

BEHOLD, THE LAMB OF GOD

JN 1:36



NATIVITY OF OUR LORD

JAN 14, 2024

2ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

900 W. MIDWAY BLVD, BROOMFIELD, CO
WWW.NOOL.US | (303) 469-5171

MASS TIMES

MONDAY-FRIDAY

7:00 am
9:30 am (livestreamed)
School Mass: Wednesdays, 8:15 am

SATURDAY

9:30 am (livestreamed)

VIGIL MASS

4:30 pm

SUNDAY

7:30 am
9:30 am (livestreamed)
11:30 am
5:00 pm

CONFESSION

THURSDAY

5:00-6:00 pm

SATURDAY

8:00-9:30 am
3:00-4:30 pm

SUNDAY

30 min before Masses

PARISH OFFICE HOURS:

MONDAY-FRIDAY: 8 am-5 pm

FRONT DESK:

MONDAY-FRIDAY: 8 am-8 pm

SATURDAY: 8 am-3:30 pm

CLOSED ON MONDAY, JAN 15

SACRISTY LAUNDRY

Patti Panfil

COLLECTION COUNTERS

Tue, Jan 16 | 10 am

Cathy Suppes
Victoria Villegas
Deborah Mittleman
Ron Riedl

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

IN THE CHURCH:

THURSDAY

12:00-6:00 pm

SOLEMN HOLY HOUR:

5:00-6:00 pm with *Confession* and *Vespers*

Benediction: 5:55 pm

IN THE CHAPEL:

FOR SCHEDULED ADORERS,
SEE AVAILABLE HOURS AND SIGN UP AT

www.nool.us/adoration

OR SCAN QR CODE



OPEN FOR WALK-INS

MONDAY-FRIDAY

8:00 am-5:00 pm

VISITING THE SICK AND HOMEBOUND

Do you know or do you have someone in your family who is sick or homebound, cannot attend Sunday Mass regularly, and desires to receive sacraments of penance and Eucharist? Please do not hesitate to contact Nativity to schedule a visit of a priest or Eucharistic minister at (303) 469-5171.

GOING TO THE HOSPITAL

If you are going to the hospital and need a visit from a priest or deacon, please call the front desk at (303) 469-5171.

PRAYER REQUESTS

If you have any prayer requests, please contact Joanne Farver at (303) 466-8859 or at joannefarver@comcast.net.

PRAY THE ROSARY WITH US

SATURDAY

8:50 am | Pro-Life Rosary

SUNDAY

11:00 am | Parishioners' Rosary

MASS INTENTIONS

SATURDAY, JANUARY 13

9:30 am † Linda Alandy
(sister of Maryann)
by Jeff & Terri Brown
4:30 pm † John Cserkuti
by Cserkuti Family

SUNDAY, JANUARY 14

7:30 am † John Battista
by Battista Family
9:30 am People of the Parish
11:30 am Neil Boyle by Dan Wiffler
5:00 pm Begoya Family
by Allen Kassik & Ligia Villegas

MONDAY, JANUARY 15

7:00 am Colleen Bradley
by Dave & Eileen Reynolds
9:30 am Carmen Albiniak
by Terri & Jeff Brown

TUESDAY, JANUARY 16

7:00 am † Chuck Flierl
by Eloise & Philip Georgen
9:30 am † Saint Paul Nhung by La

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 17

7:00 am Kenneth H. Moore
by Mom - Maria Graham

**** NO 9:30 AM MASS ****

**10:30 am Deacon David Arling's Funeral
Mass preceded by Viewing**

THURSDAY, JANUARY 18

7:00 am † Evelyn Sielisch
by Diane Christner
9:30 am † Pat Enockson by Charlie
& Ann McGinness

FRIDAY, JANUARY 19

7:00 am Stel Deters Happy Birthday
by Ventura Family
9:30 am † Celia Garcia by Maria Rask

SATURDAY, JANUARY 20

9:30 am † Kenneth Davis
by Marsha Giovanniello
4:30 pm Loralie Cole-Holmbo Birthday
and Family Blessings
by Mom & Dad

SUNDAY, JANUARY 21

7:30 am † Deceased Members of
Knights of Columbus & Family Members
by Knights of Columbus
9:30 am People of the Parish
11:30 am † Carlos Soto by Parker Family
5:00 pm Ed Marks by Kathryn Marks



900 W. MIDWAY BLVD.
BROOMFIELD, CO 80020

PH: (303) 469-5171
FAX: (303) 469-5172
SCHOOL: (303) 466-4177
WWW.NOOL.US



THE COURAGE TO ASK

By Fr. Emmanuele
Silanos, FSCB
December, 2023



Photo: A girl lights a candle before the parish of Nuestra Señora de Las Aguas in Bogotá (Colombia) during the traditional night of de las velitas, on the vigil of the feast of the Immaculate Conception

Living Advent entails rediscovering one's own question, but also and above all, walking towards Him who can respond.

This December, I was planning on going on pilgrimage to the Holy Land: I was to be accompanied by, in addition to Fr. Vincent, many friends, some who were celebrating an anniversary, some who were to entrust a particular intention, some who wanted simply to visit, at least once in their life, the places where Jesus lived in his time on earth. However, the war intervened and made these plans impossible to carry out, at least for now. The cancellation of our trip was not but the last in a series of problems: it was clear that the tragedy that was happening in those places was something much bigger, and for this reason, among those of us who were supposed to depart together, the most repeated word among us was "pray." Pray for the Holy Land, pray for peace, pray for the innocent victims, for the hostages. Pray so that something changes in the minds of those people and of their leaders.

Prayer: how often are we plagued by the doubt that praying serves no purpose?

Prayer: how often are we plagued by the doubt that praying serves no purpose?

How often do the people we meet, whether children or adults, ask us the same question based on the fact that their requests are not granted? **And, what's more, how could I think that my prayer could possibly change the decisions of those who lead nations and armies?**

The time of Christmas is always one of the most fascinating and content-rich parts of the year. Among the figures that emerge from the Liturgy of these days, the Magi are certainly among the most mysterious and attractive. Popular tradition speaks of three wise men who come from the East: actually, we don't know exactly how many there were. Almost certainly they came from Persia, modern day Iran, where the term "Magi" meant members of the imperial court, experts of astrology and religion. **They incarnate that desire, that need to know the truth that is proper to every man, of every epoch and culture, who seeks in reality the signs of the deep meaning of history, personal history and that of the world.** The Magi reached that land, today rocked by war, and asked for guidance from the wrong person, Herod, who himself is the symbol of the man who has no questions, attached as he is to his own power and terrified of potentially losing what he has. But those men proceed on their search and when they see the star that indicates the place where Jesus had been placed, *they experience a great joy* and can finally bow down before Him and place their gifts. Fr. Lepori [Mauro Giuseppe Lepori, O. Cist, Abbot General of the Cistercian Order] has written

about how the great questions of man are contained in those gifts: incense is the symbol of the question about God, gold of the question regarding the value of man and of history, and myrrh represents the question about the meaning of death. Therein lie the riches of the Wise Men, therein lie our own riches: above all, of the questions that we have and that we bring to the presence of the only One who can respond to them. And this is what causes the joy of the Magi: having found Someone to whom they can entrust the deep questions of their hearts.

And this is what causes the joy of the Magi: having found Someone to whom they can entrust the deep questions of their hearts.

"You just need faith to ask, you only need great courage to ask": these are the words taken from a song, *The Beggar*, which it is possible to listen to thanks to the beautiful interpretation of our friends [...]. **You need courage to do what the Magi did: leave everything and embark on a months-long journey, to reach a remote place such as Bethlehem and stop in front of a manger to adore a baby who was just born. You need courage to make yourself a beggar in front of the most pitiful scene of history and recognize in it He who gives meaning to all things, the Lord of the universe who alone can give order and peace to the entire world.**

This is why it still makes sense to pray: it is like retracing that journey of those wise men, who left everything to go looking for Him to whom they could pose their own questions. The alternative is that of he who believes that he can find the response to his own needs in himself and ends up enacting justice for himself: it is this attitude that unleashes terror and violence, just like Herod did in his own time. The Magi went back by another way, a way that was different from that of terror and war, a way for those who are not afraid to entrust themselves and to beg. Because you just need faith to ask, you only need great courage to ask.

Source: <https://sancarlo.org/en/il-coraggio-di-domandare>



"I AM THE RESURRECTION AND THE LIFE"

JOHN 11:25

Our beloved Deacon David Arling passed away in the early morning hours on January 1, 2024, Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God. He died peacefully, in his home, in the loving care of his family.

We ask you for your continued prayers for the repose of the soul of Deacon David and the consolation of his family as this week, Deacon's body will be put to rest.

Into your hands, O Lord, we humbly entrust our brother. In this life you embraced him with your tender love; bid him now enter eternal rest. May the love of God and the peace of the Lord Jesus Christ bless and console us and gently wipe every tear from our eyes: in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

TUESDAY JANUARY 16, 2024

VIEWING
NATIVITY OF OUR LORD
6:00 PM–7:00 PM

VIGIL SERVICE
NATIVITY OF OUR LORD
7:00 PM

A Vigil Service will include praying the Office of the Dead and recitation of the Rosary.

WEDNESDAY JANUARY 17, 2024

VIEWING
NATIVITY OF OUR LORD
9:30 AM–10:15 AM

FUNERAL MASS
NATIVITY OF OUR LORD
10:30 AM

With Bishop Jorge Rodriguez

RECEPTION
In Cabrini Hall after the
Funeral Mass

COMMITTAL SERVICE
MT. OLIVET CEMETERY
12801 West 44th Avenue
Wheat Ridge, Colorado 80033

2:30 PM
MEET AT THE MAIN SIGN

3:00 PM
START

PARISH CALENDAR

SATURDAY, JANUARY 13

8:00 am | Marian Movement of Priests Cenacle
8:15 am | School of Community (CL)*
8:50 am | Pro Life Rosary
9:00 am | Stephen Ministry Training
10:15 am | Eucharistic Minister Training

SUNDAY, JANUARY 14

8:30 am | School of Community (CL)*
10:30 am | JP2 Families Secretary Meeting
11:00 am | Parishioners' Rosary
11:00 am | RCIA
6:00 pm | GS/High School Youth Group
6:15 pm | Catholic Young Adults Group

MONDAY, JANUARY 15

THE OFFICE & FRONT DESK ARE CLOSED IN OBSERVANCE OF MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR DAY

TUESDAY, JANUARY 16

10:00 am | CGS Level 1
4:00 pm | Children's Choir Rehearsal
5:30 pm | Knitting and Crocheting Group
6:00 pm | Deacon David Arling Viewing
6:30 pm | Adult Catechism Study
6:30 pm | Venturers of the Star
7:00 pm | Deacon David Arling Funeral Vigil Service

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 17

5:30 am | St. Joseph Men's Group
9:30 am | Deacon David Arling Viewing
10:30 am | Deacon David's Funeral Mass followed by Reception
6:00 pm | Stephen Ministry Training
6:00 pm | Boy Scouts Troop 766
6:30 pm | Healing from Divorce
7:30 pm | University Students (CLU)*

THURSDAY, JANUARY 18

8:15 am | ENDOW
12:00 pm | Eucharistic Adoration begins in the church
12:30 pm | Nativity Staff School of Community (CL)*
5:00–6:00 pm | Holy Hour with Confession
6:00 pm | Evening Rosary Makers
6:00 pm | Sacrament Preparation with Deacon Huan
6:00 pm | Music Ministry Rehearsal
6:30 pm | *Adult Bible Study—The Gospel of Mark: Faith Not Fear*
7:00 pm | Baptism Class
7:30 pm | School of Community (CL)*

FRIDAY, JANUARY 19

7:30 am | Men of Emmaus
9:00 am | ENDOW
10:00 am | Friends in All Times (FIAT)
6:00 pm | American Heritage Girls

SATURDAY, JANUARY 20

8:00 am | Marian Movement of Priests Cenacle
8:15 am | School of Community (CL)*
8:50 am | Pro Life Rosary
10:00 am | Missa de Angelis Workshop
5:00 pm | CL* Fraternity Gathering

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SUNDAY, JANUARY 21

8:30 am | School of Community (CL)*
11:00 am | Parishioners' Rosary
11:00 am | RCIA
6:00 pm | GS/High School Youth Group
6:15 pm | Catholic Young Adults Group

*(CL) Communion & Liberation

DAILY READINGS

SATURDAY, JANUARY 13

Reading 1: 1 Sm 9:1-4, 17-19; 10:1
Psalm: 21:2-3, 4-5, 6-7
Gospel: Mk 2:13-17

SUNDAY, JANUARY 14

Reading 1: 1 Sm 3:3b-10, 19
Psalm: 40:2, 4, 7-8, 8-9, 10
Reading 2: 1 Cor 6:13c-15a, 17-20
Gospel: Jn 1:35-42

MONDAY, JANUARY 15

Reading 1: 1 Sm 15:16-23
Psalm: 50:8-9, 16bc-17, 21 and 23
Gospel: Mk 2:18-22

TUESDAY, JANUARY 16

Reading 1: 1 Sm 16:1-13
Psalm: 89:20, 21-22, 27-28
Gospel: Mk 2:23-28

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 17

Memorial of Saint Anthony, Abbot
Reading 1: 1 Sm 17:32-33, 37, 40-51
Psalm: 144:1b, 2, 9-10
Gospel: Mk 3:1-6

THURSDAY, JANUARY 18

Reading 1: 1 Sm 18:6-9; 19:1-7
Psalm: 56:2-3, 9-10a, 10b-11, 12-13
Gospel: Mk 3:7-12

FRIDAY, JANUARY 19

Reading 1: 1 Sm 24:3-21
Psalm: 57:2, 3-4, 6 and 11
Gospel: Mk 3:13-19

SATURDAY, JANUARY 20

Reading 1: 2 Sm 1:1-4, 11-12, 19, 23-27
Psalm: 80:2-3, 5-7
Gospel: Mk 3:20-21

LEARN HOW TO SING MISSA DE ANGELIS ON NATIVITY'S WEBSITE AT

www.nool.us/music



RESTORED ORDER 2024

- RECONCILIATION
- CONFIRMATION
- EUCHARIST

REGISTRATION IS OPEN

The Restored Order is when a baptized child—after making his or her First Reconciliation—is confirmed and also receives First Communion at the Confirmation Mass.

REQUIREMENTS:

– Candidates seeking the Restored Order must be a baptized Catholic who is 7 years or older. She or he must have two years of Faith Formation (first grade or up) within two years of receiving the sacraments.

– Candidates solely seeking Confirmation need to have one year of Faith Formation (first grade or up) within two years of receiving the sacraments.

– Faith Formation includes Religious Education classes, Nativity (or other) Catholic schooling, homeschool Religious Education, and Venturers of the Star Middle School group.

RESTORED ORDER CLASSES

Thursdays, 6:15-7:15 pm
February 8 & 15, 2024
March 14, 2024
April 11, 2024

Register at:
www.nool.us/restored-order



REGISTER

For programs, events, and faith formation at Nativity, please visit:

www.nool.us



“You shall love
the Lord your God
...and your neighbor
as yourself”

(Luke 10:27)

A PRAYER SERVICE FOR THE ANNUAL WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY

TUESDAY
JANUARY 16, 2024
7:00 PM

**CROSS OF CHRIST
LUTHERAN CHURCH**
12099 LOWELL BLVD
BROOMFIELD, CO

All parishioners are invited to join in a prayer service for the annual Week of Prayer for Christian Unity! Nativity will be joining area churches, including Methodist, Anglican, Episcopal, United Church of Christ, and Lutheran, to celebrate our unity as Christians and to pray for still greater unity, “that all may be one” (John 17:21). The service will last approximately 45 minutes, and will be followed by a reception.

You are encouraged to bring a dessert pie to share, if able! No RSVP required.

QUESTIONS?

Please contact Ilene DuBey at i.dubey@nool.us.



SAVE THE DATE: **MISSA DE ANGELIS WORKSHOP**

**SATURDAY
JANUARY 20, 2024
AFTER THE 9:30 AM MASS**

Enjoy coffee and light refreshments as Fr. Emanuele and Frederick Proulx explore the Missa de Angelis. Gain some practical experience as you rehearse the Kyrie, Gloria, Sanctus, and Agnus Dei!

Please sign up, so we can make sure to prepare enough coffee and food for all the attendees.

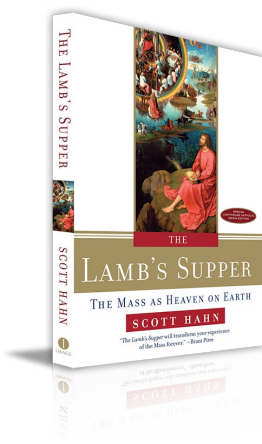
You can sign up at:

- www.nool.us/upcoming-events or
- www.nool.us/music or
- by scanning QR code

SIGN UP



If you have difficulties signing up, please ask a friend for help or stop by or call the front desk at **303-469-5171**.



TUESDAY BIBLE STUDY

THE LAMB'S SUPPER: THE MASS AS HEAVEN ON EARTH

**BEGINNING
JANUARY 23, 2024
Tuesdays, 1:00–2:30 pm**

Beginning January 24, 2024, the Bible study group will discuss the book by Scott Hahn, *The Lamb's Supper—the Mass as Heaven on Earth*.

Of all things Catholic, there is nothing that is so familiar as the Mass. Yet most Catholics sitting in the pews on Sundays fail to see the powerful drama that unfolds in front of them. Pope John Paul II described the Mass as "Heaven on Earth," explaining that what "we celebrate on Earth is a mysterious participation in the heavenly liturgy." This new book will help readers see the Mass with new eyes, pray the liturgy with a renewed heart, and enter into the Mass more fully, enthusiastically, and intelligently. Questions? Please email the facilitator, **Cyndi Beckingham** at dcbeckingham@msn.com.

Register at:

www.nool.us/upcoming-events
or scan QR code.

REGISTER



and worshiped him. Then, opening their treasures, they offered him gifts, gold and frankincense and myrrh" (Mat 2:10-11). For many this is the end of the Christmas season.

We invite you this year to extend the joy of Christmas. Like the Magi who "departed for their country by another way" (Mat 2:12), let the coming of Jesus change your path every day. This January, when the bills come in, let us remember the joy we experienced with our Christmas giving. Let us extend that joy throughout the year with our prayerful giving to the offertory. As St. Paul tells us in his second letter to the Corinthians, "God loves a cheerful giver" (2 Cor 9:7).

ANNULMENT ADVOCATES NEEDED

Nativity Parish is seeking volunteers to act as advocates for those seeking annulments. An advocate in the annulment process is a person who assists the petitioner in putting together their application to consider an annulment of their marriage. The type of work involved is mainly legal in nature, and therefore, ideal candidates for this volunteer opportunity would be retired lawyers, paralegals, or anyone with legal training and time available. The Archdiocese of Denver provides adequate training, which would be offered by video to anyone who is interested in this position.

If you are interested in this opportunity, please contact: **Fr. Emanuele Fadini, FSCB** at e.fadini@nool.us or after Mass.

NATIVITY MEN'S LENTEN RETREAT MARCH 15–17, 2024 FRIDAY–SUNDAY YMCA OF THE ROCKIES, ESTES PARK

Join with other men of the parish for an opportunity to get away from the "world" and listen to God's voice through structured talks, prayer, discussion, and rest. Retreat Leader: **Catholic Biblical School Instructor, Tomas Fuerte**

Cost:

Single Room \$309.00

Double Room \$200.00

Triple Room \$164.00

(Third sleeps on floor with mattress.)

After March 4th price increases 4%.

Financial assistance is available.

Cost includes two nights lodging, breakfast, lunch, dinner on Saturday, and breakfast on Sunday. Additional contributions beyond the cost of attending will be welcomed.

Paper registration at front desk is available. To register online, please scan the QR code below or go to

www.nool.us/upcoming-events

With questions, contact **Bob Patton** at 720-883-1893 or email catholicmensgroup@nool.us.



REGISTER

EXTEND THE JOY OF CHRISTMAS STEWARDSHIP SPOTLIGHT

Christmas was a time of giving. Most of us had packages piled up under our trees. A thoughtful gift brings joy to the giver as well as the one who receives it.

Last weekend we celebrated the Epiphany. The Gospel tells of the wise men visiting the newborn king "When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy; and going into the house they saw the child with Mary his mother, and they fell down



BRING THEM HOME

THE FINAL DISPOSITION OF A PERSON IS A SACRED MATTER.

Burying/interring the dead is one of the corporal works of mercy, and is a central part of the faith community. Alongside the many charitable activities of feeding and sheltering the poor, visiting the sick and imprisoned, we place the bodies of our loved ones in the cemeteries. The burial or entombment of the deceased person's body or cremated remains is a testimony that those who have gone before us are treated with reverence as members of the Communion of Saints.

FROM ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

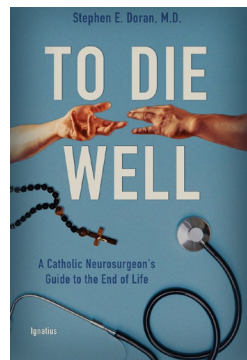
"If God is the center of your life, no words are necessary. Your mere presence will touch hearts."
 – St. Vincent de Paul

At the beginning of the year, many of us like to circle future dates on a calendar. These circled days might highlight birthdays or anniversaries, special events like graduations or weddings, notable sporting or charity events, as well as special trips such as a planned family reunion or an outing with an old friend. Sometimes, however, there are unplanned situations. We don't want to mark these events on a calendar. An accident, a serious illness, a job loss, or a death in the family can cause finances to be seriously strained.

At the St. Vincent de Paul Society, we strive to help our neighbors in need. In his ministry, Jesus extends the invitation to follow him. If we are open, he will nurture the gifts of faith, hope, and charity within us. Be it a fisherman or a tax collector, we can use whatever talents we have to give thanks to God. For more information on how our local Nativity of Our Lord St. Vincent de Paul chapter helps the poor, see our Flocknote site at

nool.flocknote.com/svdpvol

RECOMMENDED READING



A Catholic Guide to the End of Life by Dr. Stephen Doran, a deacon, neurosurgeon, and ethicist

AVAILABLE AT THE PARISH BOOKSTORE

FROM THE AUTHOR:

I have been a neurosurgeon for over twenty-five years, and despite the inevitability of death, most of my patients and their families have largely ignored its inescapable reality. I think we all want a good death, but we are not really sure what that means or how to prepare for it. Some of my patients die suddenly and unexpectedly. Some have months of advance notice. [...] Regardless, they—along with the rest of us—want to do this last thing right. [...]

My purpose in writing this book is to draw from my experiences and to present the Catholic perspective on the art of dying well, while answering some of the common questions that arise.

If you have a loved one's ashes that you've been meaning to bury but you cannot afford it, you can give them a dignified resting place at Mount Olivet Cemetery, free of charge. Families are invited to bring their loved ones and lay them in the *Crypt of All Souls*, with a special memorial Mass and committal service.

CALL 720-684-5270
www.cfscolorado.org

Below are the future dates for the committal service and interment in the Crypt of All Souls:

- January 17, 2024
- February 21, 2024
- March 20, 2024
- April 17, 2024
- May 15, 2024
- June 19, 2024
- July 17, 2024
- August 21, 2024
- September 18, 2024
- October 16, 2024
- November 20, 2024
- December 18, 2024



2024 SESSION

DATES: FEB 3, 10, 17, 24, MAR 2
10:00 AM - 12:30 PM

If you have lost a spouse, a child, including pregnancy loss, a grandchild, a parent, another family member, or a friend, you are encouraged to attend Grieving with Great Hope. It is a grief support workshop series that offers a prayerful, practical, and personal approach for anyone who is mourning the loss of a loved one.

Video presenters include: Fr. Michael Suhy, Fr. John Ricardo, and John & Sandy O'Shaughnessy from Good Mourning Ministry, a Catholic bereavement apostolate. Cost: \$10.00 for materials. Contact information: **Bridget Fross**, b.fross@nool.us. Register at:

www.nool.us/upcoming-events

THE JOY OF THE BEGINNING

As 2024 has begun and children have returned to school after the break, we present the reflection by Sr. Marilú Arbesú, Assistant Principal, written at the beginning of the school year.

School starts again. The new beginning is the opportunity to rediscover ourselves as expected and loved.

The days before the school starts are always intense. At Nativity: Faith and Reason, we teachers spend a few days doing joint and individual work of preparation for the school year, and we spend a day

together on a staff retreat. A lot of work and little time, but the predominant feeling is the joy of seeing each other again after the summer and the desire to start working together with the children and teenagers.

On the first day of school, we welcomed the students at the entrance. Some didn't want to go in, others were "still asleep," and others were delighted to show us their new backpacks. Some students told us their exciting stories about the summer. Many little teeth fell out, and money was found in return! The happiest of all were the parents: they entrusted their children to us with the hope of having more time now to do things when the house was finally empty.

For us teachers, one of the priorities in the first few days of school is to be attentive to the new kids, especially those who experience the difficult transition from primary to middle school and who often find themselves lost in the hallways. One of the students starting the sixth grade was new to the school. It was challenging for him to find his way around. So, the teachers took turns to accompany him from one classroom to another, reassuring him that he was in the right place. After a few days, he settled in and was more independent. However,

he would only leave the classroom after giving a teacher on duty a hug. He needed to be loved, and he let himself be guided by whoever was around. His hugs were gestures of gratitude for having received what he had been waiting for - to be loved and welcomed.

All the time and work spent preparing for the start of school is to give the kids a clear message, "You are not alone." Why do teachers want to look at the students like that? It is because they also desire to be welcomed and loved. For this reason, the prevailing experience of the beginning is joy combined with expectation of what the Lord is preparing for us.

Sr. Marilú Arbesú, MSCB



SEEDS OF HOPE SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS FOR THE 2024-2025 SCHOOL YEAR OPEN ON MONDAY, JANUARY 15, 2024

Think you can't afford Catholic education?
THINK AGAIN!

Seeds of Hope grants scholarships ranging from **\$500 to \$3,500** per student attending any of the 33 Archdiocese of Denver Catholic K-8 schools.

Our Alumni find success!

SCAN THIS CODE TO SEE IF YOU ARE ELIGIBLE!



Learn more at seedsofhopedenver.org or email us at info@seedsofhopedenver.org

Approximate income eligibility guidelines for 2024-2025

Household Size	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Annual Income	\$59,160	\$74,580	\$90,000	\$105,420	\$120,840	\$136,260	\$151,680	\$167,100	\$182,520

For each additional family member add: \$15,420

school.nool.us/enroll

CALL TODAY
303-466-4177



With questions about admission or to schedule a tour, contact

Shannon Spinuzzi
s.spinuzzi@nool.us

"Faith and reason are like two wings on which the human spirit rises to the contemplation of truth; and God has placed in the human heart a desire to know the truth—in a word, to know himself—so that, by knowing and loving God, men and women may also come to the fullness of truth about themselves."

— St. John Paul II, *Fides et ratio*

4 P.M.

They said to him, "Rabbi" — which translated means Teacher —, "where are you staying?" He said to them, "Come, and you will see." So they went and saw where Jesus was staying, and they stayed with him that day. It was about four in the afternoon. (Jn 1:38-39)

GOD'S METHOD **An event, not our thoughts**

The first chapter of St John's Gospel documents the very simple and profound manner in which Christianity emerged in history: the happening of a human event, the encounter with an exceptional presence. For John and Andrew, Christianity, i.e., the fulfillment of the Law, the fulfillment of the ancient promise in whose hope the faithful remnant of the Hebrew people [...] had lived, the Messiah, the One who was to come and for whom the people were waiting, was a man standing right before their eyes. They had come across Him, they had followed Him, they had gone to His home and spent the whole afternoon there with Him, filled with astonishment, open-mouthed, watching Him speak. And when, on their way back, they said, "We have found the Messiah," they were repeating with certainty words they had heard from Him. **The fulfillment of the great biblical promise was a man right before their eyes. Event. No word in the dictionary reflects the way in which the "issue" became real, became flesh in time, better than the word "event." Christianity is an "event," something that was not there before and arose at a given point.** [...] It was happening!

Christianity is an event. There is no other word to indicate its nature, neither the word law, nor the words ideology, concept, or plan. Christianity is not a religious doctrine, a series of moral laws or a collection of rites. **Christianity is a fact, an event.** All the rest is a consequence. The word "event" is therefore crucial. It indicates the method chosen and used by God to save man: God became man in the womb of a fifteen-to-seventeen-year-old girl named Mary. [...] **The manner in which God entered into relationship with us to save us is an event, not a thought or a religious sentiment.** It is a fact that took place in history, a fact that reveals who God is and points out what God wants from man, what man must do in his relationship with God.

As a way of communicating Himself to man, God could have chosen direct enlightenment, so that each individual would have to follow what God suggested to him in his thoughts and in his heart. This would have been by no means an easier or safer road, since it would be constantly exposed to the fluctuation of feelings and thoughts. **But the way God chose to save us is an event, not our thoughts!** [...]

Christianity is an event that man comes across, and in which man discovers himself to be "of the same blood." [...] "When I encountered Christ I discovered myself to be a man" said the Roman rhetor, Marius Victorinus. To say that man is "saved" means he recognizes who he is, he recognizes his destiny and knows how to direct his steps towards it. [...] The dynamic of an event, moreover, marks out the way of knowing in each new step it takes. **Without an "event," nothing new is known, no new element enters our awareness.** [...]

To come to know is to come face-to-face with something new, something outside ourselves, not built by us, something that breaks the mechanism of the things already established, the definitions already given. Cesare Pavese says, "Something external has to intervene in order to change direction." An event is therefore crucial for every "discovery," every type of knowledge. [...]

God became an event in our daily existence, so that our "I" might recognize itself with clarity in its original factors and attain its destiny, be saved. So it was for Mary and Joseph. So it was for John and Andrew, who followed Jesus, taking their cue from John the Baptist. God was entering their lives as an event. Whether they always kept it in mind or at times forgot it, especially during the early days and months, the whole of their lives depended on that event. Insofar as an event is important, you cannot retreat from it. That is how it was with them. This is how it is today with us: an event can mark the beginning of a journey. The event can point to a method for life. It is, in any case, an experience to be had. **This journey requires the engagement of the person who is struck by the event, and will eventually reveal the true meaning of what he or she has begun to glimpse: it is the development of a way of looking at things.**

Excerpts from text prepared for the work of High School Youth/Gioventù Studentesca (GS), based on *The Christian Event as an Encounter* by Servant of God Msgr. Luigi Giussani from *Generating Traces in the History of the World*. Source: www.english.clonline.org/cm-files/2019/12/16/the-christian-event-as-an-encounter-2-gs-giussani-2019.pdf



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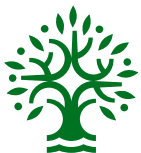
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PARISH STAFF GENERAL PHONE/FRONT DESK: (303) 469-5171

Pastor
Fr. Emanuele Fadini, FSCB
e.fadini@nool.us | ext. 166

Associate Pastor
Fr. Accursio Ciaccio, FSCB
a.ciaccio@nool.us | ext. 111

Associate Pastor
Fr. Matteo Invernizzi, FSCB
m.invernizzi@nool.us | ext. 117

Associate Pastor
Fr. John Roderick, FSCB
j.roderick@nool.us | ext. 167

In Residence
Fr. Michael Carvill, FSCB

Deacons:
Dcn. Huan Nguyen
h.nguyen@nool.us

Missionary Sisters of Saint Charles Borromeo
Sr. Teresa, MSCB
Sr. Marilú, MSCB
Sr. Mariagrazia, MSCB
sisters@nool.us

School Principal
Sebastian Calvino
s.calvino@nool.us | ext. 141

Parish Sacristan
Jesse Oliver
j.oliver@nool.us | ext. 136

Assistant Sacristan
Marylou Sivigliano
m.sivigliano@nool.us | ext. 136

Executive Assistant to the Pastor
Roberta Hebert
r.hebert@nool.us | ext. 142

Parish Registrar
Bridget Fross
b.fross@nool.us | ext. 110

Faith Alive Direct Number
(303) 731-0425

Director of Faith Formation
Fr. Matteo Invernizzi, FSCB
m.invernizzi@nool.us | ext. 104

Director of Religious Education
Diane Irby
d.irby@nool.us | ext. 103

Assistant Director of Faith Formation
Beverly Ketchel
b.ketchel@nool.us | ext. 104

High School & Venturers Youth Group Assistant
Cathy Schaffer
c.schaffer@nool.us

Director of Sacred Music
Frederick Proulx
f.proulx@nool.us | ext. 123

Children's Choir Director
Sister Mariagrazia
sisters@nool.us

Director of Stewardship
Diane Denfeld
d.denfeld@nool.us | ext. 106

Director of Communications
Urszula Lukaszuk
u.lukaszuk@nool.us | ext. 135

Events Coordinator
Ilene DuBey
i.dubey@nool.us | ext. 116

Administrator of Front Desk
Bonnie Skelton
b.skelton@nool.us | ext. 140

Pastoral Associate, Charity & Outreach
Lynne Gallagher
l.gallagher@nool.us | ext. 101

Business Manager
Kyle Hubbard
k.hubbart@nool.us | ext. 108

Accounting and HR Manager
Carol Sullivan
c.sullivan@nool.us | ext. 109

Accounting Assistants:
Suzie Sloan
s.sloan@nool.us | ext. 168

Candy Gritz
c.gritz@nool.us | ext. 119

IT Specialist
Jim DuBey
j.dubey@nool.us | ext. 115

Facilities Manager
Mike Hebert
m.hebert@nool.us | ext. 122

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