

# NATIVITY NEWS

## Nativity of Our Lord Catholic Church

5900 McClellan,  
Detroit, MI 48213

### **WORSHIP SCHEDULE:**

**Nativity:**  
Sunday 9:30 AM

**St. Charles:**  
Sunday 11:30 AM



May 12, 2024

Ascension Sunday



### **A Few Thoughts from Fr. Buersmeyer**

#### **Mothers' Day**

Many of us, myself included, have been blessed with mothers whose love for their children is unquestioned. It simply was and is always present. For example, I had a funeral at another parish for a woman who was a mother of six, grandmother of sixteen and great grandmother of eighteen: a full, rewarding life. She fell in love with and married a very good, hard-working, faithful man at a young age. They wanted a larger family and she was a mom's mom. She had the ability to accept and embrace and love not only each of her children (and they put her to the test over the years!) but also everyone who crossed the threshold of the house. You know the type. The woman others outside the family called "mom" and "grandma" and truly meant it.

Such maternal love is so clearly an expression of God's love for us. We are all meant to experience that embracing, ever-present love, to have it be that creative sea within which we are kept afloat. That is why it is so difficult to believe one is capable of being loved and capable of love if we grow up without that maternal love. At the same time, that is why it is so important, no matter our personal experience with our own mothers, that we have a deep sense of God's maternal love for each of us. To image God in such a way that we are held, embraced, protected, rocked in the loving arms of God who is not only father but mother to us as well.

I think one reason our Catholic devotion to Mary resonates in many people's lives is precisely this maternal imagery. We have tended to image God almost exclusively in male images. And even images that need not be male, we tend to think of them as male—creator, judge, protector, etc. Thankfully, however, we have had a very strong image of Mary as intercessor and protector whose motherly love for her Son (and for us who are Jesus' adopted brothers and sisters) touches a deep chord within us. We know that any devotion to Mary always is meant to strengthen our faith in Jesus Christ. God wants us to experience God's love often in a maternal way. If you are able to image God in that way, I would encourage you to do so in your prayer. But God will also use one's devotion to Mary as a way to show such maternal love through her intercession. If you have moved away from praying the rosary and asking Mary to intercede on your behalf, or have never tried such "Catholic" prayer, May is a good month to try it out. God loves us as deeply as and more deeply than any mother loves her children.

Such divinely-given maternal love in our lives is healing. It is creative and life-bearing. Let us give thanks on this Mothers' Day for all the moms in our life—biological, adopted, spiritual—and pray for them. To know a mother's love, whoever has shown it to us, is to know the blessing of God in our lives.

#### **C.S.A. Reminder**

Hopefully all parish households have received their first Catholic Services Appeal reminder from the Archdiocese. Even though it comes from the Archdiocese and supports over 170 ministries of the wider Archdiocese (including a number in our Lower East Side Family of Parishes), this yearly appeal really needs to be seen as a Nativity fund raiser. Our parish's mandatory target is 18,347.00, and we will be billed for every dollar short of that target. On the other hand, we will receive back with no tax taken out every dollar above that target, and no matter how much we raise it will not affect future targets. That is why our contributions to the annual C.S.A. are the most efficient way to donate to the parish. All levels of donations are appreciated and needed, but if you are in a position to give a more significant gift, this is the way that will benefit the parish the most. Thank you.

**Fr. Buersmeyer**  
**Administrator**

## FAMILY OF PARISHES WEEKDAY MASSES

**Ascension of the Lord, May 12<sup>th</sup>: 9:30 AM** live streamed,  
Presider: Fr. David Preuss

**Monday, May 13<sup>th</sup>:** 7 PM Detroit Lower Eastside Family  
Zoom prayer and discussion of next Sunday's reading.  
Please email Joni Scott @ [jlscott820@gmail.com](mailto:jlscott820@gmail.com) or  
Hermenia Adams @Hermenia32@yahoo.com to receive the  
Zoom link]

**Tuesday, May 14<sup>th</sup>:** [Sacred Heart, Mass at 5 PM]

**Wednesday, May 15<sup>th</sup>: SS. AM 8 AM Holy Hour and 9 AM**  
Mass Presider: Fr. Dave Buersmeyer  
[Rosary: 7 PM on Zoom. Email Joni Scott  
@ [jlscott820@gmail.com](mailto:jlscott820@gmail.com) to receive the Zoom link]

**Thursday, May 16<sup>th</sup>: In Church 8 AM Holy Hour and 9**  
AM Mass Presider: Fr. Dave Buersmeyer

**Friday, May 17<sup>th</sup>:** [St. Charles, 11 AM Mass in the rectory]

**Saturday, May 18<sup>th</sup>:** [Sacred Heart 5 PM Mass.]

**Pentecost Sunday, May 19<sup>th</sup>: 9:30 AM** live streamed,  
Presider: Fr. David Buersmeyer

## WELCOME NEW PARISH MEMBERS!



### How Do I Join Nativity Parish?

If you are interested in becoming a member, please call the Parish Office at 313-922-0033 or complete a registration form available in the back of the church and drop it in the collection basket.

Want to learn more about the Catholic Faith or religious education programs? Contact Joseph Taylor at the Parish House at 313-922-0033.

### Evangelization Committee Bible Question of the Week

In today's Gospel, Jesus ascends into heaven, but before he does, he leaves His disciples a mission. He assigns them the task of building up His Church. Jesus says to them: **"Go into the whole world and proclaim the gospel to every creature. Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved; whoever does not believe will be condemned. These signs will accompany those who believe: in my name they will drive out demons, they will speak new languages. They will pick up serpents with their hands, and if they drink any deadly thing, it will not harm them. They will lay hands on the sick, and they will recover."** After He speaks this, Jesus ascends and takes His seat at the right hand of God. Read those words again, "These signs will accompany those who believe." That means all Christians are to participate in the mission to build up the church (the body of Christ). Do you feel qualified and equipped for the task? Do you recognize the signs of Christ at work today? Is there anything that holds you back from a greater surrender to the work of evangelization? If so, you may want to consider that Jesus appointed these same men who just a few weeks earlier had abandoned Him and locked themselves up in a room out of fear. Also look back at the past two week's Gospels.

References: **Mk 16:15-20**; **Jn 15:1-8**; **Jn 15:9-17**

### THIS WEEK'S SCRIPTURE READINGS

#### Ascension of the Lord

##### First Reading:

*Acts 1:1-11*

##### Responsorial Psalm

*God mounts his throne to  
shouts of joy; a blare of  
trumpets for the Lord.*

##### Second Reading:

*Ephesians 1:17-23*

##### Gospel Reading:

*Mark 16:15-20*

### NEXT WEEK'S SCRIPTURE READINGS

#### Pentecost

##### First Reading:

*Acts 2:1-11*

##### Responsorial Psalm

*Lord, send out your Spirit,  
and renew the face of the  
earth.*

##### Second Reading:

*Galatians 5:16-25*

##### Gospel Reading:

*John 15:26-27, 16:12-15*

### STRANGERS NO LONGER

Mark your calendars. On Sunday 5/19, SNL is hosting the weekly dinner after the 11:30 mass @ St Charles. We are inviting you to join us for Mass & dinner. At Mass, Darius Bartolon, one of the mueras (women) members of SNL, will share her story of her journey from Guatemala to America with her two young daughters, the oldest having a physical handicap. It's a touching account of faith, bravery & a mother's love. Please come & listen. She will be available at the dinner for conversation & questions.

Sign up to bring up the Offertory gifts or to be a  
Eucharistic Minister by Mary's Altar.

Thank you!

## WHAT'S HAPPENING

### *Food Pantry*

Your continued support of the pantry is truly a blessing. This week we need: Pork & Beans, Soup, and Snacks.

If you are not a shopper, but would like to help the pantry, a check made out to Gleaners Food Bank with Nativity Pantry 1116 in the memo line can be dropped in the collection baskets or mailed to the office. Your donation would help with our monthly bill.

### **BRICK PAVERS FOR THE FATHER SINGER MEMORIAL GARDEN ANNUAL ORDER**

Each 4X8" paver sells for \$100 and has space for three lines of dedication, fourteen characters including spaces per line. The net proceeds from all brick sales will be used as part of our fundraising to support Nativity Parish. Please pass the word of the commemorative pavers to all who have been a blessed part of Nativity of Our Lord Parish, be it present, past or future! Pick up forms by Mary's Altar. Orders due by next Sunday, May 19th.

### **2024 Father Singer Memorial Scholarships**

The submission period for applications for this year's scholarship has begun and ends June 1, 2024. Application forms can be obtained by downloading and printing from the About Us/Our Work section of the Nativity website: [Nativitydetroit.org](http://Nativitydetroit.org)

### **CALLING ALL GRADUATES**

**If you have a High School, College, or Trade School graduate, please know that we will celebrate graduates at Mass on June 30th. Let the office know if your graduate will be attending.**

### **Embracing Soul Care: *The Eucharist, Broken and Beloved***

The Annual Urban Parish Retreat is being held at Manresa Jesuit House in Bloomfield Hills, Mich.

For more information see flyers or contact Manresa at (248-644-4933). You may also talk to Joni Scott 313 330-4145 for more details.

This is a chance for you to get that much-needed rest and replenishment for your soul. Why not take advantage of it. We hope to see you there!!



## **WE PRAY FOR GOD'S HEALING FOR**

Mary Jane Accavitti, Brandon Adams, Brenda Banks, Judy Bartnik, Michele Bezel, Hedwig Buczek, Frank Candela, Brian Cavanaugh, Frank Candela's brother-in-law, Ed, Aaron Cole, Erin Cronin, John Deisinger, Diane Ferschneider, Douglas Frattini, Rosa Gracey, Neidra Halthon, Bart Houston, Art Hill, Jansen Family, Journee Jones, Mia Halthon-Jones, Alex Kelly, George Kent, Genevieve and Rosy Krembel, Clarence Lewis, Olga Ludwick, Deborah Marshall, Kathy McDonald's Granddaughter, Ryan, Melvin & Theresa McCoy, Jennifer Mondalek, Richard Morecki, Gail Northcutt, JoAnne Novara, Allan Patterson, Helen & Keith Randall, Yvonne Rottach, Phil Scamihorn, Joyce Shahady, Larry Shelton, Jim Singer, Sheila Starke, John Stuart, Marianne Szymanski, Jim Turnbull, Sr. Jolene, Barron Scott's mom, Vicky, Rosanne Schwartz's grandson, Gavin, the Benigni and Chida Families, the Gracey Family, and Mia Halthon-Jones' mother-in-law, Victoria, and all those who need our prayers. **(Please notify Anne Crowe at the Parish Office when a name should be removed from this list.)**



*Lord, you are the source of health and healing. In you, there is calm and true peace. In pain, anxiety, or fear, teach us to yield ourselves to your care knowing that your love and power surround us to give us health and strength. Amen*

### **On the Rise Bakery Cafe**

At the Solanus Casey Center  
1780 Mt. Elliott, Detroit, MI 48207  
Hours: Tuesday-Saturday 9:30AM to 4:00PM  
**GLUTEN FREE TREATS AVAILABLE ALSO**

## REMINDERS:

The Live-stream 9:30 Sunday Mass is on the Parish Facebook site: <https://www.facebook.com/NativityDetroit>

Sunday Mass can also be viewed on YouTube at <https://www.youtube.com/@NativityofOurLord-cm8we>

Church Library: Feel free to take and use books and other resources available in the back of the church.

Coins for Haiti Jug: Donations are welcome. The jug is located in front of the church.

Parish Website: <https://www.nativitydetroit.org>

Parish Instagram Page: [https://www.instagram.com/nativitycatholicchurch\\_detroit/](https://www.instagram.com/nativitycatholicchurch_detroit/)



[DONATE HERE](#) or go to the giving site at: <https://giving.parishsoft.com/App/Giving/nativity>

## MASS Intentions

### Ascension of the Lord

**May 12, 2024**

Sr. Barbara Johns, IHM (Frances Carnaghi)

Albertina Tristan & Lizzie Colombo  
(Dr. Charles & Reyna Colombo)

Mary Spina (Mary Rose Spina)

The Women of Nativity

### Pentecost Sunday

**May 19, 2024**

Mary Frattini (Family)

Mae Johnston (Family)

The Kresmery Family (Family)

Sam Scamihorn (Family)

## BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK

**5-12:** Olivia Thompson

**5-13:** Barbara Kelly

**5-16:** Norma Danzie, Serenity Jones and  
Deacon John Wright

**5-17:** Gail Northcutt

**5-18:** Mashauna Adams



## WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES THIS WEEK

**5-13:** Kyle & Michele Johnston

## PARISH DIRECTORY

5900 McClellan, Detroit, MI 48213

Parish Phone: 313-922-0033

Email: [nativityol@sbcglobal.net](mailto:nativityol@sbcglobal.net)

Fr. David Buersmeyer, Administrator

Fr. David Preuss, Priest in Solidum

Deacon John Wright

Joseph Taylor, Pastoral Minister Coordinator

Anne Crowe, Parish Secretary

## PARISH COUNCIL MEMBERS

Hermenia Adams

Mashauna Adams

Sr. Ellen Burkhardt

Jerry Burns

Tish Colett

Maura Corrigan

Linda Cunningham

Norma Danzie

Willie Lewis

Chris McLaughlin

Kim Milligan

Mark Miller

Sharon Mudloff

Charvala Wheeler

## Nativity's Mission Statement

*Nativity is a diverse and inclusive Catholic Faith Community on Detroit's Eastside dedicated to proclaiming the Gospel and sharing God's love through a commitment to social justice, and service to the neighborhood, the community, and each other.*