

NATIVITY OF OUR LORD

CATHOLIC CHURCH



The 2ND SUNDAY of ADVENT • DECEMBER 10, 2023

ABOUT

Parish Mission Statement

Promulgated October 7, 2019

Nativity of our Lord is a vibrant Catholic community committed to helping each person answer the call of Jesus Christ to serve as his disciple by...

- Nurturing a rich sacramental and spiritual life;
- Supporting strong Catholic education and faith formation;
- Fostering fellowship and community;
- And providing abundant opportunities to participate in the parish's long tradition of Christian witness.



Learn more about our parish mission statement at nativitystpaul.org/news/mission-statement.

LEADERSHIP

Pastor | Father Rolf Tollefson (651) 696-5401
Parochial Vicar | Father Bill Duffert (651) 696-5440
Deacon | Rev. Mr. Don Tienter (651) 696-5401

Business Administrator | Laura Barr (651) 696-5423
Director of Advancement | Beth Giese (651) 696-5430
Accounting | Joyce Kotta (651) 696-5436
Parish Secretary | Beth Erickson (651) 696-5401
Facilities Director | Steve Boatman (651) 696-5434
Dir. of Communications & Marketing | Isaac Huss (651) 696-5425

Director of Discipleship | Mahalia Marcelin (651) 696-5441

Director of Music | Brian Carson (651) 696-5401
Nativity Choir Director | Rob Pontious (651) 653-3655
Liturgy Coordinator | John Paul Beane (651) 696-5424

School Principal | Kate Wollan (651) 699-1311
Early Learning Center Director | Nicole Clausen (651) 696-5437

Lay Trustees
Christina Crow (651) 696-5401
Tom Tucci (651) 696-5401

Finance Council Chair
Tom Margarit tmargarit@myboyum.com

Pastoral Council
Lucas Tucker (Chair) (651) 696-5401
Lanita Brandt (Secretary)
Anna Burgason Dirksen Elizabeth Kappenman
Dusty Clements Chris Nei
Nate Hughes Diane Reisdorfer

INFORMATION

Pastor

Father Rolf Tollefson (pictured)



Church

1938 Stanford Avenue
St. Paul, MN 55105

Office Hours

Monday-Thursday: 8:30am-4:30pm
Friday: 8:30am-Noon

Lannan Parish Center (Parish Office)

Phone: (651) 696-5401 | Fax: (651) 696-5458
1900 Wellesley Avenue, St. Paul, MN 55105

Website | nativitystpaul.org

Email | info@nativitystpaul.org

Staff Email Directory | nativitystpaul.org/parish-staff

   @NativityStPaul

School Office

(651) 699-1311 | school@nativitystpaul.org
1900 Stanford Avenue, St. Paul, MN 55105

STANDARD MASS & PRAYER TIMES

All liturgies are open to the public and do not require reservations. See back page calendar for this week's schedule.

Lord's Day Mass

Saturday: 5pm vigil
Sunday: 7:30am, 9am, 11am, 5pm

Daily Mass

Monday-Saturday: 8:15am; Tuesday, Friday: 5pm

Confession

Tuesday, Friday: 4:15-4:45pm
Wed.: 4:30-5:30pm; Sat.: 3:30-4:30pm

Adoration

Sat.: 6-9pm; Sun: 6-10pm; Mon.: 9am-9pm;
Tues.: 9am-5pm, 5:30pm-12am;
Wed.: 12-8am, 3-5pm; Fri.: 9am-5pm, 5:30-9pm

Emergency Anointing of the Sick (24 hours)

(651) 696-5401 (press 1 at the recording)

Prayer Line (9am-7pm)

Mary Kay O'Rourke | (651) 698-5638

St. Vincent de Paul Society

Pastoral Care

(651) 334-2935

(651) 696-5401

FUNERALS

Our Faithfully Departed

Please remember in your prayers:

Adeline Schmidt
Jean Staples

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

Scheduling

Please always contact the parish office when anyone has died at (651) 696-5401 or info@nativitystpaul.org. Please also tell us if you or someone you know is near death, has experienced a significant decline in health, has entered palliative or hospice care, or is having surgery, and we will arrange a sacramental visit from a priest.

HOLY MATRIMONY

Wedding Planning

To be married at Nativity of Our Lord, the bride, groom, or one of their parents must be an active, registered parishioner for at least six months prior to requesting a wedding date. Contact the parish office to inquire at (651) 696-5401 or info@nativitystpaul.org. *Photo by Jennifer Sanders (jenniferlynnsanders.smugmug.com).*



Cana Dinner | January 27

Looking for a great date night? Save the date for a fun night out with other couples from Nativity of Our Lord at our annual Cana Dinner on Saturday, January 27. The Cana Dinner is a night to celebrate your marriage and lift up the good news about being married. Engaged couples, married couples, widows, and widowers all are invited to attend.

The night will consist of Mass at 5pm followed by a social hour, dinner, and guest speaker Kate Walsh Soucheray, Ed.D, Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist Emeritus. She will present "A Virtuous, Catholic Marriage: Our Call to Transform the World." Free babysitting will be available! Registration and further details will be available soon.

BAPTISMS

Scheduling

Baptisms are celebrated on Sundays at 12pm, and an informational class is required for first-time parents. Contact the parish office at (651) 696-5401 or info@nativitystpaul.org for more information. *Photo courtesy of Brenna Gerten*



SENIORS

Advent Brunch | Saturday, December 16, 8:45am (*new*)
Next Saturday, December 16, following the 8:15am Mass, Nativity School students will be hosting an Advent Brunch for senior parishioners in Steiner Hall. Guests will be served by middle school volunteers and all will join together for prayer and reflection on the coming of Our Lord. Contact Corey Soper at csoper@nativitystpaul.org to learn more and to RSVP.



PARISH LIFE

Donut Sunday | Sunday, December 10, 8am-12:30pm
Join us after any of the morning Masses this Sunday for some coffee, donuts, milk, juice, and great conversation with your fellow parishioners at Donut Sunday in Steiner Hall, sponsored by the Men's Club.

Men's Club Christmas Tree Lot | Open until sold out
The annual Christmas Tree Lot is back!

We are again offering Christmas music, the usual good cheer, a warm fire, and assistance with trimming and placement of your tree on your vehicle for transport home. We are serving the best selection of quality Christmas trees as usual, from Fraser, Balsam, and Douglas Firs to Scotch and White Pines. There's also a limited number of wreaths, garland, and spruce tips on sale. Find us on the east end of the school parking lot.

We can always use a hand, so don't be shy — visit nativitymen.org/trees and sign up to work a shift! Contact our 2023 Tree Lot Chairs Darcy Tinnes at (612) 987-3450 or Pat Bolloom at (612) 599-8096 with any questions. See you there! *Pro Liberis!*

Hours of operation (*or until sold out!*):

- Monday-Thursday: 5:30-8pm
- Friday: 3-8pm
- Saturday-Sunday: 9am-8pm

Christmas Giving Tree | Now through Dec. 19

Please remember our neighbors in need as you plan your holiday gift giving. The Christmas Giving Tree is located in the back of the church and is one of our annual Advent programs. It supports participants of Catholic Charities' programs for children, home stability including homeless teens, seniors, and the disabled. Simply take an ornament from the tree, purchase the item listed, and return the unwrapped item along with the ornament to the Giving Tree area by Tuesday, December 19.



Small additions to your gift of basic needs like socks and underwear are always appreciated. Contact Julie Talens Paske at (651) 600-0245 with questions. Thank you!

ADORATION

New Monday Hours

We have now expanded our weekly schedule of Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament to include the hours from 9am-9pm on Mondays. Thank you to all who volunteered to make this possible!

Hours Expansion Effort

Our longterm goal to return to Perpetual Adoration: 24 hours of Adoration, 7 days a week remains the same, and is now one step closer (see above). But we're not done yet! If you are open to committing to a new or additional hour in the near future (the next 1-2 months or so), please fill out the form at nativitystpaul.org/adoration-future-expanded-hours-interest-survey. Thank you!

The coming of Jesus at Bethlehem brought joy to the world and to every human heart. The same Jesus comes again and again in our hearts during Holy Communion. He wants to give the same joy and peace... Let us pray much for this grace of peace and joy in our own heart, in our communities, in our society, and in the Church.

— St. Teresa of Calcutta

SCHOOL

Tours for Prospective Families

We are now again offering individual tours this fall and early winter for those interested in learning more about Nativity School. Choosing a school for your child is one of the most important decisions for parents! We love helping families who want their children to 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 with Mary Jo at (651) 699-1311. We look forward to meeting you!

COMMUNITY

Tutors Wanted

The Catholic Tutor Corps has a number of schools in the St. Paul area in need of tutors: St. Jerome, St. Pascal Regional, St. Peter Claver, Holy Trinity, Immaculate Conception, and Community of the Saints. The need has increased greatly after Covid, as many children fell further behind in their education. If you would like more information or merely want to discuss our program, please contact Richard McGuire, President, at ctutorcorps@gmail.com or (612) 360-0677.

COMMUNICATIONS

Email Scheme Impersonating Fr. Tollefson

Fraudulent emails claiming to come from "Fr. Rolf Tollefson" are being sent to parishioners with the intent to confuse, manipulate, and steal. Do not make any purchases via a solicitation through text or email. For more information, visit nativitystpaul.org/news/alert-phishing-scam-fr-tollefson, or contact the parish office at (651) 696-5401 or info@nativitystpaul.org. Please be on guard — and please spread the word!

IMAGES

Cover Image

NCCW Outdoor Christmas Market | By Therese Steinhoff
Sunday, December 3, 2023 | theresesteinhoff.com

SUBMISSIONS

Publishing Deadlines *(update)*

Bulletin 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. Please note the following early deadlines:

- *(Submissions for the 12/17 bulletin were due 12/7.)*
- *Submissions for the Sunday, December 24 (Christmas Eve) bulletin are due by 9am this Tuesday, December 12.*
- *Submissions for the 12/31 bulletin are due by 12/19.*
- *Submissions for the 1/7 bulletin are due by 12/29.*

Visit nativitystpaul.org/content-submissions for more information, or to submit copy for the parish bulletin, website calendar, social media, and email newsletter. Images must be sent to ihuss@nativitystpaul.org. Bulletin submissions can also be sent to bulletin@nativitystpaul.org.

Publishing is not guaranteed, and is generally granted on a first-come, first-served basis, giving priority to official Nativity of Our Lord events and communications.

— Isaac Huss, Comms. Director and Bulletin Editor

HEALTH & SAFETY

Pastoral Safety

Nativity of Our Lord and its leadership is committed to protecting children, youth, and vulnerable adults in all parishes, Catholic schools, and other church ministries, here at Nativity and beyond.

To learn more about our commitment to protecting the vulnerable, contact our Safe Environment Coordinators:

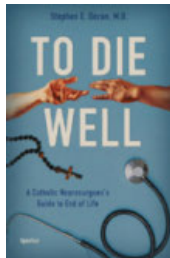
- Parish: Beth Erickson, Parish Secretary
(651) 696-5401 | info@nativitystpaul.org
- School: Molly Dressen, Administrative Assistant
(651) 696-5411 | mdressen@nativitystpaul.org

MEN'S CLUB

37th Fr. Kelly Cribbage Tournament | January 5
The 37th Fr. John W. Kelly Cribbage Open Tournament is Friday, January 5 in Steiner Hall. Grab a partner, young or old, man or woman, and come to this free event hosted by the Men's Club. If you don't have a partner, come anyway and we will work to find you one. Sign-up starts at 5:30pm, with play starting at 6:30pm. As usual, a light dinner and beverages will be provided. Call John Dery at (651) 308-1605 with questions. *Pro Liberis!*

RESPECT LIFE

Book Discussion | TBA Mid-January
Our next book discussion will cover *To Die Well, A Catholic Neurosurgeon's Guide to End of Life* by Dr. Stephen Doran. Dr. Doran draws from his vast experience as a neurosurgeon, bioethicist, and permanent deacon to provide a detailed, yet readily understandable guide to the Catholic perspective on the art of dying well. He includes stories "helping us to understand the spiritual and moral issues related to death and the process of dying, along with the rites that accompany the death of a Catholic. *To Die Well* will help readers contemplate, pray about, and prepare for the end of their earthly lives," according to Ignatius Press.



Join us in reading this important work for a discussion in mid-January on a date to be announced. Contact Karen at (612) 964-4522 for more information or for a copy, which is available for \$19 or for loan.

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Kristee Flynn from LPi, our bulletin printer, will be securing new ads for our church in the coming weeks. As a valuable member of the business community, we invite you to expand your reach and grow your business with a print ad in our parish bulletin and/or a digital ad featured on ParishesOnline.com.

Kristee Flynn
Cell: (651) 303-3461
KFlynn@4lpi.com

LITURGY

4th Sunday of Advent & Christmas | Dec. 23-25
Please make plans to join us for Mass on both the 4th Sunday of Advent as well as the Solemnity of the Nativity of Our Lord (Christmas), our parish's patronal feast day — which this year fall on consecutive days.

To fulfill both the Sunday obligation and the Holy Day obligation, attendance at two separate Masses is required: one for the 4th Sunday of Advent liturgy (Saturday evening or Sunday morning) and one for the Christmas liturgy (Sunday afternoon/evening or Monday). See below for Mass times at Nativity of Our Lord.

4th Sunday of Advent:

- Vigil (Saturday, 12/23): 5pm
- Sunday, 12/24: 7:30am, 9am, 11am

Nativity of Our Lord:

- Christmas Eve (Sun., 12/24): 2pm, 4pm, (no 5pm), 6pm
- Midnight Mass: 12am
- Christmas Day (Monday, 12/25): 7:30am, (no 9am), 11am, (no 5pm)

PASTORAL CARE

Holy Communion Off Campus

If the weather, an illness, on any other reason prevents anyone from attending a Mass, and he or she would like to receive Holy Communion sometime in the week that follows, contact the parish office at (651) 696-5401 or info@nativitystpaul.org and we'll come to them (or you!)

Anointing of the Sick

Anyone who is seriously ill is encouraged to contact the parish office at (651) 696-5401 to receive the sacrament of Anointing as soon as possible, and if anticipating major surgery to make an appointment prior to the operation.

Prayer Shawl Ministry

We are looking to relaunch a formal Prayer Shawl Ministry here at Nativity of Our Lord. If you have been knitting or crocheting for the sake of those in need of comfort and solace or celebration and joy, or would like to join a group doing the same, please contact the parish office at (651) 696-5401 or info@nativitystpaul.org.

NOW HIRING

Assistant Director of Discipleship

We are hiring a new person for our Discipleship Office! Under Fr. Rolf Tollefson's leadership, Nativity of Our Lord's mission and vision are expanding, and we have discerned that we will hire a Assistant Director of Discipleship to serve under Mahalia Marcelin, Director of Discipleship. (This is an updated title.) Visit nativitystpaul.org/careers for a job description.



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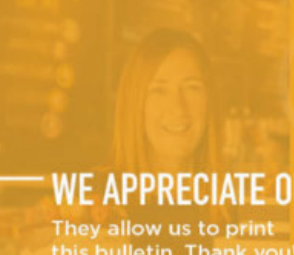


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CALENDAR • DECEMBER 11-17

Mon., 12/11	Tuesday, 12/12	Wed., 12/13	Thurs., 12/14	Friday, 12/15	Sat., 12/16	Sun., 12/17
Mass: •8:15am	Mass: •8:15am •5pm	Mass: •8:15am	Mass: •8:15am	Mass: •8:15am	Mass: •8:15am •5pm (<i>vigil</i>)	Mass: •7:30am •9am •11am •5pm
Rosary for Life: •8:45am	Grandparents Rosary: 8:45am Confession: •4:15-4:45pm	Rosary for Life: •8:45am Confession: •4:30-5:30pm	Rosary for Life: •8:45am	Rosary for Life: •8:45am Confession: •4:15-4:45pm	Confession: •3:30-4:30pm	
Liturgy times reflect the current week. See page 1 for standard schedule. All morning Masses and Saturday at 5pm are livestreamed and recorded and available at nativitystpaul.org/online-liturgies .						
Adoration: 9am-9pm (<i>new</i>)	Adoration: 9am-5pm, 5:30pm-12am	Adoration: 12-8am, 3-5pm		Adoration: 9am-5pm, 5:30pm-9pm	Adoration: 6-9pm	Adoration: 6-10pm
<i>Pope St. Damasus I</i>	<i>Our Lady of Guadalupe</i> Facilities Mtg. Lannan Center 7am	<i>St. Lucy*</i> Convivium Auditorium 6:30-8pm Faith Formation & OCIA School 6:30-8pm	<i>St. John of the Cross*</i> 2nd and 4th Grade Christmas Concert Auditorium 6:30pm	(<i>2nd Week of Advent</i>) First Grade Paraliturgy (Christmas Pageant) Church 1:45pm	Advent Senior Brunch Steiner Hall 8:45am Magnum Chorum Concert Steiner Hall 6pm	3RD SUNDAY of ADVENT <i>*Nativity relics on display in Heritage Room</i>
Middle School Band Concert Off Campus 4pm						
Tree Lot Open Parking Lot 5:30-8pm (<i>or until sold out!</i>)				Tree Lot: 3-8pm	Tree Lot: 9am-8pm	
Changes to the parish schedule since Tuesday, and sometimes even earlier, are not reflected here. Pulpit announcements share the most up-to-date information, followed by the e-newsletter and website. When in doubt, contact the parish office.						

WEEKLY READINGS

Sunday:	Is 40:1-5, 9-11; Ps 85:9-14; 2 Pt 3:8-14; Mk 1:1-8
Monday:	Is 35:1-10; Ps 85:9-14; Lk 5:17-26
Tuesday:	Zec 2:14-17 or Rv 11:19; 12:1-6, 10; Jdt 13:18-19; Lk 1:26-38 or Lk 1:39-47
Wed.:	Is 40:25-31; Ps 103:1-4, 8, and 10; Mt 11:28-30
Thurs.:	Is 41:13-20; Ps 145:1 and 9-13; Mt 11:11-15
Friday:	Is 48:17-19; Ps 1:1-4 and 6; Mt 11:16-19
Saturday:	Sir 48:1-4, 9-11; Ps 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19; Mt 17:9-13
Sunday:	Is 61:1-2, 10-11; Lk 1:46-50, 53-54 (Is 61:10); 1 Thes 5:16-24; Jn 1:6-8, 19-28

MASS INTENTIONS

		8:15am	5pm (or private)
Mon.	12/11	Jane Doherty +	Katie McKenzie +
Tues.	12/12	Joey Lawder +	Jackie Hernandez +
Wed.	12/13	Fr. Thomas Jones, C.S.P. +	Patrick Hanscom
Thu.	12/14	Kathryn Jones +	Margaret Cambone
Fri.	12/15	Dan Donovan +	Dick Smigiel +
Sat.	12/16	Dan Strub +	-

STEWARDSHIP

Online Giving

We are pleased to offer electronic giving right on our parish website at nativitystpaul.org/online-giving. The QR code at right will bring up a form to give to our general parish "Stewardship" fund, as well as links to donate to 2nd Collections and other targeted giving options. Nativity of Our Lord simply could not carry out its mission without our faithful parishioners and generous donors. Thank you!



SVDP

Christmas Coat (and Winter Wear) Drive

Looking for a way to help those less fortunate this Christmas? Give the gift of warmth in the cold Minnesota winter. Bring new or gently used coats, caps, mittens, and gloves (for men, women, or children) with you to the Men's Club Christmas Tree Lot. Drop them in the bin marked for that purpose. Our St. Vincent de Paul members will see that they get to those who need them. Thank you!

