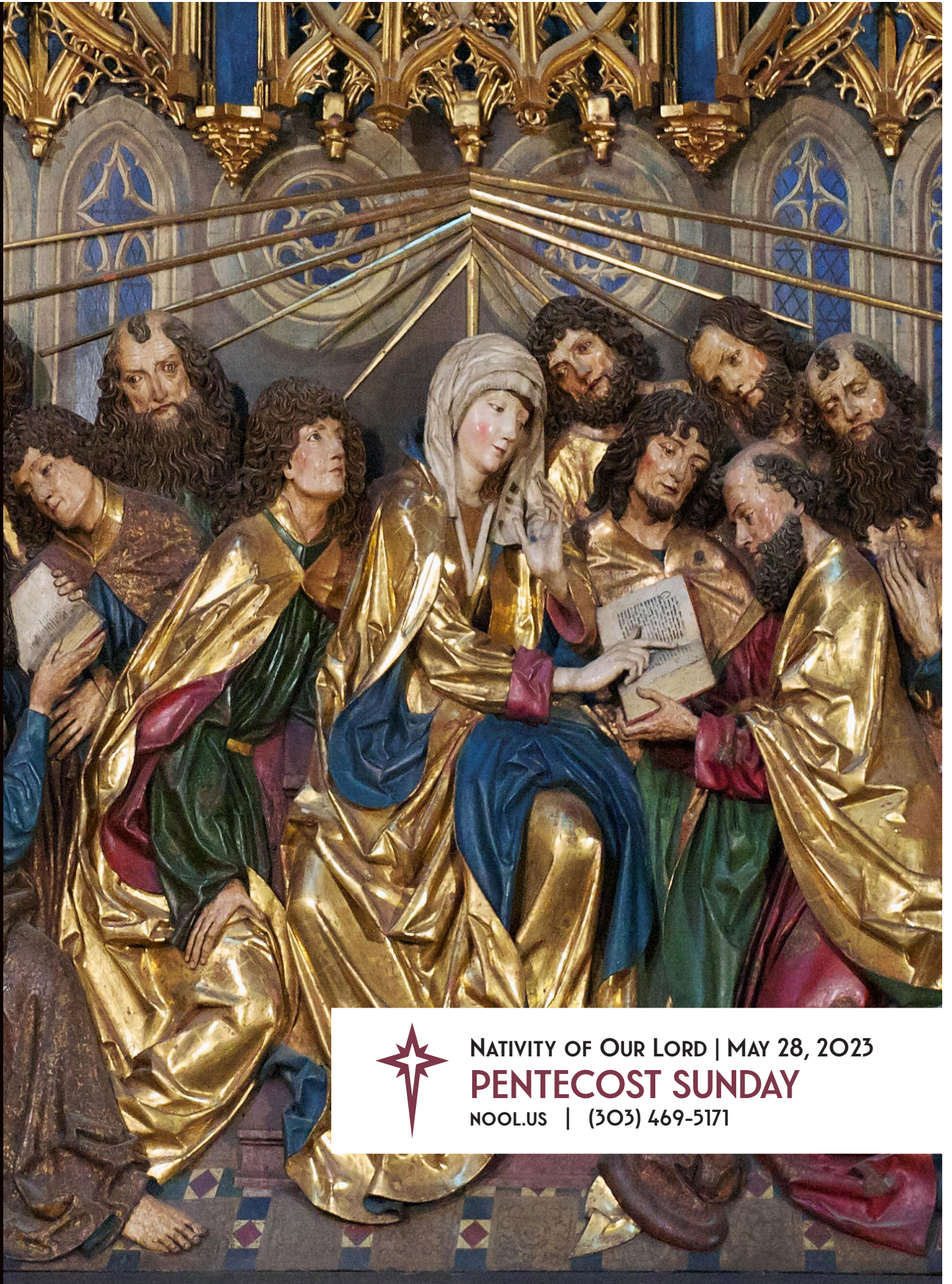


Veit Stoss, *Coming of the Holy Spirit*, 1477-1489, detail of an altarpiece, polychrome and gilded wood relief, St. Mary's Church, Kraków, Poland, US PD



NATIVITY OF OUR LORD | MAY 28, 2023

PENTECOST SUNDAY

NOOL.US | (303) 469-5171

MASS TIMES

MONDAY-FRIDAY

7:00 am

***NO 7:00 am Mass on Memorial Day**

9:30 am (livestreamed)

SATURDAY

9:30 am (livestreamed)

VIGIL MASS

4:30 pm

SUNDAY

7:30 am

9:30 am (livestreamed)

11:30 am

5:00 pm

CONFESSION

THURSDAY

5:00-6:00 pm

SATURDAY

8:00-9:30 am

3:00-4:30 pm

SUNDAY

30 min before Masses

OFFICE HOURS:

OFFICE & FRONT DESK ARE
CLOSED ON MEMORIAL DAY

MONDAY-FRIDAY: 8 am-5 pm

FRONT DESK:

MONDAY-FRIDAY: 8 am-8 pm

SATURDAY: 8 am-3:30 pm

Phone: (303) 469-5171

Fax: (303) 469-5172

School: (303) 466-4177

900 W. Midway Blvd.
Broomfield, CO 80020



GOING TO THE HOSPITAL

If you're going to the hospital and need a visit from a priest or deacon, please call the front desk at (303) 469-5171.

PRAYER REQUESTS

If you have any prayer requests, please contact Joanne Farver at (303) 466-8859 or at joannefarver@comcast.net.

MASS INTENTIONS

SATURDAY, MAY 27

9:30 am All Members of the Solano
Moreno Family
by Gloria Moreno

4:30 pm Lori Cole-Holmbo & Family
by Ken & Mary Ann Cole

SUNDAY, MAY 28

7:30 am † Adriana

9:30 am People of the Parish

11:30 am Roz & Jack Gallagher Wedding
Anniversary by Gallagher Family

5:00 pm † Laurence Langer
by Langer Family

MONDAY, MAY 29

No 7:00 am Mass

9:30 am † Michael Schuster
by Mary Caswell

TUESDAY, MAY 30

7:00 am Jackie Schuster
by Mary C. Baylie

9:30 am † Michael Schuster
by Denise Welder

WEDNESDAY, MAY 31

7:00 am † Dusanka Zupanski
by Karina Apodaca

9:30 am † Maureen Turner by Jane

THURSDAY, JUNE 1

7:00 am † Maria Ituarte
by Karina Apodaca

9:30 am Anna Maria Knight
by Grand Parents

FRIDAY, JUNE 2

7:00 am † Florence & Charles Kondratko
by Patty and Keith Kondratko

9:30 am † Gregoria Medel
by Samson Family

SATURDAY, JUNE 3

9:30 am Miss P. Bangert by Mary Lund

4:30 pm † Judy Dickinson De Salomon
by Craig Family

SUNDAY, JUNE 4

7:30 am † Gregoria Medel
by Samson Family

9:30 am People of the Parish

11:30 am † Michael Schuster
by George & Patty Ketchel

5:00 pm † Vern Bachinski
by Novak-Kirby Family



SAVE THE DATE:
THURSDAY-SUNDAY
AUGUST 10-13

PARISH CALENDAR

SUNDAY, MAY 28

8:00 am | CL/Communion & Liberation

11:00 am | Parishioners' Rosary

6:00 pm | GS/High School Youth Meeting

MONDAY, MAY 29

*MEMORIAL DAY:

PARISH OFFICE/FRONT DESK

CLOSED. NO 7 AM MASS*

TUESDAY, MAY 30

7:30 pm | CL/University Students

WEDNESDAY, MAY 31

5:30 am | St. Joseph Men's Prayer Group

8:15 am | ENDOW

6:15 pm | Boy Scouts Tr. 766

7:00 pm | GS/High School Students
Diakonia with Fr. Emanuele

THURSDAY, JUNE 1

9:00 am | CGS Catechist Training Level 1

7:00 pm | Parish Council

7:30 pm | CL/Communion & Liberation

FRIDAY, JUNE 2

7:30 am | Men of Emmaus

9:00 am | CGS Catechist Training Level 1

SATURDAY, JUNE 3

8:00 am | CL/Communion & Liberation

9:00 am | CGS Catechist Training Level 1

8:00 am | Marian Cenacle

8:50 am | Pro Life Rosary

SACRISTY LAUNDRY

Cecilia Bruchez

COLLECTION COUNTERS

Tue, May 30 | 10:00 am

Victoria Villegas

Deborah Mittleman

Kay Boyer



SIGN UP AT

app.flocknote.com/nool

FOR

NATIVITY EMAIL
NEWSLETTER

“LOVE ONE ANOTHER AS I HAVE LOVED YOU”: MAKING SPACE FOR THE TRUE ADVENTURE



A couple of weeks ago while preparing for the weekday morning Mass at the parish, I was deeply moved by the following verse from the Gospel of John, “*I give you a new commandment: love another. As I have loved you, so you also should love one another*” (John 13:34). It seemed like I had a special epiphany: the meaning of life is to experience the infinite personal love that Jesus has for me and to allow this experience to transform and inform all my life, my relationships, my work, and all my actions. The words, “*As I have loved you*” pierced my heart and caused me to reflect on the concrete experiences in my life where I have experienced the mystery of Jesus’ love for my life. I was particularly struck by how the invitation to follow the New Commandment presupposes the encounter and experience with God’s love.



As the Church celebrates the feast of Pentecost this weekend, culminating the season of Easter with the descent of the Holy Spirit on the apostles, it is a good opportunity to go to the heart of the “New Commandment” that Jesus gives as the new “rule of life,” so to speak, of the Christian community. It is only through the gift of the Holy Spirit that we are enabled to actualize this great invitation.

Jesus’ New Commandment is articulated in many other places in the New Testament. Two of the more notable are in chapter 15 where John writes, “*This is my commandment: love one another as I love you. No one has greater love than this, to lay down one’s life for one’s friends*” (John 15:12). As well, in 1 John 3:16, “*The way we came to know love was that he laid down his life for us, so we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers.*”

John the Evangelist gives the New Commandment following the celebration of the Last Supper. He begins this chapter by writing, “*Jesus knew that his hour had come to pass from this world to the Father. He loved his own in the world and he loved them to the end*” (John 13:1). The Greek word here for “end” can either mean “perfect or fulfilled” or “to the end.” Jesus will reveal the “perfect” meaning of love through the two key gestures that occur during the Last Supper: the washing of the feet of his disciples and the complete gift of himself to them through the transubstantiation of the bread and wine that become the gift of his very body and blood. Following the completion of these gestures he will say to his friends, “*I have set you an example: you are to do as I have done for you*” (John 13:15). Let us look at each of these gestures and ask how they might be inviting me to live today.

► Discovering a new logic of life.

When Jesus got down on his hands and knees to wash his feet, Peter immediately refused this gesture. He was stuck in his worldly logic or mindset. Jesus invites him personally to enter the new logic of love and mercy and let himself be washed clean by his Master. Similarly, Jesus wants to take the initiative toward us and invites us to let our dirtiness and sinfulness be cleansed by this humble gesture. Just like Peter we must change and convert from the logic of the world to the logic of love and mercy. It is necessary to overcome a Peter-like stubbornness to learn how to love.

How is this possible? We can look into another sacrament of the Church: confession. When I go to confession, I experience the infinite mercy of the Father towards my life. Just like for Peter, sometimes it is a struggle for me to let go of my pride but going regularly to this sacrament on a weekly basis, I have discovered that my life is defined first and foremost by Jesus’ infinite mercy towards me. Through this experience, I have discovered that Jesus is inviting me to let his mercy change my life and to become more merciful to others.

► **Receiving and imitating Jesus’ gift of self.** Over the course of my seven years of priesthood, the daily celebration of the Eucharist and times of Adoration have taught me that Jesus truly desires to give himself completely to me and to all his friends, through the gift of his very body and blood. His complete gift of himself through the Eucharist reveals the nature of love as a gift of self. The words: “This is my body,” “This is my blood,” “Given up for you,” and “Do this in remembrance of me” reveal *the invitation to receive this eucharistic gift and become this eucharistic gift for others*. Jesus gives his whole self to me and asks us, his friends, to receive, imitate, and participate in this gift to others.

In every Eucharistic celebration, I am invited to remember, celebrate, and personalize Jesus’ love for my life and for the whole world. I am invited to first receive and experience this love, His total gift of himself and merciful love. As I receive this gift, I am invited to personalize and make this gift the model through which I live the entirety of my life, my relationships, work, and leisure. This dynamic of offering is also true for all the baptized who participate in the mass.

► **Seeing signs of Him present helps us to live life as a great adventure!** In addition to the sacraments, I have also experienced His great love for my life through my family, my priestly community, and my friendships, as well as in my love for nature, art, music, and sports. Jesus has a great desire to continuously convince His beloved children of His complete and personal mercy for their lives. He is continuously knocking on each of our hearts and extending His loving hand to His children, asking them to open their hearts and make space for the true adventure of His love. In this time of Pentecost, I would like to invite everyone to ask and look for concrete signs of His love in your lives. It is only in this way that we will discover and learn to follow the great New Commandment to love one another as I have loved you.

Fr. John Roderick

DAILY READINGS

SATURDAY, MAY 27

Reading 1: Acts 28:16-20, 30-31

Psalm: 11:4, 5 and 7

Gospel: Jn 21:20-25

PENTECOST SUNDAY, MAY 28

Reading 1: Acts 2:1-11

Psalm: 104:1, 24, 29-30, 31, 34

Reading 2: 1 Cor 12:3b-7, 12-13

Gospel: Jn 20:19-23

MONDAY, MAY 29

Memorial of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of the Church

Reading 1: Gn 3:9-15, 20

Psalm: 87:1-2, 3 and 5, 6-7

Gospel: Jn 19:25-34

TUESDAY, MAY 30

Reading 1: Sir 35:1-12

Psalm: Ps 50:5-6, 7-8, 14 and 23

Gospel: Mk 10:28-31

WEDNESDAY, MAY 31

Feast of the Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Reading 1: Zep 3:14-18a

Psalm: Isaiah 12:2-3, 4bcd, 5-6

Gospel: Lk 1:39-56

THURSDAY, JUNE 1

Memorial of Saint Justin, Martyr

Reading 1: Sir 42:15-25

Psalm: 33:2-3, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9

Gospel: Mk 10:46-52

FRIDAY, JUNE 2

Reading 1: Sir 44:1, 9-13

Psalm: 149:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6a and 9b

Gospel: Mk 11:11-26

SATURDAY, JUNE 3

Memorial of Saint Charles Lwanga and Companions, Martyrs

Reading 1: Sir 51:12 cd-20

Psalm: 19:8, 9, 10, 11

Gospel: Mk 11:27-33

PRAY THE ROSARY WITH US IN MAY

MONDAY-FRIDAY

AFTER 7 AM & 9:30 AM MASS

SATURDAY, 8:50 AM

SUNDAY, 11:00 AM

May is traditionally dedicated in a special way to honoring and seeking the intercession of Mary as the Mother of God and Mother of the Church. Special times of prayer are being offered and all are encouraged to add the Rosary into their daily routine.

Come, pray the Rosary with us!



FROM THE PARISH

MEMORIAL DAY REMEMBRANCE

MAY 29, 2023
FOLLOWING
9:30 AM MASS



Nativity and the Knights of Columbus will hold a ceremony in honor of all deceased military veterans who were immediate family members and loved ones of our current parishioners.



June 5-9, 2023
MIDDLE SCHOOL
SUMMER VACATION

YMCA of the Rockies
Snow Mountain Ranch
Granby, CO
Cost: \$550
Open to anyone entering grades 6-9 in the fall of 2023
MORE INFORMATION: WWW.NOOL.US/MIDDLE-SCHOOL

WAITLIST AVAILABLE FOR MIDDLE SCHOOL VACATION REGISTRATION

The Middle School vacation begins the following week on June 5. The registration is closed. Please contact Cathy Schaffer at c.schaffer@nool.us if you would like to be put on a waiting list. There may be a small number of available spots that could open up. More information:

WWW.NOOL.US/MIDDLE-SCHOOL

MEMORIAL DAY PARISH OFFICE & FRONT DESK CLOSURE AND A CHANGE IN MASS SCHEDULE MONDAY, MAY 29, 2023

Please note that the Parish office and front desk will be closed on May 29. All activities will be canceled. There will be no Mass at 7:00 am.

THERE WILL BE ONLY ONE MASS: 9:30 AM

UPCOMING SOLEMNITIES

THE MOST HOLY TRINITY:

Sunday, June 4

CORPUS CHRISTI:

Sunday, June 11

In 2023, the Solemnity of Corpus Christi is on June 8, but it is transferred to Sunday, June 11 in the Archdiocese of Denver.



CALL FOR ALTAR SERVERS

Altar Servers are needed for the upcoming solemnities:

PENTECOST:

Sunday, May 27/28

THE MOST HOLY TRINITY:

Sunday, June 3/4

CORPUS CHRISTI:

Sunday, June 10/11

To sign up please follow the link:
WWW.NOOL.US/ALTAR-SERVING

FRIEND IN NEED

Friend seeks off street parking for a 7x14 RV and parking space for a truck. If you are able to help, please contact Matt, a Nativity parishioner, at 720-257-8087.



www.nool.us/totus-tuus

REGISTER

GRADES 1-6 | JUNE 26-30, 9 AM-2:30 PM

GRADES 7-12 | JUNE 25-29, 7-9 PM

Totus Tuus (Latin for 'Totally Yours') is a summer youth program dedicated to sharing the Gospel and promoting the Catholic faith through catechesis, Christian witness, and a ton of fun!

HOST HOMES NEEDED!

We are in need of Host Homes for the teams to provide sleeping arrangements and a morning continental breakfast. Each host home would house either two male, or two female college age Totus Tuus teachers for the week. Housing of the teams begins upon their arrival Saturday afternoon/evening until their departure the following Saturday morning. Each team provides its own transportation. The teachers leave early in the morning, and may or may not be around in the late afternoons due to planning, meetings, and setting up, and may get home late due to the extensive responsibilities of the day. We encourage the Host Home to provide a Sunday night family meal to get to know your guests.

Interacting with their host families is a great blessing to the teachers as well as the host families.

If you are able to host two Totus Tuus teachers or have questions, please contact:

Diane Irby, d.irby@nool.us, 303-731-0425

THE HOLY EUCHARIST: THE BODY, BLOOD, SOUL, AND DIVINITY OF JESUS CHRIST

A 3-WEEK ONLINE COURSE: JUNE 7, 14, AND 21
TIME: 9-11 AM & 6:30-8:30 PM

ST. JOHN VIANNEY THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

Since the inception of the Catholic Church, the Church has taught that the Holy Eucharist is the Real Presence of Jesus Christ, Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity. However, a 2019 Pew Survey of Catholics indicated that most Catholics only think that the Eucharist is a symbol, as most Protestant denominations believe.

Registration and more information:

WWW.SJVLAYDIVISION.ORG/REGISTRATION



WELCOME TO NATIVITY!

Alyssia A.
Diana B.
Kevin B.
Julian B.
Molly B.
Brion B.
Tanner B.
Kevin C.
Meredith C.
Roderick Hugh M.
Alicia M.
Humberto M.
Megan Marie G.
Patricia R.

8
NEW
FAMILIES
IN APRIL

To register as a parishioner, go to:
nool.ccbchurch.com/goto/forms/8/responses/new



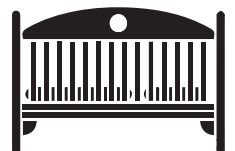
RESPECT LIFE: NATIVITY OF OUR LORD "BABY SHOWER"

MOTHER'S DAY/MAY 14 – FATHER'S DAY/JUNE 18

To support children, new mothers, and families in need, we will be collecting donations for Marisol in Lafayette, Boulder Pregnancy Resource Center, and Marisol Family (Formerly Gabriel House) in Boulder, from Mother's Day through Father's Day. Please drop off donations in the crib in the gathering area. The following items are needed:

Diapers (Newborn - sz. 5, especially need NB and sz. 4 and 5); Wipes (unscented/sensitive skin); Baby lotions, shampoos, washes; Baby bath towels, wash cloths; Diaper rash products; Newborn nasal aspirators; Pacifiers; Bibs; Knit caps; Booties/shoes/socks (NB - age 2); Bottles; Enfamil formula; Baby clothes (boys & girls, NB-2T), specific request for summer; Burp cloths; Blankets; Swaddling/receiving blankets; Nursing pads; Nursing pillows (Boppy brand); Diaper bags; Maternity clothes, new or gently used.

All items must be *new*, except for maternity clothes, and with tags on (if applicable).
Questions? Please contact
Janet Carpenter:
janetacarpenter@comcast.net





EVER THOUGHT ABOUT BECOMING A STEPHEN MINISTER?

Nativity of Our Lord Parish will be training another class of Stephen Ministers beginning Wednesday September 6, 2023. Stephen Ministers work alongside our clergy and religious to care, encourage, and provide emotional and spiritual support to people who are going through a difficult time, such as divorce, grief, hospitalization, unemployment, terminal illness, relocation, chronic illness, or loneliness. If you have gifts for caring, encouragement, and listening, please begin to prayerfully consider whether you might want to be part of this exciting ministry!



If you think you might be interested, talk with one of our Stephen Ministry Leaders:
Camille Ibsen
(720) 299-1265
or
Katie Borkowski
(703) 969-0252.

FROM ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

*In Flanders fields, the poppies blow
Between the crosses, row on row
That mark our place; and in the sky
The larks, still bravely singing fly.
Scarce heard amid the guns below.*

From *In Flanders Fields* by John McCrae

Colonel John McCrae (1872-1918), a surgeon with Canada's First Brigade, drafted this poem during World War I in a region of western Belgium and Northern France. He is said to have penned the poem on the back of a medical field ambulance the day after the funeral and burial of his friend, Lt. Alexis Helmer, who was killed by an exploding shell in the Second Battle of Ypres.

The red poppy, celebrated in McCrae's *In Flanders Fields*, thanks to humanitarians such as American teacher Moina Michael, still serves as a memorial and remembrance to help "Keep the Faith." Veterans service organizations often use the skills of those at Veterans Administration (VA) medical facilities and homes along with others to help make the artificial poppies. These services, throughout the years, have helped to support veterans and veterans charities.

On Memorial Day, let us celebrate our deceased veterans. Our St. Vincent de Paul (SVDP) society also welcomes veterans as valuable members in our work assisting the poor and those in need. We have also extended a hand to help veterans after they have returned home. For more information on our local Nativity of Our Lord St. Vincent de Paul chapter, see our flocknote service at: NOOL.FLOCKNOTE.COM/SVDP for meeting times and updates.

FROM THE HOPE CORNER: A MENTAL HEALTH MINISTRY

May is Mental Health Awareness Month. Now is the time to pause, reflect and focus on recovery and reaching out. According to the National Institute on Mental Health, half of the adults in the United States will develop a mental illness during their lifetime and one out of every five people experience mental health conditions each year, with only less than half of them receiving treatment. It's important to remember that you are not alone. If you or someone you love has a mental health condition, be gentle with yourself and please consider using the following resources for support and education:

National Mental Health Hotline | Call 24/7 to 988 or Text the word "TALK" to 38255

National Suicide Prevention Lifeline | Call 24/7 to 1-800-273-8255 or go to www.suicidepreventionlifeline.org/chat

NAMI: National Alliance on Mental Illness | Free programs, groups, education, resources | 1-800-950-NAMI (6264) or go to www.nami.org/Support-Education/Mental-Health-Education

Mental Health America | Free screenings, tips, prevention strategies, www.mhanational.org

Safe2 Tell | For students, parents and community members 1-877-542-7233 or Safe2Tell app

Interfaith Network on Mental Illness (INMI) offers education and consultation for ways to understand the importance of spirituality in recovery from mental health conditions. Visit: www.inmi.us

Substance Abuse and Addiction Hotline
1-800-662-HELP (4357)

Hope Coalition-Suicide Prevention
www.hopecoalitionboulder.org

PsychHub | Education, videos, learning modules, information, podcasts | www.psychhub.com

Mental Health First Aid | Training in warning signs and mental health/addiction concerns. Visit: www.mentalhealthfirstaid.org

THE HOPE CORNER is a mental health ministry committed to instilling hope and reducing stigma. Please contact The Hope Corner with any questions. If you or a family member need a referral, information or community-based resources, contact **Becky Kusick, MA, LPC** at hopecornerministry@gmail.com or 303-907-6499.

Register for FREE today
at nool.formed.org.

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Similar to Netflix, Formed.org gives you access to Catholic movies, audio books, radio talks, podcasts, studies, and educational content!



NATIVITY
FAITH & REASON

WWW.SCHOOL.NOOL.US



CALL TODAY
303-466-4177

With questions about admission or to schedule a tour, contact
Shannon Spinuzzi
s.spinuzzi@nool.us

COME & SEE!



school.nool.us/enroll

FAITH AND REASON

FIDES ET RATIO

Our school is built on the pillars of Faith & Reason, following the guidance of St. John Paul II expressed in the Encyclical Letter, *FIDES ET RATIO*:

"Faith and reason are like two wings on which the human spirit rises to the contemplation of truth."

"I think this is a phrase we should all learn by heart. It is very powerful and beautiful, and it contains so many elements. [...] We can be much helped by keeping this phrase always in our mind. I remember once walking along and seeing a large bird fluttering on the ground and unable to fly. I approached the bird and I noticed that he had an injured wing and he couldn't fly. One wing was injured and he couldn't fly. It is the same for us. These two great wings are essential to us. My wish for you is that you soar, in the words of John Paul II, that you soar towards the contemplation of the truth. Remember and treasure these two wings of your humanity: faith and reason, growing them. You need them both. You need them both: this faith and this reason are vital to you to be able to see, to be able to understand, and to truly be able to soar towards the contemplation of the truth."

—Father Michael Carvill during the 8th-graders' graduation Mass

Listen to the whole homily here:
www.nool.us/homilies



2023-2024 ENROLLMENT IS OPEN!

Priority for admission to Nativity School is based on the following criteria:

Siblings of current Nativity students

Nativity parishioners who have been registered and active in the parish's stewardship program for at least six months

Registered, active members of other Catholic parishes

Non-affiliated Catholics

Non-Catholics

Students enrolling in middle school must present their most recent report cards, standardized test scores, a recommendation from a teacher and/or principal, and be interviewed by our principal before registration is finalized.

All registered Kindergarten students will be assessed for readiness before registration is finalized.

Nativity: Faith & Reason is the primary ministry of our parish. Serving students in preschool, elementary, and middle school, Nativity: Faith & Reason proposes the fullness of faith within an integrated curriculum, striving for academic, spiritual, artistic, and athletic excellence. Learning at Nativity is enhanced by :

- The presence of Priests of the Fraternity of St. Charles Borromeo
- The presence of Missionary Sisters of St. Charles Borromeo
- Extended care before and after school
- Interventionist
- School Counselor
- School Nurse
- Teacher Assistants in the lower grades
- Librarian
- Parish and community volunteers
- Parent Teacher Organization
- School Advisory Council
- Field Trips



MEMORIAL DAY REMEMBRANCE



JOIN US ON MEMORIAL DAY, MONDAY, MAY 29, AFTER THE 9:30 AM MASS FOR A CEREMONY HONORING THESE DECEASED VETERANS AND ALL OTHER VETERANS IN OUR PARISH COMMUNITY.

Andrew Jack Gallagher, Air Force
Bill Smith, Air Force
Chris Spafford, Air Force
Dave Mackmuller, Air Force
Fraed Jander, Air Force
George Beckingham, Air Force
Gerald Hillenbrand, Air Force
Jack Gallagher, Air Force
Jack V. Johnson, Air Force
James Melvin Anderson, Air Force
Lawrence Frank Sheldon, Air Force
Leslie Shaw, Air Force
Michael Koven, Air Force
Pete Beckingham, Air Force
Phillip Fiske, Air Force
Ray Armenta, Air Force
Robert Caswell, Air Force
Robert Hale, Air Force,
Killed in action, Korea
Ronald Joseph Begier, Air Force
Ronald Thomas, Air Force
Eugene Doyle, Air Force and Air
National Guard
Donald Mayer, Air Force and Navy
Aileen Bean, Army
Albert Leonhardt, Army
Alvin A. Jutras, Army
Andrew Ondish, Army
Andrew Unger, Army
Anthony Hogen, Army
Bill Murphy, Army
Carmine Joseph D'Apice, Army
Casimir Sermak, Army
Charles Johnson, Army
Daniel Grady, Army
David Becht, Army
Donald Dwyer, Army
Douglas Malone, Army
Ed Pomme, Army
Edmond Riedel, Army
Edmund Sermak, Army
Edward H. Kerber, Army
Edward Olson, Army
Eugene Sermak, Army
Floyd L. Foster, Army
Francis Joseph D'Apice, Army
Francis M. Sierzputowski, Army
Frank Passard, Army
Frank Swart, Army
Frank Woodward, Army
Fred Farver, Army
Gail Spafford, Army
George Sawyer, Army
Gerald Geoffrion, Army
Glenn Sheathelm, Army,
Killed in action, WWII
Harold Becker, Army
Harold Ellis, Army
Harold H. Hedge, Army
Harvey Hale, Army
Hector Sosa, Army
Henry Sobieski, Army
Herman "Buck" Cabral, Army,
Killed in action, WWII
Hugh Spafford, Army
James Frederick Farver, Army
James Furman, Army
Jerome Brown, Army
John McMichael, Army
John Piwowarski, Army
John Weinmeier, Army
John William Crocker, Army
Joseph Hale, Army
Julius Sigg, Army
Karl Klemoff, Army,
Killed in action, Vietnam
Lambert Francis Beck, Jr., Army
Lawrence Palen, Army
Lee Feazell, Army
Leo Armenta Sr., Army
Leo Bean, Army
Leonard Michael Pastuszak, Army
Lyle Grau, Army
Mary Truelove, Army
Maurice Schulte, Army
Mel Logay, Army
Michael Dietzler, Army
Norbert N. Juenemann, Army
Norbert Shileny, Army
Norman Schaffer, Army
Peggy Woodward, Army
Richard Alt, Army
Richard Holbrook, Army
Rob Weinmeier, Army
Robert Patton Sr., Army
Robert St. Onge, Army
Robert Vallero, Army
Robert Worsley, Army
Roger K. Foster, Army
Russell Holbrook, Army
Salvatore Sivigliano, Army
Thomas F. Gustafson, Army
Tim Philipsen, Army
Tom Green, Army
Anthony Diederich, Army Air Corps,
Killed in action, WWII
Austin Dwyer, Army Air Corps
Harry Craig, Army Air Corps
John Scherr, Army Air Corps
Leon Albinak, Army Air Corps
Matthew Unger, Army Air Corps
Killed in action, WWII
Bernard Grau, Army and Navy
Servant of God Fr. Emil Kapaun,
Army Chaplain Corps,
Killed in action, Korean War
James Becht, Army National Guard
Kenneth Schulte, Army National Guard
Lambert Francis Beck, Sr.,
Army National Guard
Thomas R. Denfeld, Army National Guard
Andrew Boisvert, Marines
Arthur T. Tobani, Marines
Coleman Toth, Marines
David Kern, Marines
Gregory Diederich, Marines
James Dickinson, Marines
Jane Toth, Marines
John Morra, Marines
Kenneth Burkhart, Marines
Larry Ray Fuller, Marines
Paul Himmels, Marines,
Killed in action, Korea
Ron Toth, Marines,
Killed in action, Vietnam
Tommy Thompson, Marines
Wesley Schull, Marines
William Murphy, Marines
Donald Andersen, Merchant Marines
Antone Cabral, Navy
Arnold Irwin Poller, Navy
Arthur Becker, Navy
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CHAPLAIN EMIL KAPAUN, SERVANT OF GOD, PRAY FOR US AND FOR OUR VETERANS!



Fr. Kapaun with his pipe. Courtesy of the Diocese of Wichita via CNA

On the life of the Servant of God Fr. Emil Kapaun, military chaplain, POW during the Korean War, and Medal of Honor recipient, by Michael O. Jackels, Bishop of Wichita, Kansas

Before being sent to Korea, while stationed at Fort Bliss, Texas, Father Kapaun was assigned to bunk with another soldier, a non-Catholic. Not wanting to have a Catholic chaplain as a roommate, the soldier objected and asked for someone else, but his request was denied. Before long Father Kapaun won him over, received him into the Catholic Church, and even witnessed his marriage.

So far the story is only half-told. The soldier and his wife were not able to have children. The doctors said that the wife had an irreversible condition that made conception impossible. After the Korean conflict, the soldier learned that Father Kapaun had died in the POW camp, and he and his wife got the idea of asking Father Kapaun to intercede before the throne of God on their behalf, so that they might have children. Three children later, the doctors still insisted that the woman had an irreversible condition that made conception impossible.

Why all the knowledge of and interest in Father Kapaun? The best answer I can think of is the attraction of his qualities of character.

Father Kapaun was brave. He mocked the Communist indoctrination lectures in the POW camp, calmly refuting their attacks on religion.

Father Kapaun was generous. He literally carried a wounded soldier on a long, torturous forced march to the prison camp.

Father Kapaun was good-natured. He worked at lifting the spirits of the POWs and at giving them hope. "Have faith, have faith," Father Kapaun told them. "Don't give up. We'll get out of here someday."

Father Kapaun was caring. He would wash the clothes and bodies of sick POWs. He would scrounge for extra food to give them, sometimes giving them something from his meager share.

Father Kapaun was self-sacrificing. He was captured because he would not leave the wounded GIs, even though he had the opportunity to do so. He died on May 23, 1951, his death hastened by harsh treatment from his captors and by a lack of food and clothing, for he had given to other POWs much of what he had.

Father Kapaun, just like every human being, including those already canonized by the Catholic Church, was not perfect. For example, he expressed the desire upon being liberated to treat a particularly nasty prison commander to a kick in the bohunkus. But it is his qualities of character, seen together with his humanness, that explain why everyone is interested in and touched by the story of Father Kapaun. These are mainly, even heroic qualities of character, and the POWs with him, whether Catholics, Protestants, Jews, Muslims or nonbelievers, found them to be attractive.

There is, however, another layer to Father Kapaun: his motivations, that is, why he acted so bravely, generously, cheerfully, thoughtfully, sacrificially. This can be explained by one word: Jesus.

Jesus gave the gift of himself in love, as shown by his incarnation, ministering as an itinerant preacher, feeding hungry people literally and spiritually, healing their wounds, forgiving their sins and finally losing his life, offering it up and lying it down for others.



Father Kapaun did what he did to imitate Jesus. Like Jesus, Father Kapaun even forgave those who hated him and persecuted him. He told a fellow prisoner who questioned whether they should forgive their brutal guards, "Of course we should forgive them. We should not only forgive our enemies but love them too. If we fail to forgive, we're rejecting our own faith."

Later, after Father Kapaun's death, the POWs who knew him remarked that the face of Christ on the crucifix carved by a Jewish prisoner—who had never met Father Kapaun, but who daily heard story after story about the priest—looked surprisingly like the face of the heroic chaplain. The prisoner who carved the cross thought that this is what Jesus must have looked like: like Father Kapaun.

With his qualities of character and his Catholic faith, Father Kapaun was, as was said about him by his fellow POWs and

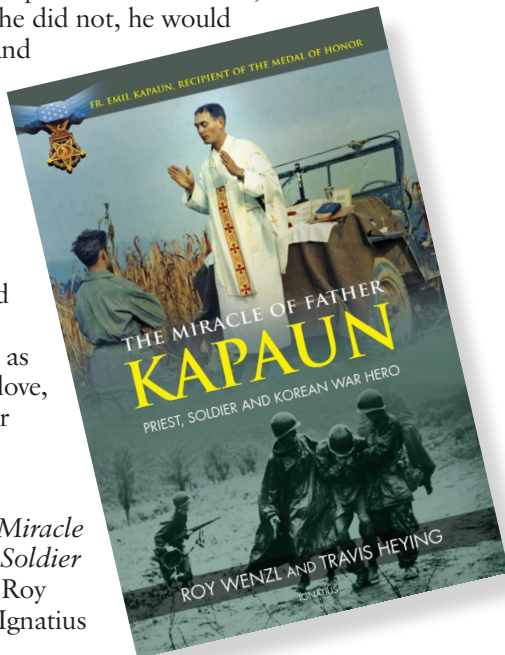
is now carved into his memorial in his hometown of Pilsen, Kansas, “all man, all priest.”

This is why people ask Father Kapaun to pray for them, to intercede for their intentions. This is why they pray with Bob McGreevy, a survivor of the POW camp who shortly after Father Kapaun’s death cried out in his need: “Father Kapaun, help me!”

In fact, before he was taken away to die, Father Kapaun promised the other prisoners: “When I get up [to heaven], I’ll say a prayer for all of you.” And to one of them, who needed to straighten out his marriage upon his return home, Father Kapaun threatened that if he did not, he would come down from heaven and kick him—well, one can guess where.

And this is also why the petition for Father Kapaun’s beatification and canonization was made. For if the Catholic Church were to declare him Blessed and Saint, he would inspire yet more people to imitate, as he did, Jesus’ gift of self in love, as well as intercede for their petitions before the Divine Majesty.

From the Forward to *The Miracle of Father Kapaun, Priest, Soldier and Korean War Hero* by Roy Wenzl and Travis Heying, Ignatius Press, 2013



Chaplain Emil Kapaun, Servant of God PRAYER

*Lord Jesus,
in the midst of the folly of war,
your servant, Chaplain Emil Kapaun,
spent himself in total service to you
on the battlefields and
in the prison camps of Korea,
until his death at the hands of his captors.*

*We now ask you, Lord Jesus,
if it be your will,
to make known to all the world
the holiness of Chaplain Kapaun and the
glory of his complete sacrifice for you by
signs of miracles and peace.*

*In your name, Lord, we ask,
for you are the source of peace,
the strength of our service to others,
and our final hope. Amen.*

Chaplain Kapaun, pray for us.

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