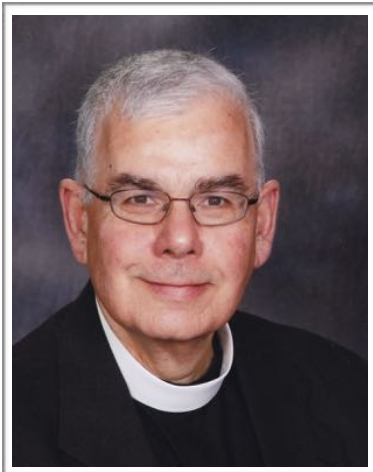




April
2019

THE NATIVITY SCENE



Love, Learning and Life-Giving Fellowship

In April I will have two months remaining as your Interim Rector. On June 1st I will leave the church in the trusted care of Dr. Wayne Whitney, Fr. John Miller and Deacon Martha Durham. They will be your clergy team until your new rector is on board sometime during the summer. As I write this, your search committee is busily at work selecting the finalists for your vestry to interview for your next rector. I can assure you, we have excellent candidates in the process, and I have no doubt that Nativity will soon be blessed with a faithful, compassionate and competent priest.

As I draw down on my ministry at Nativity, I have begun to think about the strengths of this church. Just what are the strengths that will carry Nativity into the future? There are three I want to share with you: love, learning and fellowship.

Love

What has impressed me so thoroughly about parishioners in this church is their deep commitment to walk the way of love as followers of Jesus. Whether we are Republicans or Democrats, liberals or conservatives, what binds us together is our common commitment to share the love of Jesus with each other and also with those beyond our parish.

Nativity stands for the truth of God's amazing grace and unconditional love reflected in how we minister and treat others. We stand for this against the negative and polarizing forces in the world that would limit that love to people who think like us, or look like us, or even act like us. Our God loves everyone everywhere without exception. In the end what matters is not how we think about God but the way we love God - and we love God by loving people.

You at Nativity do this in so many ways, from the welcome ministry that greets newcomers at the door, to the shepherds who care for their flocks, to the hospitality after worship services, to the outreach ministries which seek to reach out to those beyond our parish. This is a church that takes to heart Archbishop William Temple's maxim, "The church exists for the benefit of those who do not belong to its membership." May Nativity continue to be that kind of church!

Learning

Second, this parish stands for what the former Archbishop of Canterbury Robert Runcie called "thoughtful holiness" - the enduring marriage of faith and reason that resists the extremes of radical relativism on the one hand and irrational fundamentalism on the other. Here in this church we are not afraid to ask the hard questions because we know that part of mature Christian believing is to love God with our whole mind as well as our heart. We know that faith may be simple at times, but it is never simplistic. In this parish, we understand our religion as our best efforts to be related to the eternal God revealed in Scripture, tradition, reason and experience. We stand for the lifelong search for this God, convinced that there is as much joy and integrity in living the questions as in finding the answers.

Continued on page 3

Nativity Schedule

22405 N. Miller Road
Scottsdale, Arizona 85255
Telephone:
480-307-9216
www.NativityScottsdale.org

Sunday Schedule!

8:30	Holy Eucharist Rite I
10:00	Festive Eucharist Rite II
11:00	Hospitality
11:00	Christian Formation
11:15	Bible Study for Adults

Wednesday Schedule

6:00 p.m.	Evening Prayer Rite II with Holy Communion
6:30 p.m.	Bible Study Wednesday

Nativity Staff

The Rev. Dr. Gary Nicolosi, Interim Rector
GaryNicolosi@TheNativity.net

The Rev. Dr. Wayne V. Whitney, Associate Rector
WayneWhitney@TheNativity.net

Juliana Witt, Music Director
julianawitt@TheNativity.net

Mandy Hodges, Christian Ed. Director
mandyhodges@theNativity.net

The Rev. Martha Durham, Deacon
marthadurham@theNativity.net

Fr. John Millar
Priest Associate

Mina Rafferty
Parish Administrator
MinaRafferty@TheNativity.net

Ernesto Escamilla, Sexton

Nativity's Vestry

Senior Warden:	Suzanne Cohen	
	480-586-6625	Secohenjd@yahoo.com
Junior Warden:	Warren Sambach	
	480-451-6995	nywarren@cox.net
Treasurer	Art Graf	
	602-695-3400	mxgk25a@aol.com
Sarah Banks	480-204-1732	sdwnaz@yahoo.com
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Margaret Cohea	703-717-1877	mvcohea246@gmail.com
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Norma Hyatt	623-516-9346	nvhyatt@gmail.com
Paul Rank	513-300-3729	paulrank1@mac.com

I am delighted there is so much learning taking place at Nativity, and not just for our children and teens, but for adults and young adults. Dr. Wayne's Bible studies are an immense treasure to this church as are the groups on contemplative prayer, Bishop Curry's, The Way of Love, and the retreats, seminars and workshops that are offered throughout the year - not to mention the thoughtful sermons that are preached every Sunday.

Robert Frost said that "education is hanging around till you catch on." In this place, we understand that religion is for many of us hanging around till we catch on, and then hanging on some more because the challenge and possibilities of wholeness are never-ending. We believe that we never finish the search, and that we never completely catch on, because God's truth is always greater than our understanding of it. We, all of us, are on a journey toward growth and wholeness that will take not less than our entire lives, but the journey we know is worth it.

Life-Giving Fellowship

Third - Nativity is a place of life-giving fellowship. This is the fellowship that nurtures, supports and loves us through the search for the truth of God's love: that loves us through the moments of pain, transition and change. Those of us who work in the church know how trivial and self-serving the "institutional" church can be at times. But we also wonder what we would do without the church. How could you celebrate Christmas without the church? How could you wake up in the dark of Easter morning without the church? Where else would one turn when one's spirit is assaulted and one's emotions are raw from loss if not to the church and to the people of the church?

I have often shared with you, and I do so again, the wonderful insight of Bishop Michael Marshall about the church. He said that the church is a gathering of people who have nothing in common except Jesus Christ in whom they have all things in common. Diversity is life-enhancing and life-affirming, not threatening or damning. Differences are not to be feared, only understood. God forbid that we should ever prefer a stale uniformity to the wonder and mystery of the richness of creation.

Never take with you that myopic way of thinking that divides the world into orthodox and heretic, the remnant and the infidel, the elect and the castaways, the pure and the impure. The world is paying a terrible price for that kind of thinking right now. Instead, travel light with the love of God in your heart and the grace of God in your mind. Travel light and freely love, freely give, freely serve, and freely open yourselves to other people, seeking to embrace them, know them, understand them, because every person we meet is a gift from God.

So, stay loyal to this church, for it stands for love, learning and life-giving fellowship. Support this church for it stands for supporting you. It cannot flourish without you, your time, your energy and your money. Hang around and you will be amazed at what joy and meaning you will find if you will take the time, devote the energy, and make the commitments required by any search that has integrity. You'll catch on; and in catching on, your life, and everything about it will be renewed and energized in a way that will take your breath away.

Your Friend and Interim Rector,

The Rev. Dr. Gary Nicolosi





A parishioner once recommended I teach a series on the topic of “God the Unmerciful” and tackle all of those problematic biblical stories of God acting very harshly toward humans even to the point of death. We all know what kinds of things this refers to especially when we crack open the Hebrew Bible and read a few of it’s stories that tell of death coming to people from very unusual circumstances. There is one incident in the book of Numbers where a gathered group of those in rebellion against Moses had the ground open up under their feet resulting in their getting swallowed up to the place of the dead before the earth then shut itself up back to normal again.

Incidents like this one are intended to dramatize the gravity of what our lives are about and who we are for God in the world. It’s always important to keep in mind that our Hebrew forbears in faith experienced God at a stage of life that can best be described as “young.” We all relate to our parents differently over time as we grow up from infants to toddlers to children to youth and eventually to adults, hopefully. As we mature as human beings, our relationship with God matures as well. The flow of our faith relationship with God started where all parent-child relationships start. And our experiences at the youngest ages when retold in that same young voice will cast a view of God in a very stern and strict way—those stories can’t sound much different than that.

When Jesus came on the scene in the 1st Century he challenged people to a much more mature relationship with our Creator God. And no matter how much we experience this relationship from Jesus’ teachings, especially with what we hear in the Sermon on the Mount, it never stops being challenging if not frustrating. It costs us something to move to the next level of faith. It costs us a great deal to give up old ways of being that would liberate us in the freedom and peace of the Gospel of Christ. We who call ourselves Christian are on the hook for a great deal of what God is trying to accomplish in history.

Unfortunately, we are also on the hook for bringing a lot of misery to the world. Our job as Christ’s own is to discern where this history is going and get on God’s side of it. This work is the task of the disciple—to always look for how God is being merciful toward me despite my personal failings and shortcomings instead of merely rejoicing at the misfortune of others because “they had it coming.”

Thankfully God does not count our transgressions against us—or we’d all get what we deserve, which isn’t the best of what God has to offer us. Joyfully we celebrate being recipients of God’s love and forgiveness and that impacts how we treat others as well.

Enjoy your Lenten journey as you experience God in ever more expansive ways.

See you in church.

Dr. W+



MUSIC NOTES

FROM THE NATIVITY MUSIC DIRECTOR'S DESK

Music calendar

5 April 7pm

Season Finale:
Jazz with the
Holly Pyle Quartet

14 April 3:30pm

Juliana Witt & Friends
(Adventure Benefit Concert)

21 April

EASTER!

28 April

Music Appreciation
Sunday



Join us for special services during Holy Week, including an **Evensong** on Good Friday at 7pm!

Arts at Nativity's Season Finale is April 5th @ 7pm. You won't want to miss an evening of **Jazz with Holly Pyle Quartet**, including guest pianist Nicole Pesce!

Get your tickets now!

Sunday, April 28th will be a special Sunday recognizing those dedicated to our music ministry.

In this season, listen for Taizé music featured during communion each Sunday of Lent. As you may know, Taizé was founded in 1940 by Roger Louis Schutz-Marsauche (best known as Brother Roger). This community & city in France is a center for worship, meditation and prayer for Roman Catholics and Protestants from all over the world. Their gatherings are incredibly diverse (their website is available in 40+ languages!!) as well as the music that they have created and accumulated in recent decades. The music, defined by simplicity and prayer, is a collection of tunes in various languages and is freely translated to other languages. In most songs, a short refrain is repeated over and over like chanted prayers. Often there are cantors who lead verses in between refrains while the a cappella choir accompanies underneath. It's not uncommon to find instruments such as cello, flute or guitar accompanying in a simple manner as well. It's fascinating how many people are attracted to Taizé and it is remarkable to have these precious musical gems that are extremely singable, even in foreign languages. I love the access they provide in the repetition, allowing the congregation to learn the refrain quickly, even if it is unfamiliar. I hope you enjoy the diversity and beauty of this music!

Thanks for the outpouring of love in March. I am grateful to be part of Nativity's amazing community! -Juliana Witt



APR

14

2019



THE
WINNERS OF
JULIANA'S
ADVENTURE
CONCERT

INVITE YOU TO SHARE

**AN INTIMATE AFTERNOON OF WINE, CHEESE & MUSIC
PERFORMED BY JULIANA AND FRIENDS
AT NATIVITY, APR 14 @ 3:30P.**

Proceeds benefit ADVENTure VI 12/6/19

TICKETS (\$100) ARE LIMITED AND MAY BE PURCHASED IN
ADVANCE FROM JULIANAWITT@THENATIVITY.NET

**APR 5
2019**

TICKETS AT
\$20

ARTSATNATIVITY.
COM OR AT DOOR

ARTS AT NATIVITY PRESENTS
AN EVENING OF JAZZ WITH

HOLLY PYLE QUARTET

AT THE
**EPISCOPAL
CHURCH OF
THE
NATIVITY**

7PM



Holy Week Services

Palm Sunday, April 14

8:30 - The Palm Sunday Liturgy with Traditional Eucharist

10:00 - The Palm Sunday Liturgy with Choral Eucharist

Note: These services will be identical except for the choir singing at 10:00.

Maundy Thursday, April 18

7:00 p.m. - The Maundy Thursday Liturgy and the Stripping of the Altar



Good Friday, April 19

Noon - The Good Friday Liturgy with
Sermon and Hymns

7:00 p.m. - 1662 Choral Evensong with
the Great Litany

Easter Eve, April 20

7:00 pm. - The First Eucharist of Easter
with Music and Hymns

Easter Sunday, April 21

8:30 and 10:00 a.m. - Festival Choral
Eucharist of Easter - Identical services

In addition to these services, Dr. Wayne
Whitney will celebrate the Eucharist on
Wednesday, April 17 at 6:00 p.m. with
Bible study to follow.

Bible Study Wednesday

Leviticus is one of the most controversial (and unread) books of the entire Old Testament. Spend your February Wednesday nights getting acquainted with this unique biblical writing—a writing which Jesus quoted a lot in the Sermon on the Mount. (Fundamentalist Christians are particularly enamored with it, as well, but in a different way than was Jesus.) Join Dr. Wayne at 6:30 in the Longley-Cook area. Classes close with the Prayers of Compline at 7:30.

Sunday Morning Power Bible Study

Dr. Wayne hosts this look at one of the lections from the Sunday service each Sunday from 11:20-Noon in the Music Classroom.

Evening Prayer

Take a mid-week prayer break and sing some of your favorite prayers at Evening Prayer on Wednesday nights from 6:00 to 6:30 in the Prayer Chapel. This lay-led service includes a reflection on a historical Christian witness and an opportunity for healing prayers.



Lent Madness Continues

It's a fun, engaging way for people to learn about the men and women comprising the Church's Calendar of Saints. This unique Lenten devotion, which combines a passion for the lives of the saints with a tongue-in-cheek sense of humor, is a great way to find yourself on Easter Sunday with more than just a gnawing tummy and a craving for chocolate—you'll be smarter! Stop by the table in Christopher Hall for information. Lent Madness is put out into the world by our Episcopal friends at forwardmovement.org who are the same people who bring you the daily devotional booklet "Forward Day by Day." Sign up by going to lentmadness.org to get yourself in on the fun.



Luncheon for Neighborhood Seniors May 10th at 11:30 am.



Nativity will host a luncheon in partnership with Foothills Caring Corps. We will be serving seniors in our community who live alone and are looking to connect with others. There will also be a speaker for them to enjoy. We need people to cook, serve and mingle with our guests. If you would like to help, please contact Barbara Worthington 480-748-0173 bandb718@msn.com This gives us an opportunity to do something for our community, especially lonely seniors.



Ones & Twos

Ones & Twos is a social group of adults at The Church of the Nativity, which meets about once a month.

It is open to all members, visitors and guests.

The next event is hosted by: MaryAnne and Jon Bost.

Date: April 12th, Friday Time: 5:30 - 8:00 pm

Place: 32605 N 57th St., Cave Creek - Lone Mt. Community

Bring: Personal libation(s) and shareable victuals.

RSVP: jonbost@yahoo.com/602-618-6781

maryannebost@hotmail.com/602-206-6785

Only entrance is through Main Gate, 60th St off Lone Mt.

GPS can then direct you to 32605 N 57th.



Scent-Free Seating in the Nave

Because some folks have allergy issues, we have created a scent-free section in the front right part of the sanctuary. Please sit in that section only if you are free of scented items such as perfume, after-shave, body spray, hand lotion, etc. It's an act of hospitality.

Ministry Leaders Calendar Meeting

Saturday, May 4, 2019

9:00 - 11:00

Sunday school Classroom Area

Bishop's Ring – Thank You!

Thank you to all those parishioners who most generously contributed our former Rector Susan Brown Snook's Bishop's ring. The ring, which was designed and crafted in England, cost \$2844.00, which includes the postage and handling. Susan was elected Bishop of San Diego in February and will be consecrated on June 15. The ring, a gift from this parish, is a token of our thanks to Susan for her energetic and inspirational leadership in being founding Rector of Nativity.

Parishioners may still donate for the ring if they have yet to do so. Please make your check out to Nativity and mark it for "Bishop's ring." The parish is committed to paying the full amount of the ring, and your donation would be greatly appreciated.

Susan is deeply thankful for our gift. Every time she looks at her ring, she will remember this parish. Between now and her consecration, please pray for Susan that God will give her the wisdom, discernment, and compassion to be a faithful and effective bishop in the Episcopal Church.



Centering Prayer

Nativity's Centering Prayer Group meets Wednesdays from 10:00 to 11:30 a.m. in the Youth Room. Following a period of silent prayer we will reflect on weekly readings from Beatrice Bruteau's book, *The Easter Mysteries*. Please contact Vicky Dinneen at dinneenv@earthlink.net for more information.

Centering Prayer

Interest Assessment

Think you might be interested in an evening centering prayer opportunity next year? Help us evaluate options by signing the Evening Centering Prayer Interest form in the lobby.



It Is Still Not Too Late to Apply for Your College Scholarship

Applications are still being accepted for the Mary Longley Cook Scholarship, which will assist a parishioner with high education expenses. We are inviting interested parishioners who will be attending post-secondary education in the fall to apply now for a scholarship. Candidates may be either graduating high school students or students already in college or university. People considering or already enrolled in trade schools will also be considered.

Candidates interested in applying for a scholarship will need to complete a scholarship application form which can be picked up in the parish office. They will need to supply their personal information, extra-curricula activities and any community service or other relevant information. A reference from a school official will need to be submitted along with a certified copy of grades and evidence of admission to a post-secondary educational institution. Candidate should also submit an essay detailing career goals, personal history, the institution in which the candidate will be enrolled, and the proposed course of study. All this information is on the application form.

The scholarship committee would like to encourage parishioners to donate to the fund. As the fund grows, there will be opportunity to assist more parishioners with their educational expenses. In an era when college and university tuition is becoming an astronomical expense, Nativity will be able to assist worthy parishioners with at least some portion of their costs. This is an investment in the future as well as an investment in our children.

For prospective applicants, please apply as soon as possible. While there is no set deadline, the scholarship would like to award a scholarship for the fall term. Applicants will ideally have all their materials into the committee by **April 30**. A copy the application is included in this newsletter.

For more information about the scholarship and fund, please speak with Gary Nicolosi our Interim Rector, Mandy Hodges our Christian Education Director, or Art Graf our Treasurer.



Nativity Scholarship Fund Application

Name _____

Address _____

Are you a member of the parish and for how many years? _____

Name of high school attended _____

Expected graduation date (or when you did graduate?) _____

Extra-curricula activities _____

Honors, Prizes, Awards Received _____

Community Activities _____

Church Activities _____

Applicant should submit the following information to the Committee:

- A reference from a guidance counselor or other school administrator such a principal.
- A certified copy of grades and evidence of high school graduation within the current scholarship year or college academic year.
- An essay detailing career goals, personal history, and institution in which the candidate will be enrolled and course of study.

Application and Materials should be submitted to:

Scholarship Committee
The Episcopal Church of the Nativity
22405 N Miller Road
Scottsdale, AZ 85255



Ralph Cope Funeral

The funeral of Ralph Cope will be held on Friday, April 5 at 10:30 a.m. at Nativity. All members and friends of the church are invited to attend.

Ralph was one of the founders and original members of Nativity. He and his wife Shirley were dedicated parishioners who served the church faithfully and with love. The stained glass cross in our church was made by Ralph, who in retirement became a master of stained glass ornaments. Those who knew Ralph will miss him, but we commend him to his heavenly reward where he now dwells with God.

Rest eternal, grant to Ralph, O Lord, and let light perpetual shine upon him. May he rest in peace. Amen.

Mother's Day Purse Project



It's time to start collecting your gently used purses and small toiletry items for our special gifts for Moms. We will deliver our "stuffed" purses to Phoenix Rescue Mission's Women's Shelter and Save the Family, so kids can select and give a "new" purse to their mom for Mother's Day. It is one of our most popular missions.

We need: purses, lotion, shampoo, conditioner, toothpaste, toothbrushes, costume jewelry, makeup and scarves.

There will be a box in Christopher Hall near the front door, so bring your items in anytime between today and Sunday, April 28th.

Any questions, Barbara Worthington 480-748-0173 bandb718@msn.com



Anti-Aging Therapies Discussion Group

Thursday 9:30 AM, April 4, 2019

The Hormone Zone

As we age it is quite common for our hormonal balance to become skewed. When that happens, it can be a real challenge to get things right again. You feel it every day in your energy levels, mood, and ability to focus. Perhaps you have already talked to your general practitioner about it?

At our April discussion group we will participate with Dr. Jennifer Habashy in discussing a naturopathic approach to achieving a better Hormonal balance.

Dr. Habashy recommends; “ ... a systemic approach to treatment of hormone imbalance. Whether it’s sex hormones like Estrogen and Testosterone, or metabolic function hormones provided by the Thyroid and Adrenals - we take a look at the body and spirit as a whole.”

Hope to see you there.

As always the goal of all our meetings is to provide, free of charge, information with supporting references that can be applied by those who attend or shared with others who they think might benefit.

Please RSVP if attending to Jeri at antiaging320@gmail.com



Jewelry Class at Nativity

All are invited to a class at Nativity lead by Mary Longley-Cook. Mary will have a couple of helpers with extra tools to assist in the “finishing off” stages of making a piece of jewelry. We all have jewelry that we no longer wear, but that brings back good memories. Maybe it was from a Grandma, Mom, or Auntie. Let’s think about updating and/or redesigning that lovely old piece of jewelry. Its next incarnation might be a totally different item...a bracelet, necklace, keychain, or even a rosary. Mary will share her extensive expertise with the group, and guide us in the options available to redesign our pieces. She will also share lots of gorgeous beads that she has accumulated through the years as a beader.

In April they will be meeting on Tuesday, April 9th and 23rd at 10:00 a.m. Email or phone to rsvp or with questions: Mary: stgermain47@cox.net or 480-272-2053
Dawn: dawnkast@live.com. Allergies are an issue in any group setting. Please remember to respect scent-free requests.



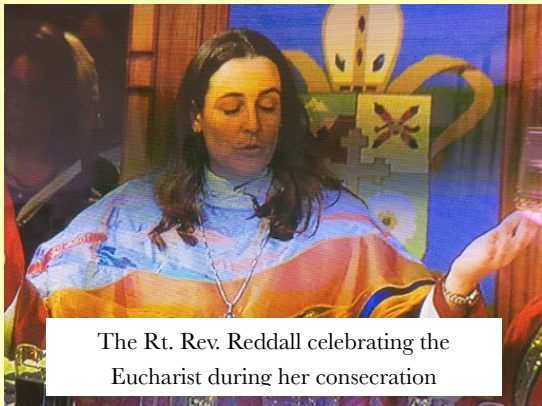
Enthronement of our New Bishop

God requires his people to shine as lights in the world. It is not merely the ministers who are required to do this, but every disciple of Christ. ~ Ellen G. White

By the grace of God,
the Wardens, Chapter, and People of Trinity Cathedral cordially invite you to
the Welcoming and Seating of the Bishop in the Cathedral
for
The Rt. Rev. Jennifer A. Reddall VI Bishop of Arizona

on
Sunday, April 7, 2019
at 5 o'clock in the evening
Trinity Episcopal Cathedral
100 W. Roosevelt St Phoenix, AZ 85003
Your prayers and presence requested

Clergy: Cassock, surplice, tippet, and hood
Reception to follow



The Rt. Rev. Reddall celebrating the Eucharist during her consecration



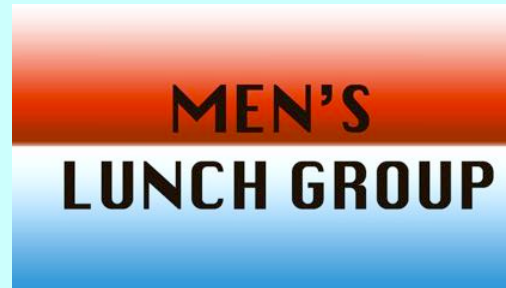
The Rt. Rev. Michael Curry and Mina



The Rt. Rev. Reddall and her son.
Photos taken by Mina during the consecration.

Men's Luncheon

Please join us on Wednesday, April 24 at noon for a friendly gathering and lunch at the All American Grill in D.C. Ranch. RSVP to Bill Worthington at 480-575-7830 or bandb718@msn.com.



Women's Luncheon

Women's Monthly Luncheon to be held on Wednesday April 17th at noon at The All American Grill in DC ranch. Please RSVP to Susan Burnham at 602.312.0186 or susan4420@gmail.com.



Women's Wine Night

First Thursday of the month, April 4th, the women of Nativity partake in Happy Hour starting at 5:00pm. NEW LOCATION contact Kathy for details. Need more details, email Kathy Graf, kgraf518@aol.com.

Men's Pub Fellowship

The April gathering of the MPF is Thursday, April 4th at 5:00 p.m. at the All American Modern Sports Grill at 20751 N Pima. Bring a friend or meet and make new ones! <http://www.allamericanmodernsportsgrill.com/>



For questions - contact Art Graf
mxgk25a@aol.com

April Worship

April 7 – Lent 5

Isaiah 43:16-21

Psalm 126

Philippians 3: 4b-14

John 12:1-8

April 14 – Palm Sunday

Liturgy of the Palms: Luke
19:29-40

Psalm 31:9-16

Philippians 2: 5-11

Luke 23: 1-49

April 18 – Maundy Thursday

Exodus 12: 1-4, 11-14

Psalm 116:1, 10-17

I Corinthians 11: 23-26

John 17: 1-17, 31b-35

April 19 – Good Friday

Isaiah 53: 1-6

Psalm 22: 1-21

Hebrews 4:14-16, 5: 7-9

John 19:1-37

April 20 – The First Eucharist
of Easter

Exodus 15: 1-6, 11-13, 17-18

Psalm 46

Romans 6: 3-11

Matthew 28: 1-10

April 21 – Easter Sunday

Acts 10: 34a, 37-43

Psalm 118: 1-2, 14-24

I Corinthians 15:19-26

John 20: 1-18

April 28 – Easter 2

Acts 5: 27-32

Psalm 150

Revelation 1: 4-8

John 20: 19-31

Take Them a Meal - SIGN UP TO HELP

It happens to all of us at some point, and receiving a meal when you are sick, following surgery or going through a major crisis can be a blessing. Whether it is homemade soup, your favorite casserole, or even something from a restaurant or store, providing a meal is a wonderful act of kindness and can be a catalyst for healing. If you would like to join the team providing food when occasionally needed, please email Betsy Goode (goodehilogirl@cox.net) with your contact information (name, address, email and phone). We have a list of great volunteers and are looking to add to the team!

Questions? Email Betsy at goodehilogirl@cox.net or phone 480-912-5331.

In Need of a Meal?

If you are in need of a meal, please reach out to a clergy member with your request.



Bag-A-Meal: Sandwiches for the Homeless

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED April 2nd - 10:00 am.

First Tuesday of the month at Nativity, is our Bag A Meal Outreach for the Homeless through the Phoenix Rescue Mission.

We bag 2 PB&J sandwiches, cookies, granola bar and a bottle of water.

For our April 2nd work day, we are starting at 10 am.

Next work day - Tuesday, April 2nd,

Contact Kathy Graf. kgraf518@aol.com for more info.



Casa Food Packs

Please join us in packing weekend food packs for food insecure K-2nd grade students from Casa Academy. We also are seeking help for delivery of the packs. Packing takes place at 10am in the Fellowship Hall and delivery is at 10:45am to the school in North Central Phoenix. Upcoming dates: April 6: pack/ April 8: deliver & April 27: pack/May 6: deliver. (Please note that the pack previously announced for 5/4 has been cancelled.) April 27th will be the last packing for the school year.

We look forward to you joining us - all ages are welcome! If you have any questions please contact Laura Dobbins lauradobbins01@gmail.com

Knit Premie Hats

Knitting hats for Premies continues this month on April 4th and 18th.

We meet at 10am and are done before noon. We knit simple caps for premature babies and are branching into other charity knitting work. We are teaching some women who are beginners and others knit with great experience. We laugh, pray and knit.

Knitting Group has made and donated over 250 hats for premie babies since September.

We have all levels of knitters and crocheters. Some people can't make the meetings but donate through us. We are a font of information and encouragement about knitting. We laugh, chat, pray and discern through our knitting. Join us! The first and third Thursday mornings of each month. The next meeting is April 4th. marthadurham@thnativity.net

Contact Deacon Martha if you are interested.

Drop-ins are invited!

(Marthadurham@thenativity.net).

Support Episcopal Church of the Nativity.

When you shop at smile.amazon.com,
Amazon donates.

Go to smile.amazon.com



You can support Church of the Nativity each time you shop on Amazon and it won't cost you a cent!

Use our unique link -
<https://smile.amazon.com/ch/45-5599218>

And Nativity will receive a portion of your purchase.

How does Nativity receive the donations? Each quarter, the AmazonSmile Foundation makes donations to eligible charitable organizations by electronic funds transfer.

When first visiting AmazonSmile, you are prompted to select a charitable organization from over one million eligible organizations. In order to browse or shop at AmazonSmile, customers must first select a charitable organization. For eligible purchases at AmazonSmile, the AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the purchase price to the customer's selected charitable organization.

Use our unique link - <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/45-5599218>

Box Tops

This school year Nativity will, once again, participate in "Box Tops for Education". Coupons, worth 10 cents each will be given to Casa Academy. Their school coordinator will combine our coupons with those collected by the students' families. Twice a year, Casa Academy will receive a check to use for the purchase of things they need.

Look for coupons on products from Big G, Pillsbury, Old El Paso, Green Giant, Ziploc, Hefty, Kleenex and Scott. A collection jar is located in the kitchen next to the stove. Thank you to

anyone who is interested in participating!





ADVENTure 2019 will be here before you know it! Well, not really, but planning is well on its way. After leading the effort for the last four years, Colleen Whichello has earned a well-deserved retirement. We will always be indebted to her outstanding leadership and creativity to bring ADVENTure to where it is today.

As most of you know, ADVENTure is the fundraising gala that supports Nativity's outreach endeavors. This year's effort will be split into five areas with the overall coordination being headed by Paul Rank.

The five areas along with each chairperson are:

- Silent and Live Auction – Kathi Capizzani
- Sales - Jen Goins
- Event Night Prep and Activities – Jennie Dobbins
- Communications – Mary Ann Rank
- Technical Support – Paul Rank

Mark your calendar for Dec 6, 2019 for this year's ADVENTure.

We need you!

Last year over 70 volunteers contributed to the success of ADVENTure. We will again need the same type of support. There are many jobs available from: heavy lifting to writing letters, selling tickets to accounting, soliciting auction items to baking cookies. No matter your skills and talents, we have a job for you. If interested, please contact Paul Rank (paulrank1@mac.com).





Type to enter text

Mark your
calendars
and
Join us
for our
next
Build Date:
May 11th!



THANK YOU
To all who
participated!



The Nativity Legacy Society

Become a member of the Nativity Legacy Society by making a planned gift to Nativity. Planned giving encompasses a variety of ways that gifts can be made to Nativity from accumulated resources. It usually involves financial or estate planning, but it is not reserved for the wealthy. Planned giving is a means by which anyone concerned with the wise use of their personal resources makes a prayerful and considered decision about their ultimate disposition.

In general planned giving gifts are made through:

- A Bequest in a Will
- A Life Income Gift such as a pooled income fund, a charitable gift annuity, or a charitable remainder trust
- Gifts of special assets (real estate, closely held stock, life insurance)

Planned giving establishes a way for you to provide for family members while also remembering your church. It enables you to provide more for your heirs, to make a larger gift than thought possible, and even reduce taxes.

Planned gifts can be designated for Nativity's general funds or specific ministries. Planned gifts are either outright gifts (i.e. gifts of appreciated securities, real property, personal property, etc.) or deferred gifts (i.e. bequests, charitable gift annuities, charitable trusts). Gifts of life insurance and retirement accounts are another appropriate way to make a planned gift to the church.

In addition to the financial and emotional benefits of planned giving, there is a spiritual benefit. Jesus often talked about our relationship to the things we possess. In Luke 12: 13-21 Jesus is asked about dividing a family inheritance. He replies with a story. A rich man decides to build new barns to hold his bumper crop, then to "eat, drink and be merry."

However, "God said to him, 'Fool! This night your soul is required of you; and the things you have prepared, whose will they be?' So is he who lays up treasure for himself, and is not rich toward God."

We are stewards of God's bounty. Caretakers, trustees or stewards of all that we possess while we are on this earth. For a brief period we are given time, energy, and resources. What we do with these gifts ultimately defines the character of our life and the depth of our spiritual understanding.

Planned giving is one expression of the wise use of the personal resources God has entrusted to you. When you become a member of the Nativity Legacy Society by leaving a planned gift to the church, you are continuing to support Nativity even after your passing, helping to expand the kingdom of God, making this world a little more Christ-like, and building a community of compassion that shares God's love in Jesus with everyone.

Talk with your financial consultant or attorney about making a planned gift to Nativity. Or speak with our Legacy Society leaders: Mark Dobbins, Ron Creamer and David Bolger. Whether large or small, every gift is appreciated and will be used to insure that the work of this parish lasts for many years to come.

Blessings,
Fr. Gary Nicolosi



Children's Ministry Update

Our Lenten Series for Families has been going so well! We started off with a Lenten symbols scavenger hunt, learning why we see ashes, purple stoles, and palms during this holy season. The Lord's Prayer stations helped us understand the prayer we hear each week in church. And just last week we participated in an act of almsgiving by preparing donations for Phoenix Children's Hospital and The Welcome to America Project. Up next: Hot cross buns, a group art project, Palm Sunday parade, and of course, an Easter Party!





LENT SERIES FOR FAMILIES

7 Weeks of Traditions & Connection

Practice Lent Together

Lent is a season of spiritual growth. As we prepare for Holy Week and Easter, we practice fasting, almsgiving, and prayer. These traditions may be ones you are familiar with or they may be entirely new. This Lent, we invite our families to grow in faith together. Much like our Advent Series, we will host special gatherings during Lent open to children of all ages and their parents/grandparents.

Please join in this meaningful gathering any week you are able (you can come to them all or show up when your schedule allows). We will meet in the Longley-Cook Children's Center at 11AM each week.

There will be no Sunday School during this session.

Email MandyHodges@thenativity.net if you have any questions.

March 10 - **Learn**

Lent 101: What's it all about?

March 17 - **Pray**

Interactive walk through the Lord's Prayer

March 24 - **Give**

Ministry project (almsgiving)

March 31 - **Connect**

Make hot cross buns together!

April 7 - **Wonder**

Group art project

April 14 - **Praise**

Palm Sunday parade & activities

April 21 - **Easter Party!**



Youth Group Update

Our Lenten retreat to Chapel Rock was awesome! We made time for reflection and prayer at Watson Lake, took on some random acts of kindness in downtown Prescott, and even climbed way too high up to perform daring feats on the ropes course (go Ryan, Collin, and Aaron!!). So much love for our YG family!



Trips like these are only possible because of volunteer youth leaders like Aaron and Crystal. You guys are the best! Thank you!

DELIZIOSO

spaghetti lunch

Please join us!

Our student mission trip team will host a spaghetti lunch fundraiser on Sunday, April 28th at 11:30AM. Come support our youth and enjoy a 4 course family style lunch.

\$7

per person
w/\$30 max/family





The Episcopal Church of the Nativity
Mailing Address:
22405 North Miller Road
Scottsdale, Arizona 85255

www.NativityScottsdale.org
Worship Sundays
8:30 & 10:00 a.m.

Upcoming Events

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