



# CHURCH OF THE NATIVITY



*Jesús en casa de Marta y María  
Vera y Calvo, Juan Antonio  
Copyright de la imagen  
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*Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time  
July 20, 2025*

## CONTACT US

**CHURCH & SCHOOL LOCATION**  
6309 El Apajo Road  
Rancho Santa Fe, CA 92067  
**THE NATIVITY SCHOOL**  
858-756-6763  
P.O. Box 9180  
Rancho Santa Fe, CA 92067

### PARISH OFFICE

**Monday - Friday | 8:30am-3 pm**  
**858-756-1911**

[www.nativitycatholic.org](http://www.nativitycatholic.org)

### MAILING ADDRESS:

**P.O. Box 8770**  
**Rancho Santa Fe, CA 92067**

## MASS SCHEDULE

### WEEKDAY MASS

**Monday - Saturday | 8:00am**

### WEEKEND MASS

**Saturday Vigil | 5:00pm**

**Sunday | 7:30am, 9:00am,**  
**10:30am**

### Sacraments

**YOU ARE REQUIRED TO BE A**  
**REGISTERED AND ACTIVE**  
**PARISHIONER FOR ONE YEAR**  
**IN ORDER TO RECEIVE THE**  
**SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM**  
**AND/OR MARRIAGE**

### BAPTISM

Celebrated **ONLY** on the 4th  
Sunday, after the 10:30am Mass  
or by appointment.

Please contact the Parish Office  
or

[tpinnella@nativitycatholic.org](mailto:tpinnella@nativitycatholic.org)

### MARRIAGE

Saturdays, 11:00am or 2:00pm.

Contact the Parish Office.

### ANOINTING OF THE SICK

Encouraged for anyone critically  
ill, for the elderly, or prior to  
major surgery.

### RECONCILIATION

**Saturday | 3:30-4:30 pm**

### EUCCHARIST

Weekday Mass |

**Monday - Saturday at 8:00am**

Eucharist Adoration |

**Monday - Friday 8:30am-9:00am**

Perpetual Help Novena |

**Tuesdays after 8:00am Mass**

## ABOUT OUR PARISH

### MISSION STATEMENT

We are a praying, learning, and caring community fulfilling the mission God  
gives us in baptism by our worship in faith, by our witness in hope,  
and by our service in love.

**Praying through the Sacraments,**  
**Learning through Religious Education,**  
**Caring through Pastoral Care.**

### NATIVITY STAFF

#### PASTOR

Fr. Agustin Opalalic  
858-756-1911 [frato@nativitycatholic.org](mailto:frato@nativitycatholic.org)

#### PRINCIPAL

Brittany Bateman  
[www.thenativityschool.org](http://www.thenativityschool.org)

#### PASTORAL ASSISTANT

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#### CATECHETICAL MINISTRY

#### RCIA & YOUTH MINISTER

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#### Family Faith Formation

#### COORDINATOR

Michelle Atkins

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#### ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

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#### DIRECTOR OF

#### MUSIC MINISTRY

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#### PASTORAL COUNCIL

Milan Brandon, William Haynor

Bill Hearne, Kathy Klink,

Stephanie Kourie,

#### FINANCE COUNCIL

Jeff Brandon, Kim Ip,

James Keenan, Byrnes Lambert,

Jackie Marin,

Catherine Mowbray-Lorenz

#### SAFE ENVIRONMENT COORDINATOR

John Marin | 858-756-1911

A yellow rectangular sign with a red pushpin at the top center. The text "Important Notice" is written in a black, slightly slanted font.

**Until the end of the month July 2025, masses will be celebrated outside the church, at the Garden of the Nativity during the weekdays.**

**Masses will be done inside the church on weekends.**

**The preparation process will begin for the installation of the "pipe organ" which includes working on the HVAC, as well as other projects.**

**Therefore, we will have NO SCHEDULED activities in the church during this time to ensure everyone's safety.**

**Thank you very much for your patience and understanding.**



## ABOUT OUR PARISH

### PASTORAL CARE

#### NATIVITY SAMARITANS

Stephanie Kourie

skourie@nativitycatholic.org

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Pat James |

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#### MENTAL HEALTH MINISTRY

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#### LIFE MINISTRY

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### MASS INTENTIONS

#### SATURDAY 7/19

8:00am Norma Walter SI

5:00pm Kathryn Snyder RIP

#### Sunday 7/20

7:30am Barbara Melbrod RIP

9:00am For all Parishioners

10:30AM Judy Bartolotta RIP

#### Monday 7/21

Trees Verheggen SI

#### TUESDAY 7/22

Alberto Sanchez Ibarra RIP

#### WEDNESDAY 7/23

Jack McRoskey RIP

#### THURSDAY 7/24

Florinda Montes RIP

#### FRIDAY 7/25

LeRoy Lawrence Laqua SI

#### SATURDAY 7/26

8:00am In Thanksgiving

5:00pm Judy Bartolotta RIP

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## The Nativity School

"WHERE HEARTS AND MINDS GROW GREAT AND TRUE"

### School Mission Statement:

The Nativity School is a ministry of the Church of the Nativity, where the love Jesus Christ and Catholic faith guide the formation of students' minds, bodies, and souls to their full potential through spiritual development, academic growth and a commitment to serving others.

Summer Office Hours: Monday through Thursday | 9:00-1:00

# Samaritan's Corner

From now until August 2nd, we are helping one of our parish philanthropy partners with backpacks for a Hillcrest elementary school, which caters to low income families.

Please place all donations in the Samaritans' bins in the Commons.

Any kind of school supplies as well as backpacks will be gratefully appreciated.

Florence Elementary has 200 students we are trying to provide "Back Packs of Love" with corresponding school supplies for Pre-K - 5th grade. Donations will be picked up by August 1st.



## A NOTE FROM OUR PASTOR

Today is the sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary time. For two Sundays we have our Gospel readings focused on some elements of discipleship that has been the theme of the past several Sunday readings. Briefly, discipleship is a response to the call of Jesus to follow Him demanding knowledge of His person, his mission and teachings, the decision to follow him by totally leaving behind everything that would hinder oneself from making Jesus the center of our lives and finally being active agents of the mission for which Jesus himself was sent into the world, namely in order to proclaim the reign of God. These three elements were the points that the gospel of the past Sundays mentioned and which we reflected on.

Last Sunday we heard about the parable of the Good Samaritan. This story relayed by the gospel told us how Jesus wants every disciple to be a “good neighbor,” just like the act of compassion that the Good Samaritan showed towards the victim of the robbers who was left half-dead on the road bypassed by a priest and a Levite for reasons that may be understood as both religious and cultural. Nonetheless it was the Good Samaritan, who went out of his way who turned out to be a true good neighbor, by being compassionate with the victim and showing his love without expecting anything in return. This is how a disciple of Jesus is expected to treat every person, especially those who are suffering, the poor, the oppressed and those who are marginalized in society.

Our gospel reading today continues our reflections on discipleship. The story about the hospitality of Abraham may be considered as a background context in the consideration of discipleship, showing a way to consider discipleship also as a means to look on how visits our lives and how we respond to his visitations. The gospel reading speaks on how there could be two possible ways of responding to God’s visitations, either by active serving him or by actively listening to him. The models given in the gospel is that of Martha who was so concerned about serving Jesus, her guest and Mary, who spent her time in attentively listening to the words of the Master. These two models have become the ways the many disciples have engaged in their response to the call of Jesus into discipleship and their participation in the mission. On the one hand, many actively involve themselves in the social concerns of the Church, working for the poor, defending the rights of the oppressed, seeking justice where their injustice reigns in the lives of people. These disciples are the socially minded followers of Jesus. On the other hand, there are so spend their lives in active contemplation, in deep prayer and silence in order to respond to the call of Jesus for discipleship.

The answer of Jesus to Martha is worth consideration. He said “Martha, Martha, you are anxious and worried about many things. There is need for only one thing. Mary has chosen the better part, and it will not be taken from her.” This answer appears to affirm the reality that being contemplative and prayerful is only what is necessary. However, we must consider that being concerned with the plight of our brothers in need is also very important in the lives of being disciples as mentioned in the gospel read last Sunday wherein Jesus “go and do likewise” in response to the lawyer’s question as who is “my neighbor.” When one gives oneself in order to serve the other because of the inspiration coming from listening to Jesus, his words in Scriptures and the teachings of the Church, one becomes truly enlightened and fully aware that his work is indeed done in response to the call of discipleship. Both ways, being active and contemplative, are ways of being disciples. However, one’s action on behalf of the welfare of others because of his love for Jesus whom he has listened attentively and obeyed with dedication, become a more noble way to doing one’s discipleship and participating in the mission of Jesus in the world today. Let us pray that we all become attentive listeners to Jesus and His Church so that we can truly assist our brothers in need with compassion and love just like the Good Samaritan every day in our lives.

Now that we're a month into transitioning all of our digital giving to SecureGive, we need your help.

We ask that you continue to support the ministry of Church of the Nativity by taking a few minutes to sign up with SecureGive using the link below.



If you have any questions, we are always here to help.

Please contact us at (858) 756-1911 or by emailing [lbarton@nativitycatholic.org](mailto:lbarton@nativitycatholic.org).

We appreciate all you do to further the mission of Church of the Nativity to introduce Jesus to as many people as possible.

**The Church of the Nativity Team**

*Thank you for your generosity in supporting the life changing ministry of Church of the Nativity.*

*Church of the Nativity is now excited to be using Secure Give for all digital giving.*

*By September, Church of the Nativity will no longer be allowing Faith Direct Giving and will be doing all digital giving through Secure Give.*

*There are a few quick steps to create your gift in Secure Give*

*To create your gift in our new giving platform  
Go to <https://app.securegive.com/nativitycatholic>*

*Select your campus (Nativity Church)*

*Select "donate", enter the amount you'd like to give, and then click "recurring"*

*Choose sign up and enter your information to create your SecureGive profile*

*Select your frequency and start date  
6 . Enter your card information, then review  
and submit your transaction*

*Thank You!*



# This Week on Formed

Week of July 20, 2025



## Footprints: The Path of Your Life

Eleven young men from the United States walk the Way of St. James pilgrimage. They are looking for answers, not beautiful scenery: How do you deal with pain and suffering? Do the weak quit, or do they find meaning on the Camino? How much baggage is enough or too much?



## Sts. Joachim and Anne | Catholic Saints

Though they never appear in canonical Scripture, Sts. Joachim and Anne—the grandparents of Jesus—hold a place of great importance in the Church's tradition. Discover more about the parents of the Blessed Virgin Mary in this episode of Catholic Saints with Mary McGeehan and Augustine Institute professor Dr. Carl Vannerstrom.



## Saint Mary Magdalene | Catholic Saints

Join Dr. Ben Akers and Taylor Kemp for a discussion on the life and witness of St. Mary Magdalene. Who was she, and why is she a saint? Find out in this conversation.

Our parish has a Formed subscription.  
Visit [signup.formed.org](https://signup.formed.org) and select our parish name.

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- Lead others to love God and our faith.
- Sunday mornings / five hours a week.
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**BE A CATECHIST!**

Email questions and interest to: [matkins@nativitycatholic.org](mailto:matkins@nativitycatholic.org)  
or click here: 

**2025/2026**  
CHURCH OF THE NATIVITY  
**FAMILY FAITH FORMATION**  
**Registration is now open!**

Our Parish program builds on grade curriculum each year, where children learn about God and our Catholic Faith. Children will also learn about Saints, celebrate certain feasts, and practice works of Charity. Parents are also welcomed to share in Family events and attend meetings to help educate and strengthen Families and our Faith community

**Grades:** Pre-K through 8th grade. (4 years +)  
**Day:** Sundays, beginning September 7, 2025  
**Time:** 9:00 AM to 10:10 AM

We also have a *Sacrament Preparation* program for children who are entering in 2<sup>nd</sup> grade and older who would like to receive their First Sacraments.

**Click here for more information and REGISTRATION:**

[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdw0clje6S\\_wSP9etRCwQ7BHtQhCNhoAnmzzizRftXZV9MHcg/viewform?usp=sf\\_link](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdw0clje6S_wSP9etRCwQ7BHtQhCNhoAnmzzizRftXZV9MHcg/viewform?usp=sf_link)

- Go to [formed.org/signup](https://formed.org/signup)
- Search for our parish:  
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or Church of the Nativity.

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## SUNDAY READINGS

### First Reading:

They asked Abraham, "Where is your wife Sarah?" He replied, "There in the tent." One of them said, "I will surely return to you about this time next year, and Sarah will then have a son." (Gn 18:10)

### Psalm:

He who does justice will live in the presence of the Lord. (Ps 15)

### Second Reading:

It is Christ in you, the hope for glory. It is he whom we proclaim. (Col 1:27-28)

### Gospel:

The Lord said to her in reply, "Martha, Martha, you are anxious and worried about many things. There is need of only one thing. Mary has chosen the better part and it will not be taken from her." (Lk 10:42)

©LPi

## Readings for the week of July 20, 2025

Sunday: Gn 18:1-10a/Ps 15:2-3, 3-4, 5 (1a)/  
Col 1:24-28/Lk 10:38-42

Monday: Ex 14:5-18/Ex 15:1bc-2, 3-4, 5-6/Mt 12:38-42

Tuesday: Sg 3:1-4b or 2 Cor 5:14-17/Ps 63:2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9/Jn 20:1-2, 11-18

Wednesday: Ex 16:1-5, 9-15/Ps 78:18-19, 23-24, 25-26, 27-28/Mt 13:1-9

Thursday: Ex 19:1-2, 9-11, 16-20b/Dn 3:52, 53, 54, 55, 56/Mt 13:10-17

Friday: 2 Cor 4:7-15/Ps 126:1bc-2ab, 2cd-3, 4-5, 6/Mt 20:20-28

Saturday: Ex 24:3-8/Ps 50:1b-2, 5-6, 14-15/Mt 13:24-30

Next Sunday: Gn 18:20-32/Ps 138:1-2, 2-3, 6-7, 7-8 (3a)/Col 2:12-14/Lk 11:1-13

## Observances for the week of July 20, 2025

Sunday: 16th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Monday: St. Lawrence of Brindisi, Priest and Doctor of the Church

Tuesday: St. Mary Magdalene

Wednesday: St. Bridget, Religious

Thursday: St. Sharbel Makhlūf, Priest

Friday: St. James, Apostle

Saturday: Sts. Joachim and Anne, Parents of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Next Sunday: 17th Sunday in Ordinary Time





## **Next Nativity Men's Group**

**August 7, 2025**

**Speaker: Jeff Trissell**

### **Keeping the Churches Open**

Jeffrey M. Trissell, Esq., is a civil litigation attorney in private practice with the law firm LiMandri & Jonna LLP. He also serves as Special Counsel to the Thomas More Society, a national not-for-profit public interest law firm dedicated to restoring respect in law for life, family, and religious liberty. The vast majority of his legal practice is devoted to constitutional rights, including First Amendment litigation, political redistricting, defamation, and education rights.

Mr. Trissell obtained his Bachelor of Arts degree in French and Philosophy as a fourth generation "Cowboy" attending Oklahoma State University and obtained his Juris Doctorate from the George Washington University Law School in 2013.

Jeff recently published a book, *Unlocking the Churches*, that chronicles the two-year battle during the COVID-19 pandemic to keep the Churches open for worship. He deftly weaves the history of that legal fight with fascinating historical anecdotes and clear explanations of legal terminologies and their present-day applications. He resides in San Diego, California, with his wife and two daughters.

**Join us for a night of Faith, Fellowship, Food, and Inspiration**

**Where:** Church of the Nativity

**When:** Thursday, August 7, 6:00 – 8:30 PM

**Note:** (Meeting begins in small chapel at back of the courtyard)

Contact: Tim Van Damm [timvandamm@gmail.com](mailto:timvandamm@gmail.com), 617.501.3950 or  
Scott Maxwell [smaxwell@ThomasMoreSociety.org](mailto:smaxwell@ThomasMoreSociety.org)



Circle the things Martha worried about.

## Prayer

Lord, I want to stop working to listen to my visitors.

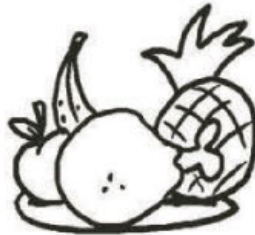
## Mission for the Week

I will sit on the front doorstep and talk with Jesus every morning.

## Sharing the Gospel

When company came, Martha hurried to get the house ready. She made sure the food was cooked. She set the table with cups, dishes, and silverware. She put clean sheets on the beds. She emptied the trash. Mary didn't worry about all that. She stopped everything to listen to her visitor. If your house is neat all the time, you can relax and talk with your guests. Then you can cook dinner together.

Now color  
the picture! →





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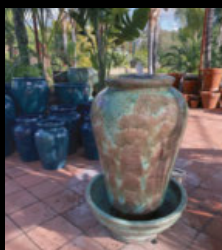


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We are now on our summer break.

Congratulations and welcome to our incoming freshmen from the Nativity School and the Faith Formation Program!

The next step in your continuing religious education is the High School Youth Ministry Program, which also incorporates

preparation for the sacrament of Confirmation.

Your contact information will be automatically added to our class lists.

Registration for the 2025-2026 Catechetical Year will start in mid-August.

Confirmation Preparation is one of the 4 parts of the High School Youth Ministry Program.

All teens, whether they attend a public or Catholic high school, must attend 2 years' worth of our Youth Ministry Sunday Topic Nights in order to become eligible for the Confirmation Immediate Preparation program that starts every February.

All Confirmation Information is posted on our parish website at <https://nativitycatholic.weconnect.com/confirmation>.

For more information on High School Youth Ministry and it's Confirmation



Preparation Program contact Mike James, Director of Catechetical Ministry, at [mjames@nativitycatholic.org](mailto:mjames@nativitycatholic.org) or see the Youth Ministry page on the parish website at <https://nativitycatholic.weconnect.com/youth-ministry>



The R.C.I.A. (Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults) is now in the process of changing it's name to O.C.I.A. (Order for Christian Initiation for Adults).

The decision to change the name stems from the idea that the Catholic journey is continual. It is a lifelong commitment each catechumen or candidate is making to the Church.

The word "order" also reflects the progressive nature of this spiritual journey. OCIA is not a one-time event but a journey with distinct stages. Another reason for the name change is to more accurately portray the fact that there are multiple rites integrated into the larger process of becoming Catholic. The process itself is not one "rite."

Who is it for?

- Those who want to convert to Catholicism
  - Those who want to learn more about the Catholic faith
  - Catholics who need to prepare for a missed sacrament, such as Confirmation
- Catholics who would like a refresher course on the basics of Catholicism

During each O.C.I.A. class we spend time answering your questions about the Catholic faith, reviewing the weekly Scripture readings from Mass, and discussing the current chapter in our book. The most important thing is getting your questions answered.

The next session of O.C.I.A. starts in September and will be on Sundays from 11:30am to 12:30pm in the Conference Room. If you are interested in joining, please contact Mike James, Director of Catechetical Ministry, at [mjames@nativitycatholic.org](mailto:mjames@nativitycatholic.org).