



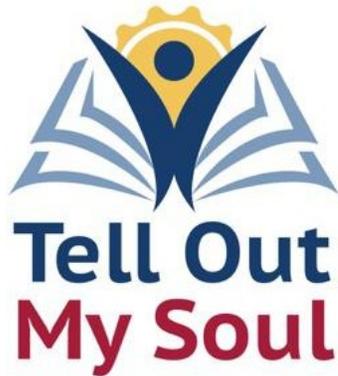
Glad Tidings

December 11, 2025



Visit the website for a full list of [upcoming events](#), [upcoming services](#), and [current signups](#).

Parish Life



Tell Out Your Soul: Stewardship 2026

In this season of Thanksgiving, we are deeply grateful to all who have made a pledge for 2026. As of **December 8**, we had received total pledges of \$392,037 from 107 families and individuals. The average pledge is \$3664. This represents 78.4% of our goal. If you have not pledged yet, please prayerfully consider and make your pledge by the end of the year. [You can pledge on the website](#) or by turning in a pledge card in the offering plate at any church service. Every pledge, in any amount, strengthens our shared ministry.



Senior Luncheon Potluck

Let's come together this December for our next Potluck Senior Luncheon in Corlett Hall, hosted by Jo Dykes. We'll gather on **Sunday, December 21**, following the 10:30 am service for a heartwarming gathering filled with delicious food and good company. Bring a favorite dish to share and enjoy good food and fellowship. To RSVP or coordinate your contribution, please call or text [Jo Dykes](#) or contact her via [email](#). We look forward to seeing you there!



Meal Support Captains Needed

Nativity offers care to parishioners in times of need by coordinating meal deliveries through [TakeThemAMeal](https://www.takethemameal.com). Each month, a volunteer “captain” receives details from the pastoral care team, checks in with the family, and sends out the requested meal schedule. It’s a simple but meaningful way to serve, and some months have few or no requests. If you’d like to help support this ministry, please contact [Ailsa Tessier](#) for more information or to volunteer as a monthly captain.



Planning for Greens Donations

If you’re planning to clip or prune shrubs or trees, please wait until mid-December and consider donating your greens to the Flower Guild. We’re looking for cedar, magnolia, juniper, boxwood, holly (with or without berries), and similar cuttings to help decorate the church for Christmas. Your donations reduce the amount we need to purchase and make our Christmas greenery more special. We’ll send a reminder as the time gets closer. Questions? Contact [Ailsa Tessier](#).

A NEW EXHIBIT IS OPENING AT
THE NORTH CAROLINA MUSEUM OF ART

THE BOOK OF ESTHER
IN THE AGE OF REMBRANDT



The Book of Esther in the Age of Rembrandt Ladies Day Together

On **Saturday, January 10** at 10am, all ladies of Nativity are invited to meet at the North Carolina Museum of Art to view the exhibit highlighting the biblical woman Esther. Our own Marcia Perry will be there as a docent to help interpret the exhibit. We will follow with lunch together.

To participate, first get tickets from the North Carolina Museum of Art for January 10 (members free; non-members \$23.60–\$20.38 using code **QUEEN20**). Go to “Tickets” at ncartmuseum.org. Then email [Gail Till](mailto:Gail.Till@ncartmuseum.org) or [Tivey Clark](mailto:Tivey.Clark@ncartmuseum.org) to reserve your place for lunch.

You Drive Me Crazy

Five week marriage enrichment curriculum
Four intentional course topics
Three new ways to say “I love you”
Two tickets to Drew and Ellie Holcomb
One special night of music

Jan 22 -
Feb 19 2026

You Drive Me Crazy: Marriage Enrichment with Music and Scripture

Inspired by Drew & Ellie Holcomb’s new album celebrating the beauty and challenges of marriage, join us for a five-week Prepare/Enrich Marriage Enrichment program from **January 22 to February 19**. We’ll explore communication, family of origin, conflict, and creating space to celebrate your relationship. The series culminates with a group outing to Drew & Ellie’s concert at the Carolina Theatre on **February 19** at 8 pm. Cost is \$150 per couple (includes assessment exam, results, and two concert tickets). Please [sign up](#) early as space is limited.

Adult Formation



The Nativity Bowl: Help Choose Church of the Nativity's Favorite Carol

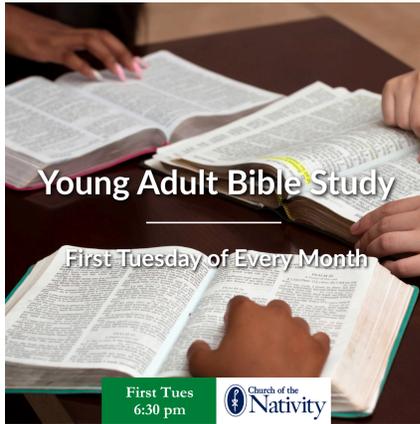
Thanks to everyone who sent in nominations of their favorite Christmas carol. We received a wide range of carols, and now it's time to vote in The Nativity Bowl. Paper brackets are available in the Narthex as we begin the head-to-head competition to choose our 2025 winner.

Continue watching your inbox this week for ballots, and make your selections each time to help decide which carol comes out on top.



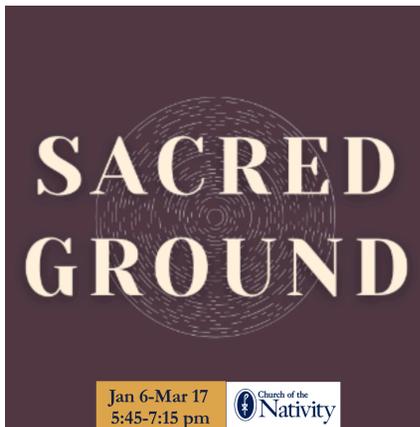
The Songs We Sing: Four Carols of Christmas

This four-week formation series, meeting Sundays from **November 23–December 21** (with a break on December 7 for the Day of Giving), explores the history and theology of four beloved Christmas carols: *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*, *Good King Wenceslas*, *O Little Town of Bethlehem*, and *O Come, All Ye Faithful*. Together we'll reflect on their biblical roots and enduring messages of hope, joy, and faith. The class meets in Curry Hall 204 from 9:30–10:20 am and you're welcome to drop by for one session or all of them!



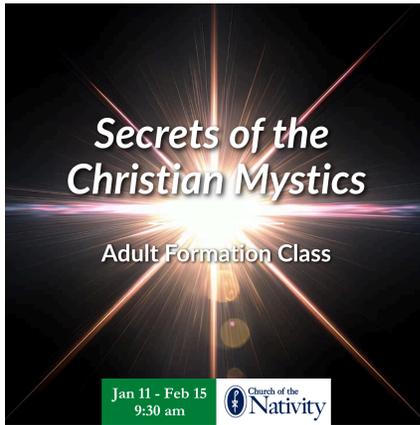
Young Adult Bible Study

Young Adult Bible Study meets on Zoom on the first Tuesday of each month from 6:30–8 pm, led by The Rev. George Black. Our next gathering is on **January 6**. This is a relaxed, welcoming space to explore scripture, ask questions, and grow in community. Whether you're new to Bible study or have lots of experience, you're invited. And who counts as a "young adult"? That's up to you.



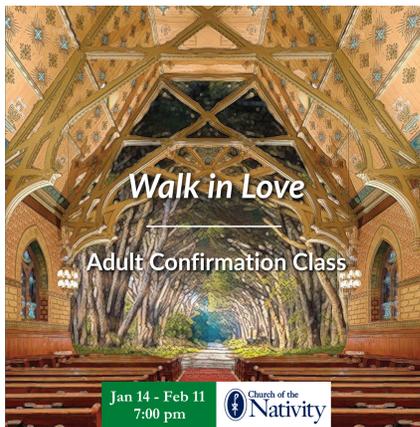
Sacred Ground

This winter, Nativity will offer *Sacred Ground*, a dialogue series from The Episcopal Church on race, faith, and history, in partnership with Christ Church, Raleigh. Through films, readings, and prayerful small-group conversation, participants will explore the story of race in America and its ongoing impact. A group will meet at Nativity on Tuesday evenings from **January 6** to **March 17** and conclude with a retreat on March 21. Nativity members may also join one of three additional Christ Church circles—two in person (at Christ Church) and one virtual. Each group follows the same curriculum, is limited to 15 participants, and [requires registration](#).



Secrets of the Christian Mystics

Discover the depth and beauty of Christian mysticism in a new six-week adult formation class meeting Sundays 9:30–10:20 am in Curry Hall, Room 204, from January 11–February 15. The class will offer an engaging introduction to the mystical tradition through the lives and writings of Hildegard von Bingen, Meister Eckhart, Julian of Norwich, Thomas Merton, Pierre Teilhard de Chardin, and Cynthia Bourgeault. [Please register](#) so that we will have enough materials for everyone. All are welcome!



Adult Confirmation Class: *Walk in Love*

This spring, the Bishop will visit Nativity for the Rites of Confirmation and Reception on May 10. To prepare, we'll read *Walk in Love: Episcopal Beliefs and Practices* by Scott Gunn and Melody Wilson Shobe. This five-week class meets Wednesdays from 7 to 8:30 pm, beginning **January 14**. Open to all adults 16 and up, the study will explore Episcopal beliefs, sacraments, the liturgical year, prayer, and more. Whether you're seeking Confirmation, Reception, want to learn more, or even have a review, you're welcome. [Register by Thursday, January 8](#), to take part.

Youth and Children



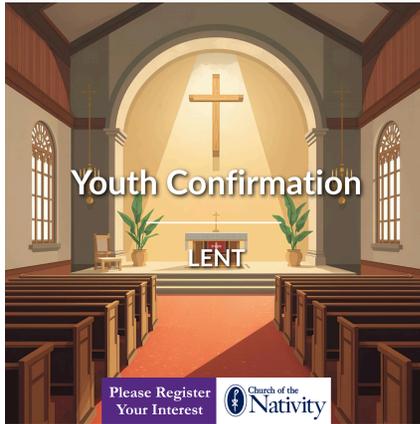
Nativity's Christmas Pageant

Join in as we tell the Christmas story through story and song during the 10:30 am service on **December 21**. Youth and children are needed to bring the story to life, with both speaking and non-speaking roles available. There will also be a special song for the children to sing. Rehearsals will be held after the 10:30 service on **December 14** and before the service on **December 21**. Reach out to [Jeremy Clos](#) if you're interested in participating: we still have room for more youth and children!



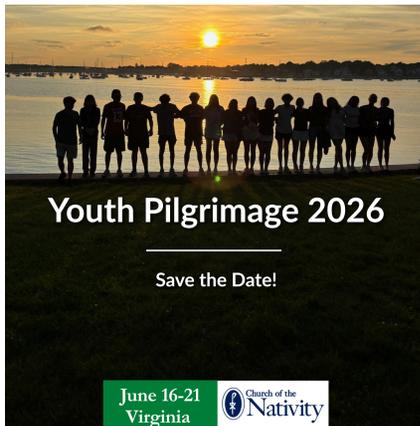
Youth Christmas Potluck and White Elephant Gift Exchange

The Youth White Elephant and Christmas Potluck will be held this **Sunday, December 14** at 6 pm (note the earlier start time than our usual 7 pm gathering). We'll meet in Corlett Hall to share a meal, enjoy fellowship, games, and a white-elephant exchange as we mark the season together. Please bring a dish to share and a wrapped gift (something silly and under \$20) for the exchange.



Youth Confirmation

Bishop Jennifer Brooke-Davidson will visit Nativity on **Sunday, May 10** to celebrate the Rite of Confirmation and Reception. Youth who will be at least 13 years old by that date are invited to prepare for the sacrament during Lent (following the ancient Christian tradition). We are hoping to create a preparation schedule that accommodates youth and families while encouraging full participation. [Please register your interest](#) and let us know which program format(s) work best for your household so we can design the most effective and meaningful formation plan.



Youth Pilgrimage 2026

From **June 16–21** our high school youth will travel to Richmond and Williamsburg, Virginia, to explore the deep roots of our Episcopal tradition. We will listen to the stories these places hold and reflect on how our faith has shaped, and been shaped, by history. We will worship alongside the communities who welcome us, lend our hands in service, and find joy and renewal in shared play and rest. Together we will travel with open hearts and thoughtful attention, seeking connection with the people and communities who host us along the way. Registration opens just after the holidays.

Outreach



Day of Giving 2025

Thank you, Nativity, for your incredible generosity and joyful support of ministries that embody Christ's call to love our neighbors. This year's Day of Giving raised over \$25,000 for 18 ministries and the new Nativity Emergency Relief Fund! Our heartfelt thanks to everyone who assisted Beth Crow and Lillis Ward setting up rooms, organizing refreshments, baking, crafting, arranging flowers, assisting throughout the day, and promoting the event. Your dedication made this extraordinary outpouring of care possible.



Pride Packs: Thank You for Your Generosity

Thank you to everyone who supported our recent grocery drive for students at Leesville Elementary. Your generous donations provide much-needed food for children facing weekend food insecurity. Because of your kindness, many families will have a little more peace and nourishment in the days ahead. We are deeply grateful for your faithful compassion and continued commitment to caring for our neighbors in need.

From the Diocese



Acts of the 210th Annual Convention Now Available

The 210th Annual Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of North Carolina adopted several important acts, including the transfer of Christ Church, Albemarle to the Sandhills Convocation; affirmations of *Migration with Dignity* and ongoing Reparations and Restitution work; renewed commitment to evangelism and Christian formation; and the creation of a Holy Land Subcommittee to support peace and justice efforts.

Read the full summary of all actions and resolutions [here](#).

Nativity Prayer List

Please click here for the prayer list: [Nativity Prayer List](#)

To add someone to the list, please [email the office](#).

Nativity Staff

[The Rev. Grey Maggiano](#)

Rector

[The Rev. George Black](#)

Curate

[The Rev. Ryan Parker](#)

[Christian Schoen](#)

Organist and Choirmaster

Kate Mohan

Diaconate Discernment Intern

[Monique Holmes](#)

Priest Associate

[Jeremy Clos](#)

Lay Associate for Christian Formation

[Josh Anderson](#)

Lay Associate for
Communications and Administration

Business Manager

Robert Krahel

Sexton

Eva Warren

Nursery Attendant

[View this email in your browser.](#)



Church of the Nativity
8849 Ray Road, Raleigh, NC 27613

nativityonline.org

[919-846-8338](tel:919-846-8338)