

# NATIVITY OF OUR LORD

CATHOLIC CHURCH



*The 2ND SUNDAY of LENT • FEBRUARY 25, 2024*

# 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](http://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 Marcellin (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](mailto: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](http://nativitystpaul.org)

**Email** | [info@nativitystpaul.org](mailto:info@nativitystpaul.org)

**Staff Email Directory** | [nativitystpaul.org/parish-staff](http://nativitystpaul.org/parish-staff)

   @NativityStPaul

## School Office

(651) 699-1311 | [school@nativitystpaul.org](mailto: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, 9am-9pm;  
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  
Lucy Plunkett | (612) 817-0351

## Pastoral Care

(651) 696-5401

## St. Vincent de Paul Society

(651) 334-2935

# FUNERALS

## Scheduling

Please always contact the parish office when anyone has died at (651) 696-5401 or [info@nativitystpaul.org](mailto: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.

# 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](mailto:info@nativitystpaul.org) for more information.

# 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 [info@nativitystpaul.org](mailto:info@nativitystpaul.org) or (651) 696-5401.

# LITURGY & PRAYER

## Stations of the Cross | Fridays at 5:30pm

The Stations of the Cross, the devotion of following the footsteps of Christ to his death on Mt. Calvary, will be offered in the church every Friday in Lent shortly after the 5pm Mass. The School will also offer Stations for their students at 2pm on March 8 and March 22, and again invite senior members of the parish to join them.

## Abstinence & Daily Lenten Disciplines

Catholics 14 years of age and older must abstain from eating meat on all the Fridays of Lent in addition to Ash Wednesday and Good Friday.

Each weekday of Lent (except St. Joseph's Day on March 19) is an obligatory day of penance to be marked by prayer and increased devotion to spiritual practices, such as daily Mass, Adoration, increased personal prayer time or spiritual study, self-imposed fasting or abstinence, works of charity, almsgiving, Stations of the Cross (see above), the Rosary, retreats, and especially the sacrament of Reconciliation. Visit [NativityStPaul.org/Lent](http://NativityStPaul.org/Lent) for more information on this great penitential season.

## Sunday of Divine Mercy | April 7 (*new*)

Save the date and prepare to take full advantage of the great graces available on the Feast of Mercy for yourself, your family, and the whole world.

Visit [MercySundayMomentum.org](http://MercySundayMomentum.org) to learn more.

# CHURCH HERITAGE

## "Centennial Sunset" Painting by Joshua Cunningham

Last year, longtime parishioner and professional plein-air artist Joshua Cunningham was inspired to paint our historic parish church on the occasion of its 100-year anniversary. The original image, pictured below and on the front cover of this bulletin, now hangs in our Heritage Room along with the following descriptive note written by Joshua. We are deeply indebted to him for his gracious and generous sharing of his talents with all of us — and with generations to come. Thank you, Joshua!

*This painting shows the low September sun shining through the world around our church, washed by the rain from passing showers. A visual expression of the experience for all who have come to our church over the years after the passing storms in their lives.*

*The evening rays paint the last summer leaves in rich, warm light, creating colors that suggest the coming fall, marking the beginning of another wonderful school year, the crescendo of the County Fair, and rhythms of school and sacraments to follow.*



*Above the wet street reflections are the last summer flowers, the front stairs for wedding photos, and funeral farewells. The stone walls soar up, framing the stained glass. Those windows tell stories from our faith and, by example, show us how we can hold up our broken pieces, inviting His light to shine through.*

*We see the Lord's forgiveness and mercy, like sunlight through the rain, transform us like a rainbow. "I set my bow in the clouds to serve as a sign of the covenant between me and the earth" (Genesis 9:13). One of God's bows bends towards our school, in whose auditorium the parish celebrated her first Masses, and all that continues to flow from our faithful participation in the blessed Eucharist.*

— Joshua Cunningham

Learn more about Joshua and his vocation as artist at [thecatholicspirit.com/news/local-news/plein-air-artist-reflects-on-complementarity-of-painting-and-faith](http://thecatholicspirit.com/news/local-news/plein-air-artist-reflects-on-complementarity-of-painting-and-faith).

# FROM THE PASTOR

## Lenten Prayer Video Series

Our pastor, Fr. Rolf Tollefson, is now offering a seven-part teaching on prayer, with the help of Fr. Bill Duffert, parochial vicar, and Nativity of Our Lord parishioners and staff. The videos provide the featured content for our Lenten Small Groups as part of the Archdiocesan Synod Implementation, and episodes I-IV are now available for all parishioners at [nativitystpaul.org/synod](http://nativitystpaul.org/synod).





## PASTORAL CARE

**March Food Campaign** | March 26 - April 6 (*new*)  
Help us feed the hungry in our community!  
Nativity of Our Lord is again collecting food and monetary donations as part of the MN FoodShare March Campaign in collaboration with Keystone Community Services, our local food shelf partner. Visit [gmcc.org/minnesota-foodshare](http://gmcc.org/minnesota-foodshare) for more information.

Food can be dropped off in the back of church throughout the campaign, which runs through Saturday, April 6. Cash or checks can be placed in the collection, with checks payable to Keystone Community Service, and "food shelf" in the memo. Cash can be placed in the collection baskets in an envelope marked "food shelf." Thank you in advance for your generosity!

### 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.

### 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](mailto:info@nativitystpaul.org) and we'll come to them (or you!)

## RESPECT LIFE

**40 Days for Life Vigil** | Wednesday, Feb. 28, 7am-6pm  
Thank you to those who attended the 40 Days for Life Kick-Off! We welcome everyone to join us in this important effort. Our adopted prayer vigil days are this Wednesday, February 28 and Saturday, March 24. Our goal is to have at least two dedicated prayer volunteers per hour (7am-6pm) at the Planned Parenthood on Vandalia St. on these days, peacefully praying for all who enter and exit there. Visit [tiny.cc/40days-2024-spring](http://tiny.cc/40days-2024-spring) to commit to an hour of prayer. Questions? Contact Karen McCann at [karenmccann3@gmail.com](mailto:karenmccann3@gmail.com) or (612) 964-4522 or visit [40daysforlife.com](http://40daysforlife.com). Thank you for your efforts!

### Assisted Suicide Bill Advances in Minnesota (*update*)

The dangerous End-of-Life Option Act (HF 1930/SF 1813) is advancing in our legislature and, if passed, would have serious repercussions for Minnesotans and beyond. The bill denigrates the standard of care that doctors are expected to provide and encourages a pro-death mentality both in our medical and wider community, eroding trust in our healthcare system. In particular, it disregards the mental health of patients, and has no safeguards against elder abuse or conscience protection for doctors, among other concerns. Please be informed and take a stand for life. To find out more, visit [ethicalcaremn.org](http://ethicalcaremn.org), and let your lawmakers know you oppose this deadly bill.

## SCHOOL PLAY

**Disney's Beauty and the Beast, Jr.** | Feb. 25, Mar. 1-3  
All are invited to this year's 7th and 8th grade production of Disney's Beauty and the Beast, Jr. under the direction of Jay Woods, Michael Loonan, Gary Iverson and Dan Wicker. The students have worked hard and are eager to have you enjoy this spectacular show with them! Show times this Friday, March 1 at 7pm, Saturday, March 2 at 6:30pm, and next Sunday, March 3 at 1pm, all in the Auditorium. Tickets are \$8/adult and \$4/student. Children under five are free. Tickets are available at the door. Finally, seniors are invited to a free "sneak preview" this Sunday, February 25 at 1pm in the auditorium.

## NATIVITY WOMEN

### Trivia Night | March 8

Nativity parishioners: Grab your spouse, friends, and neighbors for the annual Trivia Night! The NCCW is sponsoring this free night of (meatless) chili and soup, snacks, beer, wine, and fun facts! No need to sign up or pay, just grab a friend and come play on Friday, March 8 in Steiner Hall. Dinner is served at 6pm, with trivia at 7pm.

### Pickleball Tournament | March 10

Join the NCCW for the inaugural Pickleball Tournament on Sunday, March 10 in the gym. Whether you're a beginner (11am-2pm) or a seasoned player (2pm-5pm), this tournament is for you. It's also a fundraiser, with proceeds supporting the NCCW and pickleball at Nativity School. Registration is \$75 and will be limited to 16 teams per division. To learn more or to register your team of two (18+ women, men, or mixed), visit [nativitywomen.org/pickleball-tournament](http://nativitywomen.org/pickleball-tournament). Contact Lucy Sullivan at [LucySullivanUSA@comcast.net](mailto:LucySullivanUSA@comcast.net) for more info.

### An Irish Afternoon Tea | March 10

Moms, daughters, grandmothers, aunts, godmothers, sisters, and friends are invited to our annual Irish Afternoon Tea on Sunday, March 10 from 2-4pm in Steiner Hall, featuring Irish music and dancers! Tickets are \$15/adult and \$5/kids 5-12, with proceeds benefiting NCCW ministries. Visit [nativitywomen.org/events/irish-tea-1](http://nativitywomen.org/events/irish-tea-1) to register by this Friday.

## COMMUNITY

### Abria Open House | March 9 (*new*)

Abria offers positive, life-affirming medical and personal support to women and couples facing unexpected pregnancies, just five minutes from Nativity of Our Lord. Come see for yourself at an informal Open House on Saturday, March 9, from 11am-2pm at Abria's St. Paul location (2200 University Ave. W. #160). Tour the facility, meet staff members, and learn more about how Abria is putting a choice for life within reach.

## NATIVITY ELC K-5TH SUMMER CAMP PROGRAM

*Jonathan Padelford*  
*Raptor Center*  
*MN Twins Stadium Tour*  
*Thompson Park and Lunch*

*Saints Game*  
*MN Zoo and Lunch*

**FIELD TRIPS:** *Rad Zoo*  
*SeaQuest*

*Finding Nemo Play*  
*Highland Pool*  
*Blue Sun Soda Company*

*Planetarium*  
*Grand Slam*

*The Science Crew*  
*Science Museum*

*Bowling*  
*Can Can Wonderland*

*St. Kates Picnics*  
*Carbones for lunch*

**THEMES:** *Welcome*  
*Wild Discoveries*  
*Minnesota Week*  
*Animal Planet*  
*Summer Camp Olympics*  
*Under the Sea*  
*Around the World*  
*Lost in Space*  
*Lights, Camera Action Hollywood*  
*Mad Science Week*  
*Movin and Groovin*  
*Spirit Week*



For more information, contact Nicole Clausen at  
(651) 696-5437 or [nclausen@nativitystpaul.org](mailto:nclausen@nativitystpaul.org).  
- 1900 Wellesley Ave | St. Paul, MN 55105 -

## PARISH LIFE

**Fish Fry** | Friday, March 1, 5-6:30pm

Join us this Friday evening for the first of two Lenten Fish Fry events, sponsored by the Nativity Men's Club! This week, we'll serve from 5-6:30pm with the 7th and 8th grade play at 7pm, but to-go orders can be made at the garage on Wellesley Avenue until 8pm.

Come join us in the cafeteria for fried or baked cod, fries or baked potato, veggies, coleslaw, and bread sticks for the kids, along with beverages and great fellowship.

Meals are \$15/adult, \$8/ child, or \$50/household.

Then, on Friday, March 15, we'll serve both dine-in and to-go from 5-8pm. Contact Fish Fry Chair Ian McKiel at [info@nativitymen.org](mailto:info@nativitymen.org) with questions. *Pro Liberis!*

**Daddy-Daughter Dance** | April 12 (*new*)

Calling all Swifties! The Nativity Girl Scouts would like to invite you to save the date for a Taylor Swift-inspired enchanted Daddy-Daughter Dance on Friday, April 12 from 5:30-8:30pm. (Dads: stay tuned for further styling instructions and sign-up info!)

## NATIVITY'S NIGHT TO SHINE

Get ready for an unforgettable Night to Shine Gala and Live Auction on April 6! We're thrilled to extend this special invitation to you for more than just an event; it's a celebration of our vibrant community and an opportunity to create lasting change.

Tickets are on sale now! Reserve your spot at this enchanting night of celebration and generosity at [school.nativity-mn.org/night-to-shine-gala-event](http://school.nativity-mn.org/night-to-shine-gala-event).

Do you have a special connection or talent that could create an extraordinary experience package? Perhaps your company could contribute an item, or you and your friends could team up to fulfill a wish list item. It's easier than ever to contribute to the Silent Auction! Just scan the QR code:



Split the Pot Raffle tickets are in high demand! Reach out to us today at [nativityliveauction@nativitystpaul.org](mailto:nativityliveauction@nativitystpaul.org) to buy your ticket for a chance to win \$7,500.

Let's make this Gala our best one yet, filled with generosity, community spirit, and fun!

With gratitude,  
The Night to Shine Gala & Live Auction Committee





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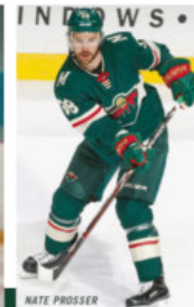
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Nativity of Our Lord Church, Saint Paul, MN

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# CALENDAR • FEBRUARY 26 - MARCH 3

Monday, 2/26	Tuesday, 2/27	Wed., 2/28	Thursday, 2/29	Friday, 3/1	Saturday, 3/2	Sunday, 3/3
<b>Mass:</b> •8:15am	<b>Mass:</b> •8:15am, 5pm	<b>Mass:</b> •8:15am	<b>Mass:</b> •8:15am	<b>Mass:</b> •8:15am, 5pm	<b>Mass:</b> •8:15am •5pm ( <i>vigil</i> )	<b>Mass:</b> •7:30am •9am •11am •5pm
<b>Rosary for Life:</b> •8:45am	<b>Grandparents Rosary:</b> 8:45am  <b>Confession:</b> •4:15-4:45pm	<b>Rosary for Life:</b> •8:45am  <b>Confession:</b> •4:30-5:30pm	<b>Rosary for Life:</b> •8:45am	<b>Rosary for Life:</b> •8:45am  <b>Confession:</b> •4:15-4:45pm  <b>Stations of the Cross:</b> 5:30pm	<b>Confession:</b> •3:30-4:30pm	
<i>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 <a href="http://nativitystpaul.org/online-liturgies">nativitystpaul.org/online-liturgies</a>.</i>						
<b>Adoration:</b> 9am-9pm	<b>Adoration:</b> 9am-5pm, 5:30pm-12am	<b>Adoration:</b> 12-8am, 9am-9pm		<b>Adoration:</b> 9am-5pm, 5:30pm-9pm	<b>Adoration:</b> 6-9pm	<b>Adoration:</b> 6-10pm
(2nd Week of Lent)	St. Gregory of Narek	<b>40 Days for Life Vigil Off Campus</b> 7am-6pm  <b>Convivium w/ Seminarists</b> <b>Steiner Hall</b> 6:30-8pm  <b>Faith Formation &amp; OCIA School</b> 6:30-8pm		(Abstinence)  <b>First Friday Fellowship</b> <b>Steiner Hall</b> 8:45am  <b>Fish Fry Cafeteria</b> 5-6:30pm  <b>School Play Auditorium</b> 7pm		Third Sunday of Lent  <b>First Scrutiny Church</b> 11am Mass  <b>School Play Auditorium</b> 1pm
NELC Parent-Teacher Conferences (Munchkins)						
<b>40 Days for Life</b> (through March 24)   <b>March Food Campaign</b> (through April 6)						
<i>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.</i>						

## WEEKLY READINGS

**Sun.:** Gn 22:1-2, 9-13, 15-18; Ps 116:10, 15-19; Rom 8:31-34; Mk 9:2-10  
**Mon.:** Dn 9:4-10; Ps 79:8-9, 11, 13; Lk 6:36-38  
**Tues.:** Is 1:10, 16-20; Ps 50:8-9, 16-17, 21, 23; Mt 23:1-12  
**Wed.:** Jer 18:18-20; Ps 31:5-6, 14-16; Mt 20:17-28  
**Thu.:** Jer 17:5-10; Ps 1:1-4, 6; Lk 16:19-31  
**Fri.:** Gn 37:3-4, 12-13, 17-28; Ps 105:16-21; Mt 21:33-43, 45-46  
**Sa.:** Mi 7:14-15, 18-20; Ps 103:1-4, 9-12; Lk 15:1-3, 11-32

## STEWARDSHIP

### Online Giving

Electronic giving is available on our parish website at [nativitystpaul.org/online-giving](http://nativitystpaul.org/online-giving) via the QR code at right for our general parish "Stewardship" fund. You'll also find 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!



## MASS INTENTIONS

	8:15am	5pm (or private)
<b>Mon. 2/26</b>	Shelly Moorman	The Youth of Nativity
<b>Tues. 2/27</b>	Amy Wivell +	Ashley Van Deberg +
<b>Wed. 2/28</b>	Jen Messing +	Sr. Maria Tschosik, O.C.D.
<b>Thu. 2/29</b>	Donald F. Becker +	Mother Marie-Ange Barrett, OCD
<b>Fri. 3/1</b>	Faye J. Sitzmann +	Frank Kudwa
<b>Sat. 3/2</b>	Peg Ste. Marie +	-

## YOUTH

### Vocations Presentations | Wed., February 28, 6:30-8pm

All young men and women in grades 7-12 are invited to hear seminarians share their vocations stories (and ask them questions!) this Wednesday evening in Steiner Hall. The event will also include games and prayer with our guests, and snacks too! Among the seminarians from the U. of St. Thomas will be Nativity of Our Lord parishioner Brennan Crow, as well as our teaching parish seminarian Ian Willnerd. You won't want to miss it!