

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

Phone: (303) 469-5171 Fax: (303) 469-5172 School: (303) 466-4177

900 W. Midway Blvd. Broomfield, CO 80020



SACRISTY LAUNDRY

Marilyn Reichert

COLLECTION COUNTERS Tue, Jan 2 | 10 am

Ron Riedl Patty Konndratko Jeanette Nansel Tricia Kreggeris

EUCHARISTIC 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 回滾起回 OR SCAN QR CODE

OPEN FOR WALK-INS MONDAY-FRIDAY

8:00 am-5:00 pm



SOLEMNITY OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY, THE MOTHER OF GOD

MONDAY. JANUARY 1, 2024

MASS: 9:30 AM

Not a holy day of obligation as it falls on a Monday. There will be no 7:00 am Mass.

VISITING THE SICK AND HOMEBOUND

Do vou know or do vou 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.

OFFICE/FRONT DESK & ADORATION CHAPEL CLOSURE

MONDAY, **JANUARY 1, 2024**

In Observance of New Year's Day.

MASS INTENTIONS

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 30

9:30 am † Abel Ramos by Kathleen

4:30 pm † Kathleen Jansen by Mary Baylie

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 31

7:30 am Boris Navarrete by Veronica Harris

9:30 am People of the Parish

11:30 am Courtney & Ryan Meneghin

by Mary Baylie 5:00 pm † Alex Welch

by Mari & Dan Welch

MONDAY, JANUARY 1, 2024

NO 7:00 AM MASS

9:30 am Sandy Deedon by Golden Family

TUESDAY, JANUARY 2, 2024

7:00 am Poor Souls in Purgatory 9:30 am Anja Gilpin by Tracy Hogan

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 3, 2024

7:00 am Kenneth H. Moore by 9:30 am † Theresa Vui by La

THURSDAY, JANUARY 4, 2024

7:00 am Father Emanuele

9:30 am † Gioa Kim Luong by La

FRIDAY, JANUARY 5, 2024

7:00 am All Suffering from

Huntington's Disease by D. B.

9:30 am † Anne Gaffney by Terri McMichael

SATURDAY, JANUARY 6, 2024

9:30 am † James Brown

by Jeff & Terri Brown

4:30 pm Intentions of Sharon Ramos

and Family by Kathleen

SUNDAY, JANUARY 7, 2024

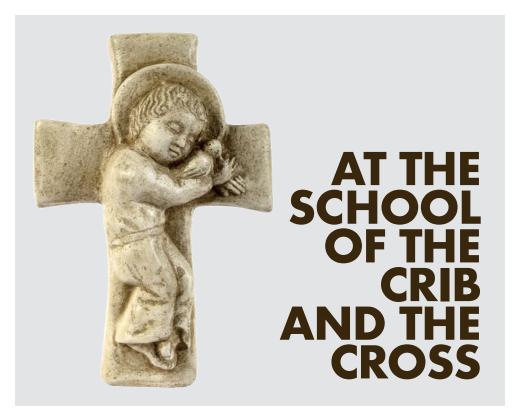
7:30 am † Fr. Roger Geditz

by Larry & Bev Grau

9:30 am People of the Parish

11:30 am Sandy Deedon by Golden Family

5:00 pm Dustin Stanton by Family



hroughout Advent, I have been drawn to reflect on the mystery of the Nativity scene we have in front of the altar. During the entrance procession and the final prayer to St. Michael the Archangel, I took a moment to stop and look at what was taking place inside the stable. Over the past weeks, I have enjoyed seeing the gradual arrival of more figures and animals. It has been a constant reminder that I, too, want to go to Bethlehem and see what is taking place. On the first Sunday of Advent, there was just one sheep, and a few days later, another one, and afterward, the arrival of a shepherd boy off to the side, a little hesitant to go in. Now, the stable is a little crowded: Mary and Joseph have arrived along with the ox and donkey, and we celebrated the birth of the Christ child on December 25.

During these weeks, I became more aware that I am not only kneeling before the altar and tabernacle prior to and after Mass, but I am also kneeling in front of four significant events in Jesus' life. The manger scene helped me to see the unity between them in a way I had not felt before. Each of them reveals an important aspect of the incredible nature of the gift of His body: 1) The Birth of the Christ child in Bethlehem, 2) The Mystery of the Last Supper, 2) The Death of Jesus on the Cross, and 4) The Resurrected body of Christ present at Mass. Each one of these mysteries in the life of Christ helps to illuminate the meaning

of the other and together form an icon, a type of window that opens to a fuller revelation of the mystery of Christ. In this reflection, I would like to highlight a few of these elements that will hopefully invite us to have a greater appreciation and participation in the Eucharist to accompany us this Christmas season.

The Birth of the Christ Child.

"The angel said to them, 'Behold, I bring good tidings of great joy which will be to all people; for there is born to you this day a Savior, who is Christ the Lord'" (Luke 2:10-11). The Evangelist narrates the words of the angel to the poor shepherds who invited them to witness the birth of the Savior. These words echo and bring to fulfillment those of the prophet Isaiah: "Unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given" (9:5). The good tidings of the birth of Jesus are announced as being a personal gift from God "to all people" as well as personally "to you." During the Christmas season, we are invited to remember that the baby Iesus is, first and foremost, a personal gift to each of us from the Father. To you is born and given this child. The entire trajectory of Jesus' life is a personal gift to us and to the whole world. Everything he lived, gave, and suffered in his body, from the mystery of the Last Supper to his death on the Cross and his Resurrection, is a personal gift from the Father. This is beautifully summarized in the words of the Nicene Creed: "For us men and for our salvation, he came down from heaven."

"Mary wrapped him in swaddling clothes and laid him in a manger' (Luke 2:7). As early as the second century, there exists a tradition that Jesus was born in a cave (St. Justin Martyr). Some early Christian writers saw this as a prefiguration of Jesus being placed in the tomb after his death on the Cross. In fact, from as early as the fourth century, the Christmas icon of the Eastern Orthodox Church developed this intimate connection between Christmas and Easter, between the crib and the Cross. The Christ child wrapped in swaddling cloths was interpreted as prefiguring the garments that would shroud him in his death. Another fact is that Jesus was born amongst animals and sheep. This moved some to interpret Jesus as the true sacrificial lamb and the manger as a type of altar. St. Augustine underlined the close connection between the manger and the Eucharist. The manger is the feed box where animals find their food. For the fact that Jesus was laid in a manger, he commented that Jesus would be the true bread to come down from heaven to give all people who eat of it eternal life.



Giotto, *Birth of Jesus*, fresco, 1304-1306, detail, Scrovegni Chapel, Padua, Italy; USPD

The Mystery of the Last Supper.

During the Last Supper, Jesus took bread and said, "This is my body, which will be given for you; do this in memory of me," and afterward, he took the wine, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood, which will be shed for you" (Luke 22:19-20). The words of the

institution of the Eucharist echo the personal gift of Christ's body from the Father that we celebrate at Christmas. In a similar fashion to the Christmas story, God the Father will send forth the Holy Spirit, just as He did during the Annunciation to Mary. He will suspend the laws of nature and irrupt into the created reality of bread and wine and transform them into Jesus' body and



Juan de Juanes, The Last Supper, oil on panel, 1555-1562, detail, Museo Nacional del Prado Madrid; USPD

blood. Jesus' words over the bread and wine will become the interpretative key to unlocking the mystery of his death on the Cross. Jesus will not passively suffer his death but will make his death a complete gift of His body in love for the forgiveness of sins and salvation of the world.

St. John the Evangelist beautifully highlights the divine origin of the gift and its universal destination during the bread of life discourse in Chapter 6 of his Gospel. Jesus says, "Amen, amen, I say to you, it was not Moses who gave the bread from heaven; my Father gives you the true bread from heaven. For the bread of God is that which comes down from heaven and gives life to the world." (6:32-33). It is through the gift of Jesus' body in the Holy Eucharist that the world finds its true life. Jesus' body is the vehicle through which he shares the divine life with his friends.

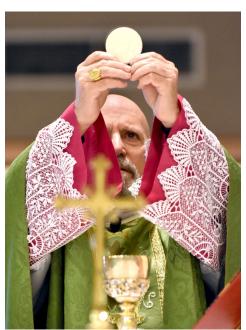
The Death of Jesus on the Cross. Above the Nativity scene in front of the altar, there is a large and imposing crucifix. What is the relationship between the crib and the Cross? St. John the Evangelist again helps us to understand the mystery of Christ's death according to the logic of gift when he writes, "For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him might not perish but might have eternal life" (3:16). The Evangelist invites his community to recognize the Father's

plan of salvation through the gratuitous gift of his Son in the manger. The Father's plan is for Jesus to completely embrace and transform the mystery of sin and death through his death and resurrection, and thus open to all humanity the possibility of eternal life, of renewed familiarity and intimacy with the Father.

St. John reiterates this logic of gift and love when Jesus says, "This is why the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. No one takes it from me, but I lay it down on my own. I have power to lay it down, and power to take it up again" (10:17-18). The death of Jesus on the Cross is not something he suffered passively but it is the pinnacle of the complete gift of himself to the will of the Father out of love for the salvation of the world. In a paradoxical manner, it is only through the death of Christ on the Cross that the wellsprings of eternal life are opened for the whole world.

The Resurrected Body of Christ.

In a sacramental manner, the celebration of the Mass is the living continuation of all the above-mentioned mysteries of the life of Christ. God the Father pours out the Holy Spirit, as he did at the time of the Incarnation, during the consecration; the bread and wine are transformed into



the body and blood of Christ, which in turn are offered to the Father through the same sacrifice of Jesus on the Cross. This is the reason why there should always be crucifix on the altar. In a mysterious manner, the Father receives the sacrifice and gives back the Resurrected body of Christ in the Eucharist to be shared and given to all the faithful.

During this Christmas season, let us not move our gaze too quickly from the manger scene in front of the altar! We are called to continuously place ourselves at the school of Mary and learn from her the most human way to make space in our hearts to welcome the Christ child as she did throughout her entire life. As we continue to celebrate the mystery of Christ's birth, let us ask her to guide us to a more intimate relationship with her son Jesus, fully present in the great gift of the Holy **Eucharist.**

By Fr. John Roderick, FSCB

PRAY THE ROSARY WITH US

SATURDAY

8:50 am | Pro-Life Rosary **SUNDAY**

11:00 am | Parishioners' Rosary

We are called to continuously place ourselves at the school of Mary and learn from her the most human way to make space in our hearts to welcome the Christ child as she did throughout her entire life.

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

www.nool.us

PARISH CALENDAR

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 30

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

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 31

11:00 am | Parishioners' Rosary

MONDAY, JANUARY 1, 2024 Solemnity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Mother of God

FRONT DESK/OFFICE CLOSED

TUESDAY, JANUARY 2, 2024

6:30 pm | Adult Catechism Study

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 3, 2024

5:30 am | St. Joseph Men's Group 5:45 pm | Knights of Columbus Business Meeting 6:00 pm | Stephen Ministry Training 7:30 pm | University Students (CLU)*

THURSDAY, JANUARY 4, 2024

8:15 am | ENDOW

12:00 pm | Eucharistic Adoration begins in the church

6:00 pm | Sacrament Preparation with Deacon Huan

7:30 pm | School of Community (CL)*

FRIDAY, JANUARY 5, 2024

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

SATURDAY, JANUARY 6, 2024

8:00 am | Marian Movement of Priests Cenacle 8:15 am | School of Community (CL)* 8:50 am | Pro Life Rosary 10:15 am | Altar Server Training

SUNDAY, JANUARY 7, 2024 THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

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

ACCESS CATHOLIC PROGRAMMING DURING THE CHRISTMAS SEASON

Register for free at nool.formed.org

to access faithful Catholic content: award-winning studies, lectures, documentaries, audiobooks, movies, and family-friendly kids' programming.

ARE YOU A REGISTERED PARISHIONER?

It is not uncommon for people to come to Mass regularly and not be registered as parishioners.

We would like to encourage all to register. In Christianity, the term "parish" denotes the Church community living in the Kingdom of God now in this world with a view to its fulfillment in the heavenly Kingdom. When we register with a parish we acknowledge that it is our wish to travel down this road of Life and Faith with a particular community. Living in a culture that no longer supports religious values, the local parish plays an integral role in helping to guide and support us through its educational and formational programs, celebrations of the Word, and Sacraments. By these means, the parish helps us grow in wisdom and love for the Lord and embraces the infinite needs of our hearts.

To register, go to our website home page, www.nool.us, where you will find a registration link or use the direct registration link below. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to call Diane Denfeld at 303-469-5171.

NOOL.CCBCHURCH.COM/GOTO/ FORMS/8/RESPONSES/NEW



SAVE THE DATE: NATIVITY MEN'S LENTEN RETREAT MARCH 15-17, 2024 FRIDAY-SUNDAY YMCA OF THE ROCKIES **ESTES PARK**

QUESTIONS? Contact: Bob Patton at 720-883-1893 or catholicmensgroup@nool.us

More details and registration information are coming soon.

DAILY READINGS

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 30

The Sixth Day in the Octave of Christmas

Reading 1: 1 Jn 2:12-17 Psalm: 96:7-8a, 8b-9, 10 Gospel: Lk 2:36-40

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 31

Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph Reading 1: Sir 3:2-6, 12-14 OR: Gn 15:1-6; 21:1-3 Psalm: 128:1-2, 3, 4-5 OR Ps 105:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9 Reading 2: Col 3:12-21 OR 3:12-17 OR: Heb 11:8, 11-12, 17-19 Gospel: LK 2:22-40 OR: Lk 2:22, 39-40

MONDAY, JANUARY 1, 2024 Solemnity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Mother of God; The Octave Day of Christmas Reading 1: Nm 6:22-27 Psalm: 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8 Reading 2: Gal 4:4-7 Gospel: Lk 2:16-21

TUESDAY, JANUARY 2, 2024Memorial of Saints Basil the Great
and Gregory Nazianzen, Bishops and Doctors of the Church Reading 1: 1 Jn 2:22-28 Psalm: 98:1, 2-3AB, 3CD-4

Gospel: In 1:19-28

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 3, 2024 Reading 1: 1 Jn 2:29-3:6

Psalm: 98:1, 3CD-4, 5-6 Gospel: Jn 1:29-34

THURSDAY, JANUARY 4, 2024

Memorial of Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton, Religious Reading 1: 1 Jn 3:7-10

Psalm: Ps 98:1, 7-8, 9 Gospel: Jn 1:35-42

FRIDAY, JANUARY 5, 2024

Memorial of Saint John Neumann, Bishop Reading 1: 1 Jn 3:11-21

Psalm: 100:1b-2, 3, 4, 5 Gospel: Jn 1:43-51

SATURDAY, JANUARY 6, 2024

Reading 1: 1 Jn 5:5-13 Psalm: 147:12-13, 14-15, 19-20 Gospel: Mk 1:7-11 OR: Lk 3:23-38 OR: Lk 3:23, 31-34, 36, 38

FORMED

^{*(}CL) Communion & Liberation



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.**



HEALING THE WHOLE PERSON

JANUARY 22-MARCH 18, 2024 **MONDAYS | 6-8 PM**

NATIVITY OF OUR LORD, KATERI ROOM

Would you like to deepen your relationship with Jesus Christ? Have you forgiven, but are still experiencing negative emotions? Do you feel like you bring the same sins to confession, again and again? Sin leaves all of us wounded, and as Pope Francis reminds us, the Church is a field hospital with all of us in need of healing from the Divine Physician.

In this 9-week series called, Healing the Whole Person, from the John Paul II Healing Center, you will encounter God in a powerful way, and experience deeper freedom as the Father speaks to you in the depths of your heart, and through the supernatural graces of the sacraments. During the 9-week series, we will listen and pray, following an audio from Dr. Bob Schutz and the John Paul II Healing Center team from their series on Healing the Whole Person.

Fee: \$20.00 to cover the cost of the workbook.

Registration cut-off date: *December 31*, 2023

Questions? Contact Liz Buderus at *lizbuderus@gmail.com* or 303-994-7733.

Register at:

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

REGISTER





NEW ADULT BIBLE STUDY THE GOSPEL OF MARK: FAITH NOT FEAR BEGINNING JANUARY 10/11, 2024

The Gospel of Mark is the shortest of the four gospels, it is fast-moving, and action-packed. In the Gospel of Mark, we see Saint Peter's account of Christ's life and teaching because Saint Mark was the companion of Saint Peter. Because Mark's Gospel is read in the liturgy in 2024, this program will give you insights into the Sunday Gospel readings. Join us in this 14-part series led by Dr. Tim Gray on FORMED. The program includes weekly video presentation followed by small group discussion. We will finish this study the last week of April, 2024. You can sign up for one of the sessions below.

Wednesday Session, 1:00–2:30 pm facilitated by Debbie Jones and Theresa Cooley OR

Thursday Session, 6:30–8:00 pm facilitated by Steve Moser

Register at:

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

Study guides are \$9 each, payable upon registration.

REGISTER



CHRISTMAS GIVING

At Christmas, many people give an additional gift to the parish. To do so use the QR code or link here or the envelope in the pew. Thank you for your generosity.

ppay.co/lMlvNF9HF0k



CHRISTMAS TREE PICKUP

Nativity of Our Lord Broomfield Boy Scout Troop 766 will be providing a Christmas tree recycling pick up on Saturday, January 6, 2024 for residents within 15 miles of Nativity. We are hopeful this will be a successful fundraiser for our troop. Suggested donation is \$10-\$20 per tree picked up. To sign up, please scan the QR code.

Sign-ups close on January 5 at 6 pm. Only registered trees will be picked up. Please remove all ornaments and tinsel from your tree. No flocked or artificial trees can be collected. Questions? Contact: Dawn Howe at fundraising@troop766.org or 303-882-9938.

SIGN UP





THE GREATEST GIFT GOD GIVES US IS HIS SON

STEWARDSHIP SPOTLIGHT

When we live *a life of stewardship*, *a life of charity*, or *evangelical poverty*, we are aware of what God is doing in our lives. If we think God is not working in our lives, we are not paying attention. In Advent, we were encouraged to live in anticipation of the coming of Jesus. He told us, "Be Watchful! Be Alert!" (Mk 13:33)

The greatest gift God gives us is his Son. This year of Eucharistic Revival, it is evident that for many, the "one among us we do not recognize" is Jesus, who is fully present with us in the Eucharist. This gift freely given—a gift we can never be worthy of—is Mass.

This Christmas season, let us truly contemplate the greatest gift, Jesus, and have the awareness of all the gifts God has given us. Then, let us decide to be thankful and return that gift and make a commitment to continue giving. This coming year, let us pay attention to what God is doing in our lives and see the many blessings He bestows upon us each day.

LIVING STEWARDSHIP AT NATIVITY

Stewardship is about conversion which leads to a deeper relationship with God. It is our way of saying "yes" to the reality that Jesus offers us. At Nativity, we have three pillars of Stewardship: Prayer and Faith, Time and Talent, and Treasure.

Listed below, you will find the many different opportunities Nativity provides for you to share your time, talent, and faith with others. If you are inclined to say "yes" and get involved, go to the Ministries' web page to find all the resources you need.

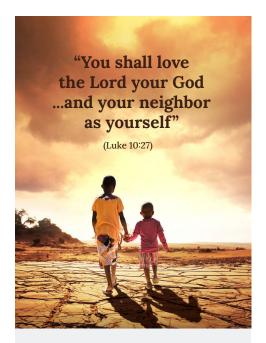
www.nool.us/ministries

NATIVITY OF OUR LORD MINISTRIES



- Altar Serving
- Readers / Lectors
- Greeters
- Ushers
- Eucharistic Ministers: Liturgical
- Eucharistic Ministers: Homebound, Hospitals, Living Facilities
- Music Ministry
- Children's Choir
- Church Cleaning
- Votive Candles
- Sanctuary Flowers
- Sacristy Laundry
- Collection Counters

- Donut Sunday Volunteers
- Funeral Reception Help
- Parish Meal Train
- Special Events and Hospitality
- Faith Formation Teachers
- Totus Tuus High School Volunteers
- Formation: Catechesis of the Good Shepherd (CGS)
- Formation: Faith Formation Classes
- Formation: Venturers of the Star
- Formation: GS High School Youth
- Formation: Totus Tuus
- Sacramental Preparation: Baptism
- Sacramental Preparation: Restored Order Sacraments
- Sacramental Preparation: RCIA
- Sacramental Preparation: RCIC
- Sacramental Preparation: Marriage
- Catholic Young Adult Group
- Families of John Paul II
- Bible Study
- ENDOW
- Christian Unity
- FIAT (Friends in all times)
- Men of Emmaus
- Men's Retreat
- Natural Family Planning (NFP)
- Communion and Liberation (CL)
- CLU (Communion and Liberation University Students)
- Eucharistic Adoration
- Funeral Notifications
- Sunday Rosary at 11:00 AM
- Spanish Prayer Group
- Prayer in the Square
- Prayer Line
- Rosary for Life
- Respect Life
- Liturgy of the Hours
- New Springtime Charismatic Gathering
- St. Joseph's Men's Group
- Women's Guild
- Knights of Columbus
- North Metro Catholic Singles
- Baptismal Bib Committee
- Craft Fair
- Rosary Making
- St. Vincent de Paul Society
- Stephen Ministry
- Hope Corner
- Nativity Days
- Nativity Nights
- Giving Tree (Christmas)
- Nativity Widows
- Nativity: Faith & Reason Volunteers
- Mission IS Possible
- Mission Uganda
- Men's Basketball
- Men's Softball
- American Heritage Girls (AHG)
- Boy Scouts
- Homeschool Community



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*.

YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS AT WORK: RETIREMENT FUND FOR RELIGIOUS

JANUARY 6-7, 2023

Next weekend, there is a special collection supporting Retirement Fund for Religious. The Fund helps religious communities care for senior members—today and in the future. Across the United States, hundreds of religious communities lack financial resources sufficient to meet the retirement and health-care needs of aging members. 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.



Are You Experiencing a "Winter" in Your Life? In addition to the cold weather outside, many people experience winters in their personal lives. A recent loss through death, divorce, or relocation may leave them feeling lonely. A hospitalization, a cancer diagnosis, or ongoing medical problems may leave them feeling isolated. The loss of a job, the fear of layoffs, or a financial setback can devastate one's self-esteem. Family and personal struggles may leave them with nowhere to turn for support.

If you are going through a difficult time, our Stephen Ministers can bring God's warm love back into your life. They provide confidential, one-to-one Christian care. They will meet with you privately on a weekly basis to listen, to support and encourage you, to pray with and for you, and to walk with you for the duration of your crisis.

To find out more about Stephen Ministry and how you or someone you know could be matched with a Stephen Minister, call our confidential hotline at 303-469-5171 x 113. One of our Stephen Leaders will respond within 24 hours.

FROM ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

On Sunday, December 31, we celebrate the Feast of the Holy Family. Families are pivotal to our society. Our learning, our traditions, and our growth throughout our lives are developed by those who most closely surround us. Mother Teresa of Calcutta reminds us, "Love begins at home, and it is not how much we do ... but how much love we put into that action." Families can also be inspiring. At this beautiful time of the year, we are reminded of the story of a brave mother and son during Christmas Eve 1944 in the midst of the Battle of the Bulge.

EWTN's production "Respite at Christmas" by Campbell Miller tells the story of a German mother, Elisabeth Vincken, and her 12-year-old son, Fritz. They had a small cabin in the Huertgen forest near the Belgian border. A knock on the door brought three young American soldiers, one of whom was badly injured. It was treasonous for her family, but Elisabeth took the American soldiers in. Together, they were working to help prepare soup with potatoes when another knock on the door came. This time, four German soldiers were seeking shelter to rest for the night. Elisabeth informed them she had three other guests. "Tensions" were high, but Elisabeth prevailed. If the soldiers were all to stay in her home, the guns had to go outside. The Americans and the Germans then set down for a meal, and one of the soldiers shared a bottle of red wine and another a loaf of bread for soup. Elisabeth said grace, "Komm, Herr Jesus. Be our guest." One of the German soldiers with some medical training looked in on the wounded American soldier, Harry. Elisabeth helped feed the broth and saved some wine to nurture Harry. In the morning, Elisabeth fixed breakfast. The German and American soldiers then shook hands and went their separate ways. Fritz Vinchen's story recalling his mother's courage and kindness later appeared in January of 1973 in the Reader's Digest article "Truce in the Forest." The Chaplain Kit.com site on December 24, 2017, also shared Fritz's story in a post by Daryl Densford.

For more information on our local Nativity of Our Lord St. Vincent de Paul chapter and our mission to help the poor, see our Flocknote site at nool.flocknote.com/svdpvol.

Best wishes for a Happy New Year.





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

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

\$500 to \$3,500 per student attending any of the 33 Archdiocese of Denver Catholic K-8 schools.

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

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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

PARISH BOOKSTORE HOURS: MONDAY-FRIDAY | 8 AM-8 PM SATURDAY | 9 AM-2 PM

Recommended Christmas readings:

- Benedict XVI, Jesus of Nazareth. The Infancy Narratives (Ignatius Press, 2012)
- Benedict XVI, *The Blessings of Christmas* (Ignatius Press, 2007)
- José Granados, The Fifth Candle of Advent (Disciples Books, 2012)
- Jean Daniélou, The Infancy Narratives (Cluny, 2022)
- John Henry Newman, Waiting for Christ (Augustine Institute, 2018)







SCAN TO JOIN NATIVITY

Nativity is under the pastoral care of the Priestly Fraternity of St. Charles Borromeo, a religious order, founded in 1985 by Msgr. Massimo Camisasca in Italy. The order has its origins in the charism of Fr. Luigi Giussani, founder of the Catholic lay movement Communion and Liberation (CL). Here is how the Priestly Fraternity of St. Charles Borromeo is described by the founder, Msgr. Massimo Camisasca:

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."

Priestly: "The priestly vocation [...] is a continuous communion with God and man. [...] It acts as a bridge between heaven and earth, represents a fundamental link in the history of salvation, and also serves as an important figure in the journey towards unity among men."

Missionary: "Mission [...] consists simply in entering within the same mission for which God sent His own Son into the world, for which the Son sent the Apostles, and for which, in turn, the Apostles sent other brothers, until the visible echo of that event touched even us."

The priests of the Fraternity live together in houses of three or more. The communion among them is meant to sustain their vocation and be a path towards conversion. They are willing to be sent around the world wherever the Church has a need, according to the wishes of the bishop of the diocese in which they reside. Learn more at:

www.sancarlo.org/en/who-we-are





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

Dcn. Huan Nguyen h.nguyen@nool.us

Dcn. David Arling d.arling@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

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 I.gallagher@nool.us | ext. 101

Business Manager
Kyle Hubbart
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
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j.dubey@nool.us | ext. 115

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

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