



THE NATIVITY SCENE
December
2020

*All are welcome!
No exceptions.*



ADVENT & CHRISTMAS SERVICES

As we begin Advent and the new church liturgical year, this is a good time to think and pray about new ways we can enhance our spiritual life as we prepare for the birth of our Lord and Savior. In this newsletter issue you will find an opportunity for an Advent Quiet Day online on Saturday morning, December 12 from 9:30 am—12:00 pm.

We also look forward to our Christmas services:

December 24 at 4 pm	Family Pageant Service outdoors with Christmas Carols
December 24 at 6 pm	Traditional Candlelight Service outdoors with Christmas Carols
December 25 at 10 am	Traditional Service outdoors with Christmas Carols

All services will have Holy Communion. Masks are required for all services. Stay tuned to our church emails for details.

It has been a year we never could have imagined. What we do know is that our Lord Jesus Christ is always with us and he gives us that peace which passes all understanding. I hope that is comforting especially during this time of the pandemic.

May the hope of expectation of the Christ child be with you during Advent and Christmastide and may you find joy during this season.

Faithfully in Christ,

The Reverend Scot McComas
Rector



Our 2020 Christmas Service Schedule:

Please invite a friend or neighbor to church for
one of our following Christmas services:

December 24 at 4 pm, Drive Thru Christmas Family Service (Outdoors, no RSVP required)
December 24 at 6 pm, Candle Light Service (Outdoors, no RSVP required)
December 25 at 10 am (Outdoors, no RSVP required)

Nativity's Contacts



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

Nativity Staff

The Rev. Scot McComas, Rector
scotmccomas@thenativity.net
704-779-6113

The Rev. Dr. Wayne V. Whitney,
Associate Rector
waynewhitney@thenativity.net

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

Juliana Witt, Music Director
julianawitt@thenativity.net

Mandy Hodges,
Director of Youth, Children & Family Ministries
mandyhodges@thenativity.net

Mina Rafferty,
Parish Administrator
minarafferty@thenativity.net

Jean Hawkins, Deacon Intern
jeanhawkins@thenativity.net



Nativity Vestry

Senior Warden: Paul Rank
513-300-3729
paulrank1@mac.com

Junior Warden: Ron Kupinski
303-668-7453
lonemavrick@yahoo.com

Treasurer: Art Graf
602-695-3400
mxgk25a@aol.com

Sarah Banks 480-204-1732
sdwnaz@yahoo.com

Jon Bost 602-618-6781
jonrbost@yahoo.com

Margaret Cohea 703-717-1877
mvcohea246@gmail.com

Diana Fitzgerald 850-459-2249
dianalifitzgerald@gmail.com

Dina Horsman 602-571-0826
dinaslaw@cox.net

Norma Hyatt 623-516-9346
nvhyatt@gmail.com

Dennis Long 480-837-7163
dennis@designlogicinc.com

James Newhouse 602-499-7317
phxblue@cox.net



1st Tuesdays 6:00 pm
Outreach Meeting

Tuesdays, 6:00 pm
Centering Prayer

Wednesdays, 10:30 am
Fr. Scot's Book Group

Wednesdays, 5:30 pm
Evening Prayer

Wednesdays, 6:00 pm
Bible Study with Dr. Wayne

Wednesdays, 7:00 pm
Virtual Choir Meeting

Thursdays, 10:00 am
Knitting Group

Sundays, 9:00 am
Power Bible Study

Sundays, 9:30 am
Children's Chapel Live

Sundays, 10:00 am
Sunday Service

Sundays, 11:00 am
Virtual Coffee Hour

Sundays, 11:00 am
Middle School Zoom

Sundays, 11:30 am
High School Zoom



If you would information on the meeting or would like to join, please contact Fr. Scot at scotmccomas@thenativity.net.



Our New Sunday Service Schedule:

10 am In-Person In Sanctuary Service (online registration opens Mondays at 9 am)

11:30 am In-Person Outdoor Service (online registration opens Mondays at 9 am)

10 am Online Service



P O I N S E T T I A S

A TRADITIONAL CHRISTMAS FAVORITE

WILL BE OFFERED BY THE FLOWER GUILD

THE FLOWERS WILL BE AVAILABLE TO TAKE WITH YOU AFTER

THE SERVICES ON 12/27/09

CONTRIBUTION - \$20/PER POINSETTIA

Christmas Flower Dedications

In Thanksgiving for : _____

In Loving Memory of : _____

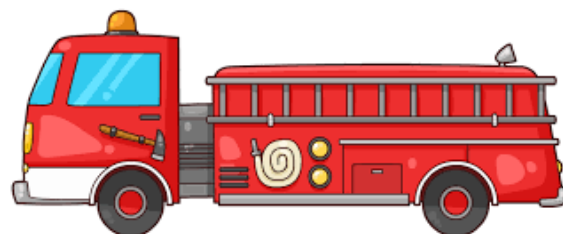
This information must be turned in to the office no later than **December 20** in order to be included in our Christmas service bulletins. Please contact Mina Rafferty at minarafferty@thenativity.net.



EVACUATION?!?!?!?!?

As we move back towards our regular schedule you may notice evacuation maps posted throughout the building. The thought of needing to evacuate the building in time of emergency is probably the last thing on our minds but please make a point of looking at these and becoming familiar with the nearest exit. Notice that nowhere does it say to run to your car and leave the campus as fast as possible. This is NOT the thing to do and the reason is a simple one. If there is a fire and the alarm goes off, about the time that you are trying to drive out the exit, there will be fire engines trying to drive in. This will create gridlock and obviously hamper their ability to deal with the emergency. So, in case of evacuation, please follow the instructions on your nearest map. Most of them instruct gathering in the open area to the South of the prayer garden. This will give the first responders adequate access to the building so that they can efficiently deal with the crisis.

—Jon Bost





Wayne's World December 2020



Mark's story of Jesus is the earliest canonical telling of the teachings and works of God's Christ. The work which became known as our 2nd Gospel or the "Gospel According to Mark" came together in the 1st Century as a response to religious upheaval and national tragedy. This swift-moving narrative presents Jesus as distinctly at odds with the fundamentalist mind-set which tried with futility to reclaim a past growing more and more out of reach. Mark's portrayal of Jesus shows him creating a new future which gives comfort to His followers regarding God's side of history.

Mark is the topic of December's Advent/Christmas Bible Study Wednesday with The Rev Wayne V Whitney, PhD.

The companion book for eager readers at home is Werner H. Kelber's, "Mark's Story of Jesus" published by Fortress Press and available wherever you order your books online.

Tune in to Bible Study Wednesday each December Advent/Christmas Wednesday night (12/2, 12/9, 12/16, 12/23 and 12/30) at 6:00 pm on the Nativity Facebook page or the Nativity General channel on YouTube.

See y'all in church and online.
Dr. W+
The Rev Wayne V Whitney, PhD
Associate Rector



Sunday Morning Power Bible Study

Sunday Power Bible Study with Dr. Wayne features the lectionary texts for the week. Join Dr. Wayne online at 9:00 am on Nativity's Facebook page or the Nativity General YouTube channel.



Bible Study Wednesday

Bible Study Wednesday is in the midst of trekking through the entire biblical narrative--currently working through the books of I and II Kings. Tune in to the Facebook feed or the Nativity General YouTube Channel at 6 pm Wednesday nights. Each night Dr. Wayne closes with the prayers of Compline.

Wednesday Evening Prayer

Tune in to Nativity's Facebook page for live Evening Prayer Rite II every Wednesday at 5:30 pm. This lay-led service features a weekly commemoration of Christian witness. Email waynewhitney@thenativity.net or text or call Dr. Wayne at 303-809-1458 to get primed in how you can participate as a lay leader of this historic liturgy of prayer in the church.

Centering Prayer

Centering Prayer meets Tuesday evenings at 6 pm via Zoom. Contact Margaret Cohea for a zoom invitation. Contact mvcohea246@gmail.com for further details or questions.

Advent Quiet Day - Save the Date

Advent Quiet Morning
Saturday, December 12, 2020
9:30am to 12pm

Come join us as we prepare the way of the Lord!

Email jeanhawkins@thenativity.net for registration and Zoom link.



Nativity Greeters



Do you remember your first visit to Nativity? I do! I was greeted at the door by Jennie Dobbins and again after the service. The positive impression Jennie made is a large part of the reason why I chose Nativity as my church home. First impressions are critical and I'd like to see Nativity continue making great impressions even during these difficult times. We could use more greeters, so if you're interested in showing your passion for Nativity, please let me know.

I'd love to add you to the team!

Thomasina Tafur at thomasinatafur@hotmail.com

AmazonSmile - Funds for Nativity

You can contribute without costing you more money via Smile.Amazon.com! Contact Mina Rafferty (minarafferty@thenativity.net) for more info. Use our unique link - <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/45-5599218> When first visiting AmazonSmile, you are prompted to select a charitable organization from over one million eligible organizations. For eligible purchases at AmazonSmile, the AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the purchase price to the customer's selected charitable organization. Each quarter, the AmazonSmile Foundation makes donations to eligible charitable organizations by electronic funds transfer.

Birthdays & Anniversary Blessings

We would like to know when your birthday and/or anniversary is coming up so we can pray for you by name during the birthday and anniversary prayers and blessings each week. If you would like your name mentioned, please email the dates and information to Fr. Scot at scotmccomas@thenativity.net or call him at 704-779-6113. Or maybe you have a family member or friend you'd like us to pray for. Please let us know.

Prayer Team

If you or someone special to you are in need of prayers you have several options to let the prayer team know of the request. Please let one of the clergy know. There also is a book for prayer requests on the table by the entrance to Christopher Hall, or you may email Joyce Graves at jbjlgraves@cox.net or call 602-885-8828. All prayers are kept confidential within the prayer team. We also ask that you give us an update preferably every month or so about the person or persons you have asked us to pray for.



THE MAJESTY OF *Christmas*



FRIDAY,
DECEMBER 18, 2020
7:00 PM

Arts AT
NATIVITY

Christmas Concert

No Santa, no Frosty or Rudolf, just great Christmas music. Join featured artist Michael Tallino, baritone, a three-state virtual choir and many more artists for an evening of beautiful Christmas music.



Tickets at ArtsatNativity.org



CHILDREN & YOUTH MINISTRIES UPDATE

Happy Advent!

We may still be in lockdown mode but that won't stop us from making this Christmas a wonderful, vibrant, and connected one!



Keep reading to learn more about our first ever Christmas Eve Drive-Thru Pageant and casting calls! Also, save the date for a Sunday morning socially-distanced Gingerbread house decorating party at church.



Sending love to all! - Mandy

CHRISTMAS EVE 4:00PM

Drive-Thru Christmas Family Service

All are welcome to join in for a Drive-Thru Christmas Eve Pageant at Nativity. This event will be socially-distanced, fun & upbeat!

Masks required.

Live Music

Church Open House

Special treat for kids!





FRIDAY, DECEMBER 4



Make sure to look for the Friday email from Mandy to sign up for a role in this year's Christmas Eve pageant! We have a unique casting call for 2020 and need multiple people to play these parts:

- Mary - 2
- Joseph - 2
- Gabriel - 2
- Wisemen - 3
- InnKeeper - 1
- King Herod - 1
- Shepherd - 1

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 6



Following the 10am church service, we will host an outdoor Gingerbread House Decorating Party! We will provide the supplies and just want to see your smiling faces join us! (Even if you can't make it to the service, come for the candy & time with friends!)

Time: 11am
 Where: Front Patio at Nativity
 Who: All ages!

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 20

Christmas Games & Pageant Practice!

This is an important gathering as we prepare for our Drive-Thru Christmas Pageant... but we will get the practice started with some fun group games!

Time: 11am
 Where: Front Patio at Nativity
 Who: Everyone (even if you aren't in the pageant and just want to come for fun!)



THURSDAY, DECEMBER 24

Church Open House!
4:00PM - 5:30PM

Please plan to pop into the church building for a festive Open House after the Christmas Pageant Drive-Thru Service. There will be...

- *Live Music in the Sanctuary
- *Family Photo Station
- *A gift for the kids!



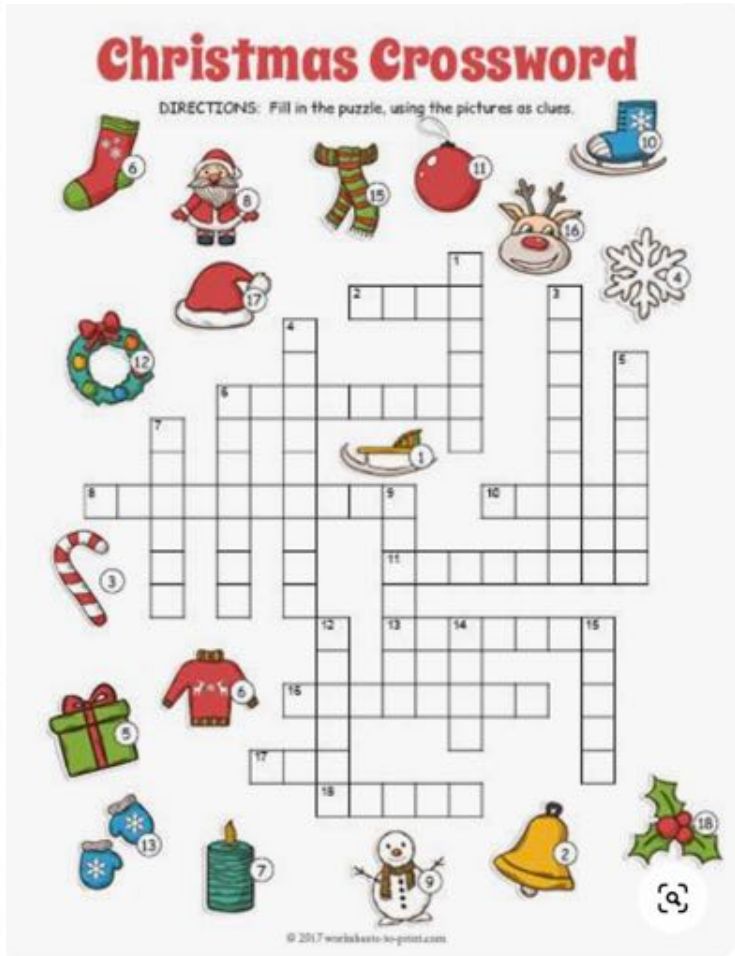
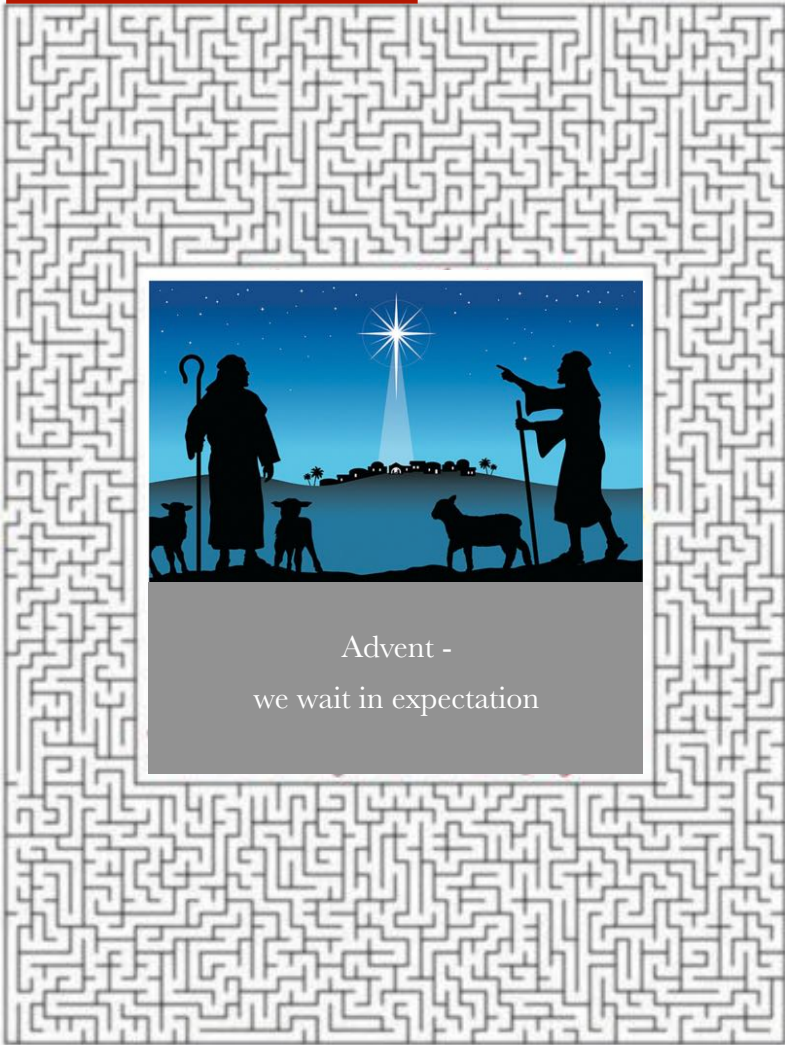
There's plenty of serious thoughts, responsibilities, and concerns at this time of year - in a normal year - and we all know 2020 has not been normal.

These two pages of puzzles are shared in an attempt to lighten moods. Also, throughout this issue are images hidden in plain site - the images are a hint to 12 holiday song titles. **The first five people to email Mina Rafferty the correct titles will receive a 2020 Ornament! Have Fun!**

Holiday Tunes

- Away in a Manger
- Choir of the Bells
- Dominick the Donkey
- Frost the Snowman
- Holly Jolly Christmas
- Jingle Bell Rock
- Jingle Bells
- Let it Snow
- Little Drummer Boy
- Little St. Nick
- O Holy Night
- Rudolph
- Santa Baby
- Silent Night
- Silver Bells
- The Christmas Song
- The First Noel
- Winter Wonderland

S G R D A M A F C I F Z Z X F K U H J X
 W A W A Y O B R E M M U R D E L T T I L
 C K M B H P L O D U R J T G J I H Z N O
 Z D W T Z E D S Y E L C B Y R T G C G K
 G N O S S A M T S I R H C E H R T I J L L
 Q A N K O S I D Y A L F D G I R L N B E D
 X L S O X Q R T B T I N W X N E T O B J
 D R T J T I R H V A A H X I P S N A E W
 F E I F W V T E C M B E U U B T E S L S
 N D T U C C H S A Y A A I N S N L C L Q
 B N E V X E G N X I L M T R I I I Y R W
 F O L N I A I O Z T K L I N X C S J O U
 B W V E S Y N W K M G F O O A K T E C N
 G R O K A C Y M V Z E U A J Y S L D K U
 M E Q W Q O L A O H K P I T Y K B N M Q
 G T A P U I O N T S L L E B E L G N I J
 L N F G C Z H N S L L E B R E V L I S E
 I I Y E K N O D E H T K C I N I M O D S
 L W B T K S L L E B E H T F O R I O H C
 U I M U Y F C J H B X B V R U M Q C Y B





Name That Christmas Song!

A lyric from the song is given. In what song would you find the lyric?

1. "Round yon virgin mother and child"
 - a. Jingle Bells
 - b. Silent Night
 - c. I'll be Home for Christmas
 - d. We Three Kings
2. "And Heaven and nature sing"
 - a. Away in the Manger
 - b. Joy to the World
 - c. While Shepherd Watched
 - d. White Christmas
3. "'Tis the season to be jolly"
 - a. Jingle Bells
 - b. While Shepherd Watched
 - c. Deck the Halls
 - d. God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen
4. "God and sinners reconciled"
 - a. O Come O Come Emmanuel
 - b. O Come All Ye Faithful
 - c. Hark the Herald Angels
 - d. The First Noel
5. "Disperse the gloomy clouds of night"
 - a. O Come All Ye Faithful
 - b. O Come O Come Emmanuel
 - c. Hark the Herald Angels
 - d. The First Noel
6. "Joyful and triumphant"
 - a. O Come All Ye Faithful
 - b. Joy to the World
 - c. Deck the Halls
 - d. Ave Maria
7. "Looked down where he lay"
 - a. The First Noel
 - b. Little Town of Bethlehem
 - c. Joy to the World
 - d. Away in the Manger
8. "O tidings of comfort and joy"
 - a. God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen
 - b. The First Noel
 - c. Ding Dong Merrily on High
 - d. Away in the Manger
9. "On a cold winter's night that was so deep"
 - a. Away in the Manger
 - b. The First Noel
 - c. Ave Maria
 - d. Deck the Halls
10. "Hang a shining star upon the highest bough"
 - a. O Come O Come Emmanuel
 - b. Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas
 - c. Hark the Herald Angels
 - d. Frost the Snowman
11. "City sidewalk, busy sidewalk, dressed in holiday style"
 - a. Joy to the World
 - b. Deck the Halls
 - c. Rudolf the Red Nosed Reindeer
 - d. Silver Bells
12. "Please have snow and mistletoe and presents under the tree"
 - a. Beginning to Look a Lot Like Christmas
 - b. Silent Night
 - c. I'll Be Home for Christmas
 - d. Jingle Bells
13. "Bearing gifts we traverse afar"
 - a. Jingle Bells
 - b. Silent Night
 - c. I'll Be Home for Christmas
 - d. We Three Kings
14. "Come on, it's lovely weather"
 - a. Deck the Halls
 - b. While Shepherds Watched
 - c. Jingle Bells
 - d. Sleigh Ride



1. B 2. C 3. B 4. D 5. C 6. B 7. D 8. A 9. C 10. B 11. D 12. A 13. C 14. D

Nativity's Film Club

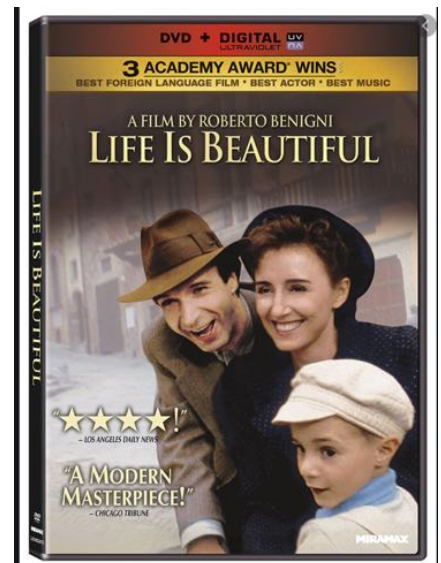
This Christmas season the Film Club will be watching two holiday films.

On December 5, we will discuss *LAST CHRISTMAS* when we gather via ZOOM at 6 pm. On the 19th, the film is *IT'S A WONDERFUL LIFE*, will also be reviewed at 6 pm.

Watch the films first and then join us for conversation and fellowship. The club is open to all.

In January there will be a slight shift in our usual Saturday's due to the holidays. On January 8 at 6 pm on ZOOM, we will discuss *HILLBILLY ELEGY*. Then on January 15, *LIFE IS BEAUTIFUL*.

Please contact Darrell at darrellwspencer@yahoo.com with questions or to get a ZOOM link.



Knitting Group

Covid has brought changes to our lives over the last months! The knitting ladies have kept things exciting even if we can't meet in person. We ZOOM every Thursday morning at 10 to gab, check in on everyone, have project show and tell, and occasionally knit. The ladies keep cranking out baby hats and men's hats – nice small projects during the AZ summer heat. Please come join us for fun. —Mary Ann Rank



FOR ALL WHO HELPED MAKE 2020's

CHURCH OF THE NATIVITY
ADVENTure
FUNDRaiser FOR OUTREACH

A SUCCESS - THANK YOU!

NOEL,

NOEL, NOEL, NOEL, Noel



save the family
FOUNDATION OF ARIZONA



5 Families were able to celebrate thanksgiving due to the generosity of our Nativity Family!

THANK YOU

To all who participated.
Carrie Wagner



Christmas Giving



Thank you for your commitment to host a toy drive for **Save the Family Women and Children's Shelter and La Iglesia Santa Maria!** The following is a list of the NEW toys we would like to collect as well as a list of needed household items. These household items will be picked out by the children for their parents. Please bring your **unwrapped** gift to the church by December 13.

If you have any questions please contact Carrie Wagner at carriemwagner@gmail.com. or 714-785-9821.

Infants/ Toddler
Dolls
Floor mats
Rattles
Hand held toys
Blocks

8+ Years Old
Legos
Craft Sets
Sports Balls
Books
Games/Puzzles

Warm Pajamas
Bath Towels
Wrapping paper for all gifts

Preschool
Stacking Rings
Small Puzzles
Bath Toys
Make Believe/ Dress up

Parents
Bedding Sets
Pots/Pans
Kitchen Utensil Sets
Picture Frames
Movie Night Bucket

5-7 Years Old
Puzzles
Action Figures/Barbies
Simple Board Games
Coloring Books/
Crayons

Candy
popcorn
family movie
Family Games
Candles
Tote bag



Please make sure to keep toys in original boxes/wrapping and label for appropriate age group.

**The Drive
Ends
December
13**






Some of you have asked me how to get involved with the Native American Ministries. Thus far you've been very kind with your donations, mask making, and prayers. Until a more specific need to fulfill is requested or we are aligned with a tribe, one of the ways you can help is by learning more about the lives of Native Americans. The recent movie "Gather" highlights the struggles Native Americans have to keep the culture of their native foods. It's an excellent film and I highly recommend it.

It can be found on Prime Video and below is the link to the official trailer: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BfSGB-aSo6A>

Lios enchi hioide utteesia: Thank you and many blessings.

Thomasina Tafur






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

WELCOME!

THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH
OF THE NATIVITY

All are welcome.
No exceptions.



Worship Sundays

10 am In Person in the Sanctuary - 10 am OnLine - 11:30 am In Person Outside

www.nativityscottsdale.org/

Join us

www.nativityscottsdale.org