

NATIVITY OF OUR LORD

CATHOLIC CHURCH



4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT · DECEMBER 18, 2016

IMAGES

Cover Art

Photo of Nativity scene courtesy of Nativity parishioner Dan Anderson: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/stonebridgedapper>

Photos Wanted!

Have any great photos that you took at Nativity? From weddings to Donut Sunday, we'd love to highlight the vibrancy, faith, and beauty of our parish in the bulletin and other print publications, on the website, and through our various social media outlets. Please send photos to ihuss@nativity-mn.org and let us know who should get the credit. Thank you!



MEN'S CLUB

Christmas Tree Lot - Ending December 23

The Nativity Men's Club is sponsoring its annual Christmas Tree Lot now through Friday. Peanuts, beverages, Christmas music, and the usual good cheer will be served. Come see us soon for the best selection of the always popular Fraser fir, balsam, spruce, and other quality Christmas trees. There will also be a limited number of wreaths, garland, and spruce tips on sale at the lot. As always, free delivery and set up of any Christmas tree is provided for those in need.



We're located one block west of Fairview between Wellesley and Stanford. Contact Tree Lot Chairman Pat Bollom at (612) 599-8096 or pat@sdata.us with any questions.



Hours of operation:

Monday-Thursday 5:30-8pm
Saturday 9am-8pm

Friday 3-8pm
Sunday 9am-7pm

32nd Annual Fr. John W. Kelley Cribbage Open - January 6

Calling all cribbage players: The mid-winter classic is back! Grab a partner, young or old, man or woman, and come to Steiner Hall on Friday, January 6 to play in the 32nd Annual Fr. Kelley Open. Registration starts at 6pm and play at 6:30. The event is free and food and beverage are provided. If you don't have a partner, stop by and we'll try and find you one. Call Stephen at (651) 470-9294 with questions.



2017 Dues

Letters requesting dues for the coming year (\$20) will be arriving around January 1. You can mail them in or bring them to the Sports Stag.

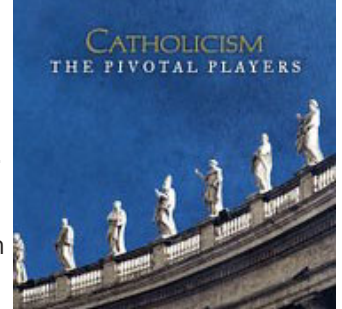
Sports Stag - January 27

Save the date! The annual Men's Club Sports Stag is coming Friday, January 27, featuring guest speaker Mike Veeck, owner of the Saint Paul Saints baseball club.

FAITH FORMATION

Catholicism: The Pivotal Players Video Study

Beginning January 12, all are invited to join a presentation of Bishop Robert Barron's *Catholicism: The Pivotal Players* video series on Thursday mornings following the 8:15am mass. The group study will take place over the course of 13 90-minute sessions of video and discussion led by Linda Kracht and will explore the lives of some of the greatest influencers and shapers of civilization, namely holy men and women of the Catholic Church. The study will cost \$30 per person and will include individual study guides. Please contact Randy Mueller at (651) 696-5454 or rmueller@nativity-mn.org to register.



Classes for Students with Special Needs

Beginning January 11, Nativity will again begin its Catechesis program for Persons with Special Needs. We had a very successful first year with Linda and Dave Kracht leading the program and we look forward to starting again in January. To register for class, please contact Randy Mueller at (651) 696-5454 or rmueller@nativity-mn.org. To discuss class focus and curriculum, contact Linda Kracht at (651) 699-0492.

NATIVITY SCHOOL

Come Tour Nativity of Our Lord School!

This is an exciting time as we begin the process of welcoming prospective families to Nativity School. Choosing a school for your child is one of the most important decisions for parents. We will be offering individual tours this fall and early winter for those interested in learning more about Nativity School. We are always pleased to meet prospective families as they seek to find a school in which their children will thrive during their formative years.



Touring during a typical school day provides an opportunity for parents to see the learning process which is grounded in our Catholic faith. We would love to partner with you as your child embarks on this educational journey. If you would like to schedule a tour, please call the school office and speak to Mary Jo at (651) 699-1311. We look forward to meeting you!

Kate Wollan, Principal
Sandy Kane, Assistant Principal

BULLETIN

Early Bulletin Deadlines

Please observe the following upcoming early deadlines:

- New Year's - Submissions for the January 1 bulletin are due by noon on Thursday, December 22
- Baptism of Our Lord - Submissions for the January 8 bulletin are due by 8am on Thursday, December 29
- 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time - Submissions for the January 15 bulletin are due by 8am on December 30

INFORMATION

Pastor

Father Patrick Hipwell (pictured)



Mass & Prayer Times

Lord's Day Mass Saturday 5pm; Sunday 7am, 8:15am, 9:30am (Steiner Hall), 11am, 5pm

Daily Mass Mon-Sat 8:15am, Mon-Fri 5pm

Sacrament of Reconciliation Saturday 3:30-4:30pm, Monday-Friday 7:45-8:10am, 4:30-4:55pm

Hearing aid devices are available in the sacristy.

Emergency Anointing of the Sick (24 hours)

(651) 696-5401 (press 1)

Prayer Line 9-7pm	Bette Hoffman	(651) 699-8249
	Mary Kay O'Rourke	(651) 698-5638

Staff Contacts

Pastor	Father Patrick Hipwell	(651) 696-5401
Parochial Vicar	Father John Powers	(651) 696-5440
Permanent Deacon	Deacon Russ Kocemba	(651) 696-5401
Business Administrator	Laura Barr	(651) 696-5423
Secretary/Assistant to Pastor	Leah Driscoll	(651) 696-5401
Principal	Kate Wollan	(651) 699-1311
Early Learning Center Director	Nicole McGie	(651) 696-5437
Faith Formation Director	Randy Mueller	(651) 696-5454
Director of Music & Liturgy	Patrick Henning	(651) 696-5430
Director of Nativity Choir	Rob Pontious	(651) 653-3655
Pastoral Care Coord.	Nancy Shatek-Suek	(651) 696-5444
Development/Comm. Director	B.J. Kranz	(651) 696-5441
Facilities Director	Bill Beltz	(651) 696-5434
Communications Manager	Isaac Huss	(651) 696-5425
Pastoral Council Chair	Tom Kirchner	

kirchner51474.tk@gmail.com

Lannan Parish Center Mon-Thurs 8am-4pm, Fri 8am-Noon

1900 Wellesley Ave. St. Paul, MN 55105

Fax: (651) 696-5458 Phone: (651) 696-5401

School Office 1900 Stanford Avenue (651) 699-1311

Website www.nativity-mn.org **Email** info@nativity-mn.org

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SUBMISSIONS

Publishing Deadlines

Content is typically required by Monday at noon for the following Sunday's bulletin, while digital content requires at least two business days prior to desired publication (see opposite page for exceptions). Visit

Parish.Nativity-MN.org/Content-Submissions for more information or to submit copy online for the parish bulletin, online calendar, social media, and email newsletter. Images must still be sent via email to ihuss@nativity-mn.org.

Publishing is not guaranteed, and is generally granted on a first-come, first-served basis, giving priority to official Nativity events. Bulletin submissions can be sent to

bulletin@nativity-mn.org.

–Isaac Huss, Communications Manager and Bulletin Editor

FROM THE HIP

Dear Parishioners and friends,

As we celebrated *Gaudete* Sunday last weekend, we were encouraged to "Rejoice!" Nativity is indeed a joyful community, and the gladness of the Christmas season was particularly evident in our church and school in the past week.

Last Sunday afternoon The Singers' Christmas Concert filled the upper church with songs of anticipation and cheer, followed on Monday by a joyful celebration of the feast day of Our Lady of Guadalupe. Many joyfully provided gifts for the NCCW Giving Tree or participated in Nativity's Annual Blood Drive. Grandparents Apostolate joyfully prayed their weekly rosary for families in the Marian Chapel, and the Prayer Shawl Ministry prayed and knitted their love into afghans for those in need.

Nativity students joined in the rejoicing, too: first graders re-enacted the Nativity Story for their family and friends in the upper church; the 2nd and 4th graders raised voices in song at their annual Christmas concert; the preschoolers sang carols at the Preschool Christmas pageant; and the entire school was awash with red and green clothing in anticipation of Christmas. Nativity Urban Catholic members rejoiced while attending the concert of Christian recording artist (and parishioner) Luke Spehar. And, outside, the Men's Club Christmas Tree Lot continues its welcome to neighbors and parishioners alike with an inviting bonfire, hot cider, and a fine selection of trees.

Rejoice Always!

Now in this fourth week of Advent, we are nearing the our patronal feast day celebration—the birth of Christ. I want to invite you, your friends, and family to worship with us next weekend on Christmas Eve or Christmas Day. Everyone is welcome!

Christmas Eve Masses

4pm	Upper Church
4pm	School Auditorium
6pm	Upper Church
Midnight	Upper Church

Christmas Day Masses

7am	Upper Church
8:15am	Upper Church
11am	Upper Church

Finally, I am so grateful for those of you making plans for remembering Nativity through special Christmas giving. If you have stewardship envelopes, you will find an extra envelope in your box. For others, envelopes for a special Christmas gift can be found at all church entrances and in the vestibule.

Thank you and God's blessings upon you as, together, we await the birth of our Savior.

– Fr. Patrick

SCOUTS

Pasta Dinner – Monday, December 19, 5-7:30pm

All are invited to support the Nativity Scouting programs by joining us for the annual all-you-can-eat Nativity Scout Pasta Dinner this Monday. Scouts will be serving pasta, red sauce, sausages, salad, bread, and dessert. Then head over to the Nativity auditorium for the school's band and pop concert afterwards.



Tickets will be sold at the door: \$5 for individuals, \$25 for families. Nativity sponsors active Girl Scout and Boy Scout programs that help young men and women to become responsible citizens and community members through skills best learned outdoors. Please come support the Scouts and have a great supper!

MUSIC

Choir Anthems - Sunday, December 18 (4th Sunday of Advent)

1. *Angelus ad virginem* (CFC) arr. David Willcocks
2. *Adam lay ye bounden* Boris Ord

STEWARDSHIP

Charitable Giving 2016

Please note that IRS regulations require that all charitable gifts be transferred to the recipient on or before December 31, 2016. If you intend to claim a 2016 income tax deduction for a charitable contribution to Nativity, mailed items must be postmarked by December 31 and hand-delivered items must be delivered by December 31. All gifts placed in the offering plate on or after Sunday, January 1, 2017 are credited to charitable giving for 2017, even if the check is dated 2016. Thank you!

PRAYER

Prayer Line

Did you know the Nativity Prayer Line is available daily to take your prayer requests? Any burden that is laying on your heart will be lifted up daily in prayer by nearly 30 faithful members. To submit your prayer request, please call Bette Hoffman at (651) 699-8249 or Mary Kay O'Rourke at (651) 698-5638 any time between 9am and 7pm. Do you have a few minutes several times a week to join our prayer team? Call Bette or Mary Kay for details.

ADORATION

Adorers are most greatly needed:

- Sunday: 10pm, 12am, 2am, 4am
- Tuesday: 11pm
- Thursday: 3pm
- Friday: 2am, 3am
- Saturday: 2am



Please contact Jim at mcquillan@riffs.com or (763) 746-8244 to sign up for a peaceful hour with Jesus!

CHRISTMAS 2016

Tuesday, December 20

7pm Reconciliation service (church)

Saturday, December 24 (Christmas Eve)

No 5pm mass; No evening confessions

- 4pm mass (church) - cantor and organ
- 4pm mass (school auditorium) - contemporary ensemble
- 6pm mass (church) - cantor and organ
- Midnight mass (church) - Nativity Choir and Summit Hill Brass (prelude begins at 11:30pm)

Sunday, December 25 (Christmas Day)

No 5pm mass; no confessions

- 7am mass (church) - no music
- 8:15am mass (church) - cantor and organ
- 11am mass (church) - Nativity Choir and Summit Hill Brass

The NELC will be closed Friday, December 23. The parish office and NELC will be closed December 26 and January 2. The Adoration Chapel will be closed from 8:15am on Christmas Eve through noon on Christmas Day.

RESPECT LIFE

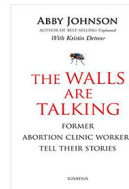
Advent Reflection

The season of Advent calls us to prepare the way for the coming of the Messiah, Emmanuel, God with us. The coming of the Christ Child is greeted with overwhelming joy from Mary and Joseph, the shepherds, the Magi, and the entire heavenly host of angels. May the birth of every child be awaited and celebrated with great joy and thanksgiving!



January Book discussion - January 31

January 22, 1973 was the fateful day that abortion was legalized in America. To bring awareness to this event and its victims, both the unborn and their families, we will discuss *The Walls are Talking, Former Abortion Clinic Workers Share Their Stories* by Abby Johnson. This work narrates the harrowing and life-changing experiences of former abortion clinic workers, including the author, who once directed abortion services at a large Planned Parenthood clinic in Texas. These individuals left their jobs in the abortion industry after experiencing a change of heart. They have come forward with their stories, not for fame or notoriety, but to shed light on the reality of abortion, hoping to lives for the better.



We will meet on Tuesday, January 31 at the home of Karen McCann. Dessert will be served. Break out of your house & comfort zone and join with us in discussing this important work. Newcomers are encouraged and welcomed to attend! Contact Karen McCann at karmccann@comcast.net or (612) 964-4522 for a copy (\$16) and to RSVP.

NCCW

Christmas Giving Tree - Now through January 1
Please consider supporting Keystone Community Services in their ongoing efforts to provide assistance to families in need. There are two ways to give:

1. Help support Keystone's Gifts of Hope Sponsor-a-Family Program by purchasing a suggested item from the wish list below. Drop off your new, unwrapped donation(s) and place them under the Giving Tree, located in the back of the church.



The Gifts of Hope Wish List includes: blankets, clothing (girls and boys ages 2-12), pots and pans, coffee makers, dish sets, toaster ovens, books (preschool through teen), sports equipment, toys, games for younger kids (Candyland, Connect Four, Trouble), games for teens (Cranium, Scene It, Blokus), and passes for family entertainment: movie theaters, museums, zoos, etc.

2. Help support Keystone's ongoing needs by purchasing a suggested item from the list below. Drop off your new, unwrapped donation(s) and place them under the Giving Tree by January 1.

The Ongoing Needs Wish List includes: gas and grocery gift cards, personal care items (soap, toothbrushes, and shampoo), diapers (size 1 and up), toys, plates, towels, blankets (any size), sheets (twin and full), hats, mittens, gloves (adult), socks and underwear (adult and children), and gently used winter coats (adult).



For more information, please contact Emily Thurman at (612) 251-0604.

COMMUNITY

Open House at Visitation - January 3

Visitation School in Mendota Heights will host an Open House for prospective Upper School (grades 9-12) families on Tuesday, January 3 at 7pm. For more information, visit www.visitation.net or call (651) 683-1700.

Called & Gifted Workshops - February 24 - 25

Explore the ancient teaching of the Church on how the gifts (or charisms) of the Holy Spirit work in our life and in the life of your parish. The workshop will be held from 7-9:30pm on Friday, February 24 and 8:30am-4pm on Saturday, February 25 at the Church of St. Paul in Ham Lake. An interview is included in the \$125 registration fee. For more information, contact Jona Winkelman at jona@churchofsaintpaul.com or (763) 757-6910.

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DECEASED

Please remember in your prayers:

Richard Arthur Beckman

May his soul and those of all the faithfully departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace, amen.

Online obituaries: Parish.nativity-mn.org/faithfully-departed

BAPTISMS

Please join us in welcoming our newly baptized members of the Catholic faith!

Isabelle Jewell Doughty

Parents: Sean and Kristen Doughty

Thaddeus John Brown

Parents: Michael and Brooke Brown

Aria Grace Kennedy

Parents: Ryan and Anna Kennedy

Thomas Sylvester Nietfeld

Parents: Joseph and Molly Nietfeld

Name: Dominic Ryan Shannon

Parents: Ryan and Anka Shannon

Baptisms are typically held on first and third Sundays at 9:30am in the church. For first-time parents, required baptismal classes are typically held on the fourth Sunday of each month at 1:30pm in the church.

Call the parish office at (651) 696-5401 to register.

MARRIAGE BANNs

Please keep the following couple in your prayers as it prepares to receive the sacrament of Holy Matrimony:

Saturday, January 7, 2016

Isabel Sullivan & Joseph Hughes

To be married at Nativity, the bride, groom, or one of the parents must be an active, registered parishioner for at least six months prior to scheduling a wedding. Contact Leah for more information at ldriscoll@nativity-mn.org.

EMAIL NEWSLETTER

Have you signed up for Nativity News yet? Nativity's weekly email newsletter is delivered every Thursday and highlights events of the upcoming weekend and connects parishioners to helpful resources on the web. Visit parish.nativity-mn.org/email-newsletter to sign up.



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PARISH CALENDAR · DECEMBER 19-25, 2016

Monday, 12/19	Tuesday, 12/20	Wednesday, 12/21	Thursday, 12/22	Friday, 12/23	Saturday, 12/24	Sunday, 12/25
4th Week of Advent	St. Peter Canisius*		St. John of Kanty (pictured at right)		Christmas Eve**	Nativity of Our Lord**
	School 11:30am Dismissal	No School	No School	No School NELC Closed		
	Grandparents' Apostolate Rosary Marian Chapel 8:45am					
Tree Lot Open East Parking Lot 5:30-8pm	Tree Lot Open East Parking Lot 5:30-8pm	Tree Lot Open East Parking Lot 5:30-8pm	Tree Lot Open East Parking Lot 5:30-8pm	Tree Lot Open East Parking Lot 3-8pm		
Boy Scout Pasta Dinner Cafeteria 5-7pm	RCIA Lannan Center Conference Room 7-8:30pm	Faith Formation School 6:45pm				
Band Concert Auditorium 6:30-8pm	Advent Reconciliation Service Church 7pm					
NCCW Meeting Offsite 7-9pm						*Denotes Nativity Relic **See page 3 for liturgy schedule

LITURGY

Volunteers Needed

We are in great need of volunteers for the following:

- Lectors: Daily 8:15am (Mon-Sat) and 5pm (Mon-Fri) masses
- Eucharistic Ministers: (same as above)
 - ⇒ Weekday lectors and greeters are our greatest need
- Greeters: Sunday 9:30am mass

If you are able to help, please contact Patrick Henning at (651) 696-5430 or phenning@nativity-mn.org. Thank you!

MASS INTENTIONS

	8:15am	5pm
M	Bob Fenlon, Sr. +	Dee Hagan +
T	Jimmy Basta +	Jason Adkins and family
W	Mary Ramackel +	Hannah Polsky
Th	Drew Baker +	Pudge Brodzinski +
F	Joseph Hennessey +	Brian Plunkett +
S	-	-

PASTORAL CARE

Memory Café - Wednesday, December 21, 1-3pm

Monthly Memory Cafés for people with dementia and their loved ones are ongoing at Carondelet Village, hosted by Health Star Home Health! The next Memory Café is Wednesday in the Private Family Dining Room, Second Floor. Call (612) 871-3700 for more information or to RSVP.

MASS READINGS

Monday: Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25; Ps 71:3-6, 16-17; Lk 1:5-25

Tuesday: Is 7:10-14; Ps 24:1-6; Lk 1:26-38

Wed.: Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18;
Ps 33:2-3, 11-12, 20-21; Lk 1:39-45

Thursday: 1 Sm 1:24-28; 1 Sm 2:1, 4-8; Lk 1:46-56

Friday: Mal 3:1-4, 23-34; Ps 25:4-5, 8-10, 14; Lk 1:57-66

Saturday: 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8-12, 14, 16; Ps 89:2-5, 27, 29;
Lk 1:67-79

Sunday: Is 62:1-5; Ps 89:4-5, 16-17, 27 29;
Acts 13:16-17, 22-25; Mt 1:1-25 (vigil)

Night: Is 9:1-6; Ps 96:1-3, 11-13; Ti 2:11-14; Lk 2:1-14

Dawn: Is 62:11-12; Ps 97:1, 6, 11-12; Ti 3:4-7; Lk 2:15-20

Day: Is 52:7-10; Ps 98:1-6; Heb 1:1-6; Jn 1:1-18