

Nativity of Our Lady Catholic Church San Luis Obispo

Pastor: Rev. Michael Cicinato

Mass Schedule

Saturday 5:30pm

Sunday 8:00am

11:00am

Newman* 6:00pm

*September through June when
Cal Poly is in session)

Weekdays 9:00am

Holy Days 9:00am
5:30pm

Reconciliation

Saturday 4:30pm - 5:00pm
or by appointment

Baptism

Arrange at least one
month in advance

Marriage

Schedule after preparation
at least six months in
advance

221 Daly Avenue

San Luis Obispo, CA 93405-1099

Phone (805) 544-2357

Fax: (805) 544-6756

Website: www.nativityslo.org

Mission Statement

The mission of the Roman Catholic Community of Nativity of Our Lady is to encourage and foster the spiritual growth and development of the individual in Christ, to strengthen the concept of parish family, and to serve the needs of the larger community through outreach ministries and service to others, while recognizing the diversity of those we serve.

Liturgical Season - Lent

The season of Lent extends from Ash Wednesday until Wednesday of Holy Week. It is a time when we try to simplify our lives and listen more deeply to God, engaging in special prayer, fasting and almsgiving in order to prepare for the great celebration of the Paschal Mystery in our lives.

Parish Office Hours
 Tuesday thru Friday
 9:30 am - 1:00 pm
 Closed on Mondays

Parish Staff and Ministries
 (with phone extensions and email addresses)

Pastor
 Rev. Michael Cicinato 10
 frmike@nativityslo.org

Deacon Couple
 Greg & Deborah Wilhelm 16
 deaconcouple@nativityslo.org

Administrator
 Mary Holliday 13
 mary@nativityslo.org

Receptionist
 Donna Murrell 12
 donnam@nativityslo.org

Elementary Religious Education
 Patty Miller 14
 patty@nativityslo.org

AnnE Lorenzen 15
 anne@nativityslo.org

Jr. & Sr. High Youth Ministry
 AnnE Lorenzen 15
 anne@nativityslo.org

RCIA Program
 Karen Biezd 31
 karen@nativityslo.org

Music Ministry
 Sr. Theresa Harpin 32
 theresahcsj@yahoo.com

Ministry to Hispanics
 Andrea Blanco 30

Emergencies 11

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Ministry to People's Kitchen
 Jacci Abram
 Phone (805) 547-1737

Nativity Parish Advisory Board

Andrea Blanco

Ty Green

Steve Lodato

Joan Lynch

Joan Reilly

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Third Sunday of Lent

REPENT



**the kingdom
of heaven
is at hand**

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This Weekend's Readings

Reading I: Exodus 3:1-8a, 13-15

Reading II: 1 Corinthians 10:1-6, 10-12

Gospel: Luke 13: 1-9

This Weekend's Questions

Adults

What changes can I make in my daily life to atone for my past sins and failings and to help me do better in the future?

Children

Who among my friends is in most need of a helping hand? What can I do this week to show them God's love?

Songs for this Weekend's Liturgy

Gathering: Holy Ground (see page 6)

Psalm: The Lord is kind and merciful.

Gifts: Be Still and Know That I Am God BB 477

Communion: How Lovely is Your Dwelling Place BB 793

Sending Forth: Lead Me, Lord BB 550

Readings for the Week of March 7, 2010

Sunday: Ex 3:1-8a, 13-15; Ps 103; 1 Cor 10:1-6, 10-12; Lk 13:1-9

Monday: 2 Kgs 5:1-15b; Lk 4:24-30

Tuesday: Dn 3:25, 34-43; Mt 18:21-35

Wednesday: Dt 4:1, 5-9; Mt 5:17-19

Thursday: Jer 7:23-28; Lk 11:14-23

Friday: Hos 14:2-10; Mk 12:28-34

Saturday: Hos 6:1-6; Lk 18:9-14

Sunday: Jos 5:9a, 10-12; Ps 34; 2 Cor 5:17-21; Lk 15:1-3, 11-32

Mass Intentions for the Week of March 7, 2010

Saturday 3/6 5:30 † Kit Leach by Tom & Anne Sullivan

Sunday 3/7 8:00 Intention of Parish

11:00 † Katie Reilly by the Taylor Family

6:00 Intention of Newman

Monday 3/8 9:00 Intention of Soeten Family by Warren & Vanessa Fujimoto

Tuesday 3/9 9:00 † Frank Martin Reap by John & Carol Furey

Wednesday 3/10 9:00 † Hermine Barguirdjian by Sonia & Raffy Arsene

Thursday 3/11 9:00 † Anthony Cancilla by Fr. Mike and Parish

Friday 3/12 9:00 † James & Henry Brady by Mary Louise Brady

Saturday 3/13 5:30 † Genevieve Koehmstedt by Jim & Joan Reilly Family

Sunday 3/14 8:00 Intention of Parish

11:00 † Audrey Collins by Wendell (Pete) Ritzinger

6:00 Intention of Newman

Just When Things Were Going Well...

Moses, up to the time of today's reading, had lived a pretty good life. Adopted by the pharaoh's wife, he was raised as royalty. He evidently knew his Jewish roots, and as a result of that got into trouble for killing an Egyptian who had been beating one of the Jewish slaves. Word got out and he fled to Midian after realizing that not only was the pharaoh upset, but his Jewish relatives did not trust him. He meets the girl of his dreams at a well and marries into a fairly well-to-do family. He soon finds himself in charge of one of his father-in-law's enterprises. Life was good!

While tending his father-in-law's sheep one day, everything changes. I suspect later in life he probably chided himself for being so curious about that crazy burning bush.

The burning bush story has much to teach us. Moses approaches with curiosity. Suddenly there is the big voice. Suddenly he is told he is on sacred ground and needs to remove his sandals. Suddenly he is being sent back to Egypt. Suddenly he is to be God's spokesman—a spokesman with a stuttering problem. Suddenly, Moses is being asked to move out of his comfort zone and to trust the rest of his life—each moment of it—to this mysterious God. He is going to be traveling the rest of his life and get no mileage points for the effort. He doesn't even get into the "promised land."

What does this story have to teach us? There comes a time in every life, when everything we seem to know and understand is turned upside down. Sometimes it is dramatic and sometimes it has been happening slowly and we only suddenly realize it. We may not recognize it as a burning bush, but it is a time of mystery and confusion and when it happens, believe it or not, we are on holy ground. We may not hear a loud voice, but we ultimately realize we no longer control life—the final bursting of that illusion. It can be a moment of amazing joy or incredible grief. It can be dramatic or so un-dramatic that we are not sure it has really happened. But it is the time of God's calling us to travel the rest of our lives in mystery and in trust. What do we do?

After our shock, crying, anger, grief or whatever other emotion we go through, we need to understand that anytime we confront mysteries—when nothing makes sense and nothing seems fair—that we are in a holy place. As absurd as that sounds, mystery is always an invitation into the holiness of God. Moses is told to take off his sandals. God demands that he be in physical contact with the mystery. We need to simply be naked, as it were, in the place of what is—the present. We need to hold the mystery, neither judging it, nor solving it. We need to hold the mystery and allow God to move us to trust and then to peace.

I wish I could say it is easy, but it isn't. Life is ultimately about surrender and that is so counter-cultural. Wisdom ultimately is found in the paradox of surrendering everything and discovering that everything is ours in the surrender. The final surrender into trusting God is the surrender of our last breath. When we have surrendered, God leads everything and that is heaven. Now there is a mystery to ponder!

Fr. Mike

Merciful and gracious is the Lord,
slow to anger and abounding in kindness. - Psalm 103:8




Sunday

Whole Community Catechesis
Sunday, March 7th
All Are WELCOME
to attend
9:00am Brunch
followed by
Scripture Readings & Reflections
presentation by Fr. Mike,
AnnE Lorenzen and Debbie Green

Youth Ministry High School Gathering
Sunday, March 7th
7:00pm Old Mission

Wednesday

 **Nativity Silent Prayer Vigil for Peace**
Every Wednesday
12:15 - 12:45pm
As part of your Lenten journey, you are welcome to this silent prayer to step away from the "busy-ness" to a contemplative time of reflection.

Music Ministry
Wednesday, March 10th
7:00pm Rehearsal for Easter Vigil
8:00pm Weekend Rehearsal
(or right after 7pm Rehearsal)

Friday

Nativity's Lenten Fish Fry* Friday, March 12th
Dinners served
4:30pm - 7:00pm
We are in need of donations of baked goods for our Bake sale. Cakes, pies, brownies and/or cookies will definitely be appreciated. For more information, please contact Mary or Donna at the parish office.

**Reminder Fish Fry Dinners every Friday during Lent*

Youth Ministry Jr. High School Gathering
Friday, March 12th
7:00pm Place TBA

Tuesday


Men's Bible Study
Every Tuesday
following 9:00am Mass
Parish Hall

RCIA
Tuesday, March 9th
7:00pm Room 8

Thursday

Women's Bible Study
Every Thursday
following 9:00am Mass
Parish Hall

Lenten Retreat with Fr. Mike
Thursday, March 11th 7:00pm
"Will the Real Prodigal Son Please Stand Up."
Please RSVP to Mary or Donna at the parish office.

 **Questions to ponder for the Third Sunday of Lent**

In today's gospel, a gardener asks the owner of the garden for one more year to cultivate a fig tree in the hope that it will bear fruit.

Adults: What cultivates the "ground" of your life so that you bear fruit?

Children: If Jesus wants us to bear fruit, what might that mean?

Mass Intentions are available. Mass Intentions can be offered for many different reasons: In gratitude, for birthdays, anniversaries, for the sick, for loved ones (living and deceased). For more information, please call Mary or Donna at the parish office.

Nativity Prayer Chain

Nativity SWAT Prayer Team As a SWAT Team (Supplication, Worship, Adoration and Thanksgiving) we go directly to the throne of God in support of parishioners and their loved ones during times of need. If you or someone you know is in need of prayer, or if you would like more information regarding the prayer chain, please call Mary or Donna at the parish office.

Nativity Prayer List

Please pray for Ruth Bowman, Marla Filipponi, Judy Freeman, Jim Gracia, Lorraine Johnson, Jack Lanigan, Vern Lefebvre, Brian Porterfield and family, Sean Porterfield, Pete Ritzinger, Robbie Robinette, Alia Sparling, Matthew Sparling, Judy Tobin and Marcie Zundel.



Youth Ministry

High School Gathering
Gathering Sunday, March 7th
Old Mission

Jr. High School Gathering
Gathering Friday, March 12th
7:00pm Place TBA



Operation Rice Bowl
...Opportunity
for your Lenten Journey

If you are participating in the Operation Rice Bowl please review and follow these simple steps:

1. Place coins/dollars into Rice Bowl box during Lent
2. Count coins/dollars and write a check (payable to Nativity of Our Lady) for the amount of money collected.
3. Place check in Rice Bowl box and bring to the Rice Bowl to Mass on Palm Sunday weekend. (Rice Bowls will be accepted from Saturday, March 27th - Palm Sunday weekend - thru Friday, April 2nd - Good Friday -)

If you have any questions, please contact Mary or Donna at the parish office.

**Catechesis of the Good Shepherd
K-6 Faith Formation**

Whole Community Catechesis
Sunday, March 7th 9:00am Brunch followed by
Scripture Readings and Reflections



Next K-6 session Sunday, March 14th 9:30am

Sacramental Prep Children

1st Reconciliation Retreat
Sunday, March 14th 9:00am - 11:00am

Liturgical Ministry Schedules

The parish staff is in the process of preparing the Liturgical Ministry Schedules for Holy Week and April, May and June. If you are not available during this time, please notify Mary via email (mary@nativityslo.org) or please call Mary or Donna at the parish office 544-2357. Thank You.

**PLEASE SUPPORT OUR BULLETIN ADVERTISERS.
THEY HELP MAKE THIS WEEKLY BULLETIN POSSIBLE.**



Spring Forward

Reminder to move your clocks
forward one hour...

Sunday, March 14th!

Thank You for your Gift of Stewardship	
Last Week's Plate	\$3,789.29
EFT (Electronic Funds Transfer)	\$50.00
Total Plate Income	\$3,839.29
Needed to Make Budget	\$4,570.00
Second Collection next weekend for American Bishops' Overseas Appeal & Church in Latin America	

Sunday Morning Hospitality

The Sunday Morning Hospitality after the 8:00am and 11:00am Masses each Sunday offers everyone an excellent opportunity to meet fellow parishioners. If you would like to participate in the ministry, please sign up on sheet located in parish hall. If you have any questions regarding this ministry, please call Mary or Donna at the parish office.

Nativity Fish Fry



**189 Dinners served on
Friday,
February 26th**

**Many Thanks to all
volunteers
and patrons.**



Faith Alive and Working:
Getting Hooked on Giving!
- by Emma Wedell

I believe that the best way to bring out the instinct of human nature to reach out to others is to show people how shockingly easy and satisfying it is. After mass when people hear about the Fair Trade organic chocolate dipped spoons that I sell for a dollar a piece to raise money for a variety of poverty fighting causes, they might give me a fiver (\$5) for Doctors without Borders in Haiti, or visit Kiva.org to make a microloan to a lady in Cambodia who needed \$25 to buy rice for her farm. They might check out the book Three Cups of Tea from the library to read a true tale of a man, Greg Mortenson, and his goal to build schools mainly for girls in Pakistan and Afghanistan, or buy a flock of chickens from Heifer International for a farming family whose supply of eggs has run low instead of a birthday present. I tell them about how buying my shoes, shirt, and computer from (product) red means that a small donation will be made to help those suffering with AIDS in Africa. Later they might go out to Gap to buy a (red) shirt. I show them my Toms shoes; for every pair of shoes bought, a pair will be given to a child in need. They buy Toms for themselves and their friend. Are you seeing the pattern here? What I call the Tom Sawyer effect is essentially that giving feels good and, be warned, is addictive. This answer I give to those who ask, "Why? Why do you give all of your money away?" Like a Harry Potter addict, I have no choice. I'm hooked.

For further information on my favorite causes, please visit the following websites:

- Kiva.org
- Heifer.org
- GregMortenson.com
- DoctorsWithoutBorders.org
- TomsShoes.com
- JoinRed.com
- e.wedell@yahoo.com



The Newman Catholic Center is a Roman Catholic campus ministry whose mission is to welcome, support and challenge college students in their Christian spiritual growth and development. The Newman Center is located at 1472 Foothill Blvd., directly behind Cal Poly's Health Center. Newman Weekend Mass here at Nativity at 6:00pm while Cal Poly is in session. For more information contact the Newman office:
Newman Catholic Center
1472 E. Foothill Blvd., San Luis Obispo
Phone 543-4105
Fr. John Ulrich, S.M. - Director
Fr. Kevin Duggan, S.M. - Associate Director

What Catholics Really Believe

A five-week Friday evening Lenten series will be offered at St. Paul's Church (800 Bello St, Pismo Beach) from Friday, February 26th thru Friday, March 26th. A meatless Lenten supper will be served at 6:00pm each night, for a \$3.00 donation, followed by a 60-minute presentation. The DVD series features Dr. Ray Guarendi, a nationally-known speaker and TV persona in dialogue with Fr. Kevin Fete, a beloved parish priest. Topics will include the Eucharist, the role of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Scripture and Tradition, the papacy, confession...in other words, the basics of the Catholic faith that are most often misunderstood. All are welcome. For more information, please call St. Paul's at 773-2219.

Lenten Interfaith Taize Service

Please join us for a solemn hour of candlelight, meditation, chanting and prayer as we walk with Jesus this Lenten season. Immerse yourself in God's presence in preparation for Christ's Passion, Death and Resurrection at the Lenten Interfaith Taize Service, Transformation Through Christ. Wednesday, March 10th, 7:00pm at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Church, 2050 Palisades Parkway, Los Osos.



Mother's Day Cards & Flower Bouquets

will be available to purchase during the month of March after all Masses and at the parish office during regular business hours. Proceeds from these sales benefit ALPHA. Questions, please contact Faith Ann Fieldhouse at 544-5634.

Gathering Song: Holy Ground

1. This is holy ground. We're standing on holy ground. For the Lord is present and where God is, is holy. This is holy ground. We're standing on holy ground. For the Lord is present and where God is, is holy.
2. These are holy hands. We're lifting up holy hands. For the Lord is present and where God is, is holy. These are holy hands. We're lifting up holy hands. For the Lord is present and where God is, is holy.

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Will the Real Prodigal Son Please Stand Up?

Lenten Retreat
with

Fr. Michael Cicinato

Thursday, March 11th

7:00pm

Nativity of Our Lady Church

221 Daly Avenue, San Luis Obispo

Please rsvp to Mary or Donna at the parish office 544-2357