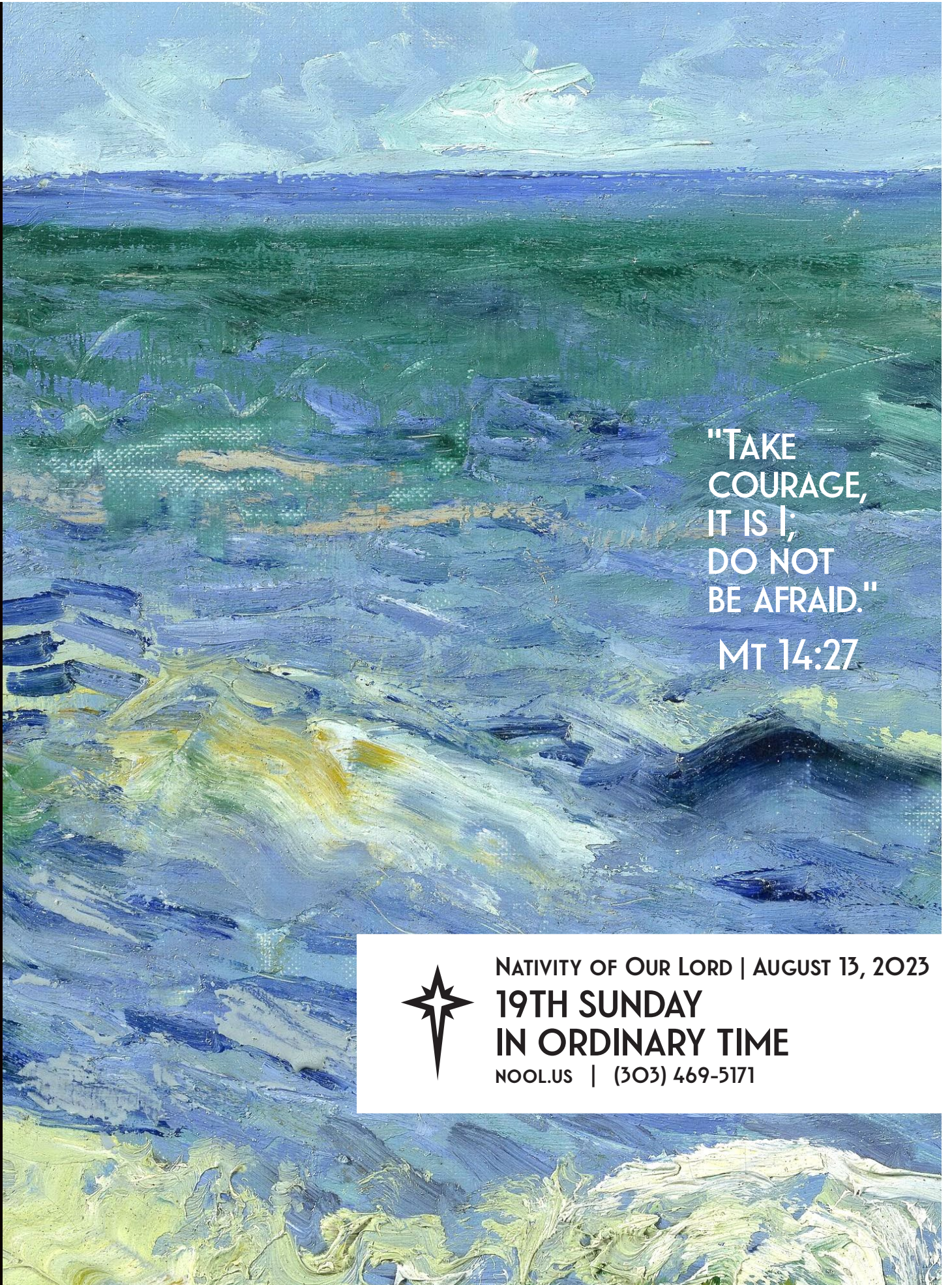


Vincent van Gogh, *Seascape Near Les Saintes-Maries-de-la-Mer*, 1888, oil on canvas (detail), Van Gogh Museum, Amsterdam (Vincent van Gogh Foundation); US PD



"TAKE
COURAGE,
IT IS I;
DO NOT
BE AFRAID."

MT 14:27



NATIVITY OF OUR LORD | AUGUST 13, 2023

**19TH SUNDAY
IN ORDINARY TIME**

NOOL.US | (303) 469-5171

MASS TIMES

MONDAY-FRIDAY

7:00 am
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:

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 are 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, AUGUST 12

9:30 am Mary McGuire Birthday
Blessing by Bette Dean
4:30 pm Debbie Kerr
by Melinda & Scott Tewksbury

SUNDAY, AUGUST 13

7:30 am Mass of Thanksgiving
by Chuck & Thelma Kuhn
9:30 am People of the Parish
11:30 am Jeanne Marie Habib, sister of
Maryann Arling
by Marcia Gieck
5:00 pm Ron Kaiser
by Suzie, Stacy & Rose

MONDAY, AUGUST 14

7:00 am † Glenn Brockman
by Bill & Carol Kerwin
9:30 am † Marty Artis
by Tad & Mary Artis
7:00 pm Ernster Children
by Mom & Dad

TUESDAY, AUGUST 15

SOLEMNITY OF THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

7:00 am † Jerry Guiles
by Stephanie Horner
9:30 am Ron Kaiser
by Suzie, Rose & Stacy
7:00 pm Souls in Purgatory

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 16

7:00 am Doreen Willey Birthday
Blessings by Lori & Lindsay
9:30 am Becky & Wayne

THURSDAY, AUGUST 17

7:00 am John Hodyes
9:30 am † Patricia McColgan Brown
by Ann Marie Eres

FRIDAY, AUGUST 18

7:00 am Kevin & Queenie Dempsey
by Mike & Susan Walker
9:30 am † Reagan Dooley
by Grandma & Grandpa

SATURDAY, AUGUST 19

9:30 am † Dale Thomas
by Gary & Sally Thomas
4:30 pm † Souls in Purgatory
by Melinda & Scott Tewksbury

SUNDAY, AUGUST 20

7:30 am Samuel Atencio
by Jennifer Langer
9:30 am People of the Parish
11:30 am † Germaine Piper
by Ann Jander
5:00 pm † Walt & Wynona Kois
by Kois Family

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

IN THE CHURCH:

THURSDAY

12:00-6:00 pm

SOLEMN HOLY HOUR:

5:00-6:00 pm with *Confession* and *Vespers*
Benediction: 5:55 pm

IN THE CHAPEL:

MONDAY-FRIDAY

8:00 am-5:00 pm

PARISH CALENDAR

SATURDAY, AUGUST 12

8:00 am | Marian Movement of
Priests Cenacle
8:50 am | Pro Life Rosary
9:00 am | Nativity Days:
Holy Rollers Car Show
10:30 am | Nativity Days:
Cornhole Tournament

SUNDAY, AUGUST 13

10:30 am | School Used Uniform Sale
11:00 am | Parishioners' Rosary
11:30 am | Nativity Days Picnic
1:00 pm | Nativity Days:
Cornhole Championship

MONDAY, AUGUST 14

6:30 pm | Catechetical School Info Session
6:30 pm | New Springtime Charismatic
Prayer Group
6:30 pm | Spanish Prayer Group

TUESDAY, AUGUST 15

1:00 pm | Adult Tuesday Bible Study:
Footprints of God
7:30 pm | CLU (Communion &
Liberation University Students)

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 16

6 pm | Boy Scouts Troop 766

THURSDAY, AUGUST 17

12:00 pm | Eucharistic Adoration begins
7:00 pm | Baptism Class

SATURDAY, AUGUST 19

8:00 am | Marian Movement of
Priests Cenacle
8:50 am | Pro Life Rosary
5:00 pm | CL (Communion & Liberation)

SUNDAY, AUGUST 20

11:00 am | Parishioners' Rosary
6:00 pm | GS/High School Youth

SACRISTY LAUNDRY

Nicki Battista

COLLECTION COUNTERS

Mon, August 14 | 10 am

Don Larson
Patty Kondratko
Cathy Suppes
Susan Martinez



By Fr. Julius Lule

THE POWER OF PILGRIMAGES

Dear Parishioner, I would love to share with you my experience of making pilgrimages. Hopefully, I will inspire you to make one soon. One thing that I am sure of is that pilgrimages are powerful when they are done well and with an intention of encountering God.

I have always been moved by the saints in history who were witnesses to the Christian faith through pilgrimages. Among these great inspirations was St. Helena, who in her late 70's, made a long pilgrimage to the Holy Land to discover "The True Cross" in 326 AD. Her pilgrimage bore many fruits for the world to this date.

Besides the inspiration of the saints, I have always been moved by the June 3rd feast of the Martyrs in Uganda. From late April through the beginning of June, pilgrims are seen on the roads. They come from all over the country and even from other countries. While many use quick transportation, thousands walk on foot to come to celebrate the feast day of the Uganda Martyrs at Namugongo. It is at this place that 13 of the 22 martyrs were burnt on the Ascension Day, June 3, 1886. About three million pilgrims gather every year to praise the Goodness of God. Think about it! Three million people gather just to praise God. That's amazing!

As a young seminarian, I did not have this faith yet. I always asked myself, "What are all these people looking for? Young and old, men and women, sick and healthy, rich and poor?" Well, it was not until later that I discovered the more profound answer. It was not about "what." It was about "who." They are looking for an encounter with someone.

I made my first pilgrimage when I came to the United States to attend St. John Vianney Seminary here in Denver. I found my second year very challenging. I made a pilgrimage to Mother Cabrini shrine and another to Mt. Olivet Cemetery. At these two pilgrimages, I encountered God, who is more present than I am to myself. After this encounter, I continued making a pilgrimage to the downtown Cathedral once every semester. Cold or hot, I was on the road to the Cathedral on foot. By His Grace, I was ordained a priest! What a gift! I believe that the graces to be open to this gift came from those pilgrimages.

After ordination, I was assigned to Our Lady of Lourdes Nakasongola Church, a challenging parish in Kasana-Luweero diocese in Uganda. I knew it was going to be tough, so I made a private pilgrimage to the Uganda Martyrs' Shrine during the COVID-19 lockdown to tell our Lord all about it. The walk was 34-mile long. I attribute all the graces I received in my first year of priesthood to this pilgrimage.

During my second year, I decided to bring God's people with me on another pilgrimage so that we may have an encounter together. I did it with the help of grace. Sixteen people signed up to come with me on a 32-mile (49.3 km) pilgrimage in honor of the Exaltation of the Cross celebrated by the Church on September 14. Among the pilgrims was a six months pregnant woman. I was inclined to stop her, but my prideful resistance couldn't shake her faith.

We started the walk on September 13 at 5 am. By 8:30 pm, we made it to the place of destination, which is a massive crucifix at my home parish. The journey was painful, via the busy highway, which was the only way to go. It was tough. Never in my life was I as moved as by that pilgrimage. Everyone helped each other make it. During that time I saw my priesthood participating in Christ's, as the good shepherd called to support and accompany the weak and the despairing to the heavenly Jerusalem. How could I leave even one behind? Our theme for the pilgrimage was "Journeying to heaven."

The theme compelled me to fight that every pilgrim makes it.



That night of our arrival was the happiest night I had seen in a long time. After a cold shower, everyone was refreshed. Some couldn't move, others in pain, but we found ourselves around a table laughing. Though some were lying on the floor as if dead, joy flooded their hearts. "We have made it to paradise," one said. Together we had a big dinner. The pain became a great joy. Even those who could not lift a bone were happy, all cracking jokes. It was indeed a figure of the triumphant Church that had passed through the furnace of fire and great suffering. That joyful dinner of 17 pilgrims made a great impact on my priesthood. It always stands out as a picture of heaven to which I am called to lead souls through the sufferings of this life, even the weakest. The next day, we had a talk on the history and the power of the cross, then a solemn celebration of the stations of the cross and a solemn Mass. What a great encounter with God!

From this pilgrimage, much grace was poured out into the lives of many: the pilgrims, their family members, parishioners, and to others, which we shall only know in eternity, as St. John Vianney used to say. One of the pilgrims made this pilgrimage to present her sister, who was ill, and close to the end of her life. She had not only fallen away from faith, but her heart was also as hard as a rock. Within the year, this poor soul received the grace of openness to the faith and asked for a priest. She passed last April during Lent and reconciled with God.

Another grace was given to the six months pregnant woman. Her husband forbade her to walk 32 miles of pilgrimage, but her faith compelled her to risk it. One of her intentions was to pray for her husband who had no stable work as his education credential documents were stolen. For about ten years, he couldn't find work other than volunteering. But God always provided. On this pilgrimage, God answered her prayer. About a month later, the husband received a random phone call ordering him to come pick up his papers within three days.

Pilgrimages are powerful. Will you make one soon?

This year on September 5 through 9, I have about 60 people coming with me to the international Marian shrine in Kibeho of Rwanda. Three days after that, we shall walk the 32-mile pilgrimage again in honor of the Exaltation of the Cross on September 14. Please pray for us. And if you have any intentions, I am happy to bring them on these two pilgrimages.

Special thanks to our priests at Nativity and to all of you, my friends, who have always been a big part of my life, and you are now a strong pillar in my mission to bring the light of Christ to the remotest villages of the world.

Fr. Julius Lule



SOLEMNITY OF THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY AUGUST 15, 2023

A HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION

MASS TIMES:

MONDAY, AUGUST 14
7:00 PM ANTICIPATORY MASS

TUESDAY, AUGUST 15
7:00 AM | 9:30 AM | 7:00 PM

SPECIAL COLLECTION FOR RETIRED & INFIRM PRIESTS OF THE ARCHDIOCESE OF DENVER

There are currently more than 50 retired priests in our Archdiocese and the number is projected to grow. Thank you for your generosity! Donate here:

<https://ppay.co/RrlpVc0XbDo>

DONATE



ADULT CONFIRMATION

Are you a baptized adult who needs Confirmation? Registration is open for an Adult Confirmation class being offered this Fall.

CLASS DATES:

THU, SEP 14, 6:30 PM

THU, SEP 28, 6:30 PM

THU, OCT 5, 6:30 PM

THU, OCT 26, 6:30 PM

CONTACT: Beverly Ketchel b.ketchel@nool.us

303-731-0425

www.nool.us/adult-confirmation

REGISTER



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION REGISTRATION OPENS AUGUST 14

CLASSES STARTING:
9/5/2023

REGISTER



1ST-5TH GRADERS

TUESDAYS | 6-7:30 PM

WEDNESDAYS | 4-5:30 PM

CONTACT: Faith Alive at 303-731-0425

www.nool.us/religious-education#

DAILY READINGS

SATURDAY, AUGUST 12

Reading 1: Dt 6:4-13

Psalm: 18:2-3a, 3bc-4, 47 and 51

Gospel: Mt 17:14-20

SUNDAY, AUGUST 13

Reading 1: 1 Kgs 19:9a, 11-13a

Psalm: 85:9, 10, 11-12, 13-14

Reading 2: Rom 9:1-5

Gospel: Mt 14:22-33

MONDAY, AUGUST 14

Memorial of Saint Maximilian Kolbe,
Priest and Martyr

Reading 1: Dt 10:12-22

Psalm: 147:12-13, 14-15, 19-20

Gospel: Mt 17:22-27

TUESDAY, AUGUST 15

Solemnity of the Assumption of the
Blessed Virgin Mary

Reading 1: RV 11:19A; 12:1-6A, 10AB

Psalm: 45:10, 11, 12, 16

Reading 2: 1 COR 15:20-27

Gospel: LK 1:39-56

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 16

Reading 1: Dt 34:1-12

Psalm: 66:1-3a, 5 and 8, 16-17

Gospel: Mt 18:15-20

THURSDAY, AUGUST 17

Reading 1: Jos 3:7-10a, 11, 13-17

Psalm: 114:1-2, 3-4, 5-6

Gospel: Mt 18:21-19:1

FRIDAY, AUGUST 18

Reading 1: Jos 24:1-13

Psalm: 136:1-3, 16-18, 21-22 and 24

Gospel: Mt 19:3-12

SATURDAY, AUGUST 19

Reading 1: Jos 24:14-29

Psalm: 16:1-2a and 5, 7-8, 11

Gospel: Mt 19:13-15

PRAY THE

ROSARY

WITH US

SUNDAY, 11:00 AM

Anyone who contemplates Christ through the various stages of his life cannot fail to perceive in him *the truth about man*. [...] "it is only in the mystery of the Word made flesh that the mystery of man is seen in its true light." [...] Following in the path of Christ, in whom man's path is "recapitulated", (33) revealed and redeemed, believers come face to face with the image of the true man.

— St. John Paul II

Rosarium Virginis Mariae

ADULT EDUCATION 2023–2024



EUCHARIST, DISCOVERING THE MASS IN THE BIBLE

ADULT BIBLE STUDY
OFFERED THIS FALL

Jesus said, "This is my body," and "This is my blood." Some say they're merely symbols of remembrance. Others say they're really the Body and Blood of Christ but can't explain how that's possible. The Eucharist is the source and summit of the Christian life – but why? Acclaimed author and scholar Dr. Brant Pitre tackles those questions and more in *Eucharist, Discovering the Mass in the Bible*. He opens Scripture to deepen our understanding of the mystery and wonder that is the Eucharist – and how it can transform your life.

Nativity is offering this program in conjunction with the Catholic Church's National Eucharistic Revival. A \$9 fee covers the cost of the study guide. The program includes weekly video presentation followed by small group discussion. Register below for either the afternoon sessions facilitated by Theresa Cooley and or the evening sessions facilitated by Steve Moser.

If you have questions, please ask us:
Theresa at cooleyricktherese@msn.com
or 720-635-8975
Steve at sumoser55@gmail.com
or 989-941-8280)

AFTERNOON SESSIONS

SEPTEMBER 6–NOVEMBER 15
WEDNESDAYS, 12:30–2:30 PM
NEWMAN ROOM

EVENING SESSIONS

SEPTEMBER 7–NOVEMBER 16
THURSDAYS, 6:30–8:00 PM
SCHOOL SCIENCE CLASSROOM

REGISTER



CATECHISM of the CATHOLIC CHURCH

HOW TO READ THE CATECHISM OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH

Do you know your Catechism? God's plan of sheer goodness? Would you like to know it better? Parishioner Chuck Graham will teach how to read the Catechism of the Catholic Church starting this fall. *Please note: this course is not the same as that offered by St. John Vianney Lay Division Catechetical School.* There is no fee for this course. If you have questions, please contact Chuck at Charles_e_graham@msn.com or 720-236-2870.

SEP 5, 2023–APR 30, 2024

6:30–8:00 PM | Bring your CCC!

REGISTER



FAITH FORMATION 2023–2024

FOR CHILDREN, YOUTH, AND ADULTS



RESTORED ORDER, 2024

(Confirmation & First Communion)

CLASS DATES:

FEBRUARY 8, 6:15 PM

FEBRUARY 22, 6:15 PM

MARCH 14, 6:15 PM

APRIL 11, 6:15 PM

CONTACT: Diane Irby
d.irby@nool.us, 303-731-0425
www.nool.us/restored-order

REGISTER



ADULT CONFIRMATION

CLASS DATES:

THU, SEP 14, 6:30 PM

THU, SEP 28, 6:30 PM

THU, OCT 5, 6:30 PM

THU, OCT 26, 6:30 PM

CONTACT: Beverly Ketchel
b.ketchel@nool.us
303-731-0425
www.nool.us/adult-confirmation

REGISTER



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

1ST–5TH GRADERS

TUESDAYS | 6–7:30 PM

WEDNESDAYS | 4–5:30 PM

STARTING: 9/5/2023

CONTACT: Faith Alive, 303-731-0425
www.nool.us/religious-education#

REGISTER



CGS (CATECHESIS OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD)

LEVEL I: 3–6 YRS

LEVEL II: 6–9 YRS

SPECIAL NEEDS: 5–10 YRS

MONDAYS

1–3 PM | LEVELS I + II

4–5:30 PM | LEVEL II

TUESDAYS

10–11:30 AM | LEVEL I

4–5:30 PM | LEVEL I

THURSDAYS

4:30–5:30 | SPECIAL NEEDS

STARTING: 9/11/2023

REGISTRATION OPENS: 8/14

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

ALTAR SERVER TRAINING

If your children have received First Communion, they are eligible to be Altar Servers. Stay tuned for upcoming altar server training information.

CONTACT: Fr. Emanuele
e.fadini@nool.us

RCIA & RCIC

www.nool.us/becoming-catholic

REGISTER



VENTURERS OF THE STAR

6TH–8TH GRADERS

TUESDAYS | 6:30–8 PM

STARTING: 9/5/2023

CONTACT: Fr. Accu
a.ciaccio@nool.us

www.nool.us/middle-school

HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH/GS

9TH–12TH GRADERS

SUNDAYS | 6–9 PM

STARTING: 8/20/2023

CONTACT: Fr. Emanuele
e.fadini@nool.us

www.nool.us/high-school


www.nool.us/religious-education#

A PASTORAL NOTE BY
ARCHBISHOP SAMUEL J. AQUILA, S.T.L.

You Have the Words of
ETERNAL LIFE

Read Archbishop Aquila's newest pastoral note, a meditation on Jesus' teachings about the Eucharist as found in Sacred Scripture.

SCAN TO READ



archden.org/pastoral-notes



ST. JOHN VIANNEY
THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY
LAY DIVISION

DENVER CATHOLIC CATECHETICAL SCHOOL CLASSES AT NATIVITY

The Denver Catholic Catechetical School is coming to Nativity in September. Class begins 9/11 and continues Mondays, 6:30-8:30 pm.

UPCOMING FREE INFORMATION SESSIONS

6:30 PM AT ST. FRANCES CABRINI HALL

Monday, August 14

Monday, August 28

For more information, visit:

www.sjvlaydivision.org



FROM ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

Mary arose and went with haste

Luke 1:39

The above motto from World Youth Day 2023 in Lisbon highlights Mary's journey to help Elizabeth. Although Mary herself was pregnant, she traveled to help her older cousin who was preparing for the birth of her own child we now know as St. John the Baptist.

On August 15, we celebrate the feast of the Assumption. We honor Mary as she is taken up body and soul to heaven. Throughout her life Mary was faithful and said yes to God. She was there for both Jesus and her husband Joseph. Through Jesus' infancy, his growing to manhood, and his mission in the world culminating with his death on a cross, Mary was faithful. Just as Mary was there for her son, she continues to be there for us as a mother and an intercessor.

Sometimes it is not easy to say yes. We get tired. We falter. That is when Mary's example can be an inspiration for us. Whether it is in our interactions with family and friends, our work, or our volunteer activities, the mother of Jesus is someone we can turn to for encouragement.

This upcoming week we also honor St. Maximilian Kolbe on his feast day, August 14. Fr. Kolbe, was a Franciscan friar, who also had a deep devotion to Mary. At his monastery in Teresin, Poland, Fr. Kolbe was arrested by the Gestapo in February of 1941, for giving refuge to those of the Jewish faith. He was eventually sent to Auschwitz. After a prison escape, as a punishment and warning, 10 from the camp were targeted to be sent to an underground starvation bunker. One of the men selected, Franciszek Gajowniczek, was grieved and cried out because he had a wife and children. Fr. Kolbe volunteered to take his place. After 2 weeks, Fr. Kolbe was still alive, so they finished him off with a lethal injection on August 14, 1941. Notably, Mr. Gajowniczek survived Auschwitz, and was present at Fr. Kolbe's canonization as a saint in 1982.

For more information on the works of our local Nativity of our Lord St. Vincent de Paul (SVDP) chapter to help our neighbors in need, see our Flocknote service at NOOL.FLOCKNOTE.COM/SVDP for meeting times and updates.

FREE SOFA & ARMCHAIR FOR THOSE IN NEED

Please contact Lynne Gallagher at l.gallagher@nool.us or 303-469-5171, ext. 101 if you are interested.

HOPE CORNER: A MENTAL HEALTH MINISTRY

Save the Date for this free conference! The Pathways to Hope conference, which is a part of the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) FaithNet, is a chance for communities to build their own grassroots movement to help engage faith communities, mental health providers, NAMI members, and other community partners in building sustainable coalitions in support of people living with mental health conditions. Speakers will converse with one another to discuss a variety of topics related to the intersection of faith and mental health. The conference is a fully virtual webinar that will take place on Friday, August 25, 9 am-1 pm and Saturday, August 26, 12:30 pm-4:30 pm. Participants can join and rejoin at any time throughout the webinar! To view the agenda, speakers, and register for free please go to: <https://nami-colorado.rsvpify.com>

The Hope Corner is a mental health ministry committed to instilling hope and reducing stigma. Please contact The Hope Corner with any questions or comments by contacting Becky Kusick, MA, LPC at hopecornerministry@gmail.com or 303-907-6499.

UNVEILED: DISCOVERING THE GREAT MYSTERY IN YOUR MARRIAGE

COUPLES RETREAT | OCTOBER 19-21, 2023

REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN AT:

www.jpilhealingcenter.org/event/unveiled-couples-retreat



Open to newlyweds, couples married for many years, and couples discerning marriage (dating and/or engaged).

Led by author and speaker Dr. Bob Schuchts & his daughter Carrie Schuchts Daunt, this profound teaching, based on St. John Paul II's Theology of the Body, explores God's design for marriage and the skills to build unity, passion, and intimacy, as well as healing and reconciliation in marriage.



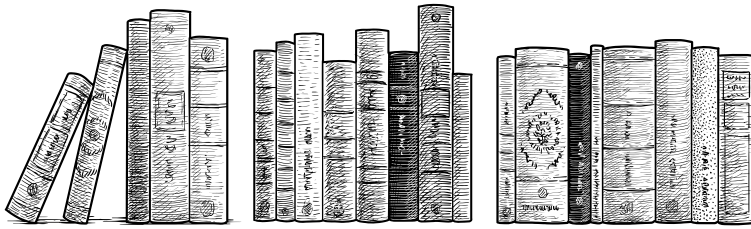
JOHN PAUL II Healing Center

Transformation in the Heart of the Church



Register for FREE today
at nool.formed.org.

FORMED



NATIVITY LIBRARY WISHLIST



OUR SCHOOL LIBRARY NEEDS NEW BOOKS!

You can help to stock the shelves by purchasing books from the Nativity Amazon library wish list. The wish list link can be accessed by scanning the QR code above or by locating the link on the school website at the top of the screen.

2023-2024 ENROLLMENT IS OPEN!

We are still accepting new students for the 2023-2024 School Year until the end of the summer. Please share this news around! With the new classes added over the last two years, we have room to grow. Please share with your friends, family, and neighbors who are looking for a high-quality education rooted in Catholic values.

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.

**COME
& SEE!**



school.nool.us/enroll

**CALL TODAY
303-466-4177**

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

60 Years

A FUNDRAISING CELEBRATION BENEFITING
NATIVITY: FAITH & REASON
CATHOLIC SCHOOL

SAVE THE DATE:
NOVEMBER 11, 2023, 5 PM

LOCATION: OMNI INTERLOCKEN HOTEL
500 INTERLOCKEN BOULEVARD
BROOMFIELD, CO 80021

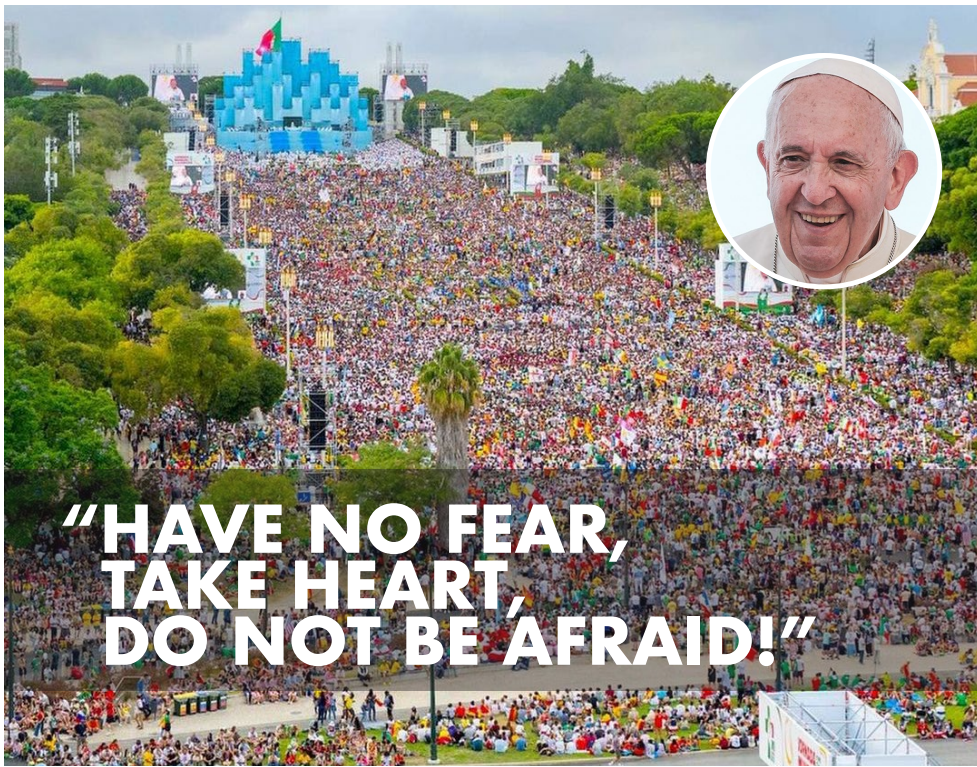
INTERVENTION SPECIALIST NEEDED

Nativity: Faith & Reason is seeking a part-time Intervention Specialist for the 2023-2024 school year. The Intervention Specialist will join a committed team of educators in strengthening the academic rigor of our pre-K-8 Catholic School. In his or her daily practice, the Intervention Specialist will develop and implement a program addressing the reading and math support needed by teachers with students ranging from proficient to below grade level in math and reading. They will also be responsible for coordinating academic testing and providing teachers with support to use this testing to maximize student learning. Learn more at: www.school.nool.us/job-openings.



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."



APOSTOLIC JOURNEY OF HIS HOLINESS POPE FRANCIS TO PORTUGAL
ON THE OCCASION OF THE XXXVII WORLD YOUTH DAY
HOMILY OF POPE FRANCIS
FEAST OF THE TRANSFIGURATION OF THE LORD
SUNDAY, AUGUST 6, 2023

After these exciting days, surely we feel like repeating the words of the Apostle Peter on the mount of the Transfiguration, “Lord, it is good for us to be here!” (Mt 17:4). Indeed, how good it has been to share this experience with Jesus, with one another, and to pray together with joyful hearts. Now, we can also ask an important question: **What will we take back with us as we resume our daily lives?**

I would like to answer this question with three verbs, drawing from the Gospel we have heard: to shine, to listen, and to be unafraid. What will we take back with us? I would respond with these three words: **to shine, to listen, and to be unafraid.**

The first: **to shine.** Jesus is transfigured. The Gospel tells us, “his face shone like the sun” (Mt 17:2). Shortly before this, he had predicted his passion and death on the cross, shattering the disciples’ image of a powerful and worldly Messiah, and disappointing their expectations. Now, in order to help them embrace the loving plan that God has for each of us, Jesus takes three of the disciples, Peter, James, and John, and leads them up the mountain, where he is transfigured. Through this brilliant burst of light, Jesus prepares the disciples for the dark night of the Passion.

Dear young friends, today we too need something of this burst of light, so that it can fill us with hope as we face the many failures of each day and the darkness that assails us in life, and respond to them with the light of the resurrection of Jesus. For he is the light that never sets, the light that shines even in the dead of night. As the priest Ezra said, God has illumined our eyes (cf *Ezra* 9:8). Our God illumines: he illumines our vision, our hearts, our minds, our desire to do something with our lives. The Lord’s light always shines.

Yet, I would like to tell you that we do not radiate light by putting ourselves in the spotlight, for that type of light is blinding. No, we cannot illumine others by projecting a perfect, well-ordered, refined image of ourselves, or by appearing to be powerful and successful, strong but without light. No, **we radiate light – we shine – by welcoming Jesus into our hearts and learning to love as he does.** To love like Jesus: that is what makes us shine, makes us do works of love. Friends, I am telling you the truth: whenever you do works of love, you become light. But the moment you stop loving others and become self-centered, you extinguish your light.

The second verb is **to listen.** On the mountain, a bright cloud overshadows the disciples. And what does it tell us, this cloud from which the Father speaks? “This is my Son, the Beloved... listen to him!” (Mt 17:5). Listen to him. To listen to Jesus, that is life’s secret. Listen to what Jesus is saying to you. “But I don’t know what he is saying to me.” Well, take the Gospels and read there what Jesus is saying, what he is saying to your heart. For he has the words of eternal life for us, he reveals that God is our Father, that God is love. He shows us the way of love. Listen to Jesus; otherwise, even if we set out with good intentions along paths that seem to be of love, in the end those paths will be seen as selfishness disguised as love. Be careful of selfishness disguised as love! Listen to Jesus, for he will show you which paths are those of love. Listen to him. [...]

Finally the third word: **to be unafraid.** Do not be afraid. We often find these words in the Bible, in the Gospels: “Do not be afraid”. These were the last words spoken by Jesus to the disciples at the moment of the Transfiguration: “Do not be afraid!” (Mt 17:7).

As young people, you have experienced these days of joy – I was about to say of glory, and indeed our encounters have been a kind of glory. You have great dreams, but often fear that they may not come true; sometimes you think that you are not up to the challenge, which is a kind of pessimism that can overcome us at times. As young people, you may be tempted at this time to lose heart, to think you fall short, or to disguise your pain with a smile. As young people, you want to change the world – and it is very good that you want to change the world – you want to work for justice and peace. You devote all your life’s energy and creativity to this, but it still seems insufficient. Yet, the Church and the world need you, the young, as much as the earth needs rain. To all of you, dear young people, who are the present and the future, yes to all of you, Jesus now says: “Have no fear,” “Do not be afraid!” [...]

I will tell you something else, also very beautiful: it is no longer I, but Jesus himself who is now looking at you. He knows each of your hearts, each of your lives; he knows your joys, your sorrows, your successes and failures. He knows your heart. Today, he says to you, here in Lisbon, at this World Youth Day: “Have no fear, take heart, do not be afraid!”

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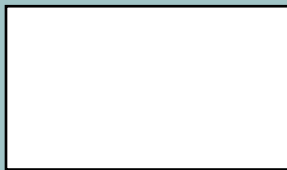

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