

NATIVITY OF OUR LORD

CATHOLIC CHURCH



The FOURTH SUNDAY *of* EASTER • SUNDAY, APRIL 26, 2026

PARISH LIFE

Class of 2026 – Baccalaureate Mass & Breakfast

High School seniors are invited to a special recognition Baccalaureate Mass **NEXT Sunday, May 3rd at 9:00am**. Immediately following the 9:00am Mass, join us for a celebratory breakfast in the Auditorium as we honor the Class of 2026! This celebration is for **all parishioners graduating high school** regardless of where you went to grade school. If you plan on attending, please use the QR code on the left to RSVP so we can plan accordingly.



Please join us for the final Emmaus Family Night of the school year **this Sunday, April 26th from 3-6 p.m.**

We will begin with a short, family-friendly time of prayer in the church, followed by games in the gym, and a meal in the cafeteria. Fr. Erickson and the Handmaids of the Heart of Jesus will be with us this month as we gather on the Fourth Sunday in Easter. If you have not yet RSVPd, please use the QR code to do so.



Donut Sunday | 8am-12:30pm | Steiner Hall

Donuts, coffee, and fellowship will be served up after all Sunday masses by our Hospitality team. To volunteer for a shift or donate to this ministry online use the QR code on the right.



On this **Good Shepherd Sunday**, we celebrate the **World Day of Prayer for Vocations**. Pray that young men and women hear and respond generously to the Lord's call to the priesthood, diaconate, religious life, societies of apostolic life, or secular institutes.

Reminder: Join us this Sunday after the 9:00am mass from 10:00-11:00am for an open house for the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd in the School. Please enter in the two school doors between Church and School.

IMAGES

Easter Vigil 2026 photos were provided by Paul Barrett. Photos from Night to Shine provided by Kristin Doughty. Find her business at www.kjdoughtyphoto.mypixieset.com

PARISH INITIATIVES

Steiner Hall Renovations (New)

Our Centennial Campaign goals were to renovate the stained glass windows, eliminate school debt, update Steiner Hall, and use the remainder for the endowment fund. We're excited to move forward with the renovation of Steiner Hall. As we begin this process, we want to hear from you. Your input will help ensure these enhancements serve our whole community. A survey will be shared in the coming weeks, and a casual open forum will be held after the 9am Mass on May 31st. More details to come — stay tuned.

NATIVITY SCHOOL

A successful and wonderful Night to Shine Gala



Confetti, hot air balloons, and a journey through the seven wonders of the world greeted parents and staff at the Night to Shine gala this past Saturday night.

In addition to the seven wonders of the world, there were seven wonders of Nativity school that were highlighted throughout the event: service, teachers, community, students, traditions, faith and achievement.



The dinner entertainment included leadership and staff competing against students in "Are you smarter than a Fifth Grader?" (The fifth graders won!), and a heartwarming video of former students reading letters they wrote in gratitude to their Nativity teachers—there weren't many dry eyes! The evening ended with a bang from confetti poppers throughout the gym.

The Fund-A-Need focused on strengthening safety and security around the school. We are grateful to those who contributed to the fund. Our goal was met.



We would like to give a special thanks to the Citrons and the Prestegaards for leading such a great Night to Shine committee. We would also like to thank our sponsors, those who donated prizes, and all of those who attended and bid on the silent and live auction prizes. Stay tuned for the totals! We couldn't fit all the sponsors and names in the Bulletin, so please see this week's "Tidings" e-newsletter for more gratitude to those who made the night shine!



WELCOME!

OCIA (Order of Christian Initiation of Adults)



Dioceses across the United States are seeing a significant uptick in converts with many recording 30% to 70% year over year increases according to the *National Catholic Register*. Nativity is also seeing this trend as we welcomed 13 new Catholics into the Church this month. That number is almost double of what it was last year.



"One of the great joys of the Triduum liturgies is to welcome new people into the fullness of the Catholic Church at the Easter Vigil mass," interim Faith Formation director John Hartnett said.

From September until May, OCIA candidates meet weekly with their teachers and sponsors to learn about the Catholic faith.

The sponsors can be someone of the Catholic faith the candidate knows, or they could be a volunteer.

"It's a great way for a sponsor to deepen their understanding of their faith by going through the process with the candidate," Hartnett said.



Nativity would like to congratulate and welcome the new Catholics who celebrated the sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist this month. Some celebrated all three, and others celebrated one or two of the sacraments. They are Alex Bisanz, Phillip Countryman, Brian Prestegaard, Mike Bagan, Patricia Huff, Kiarra Bracy, Michael Bagan, Jenna Bagan, Emmy Schulz, Gavin Linnihan, James Hudlik, Jack Hudlik and Anthony Mengelkoch.

A special thanks to Father Tollefson, Father Erickson, John Hartnett and Marian Layman for their leadership of the OCIA program this year. We would also like to thank the teachers and sponsors for the candidates this year.

If you feel called to become a sponsor or would like to go through the program yourself, please contact Jarred McKinney at jmckinney@nativitystpaul.org or call 651-696-5441.

Welcome to Nativity, Jarred McKinney



I'm so excited to get going as the new **Director of Formation and Evangelization** here at Nativity! I'm humbled that I get to walk alongside y'all as we figure out how to follow Jesus together.

My wife, Tala, and I are both Minnesota transplants and Catholic converts. I grew Southern Baptist in Birmingham, Alabama and Tala grew up Lutheran in Bethlehem, Palestine. We met as graduate students at Emory University, where I studied Greek and Islamic philosophy. Upon graduating from Emory, I lived in community with Lasallian Brothers in Bethlehem. Just over a year later Tala and I were married in the parish in which she was raised.

We returned to the States, and I began my seminary training at Duke University to enter the Anglican priesthood. During my time in seminary, I worked at a couple of parishes around Durham, NC, primarily as a youth pastor and small group coordinator. Like all good Anglicans, however, I ended up crossing the Tiber, trading Canterbury for Rome. In addition to my work in parish settings, I also worked in Oral Bible Translation. In this role, I worked alongside Christians in Egypt, Ghana, and Madagascar to translate Scripture into their mother tongue.

In addition to the above, I'm a person who loves getting outside and on a trail for hours or even days at a time. So no need to paddle faster if you hear banjo music, it's probably just me and Banksy on our way to the trail-head listening to bluegrass a little too loudly. More than getting outside, though, I deeply value building relationships with people. Tala and I both come from incredibly relational cultures that use food as an excuse to get together. Since the BBQ scene in Minnesota is abysmal, we'll have to smoke our own and just have y'all over!

All jokes aside, we serve a God who is essentially relational, thus showing us by nature of His very being how we ought to be with one another. Tala and I are thrilled to enter into relationship with you all.

In Christ, Jarred McKinney

Tour of Cathedral with our newest Catholics! *(New)*

All Nativity parishioners are invited to join our newest Catholics in OCIA for a tour of the Cathedral of St. Paul led by Dr. Reichardt. The tour will be on **Wednesday May 27, from 1 -2:15 pm**. The cost is \$5 per person for a group of 10 or more; or \$15 per person if less than ten. To sign up, please contact Mary Reichardt by May 5th. Mrreichardt@stthomas.edu or call at 651 222-3420.

YOUTH

NATIVITY SUMMER EVENTS 2026



TOTUS TUUS

Join us for our annual summer catechetical program filled with learning, sacraments, and fun with friends!

Day Program: Grades 1-6
Evening Program: Grades 7-12
Where: Right here at Nativity

EXTREME FAITH CAMP

Current 6-8 graders are invited to spend a week with other middle schoolers from around the archdiocese. The week is filled with high adventure, fun, sacraments, prayer, and Jesus!

Current 9-12 graders are invited to help serve as small group leaders or members of prayer team!

JULY 13-17



nativitystpaul.org/extreme-faith-camp



STEUBENVILLE

Current 8-12 graders are invited to spend a weekend at the University of St. Thomas with thousands of other teens from around the country.

This high energy weekend consists of keynote speakers, praise & worship, Eucharistic adoration, small groups, and more!

nativitystpaul.org/steubenville

VOLUNTEER WITH US

We need your help to make all these great events happen! For more information and to sign up visit:

nativitystpaul.org/volunteer

Or contact the parish office with any questions.

THIS COULD BE YOU



RESPECT LIFE

Book Discussion, Potluck | Monday, April 27th | Steiner Hall | 6-8pm

We will meet for a potluck meal to discuss our Lenten book, *To the Heart of the Matter, The 40 Day Companion to Live a Culture of Life*, by Shawn D. Carney. Contact Karen McCann at (612)-964-4522 if you would like a book.

The Annual Mary Shower is back!

The Nativity 5th graders are working in connection with Abria, Second Stork, and Birthright to "shower" families in need with a variety of items for babies and children up to 3 years old. Donations can include, but are not limited to, new and gently used clothing, socks, blankets, diapers, wipes, baby care items, bibs, bottles, toys, and more!

Donations will be collected from April 27th - May 10th. All items and monetary donations can be dropped off in the back of the church near the Stanford doors. The 5th graders thank you for your generosity in helping them make a difference!

NATIVITY WOMEN

The Madonna Dinner is back following the Madonna Mass on Wednesday, May 6th! For more information and to sign up use the QR code. **Please RSVP by THIS FRIDAY, May 1st.**



Rosary Donation at Madonna Dinner *(New)*

At the **Madonna Dinner** we will have a basket set out to **collect rosaries for those in detention centers in Brownsville, Texas.** Del Camino Jesuit Border priests distribute 100/150 rosaries (plastic and metal) each week to those detained and deported. **Please consider bringing rosaries to donate at the dinner, May 6th.**

PILGRIMAGE

Franciscan Pilgrimage to Lourdes and Fatima *(New)*

Please consider joining the Franciscan Brothers of Peace Pilgrimage to Lourdes and Fatima this October-2026 during the Jubilee Year of St Francis of Assisi. The pilgrimage link for all the info, the brochure and the enrollment page is: <https://selectinternationaltours.com/fr-seraphim-wirth-fbp/>. If you have any questions, email Mark Miller at: mpmille333@yahoo.com.

Parish Collections | March 2026

Mar 26 Collections	Monthly Actual	Fiscal Year to Date Actual	Fiscal Year to Date Budget
Envelope & Electronic Giving	\$137,414	\$1,464,954	\$1,310,750
Plate Collections	\$4,632	\$59,862	\$75,000
Total	\$142,046	\$1,524,816	\$1,385,750

PUBLICATION

Bulletin Deadlines

Bulletin content is 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 for more information, or to submit copy for the parish bulletin, website calendar, social media, and email newsletter.

PASTORAL CARE

Anointing of the Sick | May 2

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 also offered immediately after the 8:15am Mass in the church on the first Saturday of each month.

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, contact the parish office at (651) 696-5401 or info@nativitystpaul.org and we'll come to them (or you)!

FUNERALS

Our Faithful Departed

Please remember in your prayers:

David Brown
Donn Eiden

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. 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

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



Thomas Joseph Graveline
parents: Bryan and Katie (Platter) Graveline

Crew Patrick Cullen
parents: Patrick and Aubree (Simon) Cullen

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 for more information.

HOLY MATRIMONY

We invite engaged couples to celebrate the sacrament of marriage in our beautiful Church by registering as a parishioner at least six months prior to requesting a wedding date. Contact the parish office at info@nativitystpaul.org or (651) 696-5401 to learn more.

MASS INTENTIONS

Masses Available

If you would like to request an intention, please stop by the parish office, or contact us at (651) 696-5401. The suggested donation per Mass is \$7-\$10.

		7:30am	8:15am	9am	11am	5pm
Mon.	4/27		Elizabeth Hernandez			
Tues.	4/28		Lorenzo Hernandez +			Albert Eggert +
Wed.	4/29		Luke Dombrow			Kathy Mooney Davis +
Thu.	4/30		Dorothy Pappenfus +			
Fri.	5/1		Herbert Cook Jr. +			Tony + and Dianne + Stephens
Sat.	5/2		Donna Amos +			Mary Kay Jones
Sun.	5/3	Tom Emmer		For the People	Carmelite Community	Julie Paske

THIS WEEK

See the information section on the back page for mass, confession, adoration, and rosary times. Changes to the parish schedule since last Tuesday will be communicated through pulpit announcements, in the e-newsletter and on the web site.

Monday, April 27

Mary Shower collection at the back of the Church begins and will continue through May 10th

Respect Life Book & Potluck Steiner Hall 6:00-8:00pm

Tuesday, April 28

Feast of St. Louis Marie Grignion de Montfort
Men's Small Group Steiner Hall 6:45am

Wednesday, April 29

Feast of St. Catherine of Siena
Faith Formation and OCIA School 6:30-8pm

Thursday, April 30

Feast of St. Pius V

Friday, May 1

Feast of St. Joseph the Worker
National Religious Brothers Day
Madonna Dinner RSVP is due.

Saturday, May 2

Feast of Athanasius
Anointing of the Sick Church after 8:15am mass
First Communion Church 10:00am

Sunday, May 3

High School Class of 2026 – Baccalaureate Mass | 9am mass Church and Breakfast School Auditorium
Donut Sunday served by Hospitality Steiner Hall 8am-12:30pm
High School Youth Ministry | Steiner Hall 6-8pm

MASS READINGS

Sun: Acts 2:14a, 36-41/Ps 23:1-6/1Pt2:20b-25/Jn10:1-10

Mon: Acts 11:1-18/ Ps 42:2-3; 43:3, 4/Jn 10:11-18

Tue: Acts 11:19-26/ Ps 87:1b-3, 4-7/Jn 10:22-30

Wed: Acts 12:24-13:5a/ Ps 67:2-6 and 8/Jn 12:44-50

Thu: Acts 13:13-25/ Ps 89:2-3, 21-25 and 27/Jn 13:16-20

Fri: Acts 13:26-33/ Ps 2:6-7-11ab/Jn 14:1-6

Sat: Acts 13:44-52/ Ps 98:1-3ab-4/Jn 14:7-14

Sun: Acts 6:1-7/Ps 33:1-5, 18-19/1 Pt 2:4-9/Jn 14:1-12

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

School Office | (651) 699-1311 |

school@nativitystpaul.org

1900 Stanford Avenue, St. Paul, MN 55105

STANDARD MASS & PRAYER TIMES

Lord's Day Mass

Saturday: 5pm vigil

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

Daily Mass

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

Rosary

Rosary for Life: M, W, Th, Fr: 8:45am

Grandparents Rosary: Tuesdays: 8:45am

STEWARDSHIP

Online Giving

Electronic giving is available 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!



ABOUT

Parish Mission

Our 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: **Prepare** the Way of the Lord, **Celebrate** "God With Us," and **Shine** with the Light of Christ.

Learn more about our parish mission a 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

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

NELC Director | Nicole Clausen (651) 696-5437

Parish Secretary, Pastoral Care |
Beth Erickson (651) 696-5401

Hospitality, Outreach, and Communications

Coordinator | Therese Steinhoff (651) 696-5425

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

Director of Formation and Evangelization
Jarred McKinney (651) 696-5441

Faith Formation, Sacraments of Initiation
John Hartnett (651) 696-5401

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) Nate Hughes
Lanita Brandt Stephen Maas
Martha Conners Lucas Tucker
Judd Fenlon

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

Safe Environment Coordinator |
Beth Erickson (651) 696-5401
St. Vincent de Paul Society (651) 334-2935