



CATHOLIC CHURCH  
OF THE  
NATIVITY

JAN 9  
2022



## THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

After all the people had been baptized and Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, heaven was opened and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove.  
- Lk 3:21-22a

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

GLPI

LOVE GOD ~ LOVE OTHERS ~ MAKE DISCIPLES

### MASS TIMES

#### Weekday Masses

Daily | Mon – Sat 9:00 am

Wednesday | 6:00 pm

Adoration at 5 pm

#### Weekend Masses

Saturday | 5:00 pm

Sunday | 8:30 am, 11 am

1:00pm(Spanish) and 5:00 pm

#### Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday | 3:30 pm & by appointment

#### Communion Services

Tuesday | 9:00 am

Wednesday | 7:00 am

### CONTACT

Father Jerry Strange,

[jerrystrange@nativitycatholic.net](mailto:jerrystrange@nativitycatholic.net) | 615-794-4004

Father Rodolfo Rivera

[Rivera.mr@hotmail.com](mailto:Rivera.mr@hotmail.com) | 615-785-4831

Tim Conley, Deacon, RCIA

[deacontim@nativitycatholic.net](mailto:deacontim@nativitycatholic.net) | 615-519-6053

Philip Moore, Deacon

[deaconphilip@nativitycatholic.net](mailto:deaconphilip@nativitycatholic.net) | 901-485-8055

Shannon Howard, Office Manager

[parishoffice@nativitycatholic.net](mailto:parishoffice@nativitycatholic.net) | 615-794-4004

Gina Taddeo, Director of Religious Education

[faithformation@nativitycatholic.net](mailto:faithformation@nativitycatholic.net) | 714-307-0617

### LOCATION

#### Parish Address:

2793 Buckner Lane

Thompson's Station, TN 37179

Office: **615-794-4004**

#### Rectory Address:

2795 Buckner Lane

Thompson's Station, TN 37179

[www.nativitycatholic.net](http://www.nativitycatholic.net)

# PRAYER & WORSHIP

## CHURCH OF THE NATIVITY MISSION STATEMENT

As parishioners of the Catholic Church of the Nativity, we are committed to carrying out the mission of Christ by: Proclaiming the Word of God ~ Celebrating the mysteries of the faith • Growing in the knowledge and the living of the faith ...while loving and serving our neighbors and growing together in holiness as members of the Body of Christ.

### MASS INTENTIONS

If you would like a Mass celebrated for a specific intention, please contact the church office.

#### Monday, January 10

9:00 am, Weekday, End of Abortion

#### Tuesday, January 11

9:00 am, Weekday, Communion Service

#### Wednesday, January 12

Weekday

9:00 am, Families of Nativity

6:00 pm, Expectant Mothers

#### Thursday, January 13

9:00 am, Weekday, Poor Souls in Purgatory

#### Friday, January 14

9:00 am, Weekday, World Peace

#### Saturday, January 15

9:00 am, Weekday, Katherine Strange

5:00 pm, Vigil, Second Sunday in Ordinary Time, Intentions of the Parishioners

#### Sunday, January 16

Second Sunday of Ordinary Time

8:30 am, + William Michael Cherry, Jr

11:00 am, +Linda Beyer

1:00 pm, Intention of the Celebrant

5:00 pm, +Leon Parker

### SUNDAY READINGS: BAPTISM OF THE LORD

#### FIRST READING

ISAIAH 42:1-4, 6-7

#### SECOND READING:

ACTS 10:34-38

#### GOSPEL:

LUKE 3:15-16, 21-22

### PARISH CALENDAR OF EVENTS

#### Monday, January 10

9:00 AM Mass

6:30 PM Fidelis

6:30 PM Catechism Q&A Class

6:30 PM Parish Council

#### Tuesday, January 11

9:00 AM Communion Service

9:30 AM Bible Study

5:30 PM Latino Group

6:30 PM Fraternalus

#### Wednesday, January 12

9:00 AM Mass

5:00 PM Adoration

5:15 PM Children's Choir

6:00 PM Mass

6:30 PM Rosary

6:30 PM Baptism Class

7:00 PM Bible Study

#### Thursday, January 13

9:00 AM Mass

9:45 AM Men 4 Him

1:00 PM 55+ Fellowship

6:00 PM Parents of Small Children

6:30 PM RCIA

6:30 PM Bible Study

7:00 PM Choir Practice

#### Friday, January 14

9:00 AM Mass

5:00 PM Latino Prayer Group

6:00 PM Latino Ministry Groups

6:00 PM Latino Crecimientos

7:00 PM Latino Ministry Leaders

#### Saturday, January 15

9:00 AM Mass

11:00 AM Baptism

5:00 PM Mass(KofC Coffee Sale)

#### Sunday, January 16

#### KofC Coffee Sale & Blood Drive

8:30 AM Mass

11:00 AM Mass

1:00 PM Latino Mass

5:00 PM Mass

6:30 PM Teen Group

6:30 PM Men's Club Meeting

### PARISH FINANCIALS

#### January 2, 2022

Registered Families 931

Attendance 1256

#### Received

Regular Collection \$12,979

Online Regular Collect \$21,612

Building Fund \$5,990

Online Building Fund \$3,925

Votive Candles \$153

Solemnity of Mary \$1227

Christmas Offering \$300

#### Building Donations

December 2021 \$34,846

2021 YTD \$293,743

2020 YTD \$267,335



## Why is Tradition Important to the Church?

Many of our Protestant brothers and sisters say that the Church's use of tradition should not be allowed in regards to theological teaching. This is because of the Sola Scriptura approach to understanding the Bible. That means that we should only find our teachings and doctrines from the scriptures and nowhere else.

Our answer is that the fact of an oral tradition of theology was a prominent factor in handing on the teachings of Christ. Due to the handing on of scripture orally, tradition is a prominent factor of passing on the teachings of the faith.

Additionally, every human being has traditions. Everyone celebrates Christmas in their own "traditions", Thanksgiving, St. Patrick's Day, New Year's Day; all are approached with a personal acceptance of individual traditions. The Church has established certain traditions which are not in conflict with scripture, but rather enhance the teaching and celebration of the faith.

Easter eggs? Tradition. Christmas trees? Tradition. Blessing of homes? Tradition. The list goes on and on. They are not wrong, but an expression of a certain community, culture or nationality.

Indeed, the scriptures, the Words of God are the basis of the Church's beliefs, but the expression of those beliefs, either by individuals or communities, enhances the faith we teach.

## Together in Holiness

The St. John Paul II Foundation and the Diocese of Nashville invite all married and engaged couples to the 2nd annual Together in Holiness marriage conference on Saturday, February 19, 2022 from 10:45 am - 5:30 pm at the Catholic Pastoral Center in Nashville, TN.

Dynamic Presentations \ Mass \ Childcare Eucharistic Adoration \ Reconciliation

Featuring: Damon Owens, Founder of Joyful Ever After

Registration: \$64/couple and \$40/individual Early Bird discount available through Dec 13.

Scholarships available upon request.

On-site childcare (2-12yrs); pre-registration required.

For more information, please visit [togetherinholiness.org](http://togetherinholiness.org) or email [TH@forlifeandfamily.org](mailto:TH@forlifeandfamily.org).

**The COTN Photography Club** will meet at the church in room 106/107 on Saturday, January 22 at 9:30 AM. All are welcome! We will plan trips and activities for 2022. For more information, contact Ray LaCroix, 615-626-1249; [rjlacroix@gmail.com](mailto:rjlacroix@gmail.com).

**Elizabeth Ministry** - have you heard of this beautiful ministry? Would you like information? Visit the Elizabeth Ministry table in the narthex on Jan 14/15. Or email [Elizabethministry@nativitycatholic.net](mailto:Elizabethministry@nativitycatholic.net) for more information.

**Teen Group** is for rising 9th graders (8th graders going into 9th grade) to high school Seniors. If you're interested in the Teen Group, please fill out the google form: <https://forms.gle/33rJvhnNXmepXNir9> Next Teen Group meeting is January 9, 2022 - Adoration, Praise and Worship with fellowship afterwards.

## Nativity Early Learning Center 2022-2023 Registration

Registration for children ages 2-5 for the 22-23 school year will begin on January 17, 2022. Our school days are Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9:00 am - 2:00 pm. Registration forms can be found at the top of the stairs in the Narthex or online. We will also have a table set up in the narthex with registration forms. For more information please visit: [www.nativitycatholic.net/nativity-early-learning-center](http://www.nativitycatholic.net/nativity-early-learning-center)

**WGON January Meeting** 1/20/22 at 6:30 The hustle and bustle of the holidays is over. It is time to relax and have some fun. On Thursday, January 20th, the Women's Group plans to do just that. Because we never stop thinking of ways to support Nativity; there will be a short business meeting. After that it will be time to let our hair down. Refreshments, activities, games will be provided by the Board. Please plan to attend; let's start 2022 with renewed vigor. If you need a ride, contact one of the Board members to make transportation arrangements. We want to see you there. The WGON Board

**Happy New Year from WGON** Back by popular demand; the Women's Group will be offering Soups and Sides (breads, crackers, etc.) as part of the Bake Sale on January 22 and 23. From crock pots, soups will be packaged warm into 16 oz. containers and sold at \$5.00 apiece; spoons optional. Choices will include: chili, chicken noodle, vegetarian vegetable and possibly a few surprises. Of course, while supplies last. If you have not partaken of enough sweets during the holidays, please do not fret; there will be treats available to try to keep that insatiable sweet tooth at bay. WGON

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## Red Cross Blood Drive at Church of Nativity

WHEN: Sunday, January 16, 2022

TIME: 8:30AM to 1:30PM

Sign in at [REDCROSSBLOOD.ORG](https://REDCROSSBLOOD.ORG) to schedule your donation. There is currently a critical shortage of blood and blood products. Please sign up. Each donation will impact at least three lives.

**SEALED Confirmation retreat**—The Diocesan SEALED Confirmation retreat will take place on Saturday, February 26th 2022. If you have not yet done so, please complete our survey by clicking [here](#) to help us in the planning of the event.

**The Diocese of Nashville** is seeking college-aged young adults with a fire for the faith to participate in Totus Tuus as a missionary. Totus Tuus is a fun, energetic, Catholic summer program for kids first grade through high school. Missionaries travel in teams of four to parishes around the diocese to spread the Good News of Jesus Christ. Missionaries must be available May 28 – July 22 and will receive a stipend. For more information and to apply, visit <https://dioceseofnashville.com/totus-tuus/>.

**The annual World Marriage Day Celebration** will take place on February 6 at 2:30pm at the Cathedral of the Incarnation. Couples celebrating their 25th and 50th wedding anniversaries are invited to attend Mass with Bishop Spalding, followed by a light reception. Interested couples should contact their parish office by January 3rd to get on the list for formal invitations. For anyone unfamiliar with the event, couples celebrating their 25th or 50th anniversary are invited to attend Mass with Bishop Spalding at the Cathedral and join a light reception after in the Fleming Center. This year, we are gathering together on February 6. Mass will be said at 2:30pm and participants can arrive starting at 2pm for a group photo.

**Pro-Life and Human Dignity Pilgrimage**—Registration is open for the 2022 Pro-Life and Human Dignity Pilgrimage taking place January 19-23, 2022. For more information please see the attached flyer and visit our website at <https://soundscatholic.com/pro-life>

**The Evening Book Club's** next meeting will be on Thursday, January 27, 2022 at 6:30pm where we will be discussing *The Smoke Jumper* by Nicholas Evans. Please contact Cristina Ramirez with any questions

[cristinaramirez@charter.net](mailto:cristinaramirez@charter.net)

2022 Book list for the Evening Book Club.

(Daytime Book Club will have a separate book list).

Jan-*The Smoke Jumper* by Nicholas Evans

Feb.-*When I'm Gone* by Emily Bleeker

March-*The Forest of Vanishing Stars* by Kristin Harmel

April-*The Family Upstairs* by Lisa Jewel

May-*Furious Hours* by Casey Cep

June-*The Last Thing He Told* by Laura Dave

July-*Chasing Fireflies* by Charles Martin

Aug-*Amy Snow* by Tracy Rees

Sept-*Cast* by Isabel Wilkerson

Oct.-*Vanderbilt: The Rise and Fall of an American Dynasty* by Anderson Cooper

Nov-*This Family of Mine: What it was Like Growing up Gotti* by Victoria Gotti

Dec.-*Four Winds* by Kristin Hannah

**Daytime Book Club** will meet on 1/27/22 from 12:30 - 2:00 pm, in room 111. Our book this month is "The Book Thief" by Markus Zusak. Contact Dave Roe with any questions [easygo67@yahoo.com](mailto:easygo67@yahoo.com)

2022 Daytime Book List

1. *The Book Thief* by Markus Zusak

2. *This Family of Mine: What It Was Like Growing Up Gotti* by Victoria Gotti

3. *The Four Winds* by Kristin Hannah

4. *Rescue The Republic* by Brett Baier

5. *The Boys: A Memoir of Hollywood* by Clint & Ron Howard

6. *The Girl From Channel Island* by Jenny Lecoat

7. *The Chicken Sisters* by K.J. Dell Antonio

8. *Uncommon Friends* by James Newton

9. *Vanderbilt- The Rise & Fall of An American Dynasty* by Anderson Cooper & Kathleen Howe

10. *The Sweetness At The Bottom Of The Pie* by Alan Bradley

11. *Fear The Worst* by Linwood Barclay

12. *Christmas Bells* by Jennifer Chiaverini

**Primera Lectura****Is 42, 1-4. 6-7****Segunda Lectura****Hch 10, 34-38**

Esto dice el Señor:

“Miren a mi siervo, a quien sostengo,  
a mi elegido, en quien tengo mis complacencias.  
En él he puesto mi espíritu  
para que haga brillar la justicia sobre las naciones.

No gritará, no clamará, no hará oír su voz por las calles;  
no romperá la caña resquebrajada,  
ni apagará la mecha que aún humea.  
Promoverá con firmeza la justicia,  
no titubeará ni se doblegará  
hasta haber establecido el derecho sobre la tierra  
y hasta que las islas escuchen su enseñanza.

Yo, el Señor,  
fiel a mi designio de salvación,  
te llamé, te tomé de la mano, te he formado  
y te he constituido alianza de un pueblo,  
luz de las naciones,  
para que abras los ojos de los ciegos,  
saques a los cautivos de la prisión  
y de la mazmorra a los que habitan en tinieblas”.

**Salmo Responsorial Salmo 28, 1a y 2. 3ac-4. 3b y 9b-10****R. (11b) Te alabamos, Señor.**

Hijos de Dios, glorifiquen al Señor,  
denle la gloria que merece.  
Postrados en su templo santo,  
alabemos al Señor. R.

**R. Te alabamos, Señor.**

La voz del Señor se deja oír  
sobre las aguas torrenciales.  
La voz del Señor es poderosa,  
la voz del Señor es imponente. R.

**R. Te alabamos, Señor.**

El Dios de majestad hizo sonar  
el trueno de su voz.  
El Señor se manifestó sobre las aguas  
desde su trono eterno. R.

**R. Te alabamos, Señor.**

En aquellos días, Pedro se dirigió a Cornelio y a los que estaban en su casa, con estas palabras: “Ahora caigo en la cuenta de que Dios no hace distinción de personas, sino que acepta al que lo teme y practica la justicia, sea de la nación que fuere. Él envió su palabra a los hijos de Israel, para anunciarles la paz por medio de Jesucristo, Señor de todos.

Ya saben ustedes lo sucedido en toda Judea, que tuvo principio en Galilea, después del bautismo predicado por Juan: cómo Dios ungió con el poder del Espíritu Santo a Jesús de Nazaret, y cómo éste pasó haciendo el bien, sanando a todos los oprimidos por el diablo, porque Dios estaba con él”.

**Evangelio****Lc 3, 15-16. 21-22**

En aquel tiempo, como el pueblo estaba en expectación y todos pensaban que quizá Juan el Bautista era el Mesías, Juan los sacó de dudas, diciéndoles: “Es cierto que yo bautizo con agua, pero ya viene otro más poderoso que yo, a quien no merezco desatarle las correas de sus sandalias. Él los bautizará con el Espíritu Santo y con fuego”.

Sucedió que entre la gente que se bautizaba, también Jesús fue bautizado. Mientras éste oraba, se abrió el cielo y el Espíritu Santo bajó sobre él en forma sensible, como de una paloma, y del cielo llegó una voz que decía: “Tú eres mi Hijo, el predilecto; en ti me complazco”.



## FATHER JERRY'S HOMILY 1/2/22

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The Magi, the Wise Men are fulfilling a prophecy given to us from Isaiah. We heard in our first reading today that, "the wealth of nations shall be brought to you. Caravans of camels shall fill you, dromedaries from Midian and Ephah; all from Sheba shall come bearing gold and frankincense..." Midian to the South and East, Ephah from the Arabian Peninsula and Sheba from present day Yemen. It is unclear as to exactly how many Wise Men there were. Tradition tells us that since there were three gifts presented to the baby, Jesus, then there would have been three wise men. Traditionally, their names were Gaspar, Balthasar, and Melchior. But there is a story by Henry Van Dyke that tells of a fourth wise man; Arteban. Arteban knew of the stories of a coming king, he saw the star shining in the night and he gathered his treasures to present to the new King, and he left to join the other wise men as they followed the star, but his tale is different.

As Arteban was going to meet up with the other three wise men, he was stopped by a man who had lost everything: The man said, "I have no food, no home..... no one to help me". Arteban stayed with the man and helped him to find a place to stay, food to eat and used some of his treasure to assure that the man would be taken care of in the future. Arteban then continued on. By this time, the star in the sky had faded away. Arteban still wanted to see the promise the star had presented and so he traveled towards the west.

He came to the town called Bethlehem. There he found that there was indeed a recent birth. It had been an unusual birth that many seemed to be interested in. A bright star had appeared over the cave where the Baby was born and shepherds had visited. Arteban was even told that three visitors had come from the east to present gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. Arteban knew that these visitors were the other Magi he was supposed to join up with earlier, but Arteban had missed his meeting with them in order to care for a stranger. Arteban was told that the father of the Baby had taken the child and his mother to Egypt. Arteban went to Egypt.

But, he was late again. This time, he had stopped to help a widow. She had just lost her husband. She was in dire straits. There was no one to help with the farm chores and she couldn't manage by herself. Arteban stayed until

the widow's family came to live with her and help out. When he got to Egypt, he asked around and was told that the family had returned to their home; to Nazareth, a small village to the north of Bethlehem of Judea in the land of Galilee. Arteban struck out for the east. However, he was distracted by the poor and impoverished he met along the way. He used more of his treasure to establish houses for the poor, rest stops for the weary and aid stations along the road from Egypt to Galilee. This took him several years to complete.

When he finally came to Nazareth, he indeed found the new King's home but His father, Joseph said, "you just missed him. But He, and his mother will be in the village of Cana for a wedding this weekend. You can catch Him there. By the way, this King that you are seeking, has a name. We call Him, Jesus." Arteban took off for Cana. But he was distracted yet again, to care for a man who had been robbed and beaten. Finally, he arrived at Cana, but he was too late. He did hear all about how Jesus had turned water into wine.

Arteban struck out for the capital, Jerusalem to seek Jesus. But every time he got near, Jesus moved on. For years, he kept trying to see Jesus, but someone, or something kept catching his attention. There seemed to always be someone worse off than he was who needed some help.

Finally, in Jerusalem, he found the King. However, this new King, Jesus, was carrying a cross. Arteban followed but he couldn't get close enough to talk to Jesus. Arteban had spent years looking for Jesus only to find Him eventually nailed to the cross He carried.

Arteban felt badly because he had never been able to catch up with Jesus. He had never been able to give any of his treasure as tribute to Jesus. Arteban had spent all of his treasure helping others. His heart was breaking as he looked upon the King. And then, Jesus, from His cross, turned towards Arteban and said. "Every time you helped the least one of my children, you gave Me a present. You gave Me your gift." You are the wisest of all.

## CONTACT INFORMATION

**Adult Faith Formation:** Dcn Phil Moore deaconphilip@nativitycatholic.net

**Altar Servers:** Joe Savarino altarservers@nativitycatholic.net

**Arts & Environment:** Beth Haydel 615-491-6377 bethhaydel@aol.com

**Blue Knights:** Mark Taddeo blueknights@nativitycatholic.net

**Book Club:** David Roe(day) (941)587-6590 easygo67@yahoo.com

Cristina Ramirez(night) 615-424-3047 cristinaramirez@charter.net

**Building & Grounds:** Tom Caste 615-336-0024 tcaste@bellsouth.net

**Children's Choir:** Kristy Zink 615-504-6234

childrenschoir@nativitycatholic.net Practice every Wednesday 5:15-6:00

**Communication:** Gina Taddeo Janice Russell calendar@nativitycatholic.net

**E-Communications:** Alaina Switzer ecomm@nativitycatholic.net

**Elizabeth Ministry** - Linda Wade (615)554-2007 lmwade500@gmail.com

**Eucharistic Minister:** Dcn Tim Conley 615-519-6053 emhc@nativitycatholic.net

**Faith Formation :** Gina Taddeo, DRE , faithformation@nativitycatholic.net

Nancy Martinez, Confirmation Coordinator, confirmation@nativitycatholic.net

**Fidelis:** Sandra Barclay fidelis@nativitycatholic.net

**Fraternus:** Mike Leak 615-425-9883 fraternus@nativitycatholic.net

**Hearts & Hands:** Diane Witt 678-773-9207 dddmmwitt@charter.net

**Homebound:** Marilyn Jansen 615-435-9312 mgmjansen@yahoo.com

**Kitchen Coordinator:** James Dell 931-334-7919 c-whatever@charter.net

**Knights of Columbus:** Steven Gaghan 931-334-0701

knights@nativitycatholic.net

**Latino :** Cecilia Sanchez 615- 752-8551 ceciliag77@gmail.com

Roberto Dominguez 615-708-7619 rodme54@gmail.com

**Lectors:** Tom Vogel 404-403-0935 lectors@nativitycatholic.net

**Little Flowers:** Jeanette Griffith littleflowers@nativitycatholic.net

**Liturgy and Mass:** Nancy Martinez nmartinez@nativitycatholic.net

**Men's Club:** Bob Zak 615-969-8461 rjzak51@aol.com

**Men 4 Him:** Tom Vogel 404-403-0935 Thomas.vogel0705@gmail.com

**Mom's Group:** momsgroup@nativitycatholic.net

**Music:** Nancy Martinez 615-414-4863 music@nativitycatholic.net

**NHEC:** Heather Leak | 484-757-9257 nativityhomeschool@gmail.com

**Nativity Ambassadors:** Carrie Pfeiffer (860) 460-1448

**Nativity Early Learning Center:** Andrea McGrath & Laurie Barclay

nelc@nativitycatholic.net

**Nursery:** Tisha Wright 931-286-1163 nursery@nativitycatholic.net

**Parents of Young Children:** Jen Magochy 615-400-5625

**Phoenix Group:** Sheyla Zito 407-732-8584 sheylazito@gmail.com

**Photography Club:** Raymond LaCroix 615-626-1249 rjlacroix@gmail.com

**Prayer Chain:** Jill Daniels nativitycatholicprayerchain@gmail.com.

**Prayer Shawl Ministry** Beth Pender 931-388-7444

**RCIA:** Dcn Tim Conley 615-519-6053 deacontim@nativitycatholic.net

**Respect for Life-** Jill Daniels jillrdaniels1@gmail.com

**Rosary:** Tom Vogel 404-403-0935 Thomas.vogel0705@gmail.com

**Senior Group (55+):** Janice Russell 615-974-0023

**Teen Group:** Amy Freitas 615-944-3257 teengroup@nativitycatholic.net

**Ushers:** Michael Mangold 615-9459484 | ushers@nativitycatholic.net

**Weddings:** Barb Schee 314-324-1686 weddings@nativitycatholic.net

**Women's Group:** Andrea Sadd 615-260-5251 WGON@nativitycatholic.net

**Young Adults:** Sabrina DeJohn 615-626-0286 Sabrna...sam.dejohn@yahoo.com

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