

## Twenty first Sunday in Ordinary Time – August 26, 2018

### A Choice to Make

**Readings:** Joshua 24:1-2, 15-18; Psalm 34:2-3, 16-23;  
Ephesians 5:21-32; John 6:60-69

This Sunday's Mass readings conclude a four-week meditation on the Eucharist.

The Twelve Apostles in today's Gospel are asked to make a choice—either to believe and accept the New Covenant He offers in His Body and Blood or return to their former ways of life.

Their choice is prefigured by the decision Joshua asks the Twelve Tribes to make in today's First Reading.

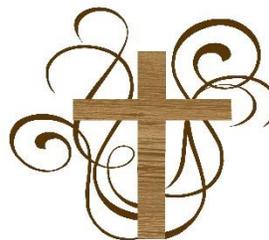
Joshua gathers them at Shechem—where God first appeared to their father Abraham, promising to make his descendants a great nation in a new land (see **Genesis 12:1–9**). And he issues a blunt challenge—either renew their covenant with God or serve the alien gods of the surrounding nations.

We too are being asked today to decide whom we will serve. For four weeks we have been presented in the liturgy with the mystery of the Eucharist—a daily miracle far greater than those performed by God in bringing the Israelites out of the land of Egypt. He has promised us a new homeland and eternal life, offering us bread from heaven to strengthen us on our journey. He has told us that unless we eat His Flesh and drink His Blood we will have no life in us. It is a hard saying, as many murmurs in today's Gospel. Yet He has given us the words of eternal life.

We must believe, as Peter says today, that He is the Holy One of God, who handed himself over for us, who gave His flesh for the life of the world.

As we hear in today's Epistle, Jesus did this that we might be sanctified, made holy, through the water and word of Baptism by which we enter into His new covenant. Through the Eucharist, He nourishes and cherishes us, making us His own flesh and blood, as husband and wife become one flesh.

Let us renew our covenant today, approaching the altar with confidence that, as we sing in today's Psalm, the Lord will redeem the lives of His servants.



**Eternal Rest Grant Unto them, oh Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them.**



**Rafaela Campos Evans**, Born Sept 16, 1926 in Puerto Rico, Died on August 21, 2018 in Winter Park, Florida.

Memorial Mass at Nativity on Monday, August 27, 2018  
11:00 AM Holy Hour 12:00 (noon) Mass

**Alberta Williams**, 101, Died on Friday, August 17, 2018. Funeral at Ft. Lincoln Cemetery on Sunday, August 26, 2018.

**May the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.**



**Father Blake Evans, Pastor**

# Mass Intentions for the Week



## August 25 – September 1, 2018

Sat. 8/25	<b>No Mass</b>	Ann Butler
	5:30pm	+Willie Poole, Jr.
Sun. 8/26	8:00am	Nativity's financial needs
	10:00am	Olga Parkovic
	1:00 pm	People of the Parish
Mon. 8/27	11:00	Holy Hour
	12:00	+Rafaela Evans' Memorial
Tue. 8/28	12:00	+Alberta Williams
Wed. 8/29	12:00	+Anthony Peires
Thu. 8/30	12:00	+Aaron Goldstein
Fri. 8/31	12:00	Kevin Parker
Sat. 9/1	8:00 am	+Cher Perera
	5:30pm	Rohini Perera

Nativity will begin Religious Education for our young people. First day of class will be Sunday, September 16<sup>th</sup>. All young people must be in religious education for two years in a row before making a sacrament. Registration is open after the 8am, 10am and 1pm Masses

### ATTENDANCE REPORT

8/19/18

**Attendance: 453 souls**

Offerings & Tithes: \$5,384

Spanish Mass: \$379

Utility fund: \$499

### Please pray for the sick of our Parish:

\*Alice R. Allen, \*Amina Anderson-Pringle, \*Ann Butler, \*William Cammack, \*Lukas Pastier, \*Carmen Dolores Campos, \*Carla Andrea Catacora, \*Shawn Coleman, \*William Corbel, \*Maria Cruz, \*Maurice & Flora Detiege, \*Kevin Fagan, \*Isel Fitzgerald, \*Dion A. Fortune, \*Linda Foster, \*Charlie Gick, \*John Green, Sr., \*Janet Henery, \*Blanca Hernandez, \*Lawrence C. Hill, \*Lee Hobbs, \*Sydney Horge, \*Francis Howard, \*Elaine Hunt, \*Helen Hurd, \*Larry Ivy, \*Geraldine Jones, \*Odile Kalla, \*Michael Kelly, \*Busara Keneddy, \*Claude Kolthoff, \*Betty Lawton, \*Yavonna Lewis, \*Sandra Lucas, \*Eric Malcolm, \*Edwin & Regina Mbanude, \*Theresa McNair, \*Edith Mebane, \*Maria Magdalena Medrano, \*Agnes Moore, \*Gina Myers, \*Iris Newman, \*Sheryl Newman, \*D. Cynthia Peters, \*James Pope, \*Margaret Pope, \*Dorothy Richburg, \*Auristela Roman, \*Rosa Maria Santos, \*Bonafacio Selayo, \*Delores Sloan, \*Adrian Smith, \*Alice Smith, \*Bernadette Smith, \*Theresa Smith, \*Louise Sweatt, \*Suzie Thompson, \*Emily Towles, \*Dominic Valentine, \*Dorothy Waring, \*Paul Williams, \*Florentina Zoretta

## Serving Christ by Serving Others



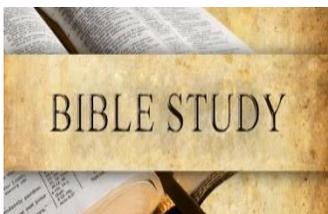
**NATIVITY IS OUR PARISH, BECOME A VOLUNTEER!**

The life of our parish and all its ministries relies on each of our parishioners sharing their time and their talents in the community. To help you make a prayerful and thoughtful decision about how you may be called to volunteer, here you will find a list of our needs

- Religious Educations: Teachers, Monitors, Aids. \*
- Youth days: food servers, set up and cleaning the lounge, monitors
- Lectors
- Ushers
- Altar Servers
- Sacristan
- Financial. Finance Council Member; Money Counter
- Facilities: Maintaining Church and Chapel clean.  
Laundry: Purificators and other linens

\*volunteers who will have substantial contact with children will require additional paperwork and training.

Please call the rectory for more information and/or to register. Volunteers need to be a register member in good standing of Nativity Church.



Monday classes resume after Labor Day. Our next text is the Joy of the Gospel by Pope Francis, the hallmark of his pontificate and a template of what he asks for the Church living

the Good news in the 21st Century. Text is free online or for purchase through the USCCB website (<https://store.usccb.org/The-Joy-of-the-Gospel-Evangelii-Gaudium-p/7-458.htm>) The First class will be an outline of the book. We will not have the books for sale at Nativity.

**Nativity Sodality** will meet on Sunday, September 2<sup>nd</sup>. after the 8am Mass. All Sodalists are encouraged to arrive at 7:30am for the praying of the rosary. All are welcome. After the Mass, the Sodality will meet in the church lounge for the regular business meeting.