The photograph captures the interior of a Gothic Revival church during a baptism ceremony. The view is from the back of the sanctuary, looking down a central aisle paved with a checkered tile pattern towards the altar. The altar is a large, ornate wooden structure with a central crucifix. Above the altar, a Latin inscription reads "IN HONORE SANCTI GEORGI LIGEDENSIS REGIS". Two large, tall stained-glass windows with blue and gold designs flank the altar. The walls are covered in dark wood paneling with Gothic arches. In the foreground, several people are kneeling on the floor, facing the altar. A priest in white vestments is visible on the left side of the altar. The overall atmosphere is solemn and traditional.

NATIVITY OF OUR LORD

CATHOLIC CHURCH

The BAPTISM of OUR LORD • SUNDAY, JANUARY 11, 2026

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.

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

Head of School | Kate Wollan (651) 699-1311

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

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

Parish Secretary | Beth Erickson (651) 696-5401

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

Facilities Director | Steve Boatman (651) 696-5434

Accounting Specialist | Nick Erickson (651) 696-5436

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

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

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

Discipleship Admin., Sacramental Records
Marian Layman (651) 696-5443

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

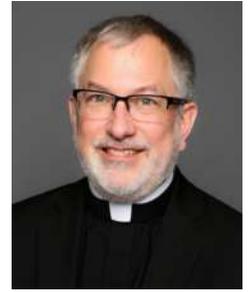
Stephen Maas

Lucas Tucker

INFORMATION

Pastor

Father Rolf Tollefson (*pictured*)



Church

1938 Stanford Avenue

St. Paul, Minnesota 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 (**denotes newly updated time*)

Monday-Saturday: 8:15am

Tuesday, *Wednesday, and Friday: 5pm

Confession

Tuesday, *Wednesday, and Friday: 4:15-4:45pm

Saturday: 3:30-4:30pm

Adoration

Sat.: 6-9pm; Sun: 6-11pm; Mon.: *6am-8am, 9am-12am

Tues. and *Wed.: 12am-8am; 9am-5pm, 5:30pm-12am

Thurs.: 5am-8am, 9am-12am

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

FUNERALS

Our Faithful Departed

Please remember in your prayers:

Norma Harvath

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

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.

BAPTISM

Announcements *(new)*

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

Clara Marie Baldwin

Henry Ora Baldwin

Parents: Joseph and Ann (Phelps) Baldwin

Katherine Marjorie Chapman

Parents: Christopher and Deanna (Mroczenski) Chapman

Trey Alexander Michalski

Parent: Maclaren Michalski

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.

HOLY MATRIMONY

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.



IMAGES

Cover Image

Adoration at Emmaus Family Night

By Lanita Brandt | November 16, 2025

LITURGY *(new)*

Weekly Mass Reinstated | Wednesdays at 5pm

We are happy to announce that we are now again celebrating a weekly 5pm Mass on Wednesdays, effective immediately.

Wednesday Confessions and Adoration Changes

Confessions have now been moved to 4:15-4:45pm on Wednesdays (from 4:30-5:30pm) to accommodate the 5pm Mass. Adoration is now paused from 5-5:30pm on Wednesdays. Both changes also begin immediately.

Announcement of Easter and the Movable Feasts

Our Pastor, Fr. Rolf Tollefson, also restored a long-held, ancient practice of the Church — from a time when calendars were not readily available — to proclaim (or even chant) the date of Easter and the other movable feasts of the upcoming liturgical year on the feast of the Epiphany of Our Lord, which we celebrated last Sunday.

Even now with our modern (and especially internet-connected) calendars, the Epiphany proclamation is a powerful reminder of the centrality of the resurrection of Our Lord in the liturgical year and the importance of the great mysteries of faith which are celebrated each year (*from the Roman Missal, Third Edition, Appendix 1*):

Know, dear brothers and sisters, that, as we have rejoiced at the Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, so by leave of God's mercy we announce to you also the joy of his Resurrection, who is our Savior.

On the 18th day of February will fall Ash Wednesday, and the beginning of the fast of the most sacred Lenten season. On the 5th day of April you will celebrate with joy Easter Day, the Pascal feast of Our Lord Jesus Christ.

On the 17th day of May will be the Ascension of Our Lord Jesus Christ. On the 24th day of May, the feast of Pentecost. On the 7th day of June the feast of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ. On the 29th day of November, the First Sunday of the Advent of Our Lord Jesus Christ, to whom is honor and glory for ever and ever. Amen.

FROM THE FATHERS

Christmas Gratitude *(new)*

My Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Fr. Erickson and I offer thanks and gratitude to those who sent us cards, treats, and other gifts at Christmas. We are very humbled by your thoughtfulness. May God bless your generosity. Please continue to pray for us, and know of our daily prayers for you.

— Fr. Rolf Tollefson, Pastor of Nativity of Our Lord

NATIVITY WOMEN (new)

Fireside Chat & Social: Friendship | February 5
Join us for our next Fireside Chat & Social: What is Friendship? An academic conversation on Thursday, February 5 at 6:30pm in Steiner Hall with Dr. Billy Junker, Nativity of Our Lord parishioner and University of St. Thomas Catholic Studies Professor and Graduate Program Director.

Everybody knows that friendship is important in life, and everybody wants to be a good friend, but what is friendship, exactly? Are there different kinds of friendship? Are some better than others? More than 2,000 years ago the Greek philosopher Aristotle sought to answer these questions, and his answers still can provide us with a lot of insight into friendship, and into ourselves today. Bring a friend and register now for this enlightening evening at nativitywomen.org!

FOR MEN

Exodus 90 (new)
Men, are you up for a challenge in 2026? Exodus 90 is a journey of prayer, asceticism, and brotherhood that has helped over 100,000 men break free from bad habits, distractions, and lukewarm prayer. Guided by Fr. Boniface Hicks, a Benedictine monk and seasoned spiritual director, you'll receive daily reflections and practical tools, along with support from other men here in the parish, between now and Easter Sunday. The challenge began last week, but it's not too late to join. Discover what true freedom in Christ feels like. Learn more at exodus90.com. Contact Matt Bannick at Matt.bannick@gmail.com or (651) 492-1945 for details, including for a weekly meeting.

Men's Fellowship | Tuesdays at 6:45am
All men of Nativity of Our Lord are invited to the new men's fellowship small group, meeting every Tuesday morning 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. If you are interested in joining us, contact Matt Bannick at Matt.bannick@gmail.com or (651) 492-1945.

Sport Shirt Stag w/Mike Modano | January 30 (new)
Attention men of Nativity of Our Lord: The 45th Annual Nativity Men's Club Sport Shirt Stag will be on Friday, January 30 in the School gymnasium. Doors open at 6pm, with the event from 7-9pm. This year, radio and podcast personality Matt "Rookie" Michalski returns, and our guest speaker is NHL superstar and Hall of Fame player Mike Modano! Brats and beverages will be served. A free will donation is appreciated, and this is a great opportunity to make your annual NMC dues payment of \$20. This Stag is gonna be huge! All men of the parish 21+ are invited, as well as friends and neighbors.

COMMUNITY

Parking and Neighborliness (new)
As ice and snow continues to pile up on our parish campus and on the surrounding streets, please remember to always drive slowly and attentively, considering in particular the young children who are ever present. Please park with care, heeding posted signage and proper distancing from driveways, and leaving walkways unobstructed whenever possible, which is particularly important to accommodate our elderly or disabled members of our community. And otherwise please thoughtfully consider the impact — in both fraternal justice and Christian charity — of our parish traffic upon those who live alongside us here in our beloved neighborhood. Thank you!

PRAYER

Prayer Line Invitation (new)
Do you have a few minutes several times a week to join our Nativity of Our Lord Prayer Line team? The Prayer Line is a team of over 20 faithful members lifting up the prayer intentions of our parishioners on a daily basis, and is always looking for new members. Mary Kay O'Rourke and Lucy Plunkett are available to receive phone calls to hear about any burden that is laying on your heart everyday between 9am and 7pm, and you can always leave a voice message if necessary. Contact Mary Kay at (651) 698-5638 or Lucy at (612) 817-0351 for details on how to join the team. (Their phone numbers are also listed in every bulletin on the bottom of the inside cover.)

SERVICE

Meals from Nativity Women
Could you or someone you know use a little support? Meals from Nativity Women is a meal train for parishioners and neighbors. Whether welcoming a new baby, recovering from surgery, navigating a loss, or just need a little extra care, we are happy to deliver a homemade meal to most of St. Paul, West St. Paul, Mendota Heights, and Eagan. Visit nativitywomen.org/meals to submit a request. Interested in making meals? Contact Mary Jo Iverson at miverson.stp@gmail.com.

STEWARDSHIP

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!



FAMILY FORMATION

Emmaus Family Night | Sunday, January 11, 3-6pm
Calling all Nativity of Our Lord families! Join Fr. Erickson and the Handmaids of the Heart of Jesus for our first Emmaus Family Night of the new year this Sunday, the Feast of the Baptism of Our Lord. These gatherings are a chance to honor the Lord's Day together as a parish family one Sunday per month throughout the school year.



EMMAUS FAMILY NIGHTS
PRAY · PLAY · EAT

We'll begin at 3pm in the church with family-friendly prayer, followed by games in the gym with the Sisters and a shared meal. RSVP at tinyurl.com/emmaus-family-nights via the QR code to help us plan. And save the dates for upcoming events on February 22, March 15, and April 26.



Family Corner: Invitation and Prayer | January
Isn't it fun to get an invitation? We love to be included in celebrations and special events. Catholics know the joy of gathering — we join a special feast every week at the Mass! This month, the Archdiocesan Reclaiming Sundays theme is Invitation and Prayer. We are invited to refresh our celebrations with a new awareness. We are prompted to share our joy with those around us. We are encouraged to not only answer the Church's invitation to fellowship, but also to extend it to others. Our joy and our faith will blossom when we do. Visit nativitystpaul.org/family-corner for sample activities for January.

COMMUNICATIONS

Early Deadline | Friday, January 16, 9am
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 deadline:

- *Submissions for the Sunday, January 25 bulletin are due this Friday by 9am.*

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

NATIVITY SCHOOL

Kindergarten Round-Up | January 22
Prospective families are invited to our Kindergarten Round-Up on Thursday, January 22 at 6:30pm to learn more about what makes Nativity's Kindergarten experience exceptional. If you have yet to schedule a tour, please contact Michelle Henningsgard at (651) 699-1311, or visit school.nativitystpaul.org/schedule-a-tour.

PARISH LIFE

NMC Donut Sunday | Sun., January 11, 8am-12:30pm
This Sunday is Donut Sunday, hosted and sponsored by the Nativity of Our Lord Men's Club. Join us downstairs in Steiner Hall immediately after any morning Mass for donuts, coffee, and fellowship!

New Year's Resolution? *(new)*

How about resolving to get to know Jesus better this year? He is available all week in our Adoration chapel. Why not invite a friend or family member and sign up for a currently open hour? Visit adorationpro/nativity and click "Weekly Commitment" to see open hours and to sign up. We need adorers for very early mornings (ahem, men) and friendlier hours on Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays.

Donuts Every Sunday

| Sunday, Jan. 18, 8am-12:30pm
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 Sunday morning events, after all morning Masses in Steiner Hall. To volunteer for a shift or donate to this ministry online, visit nativitystpaul.org/hospitality-sunday via the QR code. Thank you!



Cana Dinner

| February 7
Engaged couples, married couples, widows, and widowers all are invited to a fun night out with other couples from Nativity of Our Lord at our annual Cana Dinner on Saturday, February 7, a night to celebrate and lift up the good news about being married. We'll begin with Mass at 5pm followed by a social hour, catered buffet dinner including wine and dessert, and guest speakers Peter and Theresa Martin. They will present on their book, *The Rule: St. John Paul II's Rule for a Joy-Filled Marriage of Divine Love*. Wine is included, all entrees are gluten free, and vegan dinners can be arranged by request.

Registration is now open at nativitystpaul.org/cana-dinner via the QR code. Tickets are \$30/person (\$60/couple), except for couples engaged or married within the past year, whose registration will be free of charge — we are happy to welcome you to the community of married couples at Nativity! Free babysitting will be available to all, courtesy of 7th and/or 8th graders, who will be supervised by a Virtus-trained adult.



Scouts Pancake Breakfast

| February 8 *(new)*
The 9am Mass on the second Sunday in February is dedicated to and celebrates Scouting. A delicious "all you can eat" breakfast consisting of pancakes, sausages, OJ, coffee, and more is served from 8am-12:30pm. Everyone is welcome. Proceeds support the Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts, and Girl Scouts at Nativity of Our Lord. Learn more, buy tickets, and/or sign up to help flip pancakes at nativitymen.org/pancake-breakfast.



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CALENDAR • JANUARY 12-18, 2026

Mon., 1/12	Tues., 1/13	Wed., 1/14	Thurs., 1/15	Friday, 1/16	Sat., 1/17	Sun., 1/18
Mass: •8:15am	Mass: •8:15am •5pm	Mass: •8:15am •5pm*	Mass: •8:15am	Mass: •8:15am •5pm	Mass: •8:15am •5pm (<i>vigil</i>)	Mass: •7:30am (<i>no music</i>) •9am (<i>Family Mass</i>) •11am** •5pm
Rosary for Life: •8:45am	Grandparents Rosary: 8:45am	Rosary for Life: •8:45am	Rosary for Life: •8:45am	Rosary for Life: •8:45am	Rosary for Life: •8:45am	
<i>*Newly updated</i>	Confession: •4:15-4:45pm	Confession: •4:15-4:45pm*		Confession: •4:15-4:45pm	Confession: •3:30-4:30pm	<i>**With incense</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 nativitystpaul.org/online-liturgies.

Adoration: 6am*-8am, 9am-12am	Adoration: 12-8am, 9am-5pm, 5:30pm-12am	Adoration: 12-8am, 9am-5pm*, *5:30pm-12am	Adoration: 5-8am, 9am-12am	Adoration: 4-8am, 9am-5pm, 5:30-9pm	Adoration: 6-9pm	Adoration: 6-11pm
	<i>St. Hilary</i>	<i>(Bl. Peter Donders***)</i>			<i>St. Anthony</i>	The 2ND SUNDAY in ORDINARY TIME
	Men's Fellowship Small Group Steiner Hall 6:45am	Faith Formation, OCIA Meeting School 6:30-8pm				Hospitality (Donut) Sunday Steiner Hall 8am-12:30pm
NCCW Board Meeting Steiner Hall 6:30-7:30pm	First Reconciliation Church 6:30pm	First Reconciliation Church 6:30pm		<i>***Nativity relic on display in Heritage Room</i>		H.S. Youth Night Steiner Hall 6-8pm

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.

MASS INTENTIONS

Masses Available (*new*)

The offering of Masses for the happy repose of the deceased, for the intention of loved ones, and in honor of special occasions is an ancient and venerable tradition. Due to the newly reinstated 5pm Wednesday Mass time, in addition to last year's decision to make intentions for Sunday Masses available, we have a number of upcoming liturgies available for Mass intention requests. The suggested donation per Mass is \$7-10 each. If you would like to request a Mass for a particular intention, please stop by the parish office, or contact us at info@nativitystpaul.org or (651) 696-5401.

MASS READINGS

Sunday: Is 42:1-4, 6-7; Ps 29:1-4, 9-10; Acts 10:34-38; Mt 3:13-17
Monday: 1 Sm 1:1-8; Ps 116:12-19; Mk 1:14-20
Tuesday: 1 Sm 1:9-20; 1 Sam 2:1, 4-8; Mk 1:21-28
Wed.: 1 Sm 3:1-10, 19-20; Ps 40:2, 5, 7-10; Mk 1:29-39
Thursday: 1 Sm 4:1-11; Ps 44:10-11, 14-15, 24-25; Mk 1:40-45
Friday: 1 Sm 8:4-7, 10-22; Ps 89:16-19; Mk 2:1-12
Saturday: 1 Sm 9:1-4, 17-19; 10:1; Ps 21:2-7; Mk 2:13-17
Next Sun.: Is 49:3, 5-6; Ps 40:2, 4, 7-10; 1 Cor 1:1-3; Jn 1:29-34

This Week's Schedule

		7:30am	8:15am	9am	11am	5pm
Mon.	1/12		Nancy McNulty +			
Tues.	1/13		Tony + and Dianne + Stephens			Mitchel Milless
Wed.	1/14		Kenneth James Cavanaugh +			Fr. Michael Kearney
Thu.	1/15		Bob + and Ruth + McCabe			
Fri.	1/16		Vince Mikschl +			Fr. William Vagenas
Sat.	1/17		Fr. Anthony Urban			Fr. Ben Keller, O.P.
Sun.	1/18	Msgr. Clarence Steiner +		Nino Trunfio	For the People	Jake and Shannon Voelker and Family