



September  
2019

## THE NATIVITY SCENE



My first few weeks at Nativity have been awesome! Dennis and I have had the opportunity to meet many of you and to learn about your ministries and passions. It won't take us long to learn your names, and wearing your name tag will help us both as we tend to be visual learners.

In last month's newsletter, Senior Warden Suzanne Cohen wrote about a Transition Team she appointed to assist me in my arrival as your new rector. Suzanne indicated the purpose of the Transition Team is "to help Scot become part of our community, answer questions and be there for guidance and act as a sounding board."

I am scheduling the first meeting of the Transition Team sometime in September and we will meet monthly for about six months or so. In addition to what Suzanne wrote, the Transition Team will not only assist me in getting to know the parish better but also will help me determine what constitutes the DNA of Nativity. In addition to the Vestry, the Transition Team will act as a council of advice.

What will assist me in getting to know you and the history, foundation, and ethos of Nativity is to meet you in small gatherings. I did this at my former parish, St. Martin-in-the-Fields, in Texas. At St. Martin's, we had 19 focus-groups/zip code parties over nine months. At each gathering, I asked the two following questions:

1. What do you love about the parish?
2. What are your hopes and dreams for the future?

This essentially was a listening time for me. At each meeting I took notes, listened, asked clarifying questions and soaked in everything like a sponge.

Sometimes we met over wine and cheese at someone's home or during a dinner; sometimes it was a weekday morning coffee; sometimes lunch, or an evening time with coffee and dessert; or it was just the discussion--it varied. Mostly we met in people's homes and a few times we met at church.

I'd like to do this at Nativity over the next 6-9 months. Of course, we will want to wait until most of our "snowbirds" are back from their summer travels. I am in the process of speaking with the Transition Team in developing a plan of how to implement this. Stay tuned to hear more about this next month. If you would be interested in hosting one of these focus groups/zip code parties, please contact Jennie Dobbins at [jenniedobbins@gmail.com](mailto:jenniedobbins@gmail.com), who will be coordinating the program.

Thank you to each of you for your kindness, prayers and for taking the time to assist Dennis and me in this transition. I look forward to serving in ministry with you for many years at Nativity!

Faithfully in Christ,  
The Rev. Scot McComas  
Rector

# Nativity Schedule

22405 N. Miller Road  
Scottsdale, Arizona 85255  
Telephone:  
480-307-9216  
[nativityscottsdale.org](http://nativityscottsdale.org)

## Sunday Morning Schedule

**8:30 Holy Eucharist Rite I**

**10:00 Holy Eucharist Rite II with Children's Chapel**

11:00 Hospitality - All Are Welcome

11:00 Youth & Children Gather

11:20 Power Bible Study

## Wednesday Evening Schedule

6:00 Evening Prayer Rite II

6:30 Bible Study Wednesday

### Nativity Staff

The Rev. Scot McComas, Rector  
[scotmccomas@thenativity.net](mailto:scotmccomas@thenativity.net)

The Rev. Dr. Wayne V. Whitney, Associate Rector  
[waynewhitney@thenativity.net](mailto:waynewhitney@thenativity.net)

Juliana Witt, Music Director  
[julianawitt@thenativity.net](mailto:julianawitt@thenativity.net)

Mandy Hodges,  
Director of Youth, Children & Family Ministries  
[mandyhodges@thenativity.net](mailto:mandyhodges@thenativity.net)

The Rev. Martha Durham, Deacon  
[marthadurham@thenativity.net](mailto:marthadurham@thenativity.net)

Fr. John Millar  
Priest Associate

Mina Rafferty  
Parish Administrator  
[minarafferty@thenativity.net](mailto:minarafferty@thenativity.net)

Ernesto Escamilla, Sexton

### Nativity Vestry

Senior Warden:	Suzanne Cohen	
	480-586-6625	<a href="mailto:secohenjd@yahoo.com">secohenjd@yahoo.com</a>
Junior Warden:	Warren Sambach	
	480-451-6995	<a href="mailto:nywarren@cox.net">nywarren@cox.net</a>
Treasurer	Art Graf	
	602-695-3400	<a href="mailto:mxgk25a@aol.com">mxgk25a@aol.com</a>
Sarah Banks	480-204-1732	<a href="mailto:sdwnaz@yahoo.com">sdwnaz@yahoo.com</a>
Jon Bost	602-618-6781	<a href="mailto:jonrbost@yahoo.com">jonrbost@yahoo.com</a>
Margaret Cohea	703-717-1877	<a href="mailto:mvcohea246@gmail.com">mvcohea246@gmail.com</a>
Bill Deihl	480-223-7796	<a href="mailto:bjdeihl@aol.com">bjdeihl@aol.com</a>
Jennifer Goins	480-655-5355	<a href="mailto:azjen13@hotmail.com">azjen13@hotmail.com</a>
Norma Hyatt	623-516-9346	<a href="mailto:nvhyatt@gmail.com">nvhyatt@gmail.com</a>
Paul Rank	513-300-3729	<a href="mailto:paulrank1@mac.com">paulrank1@mac.com</a>



Whenever Episcopalians talk about our sources of authority we commonly hear three things listed: Scripture, Tradition, and Reason. This theology emanates from a 16th Century Anglican theologian named Richard Hooker. I can remember being taught in my Episcopal confirmation class by the priest that “Experience” should be added as a 4th source of authority.

I think that if we’re honest we would come to see that scripture, tradition and reason ALL fall under the umbrella of “Experience.” What is scripture if not a collection of stories and insights based on the “Experience” of our forebears in faith? What is tradition if not the “Experience” of the collective church through the centuries. What is reason if not the “Experience” of humans moving forward in time to continually apply afresh the moving of God’s Spirit.

Bible Study is an opportunity to re-experience those founding documents of our faith that have molded us today. Not every narrative in our scripture is flattering about us. We find a lot of stuff that is morally ambiguous if not just downright awful or even immoral.

For us to be effective witnesses of the hope of the resurrection it is necessary that we deal with all of who we are and this includes all of who we have been in the past. Such is the task of Bible Study. When we relive the stories of the past we get a glimpse of ourselves that reflects reality for today.

September’s Bible Study Wednesday begins a study of the book of Joshua that can be rather challenging for the enlightened 21st Century mind—and that’s why we must study it. All are welcome to join in this study—there’s no homework, just read it and we’ll discuss. Our experiences as Christians create a way for true meaning to arise that does feed our souls and make us viable witnesses for God’s Kingdom.

Dr. W+

## **Adult Christian Education**

### Sunday Morning Power Bible Study

The Sunday morning lectionary texts are all fair game for Power Bible Study with Dr. Wayne. Grab your coffee and snack and join in the exciting journey of enlightenment in the Scriptures—and maybe even learn a new word for your vocabulary! Class is in the Music Classroom and starts around 11:20 and is guaranteed to finish by Noon.

### Bible Study Wednesday

Begins September 4 - The sixth book of the Bible is a sequel. Whereas the first five books trace the story of God moving his people up to the edge of the Jordan River to possess the Promised Land—The Book of Joshua actually gets them there. Joshua appears very “Moses-like” in a lot of the things he does. Join Dr. Wayne and other Bible-Heads in the study of this important book in our Bible beginning September 4. Class-time begins at 6:30 pm and finishes with the prayers of Compline at 7:30 pm.

### Centering prayer will begin in September

Centering prayer begins this month on Tuesday evening September 10 at 6 pm and Wednesday morning the 11th at 10 am in the youth room. We will be discussing the introduction and chapters 1 and 2 of Cynthia Bourgeault’s book *Centering Prayer and the Inner Awakening*. No experience required! All are welcome. If you have questions contact mvcohea246@gmail.com



ARTS AT NATIVITY  
INVITES YOU TO OUR 2ND  
PREMIERE NIGHT

# GALA

A INTIMATE EVENING AND CELEBRATION  
OF THE NEW 2019-2020 SEASON  
FEATURING EXCLUSIVE ARTIST PREVIEW  
PERFORMANCES FROM THE UPCOMING  
SEASON, HORS D'OEUVRES & WINE.  
DRESSY-CASUAL ATTIRE.

7 PM • SEPT 20 •  
TICKETS \$50 (ALL INCLUSIVE)  
22405 N. MILLER RD, SCOTTSDALE

PLEASE RSVP TO 610-301-7161 OR  
JULIANA@ARTSATNATIVITY.ORG





# MUSIC NOTES

FROM THE NATIVITY MUSIC DIRECTOR'S DESK

## Calendar

**07 September 2019**  
Choir Retreat

**20 September 2019**  
Arts at Nativity  
Annual GALA

## RSVP!

**FOR THE  
ARTS AT NATIVITY GALA!**

**FRIDAY, SEPT. 20TH  
7PM**

## WHAT IS COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT??

BY JULIANA WITT

By now many of you have heard me excitedly advocating for our new Community Engagement Project that we are launching this Fall. Many of you have already supported this project both financially and socially by advocating for it and volunteering to help. So what are we doing? What does "Community Engagement" mean?

Formerly termed "outreach," projects like this have often involved taking music

outside the concert hall in some way and essentially bringing music to the people. Classical musicians want to educate young school children with Beethoven and they want to educate more mature audiences with new music. The mentality tends to be one of "helping them appreciate the art," sometimes by sheer exposure and sometimes with a little historical background to give more context to the work. The word "outreach" implies that a person(s) is helping someone else. Community engagement, however, implies more of an exchange. To engage with or involve someone entails conversation and to engage in a way that attracts their attention is another definition

and level of engagement. To gain that deeper level of engagement, you must know what has meaning for them. This exchange or "engagement" becomes a scenario where all parties are equally contributing.

Old models of "outreach" see specialists and learners, performers and audiences, evangelist and followers. In true community engagement, we are all learners. We must recognize that there is an artist in everyone (did you know that you're an artist when you set the kitchen table or design a powerpoint presentation at work?!?) and thus there is something to learn artistically from everyone. This process of



# MUSIC NOTES

## FROM THE NATIVITY MUSIC DIRECTOR'S DESK

waking up or recognizing the artist in each of us, and then capitalizing on those capacities to engage in conversation creates equal investment (vs. high investment from a performer and low investment from audiences).

Some of you may "humph" to this level-playing-field model, wondering why we even have geniuses, virtuosos and specialists. This idea doesn't undervalue the specialist, it just opens an avenue for that knowledge to become *relevant* in a new way. One can't force people to adopt an aesthetic that they don't prefer. Back in the day, critics thought Brahms's late chamber works were atrocious, the way that some folks today may think John Cage is atrocious-sounding. Capacities for aesthetics can and do develop, but the goal is to give people reason to be personally interested in developing a new aesthetic or perspective. In order to do that, we need to know what they care about and why. To be privy to that info, we must also ask ourselves what we are invested in and why? Community Engagement goes much deeper than serving up a beautifully

crafted concert on a platter. I'm not negating the fact that music can speak for itself and move people, but it's 2019. It's no longer enough to present music and walk away even though once upon a time it was enough. Now music is in the hands of almost every individual thanks to technology and we must give people a reason to care about something new in a live context. In a society where individual identity is so highly valued, we need to give people a reason to care by making it relevant to them.

So, like good evangelism, we have to go out and get to know our community. That's the first step: Who is our community?? Where do they come from? What are their backgrounds? How old are they? What do they do for work? Why do they live in North Scottsdale? and ultimately, *what do they care about?* We cannot blindly go out parading a wonderful program in the streets and expect people to follow. We have to invest first. We must offer ourselves, our time, listen well and be curious to know and understand who they are. Then we get to figure out how to make what we care about relevant to them. Every program we take into the

community will be carefully crafted only *after* engaging in extensive conversations with community leaders and members who know the fabric of their sub-communities very well. We talk about our local community at large but we will begin by accessing our sub-communities like schools, The VI, Sagewood, Honor Health.

Nativity already has a fantastic beginning and from its birth has been a place that sought to imbed itself in community by building relationships. Therein lies the key! So let's continue this work with passion and fervor. There will be more details at the GALA so RSVP! 🎵

## IT'S CHOIR SEASON!

Come join choir as we officially kick off the year with a retreat on September 7th from 10a to 1p. We have a great time of team building, planning for the year, and, of course, singing! If you don't want to make the commitment to choir every week, but you love to sing, please consider joining us for a short-term project such as Everybody Ensemble, Veteran's Day Concert, etc.. Please email Juliana to explore possibilities for getting involved. 🎵

## Ones and Twos

One and Twos will not meet during September to allow attendance for the Episcopal Diocese night at the Diamondback game on the 13th and the Gala on the 20th. (More Gala information can be found on page 4 and Diamondback information can be found on page 16.

October 2019 Ones and Twos

Ones & Twos is a social group of adults at The Church of the Nativity, which meets about once a month (except summer). It is open to all members, visitors and guests.

The next event is hosted by: Candace Wagner

Date: October 11, 2019 (Friday)

Time: 6 - 8 pm

Place: 17564 E. Blaze Ln, Rio Verde AZ 85263

Bring: Personal libations and shareable victuals

RSVP: [candywags@me.com](mailto:candywags@me.com), 434-466-6790



## Women's Luncheon

Join us for the Women's monthly social luncheon group on September 18 at noon. The location is the All American Modern Sports Grill in DC Ranch. Their address is 20751 N Pima road. Please RSVP/text to Candy Wagner at 434-466-6790 or email me at [candywags@me.com](mailto:candywags@me.com) up to 11 am on 18th if you can join us. It helps with reserving tables. Please come with some suggestions for activities/road trips for us to do this next year. Candy

## Women's Wine Night

Join us for an evening of fellowship at the Women's Wine Night on Thursday, September 5 at 5 pm The Living Room Restaurant in DC Ranch.

Contact Kathy Graf for details: [kgraf518@aol.com](mailto:kgraf518@aol.com)



## Men's Pub Fellowship

Join the men for a social gathering on Thursday, September 5 at 5 pm at the All American Modern Sports Grill in DC Ranch. Contact Art Graf for details: [mxgk25a@aol.com](mailto:mxgk25a@aol.com)



## ART FOR SCHOLARSHIPS

If you buy an Alastair Longley-Cook original oil painting or watercolor, all proceeds go directly to Nativity's Scholarship Fund.

Sample paintings and a slideshow of all available paintings will be on display in the Christopher Hall after both Sunday services on September 8th & 15th.

You may also view all available paintings at [Longley-Cook.com](http://Longley-Cook.com).

Checks should be made out to "The Church of the Nativity" with "Scholarship Fund" indicated in the memo field.

Selections may be viewed prior to purchase on request at your home or the church.



Warrior Sitting His Pony

(As always, donations may be made to the Scholarship Fund without purchasing a painting.)





CHURCH OF THE NATIVITY  
**ADVENTure**  
FUNdraiser FOR OUTREACH

#### ADVENTure 2019 - MATCHING GRANT KICKSTART

For those who've been away from the summer and your computers, ADVENTure 2019 will be held Friday, December 6 at 6 pm at Nativity. Mark your calendars; it's our annual fund raiser for the Outreach budget and a chance to socialize. Event ticket sales begin mid- October.

Once again, a very generous donor has challenged everyone with a \$3000 matching grant for Gift From the Heart. If we can raise \$3000 before the night of the event, the donor will match it. To donate, please make out a check with the following in the memo line "ADVENTure 2019, Gift from the Heart." These donations will supplement the money raised the night of the event.

We are beginning to collect fun auction items. Do you have something you can donate or procure from a local business? DONOR FORMS can be found on Nativity's website (home/Gather/ADVENTure/Donor Form) or on the file cabinet in the office. Fill out a form for the intended item - the actual item can be brought to church prior to the event. We will also have an expanded catalog. Stay tuned for more news.

Getting food ready for CASA - One of our Outreach Ministries.



## CASA Weekend Food Pack

**CASA Weekend Food Pack outreach is offering opportunities to sponsor an academic year worth of weekend food packs for local food insecure kindergarten through second graders.**



Through partnership with CASA Academy, Nativity provides weekend food packs for 30 food insecure kindergarten through second grade students. Without these packs, these children would not be guaranteed nourishing food over the weekend and therefore would not be prepared for Monday morning at CASA, where they say, “the road to college starts in kindergarten.”

Casa Academy is a charter school located in Central Phoenix that serves socio-economically disadvantaged children and strives to close the achievement gap that occurs between these

children and their higher income peers.

To learn more about the school and the students we serve please visit their website: <http://casaacademy.org/our-story/>

Two years ago, the parishioners of Nativity rallied to support sponsorships to provide weekend food packs for all 30 children identified as food insecure. We are once again running this sponsorships drive, offering parishioners the opportunity to sponsor one Casa scholar for the school year. These packs include vegetables, fruits, proteins, snacks, breakfast, milk, juice and peanut butter. Please consider sponsoring a child for an academic year. Sponsorships are available for \$200 and will feed one child for 10 months. Donations of other amounts also appreciated.

The sponsorship drive will run September 22-October 6. Please visit the table set up in the Christopher Hall and speak to an outreach member for details on how individuals, families or groups can participate. Please contact Laura Dobbins with any questions [lauradobbins01@gmail.com](mailto:lauradobbins01@gmail.com)

Upcoming packing schedule:

9/7 & 10/5 at 10 am in the Christopher Hall.

All ages welcome to help pack!

## Tamale Making - Hold the Date

Santa Maria, our sister congregation in Phoenix, has invited us to a tamale making class on Saturday, November 9. We did this two years ago and had a great time. The tamales that we make will be distributed to their local community. Details will be available next month.



## THANK YOU!



Thanks to the many people who spent their time and energy organizing and clearing the upstairs. This critical project was undertaken to address numerous safety and security concerns that had developed over the years.

As part of his Eagle Scout project, **David Urban** from Troop 869 (*Nativity is the troop's Coordinated Partner*) and his crew of fellow scouts and parents joined Nativity folks, **Nancy Bleasdale, Kathi and Richard Capizzani, Kathy Graf, Mandy Hodges, Mina Rafferty, Mary Ann Rank, and Warren Sambach** in this effort.

Over several weeks, a few of the Nativity crew sorted the many miscellaneous rummage items stored there, while the troop built shelves and hauled trash down the stairs. The troop also hauled, loaded, and delivered designated rummage to Goodwill. Altogether, the troop added an additional eight hours and multiple truckloads of deliveries to the Nativity crew's countless hours, which included shelving and rearranging the remaining Nativity items.

Help support their effort to keep the upstairs organized and clean by sending any future rummage items to the many worthwhile charitable organizations in our area, such as Goodwill, Salvation Army, Hospice of the Valley's White Dove Thrift Shoppe, and HALO Animal Rescue. Several of these agencies have pickup services for convenience. If a need to use the upstairs or any space in Nativity for storage arises, please check first with Mina Rafferty for the Clergy and Vestry's consideration and approval.

Thanks to all for helping keep Nativity's "house" tidy!

## **FEED THE HUNGRY**

Our September visit to the East Valley Men's Center is scheduled for Monday, the 23<sup>rd</sup>.

This will be our fourth visit there and each one seems more enriching than the prior one.

The menu this time is ham and potatoes, with all the trimmings. There is still room for volunteers on the sign-up sheet in the Christopher Hall.

We leave from the parking lot at 4:30 ish or you can meet us there at a little after 5:00. We serve dinner at 6:00 and are finished by 7:00.

We don't even have to clean up.

Join us and enjoy the evening. I guarantee you will come away feeling as though you have gained more than you left.

For questions contact Mary Anne Bost at [maryannebost@hotmail.com](mailto:maryannebost@hotmail.com) 602-206-6785 or Jon Bost at [jonrbost@yahoo.com](mailto:jonrbost@yahoo.com) 602-618-6781

*Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.*

*Matthew 25:40*





Nativity  
Feed The  
Hungry  
Volunteers





**Bag-A-Meal:  
Sandwiches for  
the Homeless  
VOLUNTEERS  
NEEDED**

Tuesday,  
September 3  
10 am.

Join us at Nativity, Bag  
A Meal for Phoenix  
Rescue Mission!  
Help us make 400  
sandwiches, pack 200  
lunch bags and get to  
know your fellow  
parishioners!

Contact Kathy Graf:  
kgraf518@aol.com for  
details.



All Ages  
Participate!

You Too  
Can  
Help!



## Jewelry Class at Nativity

All are invited to a class at Nativity led 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 September, they will be meeting on Tuesdays the 10th and the 24th at 10 am in the Youth Room.

Email or phone to RSVP or with questions:

Mary: [stgermain47@cox.net](mailto:stgermain47@cox.net) or 480-272-2053

Dawn: [dawnkast@live.com](mailto:dawnkast@live.com).

Allergies are an issue in any group setting. Please remember to respect scent-free requests.



## The Knitting Group

The Knitting Group welcomes all levels of knitters and crocheters! We love beginners! We knit hats for the East Valley Men’s Shelter and hats for babies and premies in the hospital. We knit, pray, laugh; not always in that order. Meetings are the first and third Thursday mornings every month at 10 am in the Youth Room. Contact Deacon Martha Durham for questions and encouragement: [marthadurham@thenativity.net](mailto:marthadurham@thenativity.net)



Our next meeting are September 5 and 19!

## 8th Annual Episcopal Night at Chase Field

### Friday, September 13

The Arizona Diamondbacks invite all members of the Episcopal Diocese of Arizona, along with their family, friends, and neighbors to enjoy a time of fellowship and cheer on the D-backs as they host the Cincinnati Reds. The game begins at 6:40 pm, and Fr. Scot and Bishop Reddall will be in attendance!

Join Episcopalians from all over the Diocese at Trinity Cathedral (100 W. Roosevelt St. in Phoenix) for a pre-game celebration beginning at 5:00 pm. Free parking at Trinity is available at select spots in the garage (read the signs!), in front of Diocesan House, and street parking in the neighborhood. For more information and how to get tickets to the game click on this web address:<https://www.azdiocese.org/baseball.html>

**Game Date & Time: Friday, September 13, 2019. First Pitch: 6:40 p.m.**

**Seating Option: \$25 - Lower Level Bleachers (section 141) (these seats do have backs)**

We're sitting together in the same section again this year, so everyone has an opportunity to chat with fellow Episcopalians and Bishop Reddall! You're encouraged to wear your church, diocesan, or Episcopal t-shirt to show which church you represent.

September is Prison Awareness Month in our diocese, and a portion of every ticket purchased by using this special offer will be designated for the Diocesan Prison Ministry (<https://prison.azdiocese.org/>) program.

There will be a pre-game party again! Join Episcopalians from all over the Diocese at Trinity Cathedral (100 W. Roosevelt St. in Phoenix) for a pre-game celebration beginning at 5:00 p.m. Free parking at Trinity is available at select spots in the garage (read the signs!), in front of Diocesan House, and street parking in the neighborhood. Gather for refreshments and fellowship, then take the light rail with other fans to the ballpark. Tickets are \$4/person for an all-day pass and can be purchased at the light rail stop. The Central/Roosevelt Stop is adjacent to Trinity.

After the game, stay for the festivities that are part of the D-backs Faith & Family Night. There will be fireworks, followed by a player Q & A. Special guest *For King & Country* (<https://www.forkingandcountry.com/>) will be performing a concert to end the event!

**The ticket order deadline is September 3, 2019.**

Seating is Limited! Tickets can be purchased online at <http://www.azdiocese.org/baseball.html>





## General Information

### Shawls for all who might be chilly

Debbie Myrick has gathered and laundered the shawls for your use if you find the air-conditioning a bit much. Simply return them after the service.

### Scent-Free Seating in the Nave

Because some folks have allergy issues, we have created a scent-free seating area in the west section 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.

### The Sunday Coffee & Treats Ministry

The hospitality ministry appreciates BOTH your baked goods and your cash donations! Please continue to contribute to this ministry! If you have any questions about donating treats, call Joan at 610-291-4262 or Dawn at 218-252-3092.

### AmazonSmile - Funds for Nativity

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.

### 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!

# OUR CHILDREN & YOUTH WELCOME FATHER SCOT!



Our kiddos had a great time at Father Scott's party (pictured left) and also getting their backpacks officially blessed! The school year is off to a super start!



## JUST HAVE TO SHARE!...

We have the most artistic bunch of students! Working together on Sunday, August 25th, this amazing canvas came to life, showcasing each child's unique style and expression while raising up a message of unity. Everyone has a place at Nativity. Everyone belongs! AMEN! (Swing by the youth room to see this piece for yourself.)

**Sunday Mornings**  
@ Nativity



**10AM - Children's Chapel:**

Every week at 10AM, children ages 4 to 10 are invited to participate in Vivace Children's Chapel. We combine a lesson, simple prayer liturgy, and music to create a unique opportunity for worship and learning. Children join their parents during the Peace.

**11AM - Youth & Children Gather (Christian Formation):**

This school year we are focusing on some big topics! We are making a shift from our more traditional Sunday school class format from last year to focus on shorter lesson "bursts". These will be energetic, artistic, faith-building gatherings for all ages. We will take 3 or 4 weeks to learn about one major theme...



9/8  
9/15  
9/22



Our first "regular" gatherings of this school year will be all about Kindness!! We'll start as a large group in Longley-Cook Children's Center and then break into our 3 main groups (elementary, middle school, and high school). There will be games, learning, building relationships and - of course - throwing kindness around like confetti!

9/29  
10/6  
10/13



Our 2nd series of the school year will be called *This is My Church!* For 3 weeks we will explore both a component of our faith and an actual part of the church building. (For example, we'll be around the altar to learn about communion!) Through mini field-trips and lots of fun, we will all gain a better sense of our place in our church home.



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

Worship Sundays  
8:30 & 10:00 a.m.  
[www.nativityscottsdale.org](http://www.nativityscottsdale.org)

## Upcoming Events

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