Lady of Guadalupe as its patronesses, and the Shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe in La Crosse, Wisconsin, houses a memorial to the unborn. The apparitions of Our Lady at Tepeyac Hill in Mexico, celebrated during the Advent season, remind all believers of the sacredness of human life.

The Advent Season

Every Advent is an anticipation of waiting in the final weeks and days of Mary's pregnancy (in addition to our vigil awaiting the Lord's return in glory). In the days of the *O Antiphons*, our liturgical readings sequentially lead us to Christ's birth. We hear about miraculous conceptions in the lives of Elizabeth and Mary and the joy of John the Baptist leaping in Elizabeth's womb. We see statues of Joseph leading the pregnant Mary on a donkey to Bethlehem, and some people re-live the Holy Family's experience through the *Las Posadas* tradition. In these days of Advent, the whole world awaits the birth of an infant who will take away the sins of the world. We journey with the pregnant Mary and await the day the prophets foretold. Our liturgical observance conveys a subtle pro-life message as we wait with expectation. As we live these Advent days, be sure to celebrate life!

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

Abortion and Putting Our Faith into Action

In a culture and world that is hungry for the Truth, we are often challenged to put our faith into action. For example, many of our politicians profess their Catholic faith, but try to divorce the faith which they proclaim from their policies, particularly as this relates to LIFE issues.

However, as Christ's followers and as Catholics, we are called to integrate our faith into all aspects of our lives. In fact, we are called to make our faith evident in all our actions and decisions. In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus tells us not to hide our light under a bushel basket, but let our light shine before others (Mt 5:15-16).

Defense of the unborn---the most vulnerable and defenseless human beings in our society, is undoubtedly the most important aspect of integrating our faith and actions. After all, LIFE is the most important gift that God gives us!

By Pro-Life Articles Author



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)

