

# CHRIST IS BORN

## MASS SCHEDULE

Daily: Monday–Saturday, 9 a.m.\*, Chapel  
Saturday Vigil: 5:30 p.m., Church  
Sunday: 8:30 a.m. & 11:30 a.m.\*, Church  
\* In-person & virtual

## CONFESSION

Saturday, 4 p.m. to 4:45 p.m., Church  
or by appointment

## PARISH CENTER OFFICE

5000 Southpark Drive  
Durham, NC 27713

## OFFICE HOURS

Monday–Thursday,  
9 a.m. to 4 p.m.;  
closed Friday

## CONTACT US

Office: 919-544-7135  
[info@holyinfantchurch.org](mailto:info@holyinfantchurch.org)

## VISIT US ONLINE

Go to [holyinfantchurch.org](https://holyinfantchurch.org)  
or scan the QR code below



THOUGHTS FROM SALESIAN SPIRITUALITY

*"To live according to the Spirit is to love according to the Spirit." - St. Francis de Sales*



PARISH STAFF

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Deacon	Tom Hill	919-544-7135	Tomh@holysinfectchurch.org

PARISH FINANCE COUNCIL

Rev. Robert M. Rutledge, OSFS, Pastor

Laura Terpack, Peter Barrett, Co-Chairmen,  
holysinfectpfcchair@gmail.com

John Martin, Director of Operations and Finance

Norberto Quezada, Bob Dieter, Mike Pearl, Bob Radcliffe

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

Kim McAllister  
Bob Dieter  
Lindsay Glenn  
Matt Luedke

Collin McKinney  
Carol Owen  
Julio Revueltas  
Mark Szczesiul

Laura Terpack  
*ex-Officio*  
Lynn Sale,  
*ex-Officio*

Rev. Robert M. Rutledge, OSFS, Pastor  
Midge Bowers, Chair, midge2031@gmail.com

FIND IT ON THE WEB

Our parish website is your **primary** source for the most complete and up-to-date information about the parish. Visit [holysinfectchurch.org](http://holysinfectchurch.org) for details on many topics, including:

- ✦ **Mass and Liturgy Times**
- ✦ **Office Hours and Contact Information**
- ✦ **Calendar of Events**, including event details
- ✦ **News** within the parish and around the diocese
- ✦ **Worship & Sacraments**, including sacramental prep information for Baptism, Reconciliation (Confession), Eucharist, Confirmation, Marriage, Anointing of the Sick, and Holy Orders; **Vocations** for men and women; and **Funerals**
- ✦ **Faith & Learning** for adults, teens, and children; becoming Catholic; Catholic schools
- ✦ **Salesian spirituality and the Oblates of St. Francis de Sales**
- ✦ **Joining the parish**
- ✦ **Getting Involved**
- ✦ **Ministries & Groups**

**Safe Environment Victim Assistance Hotline**  
Call 866-535-SAFE

PRAY FOR OUR SICK AND HOMEBOUND

During the General Intercessions at our weekend Masses, we remember all members of our parish and community who are homebound or suffering any illness. Please remember the following in your prayers this week:

Jean Arlotta; Mary Anthony; Jo Augusta; Nancy Balding; Jeff Baker; Colette & Clayton Bean; Jerry DeBenedetto; Jennifer Bland; Margaret Burnett; Marcia Brown; Maria Capone; Alice & Christos Chamis; Albina & Chin Chua; Eva Crowley; Lillian Davids; Bea Davis; Rosemary Donohue; Eileen Dowling; Christine Drap; Jason Ferrigan; Susan Fleming; Adela Florey; Dot Gregory; Marjorie Goode; Mary Jane Haga; Mary Jane Harvey; Jane Helmer; Denise Herron; Ruth & Kenneth Jones; Aileen Koch; Bill & Donna LaMountain; Alice Lefebvre; Peggy McIntyre; Terry Mercaldo; Lee Meyer; Monique Mueller; Nelida Muniz; Kathleen O'Donnell; Johnathan Palermo; Louise Peloquin; Bill Perkins; Helen Pischak; Rosalind Riggio; Nancy Rizzo; Shelia Rogers; Julia Schmidt; Susan Sheehan; Tom Shreve; Betty Short; Bob Smith; Hugo Sotolongo; Corrine Stavely; Katherine Strubing; Marisa Suarez; Mary Sunderland; Maria Tadipa; Richard Thomas; Angel David Torres



Winter 2024

# HOLY INFANT

Live Jesus

The Summer and Fall have brought many beautiful changes to our parish. Many of our ministries have expanded, allowing them to involve more of our parish family as well as have a greater impact in our community.

We are thrilled to announce that we will begin preparing for the renovation of the DeSales Center. With the support of our staff and planning committee, we have a beautiful plan in place with our architect that we are ready to share with the parish in early 2025.

*"For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do."*

*-Ephesians 2:10*

## Young Adults

The Young Adults Ministry has blossomed into a flourishing and active group. The group has fostered a strong sense of community and found key ways they can support the life of our parish with their unique gifts.

## Music Ministry

In late October our parish dedicated the new organ installed in the church. Rudy Lucente, who is the designer of the Allen RL-66 organ, played a special dedication concert in honor of this exciting addition.

## Annual Parish Celebration

Our Annual Celebration was held in October this year coinciding with the 54th anniversary of our parish. With the support of volunteers and the Knights we welcomed a record number of guests - over 400!

## SYC 2024

Share Your Christmas (SYC) was widely successful this year! EVERY gift on the wish list was claimed and delivered to local families the Durham area. This ministry effort is a highlight of the Christmas season at Holy Infant.

## Knights of Columbus

The Blessed Louis Brisson Council, Holy Infant's Knights of Columbus Council, was presented with the Star Council award for the Fraternal Year 2023-2024. This is the highest recognition of achievement that can be awarded to an individual Council.







## Parish Focus

**Nourishing Our Bodies, Souls, and Communities** is the focus for Holy Infant throughout 2023 into 2024. This is in response to Pope Francis's apostolic exhortation *The Joy of the Gospel*. As Pope Francis calls us to this missionary creativity, our response is to focus our efforts as a parish on meeting the physical, spiritual, and emotional needs of our parishioners and the greater Durham community.

# Get Involved



From the very beginning of our Church, the heart of discipleship has been a twofold dedication to prayer and service, which mirrors Jesus' dual commandment to love God and neighbor (see Mark 12:30-31). Discipleship is the mission of our Parish, and stewardship flows from discipleship. Stewardship is the deliberate manner in which we shape ourselves to live lives of service and prayer in imitation of Jesus Christ. Through stewardship, we decide the best way to offer the gifts that we have received for the welfare and sanctification of others. As a community, our gifts are diverse and this gives us multiple ways to reach out to the world within and beyond our parish. -Father Robert

## Ministry for all ages & abilities

Holy Infant offers parishioners ample opportunities to answer that call through outreach to our community. The Peace, Justice and Human Concerns Commission promotes awareness within the parish of social justice issues ranging from hunger and homelessness to the sanctity and dignity of all lives. Parishioners connect with and assist various organizations and partner with local groups engaged in social justice initiatives.



For more information on ministries at Holy Infant, reach out to Lynn Sale at the email listed below or use the QR code to the right to visit our website.



Pastoral Associate, Lynn Sale | [lynns@holyinfantchurch.org](mailto:lynns@holyinfantchurch.org)



# FAITH DEVELOPMENT

*We are committed to whole community catechesis and faith formation that brings people of all ages together to explore some aspect of our Catholic faith through prayer, service activities, learning sessions, and community building.*

## *From Birth to Adulthood*

Our lifelong faith formation process aims to foster in our minds and hearts the experience of God's reign in our midst as we form communities of faith, proclaim God's Word, celebrate the Sacraments, and build a just and compassionate society, in which all people share God's gifts.

We invite you to get involved in one of the many opportunities available to grow in your Catholic faith. Whether you are new to the Church or have been Catholic your entire life - there is a space for you at Holy Infant. God calls us all to grow together in faith.

## *Where To Start*

Below you'll find a short list of the ways you can begin to explore and expand your Catholic faith. For more information, we invite you to reach out to Michalene or Amber using the emails listed above & below or to explore our website using the QR code at the bottom left corner of this page.

### **Children & Youth**

- Catechesis of the Good Shepherd
- Family Formation
- Junior Youth Ministry
- Total Youth Ministry
- Vacation Bible Camp
- Catholic School Enrollment

### **Adults**

- Adult Faith Formation
- Becoming Catholic
- Bible Studies

### **Sacrament Preparation**

- Baptism
- First Reconciliation
- First Eucharist
- Confirmation





# WE'RE LOOKING FORWARD TO

## ➔ Elisabeth von Trapp



For Elisabeth Von Trapp, "the sounds of music" are part of her earliest memories. Elisabeth is the granddaughter of the

legendary Maria and Baron Von Trapp, whose story inspired *The Sound of Music*. Singing professionally since childhood, Elisabeth has enthralled audiences from European cathedrals to D.C.'s Kennedy Center. See her live on **February 1st**.

## ➔ Sip & Paint with Br. Mickey McGrath



Adults of all ages are invited to a special Sip & Paint night hosted by Oblate Brother Mickey McGrath. Mickey is the current

Salesian artist, as well as a talented speaker. Brother Mickey's works can be found in numerous spots around Holy Infant. Save the date for this fun event on **February 21st!**

## ➔ Dana Catherine



With the lyrical honesty of intimate prayer, Dana Catherine's music captivates listeners, calling them to dive

deeper into the heart of God with childlike surrender. We welcome Dana **March 9th/10th** for our 2025 Lenten Mission.



# WHAT'S COMING THIS SPRING

When choosing the theme of nourishing of our bodies, souls, and communities, our efforts were guided by 3 John 1:2, calling us to be "as healthy in body as you are strong in spirit." At Holy Infant, we nourish our bodies through our signature hospitality and many fellowship events throughout the year such as our Pancake Breakfasts & Fish Fries hosted by the Knights of Columbus.

As Catholics, we know that our souls are nourished by receiving the Eucharist, the true body & true blood of Jesus Christ, at the Mass. The greater Durham Community is also impacted by the good work of our 5 hunger-focused service ministries, who work to meet the needs of our neighbors in need.

We are committed to continuing this work through 2025 and have focused our efforts & ministries to align with the parish focus of **Nourishing our Bodies, Souls & Communities**. Prayerfully consider where you currently are in your life. Are you in a space where you can help provide nourishment to others? Are you in need of nourishment?

If you are in need of nourishment, we are here to help! Please contact our parish office so we can connect you with the best person or ministry to assist you.

### Holy Infant Parish Office

Monday-Thursday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.; closed Friday

Office: 919-544-7135

[info@holyyinfantchurch.org](mailto:info@holyyinfantchurch.org)



# Christmas Flowers

## Donated By:

Mr & Mrs Patrik Conteh  
Mr Jim Navi  
Mrs Pat Selca  
Mrs Gert O'Donnell  
Dr & Mrs James White  
Mr Alex McCusker  
Mr & Mrs Brian Brave  
Thomas & Laurie Slade  
Mr & Mrs Nicholas Di Benedetto  
Mr & Mrs Felipe Rodriguez  
Mr & Mrs William Hunt Jr  
Mr & Mrs Alan Dippy  
Mr & Mrs John Modrak  
Mr & Mrs Jerome Gerding  
Mr & Mrs Raymond Zeillmann  
Mrs Patricia Berzins  
Mr Mark Szczesiul  
Mrs Janice Ryan  
Dr & Mrs John Edmond  
Mr & Mrs Conrad & Evelyn Baylon-Magtalas  
Mr & Mrs Samuel Applegate  
Ms Carol Owen  
Mrs Caring Green  
Mrs Mary Kennery  
Mr & Mrs James Sullivan  
Ms Debra Sedlak  
Mr Joseph Porcelli  
Ms Hedwig Metzen  
Mr & Mrs Paul Evansky Jr  
Mr & Mrs Cruz  
Ms Carol Vroom  
Mr & Mrs Anthony Raviele  
Mr & Mrs Everardo Gutierrez  
Mrs Mignon Schooler  
Mr & Mrs Francis Baylon  
Mrs Ruth Phillips  
Mr & Mrs Jim Gadwood  
Mr & Mrs Steven Marino  
Tom & Erica Haba  
Mrs Sondra Carver  
Dr & Mrs Lee Meyer  
Mrs Renate Quintavalli  
Mrs Joan Thomas  
Mrs Anne T Sloan  
Mr & Mrs Edgardo Turla  
Mr & Mrs Joe Carr  
Mr & Mrs Craun Fansler  
Miss Almira Gannaban  
Ms Salvacion Gannaban

## In Memory/Honor Of:

Ida, Mary, Amy  
Diella Drejat, Nic Shkeli, Drela Selca, Gjokas Farmili  
Loved Ones  
  
Mary McLaughney, Ian McCusker  
Brave/McQueen Family & Friends  
Andrew and JoAnn Slade, Kenneth and Mary Wilcox  
DiBeneditto Family, Cottone Family  
The Cruz-Lazo Family, The Urbizu Family, The Rodriguez Family, God Bless the USA  
  
Joseph Quintavalli, Roy Dippy  
Loved Ones  
Jeffry Gerding; Jean and Alan Reed; Reinecke, Gerding, and Moeller Families  
Becker-Zeillmann Family, Marian Eberwien, Ivy Anthony  
Burke Family, Vinci Family  
  
Dawn Carol Ryan  
Kevin Edmond  
Maureen T Baylon-Magtalas, Angelo M Baylon, Roderic T Tinio, Paz & Conrado Magtalas Sr, Loved Ones  
SheriLynn Applegate; Smith, Applegate and Zaring Families; Wendi Trexler  
Janet Klispie, John & Connie Owen, Deceased Members of the Owen & Marlinski Families,  
Mr & Mrs Abundio Abayata (Fam)  
Tom Kennery  
  
Clements/Sedlak Family  
  
Dottie McCluskey, Bill McCluskey, Ruby Vera Cruz, Manny Cruz  
Roger Vroom, Carolyn & James Connelly, Claire and James Vroom, James and Susan Vroom  
David and Shirley Connelly, Patrick, and Marion Raviele  
  
Maureen Magtalas  
Gertrude Slaircek  
  
Theresa Davis, Michael A Davis, Thus Davis, Kenneth Ferricks  
Edson Amado  
Carver Meyer, Doug Carver  
Lee Meyer Family  
Pat McGinn  
Sharon & Joe Thomas  
Richard D Sloan  
  
Joe and Valerie Carr, George Siler  
Teofilo Abarquez, Pilar Abarquez, Ambrosia Abayare  
Dominador Narag, RosaLinda Tong, Rebecca Gerlaban, Julieta Narag  
Eugenio Gannaban, Amando Narag Sr, Juana, Narag, Amando Narag Jr





Ms Deronda Elliott  
Mr & Mrs William Smith  
Mr & Dr Robert & Kimberly McAllister  
Mrs Teofilo Bugayong  
Mr & Mrs Jeff Bolte

Ms Joan Britt  
Mrs Anne Sargent  
Mr & Mrs Reynaldo Ramirez  
Mr & Mrs Guy Hendrickson  
Mrs Kristine M Dickerson  
Mrs Ann Campbell  
Mr & Mrs Angelo Alcancia

Mrs Josephine Liss  
Mr & Mrs Robert Potchak  
Ariana & Maurice Lospinoso  
Dr & Dr Allan & Patricia Moorman  
Ms Gorgonia Dacuycuy  
Mr & Mrs Tomasz Zola  
Mr & Mrs Robert Herrick  
Mr & Mrs Mark Prokop  
Mrs Norie English  
Mr & Mrs James Briggs  
Mr & Mrs Jerry Javellana

Mrs Karen Baker  
Mr & Mrs Sylvester Okpalakunne

Mr & Mrs Stephen Matts

Ms Nancy Davidovich

Lorraine Gless

Thomas Stoffel

Gerry & Bill Homovec

Kathleen A Hunt

Shawn Ryan

Grace Young

Alison Fleming

Gene Fry

Deborah Lewis

Joan Holland

Jennifer Tenhover

Lizza Umali

Margaret Bowers

Mary Ann Clark

Renee Stoj

Chris, Renee, & Jackson Stoj

Joan Donovan

Elson Roaquin

Judy Fersch

Mikeirene Pohlman

Kerry Weir

Anthony Mitch

Nancy Palumbo

Paulene Elliott  
Shirley Dutton  
Ellen & Bob McAllister

John & Lousise Cibula, Martha Eddy, George Riper, Stanley & Marie Wolking, Edward & Dorthy Bolte

The Davin Family, The Britt Family, The McSharry Family

Will Sargent, Bill Battis

August & Rosalie Paolercio, Francisco & Evangelina Ramirez, Loved Ones

Duboy Family, Perza Family, Hendrickson Familes, Harrison Familes

Paul & Jhon Delolro, Lucy Luvart, Paul & Mary Dickerson

Kerry Campbell, Helen & George Bols

Emmanuel & Genoveva Sysgo; Dangio, Albina, & Arsenio Alcancia; Caring, Curing, & Rolando Villena, Poor Souls in Purgatory

Ostrowski Family, Liss Family

In memory of the deceased members of the Fisher-Potchak families

Nathaniel Moorman, Ruth & Jerome Gripka, Henry & Virgina Moorman

Juan Dacuycuy Jr, Eulie Dacuycuy, Cerdel Von Arias, Mario Solitario

Thomas English

Larry Baker, Charles Blankenship, Anna Blankenship, Dana Baker

John Crisalli, Dan & Irene Rigney

Jacob and Margaretha Gless

Robert & Mary Stoffel

Leo & Theresa Pasciak

Angela T Ryan, Eric J Ryan

Lomazzo & Young Familes

Susan Fleming

James Wayne Thomas

Bob and Ellie Lewis

Rick, Zane, Robert and Viola Holland

Gagne Family (James, Lucy, Gerry, Elaine)

Trixie Umali

George and Marie Drescher

Patricia Maria Clark and Robert Burton Clark

Stan & Peg Stoj

Dad & Mom Stoj

Jack Donovan

Marie Tadipa

Ken & Connie Fersch, Garland & Betty Hendricks

Deceased members of Vara-Pohlman Family

John & Janet Hartz

Maria Mitch, Betty & Paul Hirschauer

Michael & Nancy Palumbo





Mary J Yglesias

Tim Liston

Diane Aresenault

Marjorie Russo

Marjorie Russo

Carol Dziekanowski

Elizabeth Rowley

Ms Darleen Butters

Mr Schmeidler & Ms Edwards Schmeidler

Diana Marie Yglesias

Rose & William Truscio

Phyllis and Samuel Russo

Julia and William Schmidt

Josephine Basile

Ross and James Rowley

Loved ones

Cyril, Mildred, & Alice Schmeidler; and Lamar & Vesper Edwards



God bless  
& keep you  
this Christmas



# OBLATES OF ST. FRANCIS DE SALES



The US Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB), explains that Advent “is a time of preparation that directs our hearts and minds to Christ’s second coming at the end of time and to the anniversary of Our Lord’s birth on Christmas.” Well, maybe a dash of self-awareness and a measure of Salesian humility can both vitalize a dull definition and our Advent.

I pray this will be particularly true for those of us whose hearts and minds have been injured by our own and others’ egoism, addiction, cynicism, resentment, or materialism. I know that all of us who are mending a hole in the soul hold a mixture of hope and fear in our hearts. Advent is a mending season rich with opportunities to find and know the God who repairs and redeems. Like mending Interstate 95, the work seems interminable but at last, we can enjoy the drive!

Certainly, we are not hoping for toys this Christmas, but rather for soul-healing and fulfillment for each of us, those we love, and the wounded world. So, let us ready hearts and minds to hear John the Baptist this Sunday. He will call on us to repent and then will loudly (so I imagine) proclaim: “Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths... we shall see the salvation of God!” (Luke 3.1-6)

Both experience and Francis de Sales tell me that hearts and minds, once touched by God’s love, learn to be

quieted, directed, disciplined, and urged toward Christ-centered meaning, purpose, and wholeness. So, we begin by cultivating an interior awareness that our God is most courteously showing us the “good way” ... “Thus says the Lord: ‘Stand by the roads, and look, and ask for the ancient paths, where the good way is; and walk in it, and find rest for your souls’” (Jeremiah 6.16). Let us be quiet for long moments and open wide our hearts and minds to His perfecting peace. During Advent we listen, He mends the streets.

Perversely, egoism, addiction, etc. only intoxicate—an unpleasant thought maybe. But it speaks to the deadly illusion that consumption (chemicals, things, people, or sensuality) will mend the soul’s hole. But no, it is a merciless and addictive algorithm, and we find that sooner, later, or too late, we are a person we don’t want to be, living a life we don’t want to live. The U-turn we need begins with sober humility, and this Advent can be our season to foster a habit of humble reflection, receiving humbly our redemption.

In his Christmas Eve sermon of 1620, Francis described Jesus’ humility in this way:



## *“Now the Savior also became Incarnate to teach us spiritual sobriety.”*

This, he continues, is shown in Jesus' longsuffering on His path to the cross, always attentive to the Father's will. We can reflect on this through familiar words from Philippians 2 (5-8) ... though Jesus was God, he “emptied himself, taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. And being found in human form he humbled himself and became obedient unto death, even death on a cross.” Jesus did not disdain, rather He embraced, the human condition of relative powerlessness which we experience in so many situations. Nothing better conjures this reality than a newborn.

Humility can be born in us when our hunger for God's redemptive self-gift in Christ and our gratitude for His curative power brings us again to the manger wherein, we shall see the salvation of God! During Advent, we gratefully lean forward in anticipation of that gift being born into the world for us. It is thus that we again take up the olde holy hymn...

“Yet in thy dark streets shineth, the everlasting light  
The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.”

*-Fr. Mark Plaushin, OSFS*  
**Love. Learn. Serve.**

*The mission of the Oblates of St. Francis de Sales is to grow as a religious community in loving union with God and with each other, to share our charism with the People of God, and affirm them in “living Jesus” as the needs of the Church dictate. Following the example of our founder, Bl. Louis Brisson, OSFS, and in accordance with the spirit of St. Francis de Sales, we Oblates place ourselves under the guidance of the Holy See (See of Rome), in the pursuit of this mission.*

*Learn more about the Oblates using the QR code below.*

