

AUGUST 3, 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

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[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  
[deacon2@nativitymonroe.org](mailto:deacon2@nativitymonroe.org)

*Deacon:*

**John Bertrand**  
[deacon3@nativitymonroe.org](mailto:deacon3@nativitymonroe.org)

*Parish Secretary:*

**Sandra Buttons** — Ext. 10  
[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  
[finance@nativitymonroe.org](mailto:finance@nativitymonroe.org)

*Office Assistant:*

**Laura McIntyre** — Ext. 15  
[tech@nativitymonroe.org](mailto:tech@nativitymonroe.org)

*Director of Religious Education:*

**Tara Vigar**  
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

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. The office will be closed on Fridays.

## **Eighteenth Sunday of Ordinary Time – August 3, 2025**

### **MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK**

**Monday Aug. 4<sup>th</sup>**

**St. John Vianney, Priest**

**8:30 a.m.** Dominic Osegbe by The Udom Family

**Tuesday Aug. 5<sup>th</sup>**

**Weekday; The Dedication of the  
Basilica of St. Mary Major**

**8:30 a.m.** Patricia Penza by Jean & Jo Capuano

**Wednesday Aug. 6<sup>th</sup>**

**The Transfiguration of the Lord**

**8:30 a.m.** Connie Mendoza by Connie Mendoza

**Thursday Aug. 7<sup>th</sup>**

**Weekday; St. Sixtus II, Pope &  
Companions, Martyrs; St. Cajetan,  
Priest**

**8:30 a.m.** Laura Wildner by Anna and Dave  
Wildner

**Friday Aug. 8<sup>th</sup>**

**St. Dominic, Priest**

**8:30 a.m.** William and Rosemary Braun by  
Catherine Codd

**Saturday Aug. 9<sup>th</sup>**

**Weekday; St. Teresa Benedicta of the  
Cross, Virgin & Martyr**  
Harry Schmaele by Mr. and Mrs.  
Michael Puma

**Sunday Aug. 10<sup>th</sup>**

**Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**7:30 a.m.** Paul Lucey by Jeannette Lucey

**9:00 a.m.** Michael Cavallaro by Marie Cirelli

**11:00 a.m.** Michael Acquavella by Maria  
Acquavella

### **CANDLE OFFERING**

**BVM:** Carmela Occhipinti by Art & Pat Pompei

**St. Jude:** Mirka Cuadros by Family

**St. Anthony:** Frank Richetti by Thomas & Katherine  
Twiggs

**Padre Pio:** Nicanor Ureta by Family

### **FLOWER OFFERING**

**BVM:** Nella & Joe Farinola in Thanksgiving

### **Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**Sunday:** Eccl 1:2, 2:21-23; Col 3:1-5, 9-11;  
Lk 12:13-21

**Monday:** Nm 11:4b-15; Mt 14:13-21

**Tuesday:** Nm 12:1-13; Mt 14:22-36 or  
Mt 15:1-2, 10-14

**Wednesday:** Dn 7:9-10, 13-14; 2 Pt 1:16-19;  
Lk 9:28b-36

**Thursday:** Nm 20:1-13; Mt 16:13-23

**Friday:** Dt 4:32-40; Mt 16:24-28

**Saturday:** Dt 6:4-13; Mt 17:14-20

### **STEWARDSHIP REFLECTIONS**

*“Take care to guard against all greed, for though one  
may be rich, one’s life does not consist of posses-  
sions.” LUKE 12:15*

The Gospel message is contrary to modern culture that continually tries to convince us that our joy comes from the material things we possess. That the more we acquire, the happier we will be. Jesus shows us that our true joy comes from our “invisible” gifts like love, mercy, and forgiveness. True joy comes from “emptying” ourselves, giving of ourselves rather than always taking. We are called not to hoard but to share. True joy comes from living a grateful and generous lifestyle; become more “God-centered” and less “self-centered.”

### **The Collections for the Weekend of**

**July 27 - \$ 12,659**

**Utility \$2,475**

**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

**"There was a rich man whose land produced a bountiful harvest. He asked himself, 'What shall I do, for I do not have space to store my harvest?' And he said, 'This is what I shall do. I shall tear down my barns and build larger ones.' There I shall store all my grain and other goods and say to myself 'Now as for you, you have so many good things stored up for many years, rest, eat, drink and be merry' But God said to him, 'you fool, this night your life will be demanded of you'...Thus will it be for all who store up treasure for themselves but are not rich in what matters to God."**

Our highways are dotted with new buildings, extra storage for goods not needed. They replace silos on farms which stored grain for the winter months. What do we find in these new buildings? We can just imagine. The parable of Jesus raises questions for us.

It begins with my admission that whatever I have is God's gift to me. What I have in excess and do not use, is going to waste and could be helpful to someone else. An unused coat or jacket could be of enormous help to a homeless person, or a thrift shop. A rusting bike could make a poor child happy. A set of dishes can be of great assistance for someone whose home was destroyed by fire. Think of one thing you can afford to give away. That is 'what matters to God.'

**"We had our child baptized, but haven't been able to follow up yet with religious education ...  
Now what?"**

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](mailto:jolynnkrempecki@msn.com) or 732- 690-2610.

### 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.

## Parish Calendar

Aug 3 (Sun)	St. VdeP—Backpack Collection—Box at Narthex
	Initiation Ministry/ Catechumenate 9:00 am to 11:30am Cl#1, 5&6
Aug 4 (Mon)	St. VdeP—Backpack Collection—Box at Narthex
Aug 5 (Tue)	St. VdeP—Backpack Collection—Box at Narthex
	Grief Education 6:00 pm RR
Aug 6 (Wed)	St. VdeP—Backpack Collection—Box at Narthex
Aug 7 (Thu)	St. VdeP—Backpack Collection—Box at Narthex
Aug 8 (Fri)	St. VdeP—Backpack Collection—Box at Narthex
Aug 9 (Sat)	St. VdeP—Backpack Collection—Box at Narthex
	Initiation Ministry- Adult Confirmation Prep 5:00 pm—6:30 pm TBD
Aug 10 (Sun)	St. VdeP—Backpack Collection—Box at Narthex
	Initiation Ministry/ Catechumenate 9:00 am to 11:30am Cl#1, 5&6
Aug 11 (Mon)	St. VdeP—Backpack Collection—Box at Narthex
	Initiation Ministry/ Inquiry 6:00 pm - 7:30 pm RR
Aug 12 (Tue)	Grief Education 6:00 pm RR
Aug 13 (Wed)	St VdeP- Distribution Backpacks to Rise

### PARISH OFFICE SUMMER HOURS

Nativity's summer office hours have been extended till August 15. The office will be open **9am-1pm Monday through Thursday.**

## 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



### **REJOICE! RITE OF WELCOME!**

This Sunday, August 3rd, at the 9:00 AM Mass, we celebrate the Rite of Welcome for **Kathleen Kazanjian** and **Chinonso Anyanwu**. They were baptized as children and now hope to complete their initiation in the Church. After the Rite, they will enter the Catechumenate and will be Candidates for Initiation.

You, the Parish family, are very important in this rite, for it is the entire Church who accepts inquirers as persons who hope to become full members. Please keep Kathleen and Chinonso in your prayers as they continue their journey toward Confirmation and Eucharist.

## 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. We will have a box in the Narthex until August 10th. 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.



## Fil-Am Society of Nativity

### **Sharing our blessings!**

Members of the the Fil-Am Society of the Nativity went to the Sisters of St. Joseph Neighborhood Center in Camden last Friday to hand-deliver the proceeds from the Spring Clothing Drive collected last April. It was received by Sr. Bonnie McMennamin. She wished to thank all who donated and promised to keep us in their prayers!





### Knights of Columbus

#### CALENDAR RAFFLE Winning Numbers

Week of July 27	
Sunday	732
Monday	577
Tuesday	725
Wednesday	661
Thursday	619
Friday	258
Saturday	716



### "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.

### The Prophets 1 – Adult Enrichment Course September 4 – December 11, 2025

These classes taught by Fr. Glenn Comandini, S.T.D. will introduce attendees to the prophetic books of the Old Testament by reading, examining and contemplating the words and deeds of the prophets of Israel. Thursdays, September 4 – December 11, 2025 10:30 AM – 11:30 AM at St. John Neumann Pastoral Center, 146 Metlars Lane in Piscataway. \$20 per person for all 14 classes. **Register Online:** <https://diometuchen.org/faith-formation> For questions email [ammarshall@diometuchen.org](mailto:ammarshall@diometuchen.org) or call (732) 562-1543



**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.



### **Silver & Gold & 5 Year Wedding Anniversary Celebration**

You are cordially invited to celebrate your **25th, 50th, 50+ or 5th Wedding Anniversary** with the Church of Metuchen and renew your marriage vows with Bishop James F. Checchio at a special Evening Prayer Service at the Cathedral of St. Francis of Assisi in Metuchen on Sunday, **October 19, 2025 at 3:00 PM**. The Silver and Gold Anniversary Prayer Service will again include couples celebrating 5 years of marriage. Registration is required. Please register online at: <https://www.diometuchen.org/silver-and-gold-anniversary-celebration>. If you are unable to access, please contact the **Family Life Office at 732-562-1543** or [amarshall@diometuchen.org](mailto:amarshall@diometuchen.org). Registration will close on October 10, 2025.

Although no fee is required, in the past many Jubilarian couples have given a donation of gratitude to the Church in memory of this special occasion. Donations may be made online at <https://www.diometuchen.org/silver-and-gold-anniversary-celebration> or calling 732-562-1543.

### **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!

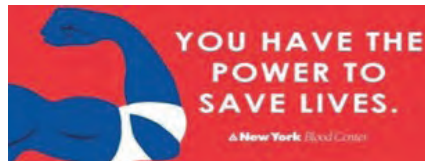
**To participate, schedule an Appointment by visiting: Schedule an Appointment: [https://donate.nybc.org/donor/schedules/drive\\_schedule/325602](https://donate.nybc.org/donor/schedules/drive_schedule/325602)**. Or scan this QR code below.

**Eligibility:** Visit [www.nybc.org/eligibility](http://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!



### **A Women's Retreat**

#### **For Parishioners of Nativity of Our Lord ABIDING IN LOVE... THE TALE OF TWO MARYS**

We will reflect and pray through scripture, art, story, and music  
about what invitations and graces

Mary of Nazareth and Mary Magdalene have to offer us in our time.

Presenter: Sister Joannie Cassidy

SSJ Center for Spirituality 21 Main Ave, Ocean Grove

Dates: August 22-24, 2025 **Cost for parishioners: \$175; Non-parishioner: \$290**

Complete and return with a non-refundable check for **\$175/\$290** payable to Nativity of Our Lord (Put Women's Retreat on memo line) to: Nativity of Our Lord Retreat, 185 Applegarth Road, Monroe Township, NJ 08831 or drop off in "Women's Retreat" mail slot in the Narthex.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_ Emergency contact name and phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Food allergies \_\_\_\_\_ Vegan? \_\_\_\_\_ Gluten free? \_\_\_\_\_ Vegetarian? \_\_\_\_\_

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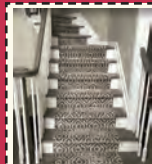
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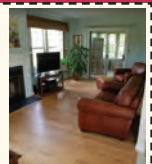


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