

Our Mission...

The Church of the Nativity is a living expression of the Roman Catholic Church which seeks to involve everyone in the life and mission of Jesus Christ by providing spiritual growth and faith formation for its parishioners and outreach to others.

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Staff Directory

Parish Office • 491-5017

Pastor, Fr. Michael Hawken
mhawken@kcnativity.org

Senior Associate Pastor, Fr. Al Rockers
fral@kcnativity.org

Deacon Ralph Schramp
rjschramp@sbcglobal.net

Deacon Michael Schreck
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Accountant, Leslie Chalmers
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Accountant, Rebecca Coldicutt
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Accounting Office Support, Kathy Falco
kathy@kcnativity.org

Administrative Coordinator, Jane Burgett
jburgett@kcnativity.org

Business Manager, Mark Hyde
mark@kcnativity.org

Communications Director, Susan Ackerman
sackerman@kcnativity.org

Director of Outreach Ministries, Tom Garbach
tom@kcnativity.org

Facilities Director, David Stephens
david@kcnativity.org

IT Director, Nancy West
nwest@kcnativity.org

Music Director, Vicky Neely
vneely@kcnativity.org

Registrar, Karen McDonald
karen@kcnativity.org

Stewardship Director, Kelly Samuelson
ksamuelson@kcnativity.org

Nativity Parish School • 338-4330

Principal, David Kearney
david.kearney@kcnativity.org

Office Manager, Sondra Gustafson
sondra.gustafson@kcnativity.org

Marketing Coordinator, Kelly Samuelson
ksamuelson@kcnativity.org

Christian Formation (Religious Education) 338-4367

Administrative Assistant, Karen O'Neil
koneil@kcnativity.org

Religious Education Coordinator, Grades K-8
Suzy Meizenbach, smeizenbach@kcnativity.org

RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults)
Mary Lambrechts, mlambrechts@kcnativity.org

Sacramental Preparation for Children,
Suzy Meizenbach, smeizenbach@kcnativity.org

Youth Director, Liz Hagen
Lhagen@kcnativity.org

Youth Minister, Jenn Vogliardo
jvogliardo@kcnativity.org

Stay Connected

Is your email address on file up to date?
Email it to us at sackerman@kcnativity.org



Like us on Facebook:
Church of the Nativity, Leawood

Visit www.kcnativity.org. You can
find bulletins, events, faith formation
opportunities and more!



Download our app from the App Store or
Google Play: Church of the Nativity Leawood.

Virtus Training

Anyone, 16 and older, who volunteers for a ministry or organization that involves children at Nativity Parish or anywhere in the Archdiocese must participate in Virtus training. Participation in this training, completion of all the necessary paperwork, and a cleared background check are required at Church of the Nativity prior to interaction with children. Watch the bulletin for training dates, contact the Parish Office or visit www.virtus.org. The session lasts about three hours.

Liturgy and Prayer

Altar Server - Nativity Altar Servers begin their training at the end of the fourth grade. Servers provide a direct service to the community by assisting at regular Masses, as well as weddings, funerals and school Masses. They receive the benefit of working directly with the priests and the Archbishop and learning more about the Mass and the Church. Contact: David Pope at 327.5998 or dpope66209@yahoo.com



Art & Environment - The Art and Environment Committee is made up of volunteers who plan and execute all the liturgical decorations for the church throughout the year. Volunteers of all skill levels are invited to participate. Most of the work is done on Wednesdays, 9:30 a.m. – Noon and right before special events. Working with the church environment is an opportunity to learn about liturgy and to make the church a more welcoming place for all the community to worship. Volunteers are always welcome and may join at any time during the year. Ages 17 and older are welcome. Contact: Kathy Elson at 681.3848 or ejkcelson@yahoo.com

Cantor/Choir/Musician - Please share your musical gifts and talents with the parish. Choirs are open to all parishioners, including youth. Cantors, keyboardists and instrumentalists are also needed to enhance our liturgy in sung prayer. Any and all talents are welcome. Contact: Vicky Neely at 491.5017 or vneely@kcnativity.org

Eucharistic Adoration - Commit to a specific time for silent prayer. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament is in the chapel every Thursday 9 a.m.- 6:45 a.m. Friday. Sign up online at www.kcnativity.org. Contact: Deacon Ralph and Mary Kay Schramp at 816.260.9413 or rjschramp@sbcglobal.net.



Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion - We serve the assembly by assisting the Priest in distributing the Body and Blood of Christ. Adults and youth who have received Confirmation are invited to serve. It is an honor to serve the Lord and our parish family as they receive the Eucharist and respond 'AMEN.' Contact: Mike Bartkoski at 909.4519 or mjbart13@me.com

Greeter - Individuals or families who greet parishioners and guests as they enter the church for Mass. This ministry is a vital part of Mass. We are the first people to come into contact with parishioners and guests. It is up to us to make them feel welcome and a part of our Church. We encourage all parishioners to join this ministry. The time commitment is minimal and the rewards are great. Contact: Martha Estrada-Robinson at 638.7414 or marthainkc@kc.rr.com

Lector - Do you know a great storyteller? What gets your attention and leaves you wanting more? Is it the expression on their face, the tone of their voice and eye contact? What is it that connects you with the lectors that proclaim at the Mass you participate in at Nativity? Your answer to this is important and will help you discern your calling to proclaim God's word. This ministry is more than a one time "training" and learning procedures. As a lector you are called upon to cultivate an active love for the Scriptures and become a continuing student of, not an expert on, the Scriptures. When you stand before your Nativity Family to proclaim God's word, it will come from your heart and mind more than your lips. *"Indeed, the word of God is living and effective, sharper than any two-edged sword, penetrating even between soul and spirit joints and marrow, and able to discern reflections and thoughts of the heart."* --Hebrews 4:12. Come proclaim with us! Contact: Kathleen Saunders at 782.1822 or kathleensaunders10@yahoo.com or Teresa Wroblewski Mayor at 424.3783 or dollylou@yahoo.com

Little Church Leader - Little Church is held during the 9 and 11 a.m. Masses on Sundays throughout the year. Children ages of 4 to 7 are invited to process to the Chapel for their own Liturgy of the Word done at their level of understanding. Prospective leaders for this program are welcome to come in and observe. A lesson plan is provided. We encourage the parents of the participants to volunteer. You would only have to lead one session every two months. We also encourage teenagers to assist. Virtus compliance required. Contact: Suzy Meinenbach at 338.4367 or smeinenbach@kcnativity.org

Prayer Care Committee - This began as a telephone prayer committee and grew so big in membership and in prayer requests that it became more efficient and convenient for most members to be emailed the prayer requests. Some members still prefer to be called. We pray for those who are grieving, in poor health, having financial or marital problems, looking for jobs, taking exams and for any other needs. The Prayer Ministry is open to all parishioners and requires no meetings, just a willingness to pray for those in need, by whatever method of prayer we prefer: Mass, rosary, novenas, favorite prayers, and sacrifices. Contact: Sharon Khoury at 339.6401 or sharon@infocare.us

Rosary - Say "yes" to our Blessed Mother and become a Rosary leader! The Rosary is recited every weekend on Saturday evening at 4:40 p.m. before the 5 o'clock Mass and on Sunday at 8:40 a.m. before the 9 a.m. Mass. You will lead from the Ambo. Make this a family prayer, all are welcome. Contact Kathleen Saunders, 782.1822 or kathleensaunders10@yahoo.com



Sacristan - The role of the sacristan is to prepare the altar for Mass and purify the sacred vessels after Mass. The sacristan arrives about 20 minutes before Mass to set up and stays about 10 minutes after Mass concludes to purify. The work of the sacristan is very important to the celebration of each Liturgy. Training will be provided. This is a ministry that your entire family could participate in together. I invite you to prayerfully consider becoming a member of the sacristan ministry. Contact: Mary Jo Brumbaugh at 220.1060 or mjobrumbaugh@comcast.net

Usher - Help create and maintain a sense of welcoming and belonging for parishioners and guests to our church community. We are a group of men and women who volunteer our time to extend a warm greeting to our community, assist our priests in the celebration of the Eucharist, ensure a safe and focused environment during our liturgies and share the blessings our God offers each week. Contact: Vito Carabetta at (h)913.469.5526, (c)913.558.6969 or usher@kcnativity.org

Formation

Baptism Prep Leaders - The purpose of this ministry is to help prepare parents for the baptism of children. Couples who are willing to share your family's faith stories and pass on to new parents your ideas for raising their children in the faith are encouraged to consider becoming Baptism Prep Leaders. Contact: Sonya Salazar at 491.5017 or sonya@kcnativity.org

Marriage Prep Leaders - If you have been married for five years or more, would you consider being a mentor to engaged couples? Requires weekend training. Contact: Karen McDonald at 491.5017 or karen@kcnativity.org

R.C.I.A - The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults provides instruction and guidance for those wishing to become Catholic. RCIA Sponsors provide support for an inquirer through shared presence at each session. Sponsors begin sessions in September and are discerned and matched to inquirers within the first few months of the process. The first session will be training for sponsors only. Contact: Mary Lambrechts at 913.709.5032 or mlambrechts@kcnativity.org

Religious Education Teacher/Aide - The School of Religious Education assists parents in providing for their child's religious instruction and formation. Nativity provides a comprehensive program of religious education for all young people. Active parent involvement is crucial to the success of the program. Won't you consider helping in a classroom? We are always in need of parent volunteers to teach classes; teaching experience is helpful but not required. Virtus compliance required. Contact: Suzy Meinzenbach at 338.4367 or smeinzenbach@kcnativity.org

Respect Life - The Respect Life Committee coordinates events and education to help Nativity Parish promote the sanctity of life from conception to natural death. Contact Rick Wilson at 515.7370 or rick.wilson3949@gmail.com

Numerous Resources On Formed

Did you know that Nativity has subscribed to an online catechetical platform called FORMED? **Every parishioner has FREE access to materials for personal faith-formation, parish studies, catechetical training, small groups, and family devotions.** You can access FORMED from your smart phone, tablet, or desktop! Once you enter the FORMED website, you will find resources from great Catholic apologists, theologians, and programs like Bishop Robert Barron's Word on Fire and the Augustine Institute.

Visit www.FORMED.org to register your account. The Nativity Parish access code is 8YCE2R. Enjoy!



Ministries of Care

Blood Drive - Donate blood or help during quarterly blood drives. Contact: Tom Garbach at 338.4367 or tom@kcnativity.org

Christmas Angel Project - Offered during Christmas, this is a chance to provide Christmas gifts for needy children through Catholic Charities; various opportunities to help. Contact: Mary Ellen Walton at 339.9664 or metw60@kc.rr.com

Christmas in October - Help with home repairs, maintenance and clean-up for low income families. This is an opportunity to be the hands of Christ. Time commitment is minimal; one time per year. Contact: John Brown at 491.9511 or john.l.brown@ubs.com

Clothing Drive - Our annual clothing drive sends clothes to Seton Center for free distribution and sale. Volunteers are needed at weekend Masses (before and after) to accept clothing and place it in a truck for delivery. This is a great way to earn volunteer hours. Contact: Bonnie Bonella at 338.1301.

Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion to Nursing Homes/Hospitals - Parishioners interested in taking Communion to Catholic residents in the nursing homes and hospitals will be trained and conveniently scheduled to be a Care Minister at one of the ten retirement homes or two hospitals in the Nativity Parish. Contact: Tom Garbach at 338.4367 or tom@kcnativity.org

Food Drive - The Nativity Food Drive is held three times each calendar year. The sacks of groceries and other household articles that are collected go directly to benefit the Catholic Charities Food Pantries. We welcome and need volunteers and organizers: they are the essential ingredients in making each year more successful than the last! Contact: Tom Garbach at 338.4367 or tom@kcnativity.org

Funeral Lunch Preparation - Prepare or serve food for bereaved families. Time commitment is small and the rewards great. Sign up to get your name added to our list of helpers. Contact: Michelle Dehaemers at 338.5039 or tdehaemers@kc.rr.com

Guatemala Mission Trips - Catholic Social Teaching reminds us that we are one human family and our responsibilities to each other cross national, racial, economic and ideological differences. While we continually strive to ease the pain of poverty in our own community, no one can truly grasp the degree of suffering that exists throughout the world until they experience it themselves. Church of the Nativity Guatemala Outreach Mission works to foster awareness of the values and needs of the people of San Andres Itzapa, Guatemala. Our goal is to assist in improving the lives of the poor, while both communities grow and benefit from each other on our shared journeys of faith, hope and love. We take two trips each summer to the same region in Guatemala. Working together with local individuals and families, we build stoves, gardens, fences, chicken coops and pig pens. When we deliver food and supplies to the elderly and sick, we spend time listening to their stories and laughing and praying together. Contact: Nancy Grasse, nancygrasse59@gmail.com or 908-6629.



Hospital/Homebound Visitor - Do you enjoy talking with people? If you do, would you consider visiting parishioners who are in the hospital or are homebound? Spend an hour every week or two with these special members of our Nativity family. Contact: Tom Garbach at 491.5017 or tom@kcnativity.org

Respite Care - The Respite program provides a caregiver time away while their loved one receives care and companionship from trained volunteer parishioners. Volunteers receive six hours of training by health professionals in the skills necessary to provide care and companionship. Trained volunteers are insured against liability and serve in our parish area. We need men and women. Please join in this rewarding ministry! Contact: Pat Scheibel at 897.6589 or rscheibel@kc.rr.com

St. Mary's Food Kitchen - Nativity cooks and serves meals the third Sunday of each month. Volunteer as much or as little as your schedule allows. We serve approximately 350 meals each month. Pans and sign-up sheets are in the St. Joseph Room the weekend prior to Nativity serving. Contact: Mike and Pat Amos at 451.7718 or mamo@kc.rr.com



Parish Life

Athletic Council / Coaching / Catholic Youth Organization Sports - CYO Coaches Needed: Please consider lending your time and talent to coach one of our CYO teams. Nativity has football, volleyball, cross country, basketball and track teams. Virtus compliance required. Contact: Jim Sheedy at 491.5361 or jdsheedy@vctv.com

Boy Scouts/ Leader - Scouting provides programs that build character, foster mental and physical fitness, teach good citizenship and foster spiritual growth. Scouting offers a variety of programs designed to meet the needs of boys through 21 years of age. Scouting is about spending quality time with friends, family, and other caring adults in a variety of exciting indoor and outdoor activities. Please consider helping with our troops here at Nativity. Virtus compliance required. Contact: Boy Scouts - Tom Fowler at 207.5025 or redlinetom@aol.com or npstroop396@gmail.com; Cub Scouts - Marty Erwin at pmeiii@yahoo.com or 626.4440.

Entertainers - Youth are encouraged to share their talents with this group of traveling entertainers. Visits to senior living facilities, as well as other venues, are part of this ministry. Contact: Liz Hagen or Lhagen@kcnativity.org

Facilities Commission - The Facilities Commission assists the Pastor and staff on building and grounds improvements and maintenance issues. Background in building trades, engineering and architecture helpful but not required. Contact: Mark Hyde at 491.5017 or mark@kcnativity.org

Finance Council - The Finance Council serves as an advisory board to the pastor. Members serve three-year terms and are appointed by the Pastor. Please submit your name if you would be interested in serving. Contact: Dan Teahan at 681.9053 or danteahan@hotmail.com.

Knights of Columbus - The Knights are Catholic men, 18 years of age and older, who are committed to making their community a better place, while supporting their church. From running Lenten Fish Frys to selling Tootsie Rolls to support special needs children to raising funds to support our seminarians, the Knights are always busy with activities for all interests. Contact: Craig Smith at 649.4520 or grandknight11067@gmail.com

Men of Nativity - The Men of Nativity, MON, provide a spiritual forum for all men of the parish. Each week we meet following the 6:45 a.m. Wednesday Mass. We discuss piety, study our faith and actions we have taken during the recent week/month to better know Christ and His mystical body. Every man of the parish is invited to come join us on Wednesday mornings; after all, you are already members. Our dues structure cannot be beat! Contact: Bill Oades at 816.590.9990 or billoades@gmail.com

Mothers of Young Children - Mothers of Young Children (MOYC) is a parish ministry group for women with at least one child in first grade or younger. MOYC provides fellowship through monthly meetings, spiritual enrichment, philanthropic work and a variety of social functions for moms, children, couples and families. It is our goal to provide a network of friendship and spiritual support to Nativity mothers with small children while offering opportunities to participate in an array of fun, meaningful and rewarding activities with other Catholic families in our parish. Contact: Courtney Raupp at 530.1966 or courtney.raupp@gmail.com

Nursery - The nursery is open during the 9 and 11 a.m. Masses on Sunday. Volunteers are welcome and encouraged. Great opportunity for students in need of service hours. Virtus compliance required. Contact: Parish Office at 491.5017.

Pastoral Council - The Pastoral Council serves as an advisory board to the Pastor. Each year four positions open and a discernment process is held. If you would like to be included in this process, please submit your name. Pastoral Council members serve a three-year term. Contact: Tami Titus at 296.7446 or pastoralcouncil@kcnativity.org

Parish Office/School Office Volunteer - If you have a few spare hours, would you consider helping in the office? Duties vary but could include providing front desk relief, mailings, or other clerical duties as projects arise. Contact: (Parish Office) Jane Burgett at 491.5017 or jburgett@kcnativity.org; (School Office) Sondra Gustafson at 338.4330 or sondra.gustafson@kcnativity.org

September2Remember - The Fall Festival and Auction all rolled into one weekend of celebration and fellowship that raises vital funds for our parish operating budget. Volunteers are always needed at the events or join the planning committee. There are many areas and levels of time commitment to help put on this weekend. Contact: Kelly Samuelson at 491.5017 or ksamuelson@kcnativity.org. Visit our website, www.september2remember.com, for even more information.

Singles of Nativity - Singles of Nativity (SON) connects unmarried adults in fun, fellowship and faith. We organize different kinds of social activities that provide a safe environment for Catholic and other Christian singles to gather and meet new friends with similar beliefs and interests. Contact: Ana Grobe at agrobe2@gmail.com or www.son-ministry.org

Women of Nativity - Make new friends and reconnect with past friends while enjoying social activities, spiritual events and community work; for ALL women of the parish. Contact: Amy Lovelace, 499.7536 or amklovelace@yahoo.com or Rosalynn Redmond, 362.2589 or rosalynnredmond@yahoo.com

Youth Groups - The Nativity Youth Program is one that fosters youth involvement in parish life; opportunities including social activities, service projects, and catechesis. All activities are developed to nurture a love for the Catholic faith. We welcome all high school youth to sign up to participate as members of the youth group. Volunteers are needed to provide any of the following: dinner on a Sunday night, chaperone an event, provide music for gatherings, present a topic or teach a craft to the kids. Youth, age 13, through mature adults are invited to serve in youth ministry at Nativity. It is an opportunity to experience true energy in the life of the church, and support a cornerstone of God's kingdom on earth. Virtus compliance required. Contact: Liz Hagen at 338.4367 or Lhagen@kcnativity.org or Jenn Vogliardo at 338.4367 or jvogliardo@kcnativity.org



Stewardship

Stewardship Commission - Assist the pastor and parish leadership in the overall design, implementation and evaluation of the parish stewardship process. There are many facets of this to be developed for the parish. Let us know if you would like to take on a leadership role in some specific area. Contact: Kelly Samuelson at 491.5017 or ksamuelson@kcnativity.org

Welcoming Committee - Help welcome and integrate new parishioners in a variety of ways. If you have a gift for hospitality and an outgoing spirit, this ministry is for you. Time commitment is minimal. This committee reports to the Stewardship Commission. Contact: Susan Ackerman at 491.5017 or sackerman@kcnativity.org

