

I love them
that love me;
and those that
seek me early
shall find me.

Proverbs 8:17



The Herald

February 2026



From the Rector ...

AN EPIPHANAL MOMENT

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It's the season of Epiphany, and I had an epiphanal moment at the 57th Annual Convention for the Diocese of Central Florida this past weekend.

Epiphany means "revelation," and we celebrate the many ways Jesus has been revealed to us, as I shared during our Epiphany Bible study last week between services.

At the convention, we shared in the Eucharist, led by Bishop Justin. Josh Bales, a fellow priest whom I got to know during our time at the Cathedral and who was the key priest in teaching us Anglicanism, was leading the worship time. Josh began to lead us in the song Goodness of God.

And I lost it.

I started crying tears of joy.

Joy - because this was my first convention as a rector. Not my first convention, mind you. My first as a rector. I've been to four other conventions, and they all felt special to me, special because everything was so new.

This convention did not feel special to me. It felt normal.

It felt normal because God has normalized my situation, and that makes me feel special. I'll explain.

Sitting next to me were representatives of Nativity who were participating in the convention with me: Roma, Adela, Elaine, Deborah, and Dona. My new church family. It felt special sitting with my new church family for the first time. And I cried.

Worship Schedule

Sunday Morning
8:00 a.m.
and
10:30 a.m.

Wednesday
Holy Eucharist
& Healing
10:00 a.m.

Join us Online!

facebook.com/nativitypsl
or
youtube.com/nativitypsl
or
Instagram.com/Nativitypsl

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From the Rector continued ...

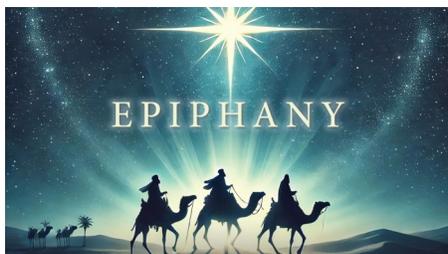
A few rows ahead of me was my former Grace Church family, including several friends with whom we had become close. I thought of the two-year training period I had with them. And I cried.

Off to the side were members from the Cathedral, where Dona and I first became Episcopalian, some of whom had become friends. I remembered those early days of discovering the Episcopal Church. And I cried.

Then in the rest of the congregation were priests and deacons who have befriended me and with whom I went through the discernment process; diocesan staff like Justin, Marilyn, Beverly, and Roman - men and women who have helped to get me to the place I am now, and with whom I now serve; and men and women, some known, most unknown to me, from the other 80 churches in our diocese, all gathered to worship and to serve. And I cried.

Next to me was my Dona, who has been with me through it all. I grabbed her hand for comfort. And I cried.

God revealed to me all these special people in one place, my Episcopal world coming together, adding up to a normal priest's life. It was an epiphany, a special moment of understanding, recognizing the goodness of God.



Youth & Families Ministry Corner

Upcoming Dates & Events:

Friday, February 6th

(7:00 PM – 9:30 PM)

Friday, March 6th

(7:00 PM – 9:30 PM)

Friday, April 10th

(7:00 PM – 9:30 PM)

Friday, May 1st

(7:00 PM – 9:30 PM)

Friday, June 5th

(7:00 PM – 9:30 PM)

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



Weekly Emails

We send a weekly email that includes a weekly calendar and announcements, and other important information. If you would like to receive emails from Church of the Nativity, please submit your email address to office@nativitypsl.com.



Picture Nativity “Happy Birthday” ...



Lent is coming!

Shrove Tuesday



Deacon John Memorial
Pancake Supper



FEBRUARY 17, 2026 AT 5:30 P.M.



Ash Wednesday

February 18, 2026

Holy Eucharist & Imposition of Ashes

10:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m.

Lenten Soup & Studies

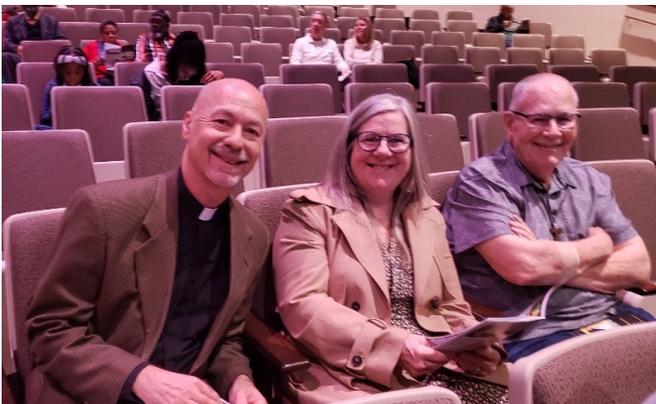
Join us for Lenten Soup & Studies led by Fr. Brian!
"Right on Time: The Coming and Going of Life and Death"
Wednesdays, beginning February 25th, immediately
following Holy Eucharist and Healing, in Wolfe Hall



Picture Nativity "Cookie Day" ...



Picture Nativity ...



FEBRUARY Birthdays

- 4: Neville Lake
- 8: Robert Smith
- 10: Crystal Frihart
- 14: Mary Justice
- 15: Gail Napolitano
- 18: Ronald Nickel, Sr.
- 19: Jack Johnson
- 25: Elaine Clem
- 26: Lena Maxwell-Schardsmidt

FEBRUARY Anniversaries

- 5: Wilfred & Elsa Craig
- 10: Abner & Marie-Ange Genece
- 25: Marcel & Paula Hosein
- 26: Carlton & Arlene DeRoy

Did we miss your birthday or anniversary?

Help us update our records!

Please contact the church office at 772.343.0401

or office@nativitypsl.com



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to make a donation
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OUR MISSION:
UNITED BY GOD'S GRACE
Loving and Serving ALL People in Christ's Name

OUR VISION:

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. Dr. Justin S. Holcomb,
Bishop of Central Florida
The People of the Church of the Nativity,
Ministers
The Rev. Brian Stankich, *Rector*
Mrs. Hazel Graham, *Minister of Music*
Mrs. Melissa Lewis,
Bookkeeper & Communications

Vestry Members

Deborah Benway, *Sr. Warden*
Pete Szelwach, *Jr. Warden*
Wendy Chadbourne, *Treasurer*
Starr Coulter, *Secretary*

Audrey Coombs
Neville Lake
Darcy Miller
Mary Mosley
Adela Sanabria
Robert Smith
Bob Villa



1151 SW DEL RIO BLVD | PORT SAINT LUCIE, FL 34953
(772) 343-0401 | OFFICE@NATIVITYPSL.COM |
WWW.NATIVITYPSL.COM
OFFICE HOURS: MONDAY - THURSDAY 9:00 AM TO 1:00 PM