



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 Biezdad 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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Fish Fry 35

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



Fourth Sunday of Lent

This Weekend's Readings

Reading I: Joshua 5:9a, 10-12

Reading II: 2 Corinthians 5:17-21

Gospel: Luke 15:1-3, 11-32

This Weekend's Questions

Adults

Am I envious of anyone? Do I believe that my own blessings are not enough?

Children

What person makes my life joyful and good? Have I thanked God for that person?

Songs for this Weekend's Liturgy

Gathering: Hosea BB 679
 Psalm: Taste and See BB 330
 Gifts: Amazing Grace BB 445
 Communion: Loving and Forgiving BB 678
 11am: Don't be afraid, my love is stronger....
 and I have promised....to be always near.
 Sending Forth: Give Me Ears to Listen BB 660

Readings for the Week of March 14, 2010

Sunday: Jos 5:9a, 10-12; Ps 34; 2 Cor 5:17-21; Lk 15:1-3, 11-32
 Monday: Is 65:17-21; Jn 4:43-54
 Tuesday: Ez 47:1-9, 12; Jn 5:1-16
 Wednesday: Is 49:8-15; Jn 5:17-30
 Thursday: Ex 32:7-14; Jn 5:31-47
 Friday: 2 Sm 7:4-5a, 12-14a, 16; Rom 4:13, 16-18, 22; Mt 1:16, 18-21, 24a or Lk 2:41-51a
 Saturday: Jer 11:18-20; Jn 7:40-53
 Sunday: Is 43:16-21; Ps 126; Phil 3:8-14; Jn 8:1-11

Mass Intentions for the Week of March 14, 2010

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
Monday	3/15	9:00	† Vienna Zagaroli by the Zundel Family
Tuesday	3/16	9:00	† Bud Ogren by Jim & Joan Reilly & Family
Wednesday	3/17	9:00	† John & Rose Slaughter by John & Jean Simutis
Thursday	3/18	9:00	Intention of Priscilla Zarabozo by Tony Domingos
Friday	3/19	9:00	Intention of Brady/Donaldson Family by Mary Louise Brady
Saturday	3/20	5:30	Intention of Parish
Sunday	3/21	8:00	† Audrey Collins by Fr. Mike and Parish
		11:00	Intention of Parish
		6:00	No Newman Mass

Prodigal Sons; Prodigal Father

The three great parables start with the lost sheep, then the lost coin, then the lost son(s). In the first parable the loss of the sheep, the sheep, a stupid animal, is lost because of foolishness. In the second parable, the lost coin is lost through thoughtlessness. In the third parable, the loss of two sons is loss through willfulness and deliberate rejection. In the story, God, as Shepherd, Old Woman and Father, seek the lost and rejoice at the found. Let's look at this third parable.

There are three icons in this wonderful parable—each of the sons and the father. In this parable Jesus does not give a resolution to the story—He doesn't reveal the ending, leaving it up to the listener to finish. This is a major difference from the first two parables. Additionally, the story is more shocking to His listeners who comprise not only the usual cast of "sinners and tax-collectors," but also the usual cast of "scribes, Pharisees and other religious leaders." It is shocking not just because of the action of the younger son, but because of the action of the older son, and even more, of the father.

In the culture of Jesus' time, the action of the younger son would be unheard of and absolutely not tolerated. Any inheritance would only be given out at the death of the father. Demanding the inheritance—the Greek word is *bios*, which translates life—is not only wishing the death of the father for the sake of his wealth, but also extremely shaming in the society of the time. The normal response would have been total disinheritance, dismissal from the family and a severe beating, maybe even to death.

The father, giving in to the son's demand in this culture, was probably even more shocking. It would have shamed him in the eyes of his friends, family and business associates and would have ended in his and his family's shame and ostracization in the community.

The older son, too, is a problem. We seem to look at him a bit more favorably because we sense what seems to be unfairness. What we fail to see is that his role as the elder son would be to be more interested in his father and the family unity, rather than the father's possessions. Part of his duty would be to help insure the unity of the family. He, too, implies he wants the father's (*bios*) and possessions. Also, one of his roles would have been to go after the younger son and try to bring him back to the family table. His failure to come to the family table further insults his father.

Jesus is making a very shocking statement to His listeners about the love of God. God shamelessly seeks His lost and seeks to restore them to His table of love. He also implies very shocking demands on His listeners. He chides the sinners and tax collectors, who are the younger son in the story, for seeking their selfish desires and things over the relationship of love. He chides the scribes and Pharisees, who are the elder son in the story, for not only seeking their own selfish desires and placing power over the relationship of love, and for failing to seek after the "lost sheep of Israel."

The question remains: "who am I in this story?"

Fr. Mike

Taste and See the Goodness of the Lord.

Psalm 23



Sunday

**Sacramental Prep Children
First Reconciliation Retreat**
Sunday, March 14th
9:00am - 11:00am

Tuesday

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

RCIA
Tuesday, March 16th
7:00pm Room 8

Lector Rehearsal
Tuesday, March 16th 7:00pm
If you are scheduled to read at any of the Palm Sunday and/or Holy Week Liturgies, you are encouraged to attend this rehearsal which will be facilitated by Deborah Wilhelm.

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.

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 17th
7:00pm - 8:30pm Rehearsal for
Easter Sunday
Weekend Rehearsal at 8:30pm or
right after 7:00pm
Rehearsal

Thursday

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

Friday

Nativity's Lenten Fish Fry*
Friday, March 19th
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 19th
7:00pm Place TBA

Saturday

**Prayer Shawl Ministry
Knit/Crochet Circle**
4:00pm - 5:30pm
Parish Hall

***Lenten Reconciliation
Service***
Tuesday, March 23rd 5:30pm
We welcome you to this service which includes solemn music, scripture, and a communal examination of conscience. Several priests will be available for individual confessions following this service. This is a wonderful way to prepare for Holy Week and the Easter Season.



Youth Ministry

Jr. High School Gathering
 Gathering Friday, March 19th
 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
 Sacramental Prep Children**

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



**Mark Your Calendars!
 Lenten Penance Service**
 Tuesday, March 23rd 5:30pm

Liturgical Ministry Schedules

The parish staff has completed the Liturgical Ministry Schedules for Holy Week and April, May and June. Schedules were sent to you via email. If you did not receive the email and/or do not have email, copies of the schedule are available in the parish hall this weekend.

Lost and Found

We have accumulated many items that have been left in the church and/or the parish hall. These **Lost and Found** items will be in the parish hall this weekend. Items not claimed will be sent and donated to the Old Mission Thrift Store. If you have any questions, please contact Mary or Donna at the parish office.

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.

<i>Thank You for your Gift of Stewardship</i>	
Last Week's Plate	\$3,960.97
EFT (Electronic Funds Transfer)	\$535.98
Total Plate Income	\$4,496.95
Needed to Make Budget	\$4,570.00
<i>Second Collection this weekend for American Bishops' Overseas Appeal & Church in Latin America</i>	
Last week we issued \$1,000.00 from our Family Fund to a parishioner in need. Family Fund balance is now \$3,929.86	





Faith Alive and Working:
People's Self-Help Housing
-by Scott Smith

"A house is a home when it shelters the body and comforts the soul"¹ PHILLIP MOFFIT

Housing is frequently an enormous challenge on our beautiful Central Coast. **Peoples' Self-Help Housing (PSHH)** is a private non-profit organization that has provided affordable housing and services locally for the past 40 years. I have been part of that experience for the past 26 years. The "self-help" in Peoples' Self-Help Housing comes from a core organizational value - helping people to help themselves. Our original "sweat equity" Homeownership Program works with groups of families to build their own homes. It is a strenuous process but in the end families realize the American dream, achieve tremendous pride of ownership, and build a wonderful sense of community. We have assisted over 1,000 families become first time homeowners.

Our Rental Housing Program assists those in need of a decent affordable rental situation. We currently operate 1,300 apartments throughout the Central Coast. Our diverse apartment communities provide housing for families, seniors, farmworkers and special needs households, including the homeless, mental health clients, and developmentally disabled.

PSHH incorporates our "self-help" core value in our rental housing whenever possible through a variety of programs. For example we coordinate youth and adult education, financial literacy, budgeting, and computer training at many sites. Our Supportive Housing Program (SHP) works with the homeless and households "at risk" of homelessness to re-stabilize them and ensure their success in permanent housing. Our case managers deal not only with the economic issues, but also with underlying causes such as mental health, addiction, family turmoil and other challenges. I'll never forget the wonderful San Luis Obispo woman we placed in PSHH housing. Even while homeless, struggling with her mental health and the challenges of living out of her car for an entire year, she was involved in local church ministry in a major congregation and employed part-time. Today she celebrates her 1 year anniversary in permanent housing. Together we can definitely make a difference!

Scott Smith
Peoples' Self-Help Housing
www.pshhc.org scotts@pshhc.org



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

OLD MISSION SCHOOL Each of our middle school students in Old Mission School has designed and conducted a scientific experiment in the areas of physical, earth, chemical, or life science. The fascinating results were presented at the annual Middle School Experiment Night. Families and friends joined us in what was a happy celebration of the wonders of this creation with which God has gifted us.



Mother's Day Cards & Flower Bouquets will be available to purchase during the month of March after all Masses.

Proceeds from these sales benefit ALPHA. Questions, please contact Faith Ann Fieldhouse at 544-5634.

Peace Gathering Saturday, March 20th, 2:00pm

A Gathering For Peace to mark the 7th Anniversary of the Iraq War will take place at the County Government Building on Monterey Street. The event will include Children's messages for peace, street theatre and singing, plus a walk through downtown San Luis Obispo. Sponsored by Central Coast Clergy and Laity for Peace, Mother's for Peace and Code Pink. Bring signs stating why peace is important to you.

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THEY HELP MAKE THIS
WEEKLY BULLETIN POSSIBLE.**

Walk THE Walk



Sponsored by the combined
Catholic Youth Ministries
of
Nativity of Our Lady and Mission San Luis Obispo parishes
welcomes the community
to
“Walk THE Walk” on Good Friday, April 2, 2010

Beginning with prayer at Nativity of Our Lady Church at 10:00am,
processing (silently and in prayer) to Mission San Luis Obispo Church
where Father Dennis Gallo will meet the pilgrims for a brief
Veneration of the Cross at approximately 10:45am.

We walk rain or shine.

(Journey with the cross approximates the distance of the Via Dolorosa in Jerusalem:2.2 miles).

For more information, please contact Anne Lorenzen, Director of Youth Ministry at 544-2357 ext.15.