

This Week at Nativity

Sunday: -11:00 am Mass
Monday: Closed
Tuesday: Closed
Wednesday: Closed
Thursday: Closed
Friday: Closed
Saturday: 4:30 pm Mass

We highly encourage donations to Nativity be made online through WeShare: Nativity families can continue to make donations to Nativity, 5935 Pandora Avenue, Cincinnati, OH, 45213 or online through WeShare, Nativity's online giving platform. On WeShare, you can also make donations to other Nativity funds including the Nativity School fund and the "Moving Forward Together" Annual Fund. You can sponsor the Saturday, August 29th Nativity Golf Outing, whereby all proceeds benefit the Nativity tuition aid program. Should you need help in making online donations, you may contact WeShare at: Customer Service Phone Number: 800-950-9952 (press #3 and then press #2); Customer Service Email: weshare@4lpi.com; or Donor FQA: WeShare Donor Support. Thank you in advance for your continued support of Nativity!

Before you attend Mass please note that Mass will be limited to 100 people. You do not need a reservation; everyone who attends Mass must wear a mask and follow the guidelines listed on the next page.

***Readings for August 15, 2020******(The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary)******Revelation 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab******1 Corinthians 15:20-27 Luke 1:39-56******Lectors: Beth Gunderson, Ed Smith******Mass Intention: Stan Mabry
(rescheduled from March 14, 2020)******Readings for August 16, 2020******Isaiah 56:1, 6-7 Romans 11:13-15, 29-32******Matthew 15:21-28******Lectors: Patrick Jennings, Martha Fuller******Mass Intention: For the People******Lectors for the Weekend of August 22 & 23******4:30 – John VanRens & Deborah Casey******11:00 – Beth Adkins & Patti Newberry******Please pray for the following:*****Sick & Shut-Ins**

Bill Bach	Bill Balskus	Reid Baumgartner
Liz Bellew	Stephanie Benhase	Mary Jo Beresford
Dottie Brinker	Eugene Carlson	Deborah Casey
Kathy Chalfin	Barbara Cottrell	Diana DeRhodes
Joe Doering	Declan Donovan	Stella Evans
Barry Funk	Jackie Goetz	Jim Kaufman
Fr. Ray Kellerman	Al & Mary Lou Matre	Mary McErlane
Karen Morgan	Ron Rulon	Sr. Joan Schimian
Debbie Schneider	Maureen Sullivan	Jane & Carl Udry
Bob Valerius	Jan & Randy Weaver	

Friends & Family

Mark Behreng	Sally Bowron	Sheila Caldwell
James Doolittle	Bob Finn	Mary Sue Loftus
Rick Holtz	John Mack	Doug Martin
Bob Mitchell	Greg Morley	David Palmer
Cathy Ramundo	Holly Rough	Mike Rumsey
Rhoda Rupp	Randy Rupp Jr.	Peg Schuckman
Susan Shakelford	Mary Ellen Spaite	Mike Tebbe
Mary Williams	Craig Wrober	

Please contact the Parish Office to make arrangements for Holy Communion, Anointing of the Sick, Reconciliation and pastoral visits.

Please pray for those who have died, especially Jane Udry.

CHURCH OFFERINGS	August 9, 2020	Fiscal YTD
Regular Collection	2,378	23,896
School Support	50	1,265
Online Collection	507	18,474
Total Offerings	2,935	43,635
Budget	10,900	65,400
Over (under) Budget	(7,965)	(21,765)

Fall Registration Going on Now! Whether you are interested in preparing for the Diaconate, working at a social service agency, parish, hospital, school, or want to become better informed about the Catholic Faith, we can help! The School of Theology offers M.A. degrees in Pastoral Ministry, Biblical Studies and Theology, and Certificates in Pastoral Ministry. Graduate and certificate courses are offered at the main campus, 6616 Beechmont Avenue in Cincinnati. Take class for credit, audit or begin a degree. Visit our website athenaeum.edu and call or email today to learn more. Barbara Yoder, byoder@athenaeum.edu, or 513-233-6129 or 513-231-1200

PTA School Supplies Sale: Save time and energy gathering your student's supplies by purchasing from the PTA School Supplies

August 16, 2020 – Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

fundraiser. Just send in the attached form <https://www.nativity-cincinnati.org/school/files/2020/07/Student-Supply-list2020-2021.pdf> and drive-thru and pick-up your supplies in one stop! Please contact Rebecca Gernetzke at reba0729@gmail.com or Jenny Farfsing at jmfarfsing@gmail.com with any questions.

DISPENSATION

The Catholic faithful who reside in the Archdiocese of Cincinnati and all other Catholics in the archdiocese continue to be dispensed from the obligation of attending Sunday Mass. Those who are at risk or fearful that they or their family might become sick are encouraged to stay home and join the Church by viewing live-streamed Masses.

MASS ATTENDANCE GUIDELINES

Before you arrive: Check your temperature: if you have a fever, please do not come to church; Stay home if you are ill; Make sure you have a face covering to bring and wear; Bring hand sanitizer with you if available. We will have some for use as well.

When you arrive: Enter only in marked doorways at the main entrance. Please stop by the greeter for any necessary directions; always keep your face covering on at Mass except for when receiving Communion; sanitize your hands as directed by greeter; always observe social distancing (look for marks on the floor); the usher will direct you to pews, starting in the front and working towards the back of church; and since there will be no passing of baskets for your offering, please mail your contribution or submit it online.

During the Mass: Do not change seats during the Mass; and no physical sign of peace will be exchanged during Mass.

Follow instructions for Communion: Leave your seat only when directed by the usher or greeter; maintain six feet social distancing in the Communion line...look for marks on the floor; when 12 feet or two people away from the priest/distributor, sanitize your hands using the sanitizer from the usher; after sanitizing do not touch any surfaces; approach the priest/distributor only after you are called forward; DO NOT remove your face covering; extend a single hand to receive the Host; after moving six feet to the right or left, remove your mask and consume the Host; replace your face covering or mask; and follow instructions to return to your pew.

After the Service: Worship aids you may have brought with you, please take them home; you will be dismissed by pew or seating area; follow the instructions of the greeter or usher; use only the designated exit doors; and please do not congregate outside the church doors.

Caregiver Support: Caregivers need our help now more than ever, especially those who struggle with ongoing isolation, finding respite, managing emotions, and dealing with loss. We currently have in person, online, and telephone support programs. If you know of a caregiver who needs encouragement, please tell them about Catholic Charities of Southwestern Ohio, Caregiver Assistance Network and have them call Angie Homoelle at 513-672-3834 or visit the website at <https://ccswoh.org/programs/caregiver-assistance-network/> for more information.

THE SVDP SOCIETY AT NATIVITY PARISH continues to serve our neighbors in need during the pandemic. We are seeing families who have never called before, needing assistance because of layoffs, unemployment and fewer hours at work during the pandemic. The majority of SVDP funds come through parishioner generosity via the second collections at Mass. That option has been lost since March. We are extremely grateful for the tremendous support of the parish for our work. If you can, please help us financially by giving to SVDP at Nativity Parish. Checks can be dropped in the collection basket at Mass or mailed to the Parish Office. The Nativity website also has a WeShare option for SVDP. Please keep us in your prayers as we continue our work in the community.

How healthy is your marriage during the pandemic? A Marriage Encounter Midweek Experience could be what the doctor ordered! It will treat you and your marriage and get your sacrament healthy in no time. The next Marriage Encounter Midweek experience is not on a weekend. It is a virtual experience via Zoom, held on Tuesday and Wednesday, September 15 and 16, where you experience Marriage Encounter from your home. The midweek experience is for those who find it difficult to commit a weekend or work weekends or have difficulty finding children, pet care or care for parents. Reserve your place today at <https://esharing.org/applyWeekend.php> If you apply by August 17, use discount code Covid 19, to pay only \$19 to apply. For more details contact: Andy or Jeanne Folfas at (937) 886-5196 or jeannemarie42@hotmail.com or go to esharing.org

PRAY A MINUTE: ONE MILLION HOURS OF PRAYER FOR PEACE, JUSTICE AND GOODWILL – Do you believe in the power of prayer? What might happen if every Catholic would pray just one minute more than they already do, every day, for the specific intention of peace, justice and goodwill? From now until January 1, the World Day of Prayer for Peace, Catholics from across the Archdiocese are invited to unite in prayer for the spiritual renewal of our country. Together we will pray one million hours!

Congratulations and thank you! Pledges to the 2020 Catholic Ministries Appeal (CMA) have exceeded the \$5,000,000 goal! To date, just over \$5.2 million has been pledged to the appeal from 25,192 households. Of the amount pledged, \$4.7 million has been received in payments. **Together for the Faith of the Gospel**, we supported the ministries that are teaching, feeding, and healing throughout our local communities.



Please extend a warm welcome to our new parishioners: Joe and Marissa Huffman, along with their daughter Natalie. *Welcome to Nativity!*

Update from Father Eric:

Good news! After approximately one week since first potential exposure to COVID-19, I am still showing no symptoms. However, for various reasons, my quarantine did not begin until a few days after first potential exposure. Asymptomatic persons can still be carriers and possibly spread the virus. Therefore, adhering to CDC guidelines and following the advice of a consulted Catholic physician, I will take the full two week period for quarantine. I would expect any parish employee or parishioner in similar circumstances to do the same for the safety of others and for the sake of the common good. My plan is to return in-person to celebrate Masses at Holy Trinity (9:00am) and Nativity (11:00am) on Sunday, August 23.

While quarantined, cutting my vacation short, I will be conducting Zoom meetings with various groups as well as catching up on the 100+ emails accumulated while away. A number of those were offers of prayers for my health, for which I am very grateful. Several were concerns about the changes to the Mass schedule. I am grateful for these also because it means that the communication in the bulletin and the website has gotten through.

Change is rarely if ever easy. It is often disruptive and inconvenient. The pandemic does not make it easier. So much of what we may have taken for granted in our freedom to move about and live our lives has been challenged. I am experiencing this personally as I am under quarantine and unable to be with you all, to celebrate Mass together, to be present in the joys and sorrows of parish family life.

The Archdiocese of Cincinnati continues to experience the sorrows of fewer priests in active ministry. A record number of retirements are planned over the next few years, even after the Archbishop raised the retirement age. Though there are retired priests who generously give of their time to celebrate Mass and provide the sacraments, the fact remains they will not be able to offer this assistance indefinitely. Even if a cohort of priests could be cultivated to help, it is also important for a pastor to be present as the spiritual father of the parish family. There are always limits on time and energy, but I purposely scheduled two hours between Sunday Masses so that I would be able to greet people without immediately running out the door.

The good news remains that Jesus Christ is alive! The Church is indefectible in its teaching on matters of faith and morals. She is indelibly marked by the sacred mysteries entrusted to her care. But the Church does develop over time, in two important ways. First, by discovering more fully the truth imparted to her in the deposit of faith given to the Apostles; and second, in seeking to communicate fruitfully the Gospel in every time and place.

This is no easy task but it is the one into which the Lord Jesus always invites his disciples. At the end of the Gospel of Matthew, before his Ascension into Heaven, the Lord commissions his friends: "Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, until the end of the age."

The Catholic Church, in the lived experience of her parishes, including Holy Trinity and Nativity, is still called to develop and respond to the call of Jesus to proclaim the gospel. For this reason, we are aligning all of their energy and resources, all of the time, talent, and treasure available to them, to go and make disciples. Jesus is with us on this mission. Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever. Amen!