# ASCENSION of the Lord

While he blessed them, he parted from them and was carried up into heaven.

-LUKE 24:51



Nativity of Our Lord Monroe Township, New Jersey

#### Ascension of the Lord - June 1, 2025



185 APPLEGARTH ROAD, MONROE TOWNSHIP, NJ 08831-5961

Phone: 609.371.0499 www.nativitymonroe.org

Pastor: Rev. Nalaka Silva — Ext. I I

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: youth@nativitymonroe.org

Music Ministry: Catherine Naughton

music@nativitymonroe.org

Parish Accountant: Christine Colletti

**Dranchak** — Ext. 13

fin ance@nativitymonroe.org.

Office Assistant: Laura McIntyre — Ext. 15

tech@nativitymonroe.org

Director Of Religious Education: Tara Vigario

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

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

#### MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Monday June 2nd

Easter Weekday; St. Marcellinus &

8:30 a.m. Peter, Martyrs

Klein Family by Linda Bochiaro

Tuesday June 3rd

St. Charles Lwanga & Companions,

**Martyrs** 

8:30 a.m. Deceased members of Companions of

Pauline by Companions of Pauline

Wednesday June 4th

**Easter Weekday** 

8:30 a.m. People of the Parish

Thursday June 5<sup>th</sup>

St. Boniface Bishop & Martyr

8:30 a.m. Jack Benigno by Denise and Mike

Donnelly

Friday June 6<sup>th</sup>

Easter Weekday; St. Norbert, Bishop

8:30 a.m. Purgatorial

Saturday June 7<sup>th</sup>

**Easter Weekday** 

4:00 p.m. Nicholas Eugene Lucarelli by Christine

Carneiro

Sunday June 8<sup>th</sup>

PENTECOST SUNDAY

**7:30 a.m.** Paragallo-Gerratano Family by Susie

and Manny Gerratano

9:00 a.m. Pearl Brown by Her Children

11:00 a.m. John and Sean Wynn by Maureen

Wynn, wife and mother

#### **CANDLE OFFERING**

Sanctuary: Vivian Rorro by Virginia Pitarresi

**BVM:** Maureen & John O'Brien by Maureen O'Brien

**St Joseph:** In Thanksgiving by The D'Ausilio Family

St. Jude: Mary Bonura by Dykeman Family

**Sacred Heart:** Hans Hadman by Hadman Family

Padre Pio: Catherine Busceti by Domenica Porzio



#### **Ascension Sunday**

Sunday: 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

Monday: Acts 19:1-8; Jn 16:29-33 Tuesday: Acts 20:17-27; Jn 17:1-11a Wednesday: Acts 20:28-38; Jn 17:11b-19 Thursday: Acts 22:30, 23:6-11; Jn 17:20-26 First Friday: Acts 25:13b-21; Jn 21:15-19

First Saturday Morning: Acts 28:16-20, 30-31; Jn

21:20-25

#### STEWARDSHIP REFLECTIONS

"I am the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last, the beginning and the end." (REVELATIONS 22:13)

This is a reminder of how we should live our lives 24 hours a day, 7 days a week – putting God first in all that we do. Not only when I am at Mass and parish activities, but when I am in the world, at work, or at school. Living gratefully and generously is an intentional lifestyle. Every decision you make either moves you closer to God or farther away. Choose wisely!

#### **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.

### The Collections for the Weekend of

May 25 - \$ 13,273

Catholic Communication \$1,550

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!

#### **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	
Jun 1 (Sun)	Initiation Ministry/ Catechumenate 8:30am to11:30am 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 to11:30am Cl#1 & 11
	Children's Liturgy 11:00 am RR
Jun 9 (Mon)	Initiation Ministry/ Inquiry 6:00 pm - 7:30 pm RR
Jun 10 (Tue)	Prayer Shawl 1:30 pm Hall
	Bereavement Ministry 6:00pm-7:30pm RR
Jun 11 (Wed)	St.VdeP Mtg. 9:00 am - 10:00 am Cl.#11
	The Journey of Life-Grief Education Series 6pm - 7:30pm Hall
Jun 12 (Thu)	Choir Practice 7:30 pm Church
	Adult Faith Formation/Bible Study- Hall 9:00 am-11:30am & 7pm-9pm
Jun 14 (Sat)	Flag Day
	Tropical Summer Dance/ K of C 6pm - 10pm/ Hall



#### **HIS WORD TODAY**

BY REV. WILLIAM J. REILLY

"Thus, it is written that the Christ would suffer and rise from the dead on the third day and that repentance, for the forgiveness of sins, would be preached in his name to all the nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things, but wait in the city until you are clothed with power from on high."

The passage summarizes the paschal mystery of what was, we have waited, the power has been conferred, now it is my turn to act. The power of the Holy Spirit came at Pentecost, came to me through my baptism and confirmation, but needs to be exercised, put into action. Don't let it lie dormant, but become awakened to the power I possess to do good for the Lord. Surely I know someone who needs to be encouraged, supported, and become my partner in living the faith the Lord has chosen for me.



**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 pepperhousel@aol.com

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



#### 2025 Bishop's Annual Appeal

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

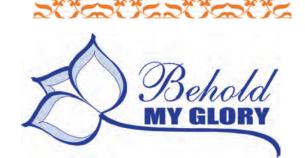
STATUS AS OF 5/23/2025

Goal: \$88,000.00

Total Pledged & Received: \$108,263.92 Amount Received: \$96,429.33

Over/(Under) Goal: (Based on Amt Rec'd): \$8,429.33

Percent of Goal Pledged: 123.03%
Percent of Goal Received: 109.58%
Average Gift Amount: \$295.00



#### 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.

#### **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.

<u>Homebound Ministries</u> - 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**.

<u>Helping Hands:</u> We help parishioners with small household tasks such 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.

#### **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

Forms can be found in the Narthex.



#### **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

#### **Initiation Ministry**



REJOICE! RITE FOR ENTRANCE INTO THE CATE-CHUMENATE (FORMERLY KNOWN AS RITE OF ACCEPTANCE)

On June 15, at the 9:00 Mass, we will celebrate the Rite for Entrance for one inquirer. She has been preparing for months to take this first step toward baptism and full initiation in the Catholic Church. Following the Rite, she will be a catechumen in the Order of Catechumens, having rights and privileges in the Church.

At the Rite, she will be signed with the Cross of Christ and will express acceptance of the Gospel of Jesus. May we all renew our commitment to discipleship along with her

You, the Parish family, are very important in this Rite, for it is the entire Church that accepts inquirers as people who intend to become members. Please keep our soon-to-be catechumen in your prayers during this last week of proximate preparation for the Rite for Entrance into the Catechumenate. Over the coming year, she will prepare for baptism, confirmation, and Eucharist.



You will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, throughout Judea and Samaria and to the ends of the earth...

Even as far as Monroe Township, New Jersey! We carry on the mission given to the first disciples to spread the good news of Jesus Christ to all we meet. How? By living lives of love, service and compassion, embodying what Jesus came to teach us. Maybe someone will see you being His witness and will want to be like you. If they ask how they can learn more, tell them about the OCIA. For information about the Order of Christian Initiation of Adults, contact JoLynn Krempecki at 732 -690-2610 (jolynnkrempecki@msn.com).

#### Knight of Columbus Council # 14658 High School Seniors' Award Application

The Knights of Columbus offers scholarship money to the 2025 High School graduating class. To apply, you must be a parishioner of the Nativity of Our Lord Church. Answer the following questions using Times New Roman 14pt font.

- · Student's Name
- · Address
- · Name of High School
- · GPA (on 100% Scale)
- · Describe your post-HS graduation plans in 300 words or fewer. Include which college you hope to attend. What field of study are you interested in? What extracurricular activity have you participated in the past 4 years?
- · In 150 words or fewer, kindly include any additional information you want to share with the Knights.
- · Student's Signature
- · Parent/Guardians' Signature

Email the completed application to

**tronbill@comcast.net.** All applications must be received by **Tuesday**, **July 1**, **2025**. Any questions regarding the Seniors Award Application may be directed to Bill Tronolone (tronbill@comcast.net)

# A Day for Grandparents and Seniors

#### July 24, 2025

The Diocese of Metuchen is pleased to host a Celebrate Life Event - A Morning for Grandparents & Seniors (55+) on Thursday, July 24, 2025 from 9:30 am to 12:30 pm at the St. John Neumann Pastoral Center, Piscataway. The morning will include, breakfast, fellowship, and a guest speaker presentation followed by Eucharist Adoration and Holy Mass. This event is an outreach to our aging Catholic community and promises to be an upbeat day! There is no fee to attend but registration is required. Register online <a href="https://diometuchen.org/humanlifeanddignity-seniorday2025">https://diometuchen.org/humanlifeanddignity-seniorday2025</a> For questions or more information email <a href="mailto:am-arshall@diometuchen.org">am-arshall@diometuchen.org</a> or call 732-562-1543.





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

## Community Dinner in Partnership with

#### St. Peters in Freehold, NJ

#### <u>Friday, June 27, 2025, 4:30 - 7:30</u>

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**. <u>RSVP by June15th.</u>





# 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 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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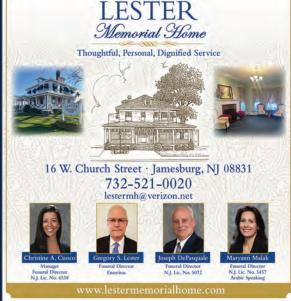


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