



# The Herald

## May 2022

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### Worship Schedule Sunday’s 8:00AM & 10:30AM

#### Online &

#### In-person worship:

Masks are recommended for those with health conditions or those not fully vaccinated

#### Online at

<https://>

[www.facebook.com/nativitypsl](http://www.facebook.com/nativitypsl) OR

<https://>

[www.youtube.com/nativitypsl](http://www.youtube.com/nativitypsl) OR

<https://>

[www.instagram.com/Nativitypsl](https://www.instagram.com/Nativitypsl)

Instagram.com/Nativitypsl

#### Drive-Thru

#### Communion

#### First Sunday of the Month

11:30AM to 12:30PM

Looking for an Easter Season Reboot?

Come try “Get Your Act Together” Bible Study on Sundays at 9:15.

We are journeying through the book of Acts and how the apostles got through the trauma, drama and challenge of the Crucifixion and Resurrection and applied that to their lives and the Church. Together we will see what insights this gives us for today.

Our Nurturing God and Happy Mother’s Day!

The Holy Trinity: Father, Son and Holy Spirit are the three persons of the one Holy and Undivided God. They are the way we get to know the unknowable. Centuries of grammar have translated the grammar and pronouns of our Christian God as masculine. But it may surprise you to know that the Ruah, רוח, rūah, breath of God, the Holy Spirit present in the Hebrew Scriptures was feminine. In Greek, the word closest to this was πνεῦμα, *pneûma*, which was gender neutral. It was not until the Scriptures were translated into Latin that the breath of God became “Spiritus” which is masculine.

Early Church Fathers (theologians and teachers) [Theophilus of Antioch](#) (d. 180) and by [Irenaeus](#) (d. 202/3) taught about the femininity of God in the wisdom texts, and [Gregory of Nazianzus](#) in the fourth century wrote that terms like "Father" and "Son" in reference to the persons of the trinity are not to be understood as expressing [essences or energies](#) of God but are to be understood as metaphors. The same position is still held in the 1992 [Catechism of the Catholic Church](#).

In honor of Mothers and Mothering I hope you enjoy meditating on these Scriptures that emphasize God’s nurture and care.

Happy Mother’s Day from Mother Tracy+

#### Genesis 1:27 Women and Men created in God’s image

“Humankind was created as God’s reflection: in the divine image God created them; female and male, God made them.”

#### Hosea 11:3-4 God described as a mother

God: “Yet it was I who taught Ephraim to walk, I who took them up in my arms; but they did not know that I healed them. I led them with cords of human kindness, with bands of love. I was to them like those who lift infants to their cheeks. I bent down to them and fed them.”

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**Hosea 13:8 God described as a mother bear**

“Like a bear robbed of her cubs, I will attack them and tear them asunder...”

**Deuteronomy 32:11-12 God described as a mother eagle**

“Like the eagle that stirs up its nest, and hovers over its young, God spreads wings to catch you, and carries you on pinions.”

**Deuteronomy 32:18 God who gives birth**

“You were unmindful of the Rock that bore you; you forgot the God who gave you birth.”

**Isaiah 66:13 God as a comforting mother**

God: “As a mother comforts her child, so I will comfort you; you shall be comforted in Jerusalem.”

**Isaiah 49:15 God compared to a nursing mother**

God: “Can a woman forget her nursing child, or show no compassion for the child of her womb? Even these may forget, yet I will not forget you.”

**Isaiah 42:14 God as a woman in labor**

God: “For a long time I have held my peace, I have kept myself still and restrained myself; now I will cry out like a woman in labor, I will gasp and pant.”

**Psalms 131:2 God as a Mother**

“But I have calmed and quieted my soul, like a weaned child with its mother; my soul is like the weaned child that is with me.”

**Psalms 123:2-3 God compared to a woman**

“As the eyes of a servant look to the hand of their master, as the eyes of a maid to the hand of her mistress, so our eyes look to you, YHWH, until you show us your mercy!”

**Matthew 23:37 and Luke 13:34 God as a Mother Hen**

Jesus: “Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! How often have I desired to gather your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you were not willing!”

**Luke 15:8-10 God as woman looking for her lost coin**

Jesus: “Or what woman having ten silver coins, if she loses one of them, does not light a lamp, sweep the house, and search carefully until she finds it? When she has found it, she calls together her friends and neighbors saying, ‘Rejoice with me, for I have found the coin that I had lost.’ Just so, I tell you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents.”

*Scriptures Compiled by the Women's Ordination Conference*

2022 March Vestry Minutes  
Tuesday \* March 15, 2022, \* 10:00am

Present: **Rector Tracy Dugger, Sr. Warden Vasco Coombs, Jr. Warden Ron Herman, Wendy Chadbourne, Terry Garman, Viola Gittens, Judy Klimczak, Rose Skeete**

Absent: **Michelle Jarski, Bunny Webb**

**Formation:** Acts6:1-6, 15:1-21 Discussion was held on building Nativity and how to go from who we were to who we are going to become. This was the focus of Paul and Barnabas as they visited congregations that were in the formation process of the early church. Discussed ways to create a place where people could connect with their Creator and spread the good news in the church, city and world.

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

**1. Rector's Report Respectfully Submitted by Mother Tracy Dugger:**

- a. **Policies and Procedures Meeting** a meeting of this group needs to be scheduled
- b. **Pastoral Care:** Pastoral meetings at Church: 1 Pastoral, Visits: 2 Pastoral visits by zoom. Met with new member twice regarding baptism and family ministry.
- c. **Missions and Outreach:** 2/25/22 Attended St Lucie County Vaccine Event on Campus this will be the last event held here unless there is another surge.,
  - i. **Jazz in the Sanctuary** went tremendously well with over 100 people in attendance. Hazel is exploring doing a Tenebrae Service for Wednesday of Holy week as our next Musical Event.
  - ii. **Ashes to Go:** Offered from 5:00-6:30pm this year. I sat right near mailbox and made a large sign. 20 folks stopped. 3 cars full were families new to the area, 1 person asked what Ash Wednesday was and why we did it. Moving to the corner and during the evening commute time made for a MUCH MORE effective outreach.
  - iii. **Stations of the Cross:** Fridays at 6pm, had a new prospective member join and express appreciation that the stations are available year round. She comes regularly to our garden to pray.
  - iv. **Cub Scouts:** 2/19/22 Participated in Cub Scouts fundraiser booth, 3/5/22 Cheered on our Pack at the Pinewood Derby
- d. **Diocesan:** Attended Diocesan Commission on Ministry Meeting 2/22 in Orlando, Attended Bishop Folwell's Funeral in Winter Park 2/24, Attended Diocesan Bishop Search Discernment meeting in Winter Haven 2/24.
- e. **Youth and Family:** 2/27/22 The youth Preached for the first time with Mother Tracy on Family Sunday, we now have 4 babies in the congregation, 5 elementary aged, 3 middle schoolers.

**Shrove Tuesday:** Intergenerational Burning of the Palms, Hot dog roast and marshmallows, more than 30 folks attended and great fun was had!
- f. **Continuing Education:** Had my coaching call on 3/3. First Experiments in Ministry Team meeting was 2/28. An adaptive challenge was agreed upon as "We don't

know how to connect". Team is Wil Biebusch, Roz DeRoche, Viola Gittens, and Kendra Hunter. Next meeting is May 2.

- g. **Vacation:** 3/14-3/18, 4 weekdays for Spring Break with Evie, (3 Sundays and 20 days remaining in 2022) Thank you for this refreshing time away and the gift of spending time with my family camping in Florida.
- h. **Staff:** The transition of Melissa into the role of Financial Minister/Bookkeeper is going well. So well in fact she has expressed interest in taking the role on a permanent basis. Discussion will be forthcoming after the executive committee has a chance to meet on this.
- i. **Upcoming Travel:** April 27-29 Province 4 meeting as Diocesan Representative, May 16-18 Continuing Education for 2<sup>nd</sup> of 3 Missional Leadership Cohort Gatherings.

2. **Senior Warden's February 2022 Report**, respectfully Submitted by: Vasco A. Coombs

- a. Ron and I met with Mother Tracy, and we were informed that two of our parishioners were scammed for quite a bit of money, via gift cards. Discussion of appropriate level of assistance was held.
- b. Ron, brought several projects to the table, and I will assist him going forward with them all. Assisted Ron in the preparation of the Fire Pit Gathering for Shove Tuesday.
- c. Our Vacation Bible School (VBS) has now been scheduled for June 13 -17. Kendra Hunter will head this up.
- d. Met with Mother Tracy, went over the successful Concert held on Sunday, February 27, with respect to Black History Month. It's the largest gathering I have witness of any concert held at Nativity.
- e. Went over some future improvements regarding the audio/video system. Using two individuals, one for the Power Point, the other monitoring what's going on line. Ron will correspond with Johnathon, to obtain a figure and we will look at this after Easter to make any improvements.
- f. With respect to Sunday, February 27, and the children participation, I must commend Mother Tracy and Kendra Hunter on a beautiful job with the kids, well done.

3. **JR Warden's February 2022 Report**, respectfully submitted by Ron Herman

February was filled with special projects besides the regular Jr. Warden's regular duties.

- a. Built a shelf for the Outreach Committee to collect donations. This was placed in the Narthex
- b. Installed a new threshold between the Narthex and the hall that leads to Wolfe Hall to improve accessibility.
- c. Moved all the padded green chairs from the room in the Sanctuary to The Bishop's room in Wolfe Hall, this was with the help of Vasco and Dennis G.
- d. Spread Fire Ant Killer over the entire campus, with the help of Dennis G.
- e. Trimmed back all the trees on the right hand of the driveway leaving the church. This allows one to see any oncoming traffic.

- f. Repaired and re-installed the basketball hoop. With the help of Vasco and Dennis. Without the help of both Vasco and Dennis some of these projects would not have been accomplished, thank you, Team!

**Motion:**

**Ron Herman made a motion to accept the Consent Agenda**

**Viola Gittens seconded the motion.**

**The Vestry voted to approve.**

**February 2022 Vestry Minutes, March 8, Special Vestry Session Minutes, Emergency Roof Repair Minutes for online vote** respectfully submitted by Judy Klimczak, Vestry Clerk.

**Motion:**

**Ron Herman made a motion to accept the 2022 February Vestry Minutes, March 8 Special Vestry Session Minutes and Emergency Roof Repair Minutes for online vote**

**Wendy Chadbourne seconded the motion.**

**The Vestry voted to approve all three Vestry Minutes.**

### **Items to Discuss and/or Decide**

Sign Up for Lunch/Coffee with Mother Tracy:

It is my custom to try to have lunch with all the vestry individually to get to know you better, review the area you've accepted to serve in and enjoy some fellowship:

Please put your name beside your preferred time slot

Lunch Options: 3/28 at 12:00, Terry

3/29 12, Wendy

3/30 between 12:30 Vasco

4/4 at noon, Ron

4/6 at noon

Coffee Options: 3/28 at 2:00

3/29 at 3:00 Judy

3/30 at 3:00 Rose

4/4 at 3:00

4/6 at 3:00 Viola

### **Holy Week/Easter Schedule**

Palm Sunday 4/10

Wednesday 4/13 Possible Tenebrae 7pm

Maundy Thursday 4/14 7PM Foot washing still not permitted, stripping of altar

Good Friday 4/15 Noon and 7pm

Easter 4/17 7:00am Sunrise Service, 8:00 am Rite 1 Traditional, 9:00 Easter Egg Hunt and Coffee and Pastry in the field, 10:30 Rite 2

**Easter Outreach: Volunteers: Vasco, Ron, Viola and Rose**

- a. Need coordinator for Easter Sunday setup of outdoor tents for coffee and danish and prize bags. Ron and Vasco volunteered to set up tents.
- b. Need coordinator for to-go coffee and handheld food to be set up near the field for egg hunt. Viola and Rose volunteered to coordinate coffee and food.

**Possible Pentecost Picnic and Global Music Fest:** Discuss in light of how successful jazz in the sanctuary was would we want to do another cultural festival? Steel band? Timing better in fall? Pentecost is in May. Vestry agreed to table this discussion for April's Vestry meeting.

**March 2022 Treasurer's Report,** respectfully submitted by Terry Garman.

My apology for a somewhat abbreviated treasurer's report this month. I'm still having some issues with QuickBooks. Our bookkeeper has some possible solutions but it's important that she gets up to speed on our system before she spends time on my problem. The financial health of Nativity remains strong. Our Plate/Pledge income for the first two months was \$58,449, which is an increase of \$13,698 over last year. This includes two large pledges, and the SDA offset of over \$1500.00 which continues through April. It also includes the \$656.00 proceeds of the jazz concert. This is not to be considered a trend because it has only been for two months. Expenses are currently under control and all bills are being paid on time. As always, the Finance Committee will review the budget each quarter to determine if adjustments are necessary. We are in a very good financial position, with a \$13,698 increase since last year.

**Motion:**

**Ron Herman made a motion to accept the March 2022 Treasurer's Report.**

**Vasco Coombs seconded the motion.**

**The Vestry voted to approve.**

**Relief for Ukraine**

Mother Tracy asks the vestry consider authorizing a special collection to be taken up March 27th (Rose Sunday) for the Ukraine. Traditionally, the loose plate goes to Mother Tracy's discretion fund on the 4th Sunday of the month. She has asked that all loose monies in the plate that day go to the Ukraine. Additionally, those wishing to write a check can make it out to church of the Nativity with "Ukraine" written on the memo line.

All funds raised by the Southeast Deanery Churches will be pooled together and matched by the Lilly Grant, up to \$5000.00 dollars. This will be sent to the Ukraine via the Episcopal Relief and Development Fund, working with refugees and immediate aid needs.

This "matching funds" opportunity would allow Nativity to double its gift to this much needed relief cause.

**Motion:**

**Vasco Coombs made a motion to distribute the Rose Sunday collection as outlined above for Ukrainian Relief.**

**Ron Herman seconded the motion.**

**The Vestry voted to approve.**

**CALENDAR INFORMATION:**

March 14-18: Mtr. Tracy Out of Town - Out of Cell Service Camping off Captiva Island

April 10-16: Holy Week

April 17 Easter!!!!

June 13-17 Vacation Bible School in the afternoons!

Closed in prayer.

**Motion:**

**Vasco Coombs made a motion to adjourn the March 2022 Vestry meeting.**

**Ron Herman seconded the motion.**

**The Vestry voted to approve.**

**Prayer for the Election of our next Bishop**

Almighty God, giver of every good gift: Look graciously on your Church, and so guide the minds of those who shall choose a Bishop for this Diocese that we may receive a faithful pastor who will preach the Gospel, care for your people, equip us for ministry, and lead us forth in fulfillment of the Great Commission; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.



I hope everyone had the opportunity to listen to Mother Tracy's wonderful sermon on Maundy Thursday. If not, here is the link to give a listen (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vzuJoLYZL-k>). I ask that you go specifically to the 34 minute mark. We are in need of people to serve as readers, acolytes, ushers and greeters during our Sunday morning services.

If you are interested in any of these vital roles, please contact Elaine Clem via email ([eg\\_clem@bellsouth.net](mailto:eg_clem@bellsouth.net)) or call the church office at 772.434.0401.

Thank you for your consideration.



Our Chapter will do a brief service during The Celebration of the Life of Helen Tarof. Helen became a Daughter of the King in 2000 at Holy Faith Episcopal Church, Port St. Lucie, and switched her membership to Church of the Nativity when she and Ernie became members here.

Our next meeting is Saturday, May 21 at 1:00PM in Wolfe Hall.

Blessings,  
Dotti Johnson

### **Prayer for the 80th General Convention Baltimore, Maryland**

Almighty and everliving God, source of all wisdom and understanding, be present with those who will take counsel at the 80th General Convention in Baltimore, Maryland for the renewal and mission of your Church. Teach us in all things to seek first your honor and glory. Guide us to perceive what is right, and grant us both the courage to pursue it and the grace to accomplish it; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.



## ***OUTREACH***

Thank you Nativity for the generous donations for our Easter Food Baskets! We provided food support and Publix gift cards for 36 families. We worked with the Council on Aging and Port St. Lucie School Social Workers to provide needed baskets. Many thanks to our volunteers for decorating baskets, writing out the cards, donating food and/or cash, packing and delivering our baskets. Our recipient families were most appreciative!

Other Outreach happenings included delivering clothing and toiletries to Veterans and delivering a needed bed.

We will continue providing food to some families on a monthly basis and continuing donations are always helpful. This month we could use some jelly, fruit and cereal.

If you know someone who would benefit from our assistance, please contact the office and/or Mary Justice.

SAVE the DATE: Saturday, September 24, 2022 for our Annual Rummage Sale Fundraiser. You could start a “donate box” of gently used and clean items. More details will be forthcoming each month.

We are still looking for a car carrier for a motorized scooter to help a family.

God Bless You!  
Outreach Ministry



## HAPPENING IN MAY

Sunday, May 1

7:50AM—Flag Raising  
11:30AM—12:30PM Drive thru Communion

Friday, May 6

7:00PM to 9:30PM—“Parents Night Out” in Wolfe Hall

Sunday, May 8



Saturday, May 21

1:00PM—Daughters of the King Meeting in Wolfe Hall

Sunday, May 22

11:45AM **Students in 6<sup>th</sup> Grade and Up** are invited to join Mother Tracy Dugger at Starbuck's in St. Lucie West

Saturday, May 28

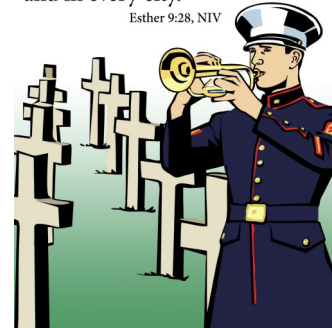
8:00AM—Men's Breakfast at Dawn's Café  
With Special Guest Dan Trabulsy, State Rep. Dist. 84

Monday, May 30

The Office will be closed  
in observance of  
Memorial Day

**THESE DAYS SHOULD BE  
REMEMBERED AND OBSERVED**  
in every generation by every  
family, and in every province  
and in every city.

Esther 9:28, NIV



### Parents Night Out

To Parents, Guardians and Grandparents: We will be holding a “Parents Night Out” on Friday, May 6 from 7:00PM to 9:30PM in Wolfe Hall. Parents Night Out is an opportunity to drop off your children ages 4 – 12 where they will be cared for by trusted adults in a safe environment. While the kids participate in fun activities and watch movies, adults can have dinner alone without the kids or catch a movie themselves. Our goal is to have an ongoing Parents Night Out the 1<sup>st</sup> Friday of every month.

Please contact Elaine Clem or the church office for additional information.



5/01	Joan Gordinier Rogers	5/18	Patricia Vaida
5/02	Margaret Lewis	5/19	Paula Hosein
5/05	Noel Gittens	5/20	Maryanne Asdal
5/05	Arline Jagger	5/21	Stanley Abrahams
5/07	Marva Murray	5/26	Susan Montgomery
5/08	Greg Clem	5/27	Juan Maldonado
5/08	Lolita Howard	5/28	Joan Smithler
5/09	Markell Jaboin	5/28	Richard Sprague
5/10	Mortimer Bailey	5/28	Celia Warren
5/10	Logan Latortue	5/29	Eugenie Grant
5/10	Frank Wood	5/30	Kendra Hunter
5/15	Thomas Keane, Sr.	5/30	Marley Roberts
5/18	Marcel Hosein		



5/01	Elaine & Greg Clem	5/18	Dottie & William Doherty
5/06	Maureen & Ronald Nickel	5/19	Rhoda & William Jenkins
5/13	Yolene Dorcean & Maxon Jaboin	5/25	Brigitte & Hifteau Dasme
		5/26	Phyllis & Robert Brandt

#### BIRTHDAYS IN THE FIRST WEEK OF JUNE

06/01	Nilcia Diaz	06/03	Doug Warren
06/03	Elizabeth Brooks	06/04	Glenn Chadbourne
06/03	Tyler Cox	06/05	Xenia Beckford
06/03	Kirsha Wallace	06/05	Lois Cardinale

#### ANNIVERSARIES IN THE FIRST WEEK OF JUNE

06/07	Maureen & Karl Wallace	06/11	Joyce & Bob Velzy
06/07	Jane & William Shaver	06/11	Celia & Peter Szelwach
06/09	Yvonne & John Robertson		



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Loving and Serving  
*ALL* People in Christ's  
Name

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Email: [office@nativitypsl.com](mailto:office@nativitypsl.com) Website: [www.churchofthenativitypsl.com](http://www.churchofthenativitypsl.com)  
Our office is open Monday through Thursday from 9:00AM-2:00PM

### **Nativity's Vision Statement**

As a Christ-centered oasis, the Church of the Nativity will be a place to experience acceptance and love. We will invite ALL people to come, be spiritually replenished, and leave eager to do the work God has called each of us to do. We will reflect God's love and limitless possibilities through our commitment to meaningful worship, spiritual formation, sweeping outreach and robust growth.

### **Church Leadership**

Jesus Christ, Head of the Church  
The Rt. Rev. Gregory O. Brewer,  
Bishop of Central Florida  
The People of the Church of the Nativity,  
Ministers  
The Rev. Tracy M. Dugger, Rector  
Ms. Carol Armstrong, Parish Administrator  
Mr. William Dugger, Facilities Minister  
Mrs. Hazel Graham, Minister of Music  
Mrs. Melissa Lewis, Bookkeeper  
Assisting Clergy:  
The Rev. Robert G. Brandt,  
Retired Assistant Priest

### **Vestry Members**

**Vasco Coombs, Sr. Warden**  
**Ron Herman, Jr. Warden**  
**Terry Garman, Treasurer**  
  
Wendy Chadbourne  
Viola Gittens  
Michelle Jarski  
Judy Klimczak  
Rose Skeete  
Bunny Webb