

NATIVITY OF OUR LORD

CATHOLIC CHURCH



The 2ND SUNDAY of ADVENT • DECEMBER 7, 2025

ABOUT

Parish Mission | Announced December 7, 2024

Our new parish mission, formulated by our Pastor, Fr. Rolf Tollefson — as a response to the suggestions of One Nativity 2035, parish staff, the pastoral council, and other valued lay leaders — is three-fold, aligning with the liturgical seasons of Advent and Christmas and centering upon, fittingly, the celebration of the Nativity of Our Lord itself:

- 1.) **Prepare** the Way of the Lord,
- 2.) **Celebrate** "God With Us," and
- 3.) **Shine** with the Light of Christ.



Learn more about our new parish mission at nativitystpaul.org/mission.

INFORMATION

Pastor

Father Rolf Tollefson (*pictured*)



Church

1938 Stanford Avenue
St. Paul, MN 55105

Office Hours

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

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
Sun.: 7:30am, 9am (*Family Mass*), 11am (*w/ incense*), 5pm

Daily Mass

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

Confession

Tuesday, Friday: 4:15-4:45pm
Wednesday: 4:30-5:30pm; Saturday: 3:30-4:30pm

Adoration (*denotes newly expanded time)

Sat.: 6-9pm; Sun: 6-11pm; Mon.: 5am-8am, 9am-12am
Tues.: 12am-8am; 9am-5pm, 5:30pm-12am
Wed.: 12-8am, 9am-12am
Thurs.: 5am-8am, 9am-12pm*
Fri.: 4am-8am, 9am-5pm, 5:30-9pm

Anointing of the Sick (**Press 1 at the recording**)

Emergency Line (24 hours) | (651) 696-5401

First Saturdays: 8:45am (*and by appointment*)

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

LEADERSHIP

Pastor | Fr. Rolf Tollefson (651) 696-5401

Parochial Vicar | Fr. John Paul Erickson (651) 696-5440

Deacon | Rev. Mr. Don Tienter (651) 696-5401

Parish Administrator | Beth Giese (651) 696-5430

Accounting Specialist | Nick Erickson (651) 696-5436

Dir. of Marketing & Communications | Isaac Huss (651) 696-5425

Assistant Director of Discipleship - Small Groups and Youth Ministry | Emily Meyer (651) 696-5401

Parish Secretary | Beth Erickson (651) 696-5401

Volunteer Coord. | Sonny Herrington (651) 696-5401

Facilities Director | Steve Boatman (651) 696-5434

Discipleship Admin. | Marian Layman (651) 696-5443

Director of Music | Brian Carson (651) 696-5401

Nativity Choir Director | Rob Pontious (651) 245-5969

School Principal | Kate Wollan (651) 699-1311

Early Learning Center Director | Nicole Clausen (651) 696-5437

Lay Trustee | Christina Crow (651) 696-5401

Lay Trustee | Tom Tucci (651) 696-5401

Finance Council Chair | Tom Margarit
tmargarit2024@outlook.com

Pastoral Council (651) 696-5401

Chris Nei (chair)

Lanita Brandt

Martha Conners

Judd Fenlon

Nate Hughes

Stephen Maas

Lucas Tucker

BAPTISMS

Announcements *(new)*

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

Xavier Francis Rosengren

Parents: Mitch and Catalina (Nietz) Rosengren

Wyatt James Steichen

Parents: Travis and Laura (Rau) Steichen

Preparation and 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.

PARISH LIFE

Donuts Every Sunday | Sun., Dec. 7, 8am-12:30pm *(new)*

The Hospitality Team at Nativity of Our Lord is now hosting donuts and coffee every Sunday when the Men's Club is not hosting their popular Donut Sunday events, beginning this Sunday after all morning Masses in Steiner Hall! Please join us for coffee, donuts, and great conversation with your fellow parishioners.

We are asking for the support of the parish community to help make this endeavor a success. To donate online, visit nativitystpaul.org/hospitality-sunday via the QR code. Thank you!



Next Sunday, December 14, is a Donut Sunday hosted and sponsored by the Men's Club. If you would like to volunteer, contact them at info@nativitymen.org.

Outdoor Christmas Market | Sun., Dec. 7, 10am-2pm

The annual Nativity Women Outdoor Christmas Market is here! Tins of Christmas treats, lovingly assembled by Nativity of Our Lord's finest bakers, will be for sale, and vendors will be selling handcrafted purses and bags, fair trade hats and mittens, customized ornaments and jewelry, original artwork, pottery, and whimsical children's items.

The Nativity 7th and 8th Grade Band will provide festive holiday music starting at 10:30am (and Santa might even be stopping by...) Complimentary hot beverages will be served, and Christmas trees will be for sale at the Nativity Men's Club Tree Lot (see below). Come snow or shine! Contact Erin McKiel at (651) 214-9812 for more information.

Tree Lot Open, Hours of Operation

The Nativity of Our Lord Men's Club Tree Lot is still open on the east end of the parking lot, but not for long! Hours are Saturday-Sunday from 9am-8pm, Monday-Thursday from 5:30-8pm, and Friday from 3:30-8pm. Volunteer sign-up is available for anyone who can help at nativitymen.org/tree-lot-signups via the QR code above.



Christmas Giving Tree | Now through December 19

Please remember our neighbors in need as you plan your holiday gift giving. The Christmas Giving Tree is now in the back of the church supporting participants of Catholic Charities' programs for children, home stability/homeless teens, seniors, and the disabled. Participation is easy! Simply take an ornament from the tree, purchase an item listed, and return the unwrapped item along with the ornament to the Giving Tree area by Friday, December 19. Small additions to your gift of basic needs like socks and underwear are always appreciated. If you have any questions, please contact Julie Talens Paske at (651) 600-0245. Thank you!

FUNERALS

Funeral Information

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

Cana Dinner | February 7 *(new)*

We would love to welcome all engaged, married, and widow(er)s on Saturday, February 7 to our annual Cana Dinner following the 5pm Mass in Steiner Hall. This year we are thrilled to welcome Peter and Theresa Martin to speak on the book they authored, *The Rule: St. John Paul II's Rule for a Joy-Filled Marriage of Divine Love*.

Marital Discernment & Wedding Planning

In order for Nativity of Our Lord to best help individuals and couples discern vocations to sacramental marriage, we encourage active participation in parish life, including registering as a parishioner, at least six months prior to requesting a wedding date. Contact the parish office at (651) 696-5401 or info@nativitystpaul.org to learn more.

STEWARSHIP

Online Giving

Electronic giving is available on our parish website at nativitystpaul.org/online-giving via the QR code at right for our general parish "Stewardship" fund, as well as for special 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!



LITURGY & PRAYER

Arch. Hebda at Nativity Mass | Sunday, Dec. 7, 9am
The Most Reverend Bernard Hebda, Archbishop of the Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis, is celebrating the 9am Mass this Sunday here at Nativity of Our Lord. Please help us give Archbishop Hebda a warm welcome back to Nativity!

Immaculate Conception | Monday, December 8
This Monday is the solemn feast of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary, a holy day of obligation for Catholics to attend Mass. Please join us at one of the following liturgies at Nativity of Our Lord:

- 7am (*no music*)
- 8:15am (*with incense*)
- 5pm
- 7pm (*by candlelight with incense*)

Adoration on Immaculate Conception | Mon., Dec. 8
To accommodate the extra Mass times, Adoration this Monday will be offered at the following times only: 5-7am, 12-5pm, and 8pm (continuing overnight).

Advent Reconciliation Service | December 17 (*update*)
Save the date: our annual Advent Reconciliation Service will be on Wednesday, December 17 at 6:30pm. (*Note: last week's bulletin erroneously stated December 18.*)

Christmas Schedule | December 24-25

Please also make plans to join us in worship on the solemnity of the Nativity of Our Lord (Christmas), our patronal feast day and another holy day of obligation. See below for this year's Mass times at Nativity of Our Lord:

- Christmas Eve (Wednesday, 12/24): 2pm, 4pm, 6pm
- Christmas Day (Thursday, 12/25): 12am, 7:30am, (*no 8:15am*), 11am

FAMILY FORMATION

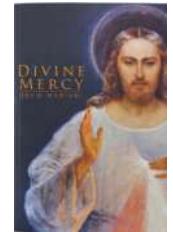
Family Corner: Music and Prayer | December (*new*)
O Come, O Come Emmanuel! Here at the beginning of Advent, we sing with longing. We call out to our Savior — be with us! We also begin to hear the glorious carols of celebration — *Joy to the World!* For many of us, the music of Advent and Christmas is the most beloved of all! We sing our favorite hymns and carols by heart. We find a commonality among other Christians and neighbors who know the same dear lyrics. The music of this season gives us powerful ways to pray, to connect with our families, and to celebrate within our communities.

Through the *Reclaiming Sundays* guide, we are invited to pray with music in a number of ways. Visit nativitystpaul.org/family-corner for specific ideas for December to enhance our Sunday joy here in our parish and in our neighborhood.



RESPECT LIFE

Book Discussion: "Divine Mercy" | Tues., Dec. 9, 6pm
Join us in reading *Divine Mercy* by Drew Marian, which tells the amazing stories of Divine Mercy at work in our world. We will discuss it together in Steiner Hall this Tuesday from 6-8pm. Order a copy on the Relevant Radio website (relevantradio.store/collections/books/products/divinemercy), or contact Karen McCann for a copy for sale (\$12) or loan at karenmccann3@gmail.com or (612) 964-4522.



Christmas Caroling | Saturday, December 13, 8-9:30am
Join Pro-Life Action Ministries singing Christmas Carols at Planned Parenthood on Vandalia St. (just north of University Ave.) next Saturday morning. Prayer and song softens hearts, changes minds, and brings light into the darkness. Please join us!

SUBMISSIONS

Early Deadlines | Monday, Dec. 8, 9am (*new*)

Bulletin content is typically required by Monday at noon for the following Sunday's bulletin. Please note the following early deadlines:

- (*Submissions for the Sun., 12/14 bulletin are past due.*)
- Submissions for the **Sunday, 12/21** bulletin are due **this Monday, December 8** at 9am.
- Submissions for the **Sunday, 12/28** bulletin are due by **Thursday, December 18** at 9am.
- Submissions for the **Sunday, 1/4** bulletin are due by **Monday, December 22** at 9am.

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. Visit nativitystpaul.org/content-submissions for more information, or to submit copy for the parish bulletin, website calendar, social media, and email newsletter.

— Isaac Huss, Comms. Director and Bulletin Editor

MASS READINGS

Sunday:	Is 11:1-10; Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17; Rom 15:4-9; Mt 3:1-12
Monday:	Gn 3:9-15, 20; Ps 98:1-4; Eph 1:3-6, 11-12; Lk 1:26-38
Tuesday:	Is 40:1-11; Ps 96:1-3, 10-13; Mt 18:12-14
Wednesday:	Is 40:25-31; Ps 103:1-4, 8, 10; Mt 11:28-30
Thursday:	Is 41:13-20; Ps 145:1, 9-13; Mt 11:11-15
Friday:	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
Saturday:	Sir 48:1-4, 9-11; Ps 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19; Mt 17:9-13
Next Sunday:	Is 35:1-6, 10; Ps 146:6-10; Jas 5:7-10; Mt 11:2-11

NATIVITY WOMEN

Morning of Reflection | Sat., Dec. 13, 8:15am ([update](#))
All women of the parish are invited to take a peaceful pause from the holiday rush and join the Handmaids of the Heart of Jesus for a morning of prayer and reflection on saying “yes” as Mary did next Saturday, December 13 beginning with Mass with the parish (optional) at 8:15am and then in Steiner Hall from 8:45-11:30am. This event is free to attend, with a light breakfast provided. Visit nativitywomen.org/events/womens-morning-of-reflection-with-the-handmaids for a link to register.

SMALL GROUPS

Men's Fellowship | Tuesdays at 6:45am ([update](#))
All men of Nativity of Our Lord are invited to the new men's fellowship small group, now meeting at 6:45am (instead of 7am) every Tuesday in Steiner Hall. Our goal is to aid and assist one another as we seek to grow in prayer and deepen our relationships with Christ, our families, and our communities, all while striving to become men of virtue and authentic witnesses and servants of the Gospel. For December, we are discussing *Rejoice! Advent reflections with St. Joseph* at Fr. Tollefson's suggestion. If you are interested in joining us, contact Matt Bannick at (651) 492-1945. Books will be provided.

PASTORAL CARE

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. The sacrament is now also offered immediately after the 8:15am Mass in the church on the first Saturday of each month, unless otherwise noted.

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)!

COMMUNICATIONS

Email Scheme Impersonating Fr. Tollefson ([update](#))

New, more sophisticated fraudulent phishing emails claiming to come from “Fr. Rolf Tollefson” are being sent to parishioners with the intent to confuse, manipulate, and steal. For more information, visit nativitystpaul.org/news/phishing-emails, and when in doubt contact the parish office at (651) 696-5401 or info@nativitystpaul.org. Please be on guard — and please spread the word, particularly to those who may be most vulnerable.

SVDP

2nd Collection | Saturday-Sunday, Dec. 6-7 ([update](#))

Thanks to the generosity of our parishioners, Nativity's conference of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul has been able to help some of the most in need in our community. In the first 11 months of 2025, we made 145 home visits and provided support to 253 individuals — 151 adults and 102 children. That support included rent assistance, food, clothing, beds and bedding, other furniture, household items, help with utility bills, and sober house deposits. We were able to keep a number of people from becoming homeless, and helped others transition into more stable housing situations. Yet the need continues to grow.

In some cases, that assistance has meant multiple visits from our members. One client had suffered two failed kidney transplants. She asked for financial help to purchase a recliner chair for more comfort during her frequent and lengthy home dialysis sessions. Four conference members helped her with a preliminary home visit; a trip with her to a local discount furniture store, where she was able to find a reasonably priced chair that met her needs; and a follow-up home visit to ensure that all was well. None of that would have been possible without the continuing financial support of Nativity parishioners.



Please be generous in today's second collection, so that we can continue this important work. Also, if you're already a donor to the Catholic Community Fund, you can ask to have all or part of your donation directed to St. Vincent de Paul at Nativity.

If you'd like to learn more about what we do, give us a call at (651) 334-2935 — or join us at one of our upcoming Tuesday meetings on December 16 or January 6 at 6:30pm in Steiner Hall. Together, we can be the hands and feet and voice of Jesus in helping our neighbors in need. Thank you!

NATIVITY SCHOOL

Tours for Prospective Students and Families

This fall and early winter, Nativity School is offering individual tours during the school day, which is an ideal time to experience our vibrant classrooms, rooted in the Catholic faith and focused on helping children thrive.

Please invite friends, neighbors, or colleagues with children entering preschool, kindergarten, or otherwise to schedule a tour. Contact Michelle Henningsgard at (651) 699-1311, or visit school.nativitystpaul.org/schedule-a-tour.





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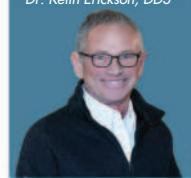
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ALIGNING SMILES FOR A BRIGHT TOMORROW

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Nativity of Our Lord Church, Saint Paul, MN

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CALENDAR • DECEMBER 8-14, 2025

Mon., 12/8	Tues., 12/9	Wed., 12/10	Thurs., 12/11	Friday, 12/12	Sat., 12/13	Sun., 12/14
Mass: •7am (no music) •8:15am*** •5pm •7pm*** (by candlelight)	Mass: •8:15am •5pm Grandparents Rosary: 8:45am	Mass: •8:15am Rosary for Life: •8:45am	Mass: •8:15am Rosary for Life: •8:45am	Mass: •8:15am •5pm Rosary for Life: •8:45am	Mass: •8:15am •5pm (vigil)	Mass: •7:30am (no music) •9am (Family Mass) •11am *** •5pm ***With incense
Rosary for Life: •8:45am	Confession: •4:15-4:45pm	Confession: •4:30-5:30pm	<i>*Newly expanded</i>	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: 5-7am, 12-5pm, 8pm-12am	Adoration: 12-8am, 9am-5pm, 5:30pm-12am	Adoration: 12-8am, 9am-12am	Adoration: 5-8am, 9am-12am*	Adoration: 4-8am, 9am-5pm, 5:30-9pm	Adoration: 6-9pm	Adoration: 6-11pm
The IMMACULATE CONCEPTION of the BLESSED VIRGIN MARY (2nd Week of Advent)	<i>St. Juan Diego Cuauhtlatoatzin</i>	<i>Our Lady of Loreto</i>	<i>Pope St. Damasus I</i>	<i>Our Lady of Guadalupe</i>	<i>St. Lucy**</i>	3RD SUNDAY of ADVENT (<i>St. John of the Cross**</i>)
Holy Day of Obligation	Men's Fellowship S.G. Steiner Hall 6:45am				Respect Life Christmas Caroling Off Campus 8-9:30am	Donut Sunday Steiner Hall 8am-12:30pm
**Nativity relics on display in Heritage Room	Facilities Mtg. Lannan Center 7am				Women's Morning of Reflection Steiner Hall 8:45-11:30am	The Singers Concert Church 2pm
	Pastoral Council Mtg. Lannan Center 5:30pm		Faith Formation, OCIA Meeting School 6:30-8pm		Youth Choir Sings at Mass Church 5pm	High School Youth Night Steiner Hall 6-8pm
	Respect Life Book Discussion Steiner Hall 6-8pm					
					Tree Lot Open 3:30-8pm	Tree Lot Open 9am-8pm (last call!)

Changes to the parish schedule since last 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.

IMAGES

Cover Image

*Nativity of Our Lord 8th Grade Confirmation Class of 2025
Cathedral of St. Paul | St. Paul, Minnesota, USA
Courtesy of Nativity School | Saturday, November 22, 2025*

MASS INTENTIONS

This Week's Schedule

		7:30am	8:15am	9am	11am	5pm
Mon.	12/8		Jackie Hernandez +			
Tues.	12/9		Marjorie Mountain +			Shawn Slaven +
Wed.	12/10		Katy Harris +			
Thu.	12/11		Jane Doherty +			
Fri.	12/12		Jerry Harrison +			Thomas Sexton +
Sat.	12/13		Jerry Monnin +			Robert and Teresa McMahon
Sun.	12/14	Katie McKenzie +		The People of Sri Lanka	For the People	Joe and Jody Fox

SERVICE

Christmas Spirit Project

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul at Nativity of Our Lord will deliver poinsettias and spend time with our parishioners in senior living communities or in their own homes next week. So from now until next Sunday, December 14, please call the parish office at (651) 696-5401 to let us know if someone you know (or you yourself!) might appreciate a visit this holiday season.