



WWW.NATIVITYBLOOMINGTON.ORG
9900 LYNDALE AVENUE SOUTH • BLOOMINGTON, MN 55420-4733





Contact Our Parish Office Monday-Friday: 8:30 AM-4:30 PM

parishoffice@nativitybloomington.org

📞 952-881-8671 🛮 Fax: 952-881-8692

 School Office
 952-881-8160

 Creative Clubhouse
 952-881-9103



Our Pastor Father Nathan LaLiberte

1 952-881-8671 x8066

frnathan@nativitybloomington.org

@NativityBloomington

MativityofMaryMN

CONTACT OUR TEAM

PARISH OFFICE: 952-881-8671	Ext
Fr Nathan LaLiberte, Pastor	
frnathan@nativitybloomington.org	8066
Dcn. John Shearer, Deacon	00/0
jshearer@nativitybloomington.org	8068
Dcn. Jim Reinhardt, Deacon	
deaconjim@nativitybloomington.org	5526
Dillard, Katy, Bookkeeper/TADS Specialist	
kdillard@nativitybloomington.org	8075
Fyksen, Patty, Creative Clubhouse Coordinator	
pfyksen@nativitybloomington.org	8065
Beth Gaetz, Ministry Coordinator	
bgaetz@nativitybloomington.org	8070
Hagerty, Wanda, School Admin. Asst.	
whagerty@nativitybloomington.org	8040
Hornecker, Jacob, Faith Formation	
jhornecker@nativitybloomington.org	8067
Millner, Nicole, Director of Liturgy & Music	
nmillner@nativitybloomington.org	8074
Pajak, Ryan, Principal	
rpajak@nativitybloomington.org	8060
Rachel, Joanne, Director of Parish Operations	
jrachel@nativitybloomington.org	8071
Sansom, Roger, Maintenance/Grounds	
rsansom@nativitybloomington.org	8073
Schumacher, Kelly, Elem. Faith Formation & Parish Life	
kschumacher@nativitybloomington.org	8069
Tobroxen, Judy, Parish Administrative Assistant itobroxen@nativitybloomington.org	8072
1	

Tom Burns: tlburns43@gmail.com TRUSTEES Christopher Dietzen: christopher.dietzen@gmail.com

PARISH COUNCIL CHAIR

Steve Casalenda: scasalenda@remax.net

FINANCE COUNCIL CHAIR

Chad Huset: husetcs@hotmail.com

PRAYER REQUESTS FOR THE PRAYERS IN OUR PARISH BOOK OF INTERCESSIONS. Please call or email Kathy Schoenecker with any prayer requests for the prayer chain. ekaan@aol.com / 612-581-4633

GENERAL INFORMATION AT NATIVITY OF MARY

Nativity of Mary is currently open on weekdays from 6:30am-4:30pm for private prayer as well as posted Confession, Adoration, and Mass Times. All Masses are celebrated at their usual times.

The bishops of Minnesota have reinstated the Obligation to attend Mass on Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation, and we are overjoyed to invite and welcome everyone back to Mass! If you are not able to return to church but would still like to receive the Eucharist, please contact Beth Gaetz (bgaetz@nativitybloomington.org) about our homebound eucharistic ministry.

Facemasks: Those fully vaccinated are not at significant risk for contracting or spreading the coronavirus don't need to wear facemasks. Individuals who are more comfortable wearing a facemask may continue doing so but we will no longer require masks in the church buildings. Additionally, masks are strongly recommended in Nativity of Mary School.

Social Distancing: There are no longer any distancing or capacity restrictions in place in the church buildings. For those who prefer more social distancing, the Gathering Space and Chapel areas continue to be available.

Ongoing General Safety Protocols: If you are sick, stay at home. Please take care of yourself and protect others from becoming infected. Vulnerable persons and those caring for them should stay safe. Attend nonobligatory gatherings only to the extent that you judge the risk of infection to be low.

Do what you are comfortable doing. An individual may always practice more restrictive facemask and social distance standards than are required. Sanitization is effective. Washing hands and using hand sanitizer helps avoid both contracting and spreading infection. Vaccines are still recommended.

We will continue to livestream our Saturday 4:00pm Anticipatory Mass, as well as Holy Days of Obligation to our Youtube Channel: @NativityofMaryMN

*An inherent risk of exposure to COVID-19 exists anywhere people are present. COVID-19 is an extremely contagious disease that can lead to severe illness and death. Attendance at liturgies and other events is at your own risk.

Weekly Readings: December 26, 2021

Sir 3:2-6, 12-14/Col 3:12-21/ Lk 2:41-52 Sunday:

1 Jn 1:1-4/Jn 20:1a, 2-8 Monday:

Tuesday: 1 Jn 1:5-2:2/Mt 2:13-18

Wednesday: 1 Jn 2:3-11/Lk 2:22-35

Thursday: 1 Jn 2:12-17/Lk 2:36-40

1 Jn 2:18-21/Jn 1:1-18 Friday:

Nm 6:22-27/Gal 4:4-7/ Saturday: Lk 2:16-21

Is 60:1-6/Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6/ Mt 2:1-12 Next Sunday:

A Note from our Pastor

Merry Christmas!

It seems like the last two years of this venerable holiday have been marred by the global pandemic that we as a world have been experiencing. A season that is typically met with large gatherings, cheer, and travel, has now been a time of difficult family dynamics, fear, and struggle.

However, as hard as this change has been, it is also a bit more authentic to the original Christmas experience; the Birth of Jesus. A time in the life of Mary and Joseph that was filled with tough decisions, weird family dynamics (being turned out of their own extended family in Bethlehem), and expectations of normalcy that were ultimately unfulfilled. As we know, even though the birth of Christ took place in difficult circumstances, it was, in retrospect, as it needed to be. The fact that Christ was born in poverty and obscurity means, for us in future generations, that ALL peoples are welcome at the Nativity of our Lord, not just the privileged. From the lowly shepherds, to the regal kings, the coming of Christ among us was an event that was for everyone.



While we are in the midst of hardships, they rarely make sense. The burdens and trials of an unideal setting often seem like something to just persevere through. However, I think for all of us, it is in those hard times where we often gain the most wisdom. As a priest mentor of mine would tell me, "Don't rush through the difficult or else you will miss the grace of wisdom."



Even though it may appear that through this pandemic that the world has started to unravel at a rapid rate, there are graces that have come forth in all of our lives. We have had to confront things in our world, family systems, and our own personhood, that was often ignored or passed over because we could easily move onto the next thing. However now that we are stuck in a situation that has touched every aspect of our lives, we are forced to make decisions that we would never have had to make before.

It has been my hope and prayer that in the midst of our worldly turmoil, that men and women of good will, will be raised up and become the leaders that we need in the years ahead. That this season of hardship will lead people into the depths of their own souls as well as recognizing the fact that no worldly system or government is sufficient to save us. As the psalmist says, "In God alone does my soul rest" (Ps. 62). Whenever the world around us seems insane, and people continue to disappoint, we are forced to find a solution outside of ourselves for our problems.

For Mary and Joseph, they found their strength in the midst of their hardship, by the guiding light of God, who allowed them enough grace to just take the next best step. Such is a life lived by faith; it requires a direct reliance on the providence of God.

As we experience, yet another, unusual Christmas season, let us not grow discouraged and flag in hope, but instead awaken to the reality that it is in the midst of the difficult that God's grace and light shines the most profoundly. For it is only in darkness that the profundity of light is truly appreciated.

Ja. Hatter & Roleate

Mass Times

Holy Mass (Church) Mondays: 8am, Tuesdays: 6pm, Wednesdays-Fridays: 8am, Saturdays: 4pm, and Sundays: 8:30am & 10:30am

Adoration (Church) Monday-Friday: 7-8am, Mondays: 8:30am-2pm, and Tuesdays: 5pm-5:50pm Confessions (Confessional)
Tuesdays: 5pm,
Wednesdays: 7:30am,
Thursdays: 8:30am, and
Saturdays: 3pm

Faith Formation

Catholic Youth Summer Camp

CYSC is a weeklong Catholic camp for middle school students in the northwoods of Trego, WI. CYSC aims to awaken, empower and equip teens to live out the Catholic faith so that they may transform the world. CYSC is where high adventure activities lead to high adventure faith. Campers get to participate in classic camp activities while also discovering the depth and beauty of the Catholic faith through experiencing the sacraments, prayer, small group, and Adoration. Camp will take place June 19-24 and is open for all those entering grades 6-9 in the fall of 2022.

Carmelite Book Study Group

What: Fellowship and study of various books on Carmelite saints and spirituality. First book to be studied will be Everything is Grace: The Life and Way of Therese of Lisieux by Joseph F Schmidt.

When: The 2nd & 4th Wednesdays of the month starting January 12, 2022 following 8:00 am Mass until 10:15. Schedule: 8:30-9:15 Fellowship and refreshments.

9:15-10:15 Book discussion. All in the Caritas Room.

Who: Everyone is invited. The group will be facilitated by
Annie Lex and Jane Montoya. Both are parishioners who
are also Secular Carmelites for over 25 years each.

How to sign up: Contact Annie (annelex@comcast.net) or Jane (jane.montoya@live.com)

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion Needed

Volunteers are needed to bring Holy Communion to those in care centers--especially during the week. Our greatest needs are: Thursday mornings, 1-2 per month (for about a 2 hour time commitment each time); up to 4 new volunteers are needed, and a weekday of your choosing per month, between 9-11 a.m. or 1-3 p.m. (this facility requires volunteers to be vaccinated against COVID-19). All facilities require the wearing of masks and the use of hand sanitizer, and all volunteers need to be Safe Environment (Virtus) certified before beginning their service. Orientation will be provided. Please email Beth Gaetz, Ministry Coordinator, at bgaetz@nativitybloomington.org if you are interested or would like more information.

HOLIDAY HOURS & SCHEDULE CHANGES

- There is NO adoration, rosary group, or morning daily mass on Friday December 24th.
 *Please note that there was a mistake in last week's bulletin stating that there would be Adoration & Rosary group on the Christmas Eve calendar day.
- There is NO reconciliation at 3:00 PM on Saturday December 25th.

We apologize for the inconvenience.

- There is NO Vigil mass at 4:00 PM on Saturday
 December 25th for the celebration of the Holy Family.
- The parish office will be closed on December 27th & 31st.
- On December 31st there is Adoration at 7:00 AM, Mass at 8:00 AM, but NO Confessions.



Mark your calendars for the upcoming Coat & Winter Items Drive happening the weekends of January 15-16 & 22-23. Nativity of Mary is thrilled to partner with Every Third Sunday (ETS), a veteran support organization.

ETS located just 5 blocks from the Minneapolis VA center considers faith to be the keystone to everything they do. They believe modern medicine can treat the physical injuries a vet sustains in service, psychiatry can assist with the emotional difficulties, but the wounds to the soul many veterans struggle with cannot be healed without divine intervention and a belief that we are all here for a purpose.

We are asking the Nativity of Mary community to support this organization by fulfilling the tangible needs of veterans through donating winter coats and other winter items. Below you will find a list of some of their most needed items. Large donation boxes will be placed at the main entrances January 15-23. Please consider donating your gently used items

ETS is in desperate need of:

- Winter coats Gloves Hats
- Winter underwear Boots

Other accepted items:

Diabetic socks
 Sweat clothes (XL,2X)
 Men's boxer underwear
 Blue jeans
 Shoes
 Shirts

Women's briefs (M (6), L(7), XL (8))

Become a Stephen Minister

Has God given you the gift of a caring, listening heart? Are you energized by knowing others deeply, praying together, and offering faith-filled support? If so, might you consider using these gifts as a Stephen Minister? Stephen Ministers undergo 50 hours of training and then provide one-on-one Christian care to those experiencing difficulties such as grief, divorce, job loss, chronic or terminal illness, or relocation. From February -May 2022, Nativity of Mary and St. Edward's Church will collaborate to train a new group of Stephen Ministers--which will likely not happen again for several years. Current Stephen Ministers will be available in the Caritas Room after all Masses on the weekends of December 18-19 and January 8-9 to provide more information and answer questions. You may also review the Stephen Ministry information on the Pastoral Care page of our website for more details, and if still interested, contact Jim Eddleston, NOM Stephen Ministry Leader, at 952-895-9808. The deadline for receipt of applications is January 12th, 2022. May God bless your discernment!



Learn more about the incredible education we offer here at Nativity of Mary Catholic School.

Preschool & Kindergarten Information Night January 6th, 2022 6:30 PM - 7:30 PM

Join us in the Parish Gathering Space (Door 9) for a presentation from our Prinicpal, Mr. Pajak, hear from our teachers, and visit our classrooms!

For more information & to RSVP please visit: school.nativitybloomington.org/infonight



Middle School Information Night January 13th, 2022 7:00 PM - 8:00 PM

Join us in the Parish Gathering Space (Door 9) for a presentation from our Prinicpal, Mr. Pajak, and to hear from our middle school teachers about the amazing middle school experience that Nativity offers.

For more information & to RSVP please visit: school.nativitybloomington.org/ middleschoolinfonight



Bloomington Eden Prairie Meals on Wheels Job Opening

Full Time Program Director. \$45,000-\$50,000 salary, limited benefits.

Summary: This person will professionally represent the Bloomington Eden Prairie MOW program to current and future donors, clients, staff, volunteers, board members and the community. Consider joining our mission to provide nourishment and support to local seniors and individuals with disabilities. Qualifications: Strong communications skills, interpersonal skills, organizations & administrative skills, computer skills, budgeting skills, and ability to work independently. Able to work with a senior population. Able to recruit, motivate and retain quality staff and volunteers. Has knowledge of fundraising strategies and donor relations unique to non-profits. 3+ years of

experience in non-profit administration & management. BA/BS degree preferred.

Contact: Please send application and resume to the email: blepmn@gmail.com or mail to Bloomington Eden Prairie Meals on Wheels, 8400 France Ave S, Bloomington MN 55431. Call 952-835-1665 with questions.



Parish Happenings

*Friday, December 24 Christmas Eve

2:00 PM Christmas Eve Mass, Church

(†Kevin Baier)

Christmas Eve Mass, Church 4:00 PM

(† Anton Kelsch)

Christmas Eve Mass, Church 10:00 PM

(†Dennis Karlen)

Saturday, December 25 The Nativity of the Lord

8:30 AM Christmas Day Mass, Church (Nativity of Mary Parish)

10:30 AM Christmas Day Mass, Church (Annie Lex)

**Sunday, December 26 The Holy Family

8:30 AM Mass, Church (Nativity of Mary Parish) 10:30 AM Mass, Church (†Dcn. Thomas Winninger)

11:45-1:00 PM Book Club, John Paul II Room

*Monday, December 27 St. John, Apostle and Evangelist

7:00-8:00 AM Adoration, Church 7:30 AM Rosary, Chapel

> MA 00:8 Mass, Church (Linda Gross)

8:30-2:00 PM Adoration, Church

Tuesday, December 28 The Holy Innocents, Martyrs

Adoration, Church 7:00-8:00 AM

> 5:00 PM Reconciliation, Confessional

5:00-5:50 PM Adoration, Church

6:00 PM Mass, Church (Max Paczkowski)

Wednesday, December 29 St. Thomas Becket, Bishop

7:00-8:00 AM Adoration, Church

Reconciliation, Confessional 7:30 AM

7:30 AM Rosary, Chapel

MA 00:8 Mass, Church (†Bob Clancy)

7:00 PM Festival Choir Rehearsal, Church

Thursday, December 30

7:00-8:00 AM Adoration, Church

7:30 AM Rosary, Chapel

MA 00:8 Mass, Church (†Russell Lee) 8:30 AM **Reconciliation**, Confessional

*Friday, December 31 St. Sylvester I, Pope;

New Years Eve

7:00-8:00 AM Adoration, Church 7:30 AM Rosary, Chapel

MA 00:8 Mass, Church (†Kurt Rohde)

Saturday, January 1 Mary, Holy Mother of God;

New Years Day

3:00 PM Reconciliation, Confessional 4:00 PM Mass, Church (Max Paczkowski)

Sunday, January 2 The Epiphany of the Lord

8:30 AM Mass, Church (Nativity of Mary Parish) 10:30 AM Mass, Church (Jonathan Dombrowski) 11:45-1:00 PM Book Club, John Paul II Room

*Denotes days that the Parish Office is Closed in December— Friday the 24th, Monday the 27th, and Friday 31st **Reminder that Christmas Mass does not fulfill the Sunday Obligation for the Feast of The Holy Family on 12/26

Sharing Our Treasure

During the month of December, our weekly budgeted contributions are \$32,525 (4 weeks).

Scan to give online

Offering for Weekend (Week 24) December 11/12, 2021

Weekly Year to Date Actual \$25,666 \$466,376 \$32,525 \$448,950 **Budgeted**



52 Club Winners

12/26/21 Sarah and Warren Kuykendall \$1,000!

Thank you Orv Fillbrandt, Remax and all our other contributors for supporting our parish bulletin.

TWEETS OF WISDOM FROM POPE FRANCIS



Christmas symbols, especially the creche and trimmed tree, bring us back to the certainty that fills the heart with peace, with joy for the Incarnation, to God who becomes familiar: He dwells with us, He fills our days with the rhythm of hope.

SABBATICAL REFLECTIONS

The city of Roscrea is in County Tipperary. It is considered one of the oldest towns in Ireland, having developed around the monastery of St. Cronan in the 7th century. The monastery that I stayed at while I was on Sabbatical was located in this venerable city and was called Mount St. Joseph Abbey. It was founded by Cistercians in 1878 with 32 monks. In its prime it housed 120 monks, but currently has only 7monks still there. For years their primary form of labor was farming, and in the early 1880s a boys boarding school was founded on its property. The monks that do remain primarily minister to pilgrims that come out to the area to stay in the guest house, or seek to walk the thousands of acres of property that have been manicured for centuries. One of the most notable monks from this monastery was Fr. Eugene Boyle, who wrote the book









Quick Notes



Separated & Divorced Support Group Begins Soon

A 12 week, in-person support group for those experiencing separation or divorce will begin on January 3, 2022, and meet Mondays from 6:30-8:30 p.m. at St. Edward's Parish in Bloomington. The resource used is "The Catholic's Divorce Survival Guide: Helping you find Peace, Power, and Passion After your Divorce" by Ascension Press. Commitment to all/most of the sessions is strongly encouraged and pre-registration is required; a free-will offering is welcomed. Contact Mia Ah Sani, St. Edward's Director of Pastoral Care for more information or to register: mahsani@stedwardschurch.org or 952-835-7101 ext. 223.

Worldwide Marriage Encounter

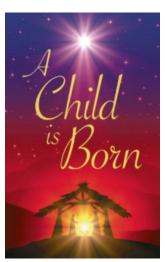
"Yet, O LORD, you are our father; we are the clay and you the potter; we are all the work of your hands." As we meditate on the wonder of the Incarnation of Christ, let us strive to become the work of his hands by attending a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend. The next Weekends are Feb 11-13, 2022 in Buffalo, MN and May 6-8, 2022 in Buffalo, MN. For more information, call Brent & Tracy Chessen at 612-756-8720 or visit them at twincitieswwme.org.

Winter Open House - January 18, 2022

Chesterton Academy, a Catholic High School, cordially invites you to attend an Open House for prospective students and their families. This Open House will provide an opportunity to meet and interact with teachers, administrators, and students, learn about our curriculum and tour our Hopkins campus (1320 Mainstreet, Hopkins, MN 55343). Reservations are preferred. Email kbasgall@chestertonacademy.org or call 952-378-1779. We hope to see you there!

Looking for a getaway?

Let God meet you at a beautiful retreat location in Lake Elmo, MN. Join us for a Men's Silent Retreat at the Demontreville Jesuit Retreat House January 20 - January 23. The retreat begins Thursday evening and ends Sunday evening. Free will donations are accepted. For more information, call Bob Cardinal at (651) 398-1457 or check out the website at www.demontrevilleretreat.com. Other retreat days are also available.





Steve Koenig 952.253.9404

7131 Amundson Ave, Edina, MN 55439 nenia@farmersagent com



www.leroysautocenter.com

GREAT BEAR TIRE & AUTO 9000 Lyndale Ave So. • Bloomington, MN

Complete Auto Service, Wonderful Car Wash



NEVER MISS A BULLETIN

Sign up to have our weekly parish bulletin emailed to you at www.parishesonline.com



SCHOOL 952-881-8160

www.nativitybloomington.org

BLAYLOCK PLUMBING CO.

"Dependable Service Since 1938" Repairs • Remodeling • Sewer Work 7731 4th Ave. S.

612-869-7531

*N*E'RE HIRING

AD SALES EXECUTIVES

BE YOURSELF BRING YOUR PASSION. WORK WITH PURPOSE.

- Paid Training
- Some Travel
- Work-Life Balance
- Full-Time with Benefits
- Serve Your Community





ADT-Monitored Home Security

Get 24-Hour Protection From a Name You Can Trust

- Burglary
- Flood Detection
- Fire Safety
- Carbon Monoxide





SafeStreets

1-855-225-4251

SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS!



AVAILABLE FOR

ADVERTISE HERE NOW!

Contact Rob Witte to place an ad today! rwitte@4LPi.com or (800) 950-9952 x2501





(952) 884-8288



952 854 6286

chetsshoes.com

Bloomington, MN 55420

> M-F 10AM - 8PM **SAT 10AM - 5PM** SUN CLOSED

9501 Lyndale Ave. S.



Now Selling Cabinets, Countertops, and all the Flooring Choices you have known and loved us for! 9939 Lyndale Ave S., Bloomington

952-881-5825 | galaxiefloorstores.com



Bank Local. Bank Premier.

Bloomington Office 952.888.5678

www.premierbanks.com

NOW HIRING!



- Flexible HoursStarting at
- Starting at \$17.67/hour
- Great Benefits
- College Tuition
 Assistance

Apply now: careers.fedex.com/express/jobs

SOUTHSIDE

HEATING & AIR CONDITIONING, INC.
TAKE 10% OFF ANY SERVICE WITH AD
952-884-2453

www.southsideheating.com

LINDBERG CHIROPRACTIC

Over 30 Years

of Servicing Our Community

Dr. Bruce A. Lindberg

200 W. 98th St.

952-881-4421



Kathryn T. Raidt

Attorney at Law

• Wills • Real Estate • Probate • Trusts

952-926-2288

7101 York Ave. S., #159, Edina



ORV FILLBRANDT, ABR, CRS, CDPE

Broker-Associate, RE/MAX Hall of Fame RE/MAX Lifetime Achievement Career Award

I Love Referrals!

Certified Residential Specialist (CRS)

612-751-2943 (Cell) 952-887-1218 (O)

Certified Distressed Property Expert (CDPE) 95

Call ME for a FREE Market Analysis if selling!

Call ME if you're Buying, Selling, Building or Relocating!

RF/MAX Results

7700 France Ave. S., Suite 230

Orville@Fillbrandt.com www.OrvFillbrandt.com

Washburn - Mc Reavy washburn-mcreavy.com

Funeral Chapels, Cemeteries and Cremation Services

DAWN VALLEY CHAPEL

BLOOMINGTON CHAPEL

9940 Bush Lake Road 952.941.7686

2300 W Old Shakopee Road 952.884.8145

MIKE ST. AUBIN - FUNERAL DIRECTOR

Estate Planning is Love for Family!

Wills – Trusts – Health Care Directives

Free Initial Consultation

Call Attorney Bill Peterson 952-921-5818



Bloomington 952-881-8871

Adjustable Beds • Premium Mattress Sets • Memory Foam Mattresses Headboards • Sheets • Two-Sided Innerspring Mattresses • Pillows

RestwellMattress.com

At Southtown Shopping Center

FREE AD DESIGN

WITH PURCHASE OF THIS SPACE

CALL 800.950.9952



Stay connected to our faith community no matter where you are by signing up to get our bulletin delivered straight to your email!

www.ParishesOnline.com

