

# NATIVITY OF OUR LORD

CATHOLIC CHURCH



*The 5TH SUNDAY in ORDINARY TIME • FEBRUARY 8, 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](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

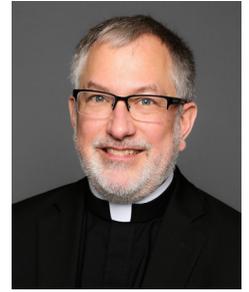
Stephen Maas

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:

**Martha Bjornson**

*(Mother of Deacon Don Tienter)*

*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](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

## 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. *Photo by Jennifer Sanders ([jenniferlynnsanders.smugmug.com](http://jenniferlynnsanders.smugmug.com))*



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

# PARISH LIFE

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

The 9am Mass on this 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.



**Donuts Every Sunday** | Sunday, Feb. 15, 8am-12:30pm

Join us next 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!



# STEWARDSHIP

## Catholic Services Appeal 2026

This year's Catholic Services Appeal kicked off last weekend. Please prayerfully consider how you can help, if you haven't already. Through the Catholic Services Appeal, we can share the light of Christ with others. Many people depend on us to carry out Our Lord's mission!



ARCHDIOCESE OF  
SAINT PAUL & MINNEAPOLIS  
— CATHOLIC —  
SERVICES APPEAL

When we contribute to the Catholic Services Appeal, we are being "the salt of the earth" for others, bringing out Christ's saving grace and serving as a source of salvation for them. Live your faith for the greater glory of God! May our thoughts, words, and actions reflect Christ's love for others. 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!



*"I have called you by name, you are mine." — Isaiah 43:1*

# LENT (new)

**Ash Wednesday** | February 18

Please join us in worship as we begin the great penitential season of Lent in preparation for the celebration of the Sacred Triduum. Mass on Ash Wednesday will be celebrated at 7am, 8:15am (with music and incense), and 5pm (with music).

**Stations of the Cross** | Begin February 20

The Stations of the Cross, the devotion of following the footsteps of Christ to his death on Mount Calvary, will be offered in the church every Friday in Lent at 7pm.

**Soup Suppers** | February 20, March 13 and 27

New this year! Stations are happening later this Lent (see above) and to help make Fridays more family-friendly, a simple meal (with fellowship!) will be offered on three Fridays in Steiner Hall from 5:30-6:45pm.

**Sacred Art Reflections** | Begin February 20

Also new this year on (most) Lenten Fridays: at 6:15pm, there will be a short, expert-led art reflection (sometimes described as *Visio Divina*) in Steiner Hall, which will end in time to head back upstairs to the church for Stations at 7pm. Please join us on February 20 and on all Fridays in March. A simple meal of soup and bread will be provided on February 20, March 13, and March 27 (see above). On Fish Fry evenings (see below), bring your meal from the cafeteria. This event is appropriate for all ages!

For the first Friday, February 20, the Respect Life committee will provide the simple soup meal, while Fr. John Paul Erickson will lead an art reflection on *The Call of Matthew* by Caravaggio.

**Lenten Fish Fry** | March 6, 20

Save the dates for our annual Lenten Fish Fry events, sponsored by the Nativity Men's Club! Plan to join us in the School cafeteria for food, beverages, and great fellowship. There will also be a drive-up to-go option at the garage on Wellesley Avenue.

**Penance Service** | March 18

Our annual all-parish Lenten Penance Service will be celebrated on Wednesday, March 18 at 6:30pm.

# COMMUNICATIONS

## Early Deadline

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. 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

# SMALL GROUPS

**New for Lent 2026** | Register by Sunday, February 15

Make this Lent your best ever! Lent is coming on February 18 (see details at left) and it's the perfect time to focus on growing in our faith. Why not do it together in a small group, for friendship, support, and consistency? Here are some new small groups that are looking for participants.

Sign up for these groups by next Sunday at [bit.ly/3vAtTzg](http://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).



**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 deepen our understanding of this rich and holy day. "In learning to celebrate Sunday and its fullness," says the late Pope, "our relationships and our entire lives cannot help but become more profoundly human." The group will meet on three Sunday afternoons from 3-4:30pm.

**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.

**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 from 7:30-8:30pm in Steiner Hall.

**Reclaim Sundays. Seriously!** | Feb. 24, March 3 and 10  
Archbishop Hebda is encouraging local Catholics to rediscover the beauty, peace, and rest of Sundays, set apart as the Lord's Day. The Archdiocese has provided monthly videos and ideas for reclaiming Sundays, highlighted in our Family Corner items in the bulletin (*see opposite page*).

Have we made good use of these resources? Let's pursue this together. 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 in Steiner Hall.

# IMAGES

## Cover Image

*Flippin' Pancakes at Scouts Sunday 2025*  
Courtesy of the Nativity Men's Club

# RESPECT LIFE

**Book Discussion and Potluck** | February 19

Join in reading and discussing the inspirational memoir, *Two Patients: My Conversion from Abortion to Life-Affirming Medicine*, by Dr. John Bruchalski, M.D. on Thursday, February 19 from 6-8pm in Steiner Hall. This amazing story highlights how a physician who practiced abortion came to question the medical status quo and to pioneer an approach to reproductive medicine that respects female fertility. It also gives a glimpse of just how merciful the relationship between a doctor and his two patients — mother and child — can be. A second discussion will be offered this Friday, February 13 with our Minneapolis friends. To RSVP for either event and/or to buy (\$7.50) or borrow a copy of the book, please contact Karen McCann at (612) 964-4522 or [karenmccann3@gmail.com](mailto:karenmccann3@gmail.com).

# WOMEN'S RETREAT

**Registration Now Open** | February 27-28

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. 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.



# FAMILY CORNER

**Unplugging and Prayer** | February 2026

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](http://nativitystpaul.org/news/family-corner-unplugging-and-prayer) via the QR code for these answers and more in the Reclaiming Sundays Guide.



# ARCHDIOCESE

**Fire on the Hill** | February 21 (*new*)

All are invited to a monthly time of Adoration with praise and worship and an offering of prayer team ministry for healing and prophetic ministry at the Cathedral of St. Paul following 5:15pm Saturday Mass. Future dates include March 21, April 18, and May 23 (which is a change from previous promotions), when Fire on the Hill will follow the vigil Mass for Pentecost with Archbishop Hebda.

**Archdiocesan Scout Mass** | February 28

All Scouts (Cub Scouts, Scouts BSA, Girl Scouts of the USA, and American Heritage Girls) are invited to the Archdiocesan Scout Mass, celebrated by Archbishop Hebda, on Saturday, February 28 at Our Lady of Grace in Edina. The event will begin at 10am and includes recognition for accomplishments this past year. All are welcome!

**Archdiocesan Men's Conference** | March 21

All men of the Archdiocese are invited to a free half-day retreat with Archbishop Hebda and Bishop Kenney at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton in Hastings on Saturday, March 21 from 8am-12:30pm. Visit [archspm.org/events/archdiocesan-mens-conference](http://archspm.org/events/archdiocesan-mens-conference) for details.

**Arch Hebda Calls for Immigration Reform**

Archbishop Bernard Hebda submitted an opinion piece published by the *Wall Street Journal* on January 20 titled, "We Need Comprehensive Immigration Reform Now" and stated, "As the leader of the Catholic community...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).

# COMMUNITY

**CCW Deanery Meeting** | Wed., Feb. 11, 9am (*new*)

The Council of Catholic Women of the St. Paul Deanery will meet this Wednesday at Maternity of Mary in St. Paul. Fr. Andrew Brinkman will offer a reflection on renouncing the false self to become a new creation. Mass will be at 12pm with lunch to follow. Registration is \$18. RSVP by Tuesday to Jane at (651) 261-2534 or Mickey at [mickeyn925@gmail.com](mailto:mickeyn925@gmail.com).

**Guiding Star Wakota Golden Gala** | February 28

Join Archbishop Hebda on Saturday, February 28 to celebrate compassionate, life-affirming support for women and families! Visit [guidingstarwakota.org/gala](http://guidingstarwakota.org/gala) for details.

**Mind, Body & Spirit Presentation** | March 3

Parishioner Sydney March, R.N., M.S. (Bioethics), M.A. (Moral Theology) will present "Suffering and Chronic Illness" as part of the Health Care from a Catholic Perspective series at St. John Newman in Eagan on Tuesday, March 3. Visit [sjn.org/pastoral-care](http://sjn.org/pastoral-care) for details.

# CALENDAR • FEBRUARY 9-15, 2026

Mon., 2/9	Tues., 2/10	Wed., 2/11	Thurs., 2/12	Friday, 2/13	Sat., 2/14	Sun., 2/15
<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 ( <i>vigil</i> )	<b>Mass:</b> •7:30am ( <i>no music</i> ) •9am ( <i>Family Mass</i> ) •11am ( <i>with incense</i> ) •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>Rosary for Life:</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>St. Scholastica**</i>	<i>Our Lady of Lourdes</i>			<i>Sts. Cyril** and Methodius</i>	<i>The 6TH SUNDAY in ORDINARY TIME</i>
	<b>Men's Fellowship Small Group Steiner Hall</b> 6:45am			No School (Teacher In-Service)		<b>Hospitality (Donut) Sunday Steiner Hall</b> 8am-12:30pm
	<b>Facilities Mtg. Lannan Center</b> 7am					
	<b>Exodus 90 Mtgs. Steiner Hall</b> 8-9am, 5:30-6:30pm					
<b>NCCW Board Meeting Steiner Hall</b> 6:30-7:30pm	<b>Pastoral Council Mtg. Lannan Center</b> 5:30pm	<b>Faith Formation, OCIA Meeting School</b> 6:30-8pm	<b>NMC Board Meeting Steiner Hall</b> 7pm		<i>**Nativity relics on display in Heritage Room</i>	<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 is \$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.</b>	<b>2/9</b>		Agnes Thoma +			
<b>Tues.</b>	<b>2/10</b>		Jack McSweeney +			Jim, Sr. + and Michele + McQuillan
<b>Wed.</b>	<b>2/11</b>		Amy Wivell +			Julie Patton +
<b>Thu.</b>	<b>2/12</b>		Norma Harvath +			
<b>Fri.</b>	<b>2/13</b>		Glynn Syftestad			Martha Bjornson +
<b>Sat.</b>	<b>2/14</b>		Jane Doherty +			Katie McKenzie +
<b>Sun.</b>	<b>2/15</b>	Eugene Sitzmann, Sr. +		Robert and Teresa McMahon	For the People	Albert Pariana +

## MASS READINGS

**Sun.:** Is 58:7-10; Ps 112:4-9; 1 Cor 2:1-5; Mt 5:13-16

**Mon.:** 1 Kgs 8:1-7, 9-13; Ps 132:6-7, 8-10; Mk 6:53-56

**Tues.:** 1 Kgs 8:22-23, 27-30; Ps 84:3-5, 10-11; Mk 7:1-13

**Wed.:** 1 Kgs 10:1-10; Ps 37:5-6, 30-31, 39-40; Mk 7:14-23

**Thu.:** 1 Kgs 11:4-13; Ps 106:3-4, 35-37, 40; Mk 7:24-30

**Fri.:** 1 Kgs 11:29-32; 12:19; Ps 81:10-15; Mk 7:31-37

**Sat.:** 1 Kgs 12:26-32; 13:33-34; Ps 106:6-7, 19-20, 21-22; Mk 8:1-10

**Sun.:** Sir 15:15-20; Ps 119:1-2, 4-5, 17-18, 33-34;

1 Cor 2:6-10; Mt 5:17-37 or 5:20-22, 27-28, 33-34, 37