

MAY 25, 2025



# NATIVITY OF OUR LORD

Mission Statement:  
Sustained by the Eucharist, we reflect the joy of Christ's birth to all people  
through love, compassion and service.

185 APPLGARTH ROAD, MONROE TOWNSHIP, NJ 08831-5961

Phone: 609.371.0499

[www.nativitymonroe.org](http://www.nativitymonroe.org)

*Pastor:*

**Rev. Nalaka Silva** — Ext. 11  
[pastor@nativitymonroe.org](mailto:pastor@nativitymonroe.org)

*Deacon:*

**Robert Gatto** — Ext. 18  
[deacon@nativitymonroe.org](mailto:deacon@nativitymonroe.org)

*Deacon:*

**John Shelton** — Ext. 19  
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*Deacon:*

**John Bertrand**  
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*Parish Secretary:*

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[admin@nativitymonroe.org](mailto:admin@nativitymonroe.org)

*Youth Minister:*

[youth@nativitymonroe.org](mailto:youth@nativitymonroe.org)

*Music Ministry:*

**Catherine Naughton**  
[music@nativitymonroe.org](mailto:music@nativitymonroe.org)

*Parish Accountant:*

**Christine Colletti Dranchak** — Ext. 13  
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**Laura McIntyre** — Ext. 15  
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*Director of Religious Education:*

**Tara Vigario**  
609.371.2518  
[reoa@nativitymonroe.org](mailto:reoa@nativitymonroe.org)

*Building Manager:*

**Bill Tronolone** — Ext. 10

## MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday: 4:00 PM (*Vigil*)

Sunday: 7:30 AM; 9:00 AM and 11:00 AM

Hospitality Sunday: *1st Sunday of the month after each Mass*  
(*Meet and greet, Continental Breakfast, etc.*)

Holydays: 7:00 PM (*Vigil*) & 9:00 AM

Weekdays: Monday to Friday: 8:30 AM

*Morning Prayer Wednesday and Thursday: 8:00 AM*

## RECONCILIATION

Saturdays 3:00 to 3:30 PM, or by appointment.

## BAPTISM

The Sacrament of Baptism is celebrated on the second Sunday of each month after the 11:00 AM Mass. Parents must attend the Baptismal Preparation class before the celebration. This class is offered on the third Wednesday of each month. Call the Parish Office for required pre-registration.

## ORDER OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS

Adults inquiring about the Catholic Church with a desire to become Catholic are invited to call the Parish Office for more information about the Order of Christian Initiation of Adults.

## MATRIMONY

Couples contemplating this Sacrament must contact the Parish Office at least one year in advance. All couples planning marriage must attend Pre-Cana classes or Engaged Encounter.

## PASTORAL CARE OF THE SICK AND AGED

We are anxious to assist anyone who cannot celebrate Mass with us due to illness, handicap or age. If you wish to receive the Sacraments of Holy Eucharist, Reconciliation, or Anointing of the Sick, please call the Parish Office to make those arrangements.

## HOLY ORDERS

If God is calling you to become a priest, deacon or religious, please call the Diocesan Office of Vocations at 732.562.1900, ext. 1700.

## OFFICE HOURS

Monday *through* Thursday, 9:00 AM to 12:30 PM, and 1:30 PM to 4:00 PM  
The office will be closed on Fridays.

## 6th Sunday of Easter – May 25, 2025

### MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

**Monday May 26<sup>th</sup>**

**St. Philip Neri, Priest; Memorial Day**

**8:30 a.m.** Barbara Maggia by The Decorating Committee

**Tuesday May 27<sup>th</sup>**

**Easter Weekday; St. Augustine of Canterbury, Bishop**

**8:30 a.m.** John Petro by Wife, Maria Petro

**Wednesday May 28<sup>st</sup>**

**Easter Weekday**

**8:30 a.m.** Anne Melillo by Nancy and David Balaban

**Thursday May 29<sup>nd</sup>**

**The Ascension of the Lord**

**8:30 a.m.** Rocco W. D'Armiento Jr. Family by Rocco W. D'Armiento Jr.

**Friday May 30<sup>th</sup>**

**Easter Weekday**

**8:30 a.m.** Patrick Amabile by Debbie Amabile and Family

**Saturday May 31<sup>st</sup>**

**The Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary**

**4:00 p.m.** Nat & Maria Medina by Medina Family

**Sunday June 1<sup>st</sup>**

**Seventh Sunday of Easter; The Ascension of the Lord**

**7:30 a.m.** Henry Daniel Sarlo by Cheryl & Wayne Burke

**9:00 a.m.** George Rutter by Kevin & Maria Rutter

**11:00 a.m.** James Kelly by Linda & Allen Skupp

### The Collections for the Weekend of

**May 18 - \$ 12,543**

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!**



### CANDLE OFFERING

**Sanctuary:** Frank Baldasserre by Margherita & Joe Caccavo

**BVM:** Anna Maratta by by neice Mariyln

**St Joseph:** Nicholas Colella by Mr. & Mrs. Don Marino

**Sacred Heart:** William N. Jones requested by Diane & Frank Gallaro

**St. Anthony:** Ann Atanasio by Joseph and Theresa Atanasio

**Padre Pio:** Father Ed by Christine Flynn

### Sixth Sunday of Easter

**Sunday:** Acts 15:1-2, 22-29; Rv 21:10-14, 22-23; Jn 14:23-29

**Monday:** Acts 16:11-15; Jn 15:26—16:4a

**Tuesday:** Acts 16:22-34; Jn 16:5-11

**Wednesday:** Acts 17:15, 22—18:1; Jn 16:12-15

**Thursday:** Acts 18:1-8; Jn 16:16-20

**The Ascension of the Lord**

Acts 1:1-11; Eph 1:17-23 or Heb 9:24-28, 10:19-23; Lk 24:46-53

**Friday:** Acts 18:9-18; Jn 16:20-23

**Saturday:** Zep 3:14-18a or Rom 12:9-16; Lk 1:39-56

### STEWARDSHIP REFLECTIONS

***“...Do not let your hearts be troubled or afraid.” (JOHN 14:27)***

Our limited human understanding cannot begin to understand the immense power of God. Instead of trusting in God, we often think we can control every outcome. Do you want to make God laugh? Tell Him your plans. The next time worry, anxiety or fear creeps in, thank God for all He has given you and trust that He has a better plan for you. Make God your first choice and not your last resort.

### Spiritual Communion Prayer

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot at this time receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You.

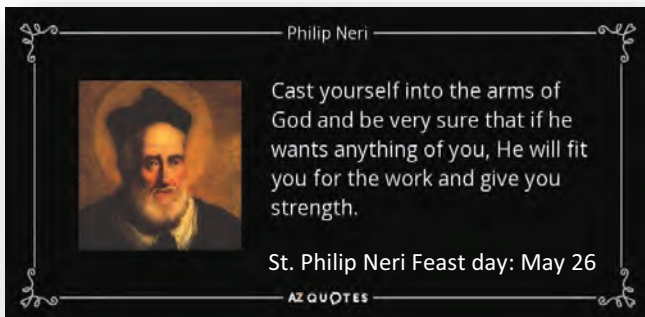
## HIS WORD TODAY

BY REV. WILLIAM J. REILLY

**"Jesus said, 'Whoever loves me will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we will come to him and make our dwelling with him... I have told you this while I was still with you. The Advocate, the Holy Spirit whom the Father will send you in my name, will teach you everything and remind you of everything I have taught you... Peace I leave with you, my peace I give to you.'"**

How often Jesus' role is described as teacher, preacher and miracle worker. Today He places emphasis on His teaching mission as He promises to send the Holy Spirit to teach and remind us of His message. The Lord knows we sometimes forget and need to be reminded of His word and His wish to abide with us. As He was preparing to take leave, He knew we needed additional help and for this reason promises us a gift. He offers us the gift of His peace. Do you still have it? Can you make it your gift for someone else? It was given to you to be given away.

*peace  
& love  
jesus*



### SAVE THE DATE!

Nativity of Our Lord Church  
invites all men to its Annual Retreat!  
Theme: **HOPE** Date: **July 18th - 20th**  
Location: **San Alfonso Retreat House**  
755 Ocean Avenue  
Long Branch, NJ 07740  
More details to follow!



### Parish Calendar

May 25 (Sun)	Initiation Ministry/ Catechumenate 8:30am to 11:30am Cl#1 & 11
May 26 (Mon)	Initiation Ministry/ Inquiry 6:00 pm - 7:30 pm RR
	<b>Memorial Day - Parish Office Closed</b>
May 27 (Tue)	Bereavement Ministry 6:00pm-7:30pm RR
	Prayer Shawl 1:30pm Hall
May 28 (Wed)	Baptismal Prep 7:00 pm RR
May 29 (Thu)	Choir Practice 7:30 pm Church
	Adult Faith Formation/Bible Study- Hall 9:00 am-11:30am & 7pm-9pm
May 31 (Sat)	SYG 2:00 pm Hall
Jun 1 (Sun)	Initiation Ministry/ Catechumenate 8:30am to 11:30am Cl#1 & 11
Jun 2 (Mon)	Initiation Ministry/ Inquiry 6:00 pm - 7:30 pm RR
	K of C Meeting 6:30 pm Hall
Jun 3 (Tue)	Bereavement Ministry 6:00pm-7:30pm RR
Jun 5 (Thu)	Choir Practice 7:30 pm Church
	Adult Faith Formation/Bible Study- Hall 9:00 am-11:30am & 7pm-9pm
Jun 6 (Fri)	First Friday & Adoration
	Purgatorial Mass 8:30 am Church
Jun 8 (Sun)	Hospitality- Pentecost Celebration Hall
	Initiation Ministry/ Catechumenate 8:30am to 11:30am Cl#1 & 11
	Children's Liturgy 11:00 am RR

## Ministries

**St. Vincent DePaul** – If you are experiencing financial hardship due to a temporary loss of employment, illness, or disability, the St. Vincent de Paul Society is available to aid with your everyday needs such as food, utility assistance, or agency referrals. Please dial the parish number 609-371-0499, then press 4, and leave a message with your name and phone number. Someone will return your call. All calls are handled in strict confidence.

**Homebound Ministries** - Eucharist Ministers bring communion to the homes of those who are unable to attend Mass due to illness or other circumstances. Please call **Marge Nadolny** at **609-409-6164** or email **margen21@comcast.net**.

**Helping Hands:** We help parishioners with small household tasks such as changing smoke detector batteries, lightbulbs, opening & closing vents, etc. If you need assistance, please call Esther Wolff at 732-521-6019 for more information.

## St. Vincent DePaul

**Food Pantry:** Summer is coming and children will be home from school. We need to restock our food pantry for increased demand. We would appreciate donations of cereal, peanut butter, jelly, canned tuna and chicken and macaroni & cheese. Please leave your donations in the bin through the double doors on your left as you enter church. Thank you for your generosity.

## Knights of Columbus

**LAST CHANCE!** The Knights of Columbus are selling Calendars after all Masses in the Resurrection room on the following dates: the weekend of **May 24th and 25th**.

Each Calendar costs **\$20.00**, and you can win between \$75.00 and \$300.00 each day during June, July, and August, that's 91 chances.

All proceeds support various charities.

We appreciate your support. Thank you!

## Remembering in Prayer

Kindly contact the office if you know of a parishioner who is sick, having surgery or in need of pastoral care. We would like to remember them in our prayers and care for their spiritual needs.

## Initiation Ministry



Do you find it difficult to share your faith? Do you wonder if you have the right words to speak? Enough knowledge? Enough training? Not to worry! In today's Gospel we hear Jesus promise that the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in Jesus' name, will teach you everything and remind you of all that Jesus taught. You may be the only Gospel a particular person might encounter on their journey. Preach the good news. Share about your life as a Catholic Christian. For information about Initiation Ministry contact **JoLynn Krempecki**, **jolynnkrempecki@msn.com** or **732-690-2610**.

## PENTECOST CELEBRATION

All are invited to an International Potluck Pentecost Celebration on **Saturday June 7, 2025 in Fr. Congdon Hall at 5:00 pm**.

We are asking you to bring a dish from your culture or a family favorite to share. Items may either be homemade or purchased. Please bring all hot food in a disposable 9 x 13 pan with an index card with your name and description of the dish.

Fill out the form below and put in the box in the narthex marked "Pentecost". There will be a sign up sheet on the bulletin board in the narthex listing the different categories of food. Write your name and the dish you are bringing in the appropriate category by **June 1**. Any questions please contact **Donna Maguire** at **732-690-2019** or **Lucy Bertrand** at **732-404-7244**.

### PENTECOST POTLUCK INTERNATIONAL CELEBRATION

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

NUMBER ATTENDING: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_

THE DISH I AM BRINGING: \_\_\_\_\_

**RETURN BY JUNE 1, 2025.**





## **2025 Bishop's Annual Appeal**

### **PILGRIMS OF HOPE: Journeying Together in Faith, Hope and Charity**

Thank you to all who have given so generously to the 2025 Bishop's Annual appeal. If you have not made a pledge, there is still time to participate. Mail your gift to Diocese of Metuchen Bishop's Annual Appeal, PO Box 4000, Metuchen, NJ 08840-4000 or give online at <https://diometuchen.org/BAA>.

#### **STATUS AS OF 5/15/2025**

Goal: **\$88,000.00**

Total Pledged & Received: **\$106,273.92**

Amount Received: **\$92,339.53**

Over/(Under) Goal: (Based on Amt Rec'd): **\$4,339.53**

Percent of Goal Pledged: **120.77%**

Percent of Goal Received: **104.93%**

Average Gift Amount: **\$301.06**

Number of Donors: **353**



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IN SERVICE TO ONE. IN SERVICE TO ALL.

### **Nativity of Our Lord**

**Council No. 14658, Monroe Twp., NJ**

**6th Annual Charity Golf Outing**

**Monday, July 14th, 2025**

**At: Rossmoor Golf Course**

**1 Forsgate Drive**

**Monroe Twp., NJ, 08831**

**Phone# (609) 655-3182**

Cost: **\$150** Per Golfer, this includes coffee and Bagels at 8 AM, Golf 9 AM

Scramble Format, Drinks and Dinner to Follow.

Dinner Guests only: **\$50**

**Prizes:** Closest to the Pin and Longest Drive, etc.

**You do not need a foursome to play.**

Gift Certificates for Restaurants, Services, Door

Prizes, etc. For additional information, please contact :

**Tony Cardello: (917) 282-6818 or pepperhouse@aol.com**

Benefits Charities Such as: Hospital, Life Choices Research Center, Wounded Project, St. Vincent DePaul, American Lung Association, Send a Hero Home, etc.

## LIFE-GIVING *Wounds* RETREAT

A Healing Retreat for Adult Children of Divorce, Separation, or Family Brokenness





August 22-24th



San Alfonso Retreat House  
Long Branch, NJ



\$315

The retreat includes meditations by the national Life-Giving Wounds retreat team, small group discussion, Holy Mass, Eucharistic Adoration, lunch, and more.

Register Now At:

[diometuchen.org/adult-children-of-divorce](https://diometuchen.org/adult-children-of-divorce)

Questions:

[cdaverso@diometuchen.org](mailto:cdaverso@diometuchen.org)

or scan here:



### **A SUCCESSFUL CLOTHING DRIVE!**

The **Filipino-American Society of Nativity Church** would like to thank the generous parishioners who supported our Spring Cleaning Clothing Drive last May 17. To those who missed it, we will be having a Winter Coat Drive on November. Donations will be forwarded to the Sisters of St. Joseph Neighborhood Center in Camden, NJ. If you are also interested to be part of our future activities, please contact **Carmille Agana** at [c\\_agana@hotmail.com](mailto:c_agana@hotmail.com) or send a message at 908-392-0152.





# MAZENOD COLLEGE

Registra: 519/16, Jayanthi Mawatha,  
Anuradhapura, Sri Lanka.  
Tel: +94 25-222 8800, +94 25-222 2465, +94 77-667 7918  
Email: mazenodcollegean@gmail.com

Head Office: Occupies of Mary Immaculate  
De Mazenod House,  
40, Fern Road, Colombo 15, Sri Lanka.  
Tel: +94 11-521 1802, +94 11-527 761

Fr. Dileepa Jayamaha OMI  
Mazenod College,  
519/16, Jayanthi Mawatha,  
Anuradhapura,  
Sri Lanka  
2025.05.07

Dear Sandra Buttons,

Greetings from Mazenod College!

I hope this message finds you well. On behalf of everyone at Mazenod College, Anuradhapura, I wish to express my heartfelt gratitude for your generous donation of USD 140 towards the education of our students.

Your kindness and support mean a great deal to us. We will begin offering Holy Masses for the souls starting next Monday, and I have included the specific dates on which the Masses will be celebrated.

A sincere thank you dear Fr. Nalaka, Sandra, and the entire Nativity Parish community for your unwavering generosity. Please be assured of our prayers for you and your families in our daily Masses.

May God bless you abundantly for your compassionate heart and continued support.

With warm regards,

Fr. Dileepa Jayamaha OMI  
The Rector / Director



*The Director/The Principal*  
Mazenod College,  
519/16, Jayanthi Mawatha,  
Anuradhapura, Sri Lanka  
Tel: 077 6677918 / 025 2228800

No.	Offering Masses for the Souls of...	Requested by	Mass offering date
01	Julianna & Aleixo Cavallo	Jeanette Mendes	12 <sup>th</sup> May, 2025
02	Jeanette Mendes	Judi Monahan	13 <sup>th</sup> May, 2025
03	Mary Lourdes Everson	Ann & Jim Mahanna	14 <sup>th</sup> May, 2025
04	Sylvia Velilla	Marilyn Segarra	15 <sup>th</sup> May, 2025
05	Thomas Kearns	Pat Ray	16 <sup>th</sup> May, 2025
06	Felisa Lipat	Connie Mendoza	17 <sup>th</sup> May, 2025
07	Hugh Tatham	Karl Tatham Family	19 <sup>th</sup> May, 2025
08	Thomas & Carole Tatham	Karl Tatham Family	20 <sup>th</sup> May, 2025
09	Lorraine Tatham	Karl Tatham Family	21 <sup>st</sup> May, 2025
10	Charles Tatham	Karl Tatham Family	22 <sup>nd</sup> May, 2025
11	Chuck & Judy Pesce	Pay Ray	23 <sup>rd</sup> May, 2025
12	Prisco Ronquillo	Lourdes Javier Rivero	24 <sup>th</sup> May, 2025
13	For the repose of the souls of George Bonnett and Bonnett Family	Robert Kubic	26 <sup>th</sup> May, 2025
14	Virginia Gullielmone	Robert Kubic	27 <sup>th</sup> May, 2025

## SAVE THE DATE

### Women's Retreat

When: August 22, 23, and 24

Where: Sisters of St. Joseph Center  
for Spirituality

Ocan Grove, NJ

Theme: Abiding in Love - The Tale  
of Two Marys

SAINT  
AUGUSTINE  
OF CANTURBURY  
PRAY FOR US

Feast day: May 27



*Community Service Opportunity  
for Nativity's Youth, Ages 12 -18!*

## Community Dinner in Partnership with

St. Peters in Freehold, NJ

Friday, June 27, 2025, 4:30 – 7:30

St. Peters hosts a community dinner for those in need twice monthly. On Friday, June 27, Nativity will partner with St. Peters and host the dinner. Volunteers, ages 12–18, are needed with serving the dinner and cleaning up. This is a great opportunity for community service credits for National Honors Society or for those making their Confirmation in Spring 2026.... If interested, please register using the below QR Code. Questions can be sent to [CRLCESQ@gmail.com](mailto:CRLCESQ@gmail.com). RSVP by June 15th.



## An Invitation to Catholic Adults Seeking Confirmation

If you are a baptized Catholic who has received First Communion but has not yet been Confirmed, we are happy to offer you the opportunity - after a suitable period of prayerful preparation and instruction - to receive Confirmation in the Fall of 2025. Before attending preparation sessions for Confirmation, an individual interview is required. If you have been thinking about receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation (and have ALREADY received Baptism and Eucharist), please contact **JoLynn Krempecki** at [jolynnkrempecki@msn.com](mailto:jolynnkrempecki@msn.com) or at 732-690-2610 by June 6, 2025. We thank you for allowing us to be on this **JOURNEY** with you!

*“The reception of the sacrament of Confirmation is necessary for the completion of baptismal grace... By the sacrament of Confirmation (the baptized) are more perfectly bound to the Church and are enriched with a special strength of the Holy Spirit.” CCC, 1285/LG, 11.*



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