Dear Parishioners,

Our buildings and grounds here at Nativity have undergone some wonderful improvements over the last several weeks.

Firstly, a few parishioners have donated a beautiful 4ft by 3ft Sacred Image of Jesus, Divine Mercy, which we used for our joint Prayer Service on Divine Mercy Sunday in partnership with Queen of Heaven parishioners. The image itself, the frame, work done to the frame, non-glare glass, and wooden stand were all individually given as free gifts to the parish by our own parishioners – what a great collaborative effort! It’s permanent place of display, on the wall between the tabernacle and the statue of Mother Mary, was chosen by our newly-formed Worship Commission.

Secondly, the Building Committee replaced all of the church exterior lights that were burned out, took apart and stained the wooden fence near the kitchen outside door, and installed kick-down door openers to all the self-closing doors; among other projects.

Lastly, a generous parishioner paid for, and facilitated, the removal of the dying trees and over-growth behind the offices, Nativity Hall and the Holy Family Room. These trees had become dangerous hazards and unsightly problems to our well-kept parish grounds. I am so grateful and proud of so many members of this parish who continually give of their time, effort, money, and resources to expand the beauty and use of our 10-acre corner at Myersville and Killian Roads.

Thank you and God Bless,
Fr. Kawalec

COMMISSION REPORT

Since the last newsletter, we have formalized the Commission structure even further. On March 31st, Commission leaders along with members of Parish Council and the Strategic Planning Committee had a joint session to better understand the purpose of the Commissions and to review the Commission structure. Just like most organizations, our Commissions need structure to be successful.

First, each Commission will have a leader, which we are calling Ambassadors for Christ (AfC) as referenced in 2 Corinthians 5:20. The AfC will communicate with members of his/her Commission along with the leaders of the ministries/groups that fall under the Commission. A parish council representative has been assigned to each Commission and the AfC will work through the parish council representative to bring ideas forward to Parish Council and Father for review and consideration.

Each Commission is working with their members to define goals and objectives and specific action items.

Communication is one of the keys to success of any initiative. Therefore, we have designated the 3rd Sunday of the month as Commission Sunday. This means that on the 3rd Sunday of the month for the rest of the year, one Commission will be asked to provide an update to the parish by speaking at the Masses as well as creating an update to be published in the bulletin.

By making the efforts of the Commissions visible to the entire Parish, we will raise awareness and potentially get more people involved. This is a parish wide renewal and we want all Parishioners to be informed and ultimately active in the renewal process.

Barbara Whiddon, Rich Honeck, Father Kawalec

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Commission</th>
<th>Ambassador for Christ</th>
<th>Parish Council Representative</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Administration</td>
<td>Father Kawalec</td>
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<tr>
<td>Education</td>
<td>Lori Hahn/Amy Lawless</td>
<td>Tom Brewer (changing)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Innovation</td>
<td>Lorenzo Butts/Mike Constantine</td>
<td>Mike Miller</td>
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<tr>
<td>Outreach</td>
<td>Linda Twigg</td>
<td>Joe Dluzyn (changing)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Participation</td>
<td>Mark Cole/Mike Rankine</td>
<td>Ed Eitner</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sacrament</td>
<td>Father Kawalec</td>
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<tr>
<td>Worship</td>
<td>Ed Perko</td>
<td>Betty Mitchell</td>
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PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY
In February of 2009, a group of ladies from the cluster parishes, formed a Prayer Shawl Ministry at Nativity Church. Over the last ten years they have made and distributed over 3,000 shawls. Their works of love have gone to individuals who were in need, the ill or dying, brides, new members of the church, to hospice facilities, hospitals, clinics, earthquake survivors in Haiti and many other countries for whatever need arose. Deacon Dennis Smith and Ginny have been our support and inspiration with all the volunteer work, distribution of shawls and blessing of hands and yarn they have done over the years.

This group has also supported the Lakeview Community Kitchen by making donations of clothing, toiletries, sundry items and always hats and scarves at Christmas time.

Two hundred booties were made by the group and sent to the Gendercide Awareness Program. This traveling exhibit focused on the abuse and genocide of women throughout the world.

On May 14, the prayer shawl ministry members were recognized for their unselfish gifts of time and talent over the last ten years to those who are in need. We celebrate these individuals who see the plight of others as an opportunity to serve. As St. Theresa of Avila’s prayer says, “Christ has no body, no hands, no feet but yours, you are His body.”

For more information, to join the ministry, or to request a shawl for yourself or a loved one, call Ginny at 330-644-4132 or Barb at 330-699-4769.

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Summer Pilgrimage!

**WHAT:** On July 31 (Wednesday), you are invited to join us for prayer, pilgrimage, lunch, entertainment and shopping!

**WHO:** Children in grades 1+ may attend on their own (chaperones available), families, seniors and everyone.

**ITINERARY:**

8:00AM – Mass at Nativity Bethlehem Cave (downstairs/optional)
8:30AM – bus leaves
9AM – bus arrives at National Shrine of St. Dymphna (St. Mary, Massillon)
10AM – bus leaves National Shrine for Ohio Star Theater at Dutch Valley
11AM – arrive at the Ohio Star Theater
11:30AM – Lunch (buffet)
1:00PM – Stolen the Musical Shopping available during any free time between arrival, lunch, musical, and departure.

Coupons available: $5 off $25 purchase at Dutch Valley Market. You may request meat orders to be available at departure. 20% off one regularly price item at Dutch Valley Gifts. These coupons will be available at arrival.

5PM – bus leaves Ohio Star Theater
6PM – arrive at Nativity

**DETAILS:** Cost includes transportation, buffet, and musical: $50 per person. $45 children 10 and under. (Personal shopping not included.) Checks can be made out to Nativity, cash, or credit cards accepted.

**RESERVE:** BY JULY 14 Email—nativitydre@nativityofthelord.org Call—330-699-5086 Mon-Fri 9AM-4PM Or Call—330-595-4774
WHY DO I GO TO A GROUP BIBLE STUDY?
To be a good student of the Bible, we must read repe-
titively and in context, line by line and keep the God of the
gospel at the center of our study. We need to strive for
comprehension before inter-
pretation and give applica-
tion ample time to emerge
from a passage. This is why
group Bible Study can be so
beneficial. By coming to-
gether in a small group we
have an opportunity to share
our different perspectives
and insights and we are
broadened because of this
interaction. When there is
active involvement, we re-
tain more information as we
remember who said some-
thing that we find im-
portant and how they said
it. This enhances our bibli-
cal literacy. Application
helps us understand God’s
Word and moves it from the
intellect to the heart.

Christianity is meant to be
relational, first between our-
selves and God, and sec-
ond, between ourselves and
those around us. And rela-
tionships don’t just hap-
pen. We all need friends to
help us weather the storms of
life. Scripture says we
should encourage one an-
other. What better way to
do this than through a group
Bible Study.

This is a setting where we
can celebrate life’s victories,
get prayer support, be en-
couraged in tough times,
and keep ourselves ac-
countable in our personal
growth. It is a structured
time in which we can focus
on topics that address our
needs and interests. And it
is a safe place to work out
the challenges we all face
because we all have the
understanding that whatever
personal issues are dis-
cussed are kept within the
group and not carried to the
outside. Some may be fear-
of stepping into a small-
group setting because of
fear of rejection or feelings
of vulnerability. Quite the
opposite occurs - it is a set-
ing of support where things
can be discussed and a per-
son can feel accepted.

Our commitment to a group
Bible Study is a model to
those around us, especially
our children who are watch-
ing our actions and are gain-
ing knowledge about what it
means to be a follower of
Christ. We can become
transformed and our lives
are changed because of this
transformation. When our
lives are changed, the lives
of those around us are
changed also. They see
this transformation in us and
want the same for them-
selves too.

God designed us to need
him and each other. His
word to us is to reach out
and love one another. What
better place for this than in a
small Bible Study group?

Pat Youngblood

ST. VINCENT de PAUL SOCIETY

The work done by Society members is a sign of God’s love in
our community. With your support, families are helped with
food, rent, assistance with utility and other bills. Thank
you! We are looking for people interested in helping those in
need. There is great gratification that comes from helping
others. We want YOU to be God’s hands!! Monthly meetings
are held on the first Tuesday of each month at 7:30PM. For
information, call Linda Twigg 330-644-7080. For assistance,
call the parish office 330-699-5086

BLOOD MOBILE

At our April 1 blood drive, 20 units were donated - 60 people
benefitted from various uses of the units. However, the victim
of a serious accident may need as many as 100 units. The
need is great, it just takes a little of your time. The gift of your
blood is priceless. Our next blood drive is Friday, June 7,
then Friday, August 2, from 1:00-7:00PM in the parish hall. To
schedule an appointment, go online to: redcrossblood.org -
use the sponsor code NATIVITYAKRON or call 1-800-733-
2767. Walk-ins are always welcome, scheduling helps the
Red Cross plan staffing and gets you in a little quicker.

For more information, call Linda Twigg 330-644-7080

COMFORT QUILTERS

Nativity’s Comfort Quilters meets the first Wednesday of each
month (excluding summer months) at 9:30AM to select
material, tie quilts and share friendship. We have donated
more than 600 quilts to Children’s Hospital. We also donated
pillow cases for Ronald McDonald House for children fighting
cancer. We are in need of solid color and muted prints of
cotton or flannel material for the backs of quilts (at least two
yards in length) and any cotton material 1/2 yard or larger for
piecing. We also need people to sew the quilts - sewing is
done at home, at your convenience.

If you would like to donate or help sew or tie quilts, call the
parish office or Joan Rankine 330-699-4866.

NEW
Cassock and Surplice

With unanimous support from our Worship Commission, two of our families have generously
donated brand new liturgical robes for our altar servers. Beginning on June 22nd, and from now
on, our servers will wear the traditional Roman Cassock and Surplice during Mass and other
liturgical celebrations. These new vestments were purchased with the recommendation and
blessing of the family who donated our original white servers’ albs. Switching to cassock and
surplice will bring our parish in closer communion with our cluster parishes who also use them,
and with the Universal Catholic Church. I am very grateful to these parishioners for coming to me
with their concerns/desires and then acting on them for the good of our parish family with financial
and practical support. Fr. Kawalec
Nativity of the Lord Jesus Catholic Church
Information and Contacts

Office Staff  330-699-5086

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Email</th>
<th>Extension</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pastor: Fr. Zachary Kawalec</td>
<td><a href="mailto:father@nativityofthelord.org">father@nativityofthelord.org</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Deacon: Dcn. Dennis Smith</td>
<td><a href="mailto:deacon@nativityofthelord.org">deacon@nativityofthelord.org</a></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bulletin: Mary Ann Laston</td>
<td><a href="mailto:bulletin@nativityofthelord.org">bulletin@nativityofthelord.org</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Finance: Karen Treen</td>
<td><a href="mailto:books@nativityofthelord.org">books@nativityofthelord.org</a></td>
<td>1011</td>
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<tr>
<td>Maintenance: Kim Haas</td>
<td><a href="mailto:maintenance@nativityofthelord.org">maintenance@nativityofthelord.org</a></td>
<td>1005</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Music: Amy Fraleigh</td>
<td><a href="mailto:music@nativityofthelord.org">music@nativityofthelord.org</a></td>
<td>1002</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Office: Helen Hershberger</td>
<td><a href="mailto:office@nativityofthelord.org">office@nativityofthelord.org</a></td>
<td>1010</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Religious Ed: Ada Honeck</td>
<td><a href="mailto:nativitydre@nativityofthelord.org">nativitydre@nativityofthelord.org</a></td>
<td>1016</td>
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Parish Finance Council

| Chairperson: Ed Eitner    | 330-524-2779                         | eeeitnersr@gmail.com |
| Vice Chairperson: Betty Mitchell | 330-644-2513                      | elizabeth.mitchell01@gmail.com |
| Corres. Secretary: Tessa Miller | 216-374-5233                | mwmiller1969@gmail.com |
| Youth Representative: Tessa Miller | 216-374-5233         | mwmiller1969@gmail.com |

Members

<table>
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<tr>
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<td>330-896-6270</td>
</tr>
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<td>Athena Demich</td>
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<td>Raul Herrera</td>
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<td>Mike Miller</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Linda Cuckler</td>
<td>330-571-4382</td>
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</table>

Got News?....
We would love to hear from you! Please call Pat Carson with your news at 330-644-8946 or online at edpatcar@gmail.com. We can use pictures, graphics and logos. Be sure to include contact persons' names and phone numbers or e-mail addresses.

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Recycle Bins

- Newspaper
- Poster board
- Card stock
- Catalogs
- Food boxes
- Writing paper
- Junk mail
- Gift wrap
- Toilet paper
- Towel cores
- Shredded paper in recyclable bags (not plastic)
- Corrugated cardboard (boxes flattened)

May—August 2019

Regularly scheduled events:

WEEKLY
- We Care Mondays at 12noon
- Scouts Mondays at 7PM
- Choir Wednesdays at 7:30-9PM
- PLN (religious ed) most Wednesdays during the school year 6:30-8PM
- Bible Study Thursdays 10AM
- Adoration Thursdays 12noon – 8:00PM

MONTHLY
- Coffee & Donuts 2nd Sunday after Masses
- Catholic War Veterans 1st Monday 7PM
- St. Vincent de Paul 1st Tuesday 7PM
- Parish Council 2nd Tuesday 7PM
- Prayer Shawl Ministry 2nd Tuesday 10AM
- Holy Name Society 3rd Tuesday 7PM
- Building Committee last Tuesday 7PM
- Comfort Quilters 1st Wednesday 9:30AM
- Silver Stars 3rd Friday 11:30AM
- Drop-In Night 2nd Saturday 5:30-7:00PM (not June, July, or August)

SPECIAL EVENTS

June 23: Sunday—Eucharistic Procession 12 PM
June 26: Wednesday—True Happiness presentation 6:30PM in Holy Family Room
June 29: Saturday—Patriotic Rosary after the 4:30 Mass
July 24: Wednesday—Why Would an All-Loving God Allow Suffering presentation 6:30PM in Holy Family Room
July 31: Wednesday—Summer Pilgrimage 8:30AM-6PM - All are welcome!
August 2: Friday—Blood Mobile 1-7PM in Nativity Hall
September 11: Wednesday—First PLN 6:30-8PM (religious education)
September 21: Saturday—4:30PM Mass

CHECK OUR WEBSITE FOR DETAILS AND CHANGES
www.nativityofthelord.org