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2026



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# 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](http://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](mailto: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](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

*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

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

*(Press 1 at the recording)*

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:

**Clarice M. Fischler**  
**Mary Ann Mork**

*May their souls 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](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.

# BAPTISM

## Announcements *(new)*

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

**Delaney Renee Casper**  
*Parents: Charlie Casper and Dakota Boiteau*

## Preparation and Scheduling

Baptisms are typically 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

## 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](mailto:info@nativitystpaul.org) to learn more.

# COMMUNICATIONS

## Early Deadline

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

- *(Submissions for the 2/8 bulletin are past due.)*

Visit [nativitystpaul.org/content-submissions](http://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

# PARISH LIFE

## Donuts Every Sunday | Sunday, Feb. 1, 8am-12:30pm

Join us this Sunday morning as the Hospitality Team at Nativity of Our Lord continues 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](http://nativitystpaul.org/hospitality-sunday) via the QR code. Thank you!



**First Friday Fellowship** | Friday, February 6, 8:45am  
All are welcome to gather after the 8:15am Mass this Friday morning for First Friday Fellowship. Nativity Women from the NCCW provide coffee, tea, juice, and treats, typically on the first Friday of each month during the school year in Steiner Hall.

## Scouts Pancake Breakfast | Sun., Feb. 8, 8am-12:30pm

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 will again be 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](http://nativitymen.org/pancake-breakfast) via the QR code.



# STEWARDSHIP

## CSA 2026 | Saturday-Sunday, Jan. 31 - Feb. 1 *(new)*

This year's Catholic Services Appeal kicks off this weekend. Please prayerfully consider how you can help. Many people depend on us to carry out Our Lord's mission!



ARCHDIOCESE OF  
SAINT PAUL & MINNEAPOLIS  
— CATHOLIC —  
SERVICES APPEAL

May we offer blessings to the poor, hungry, mourning, and persecuted among us through support of the Catholic Services Appeal so that they may see God's face in their affliction. Visit [archspm.org/catholic-services-appeal](http://archspm.org/catholic-services-appeal) for details, or scan the QR code to donate today.



## 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, 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 CORNER

**Unplugging and Prayer** | February 2026 *(new)*

Turn off the devices and turn on the connections! This month, the Archdiocese invites us to reclaim the gift of Sunday rest by developing the real interactions and relationships that give us joy — while limiting our use of technology. We all know how dependent we can be on our phones, tablets, and laptops. We use them for everything — from checking recipes to paying bills to chatting with family to checking spelling!



How can we cultivate more peaceful and prayerful habits for Sundays? How can we use this upcoming Lent to help develop healthier patterns of technology use? Visit [nativitystpaul.org/news/family-corner-unplugging-and-prayer](https://nativitystpaul.org/news/family-corner-unplugging-and-prayer) via the QR code for these answers and more in the Reclaiming Sundays Guide.



# NATIVITY SCHOOL

**Catholic Schools Week** *(new)*

As we complete our celebration of Catholic Schools Week, Nativity School extends heartfelt thanks to our parish community for your continued prayers, generosity, and support. Your partnership helps us fulfill our mission of forming students in faith, character, and academic excellence while strengthening our Catholic identity and community. We are truly grateful to be part of such a vibrant and faithful parish family.



# IMAGES

**Cover Image**

*Catholic Services Appeal 2026 Image* courtesy of the Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis

# COMMUNITY *(new)*

**Roccasecca Project Candlemas** | Mon., Feb. 2, 6:30pm

Join Roccasecca Project for a Candlemas celebration at the Chapel of St. Thomas Aquinas at the U. of St. Thomas. Following Mass, we will gather for a reception and brief presentation by Dr. Philip Rolnick.

**“Triumph of the Heart” Screening** | Fri., Feb. 6, 6pm

UST Catholic Studies is co-hosting a screening of *Triumph of the Heart*, a new film of the passion of St. Maximilian Kolbe. Q&A with director, producer, and Catholic Studies alumn Anthony D’Ambrosio will follow. Visit [instagram.com/catholic.studies.ust](https://instagram.com/catholic.studies.ust) for details.

# SMALL GROUPS

**New and Open Small Groups** | Lent 2026 *(update)*

Make this Lent your best ever! Sign up for these groups at [bit.ly/3vAtTzg](https://bit.ly/3vAtTzg) via the QR code or contact Emily Meyer at [emeyer@nativitystpaul.org](mailto:emeyer@nativitystpaul.org) or Randall McClure at [randallmcc715@gmail.com](mailto:randallmcc715@gmail.com).

*Note: all these groups are new for Lent 2026 except Men’s Fellowship.*



**Lenten Visio Divina** | Six Thursday evenings in Lent  
It’s like Lectio Divina, but using contemplation of sacred art instead of Scripture. The final meeting will be at the Minneapolis Institute of Art to see the works pondered.

**Enriching Sundays with JP2** | Feb. 22, March 1 and 8  
This study group of Pope St. John Paul II’s apostolic letter *Dies Domini* on the meaning of Sunday and the reasons for living it as a day set apart will meet on three Sunday afternoons from 3-4:30pm.

**Reclaim Sundays. Seriously!** | Feb. 24, March 3 and 10  
The Archdiocese has provided monthly videos and ideas for reclaiming Sundays, highlighted in our Family Corner items in the bulletin (*see above left*). We’ll discuss our successes and struggles with Sundays, and learn ways to make them more fruitful on three Tuesday evenings in Lent from 7:30-8:30pm.

**Stewardship: Beyond the Money!** | March 17, 24, 31  
A steward is someone who receives God’s gifts gratefully, uses them generously, and cultivates them faithfully. We’ll discuss videos by Fr. Marc Paveglio, Pastor of St. Rose of Lima in Roseville, on three Tuesday evenings.

**OCIA/RCIA Alumni** | Every other Sunday morning  
All adults who received the Rites of Initiation through OCIA (formerly RCIA) are invited to join a newly formed small group of new adult Catholics, meeting after the 7:30am Mass bi-weekly in Lent. The purpose of the group is to accompany each other as we grow in Catholic formation through prayer and learning in community.

**Men’s Fellowship** | Every Tuesday, 6:45-8:15am  
All men are invited to this ongoing group as we assist one another to grow in prayer and deepen our relationship with Christ, our families, and each other. Why not try something new this Lent? Join us weekly in Steiner Hall.

# ARCHDIOCESE

**World Day of the Sick Mass** | Sat., Feb. 7, 10am *(new)*

All are invited to attend a special Mass next Saturday morning at Our Lady of Grace in Edina with Arch. Hebda. Light refreshments will follow, along with a reflection by U. of St. Thomas Professor of Philosophy and Nativity of Our Lord’s own Dr. Stephen Heaney. For more information, visit [CuratioApostolate.com](https://CuratioApostolate.com).

# NATIVITY WOMEN

**Moms Club** | Monday, February 2, 9am *(new)*  
Join us this Monday morning in Steiner Hall for Nativity Women's Moms Club! Inspired by Candlemas, we'll reflect on the light of Christ, with a short reading and reflection for moms, along with candle-themed coloring for the kids. Snacks and refreshments will be provided, and toys will be available.

**Fireside Chat & Social** | Thursday, Feb. 5, 6:30pm

Join us for our next Fireside Chat & Social: What is Friendship? An academic conversation this Thursday evening 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](http://nativitywomen.org)!

# WOMEN'S RETREAT

**Registration Now Open** | February 27-28 *(update)*

All women of the parish are invited for Chosen & Beloved, a two-day (but not overnight) retreat at Nativity of Our Lord, led by our Handmaids of the Heart of Jesus. We will start with the 5pm Mass on Friday and end at 9pm, then begin again on Saturday with 8:15am Mass and end at 3:30pm. *(Note this is a change from a previously announced end time of 4pm.)* The retreat will also include time for Adoration, Confession, and fellowship and will be held in the church and Steiner Hall.



Come learn how God has created us as women, the particular gifts and struggles we tend to have, and how they affect our spiritual life. The Handmaids will also discuss the identities of women and give us tools to help deepen our prayer and overall relationship with Our Lord.

Registration is \$60 at [nativitystpaul.org/womens-retreat](http://nativitystpaul.org/womens-retreat) via the QR code and includes all meals. Financial assistance is available — no one will be turned away! Just make a request through the form, or contact Marian Layman at [m Layman@nativitystpaul.org](mailto:m Layman@nativitystpaul.org) or (651) 696-5443 to learn more.



*(We also invite you to consider sponsoring a fellow parishioner!)*

# LITURGY

**Candle Blessing for Candlemas** | Mon., Feb. 2, 8:15am  
All are invited to bring candles to be blessed at a special 8:15am Mass, including music, this Monday for the feast of the Presentation of Our Lord, also known as Candlemas. Just bring them to the main entryway beforehand and you can pick them up again afterwards.

# PASTORAL CARE

**Anointing of the Sick** | Saturday, February 7, 8:45am  
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](mailto:info@nativitystpaul.org) and we'll come to them (or you)!

# PASTOR'S CORNER

*News highlighted by our Pastor himself, Fr. Rolf Tollefson*

**Arch Hebda Calls for Immigration Reform** *(new)*

Archbishop Bernard Hebda submitted an opinion piece published by the *Wall Street Journal* on January 20. The headline read, "We Need Comprehensive Immigration Reform Now" with the subhead, "As the leader of the Catholic community in St. Paul-Minneapolis, I see the human cost on all sides. The chaos benefits no one." The full article is at [archspm.org/archbishop-hebda-calls-for-immigration-reform-in-wall-street-journal-commentary](http://archspm.org/archbishop-hebda-calls-for-immigration-reform-in-wall-street-journal-commentary).

# NATIVITY MEN

**First Wednesday Breakfast** | Wednesday, Feb. 4, 7am  
The Nativity Men's Club again invites all men of the parish to the First Wednesday Breakfast this Wednesday morning at the Coffee Cup (1333 Randolph Ave.) Good food and fellowship is served.

# VOCATIONS *(new)*

**World Day for Consecrated Life** | Monday, February 2  
In 1997, Pope Saint John II instituted this day in honor of women and men in consecrated life. Please pray for all those who have made commitments to the consecrated life and remember to thank them on their special day!



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Molly Murphy O'Keefe  
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**Megan (Ryan) Kuefler**

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# CALENDAR • FEBRUARY 2-8, 2026

Mon., 2/2	Tues., 2/3	Wed., 2/4	Thurs., 2/5	Friday, 2/6	Sat., 2/7	Sun., 2/8
<b>Mass:</b> •8:15am	<b>Mass:</b> •8:15am •5pm	<b>Mass:</b> •8:15am •5pm*	<b>Mass:</b> •8:15am	<b>Mass:</b> •8:15am •5pm	<b>Mass:</b> •8:15am •5pm (vigil)	<b>Mass:</b> •7:30am (no music) •9am (Family Mass) •11am (with incense) •5pm
<b>Rosary for Life:</b> •8:45am	<b>Grandparents Rosary:</b> 8:45am	<b>Rosary for Life:</b> •8:45am	<b>Rosary for Life:</b> •8:45am	<b>Rosary for Life:</b> •8:45am	<b>Anointing:</b> •8:45am	
<i>*Newly updated</i>	<b>Confession:</b> •4:15-4:45pm	<b>Confession:</b> •4:15-4:45pm*		<b>Confession:</b> •4:15-4:45pm	<b>Confession:</b> •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](http://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>The PRESENTATION of OUR LORD</i>  <i>World Day for Consecrated Life</i> <b>Candle Blessing Church</b> 8:15am Mass  <b>Moms Club Steiner Hall</b> 9-10:30am  <i>**Nativity relics on display in Heritage Room</i>	<i>St. Blaise**</i> <i>St. Ansgar</i>  <b>Men's Fellowship Small Group Steiner Hall</b> 6:45am  <b>Exodus 90 Meetings Steiner Hall</b> 8-9am, 5:30-6:30pm  <b>SVdP Meeting Steiner Hall</b> 6:30pm	<b>Men's Breakfast Off Campus</b> 7am  <b>Faith Formation, OCIA Meeting School</b> 6:30-8pm	<i>St. Agatha**</i>  <b>Fireside Chat &amp; Social: Friendship Steiner Hall</b> 6:30pm	<i>Sts. Paul Miki and Companions</i>  <b>First Friday Fellowship Steiner Hall</b> 8:45am	<b>Youth Dinner &amp; Lifeline Lannan Center &amp; Off Campus</b> 5pm  <b>Canan Dinner Steiner Hall</b> 6pm	<i>The 5TH SUNDAY in ORDINARY TIME</i> <i>(St. Jerome Emiliani**)</i> <i>World Marriage Day</i>  Scouts Sunday  <b>Scouts Pancake Breakfast Steiner Hall</b> 8am-12:30pm  <b>High School Youth Night Steiner Hall</b> 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

Due to the newly reinstated 5pm Wednesday Mass, 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 of \$7-10, which helps offset our practical liturgical expenses. If you would like to request an intention, please stop by the parish office, or contact us at [info@nativitystpaul.org](mailto:info@nativitystpaul.org) or (651) 696-5401.

### This Week's Schedule

	7:30am	8:15am	9am	11am	5pm
<b>Mon. 2/2</b>		Carmelites Sisters of Lake Elmo			
<b>Tues. 2/3</b>		Norma Harvath +			Peace in Our Cities
<b>Wed. 2/4</b>		Kathleen Turley +			Nathaniel Zdon
<b>Thu. 2/5</b>		Mary Ellen Coyle +			
<b>Fri. 2/6</b>		Tony Rancone +			Renée Good + and Alex Pretti +
<b>Sat. 2/7</b>		Johnny McClure +			George Murphy
<b>Sun. 2/8</b>	Fr. Patrick Hipwell		Clarice Fischler +	For the People	Mary Ann Mork +

## MASS READINGS

**Sun:** Zep 2:3; 3:12-13; Ps 146:6-10; 1 Cor 1:26-31; Mt 5:1-12

**Monday:** Mal 3:1-4; Ps 24:7-10; Heb 2:14-18; Lk 2:22-40 or 2:22-32

**Tuesday:** 2 Sm 18:9-10, 14, 24-25, 30-19:3; Ps 86:1-6; Mk 5:21-43

**Wed.:** 2 Sm 24:2, 9-17; Ps 32:1-2, 5-7; Mk 6:1-6

**Thursday:** 1 Kgs 2:1-4, 10-12; 1 Chr 29:10-12; Mk 6:7-13

**Friday:** Sir 47:2-11; Ps 18:31, 47, 50-51; Mk 6:14-29

**Saturday:** 1 Kgs 3:4-13; Ps 119:9-14; Mk 6:30-34