

This Week at Nativity

Sunday: Closed
Monday: Closed
Tuesday: Closed
Wednesday: Closed
Thursday: Closed
Friday: Closed
Saturday: Closed

ONLINE MASS: Each week we will be recording Mass which can be viewed on our website at

<https://www.nativity-cincinnati.org/mass/>

For the latest information on the Coronavirus and what we are doing at Nativity please visit our website at www.nativity-cincinnati.org/updates. A new letter has been added from our COVID Response Team.

Let us care and be attentive to one another:

During this very unusual time for all of us it is so important that we support and encourage one another. We urge you to be attentive to your neighbors, to offer help in any way you can, being especially mindful of the elderly, the sick or those who are alone. Try to cheer one another and pray for one another. Let us make this a time of real Christian community-building. ***In God alone we place our trust.***

If you had a Mass Intention scheduled for a loved one or friend anytime between mid March through mid June,

you will be able to reschedule another time as soon as we are able to return to regular worship in church. The same holds true as for Baptisms scheduled. Please contact Cindy in the Parish office with any questions 531-3164.

Thank you: On behalf of the students & Faculty of Nativity School I offer thanks to the Class of 2020 for the generous gift of a drinking fountain with a bottle filler that will be installed on the second floor of school. When we drink this water may it remind us all of the refreshing grace that God pours upon us as a parish and school. Thank you Class of 2020, our prayers and congratulations are with you. May Nativity always be home for you.

Sick & Shut-Ins

| | | |
|---------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Bill Bach | Bill Balskus | Reid Baumgartner |
| Liz Bellew | Stephanie Benhase | Mary Jo Beresford |
| Dottie Brinker | Eugene Carlson | Deborah Casey |
| Kathy Chalfin | Barbara Cottrell | Diana DeRhodes |
| Joe Doering | Declan Donovan | Stella Evans |
| Barry Funk | Jackie Goetz | Krystyna Kamp |
| Jim Kaufman | Fr. Ray Kellerman | Chris Lane |
| Al & Mary Lou Matre | Mary McErlane | Karen Morgan |
| Ron Rulon | Sr. Joan Schimian | Debbie Schneider |
| Maureen Sullivan | Jane & Carl Udry | Barbara Valentine |
| Bob Valerius | Jan Weaver | |

Friends & Family

| | | |
|-------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Mark Behreng | Sheila Caldwell | James Doolittle |
| Bob Finn | Rick Holtz | John Mack |
| Doug Martin | Bob Mitchell | Greg Morley |
| David Palmer | Cathy Ramundo | Holly Rough |
| Mike Rumsey | Rhoda Rupp | Randy Rupp Jr. |
| Mary Ellen Spaite | Peg Schuckman | David Shiveley |
| Mike Tebbe | Mary Williams | Craig Wrober |

Please contact the Parish Office to make arrangements for Holy Communion, Anointing of the Sick, Reconciliation and pastoral visits.

| CHURCH OFFERINGS | June 7, 2020 | Fiscal YTD |
|-------------------------|---------------------|-------------------|
| Regular Collection | 4,351 | 339,462 |
| School Support | 585 | 12,316 |
| Online Collection | 667 | 191,717 |
| Total Offerings | 5,603 | 543,495 |
| Budget | 10,900 | 553,200 |
| Over (under) Budget | (5,297) | (9,705) |

“Moving Forward Together” Annual Fund has reached over 91% of its goal! The “Moving Forward Together” Annual Fund is building momentum with 155 families contributing \$92,604 to date. This year’s goal is to raise \$100,000 to improve campus security and fire detection; enhance the sound in church; update the ceiling, lighting, and wall coverings in the cafeteria; and add \$10,000 to our School Education Fund. Many thanks to those who have already contributed. For those of you that are experiencing financial hardships of your own, we know that this is not the time to give. But, for those of you who can help, please consider donating so that we have cash in hand to complete our projects over the summer. Any donation would be deeply appreciated! To donate to Annual Fund, send a check made out to Nativity Annual Fund, 5935 Pandora Avenue, 45213. Questions regarding annual fund may be directed to co-chairs Dianne Fisk at Dianne.Fisk@thechristhospital.com or Charlie Knapke at cknapke1@lenovo.com.

June 14, 2020 – The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ

Funeral in Time of Viral Shutdown

All must adapt.

Traditions must change.

People must be counted, limited, not admitted.

No distant cousins, no swimming buddy friends

Not even some of the son-in-laws may be present.

Grandchildren watch from distant screens

And those in church keep their hugs to themselves.

At the cemetery, graveside prayers are brief

Goodbyes and leave taking cut short.

Mom never liked a fuss,

Maybe she is happier this way.

When I was writing the above poem, I started out feeling rather glum. A limit of 10 family members for Mom's funeral felt severe. Going straight home from the cemetery felt oddly empty. Bill and I sat at the kitchen table eating lunch by ourselves.

We talked about the funeral. It had been uplifting. Knowing that the Mass was live streamed gave us the sense of being joined in prayer by family and friends near and far. Our children called and texted about what moved them as we prayed together. God bridged the absence and distance so that they could be present to celebrate their Grandma's love. They felt inspired to watch for how Grandma lives on in our care for one another. In the retelling of stories and sharing memories, we see her looks and gestures mirrored in our own.

The last two lines of the poem came as a surprise to me. I could laugh out loud and quit feeling disappointed. When I read it to one of my sisters she chuckled and agreed. Blessings come in unexpected ways, even in times when life as we knew it has disappeared!

~Mary Lennard

Donations to Nativity Can Be Made Online Through WeShare:

Nativity families can continue to make donations to Nativity, 5935 Pandora Avenue, Cincinnati, OH, 45213 or online through WeShare, Nativity's online giving platform. On WeShare, you can also make donations to other Nativity funds including the Nativity School fund and the "Moving Forward Together" Annual Fund. You can sponsor the Saturday, August 29th Nativity Golf Outing, whereby all proceeds benefit the Nativity tuition aid program. Should you need help in making online donations, you may contact WeShare at: Customer Service Phone Number: 800-950-9952 (press #3 and then press #2); Customer Service Email: weshare@4lpi.com; or Donor FQA: WeShare Donor Support. Thank you in advance for your continued support of Nativity!

Updates from the Pastor:

On Thursday, May 28th a mailing went out to all parish families containing information regarding the re-opening of church and the resumption of public Mass at Nativity. Included with the letter was information regarding the phasing-in process and some of what is required to be COVID-19 compliant. We hope you find this information helpful as we move forward. Below are a few of the most Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ's) which were also included in the mailing you received:

What is the delay in resuming Mass? Other parishes are having Mass on May 25. Didn't the Archbishop require churches to start having Mass on May 25th?

The Archbishop released a statement that public Mass could begin on Monday May 25th. The statement provided 5 pages of guidelines for parishes to individualize to their church space to resume Mass in the safest way. This requires the work of many and takes time. Additionally, the science and data on Covid-19 transmission changes almost daily. We appreciate your patience because we know people are very much looking forward to worshipping together. Also, the bathrooms are not functional right now as the long-awaited remodeling to make them handicapped accessible is almost finished. Hopefully, that will stay on schedule and be completed by June 8th. To view the recommendations:

<https://www.thecatholictelegraph.com/archdiocese-of-cincinnati-public-masses-begin-memorial-day-may-25/66050>

Why couldn't we use St. Sebastian Hall until the renovations to the bathrooms are completed?

This is something we considered. The setup requires a lot of physical work by staff in close proximity to each other, putting them at risk and safety precautions need to be implemented in any space for worship. The gym floors, however, are scheduled for the yearly refinishing the 2nd week of June, right about when the bathrooms will be finished in the church. It makes more sense to wait until then.

What about First Communion, Confirmation, and the RCIA Elect?

First consideration will be given these groups. We feel extra caution should be taken in any Mass where children would be attending in large numbers based on new data regarding Multisystem Inflammatory Syndrome being seen in children. This is going to take compromises for the participants as getting the entire group of First Communicants or Confirmation Candidates together seems unwise.

For the full list of FAQs, as well as the Phasing-In process of re-opening church, please refer to the sheet which was included in the mailing mentioned above. Thank you for your patience as we continue to make every attempt to keep our community healthy.

~Please remember Nativity in your will~