

Nativity BVM Rectory Office

Phone: 610-566-0185 Fax: 610-566-2873

Hours: Mon.: 9am-Noon, 1pm-7:30pm, Tues: 9am-Noon, 1pm-4pm, Weds: 9am-Noon, 1pm-7:30pm,
Thurs: 9am-Noon, 1pm-7:30pm, Fri: 9am-Noon, 1pm-3pm, Sat: Closed, Sun: 10am-2pm

Rev. Edward H. Bell, Pastor nativitybvm@comcast.net

Deacon: Dr. William Kussmaul w.kussmaul@verizon.net

Retired in Residence: Msgr. Joseph McGeown (Phone Ext: 110)

Retired in Residence: Rev. John Mulgrew (Phone Ext: 109)

Business Manager: Deacon Mike Kubiak deaconmike.nativitybvm@comcast.net (Phone Ext: 114)

Parish Services Director: Mr. John Blisard jblisard.nativitybvm@comcast.net (Phone Ext: 117)

Administrative Assistants: Mrs. Terri Benedetti & Mrs. Anne Sweeney nativitybvm@comcast.net (Phone Ext: 100)

Financial Assistant: Mrs. Donna Tustin dtustin.nativitybvm@comcast.net (Phone Ext: 104)

Religious Education Coordinator: Mrs. Katie Haraburda nativitybvmprep@gmail.com (Phone Ext: 105)

Music Director: Mrs. Cally Welsh cwelsh.nativitybvm@comcast.net (Phone Ext: 111)

Youth & Young Adult Minister: Ms. Chiara Cardone youth.nativitybvm@gmail.com (Phone Ext: 101)

Safe Environment Coordinator: Mrs. Anne Sweeney nativitybvm@comcast.net (Phone Ext: 100)

Mother of Providence Regional Catholic School (PreK3-8): Mrs. Therese Waters www.mpregional.org

New Parishioners: We are pleased to welcome new members to our Parish Community. Please come to the Rectory during business hours to register and learn more about our parish. Students must be registered in the Parish before registering in the Parish Religious Education Program (PREP) and/or participating in CYO.

Sacraments

Sacrament of Baptism (1st and 3rd Sunday at 1:15pm): Parishioners should contact the Rectory to arrange for Baptism and PreJordan class. PreJordan is offered on the 2nd Thursdays at 6:30pm. Registration required.

Sacrament of Marriage: Parishioners are asked to contact the Rectory at least 6 months in advance.

Sacrament of Reconciliation/Confession: Saturdays 3:30 to 4:30PM and by Appointment.

Sacrament of the Sick: Parishioners are asked to contact the Rectory for Anointing of the Sick visits.

Holy Communion for homebound parishioners may be arranged by calling the Rectory.

Mass Schedule

Daily Mass 8am (Monday- Saturday)

Saturday Vigil: 5pm

**Sunday: 7am, 8am,
10am and Noon**

Mass Cards: Mass cards are available at the Rectory Office. If you would like to have a Mass celebrated in memory of a deceased loved one, or for special intentions, please come to the Rectory during business hours.

Are you receiving our Parish Emails?

We send out updates and announcements to keep you posted on parish events! If you want to sign up, visit our parish website at nativity-bvm.org and Sign Up to stay in touch on the Welcome page.

Week Ahead

Monday, March 26

- ◆ Daily Mass 8am
- ◆ Confessions Noon-2pm C

Tuesday, March 27

- ◆ Daily Mass 8am
- ◆ 33 Days to Morning Glory 10am PC
- ◆ Choir 7pm C
- ◆ Rosary Group 7pm CR
- ◆ 33 Days to Morning Glory 7pm PC
- ◆ Charismatic Prayer Group 7:30pm CR

Wednesday, March 28

- ◆ Daily Mass 8am
- ◆ Adoration Chapel Closed
- ◆ Confessions 7-8:30 pm C

Thursday, March 29 Holy Thursday

- ◆ Prayer Service 8am C
- ◆ Adoration Chapel Closed
- ◆ Rosary Makers 6:15pm PC
- ◆ Mass of the Lord's Supper 7pm

Friday, March 30 Good Friday

- ◆ Prayer Service 8am C
- ◆ Adoration Chapel Closed
- ◆ Stations of Cross through Media 12pm
- ◆ Rectory Closed at Noon
- ◆ Celebration of the Passion of the Lord 3pm
- ◆ Stations of the Cross 7pm C

Saturday, March 31 Holy Saturday

- ◆ Prayer Service 8am C
- ◆ Adoration Chapel Closed
- ◆ Rectory Office Closed
- ◆ Easter Vigil Mass 7pm

Sunday, April 1 Easter

- ◆ Masses: 7am, 8am, 10am and Noon

AC= Adoration Chapel
CR=Confession Room
PC= Parish Center

BB= Brick Building
C= Church
S= School Building

The Liturgy of Palm Sunday, with its re-presentation of the triumphal entry of the Jesus into Jerusalem leading into the first Passion Narrative sets the Liturgical framework for a week which is filled with invitations of grace. Holy Week invites us to participate in the timeless Paschal Mystery, the saving life, suffering, passion, death and Resurrection of Jesus Christ.

F. Bell

EASTER IS THREE DAYS

With our celebration of Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion we enter the most sacred week of the Christian calendar – Holy Week. On Wednesday afternoon the season of Lent concludes quietly, and we begin the most sacred, most solemn, most glorious three days in Christianity - The Paschal Triduum. Triduum means three days, "liturgical days," days whose span is sun-down to sundown. The complete celebration of Easter occurs over these three "liturgical days" beginning on Holy Thursday evening and concluding on Easter Sunday evening. These liturgies are very ancient and employ sacred symbols and actions that we see in no other liturgy.

HOLY THURSDAY Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper is at 7pm on Thursday, March 29th. Before shedding his blood out of love for us, Jesus gives us his Great Commandment: Love one another as I have loved you. Our Pastor washes the feet of 12 parishioners, symbolizing the Church's commitment to loving and humble service. We celebrate the great Sacrament of Love: the Eucharist. And our priests, remembering the institution of Holy Orders at the Last Supper, renew their commitment of loving service to God and the Church.

GOOD FRIDAY Celebration of the Passion of the Lord is at 3pm on Friday, March 30th. This Liturgy is not a Mass. We celebrate the Glory of the Cross, the instrument through which Christ has redeemed us. A sacred text from Holy Thursday states: We should glory in the Cross of Christ, in whom is our life and resurrection... All present participate in The Adoration of the Cross. We process together to the Cross; we reverence it, venerate it and remember that through the Cross we process to Resurrection.

THE EASTER VIGIL is on Saturday, March 31st at 7pm. This Vigil is not only the high point of the Triduum or of the Lent/Easter Season. This Vigil Mass is the summit of the entire Liturgical Year. It celebrates all things made new through Christ's Resurrection; the Church is re-born; we are re-born as both tonight and at all Masses on Sunday we renew our Baptismal Promises. Our readings review the entire History of Salvation. We receive new members through Baptism and Confirmation. The Church is renewed; each member is renewed as we promise to live out the daily dying and rising into which we have been baptized. We are an Easter People, and Alleluia is our song.

Holy Week

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Monday, March 26th– Noon-2pm

Wednesday, March 28th– 7-8:30pm

Thursday, March 29 Holy Thursday

Mass of the Lord's Supper 7pm

Friday, March 30 Good Friday

Stations of Cross through Media 12pm

Celebration of the Passion of the Lord 3pm

Stations of the Cross 7pm

Saturday, March 31 Holy Saturday

Easter Vigil Mass 7pm

Sunday, April 1 Easter

Masses: 7am, 8am, 10am and Noon



Welcome New Catholics!!

Nativity BVM is blessed to announce that we will be welcoming six new Catholics this year!! The Elect (those not yet baptized) will be baptized and confirmed at the Easter Vigil on Saturday March 31; our Candidates (Christians baptized in another denomination) will also be confirmed at the Vigil. Our new members are (left to right): Eileen Hobbs, Sarah Rutter, Megan Pallen, Jennifer Rastegarpanah, Jason Murray, and Christian Murray. Praise God for his goodness in leading them to faith, and for blessing our parish with their presence, gifts and talents!! We welcome them warmly. Pray for them!!

Faith Formation

Nativity BVM - Adoration Chapel

Chapel Hours: Sunday: 2pm to 11pm Monday-Friday: 7am to 11pm Saturday: Closed

Reminder: Due to Holy Week services and Easter Sunday, the Adoration Chapel will close at 11:00 pm on Tuesday, March 27 and will not open until Tuesday, April 3, 2018 at 9:00 am.

Dear Parishioners: Today, Palm Sunday, we celebrate Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem and the beginning of Holy Week. "Holy Week is a time to clear our schedules of unnecessary activities. Our minds and hearts should be fixed on Jesus and what He did for us. Let us bear the Cross so that we may be worthy of wearing the crown He wore." Grace McKinnon "- The Meaning of Holy Week," (March, 2003) catholiceducation.org. If you have any questions about the Adoration Chapel, I can be reached at cabf3029@gmail.com or by calling the rectory and leaving your phone number or email address. God bless, Carol Farnan

"Could you not watch one hour with me?" – Mark 14:37



Mass Moments with Deacon Bill

What is the Easter Triduum? How should I observe this special week?

The season of Lent leads, as we all know, to Easter. What is not always appreciated is that the Easter liturgy lasts three full days (a triduum), beginning on Holy Thursday at the Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper. It continues in the observance of Good Friday, which includes the veneration of the Cross, has its center with the great Easter Vigil on Saturday evening, and concludes with Evening Prayer (Vespers) on Easter Sunday.

The Easter liturgy is the most solemn and most important of the entire Christian year. If you participate in the liturgies of the sacred Paschal Triduum, you will gain a new appreciation for all that our Lord has done for us in his Passion, Death, and Resurrection. This appreciation comes not from "re-enacting" the historical events, but from entering into their ongoing mystery. The liturgies of Easter don't "take us back" to the upper room or Calvary or the empty tomb. They celebrate, not what once happened, but what is happening to God's holy people right now as we are called to conversion, faith, and holiness.



Consider signing up for an exciting new 8-week program: "Who Am I To Judge?"

This phrase was well known even before Pope Francis said it. But is discerning right from wrong the same as "judging"? What is "right" and "wrong"? Is there a right and wrong for everyone, all the time?

These are difficult questions to discuss in our culture. We live in a society that supports the opinion that each person should make up his or her own morality—that there is no moral truth that applies to everyone. Maybe some of us wonder whether there really is an absolute right and wrong for everyone. Or maybe we accept that there is a moral standard, but we don't know how to explain our convictions in a convincing way. Maybe some of us are afraid of being labeled as intolerant or hateful. How do we talk about morality in a relativistic world? In this small group study program featuring popular presenter Dr. Edward Sri, we'll explore the Catholic view of morality and find that it's not merely a set of guiding principles for theoretical situations, nor is it just a long list of "Thou Shalt Nots."—it is a beautiful truth and an entire way of life.

For an informative and enjoyable introduction to Catholic moral reasoning, join us for this 8-week course facilitated by Deacon Bill.

Times: Mondays: mornings 9-10:30 AM; evenings 7-8:30 PM. Both sessions held in the Parish Center

Dates: April 2, 9, 16, 23, 30; and May 7, 14, and 21.

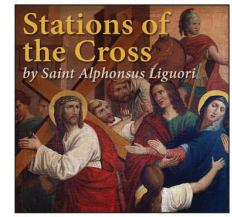
Study/discussion guides will be provided for \$10.

To sign up, call the Rectory 610-566-0185, or email Deacon Bill at w.kussmaul@verizon.net. See you there!

Stations of the Cross

By Saint Alphonsus Liguori

Access Code:
JQGN73



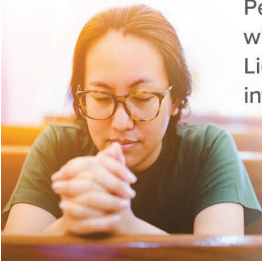
"Holding a crucifix while meditating on the Stations of the Cross... so moving. Thank you, Jesus, for the Cross."

—Marcia R, St Teresa's Church

Journey with Christ to Calvary

Personally follow Christ and His Sorrowful Mother on their journey to Calvary with the Stations of the Cross. Moving meditations by Saint Alphonsus Liguori accompanied by the beautiful Latin hymn, *Stabat Mater*, draw you into a more intimate experience of the Church's powerful Lenten prayer.

[Listen on formed.org](#)



Social Ministry & Outreach

Thanks to everyone who helps feed and clothe the homeless men at **St. John's Hospice** in Philadelphia.

Casseroles can be dropped off in the freezers in the Priest's Garage on Church St (behind Brick Building). **St. John's Hospice needs new or gently worn men's pants of all sizes 32, 34, 36, 38 waist, (inseam any length), New Men's underwear and New Men's white undershirts.** Clothing donations can be dropped off at the clothing donation bin right next to garage. They are also in need of large toiletries: deodorant, body wash, powder, soap, lotion, shampoo, razors, or mouthwash. Toiletries may be dropped in the bin in the Church vestibule.

Education & Youth Ministry



The middle school students of Mother of Providence Regional Catholic School will present the Living Stations at St. John Chrysostom Church on Monday, March 26 at 1:15pm and 7pm. All are welcome to watch this moving portrayal of the Passion of Christ. It is a beautiful way to enter the holiest week of our faith.

If you are looking for a small school community for your children and your family, Mother of Providence Regional Catholic School may be for you. We offer small class sizes; certified, caring teachers; Chrome books for all students in grades 4-8; iPads for children in grades PK-3; individualized attention; of course, a faith-based, challenging curriculum. Please do not let finances keep you from applying. We have tuition assistance available for qualifying families. Please visit our website for additional information or call us at 610-876-7110.

Mother of Providence Regional Catholic School is also offering Tuition Transfer Grants for children entering grades one through eight for the 2018-2019 school year. Families may receive \$1,000 off the first year tuition per child for children transferring from public, charter, and home school situations. For the second year, families may receive \$500 off per child. Please call or email Therese Waters, the school principal for more information (twaters@mpregional.org or 610-876-7110)

ADVANCEMENT DIRECTOR: Mother of Providence Regional Catholic School in Wallingford, is seeking to hire an Advancement Director. The Advancement Director will report to the Principal, Mrs. Therese Waters, and will be responsible for planning, coordinating and directing those activities that will enhance enrollment and attract the necessary philanthropic support to provide sufficient resources to insure excellent educational programs and the long-term viability of the school. Qualified candidates will possess experience in enrollment management, development, sales, marketing, communication, and/or volunteer management. Experience in a parochial or not-for-profit environment preferred. The successful candidate will have strong interpersonal skills with the demonstrated ability to engage volunteers, prospects, parents, grandparents, students, alumni, faculty and administrative staff. The ideal candidate will exhibit vision and drive with an entrepreneurial spirit and will be committed to embracing the mission of Mother of Providence Regional Catholic School. Bachelor's degree is required. candidates must be willing and able to travel locally and work some nights and weekends. For a complete Position Description and additional information on Mother of Providence Regional Catholic School, visit our website at www.mpregional.org.

please pray for the sick Debbie Fitzgerald, Alice McCauley, Nancy Healey, Beatrice Finegan, Ron Betz, Eileen DeDomenicis, Glen McGinley, Joanne MacLellan, Lorraine Devine, Dorothy Kussmaul, Sr. Marietta Therese Hanley, SSCJ, Mike Moore, Patricia Lynch, Wes Gallagher, MaryAnn Cahill, Till Mack, Bill O'Connell, John Deady, Ted Deady, Steve Lario, Stanley Marszalek, Til Mack, Sandra Diaz

Sick List Policy: A name will be added to the sick list in the bulletin for 30 days. After 30 days, the name will be removed. If you still need yourself or a loved one to remain on the list after 30 days, call or email the Rectory.

God's Plan for Giving

March 18, 2018 Collection will be reported in the April 1 Bulletin
How shall I make a return to the Lord for all the good He has done for me? -Psalm 116:12

Liturgical Ministries

LENT AND EASTER ARE WONDERFUL SEASONS FOR SINGING

Participating in one of our music ministries may truly be a way to "jump-start" your life. Singing or playing with a group is a social as well as musical experience. Just try one rehearsal; perhaps you'll return and sing (or play) your way to more meaningful liturgical prayer.

Adult Choir: Rehearsal in church on Thursday, 7 to 9PM. New members always welcome. Now is a great time to join!

Children's Choir (Grades 1-8): Rehearsal in church on Mondays, 5:15 to 6:00PM. PREP students are walked to school afterwards by an adult. First graders may now join.

Guitar Group & Instrumentalists: Rehearsal is only once a month! We invite anyone proficient in playing guitar or other instruments. We would love to add woodwind, brass, and string instruments as well. It is preferable that the player be in at least 6th grade. The group plays at the 12 Noon Mass on the second Sunday of the month and rehearses on the previous Monday. It's a small commitment for a great experience.

Sunday Music Schedule

March 25 (Palm Sunday) - 10AM Mass, Adult Choir; 12 Noon, Nativity Chorale*

April 1 (Easter Sunday) 10:00AM, Adult Choir; 12 Noon, Nativity Chorale*

* A group of professional singers.

Holy Week Morning Prayer

During Holy Week, there is no morning Mass on Thursday, Friday or Saturday. On those mornings, in place of Mass we will share the Liturgy of the Hours at 8 AM. Let these extra prayer times, which last about 20 minutes, enhance your spiritual preparation for Easter.

Altar Servers for March 31-April 1, 2018

7pm V & J Lehman, J MacLellan, R Walton
7am M Keenan, D Tustin
8am F Ackroyd, E Rigby
10am M DiMatteo, D Kennedy
Noon J MacLellan, B Valenti

Communion Ministers for March 31-April 1, 2018

7pm
7am M Dotts
8am J Rigby
10am M Sanislo
Rose Tree: E Riordan
Sterling: G Hoffner, J McCall
Home Visits: M Sansilo
Noon B McCall



Mass Intentions

Monday, March 26

8:00 Madeline McCullough
 by Martha McCloskey

Tuesday, March 27

8:00 Jean Bernatowicz
 by Ed Bernatowicz

Wednesday, March 28

8:00 Marge & Jack Williams
 by Chris & Donna Tustin

Lectors for March 31-April 1, 2018

7pm F Hayes, S McGuinn, D McNamara, P Walton
7am J McNerney
8am C O'Donnell
10am T O'Brien
Noon R McCall