



# Church of the Nativity

## A Stewardship Parish



January 17, 2016

### Mission Statement

**W**e, Church of the Nativity, are a welcoming faith family committed to living the gospel values of Jesus Christ, under the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

**W**e are called through Word and Sacrament to be strengthened in holiness.

**W**e recognize and are thankful for all that we have received from God and therefore declare ourselves a Stewardship Parish.

**W**e proclaim our mission to prayerfully serve the people of God, through our gifts of Time, Talent and Treasure and thus continue to be the **hands and feet** of Christ.

### Pastoral Staff

**Rev. George Klybus, Pastor**

**Rev. Msgr. James A. Burke, In Residence**

**Rev. Msgr. Robert Harahan, Weekend Assistant**

Olivia L. Harrington, *Religious Education Coordinator*

Janet Nemeec, *Director of Lay Ministries*

Lorraine DeLuca, *Religious Education Assistant*

Mary Lou Balog, *Pastoral Associate for Stewardship*

Kaye Zbonack, *Parish Secretary*

Jim Kenny, *Business Manager/ CTC School Liaison,*  
*Pastoral Associate,*

Jim Chiappini, *Organist*

Ciarán Sheehan, *Cantor*

Roberto Hurtado, *Maintenance Supervisor*

Pedro Herrera, *Maintenance Staff*



Russell Kamp & Tia Patterson, *Parish Trustees*

### Masses

Saturday: 5:00 pm

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

Holy Days: Consult Bulletin

Daily: Monday - Friday 12:10 pm (chapel)

### Parish Membership

Every family participating regularly in the spiritual life of our parish is encouraged to register. Forms are available in the church or at the rectory. If you move or change your home address or email address, kindly notify the rectory. If you want to add your cell phone to your family information contact the rectory. If you move or no longer worship with us, kindly contact the rectory.

### Anointing

Communal celebration of anointing is celebrated every year. The next celebration will be in the Fall, 2016; date to be announced. At any time during the year, if anyone is ill, homebound, or in the hospital, please notify the Rectory.

### 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.

### Religious Education

Office Hours: Mon-Thurs - 9:00 am - 4:30 pm  
Classes Grades K-6 Sun - 9:00 am -10:00 am  
Thurs - 3:30 pm - 4:30 pm  
Grades 7-8 Sun - 9:00 am - 10:15 am  
Mon - 3:30-4:30, 7:30-8:30 pm  
Tues - 7:30-8:30 pm

Home Classes (special scheduling)

Good News for Little Ones (ages 2 ½ - 5)

During the 10:15 am Mass October - June

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

Anyone interested in becoming a Roman Catholic, or any adult Catholic who has not received all the Sacraments of Initiation: Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist and would like to receive these Sacraments, please contact the Rectory.

### Penance/Reconciliation

Saturdays 4:15 pm in the vesting sacristy in the lobby of the church, or by appointment in the Rectory.

### Baptisms

The Sacrament of Baptism is scheduled for the following dates April 17th, May 29th. Arrangements are made by contacting the Rectory before the birth of the baby. Baptismal catechesis is required of all parents. Please call the Rectory for details. A member of the Baptism Preparation Ministry will contact the parents prior to the Baptism.

### Rectory

201.444.6362 FAX 201.444.5056

Email: [Nativityrcc@aol.com](mailto:Nativityrcc@aol.com)

### Parish Website

[www.churchofthenativitynj.com](http://www.churchofthenativitynj.com)

### Religious Education Office

201.447.1776

Email: [NativityRelEd@gmail.com](mailto:NativityRelEd@gmail.com)

315 Prospect Street Midland Park, NJ 07432

*Mass Intentions for the Week*

Mass	Please Remember	Mass Requested By
Saturday Jan. 16th 5:00 Mass	<b>Catherine McGarry</b>	Jeff & Mary Allyn
<b>Sunday</b> January 17th		
8:00 Mass	<b>Lillian Driscoll</b>	Tedeschi Family
10:15 Mass	<b>Mabel Kearns</b>	Mike & Terry DeSimone
12:00 Mass	<b>Cecelia Paton</b>	Daughter, Marcella
Monday Jan 18th 9:00AM Mass	<b>Frances McGee</b> <b>Unannounced Masses</b> <b>July 2015-January 2016</b>	Helen Moser
Tuesday Jan 19th 12:10 Mass	<b>Jeremiah Twomey</b>	Ambrose McGarry
Wednesday Jan 20th 12:10 Mass	<b>Ted Okoniewski</b>	Gail Okoniewski
Thursday Jan 21st 12:10 Mass	<b>Anne Sudol</b>	Joseph & Bernadette Scillieri
Friday Jan. 22nd 12:10 Mass	<b>Robert Balsamo</b>	Gerald Family
Saturday Jan. 23rd 5:00 Mass	<b>Kathryn Rhodes</b>	Maryann Szczesny & Karen Nightingale
<b>Sunday</b> January 24th		
8:00 Mass	<b>Susan Bardzell</b>	Anne & Jack Rodenberg
10:15 Mass	<b>Gaetano Scrofani &amp; Paula Scillieri</b>	Phyllis & Tony Veli
12:00 Mass	<b>Elaine Sullivan</b>	Bill & Liz Pollinger

*merciful God, take pity on those souls who have no particular friends and intercessors to recommend them to Thee, who, either through the negligence of those who are alive, or through length of time, are forgotten by their friends and by all. May the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.*



*Please remember in your prayers the sick who have asked for our prayers...  
Veronica Genito, Peggy Funesti*

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*Please remember in your prayers the recently deceased...  
Sue Bardzell, Matthew McNaught, Margaret Izers,  
Thomas Donnelly, Susan Artuso, Jennifer Lyn Wymbbs,  
Geraldina Lama, Ann Brenkert, Fred Thomas*

***This Week At Nativity***

**WEEK OF  
January 18th**

Monday January 18	<b>Martin Luther King, Jr's Birthday</b> <b>9:00AM CHA - Daily Mass</b> Church Offices are closed 7:30PM CHA - Women's Cornerstone Meeting
Tuesday January 19	11:00AM CHA - Legion of Mary 1:00PM MG - Scripture Study 7:30PM C - Choir Practice
Wednesday January 20	10:00AM OH - Shepherds on the Move
Thursday January 21	9:30AM Wortendyke Park, MP - Silver Steppers 3:30PM S/MG - Thursday CCD Classes 7:30PM MG - RCIA Meeting
Friday January 22	
Saturday January 23	11:00AM C - First Penance 2:00PM CHA - Private Baptism
Sunday January 24	<b>Following the 8:00 &amp; 10:15 Masses</b> <b>KH - Parish Pancake Breakfast</b> 9:00AM S/MG - Sunday CCD Classes 11:30AM CHA/S - Confirmation Class 7:00-9:00PM OH - The 2nd Nativity Youth Event grades 9-12

**KEY**

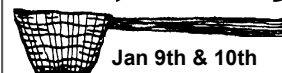
C-Church	OH-O'Connell Hall	MG-McGrath Room	CHA-Chapel
S-School	KH-Kennedy Hall	UR-Upper Room	R-Rectory

*The Church Offices will be closed Monday, January 18th in observance of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr's birthday.*



**Thank you for your continued support of your Parish.**

**Weekly Offering**  
Jan 9th & 10th



Weekly Church Offering	\$ 7,979	
On-Line Giving Weekly Average	\$ 1,725	*Amount needed each
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 9,704</b>	week to pay our
Budgeted Revenue*	\$11,332	parish expenses
<b>Surplus/(Deficit)</b>	<b>(\$1,628)</b>	



## A Word from the Pastor

Dear Friends,

Who does not enjoy attending weddings? It is a good gathering of friends, family and strangers. Everyone enjoys the music, and the food. Oh the food! Everyone comes together with a great joy and a loud cheer

to celebrate the new life that the couple begins. Added to that cheer is the wine. Usually at weddings, there is wine; a good deal of it depending on the culture. The Wedding at Cana that Jesus and his disciples attended, was a typical Jewish wedding at the time. A Jewish wedding can last 5-7 days, and the presence of wine is a very important symbol. To have the wine run out is a serious problem.

A Rabbi or family member recites a blessing over the wine; a blessing that praises and thanks God for giving laws of sanctity and the sanctity of family life and of the Jewish people. The blessings are recited over wine, since wine is symbolic of life: *"It begins as grape-juice, goes through fermentation, during which it is sour, but in the end turns into a superior product that brings joy, and has a wonderful taste."* The full cup of wine also symbolizes the overflowing of Divine blessing.

Mary noticed something amid all the goings on of the wedding, the wine had run out. The Blessed Virgin Mary does not hesitate. She saw the need, and before anyone could say something, she made the request of her Son, which would bring about His first miracle in public; water becomes wine. Knowing our needs, Mary comes quickly to our aid as well, showing through her deeds that she is constantly mindful of her children.

The Pope Emeritus, Benedict XIV, saw this as a sign of the greatness of the love we find at the heart of salvation history: "God lavishly spends himself for the lowly creature, man. (...) The superabundance of Cana is therefore a sign that God's feast with humanity, his self-giving for man, has begun.

The Catechism of the Catholic Church tells us: *"the sign of another feast – that of the wedding of the Lamb where he gives his body and blood at the request of the Church, his Bride"* (C.C.C., no. 2618).

Jesus brings His self-sacrifice forward as a result of the Blessed Virgin Mary's intercession.

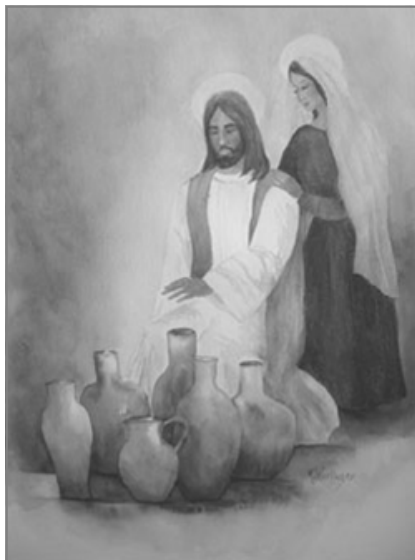
John Paul II in his Encyclical *Redemptoris Mater*, from 25 March 1987 writes to us: *"Mary places herself between her Son and mankind in the reality of their wants, needs and sufferings. She puts herself 'in the middle', that is to say she acts as a mediatrix not as an outsider, but in her position as mother. She knows that as such she can point out to her Son, the needs of mankind, and in fact, she 'has the right' to do so"*.

What beautiful words...Mary, as Mother of us all, puts herself at the behest of our requests. How fortunate we are!

The miracle at Cana indicates the beginning of the messianic signs (the nearness of the Saviour). It announces the time of Christ's glorification, and confirms the apostles' faith in him.

May the Feast of Cana also confirm our faith in Jesus.

Peace,  
Fr. George



## Living The Paschal Mystery

Belief is directed to a *Who* rather than a *what*. Our own encounters with Jesus (in prayer, through others, in struggling with daily self-giving) are truly epiphanies of God's glory which also invite *us* to respond to abundance with belief. These epiphany signs might come in many ways—through others in a cry for help, in a lonely person's plea for companionship, in the spontaneous laughter of delight, in the beauty of nature. The challenge for us is to see these as revelations of God's glory, as epiphanies of God's love for us, and an opportunity to respond in belief.

Yes, these common, ordinary signs of God's abundance, love, and glory are all around us. By *responding* to other persons (recognizing them as revelations of God to us) we ourselves also become signs of God's abundance, God's fullness. We ourselves are the good wine kept until after Jesus' ascension when we take up Jesus' mission as disciples. Living the paschal mystery means that we empty ourselves in order to be filled with the goodness of God's glory.

## Catechesis...about Liturgy

**Eucharist's epiphanies:** Year C in the Lectionary cycle is the only one in which the three traditional themes of epiphany occur on three consecutive Sundays: epiphany to the magi, Jesus' baptism, and the sign at the wedding feast at Cana. Yet, each time we celebrate liturgy God manifests divine Self to us in a number of ways. For example, in the *introductory rites* we are given an opportunity to be aware that God calls us into divine Presence and asks us to be attentive to the times we have failed to respond to God in belief. In the *Liturgy of the Word* God speaks to us—sometimes in terms of promise and fulfillment, sometimes exhorting us to right living, sometimes assuring us with divine love, sometimes challenging us to change our ways—and in the epiphany of word invites a response of a renewed commitment to follow Jesus as disciples. In the *Liturgy of the Eucharist* Christ becomes substantially present to us in the consecrated bread and wine and gives his very Body and Blood for our food and drink. This epiphany shows us God's tremendous love for us and God's desire for intimacy; it also shows forth our own dignity as we ourselves are and are becoming the very Body of Christ. In the *concluding rite* we are sent forth to be the epiphany of God's Presence in our everyday living. The Sunday Eucharist is a most sublime epiphany of God. Moreover, through our being transformed by the ritual action, we ourselves are reminded over and over again to be the Presence of Christ in our world. God loves us so much as to send the Son to be our savior; God trusts us so much as to send us to be the manifestation of God's Presence!

# Catechetical Center



**FIRST PENANCE PROGRAM:** On Saturday January 23<sup>rd</sup> at 11:00 AM in church, the

children, their parents, and other family members have been invited to a celebration in which the children have an opportunity to go to confession for the first time. Families have been notified. Please pray that the children's first experience of Sacramental Reconciliation will be one that leads them to seek God's healing love in the Sacrament throughout their lives. In case of inclement weather, you will receive an email from the Religious Education Office.

**CONFIRMATION PROGRAM 2016**

This Sunday, January 17<sup>th</sup>, at our 10:15 A. M. Liturgy, our parish will welcome 48 teenagers into the Confirmation Program. They will take part in a "Welcoming Mass" as a sign of their being "accepted" by the community to receive the sacrament. As candidates they will enter a period of final preparation, which includes completion of service projects, participating in learning lessons and attending a day of Retreat. We ask your prayerful support for these young people of our parish community as they seek to deepen their relationship with the Lord at this most meaningful time in their lives.

**Reminder to all candidates...**Preparation sessions begin:

**Sunday January 17<sup>th</sup> from 11:30 AM – 1:30 PM**

All candidates are to meet in the Chapel. Please check your schedules. You will receive an email from the Religious Education Office before sessions begin. Any questions? Call the Center @ 201-447-1776

**Have you ordered your leaf for Nativity's Living Tree?**

You too can now be part of Nativity's Living Tree. Originally planted in 1997, we are bringing the tree back to life during our 60th anniversary of sharing faith.

For more information you can contact the rectory 201 444-6362 or nativityrcc@aol.com

*Church of the Nativity*



**MARCH FOR LIFE 2016**

The March for Life is the world's largest pro-life rally, and we want YOU to be there to speak out for society's most vulnerable. If you would like to attend the March, St. Elizabeth's in Wyckoff will be providing a bus sponsored by the Knights of Columbus and the Respect Life Ministry.

When:

**Friday, January 22, 2016.**

Where:

**Departing and returning to St. Elizabeth's parking lot. Time: Leaving for Washington D.C. after the 6am Mass.**

Price:

**Round Trip: \$50. 00 Per Person.**

Includes: Bagels and coffee will be served in the morning, Bus transportation, delicious Boxed lunch, a "Simple Ride Home Snack" and a Subway Metro card.

For more Info call St. Elizabeth's office 201-891-1122

**Ticket form for March For Life Rally**

Please include CASH or CHECK made payable to "Church of St. Elizabeth" and give to Dotsy Pomroy or Fr. Carlos Briceno

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

Total # of Tickets @\$50.00 Per Person Total Amount Enclosed \_\_\_\_\_ Please circle: CASH CHECK

I am unable to attend, but I would like to help cover the cost of the bus with a donation of \$ \_\_\_\_\_

St. Elizabeth Church  
700 Wyckoff Ave. Wyckoff NJ 07481

You can find official registration forms at the I-Desk

**“Is it time yet? Is the roast at the right temperature? Are the guests at the front door? Are the little ones rubbing their eyes indicating the need to go to bed? Jesus' time—his "hour"—arrives in response to a need and at the invitation of another. So does our time.”**

[Taken from Living Liturgy]

### How about Prayer?

Do you want more peace in your life?  
Do you need a change to your prayer life?  
Do you want something new for 2016?

Here is the answer...



**Mondays**  
**11:30AM –12:00PM**  
**Nativity Chapel**

**The Nativity Chaplet** will give you...

- ▶ 35 minutes of respite in your busy schedule and week.
- ▶ time of silent prayer, intercessions and a connection with the Lord.

**Come...Sit...and Connect with God...  
He's waiting!**

Mark Your Calendars  
for the...



## Nativity's St. Patrick's Day Dance

Saturday, March 12th

Stay tuned for more details!

The committee is in need of  
**Basket Donations**

Please consider donating a basket or an item for a basket for the raffle. You can donate as an individual, with a group of friends or as a ministry. The committee is also in need of empty baskets.

For more information regarding the dance contact  
Sue Hartmann at [susan1899@gmail.com](mailto:susan1899@gmail.com)

For more information regarding the baskets contact  
Colleen Keegan at [cmk3byz@verizon.net](mailto:cmk3byz@verizon.net)



## Mini Drive

**February 13th & 14th**

*New or Gently Used  
Shoes*

Please drop off your donations in the McGrath Room



**World Marriage Day**  
**February 14, 2016**



To recognize World Marriage Day, on the weekend of February 13/14th, we would like to identify Nativity's couples celebrating a special Wedding Anniversary this year. If you are celebrating your 1st, 5th, 10th, 15th, 20th, 25th, 30th, 35th, 40th, 45th, 50th, or 50th+... please complete the form below and you will receive a special blessing and a certificate at the Mass you attend.



### World Marriage Day Form

Wife's Full Name \_\_\_\_\_

Husband's Full Name \_\_\_\_\_

2016 Anniversary Celebrating \_\_\_\_\_ Years

Mass attending February 13/14 \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_



## Nativity Stewardship Update

A new season of the Church year is upon us. Yes, "Ordinary Time" has replaced the "Christmas season." Last Sunday climaxed the stories of Jesus' birth, early life and baptism. Now it is time to hear about his active work as God's Word as spoken to us. In the today's Gospel we are at the Wedding Feast of Cana in Galilee and the wine has run out. Jesus is able to transform water into the very best wine, just as the Father can change a forsaken people into ones who are his delight. Water turned to wine is a wonderful image of people who are fresh out of hope and need to drink of the promise and its satisfaction. Only God in Jesus can supply the real thing. Thus the Gospel story has even more symbolic depth than the simple story of an amazing miracle at first indications. Mary says simply to Jesus, "They have no wine." In other words, the human race has no real life left in it. Jesus replies strangely: "Woman, how does your concern affect me? My hour has not yet come." He is saying that his public life has not yet begun. In that public life he will have to preach, heal, suffer, die and rise again, as we will see in the coming weeks. But Mary knows him too well. She does not take seriously all the reasons why God's promise cannot be fulfilled at this time. She knows that the people need the full, rich wine of life, which is love, and she trusts her son. She says to the servants, "Do whatever he tells you." So, after all, this Sunday we begin to watch Jesus make us into "his delight." Let us use our eyes.

Are we ready for the life of Jesus?

### Catholic Charities USA Helping Flooding Victims

In recent weeks news outlets have had stories about severe flooding conditions that have affected the people in the South and Midwest regions of the country. We understand that as rivers continue to rise and temperatures get colder, conditions may worsen, making life even harder for everyone - especially the poor.

Catholic Charities USA is responding to the challenges with emergency shelter, food and clothing. Your financial support can help them meet this important need.

Anyone interesting in assisting in this effort to help our sisters and brothers in need may make a contribution directly to Catholic Charities USA via the agency's website:

[https://support.catholiccharitiesusa.org/p/salsa/donation/common/public/?donate\\_page\\_KEY=12755](https://support.catholiccharitiesusa.org/p/salsa/donation/common/public/?donate_page_KEY=12755)

### SPRING 2016 BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUPS BEGIN WEEK OF MARCH 7, 2016

The Church of the Presentation in Upper Saddle River, NJ is offering a Free Eight-Week Bereavement Group, beginning the week of March 7, 2016. The groups are run by trained and compassionate facilitators in a safe and confidential environment. Participants can find a way through the grieving process with others who have experienced a similar loss. There are two groups: one for those who have lost a spouse and another group for all other losses, i.e. parent, sibling, friend, etc. This program has been extremely helpful for numerous people over the years. There is no fee but registration is required. Please contact the Bereavement Support Group at 201.327.1313, ext. 872. The groups will meet at the Church of the Presentation, 271 West Saddle River Rd., Upper Saddle River, NJ 07458.

## Attention Nativity Youth Grades 9-12

Happy 2016!

### New Year ~ New Youth Event!

*Last month's theme was Christmas -  
this month we have a new theme  
with new activities:*

\*\*\*\*\*

GOT MERCY?!

COME SEE WHAT IT'S ALL ABOUT  
AT

NATIVITY'S YOUTH MEETING ON  
**SUNDAY, JANUARY 24<sup>TH</sup>**  
**FROM 7-9 PM**

IN O'CONNELL HALL.

WE SUPPLY THE SNACKS  
YOU SUPPLY YOUR FRIENDS  
(9<sup>TH</sup>-12<sup>TH</sup> GRADES) and

TOGETHER WE CAN CONTINUE  
BUILDING A FAITH COMMUNITY  
FOR THE YOUTH OF OUR PARISH!!