

REMAIN IN ME, AS I
REMAIN IN YOU.
JUST AS A BRANCH
CANNOT BEAR
FRUIT ON ITS OWN
UNLESS IT REMAINS
ON THE VINE,
SO NEITHER CAN
YOU UNLESS YOU
REMAIN IN ME.

JN 15:4



NATIVITY OF OUR LORD

APRIL 28, 2024

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

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

SACRISTY LAUNDRY

Doris Solano

COLLECTION COUNTERS

Mon, April 29 | 10 am

Ron Riedl

Cathy Suppes

Tricia Kreggeris

Bob Johnson

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 with a priest or Eucharistic minister at (303) 469-5171 Ext 101.

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, APRIL 27

9:30 am † William Burmeier
by Coffman Family
4:30 pm † Hazel & Joe VonFeldt
by Jackie and Ted

SUNDAY, APRIL 28

7:30 am † Teresa Roe by Ventura Family
9:30 am People of the Parish
11:30 am Nuala Prendergast
by Ellen Keeler
5:00 pm Holy Souls in Purgatory

MONDAY, APRIL 29

7:00 am Atencio Family
9:30 am † Jeri Wooten

TUESDAY, APRIL 30

7:00 am † Bruce Howe
by Dawn & Mike
9:30 am † Francisco Torres
by David Villecco

WEDNESDAY, MAY 1

7:00 am Cook Family of Chicago by Mel
9:30 am † Eric Mildedrath
by Rask Family

THURSDAY, MAY 2

7:00 am Donna Coleman by Mel
9:30 am Nicolas, Lucy, Lilly, and Alex
Rask by Grandma Rask

FRIDAY, MAY 3

7:00 am † Griselda Figueroa
by Kuzik Family
4:30 pm † Estela Avendano

SATURDAY, MAY 4

9:30 am † Don Larson
by Joan & Bob Atkin
4:30 am † Sally & Teddy Topolski
by Hermes Family

SUNDAY, MAY 5

7:30 am Souls in Purgatory
by Alma Cordova
9:30 am People of the Parish
11:30 am † Estela Avendano
5:00 pm Willy Smith Birthday Blessings
by Mom

CANCELED

MAY 3 PRESENTATION ON THE HOLY SITES

DUE TO TRAVEL RESTRICTIONS



900 W. MIDWAY BLVD. 
BROOMFIELD, CO 80020

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



Photo: An evening of songs and celebration at the parish of San Juan Bautista, Fuenlabrada, Spain

By Fr. Emmanuele Silanos, F.S.C.B.

WHERE CHRIST IS LIVING

Why do you seek the living among the dead? It is the question that the angel asks the women on the morning of Easter. The same question is addressed to us, today.

Why do you seek the living among the dead? This is the question that the angel, on the morning of Easter, asks the women, who are crying and desperate, before the empty tomb.

They got up early and went to seek Jesus, images of what we too are, of what every man or woman is by their nature: seekers. It doesn't matter what kind of work we do, our personal history. The vocation of each one of us is the same: "to seek," to seek God.

We too, like the women, get up in the morning; a bit sleepy, we get dressed; we eat breakfast and are out the door, each one to complete his own task, his own work; each person moved, without being totally aware of it, by that same anxiety of women that went, on that morning, to the tomb. We set out seeking God within the things of life, but often we seek Him in the wrong place, among the dead and not among the living.

Why do you seek the living among the dead? What comes to mind for me are the gold miners, those from the United States in the latter part of the 19th century, made immortal by Charlie Chaplin in his *Gold Rush*, or like those in the beginning of the documentary of Wim Wenders, *The Salt of the Earth*, which depicts the life of a gold mine in modern-day Brazil: thousands of men of whom cannot be distinguished neither their face nor their ethnicity; that are all confused, like robots, in an enormous cave under the sun. And in silence, one above the other, they seek. They seek gold. They seek happiness. They seek God among the

dead. And so it is for many of our brother men, who spend their lives seeking gold in wrong places.

We too can seek God among the dead. We too can reduce God to the image that we have our own satisfaction: work, money, people's approval...

Why do you seek the living among the dead? It is so beautiful, this definition of Jesus: His principal characteristic is that of being living. Fr. Giussani often cited St. Irenaeus, "The glory of God is man fully alive," and Christ is He who is alive par excellence. This is the response to our world, that in order to construct a new man needed to kill God and make itself into a god.

It is the place where Christ is to be sought: His Church, our communion. It is here that today Christ is living.

Man needed to kill God to rebuild himself with his own hands and his own imagination, but the human being that is brought forth in this way no longer has an identity because he does not know his origins any longer; he no longer knows to whom he belongs. The result is a humanity that is immersed in a world that is more and more fake, in an existence that is always more attracted to death, which is invoked as a universal right. If God is dead, it is death that triumphs.

So then, where does one go to seek Christ? Let's take a step back from Easter

morning and return to three in the afternoon of Friday, when Jesus, a moment before his agony ends, recites Psalm 21, which begins: *My God, why have You abandoned me?* Then, bowing His head, He dies. We do not know if He recited the whole thing or if He stopped at those first, dramatic verses, but certainly, He knew that psalm well. It is very long and begins with an exact description of what He had already suffered, or, in other words, the account of His passion; and it continues with a second part where it affirms the victory of God, that ransoms His servant and His people.

The psalm, at this point, changes register and is filled with hope and certainty: *They will praise the Lord, those who seek Him.* So as to say that the desperate seeking of God on the part of men will finally find a response. Then, it continues: *And I will live for Him.* Jesus on the cross, a moment before dying, affirms that His destiny is to live: He who is dying is the living man.

The psalm goes on indicating where to go to seek Him: To a people yet unborn, they will proclaim: "Behold, the work of the Lord." This last part is the most moving: "Behold, the work of the Lord." On the cross, reciting this prayer, Jesus affirms before history what is the work of the Lord: the work of God is His people. Christ already has under His eyes, under the cross, that beginning of a people in His Mother, in John, in the women: the beginning of the Church that is born from the sacraments,

Continue to Page 4 >>

baptism and the Eucharist, that surge from His side. It is the place where Christ is to be sought: His Church, our communion. It is here that today Christ is living. In particular, where His presence is most luminous, in who, that is, re-lives in their flesh His existence, His sacrifice. In all of those who freely accept the way they are asked to give their own lives. In the martyrs, above all, and then in those who are sick, in those who are in difficulty, but also in each one of us, if we live every instant of our live as an offering to God and to men, if we live our existence, even at its most simple and ordinary, as vocation. It is in this communion that we must go to seek Him today: because He is not a God of the dead, but of the living.

Fr. Emmanuele Silanos, F.S.C.B.

Source:
sancarlo.org/en/dove-cristo-e-vivo

PRAY THE ROSARY WITH US IN MAY

MONDAY-FRIDAY
 AFTER 7 AM & 9:30 MASS

SATURDAY, 8:50 AM

SUNDAY, 11 AM

May is traditionally dedicated in a special way to honoring and seeking the intercession of Mary as the Mother of God and Mother of the Church. Special times of prayer are being offered and all are encouraged to add the Rosary into their daily routine. Come, pray the Rosary with us!

"One cannot recite the Rosary without feeling caught up in a clear commitment to advancing peace, especially in the land of Jesus, still so sorely afflicted and so close to the heart of every Christian."

—St. John Paul II



PARISH CALENDAR

SATURDAY, APRIL 27

8:00 am | Marian Movement of Priests Cenacle
 8:15 am | School of Community (CL)*
 8:50 am | Pro-Life Rosary
 11:00 am | Restored Order Mass

SUNDAY, APRIL 28

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

MONDAY, APRIL 29

10:00 am | School of Community (CL)*
 11:00 am | ENDOW
 1:00 pm | CGS Level 1 & 2
 4:00 pm | CGS Level 2
 6:30 pm | Catechetical School Class
 6:30 pm | Spanish Prayer Group
 7:30 pm | St. Joseph Men's Group

TUESDAY, APRIL 30

10:00 am | CGS Level 1
 1:00 pm | Adult Bible Study: *The Lamb's Supper: The Mass as Heaven on Earth*
 4:00 pm | CGS Level 1 Session 2
 4:00 pm | Children's Choir Rehearsal
 6:00 pm | Young Adults Pickup Volleyball
 6:00 pm | RE Grades 1-5
 6:30 pm | Adult Catechism Study
 6:30 pm | Venturers of the Star (Middle School Youth Group)

WEDNESDAY, MAY 1

5:30 am | St. Joseph Men's Group
 8:15 am | ENDOW
 10:30 am | Book Club
 4:00 pm | RE Grades 1-5
 5:45 pm | KofC Business Meeting
 6:00 pm | Boy Scouts Troop 766
 6:30 pm | Healing from Divorce Workshop
 7:30 pm | University Students (CLU)*
 School of Community

THURSDAY, MAY 2

12:00 pm | Eucharistic Adoration begins in the church
 12:30 pm | Staff School of Community (CL)*
 6:00 pm | Music Ministry Rehearsal
 6:00 pm | Sacrament Preparation with Deacon Haun
 6:30 pm | *Adult Bible Study—The Gospel of Mark: Faith Not Fear*
 7:30 pm | School of Community (CL)*

FRIDAY, MAY 3

7:30 am | Men of Emmaus
 9:00 am | ENDOW
 10:00 am | School of Community (CL)*
 6:30 pm | The Holy Sites Presentation

SATURDAY, MAY 4

8:00 am | Marian Movement of Priests Cenacle
 8:15 am | School of Community (CL)*
 8:50 am | Pro-Life Rosary
 11:00 am | Restored Order Mass

SUNDAY, MAY 5

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

*(CL, CLU) Communion & Liberation

DAILY READINGS

SATURDAY, APRIL 27

Reading 1: Acts 13:44-52
 Psalm: 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4
 Gospel: Jn 14:7-14

SUNDAY, APRIL 28

Reading 1: Acts 9:26-31
 Psalm: 22:26-27, 28, 30, 31-32
 Reading 2: 1 Jn 3:18-24
 Gospel: Jn 15:1-8

MONDAY, APRIL 29

Memorial of Saint Catherine of Siena, Virgin and Doctor of the Church

Reading 1: Acts 14:5-18
 Psalm: 115:1-2, 3-4, 15-16
 Gospel: Jn 14:21-26

TUESDAY, APRIL 30

Reading 1: Acts 14:19-28
 Psalm: 145:10-11, 12-13ab, 21
 Gospel: Jn 14:27-31a

WEDNESDAY, MAY 1

Reading 1: Acts 15:1-6
 Psalm: 122:1-2, 3-4ab, 4cd-5
 Gospel: Jn 15:1-8

THURSDAY, MAY 2

Memorial of Saint Athanasius, Bishop and Doctor of the Church

Reading 1: Acts 15:7-21
 Psalm: 96:1-2a, 2b-3, 10
 Gospel: Jn 15:9-11

FRIDAY, MAY 3

Feast of Saints Philip and James, Apostles

Reading 1: 1 Cor 15:1-8
 Psalm: 19:2-3, 4-5
 Gospel: Jn 14:6-14

SATURDAY, MAY 4

Reading 1: Acts 16:1-10
 Psalm: 100:1b-2, 3, 5
 Gospel: Jn 15:18-21

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

www.nool.us



Cardinal James Francis Stafford, Archbishop Emeritus of Denver, conversing with Nativity children during the gathering of Families of St. John Paul II on Sunday, April 21, 2024

Excerpt of the interview entitled, "The Final Testament of a Friend" with Cardinal James Francis Stafford, for *Inside the Vatican*, January–February 2024 issue, p. 36–39

What are the greatest challenges facing the Church today?

They are four: 1) to recapture the Trinitarian and Incarnational foundations of the Church; 2) to gain knowledge of the Jewishness of Jesus of Nazareth; 3) to strengthen its theological anthropology, that is, what it means to be man and woman. These challenges, religious, historical, anthropological, and the West's responses, are changing the understanding of God and of western peoples; and 4) to reflect on the relationships of the Seven Ecumenical Councils from the First Council of Nicaea held in 325 and the Second Council of Nicaea held in 787.

Above, I have developed what is meant by the first challenge. The second challenge is knowledge of the Second Temple Era of Jewish history that formed Jesus of Nazareth in his youth and adulthood.

Such knowledge does not come from surmises, but from the study of the Second Temple Era of Judaism.

Eventually, the results need to become a part of the catechesis in parishes. My own thought is that Catholics should have a close historical familiarity with the Jewishness of Jesus.

The third challenge, the significance of being created as man and woman, requires us to recover "our original language," the language of the human body. It requires a deeper theological anthropology concerning the meaning of man and woman. "So God created man in the image of Himself, in the image of God He created them, male and female He created them" (Gen 1 :27). God saw that creation, together with this original language of the human body, was "very good indeed" (Gen 1: 31).

The fourth challenge deals with the relationship between the Trinitarian-Christological teachings of the first seven Ecumenical Councils and the historical Jesus in the New Testament.

St. John of the Cross has drawn up a map – the most important map I've ever read. His map depicts the pathway that leads the climber to the summit of Mt. Carmel. The steps up to the top are notable for their simplicity – each step up is entitled with the Spanish word "*nada*" – in fact, all the steps are marked with this word, "Nothing." On the summit of Mt. Carmel, St. John says that there is "nothing." Five times he writes "*nada*" – "nothing" on the summit.

He further writes, "Even on the summit there is "*nada* – nothing," with this momentous exception: "*Only the honor and glory of God dwells on this*

summit." Both the means to reach the summit and the summit itself are attained for life and in death must be done for "the honor and glory of God alone."

St. John of the Cross concludes his narrative map, "Now that we no longer desire either the goods of heaven or of the earth; we have them all without desire."

This is the highest wisdom, the realization of the promise God made to the Jewish people if they obeyed Him: "I brought you into a plentiful land to eat its fruits and its good things." (Jer 2: 7).

Rest, finally, in the contemplation of the sacrament of the Body given up for you and of the Blood poured out for you in all of its raw, dark, human, satanic violence and unfathomable, incomprehensible, unmerited, self-emptying Trinitarian love. ■

Cardinal James Francis Stafford, 91, was born and raised in Baltimore, Maryland, an only child. He entered Loyola College Maryland in Baltimore, planning a legal career, but the death in 1952 of two close friends caused Stafford to rethink his future and become a priest. After serving as Archbishop of Denver, Colorado, from 1986-1996, he was made president of the Pontifical Council for the Laity from 1996 to 2003, and then the major penitentiary of the Apostolic Penitentiary 2003-2009. He was made a cardinal by Pope John Paul II in 1998.

Join, TODAY, the growing number of parishioners whose relationship with Jesus has moved them to generously commit to a monthly recurring gift to the Archbishop's Catholic Appeal by visiting

www.archden.org/givetoday

or call 303-867-0614.

DONATE



All Nativity parishioners had the opportunity to greet Cardinal Stafford in person during the gathering of Families of St. John Paul II on Sunday, April 21, 2024.



The encounter with Cardinal Stafford was marked with joy as he spoke to each person from the very depth of his faith.



Our parish is grateful for Cardinal Stafford's visit and for helping us deepen our faith in the Trinitarian love of God.

YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS AT WORK: CATHOLIC HOME MISSIONS APPEAL

APRIL 27-28, 2024

This weekend, there is a special collection supporting Catholic Home Missions. What Is a Home Mission Diocese? Home mission dioceses are those Catholic dioceses in the United States, its territories, and former territories that cannot provide basic pastoral services without outside help. Basic pastoral services include Mass, the sacraments, religious education, and ministry training for priests, deacons, religious sisters, and laypeople. Nearly 40% of dioceses in the United States and its territories are considered home missions. Our parish will be giving to this collection as part of our tithe. Nativity contributes 10% of our offertory collection each year to support ministries, charities, and special needs. We are able to support these because of the generous stewardship of our parishioners.



Photo: Diocese of Houma-Thibodaux, LA

DAILY READINGS

SATURDAY, APRIL 20

Reading 1: Acts 9:31-42
Psalm: 116:12-13, 14-15, 16-17
Gospel: Jn 6:60-69

SUNDAY, APRIL 21

Reading 1: Acts 4:8-12
Psalm: 118:1, 8-9, 21-23, 26, 28, 29
Reading 2: 1 Jn 3:1-2
Gospel: Jn 10:11-18

MONDAY, APRIL 22

Reading 1: Acts 11:1-18
Psalm: 42:2-3; 43:3, 4
Gospel: Jn 10:1-10

TUESDAY, APRIL 23

Reading 1: Acts 11:19-26
Psalm: 87:1b-3, 4-5, 6-7
Gospel: Jn 10:22-30

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 24

Reading 1: Acts 12:24-13:5a
Psalm: 67:2-3, 5, 6 and 8
Gospel: Jn 12:44-50

THURSDAY, APRIL 25

Feast of Saint Mark, Evangelist

Reading 1: 1 Pt 5:5b-14
Psalm: 89:2-3, 6-7, 16-17
Gospel: Mk 16:15-20

FRIDAY, APRIL 26

Reading 1: Acts 13:26-33
Psalm: 2:6-7, 8-9, 10-11ab
Gospel: Jn 14:1-6

SATURDAY, APRIL 27

Reading 1: Acts 13:44-52
Psalm: 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4
Gospel: Jn 14:7-14

NATIVITY BOOK CLUB BEGINS WEDNESDAY, MAY 1, 2024 10 AM - 12:00 PM NATIVITY'S BRIDE ROOM

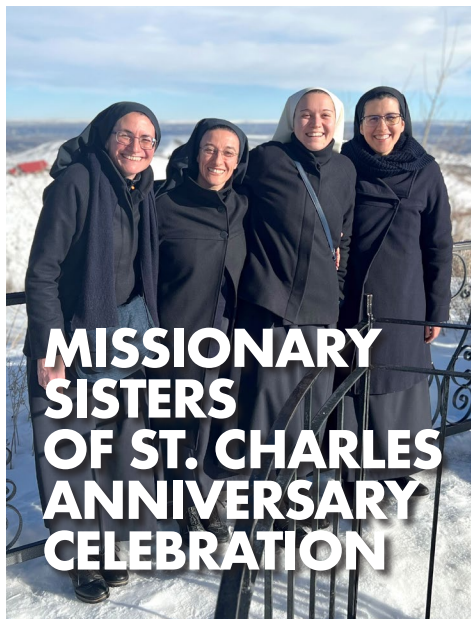
All parishioners are invited to join!

QUESTIONS?

Contact Mary Casswell, 303-466-6754

UPCOMING: PRAYER IN THE SQUARE

SATURDAY, MAY 4, 10:15 AM
N. MIDWAY PARK



NEW DATE:
FRIDAY, MAY 24, 2024
6:30-8:30 PM
NATIVITY CABRINI HALL

PLEASE SIGN UP

Missionary Sisters of St. Charles will have their annual anniversary celebration on May 24. All parishioners are invited to join them for a joyful evening.

Light refreshments and desserts will be served. Please sign up at the front desk, or call 303-469-5171 so the sisters know how much food to prepare. There is no cost.

The Missionary Sisters of St. Charles were born from the desire of several young women to share the ideals of the Priestly Fraternity of the Missionaries of St. Charles Borromeo. The mission of the Sisters is to bear witness to the beauty, truth, and freedom they experience in their encounter with Christ and familiarity with Him. They are available for all tasks and professions that can serve this purpose and where their presence is required. One of the aspects of Sisters' life is being called to establish new places where they can live the relationship with God—and from this experience—be open to dialogue with the whole world.



**YOUNG ADULTS
PICKUP VOLLEYBALL
TUESDAYS | 6-8 PM
APRIL 9-SEPTEMBER 24
NATIVITY OF OUR LORD**

Please join Nativity's Young Adults Group for Pickup Volleyball every Tuesday through the summer at Nativity of Our Lord, just by the basketball courts. It is absolutely free. Just show up, have fun, and join us for fellowship afterwards.

QUESTIONS?

Please feel free to contact Fr. John or Miguel at northcatsdenver@gmail.com.

JUST SHOW UP

RELIGIOUS ARTICLES FROM THE HOLY LAND MAY 4-5, 2024 FOLLOWING ALL MASSES

Bethlehem Handicrafts will showcase a collection of olive wood carvings & gifts from the Holy Land following each Mass on May 4-5. Our goal is to pass our faith on to generations of Christians through beautiful statues, crosses, rosaries, and other artistic displays, ensuring that our faith is alive and well in the Holy Land. By buying our art pieces, you help give Christian families from the Holy Land a livelihood and dignity to endure difficult times. By purchasing our items, you are directly supporting the presence and future of Christians in the Holy Land!

For more information and to view available products, please visit:

www.bethlehemhandicrafts.com



MIDDLE SCHOOL YOUTH SUMMER VACATION JUNE 3-7, 2024 YMCA OF THE ROCKIES ESTES PARK

The vacation is open to anyone entering grades 6-9 in the fall of 2024.

COST: \$550

More information:

www.nool.us/middle-school



REGISTER

GRADES 7-12

Sun-Thu, June 9-13 | 7:00-9:00 pm

GRADES 1-6

Mon-Fri, June 10-14 | 9:00 am-2:30 pm

QUESTIONS?

Contact Diane Irby at d.irby@nool.us, 303-731-0425

www.nool.us/totus-tuus

TOTUS TUUS is a summer program dedicated to sharing the Gospel and promoting the Catholic faith through catechesis, fellowship, faith witness, and Eucharist, and it is to help young people develop their intimate friendship with Jesus Christ.



REGISTER

FROM ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

The St. Vincent de Paul Society in the United States celebrates the last Sunday of April as Ozanam Sunday. Ozanam Sunday honors the work of Blessed Frederic Ozanam (1813-1853), who is recognized as the prime founder of the St. Vincent de Paul Society.

Prior to starting the society on April 23, 1833 in France, Frederic and his fellow students or university friends sought to “study and discuss history, philosophy, and religious research” from a Christian perspective. One of the students at these gatherings challenged Frederic and his friends by asking, “What is your Church doing today to meet the needs of society?” This led Frederic and his companions to confront this claim by reaching out to the poor. They were particularly mentored in this work by Blessed Rosalie Rendu (1786-1856), a sister who was known for her outreach and service in the impoverished quarters of Paris. Sister Rosalie showed Frederic and his friends that “respect” and “friendship” for those they served would be key in this work. St. Vincent de Paul (1581-1660), known as the Apostle of Charity, would serve as an inspiration for this mission. (See Manual of The Society of St. Vincent de Paul, Inc., National Council of the United States.)

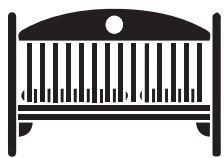
Conferences across the country and around the world are still inspired by Frederic Ozanam. Sunnie Lain points out in a September 3, 2015 blog post, that Frederic Ozanam’s legacy lives on. Frederic says, “Be creative. Be inventive.” He also encourages us to “... launch out; Do not wait!”

For more information on how our local St. Vincent de Paul chapter helps the poor, see our Flocknote site at nool.flocknote.com/svdppv.

Donate to Nativity SVdP using the QR code



NATIVITY ANNUAL BABY SHOWER MAY 12-JUNE 16, 2024



Nativity's annual baby shower for local pregnancy centers and homes for mothers will

begin in two weeks. We will be collecting donations from Mother's Day, May 12 through Father's Day, June 16. You may drop your donations off at the crib in the gathering area. We will donate to Boulder Pregnancy Resource Center, Marisol Health in Denver and Marisol Family, and The Little Flower Maternity Home In Louisville. Thank you for your generous participation in this event!

BABY SHOWER REQUESTS:

Diapers, sizes: newborn - 3, 4, 5, and 6. Pull-ups, sizes 4-6T. Wipes (unscented/sensitive skin). Baby lotions, shampoos,

washes. Baby bath towels, wash cloths. Diaper rash products. Newborn nasal aspirators. Baby thermometers. Nail clippers. Pacifiers. Bibs. Knit caps. Booties/shoes/socks (NB - age 2). Bottles. Enfamil Formula. Burp cloths. Blankets. Swaddling/receiving blankets. Nursing pads. Nursing pillows (Boppy brand). Diaper bags. Baby clothes (boys & girls, NB-2T), specific request for summer. Toddler clothing up to size 5T (high need for these). Boys clothing size 2 & 3. Socks: boys and girls. Gently used baby clothing & children's clothing up to size 5T, especially toddler clothing 2T-5T. Children's books. Books: *What to Expect When You Are Expecting* and *What to Expect the First Year* (used is fine). Maternity clothes, new or gently used. Larger size maternity leggings. Men's gifts, like socks, shampoos, deodorants, beef jerky, combs. Gift cards (\$5-\$10).

QUESTIONS?

Please contact **Janet Carpenter**, janetacarpenter@comcast.net.

NATIVITY COFFEE & DONUTS

Served every Sunday after the 7:30 am, 9:30 am, and 11:30 am Masses.



ABIDE IN ME, AND I IN YOU

POPE FRANCIS | REGINA CAELI | Sunday, May 2, 2021

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

In the Gospel of this Fifth Sunday of Easter (Jn 15:1-8), the Lord presents himself as the **true vine**, and speaks of us as **branches that cannot live without being united to him**. He says: “I am the vine, you are the branches” (v. 5). **There is no vine without branches, and vice versa**. Branches are not self-sufficient, but depend totally on the vine, which is the source of their existence. [...] Jesus insists on the verb “to abide.” [...] He says, “*Abide in me, and I in you*” (v. 4). This abiding is not a question of abiding passively, of “slumbering” in the Lord, letting oneself be lulled by life. [...] The abiding in him, the abiding in Jesus that he proposes to us is to abide actively, and also reciprocally. Why? Because the branches can do nothing without the vine, they need sap to grow and to bear fruit; but the vine, too, needs the branches, because fruit does not grow on the tree trunk. **It is a reciprocal need, it is a question of a reciprocal abiding so as to bear fruit**. We abide in Jesus and Jesus abides in us.

First of all, we need him. The Lord wants to tell us that before the observance of his commandments, before the beatitudes, before works of mercy, it is necessary to be united to him, to abide in him. We cannot be good Christians if we do not abide in Jesus. With him, instead, we can do all things (cf. Phil 4:13). With him we can do all things.

But Jesus needs us too, like the vine with the branches. [...] He **needs our witness**. The fruit that as branches we must bear, is the witness of our lives as Christians. After Jesus ascended to the Father, it is the task of the disciples – it is our task – to continue to proclaim the Gospel in words and in deeds. And the disciples – we, Jesus’ disciples – do so by bearing witness to his love: **the fruit to be borne is love**. Attached to Christ, we receive the gifts of the Holy Spirit, and thus we can do good to our neighbor, we can do good to society, to the Church. [...] And how can we achieve this? Jesus says to us: “*If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask whatever you will, and it shall be done for you*” (v.7). [...] The fruitfulness of our life depends on prayer. We can ask to think like him, to act like him, to see the world and things with the eyes of Jesus. And in this way, love our brothers and sisters, starting from the poorest and those who suffer most, like he did, loving them with his heart and bringing to the world fruits of goodness, fruits of charity, fruits of peace.

Let us entrust ourselves to the intercession of the Virgin Mary. She always remained completely united to Jesus. [...]



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Fraternity: “The Fraternity is a companionship made up of people that are placed together by an Other. [...] Each of us [...] is continually accompanied by Christ through his brothers.”

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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 Department:

Carol Sullivan
c.sullivan@nool.us | ext. 109

Josh Meier

j.meier@nool.us | ext. 150

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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