



OUR WORSHIP SERVICES

Weekly

Sundays

7:45 AM Holy Eucharist
10:00 AM Holy Eucharist with Sunday School and Nursery Care

Wednesdays

12pm Noonday Prayer and Holy Eucharist



“How did it get so late so soon? Its night before its afternoon. December is here before its June. My goodness how the time has flown. How did it get so late so soon?”

Dr. Seuss



*Embraced
Equipped
Empowered*

FROM PASTOR CHAD’S DESK

Dear Nativity Family,

This will not be like the normal newsletter article I write. I will not be talking about the weather or recreational activities we are currently engaged in or looking forward to. In this article, I am cutting to the chase. I am tired, and like all of you I am also outraged at the current situation we as a nation find ourselves in. Over the past few weeks we have been witnesses to tragedies occurring in cities across America. As a nation we have watched peaceful neighborhoods and thriving cities become places of destruction. News cycles have been focused on the heart wrenching images and appalling stories of violence and destruction. Not just two weeks ago, COVID-19 was the news everyone was talking about, but the pandemic is no longer our news cycle.

They are missing the point.

On the evening of June 1st (after completing a month and a half of active duty at the Soldiers Home), I was recalled to state active duty and ordered to report to my Armory at 6 am Tuesday morning. I was tired, and I was upset because of what was unfolding across our nation. As a chaplain I went to our other Armories in Falls River, Quincy, and Danvers and began ministering to our soldiers. When I arrived at these armories I looked out at our soldiers, especially our African American and other soldiers of color, and my heart dropped as I looked into their eyes, the burden they were carrying was heavy and the Spirit convicted me to speak to what others were avoiding. For far too long we, as a nation, and more importantly we, as the church, have been failing to live into our callings as Christians. We have failed to find a way to proactively address and find viable solutions to the sin of racism in communities across our country. As a husband, father, pastor, and soldier, I have been just as complicit in fully engaging in and understanding my role in all of this. It should not take the deaths of George Floyd, Breonna Taylor, and Ahmaud Arbery for me, this nation, and the church to hear the cries of people of color and how they are hurting.

As a church, we are deeply saddened and troubled at the death of George Floyd and every death that is a result of hate. As Christians, we are called to honor all human life as we are all made in the image of God, and especially those whose voices are marginalized the most.

As Christians, we are called to love our neighbors, not just the ones who vote, think, speak, and look like us. Love means many things, but chief amongst them is action. God did not just say he loves us, He showed it. He showed it through His prophets, His written Word, the Bible, and most importantly through coming to Earth wrapped in human flesh in the person of Jesus Christ. He showed that love through Jesus’ life, ministry, and supremely during Holy Week, particularly on the Cross on Good Friday.

We too are called to love our fellow humans as passionately as Jesus has done.

(conclusion on page 3)

Four Ways to Give: How to Make the Most of Your Pledge

Help prepare for the reopening of Nativity and the return of our ministries by keeping up with your pledge. Four ways to pay:

Greatest benefit – *Automatic bill pay* simplifies your financial life and costs nothing. Choose the amount, frequency, and start date. Then set it and forget it. **Nativity gets 100% of your donation.** Automated payments ensure a steady flow of income to Nativity each month.

Super easy – *EFT is an electronic fund transfer* from your bank account directly to Nativity. As above, you set it and forget it. **The church pays a nominal fee (<1%) each month** yet can count on regularly scheduled income. The amount and frequency are set by you.

Old school – *Leary of automated payments?* Write a check! **Nativity gets 100% of your donation.** The downside is you have to remember to write the checks. It's also easy to fall behind on your pledge when you miss church.

Most convenient – *Paypal.* It's so quick and easy. Just visit Nativity's website and click "Give > Online." You'll have a choice to pay via Paypal or credit card. Note, however, the convenience comes with a hefty price tag.

Paypal keeps 3 to 4% of every dollar you give online!

For questions about any of these payment methods, contact Cathy Terwedow, cterwedo@gmail.com or cterwedo@churchofthenativity.org.

	Pros	Cons
Automatic bill pay	Online setup 100% to Nativity Steady source of income to Nativity	None!
EFT	One-time setup 99% to Nativity Steady source of income to Nativity	Church pays a small fee (<1% of every donation)
Check	100% to Nativity Good if you're concerned about online/electronic payments	Easy to forget or miss a week Easy to fall behind on your pledge
Paypal/credit card	Easy	Paypal keeps 3-4% of every donation



**Thank you,
Howie, for
the beautiful
mailbox!!**

Women's Retreat

Update

As many of you know, we had hoped to have a Women's Retreat the first weekend in November. Because of these uncertain times, we have decided it is best to cancel the retreat, at least for now. We are very disappointed but feel clear that this is the safest and wisest decision. We will revisit this and perhaps other ideas when it is safe to do so. We will stay in touch!

Women's Ministry Team (Sally Kazarian, Betsy Hummel, Lynn DeAngelis, Norma Brandt)

FROM PASTOR CHAD'S DESK (Conclusion)

We are called to do better.

The call of a Christian is to respond to the hurt and brokenness of this world.

We are reminded in scripture
“God made from one man every nation of mankind to live on all the face of the earth . . . Acts 17:26

We are reminded in scripture
There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is no male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus. Galatians 3:28

While this challenge before us seems overwhelming, while this challenge will not be reconciled overnight. We can face this together as the church and we can be a people that carries the light into this darkness.

It begins with listening.
 Listening to our neighbors, our friends, and our community to their pain and struggles.

Next we pray.
 As we listen to our fellow humans, we seek the guidance of the Holy Spirit and raise our prayers to the Lord. Never underestimate the power of God's people in prayer.

Then we put prayer into action.

Beloved, this is just the beginning of something greater. I cannot tell you how the work we have been called into will end, I have no timelines, I just have faith. Faith that God is using this heartbreaking moment to move the church and her children into a faithful response to the hurt and brokenness surrounding us. This is spiritual warfare, we are fighting powers and principalities and through listening, prayer, and faith in action, God will turn what was meant for evil into His glory as the church arises from our slumber.

Beloved, I will end with the promise Jesus gives us
**“I have said these things to you, that in me you may have peace.
 In the world you will have tribulation.
 But take heart;
 I have overcome the world.” John 16:33**

Stay Holy, Stay Blessed, Stay Safe, Stay Vigilant



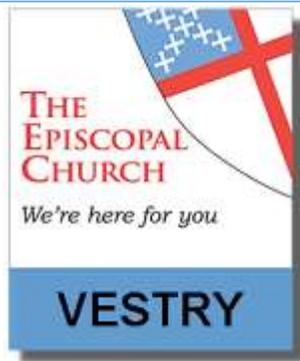
Extraordinary People

This month's #Extraordinary life of the month is Cathy Terwedow. Cathy wears several hats serving us at Nativity including Pledge treasure, Clerk of the vestry, and counter just to name a few. She serves behind the scene keeping us on track. We won't be able to thank her in person so **THANK YOU CATHY!**

FOR WE ARE GOD'S HANDIWORK,
 CREATED IN CHRIST JESUS TO DO
 GOOD WORKS, WHICH GOD PREPARED
 IN ADVANCE FOR US TO DO.



Thank you to the preschool parents who posted these signs on our lawn to thank the teachers!



Vestry News:

Preparing the Church to Reopen

While the church building remains closed to keep us safe during this pandemic, Nativity is alive and well, working to keep us, the body of Christ, connected in the

love of God. The vestry continues to work conducting the business of the parish, including reestablishing a college scholarship for graduating seniors, refreshing our first aid kits, and giving the Fellowship Hall a much-needed face lift. The latter transforms the hall, brightening it with a fresh coat of "agreeable grey" paint and sparkling white trim. Wait 'til you see it!

As we prepare to reopen the church in July, a task force is making plans to prepare the facility to welcome everyone back. The group is made up of Deb Heseck, Chad McCabe, Cathy Terwedow, Aaron Ting, and Jeanie Hebert. We meet via Zoom to adapt the recommendations of the CDC, Mass.gov, and the diocese to fit our unique physical building and congregation and to make it as safe as possible to gather together to worship.

There are many details to work out, including:

- Cleaning and sanitizing common areas
- Requiring everyone to wear face coverings while in the church parking lot and building
- Working out ways to maintain social distancing while entering and exiting the building
- Providing hand-sanitizing stations throughout the church
- Arranging seating to maintain social distancing
- Minimizing physical contact during communion and the offertory
- Ensuring safe musical accompaniments, including the role of singing during the service
- Following the guidelines to limit in-person attendance as needed. This includes exploring ways to sign up for particular services. Of course, anyone who feels uncomfortable coming to the physical building will still be able to view the service via Facebook Live.

As always, our goal is to provide a safe space to gather together, remembering that it's not the building that makes the church but rather we, collectively, who make up the Church. So, whether we are physically together or virtually gathering, we still are one body making up Nativity Church.



Thank you to Theresa Hoberman for continuing to beautify the Nave!



The Nativity Preschool had a "virtual" graduation. BUT, They also had a parade! The teachers lined up and drove to every student's house to deliver end of the year and graduation gifts. Pictured: Nicholas and Mikey, Emma, and Aislyn and Hadley.



Northborough Pastor serves community and National Guard

By Liz Nolan, Community Advocate, May 19, 2020

Northborough – Episcopal Church of the Nativity Pastor Chad McCabe is not only committed to his church community in Northborough, but continues his ministry as chaplain in the Massachusetts Army National Guard 101st Artillery based in Brockton. He has been called to duty amid the COVID-19 crisis and currently is serving at the Soldiers' Home in Holyoke, where a high number of veterans have died of the virus.



Pastor Chad McCabe in his PPE at the Soldiers' Home in Holyoke

McCabe is a veteran who served in Iraq and said he has a big heart for the military. His time with the National Guard gives him the opportunity to serve at the state and federal level.

"It's not all about deploying overseas," he said. "We help to respond to the needs of local communities. I am proud to be able

to serve the veterans."

McCabe feels that deployment has helped to shape him as a person.

"When you have seen a lot, you find a way to stay positive and more focused on the situation on hand," he said.

McCabe feels blessed to have a congregation and family who is supportive of his service in the National Guard. He started at the Soldiers' Home on March 14 and works five days a week. A typical day includes offering daily worship services to those of all and no faiths, making rounds, holding office hours for counseling, and checking in with nursing stations and patients. In addition to chaplains, the National Guard assists medical staff and food services.

There are very strict protocols to follow regarding wearing personal protective equipment and there is a decontamination process after each shift.

McCabe said the difference between his role as pastor and National Guard chaplain is that he is reaching a larger audience outside of his congregation who may or may not have a religious tradition.

The COVID-19 crisis has not only changed McCabe's schedule, but it has also changed Church of the Nativity's services and programs. Live virtual gatherings on Sunday mornings are being held, as well as story times and music programs. Home outreach is important and includes communion kits being delivered to homes.

"The church building is closed, but the church is open," said McCabe. "More folks are participating in worship than before. The Church is adapting to the environment. The Church will find ways to stay connected and to minister."

Amid all the changes that COVID-19 has created, McCabe has noticed the positive outcomes.

"Closings happened at the start of Lent – a time we are called to slow down and be more intentional," he said. "Storms pass. They don't last forever. Focus on what you're called to do at the moment and do your best."

McCabe was called to serve as Senior Pastor at the Church of Nativity in the fall of 2016 and arrived in Northborough with his wife Karen and son Ethan. He was previously ministering in Denver, Co.



Church of Nativity's Pastor Chad McCabe and his son Ethan

Class of
2020
 Congratulations Graduates

Brendan Flanagan graduated from West Boylston High School. He will be attending Anna Maria College in Paxton, MA in the fall studying Sports Management.

Kevan Flanagan graduated from West Boylston High School. He will be attending Castleton University in Castleton, Vermont in the fall. He will be majoring in English, studying in the Honor's Program and playing soccer for their soccer team.

Cindy Loverin's Grandchildren: Amelia Olsen graduating from Endicott College, Elliot Loverin graduating from Pittsfield High, Allie Loverin graduating from Groton-Dunstable Regional High, and Addie Loverin graduating from Scituate High.

Luca Bongiovi, Sabina's son, graduated from Shrewsbury High School and will be headed to College to study Criminal Justice.

*Congratulations
 to all our Graduates!!*

Working on remodeling
 the hall!!!



Deb Heseck, and Cathy and Willy Terwedow, hard at work in the hall!

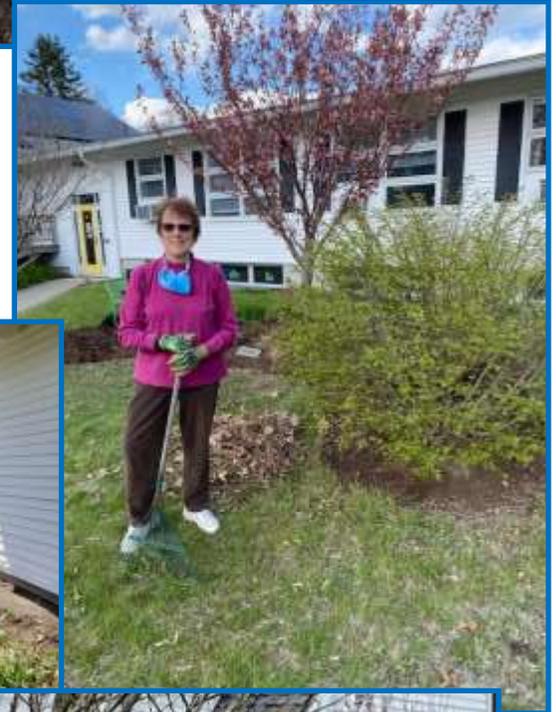


It was nice to get out doors and play in the dirt at Nativity! Bob and I went down to do the planters and before I knew it, Bob was weeding and raking out the garden beds around the Nave! Trimming bushes and getting the gardens ready for mulching!

I was then inspired to come back with the help of Nancy Kimball and clean up the Nursery school dedication garden ! I don't know why, it felt so good to work at the church! Our own yards need us now, but it was a treat to get out of our usual environment and get back to our other home Nativity!

There is still a lot more to do, trimming bushes, weeding, edging, and getting gardens back to par. If you want to help please contact Howie Gelles, 508 751 9455.

Blessings,
Sue Roche



The planters have been maintained in memory to our loving donors.

Andrew Beach, Merrill Bergstrom, Robert T. Goudreau, Bob Kimball, James A. Millar the 3d, Trevor K. Page, Jared R. Page, Lisa Novak, Margaret and Bill Duncan, Betsy McLorin, Gail C. Goudreau, Peter Macek, Peg Walcott, Mary Henriques



You may already know that we have had some issues with local people using our dumpsters as their own. Not only for regular trash but also construction debris, which are not allowed, mixing recycling with trash. These are problems that may get back to us, should our trash removal company complain and charge for extra weight or penalties on non-authorized items. Well, no more! The two bins are now locked!! We also taped a number of signs on them and asked the police to notice whenever they drive by. Some very stubborn people have continued leaving trash outside the containers. If you see anyone, please feel free to let them know this is a private property! You can also take pictures and send them to Sabina!



Another improvement: We have installed a door bell on the main red doors. Sabina is often in the office alone and, for safety reasons, the door may stay locked during office hours. If you do not have a key and need access, please ring the bell!



Joan and Errol Ethier

Ainslyn Gustafson



Pat Goulet



Beth Lewis



Paula Hanson



Nativity at Work!

Happy recipients of our communion/ bulletin packets!!