

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time – February 4, 2018



Ash Wednesday is February 14th is the beginning of 40 days of self-denial prayer and fasting for the universal Church in preparation for the Great Passover the Pasch of the Lord

- Easter Sunday of the Resurrection. Ash Wed: The faithful are to Abstain from meat (no beef or chicken) and to Fast, have only one meal. The celebration of St. Valentine's Day is forbidden. (Treat your sweetheart another day maybe early!). ALL Fridays of Lent are days of Abstinence. Good Friday is also day of BOTH Abstinence and Fasting. Reminders: we should always give up bad things. During Lent give up something you like that may even be good, it helps us realize that God alone is the source of our happiness. (Consider: no TV, no news; give up film or going out to eat; give up a tennis match or golf game; fast from sweets altogether or milk or sugar. Spend time with the elderly or the young. Forgive someone who has hurt you. Use extra time for prayer, extra money to help the hungry, homeless, the sick). Consider daily prayer devotions, Stations of the Cross, some daily masses, Adoration or short visits to the Blessed Sacrament. Pray the Litany of Humility, Sacred Heart prayers, etc. Please pray for all to be baptized at Easter and for their families.

Nativity New Web Page! Cardinal Wuerl has donated Nativity a new web page through ECatholic.com. The page managed by Nativity will include our news, pictures, but also ADW updates, news and Vatican news. Thank you, Cardinal Wuerl, Our web address remains the same. Thank you to Bob Yates who managed our webpage in the past at his own expense. God bless you! Thank you for your patience as the Nativity staff learns the new web programming and operations.

National Day of Prayer for the African American Family. The National Day of Prayer for the African American and African Family was created by Fr. James Goode, OFM in 1989. It is a day set aside to give special thanks to God for our families and place our every care in the arms of Jesus. More information at: www.solidgroundministry.com Please see insert in this bulletin.

Save the date! Nativity Lenten Family Retreat Day - Feb 18 after 10am Mass in Lounge

ATTENDANCE REPORT

1/28/18

Attendance: 481 souls

Offerings & Tithes: \$5,253

Spanish Mass: \$296

Utility fund: \$142

Sodality meeting will take place on Sunday, February 4th after the 8:00 am mass in the Lounge.



Fr. Michael Mendl, SDB on his 50th anniversary to priesthood. May God, through Mary Help of Christians and Saint John Bosco, bless you.



“Gospel according to Mark”.

Mondays at 5:45 pm in the Music Room with Fr. Evans.

Bring your Bible and a catechism.

St. Mark, pray for us!

Thanks to all that were able to attend the **Blessing of Memorial Markers for Enslaved Men & Women** on Feb 3rd at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception

Cardinal's Appeal 2018. When you give to the Cardinals Appeal, you are living out the theme of the 2018 campaign, “Seek first the Kingdom of God”. By your generous pledge, you are sharing your gifts with thousands of people. The monthly statements have been mailed. It is important that these pledges are paid so that our parish will reach and exceed our goal. Please be sure to make your pledge payments prior to the end of the month



Vocations Tree: Vocations do not fall from heaven. Like anything in God's plan, they being small like a seed, need nurturing, the light of God, care from others, inspiration, trimming, and care. Nativity parish, symbolized by a new year-round Christmas Tree will continue to regularly pray for vocations to Priesthood and Religious Life from our parish and help those in our Archdiocese



Mass Intentions

February 3 – February 10, 2018

Sat. 2/3	8:00a	Homebound and sick parishioners
	4:30p	+Winslow Vickerie
Sun. 2/4	8:00am	Sodality Members (living and deceased)
	10:00a	Rafaela Evans (healing)
	1:00p	People of the Parish
Mon. 2/5	Noon	+Deborah Kirkland
Tue. 2/6	Noon	Baby Hannah Harden (healing)
Wed. 2/7	Noon	First communion and Confirmation students
Thu. 2/8	Noon	Alberta Williams
Fri. 2/9	Noon	+Bishop William Curlin
Sat. 2/10	8:00a	Ebuka Mbanude
	Noon	Nativity Youth
	4:30p	People of the Parish

Dollars and Diapers Outreach Ministry 2018. Diapers may be dropped off at the front vestibule of the church in the labeled collection containers. Donation envelopes are in a basket located on the altar rail labeled DOLLARS AND DIAPERS. **Please place all monetary donations in the envelopes into the Sunday collection basket while the campaign is ongoing.**

Tax Request: Tax request forms are located at the entrance of the church. Please complete the form and put it in the collection basket. Tax statements will be mailed.

YOUTH

World Youth Day! Jan 20-28 2018 Panama City Panama! The Pope is coming. The ADW is going and Fr. Evans wants to take our youth. Packages are available for teens 16 years to young adults up to age 35. A meeting is upcoming for planning fundraisers and to see who/how many we can take.

World Meetings of Families with Pope Francis in Ireland! The Cardinal has requested that every ADW parish send at least one family to the World Meeting of Families in Ireland in August with Pope Francis Aug 17-27 this year. Fr. Evans is willing to support this effort and the parish can help raise funds and also contribute to the trip. ADW is organizing the pilgrimage which includes 11 days of masses, tours of cathedrals and castles, catechesis, a short cruise, and of course Masses and prayers Vigils with the Pope. Thank you to the Cardinal for his support and vision! <http://adw.org/wmof2018/> If you would be interested in going or helping please contact Laura Juarez in the Rectory.



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Keane Council #353

Ultrasound Initiative. Support to save unborn babies lives. The Knights are raising funds to purchase a \$29,750 ultrasound machine to donate to the Capitol Hill Pregnancy Center in DC. Please help us with a donation. If by check, please make the check out to Knights of Columbus Charities, if by cash, please put the donation in an envelope clearly marked "Knights of Columbus Charities." If you would prefer to pay by credit card, to access our website please use this link <http://charities.dcknights.org/ultrasound/> All donations are tax deductible. For additional information, please contact Amado Alvarez [240-381-9276](tel:240-381-9276) or at acajr2@gmail.com

Second Annual Family Celebration. Join fellow Catholic couples and families for a Holy Family Celebration on **Saturday, February 17 from 1:30pm to 6:30pm at the Saint John Paul II National Shrine. Registration is required at: www.holyfamilycelebration.eventbrite.com.**

Social Sunday - Please join us in the Lounge on Sunday, February 25th, after the 10 am masses, for breakfast and fellowship. There will be pancakes, eggs, breakfast meat, donuts, juice, and coffee. This is a wonderful time for parishioners to have a relaxing breakfast and get to know each other better. Social Sunday is free to all parishioners.



FAITH AND FUN DAY

February 10th. 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM

For young people starting at 3rd grade to Senior in High School

Sign up in advance!

- ✓ fun, games,
- ✓ lessons, lunch,
- ✓ daily mass,
- ✓ mentor help from young peers

Our Lady of Bethesda Center will run the program - (1 Priest, 1 Brother, 1 Lay Youth Missionary; and 6 High School volunteers). Chaperones and other helpers are welcome. Cost \$5 per person (for food/drinks and material expenses) -Funding available for those in need, contact Father Evans.