

AUGUST 24, 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.

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Phone: 609.371.0499

www.nativitymonroe.org

Pastor:

Rev. Nalaka Silva — Ext. 11
pastor@nativitymonroe.org

Deacon:

Robert Gatto — Ext. 18
deacon@nativitymonroe.org

Deacon:

John Shelton — Ext. 19
deacon2@nativitymonroe.org

Deacon:

John Bertrand
deacon3@nativitymonroe.org

Parish Secretary:

Sandra Buttons — Ext. 10
admin@nativitymonroe.org

Youth Minister:

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Music Ministry:

Catherine Naughton
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Parish Accountant:

Christine Colletti Dranchak — Ext. 13
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Office Assistant:

Laura McIntyre — Ext. 15
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Director of Religious Education:

Tara Vigar
609.371.2518
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

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-Canas 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.

SUMMER HOURS (July/August)

Monday through Thursday, 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM

The office will be closed on Fridays.

Twenty-First Sunday of Ordinary Time – August 24, 2025

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Monday Aug. 25th

Weekday; St. Louis; St. Joseph Calasanz, Priest

8:30 a.m. Ann Shamberger by Cathy and Bill Lenahan

Tuesday Aug. 26th

Weekday

8:30 a.m. Anna R. Kleckner by Gina & Greg Burns

Wednesday Aug. 27th

St. Monica

8:30 a.m. Kate, Dom and Fr. Mario Antoci by Rita Kilpatrick

Thursday Aug. 28th

St. Augustine, Bishop & Doctor of the Church

8:30 a.m. Lety Umali by Franny Sicat

Friday Aug. 29th

The Passion of St. John the Baptist

8:30 a.m. Antonio Mendoza by Connie Patel

Saturday Aug. 30th

Weekday

4:00 p.m. Dorothy and Maurice Van Sprang by Linda and Joe Bollini

Sunday Aug. 31st

Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

7:30 a.m. Anna & Vincenzo DeRe by Daughter Angela

9:00 a.m. Mary Hank by Connie Patel

11:00 a.m. Barbara Maggia by Bill Underwood

CANDLE OFFERING

Sanctuary: Lenora Palumbo by Virginia Pitaressi

BVM: Marilyn Finneran by Patrick Finneran

St. Jude: In Thanksgiving by Jerry DiIorio

St. Anthony: In Thanksgiving by Jerry DiIorio

Padre Pio: In Thanksgiving by Jerry DiIorio

FLOWER OFFERING

BVM: Catherine Busceti by Helen Dadani

St. Joseph: Catherine Busceti by Helen Dadani



Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sunday: Is 66:18-21; Heb 12:5-7, 11-13; Lk 13:22-30

Monday: 1 Thes 1:1-5, 8b-10; Mt 23:13-22

Tuesday: 1 Thes 2:1-8; Mt 23:23-26

Wednesday: 1 Thes 2:9-13; Mt 23:27-32

Thursday: 1 Thes 3:7-13; Mt 24:42-51

Friday: 1 Thes 4:1-8; Mk 6:17-29

Saturday: 1 Thes 4:9-11; Mt 25:14-30

STEWARDSHIP REFLECTIONS

“For behold, some are last who will be first and some are first who will be last.” LUKE 13:30

Our cultural standards are different from God’s standards. We often rank people by what they have, how powerful they are, or how successful they are. Jesus reminds us that God will not judge us by the same earthly standards. When God asks you, “What have you done with the gifts I have given you?” How will you respond?

The Collections for the Weekend of

July 27 - \$13,992

Assumption - \$3,853

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!

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

"Thus says the Lord: 'I know their works and their thoughts, and I come to gather nations of every language; they shall come to see my glory. I will set a sign among them, from them I shall send fugitives to the nations...that have never heard of my name or seen my glory, and they shall proclaim my glory among the nations.'" ... "For behold some of the last will be first, and some of the first will be last."

Relatives of families, come to our shores, to live their lives as children of God.

When we reflect upon God's word, we know the author is speaking of current events and sometimes future happenings. When we consider that word today, we address it to our reality. The Lord continues to gather His people in the United States. Relatives of families come to our shores to live their lives. They too, are members of the family of God. They too, are made in His image and likeness. Refugees and relatives, once referred to as displaced persons, now wish to share their lives, their gifts and talents with us. How many are also sharing their faith in Jesus, filling our pews, and worshipping our saving God?

The word of God asks, 'Lord will only a few people be saved? Jesus answered, 'Strive to enter through the narrow gate.'... 'Lord opens the door for us.'



"We really want our grade school child to be baptized."

How do we go about this?"

Initiation Ministry – in collaboration with Religious Education Ministry – here at Nativity of Our Lord is happy to offer your child/ren a pathway to full initiation – to Confirmation and First Eucharist. Please email or call to inquire. You'll be happy you did! Contact JoLynn Krempecki jolynnkrempecki@msn.com or 732- 690-2610.

Parish Calendar

Aug. 24 (Sun)	Women's Retreat - SSJ Spirituality Center Ocean Grove, NJ
	Initiation Ministry/ Catechumenate 9:00 am to 11:30am Cl#1, 5&6
Aug. 25 (Mon)	Initiation Ministry/ Inquiry 6:00 pm - 7:30 pm RR
Aug. 30 (Sat)	Initiation Ministry- Adult Confirmation Prep 5:00 pm—6:30 pm TBD
Aug. 31 (Sun)	Initiation Ministry/ Catechumenate 9:00 am to 11:30am Cl#1, 5&6
Sep. 1 (Mon)	Labor Day - PARISH OFFICE CLOSED
	Initiation Ministry/ Inquiry 6:00 pm - 7:30 pm RR
Sep. 4 (Thu)	Choir Practice 7:30 pm - 8:30 pm Church
Sep. 7 (Sun)	Hospitality Sunday after all masses Hall
	Initiation Ministry/ Catechumenate 9:00 am to 11:30am Cl#1, 5&6
	Children's Liturgy 11:00 am - 11:30 am RR
Sep. 8 (Mon)	Initiation Ministry/ Inquiry 6:00 pm - 7:30 pm RR
	Companions of Pauline 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm Hall
	KofC Meeting 6:15pm - 10:15 pm Hall
Sep. 9 (Tue)	Prayer Shawl 1:30 pm - Hall

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.

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.

Initiation Ministry



An Invitation to Catholic Adults Seeking Confirmation...

If you are a baptized Catholic who has not yet been Confirmed, we are happy to offer you the opportunity to prepare for Confirmation.

If you have been thinking about receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation (and have ALREADY received Baptism and Eucharist), please email **JoLynn Krempecki** at **jolynnkrempecki@msn.com** or text **732-690-2610**. Preparation sessions will begin September 13, 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.

St. Vincent DePaul

Backpacks for Kids Collection

This year we hope to provide school supplies and outfits for approximately 35 children in our local area. We are again collecting gift cards or monetary donations this year and also backpacks. If you would like to contribute to this drive, we would appreciate a backpack or gift cards from Walmart, Target or Staples in any amount (Please be sure the \$ amount of the gift card is clearly marked on the card) or a check made payable to Nativity St Vincent DePaul Society. We thank you for your generosity.



Nativity Family Fun Day
Saturday, October 4th
12:00 PM – 4:00 PM
Outdoor Mass at 4:00 PM
Nativity of Our Lord Church
185 Applegarth Rd, Monroe, NJ

Bring the whole family for an afternoon of faith, food, fun, and fellowship!

- Food Trucks
- Unique Vendors
- Children's Games and Activities
- Live Music, Tents, and Seating
- 50/50 Raffle

Outdoor Mass at 4:00 PM

Ministry Fair – Learn more about the many ministries that make our parish strong!

We will also be holding a Diaper Drive to support local charities serving families in need. Please consider bringing a package of diapers (any size).

Let us come together as a community to celebrate and serve others.



Knights of Columbus

CALENDAR RAFFLE Winning Numbers

Week of August 17	
Sunday	425
Monday	664
Tuesday	768
Wednesday	142
Thursday	747
Friday	310
Saturday	317



**"Blessed are they who mourn,
for they shall be comforted."**

No one but you knows how great your grief is or how it affects your life. We must all travel our own journey. If you are grieving the death of a loved one, you are invited to join the Bereavement Support Ministry here at Nativity of Our Lord Church. Our Fall sessions will begin on Tuesday September 16th 2025 and will be held once a week for 7 weeks, ending Tuesday October 28th 2025. Our sessions are held at Nativity of Our Lord Church from 6:00 PM until 7:30PM. There is no cost, all supplies will be provided. If you would like more information, or to register, please call **Jane Gatto at (917) 848-2300**. Registration is required.



We wish to welcome into the family of God and the Nativity of Our Lord parish community our newly baptized

Penelope Loren Zocco



**If You Crochet or Knit....
You Can Make A Veteran Very Happy!**

The Event Coordinator at the NJ Veterans Memorial Home at Menlo Park told the Stonebridge Veterans Club that there is a need for TWIN SIZE AFGHANS.

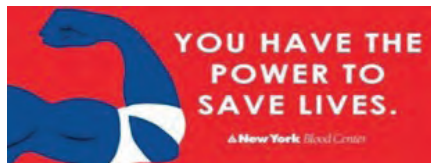
The Stonebridge Veterans Club has initiated this project to bring comfort to the vets and their spouses residing at the VMH of Menlo Park. It would mean a lot to the residents to have something home-made and cozy.

The Stonebridge Stitchers, Nativity of Our Lord's Prayer Shawl Ministry and the Regency Crochet/Knit Group are all working in conjunction to make this project a success.

If you are interested, please reach out to the Stonebridge Veteran Club. The club can reimburse those who crochet/knit for the cost of the yarn or can purchase and deliver to anyone interested in participating. Please also spread the word.

Please contact either Georgena Russo (917-257-2442) or Cynthia Vagnuolo (908-770-1637) if you are interested or have any questions.





Save the Date: Nativity of Our Lord Church Blood Drive

Join us for the Nativity of Our Lord Church Blood Drive on **Sunday, September 21st 2025, from 8 am to 2 pm**. The event will take place at 185 Applegarth Road in Monroe, NJ. Donating blood is simple and takes just about an hour of your time. **Each donation can save up to three lives**, benefiting cancer patients, accident victims, surgical patients, women in childbirth, and those with sickle cell disease & leukemia. Our blood supply is in critical need, and we could use your help. Let's come together to save lives! Will you be a part of this important cause!

To participate, schedule an Appointment by visiting:
Schedule an Appointment: https://donate.nybc.org/donor/schedules/drive_schedule/325602. Or scan this QR code below.

Eligibility: Visit www.nybc.org/eligibility or call NYBC at (800) 933.2566.

Walk-Ins Welcome: While appointments are preferred, walk-ins are also welcome.

Remember to eat, drink, and bring your donor ID card or photo ID. Your time is a precious gift that can make a lifetime of difference for a patient in need.

Thank you for your support!



Virtual Book Study for Women

The Diocesan women's group meets on Zoom each Sunday at 2:30 p.m. Beginning on September 7th, they will meet at their regular time to discuss the book, "A Cardiologist Examines Jesus" by Dr. Franco Serafini. All women are invited to join. Purchase of the book is required to participate. If interested, please contact Cristina at cdaverso@diometuchen.org.

Please note:

The weekend of **Aug 30-31**, there will be a second collection for the **Catholic Near East Welfare Association** who is actively providing humanitarian relief and pastoral support for people in Gaza and the surrounding areas in the Middle East. A collection basket will be in the rear of the Church at the end of each Mass.
Thank you for your support and generosity.



Women of Nativity

Communion Breakfast

Wednesday, September 17, 2025

What better way to begin a new season than with a Communion Breakfast! The Women of Nativity invite all women of Nativity to join us for our annual Communion breakfast on Wednesday, September 17th, 2025 following the 8:30 am Mass in Father Congdon Hall. A delicious breakfast of French Toast, Scrambled Eggs, Bacon and Sausage, Home fries and grilled potatoes, assorted mini pastries, muffins, assorted bagels, fresh fruit salad, juice, coffee and tea. (many items are gluten free) The cost of this event is \$15.00 pp. Please fill out the form below along with your check payable to NATIVITY OF OUR LORD CHURCH and drop it off in the box in the Narthex marked Women of Nativity. The deadline is September 11th.

Please join us as we gather together with inspiration, good food and great fellowship.

Questions: Call Carol McPartland - 609-642-6381

Women of Nativity Community Breakfast Sept. 17, 2025

Please make checks payable to NATIVITY OF OUR LORD CHURCH

Name _____

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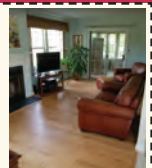


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