



Nativity

CATHOLIC CHURCH

A WELCOMING COMMUNITY OF BELIEVERS

2021-2022 ANNUAL REPORT

PARISH STATISTICS

Average Mass Attendance
726 /weekend

Number of Households
1486

Estimated Number of
Individual Catholics
4063

FAITH FORMATION

Number of Students
228

Catechists
30

SACRAMENTS

Infant Baptisms (to age 7)
23

Christian Initiation
0

Received into Full Communion
4

First Communion
39

Confirmation
35

Marriages
3

Deaths and Funerals
39



3255 N. Ronald Reagan Blvd.
Longwood, FL 32750

Phone: (407) 322-3961 | Fax: (407) 322-3981

VISIT US ONLINE NATIVITY.ORG

A NOTE FROM FR. DAVID SCOTCHIE, PASTOR



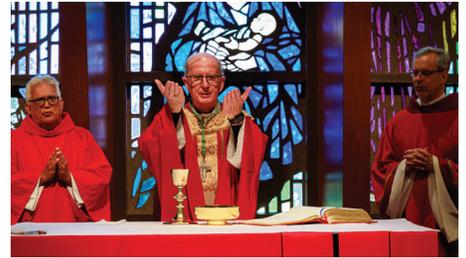
Dear beloved sisters and brothers in Christ,

Like the rest of the world, Nativity emerged in 2021-2022 from the COVID-19 pandemic with some changes.

WE WORSHIP

Weekend Mass attendance rose in 2021 from the pandemic low of about 600 people in the pews to about 800 people, two-thirds of the pre-pandemic weekend Mass attendance. Families remained most absent.

With widespread effective vaccines, Bishop Noonan restored on Palm Sunday 2022 the obligation to participate in person in the Sunday Mass. The Church has always excused from the Sunday obligation those who are sick or care for



infants or the elderly. On the other hand, no Catholic should miss Sunday Mass without a serious reason. Bishop Noonan wrote, "Those who deliberately fail in this obligation commit a grave sin." For those who cannot come to Mass, Nativity came to them. Ministers to the sick brought communion weekly to the homebound and a half-dozen assisted living facilities. We continued to livestream the 9:00 a.m. Sunday morning Mass nativity.org/livestream.

As COVID-19 restrictions were lifted, we reintroduced baptisms during Sunday Mass, moved daily Mass from the church to the chapel, and refilled the holy water fonts at the church doors. We continued to hold Eucharistic Adoration on the Third Thursday evening of the month and weekly on Friday mornings. Children received their First Communion and our youth received the Sacrament of Confirmation with Bishop Noonan. It was great to sing without masks!



In the Summer 2021, The Yonder Star Gift Shop in the church entry reopened. Staffed by parishioners, families found something for everyone, including crucifixes to hang over their doorways, religious books for children, Bibles,

rosaries, prayer cards, statues of saints, and First Communion gifts. The Welcome Desk in the entry opened for church business such as registration in the parish or questions about baptism. Instead of coming to the parish office during the week, the parish office has come to church on Sunday mornings.

WE WITNESS

In 2021, while their children met in the classrooms, Faith Formation parents discussed The Search video series in the Parish Center. The Search is the on-ramp to connect with other parishioners. Beginning with Episode 1: What Do You Seek?, it moves us from "I go to Nativity" to "I belong to Nativity." The parish staff and choir viewed and discussed The Search in Summer 2022. In 2022-2023, liturgical ministers and young adults will meet once a month to discuss The Search, and it will be offered several more times during the year watch.formed.org/the-search. Looking ahead to 2022-2023, parish adults including faith formation parents can choose from one of four tracks on Sunday morning on The Search, Prayer, Our Faith, and Real Life Catholic.

Our Youth Ministry met Sunday evenings through the year. In July for the first time in three years, Vacation Bible School returned for a week of fellowship and faith with our children and many helpers.





WE SERVE THE POOR

One Thursday afternoon, I played bingo. At my table, Bill won the first two games. From the prize basket provided by our Youth Ministry, he picked out an insulated travel mug and a “Jesus Hearts Me” ball cap. They were good choices for someone who was homeless. Bill (not his real name) had been at Pathways to Care for a week recuperating from edema. His legs were wrapped in bandages. He walked with a cane. How he ended up homeless, I don’t know, but he offered that the pandemic had wiped out his savings. At one time he had been in the seminary. He recalled playing dominoes with a cardinal. The cardinal said, “No cheating.” Bill joked, “No miracles.”

For Lent 2022, Nativity’s Advocacy and Social Action Committee coordinated our collection of over \$53,000 for Pathways to Care. The Catholic organization cares for Bill and other homeless discharged from the hospital with no place to go. pathwaystocare.org. Epilogue: A donor through Catholic Charities matched our collection. The \$53,000 for Pathways to Care doubled to \$106,000. The mustard seed really grew! (For its Lent Project in 2021, Nativity gave over \$70,000 to the Life Choices Medical Center in Altamonte Springs. Its healing ministry supports pregnant moms, dads and their beautiful babies. More info at lifechoicesfl.com.)

STEWARDSHIP OF TIME, TALENT, AND TREASURE

While many organizations scrambled in a tight labor market, the staff of Nativity held steady. They could no doubt have found better pay elsewhere but chose to minister here. We have much to be grateful for. In June 2022, we gave special thanks to the Lord for Deacon Walt Skinner and his wife Nancy. After thirteen years of ministry to the people of Nativity, they discerned a call to serve at St. Margaret Mary parish in Winter Park. It was closer to their home in Maitland and his chaplaincy work at Advent Health Hospital in Orlando. Deacon Steve Knych and his wife Audrey, in the meantime, joined Nativity effective July 1, 2022. Deacon Dave Baker laughed that he was now the “senior deacon.” God provides!

Our Parish Center got two new projectors and wall screens as we held more events with videos such as the Legacy Planning Series and The Search discussion series. We mounted, “Stations of the Nativity,” fourteen original paintings by Linda Schaepper depicting the birth of Jesus. On another wall in the Parish Center, we hung dozens of framed photos of First Communion classes going back to the 1960s. Many of the First Communions had taken place in the Parish Center until the current church was built in 1984. During coffee and donuts on Sunday mornings, parents who received their First Communion at Nativity point out their First Communion class photo to their own children. Generations of families have grown up surrounded by the faith at Nativity!

We continued important maintenance to keep our beautiful campus in good condition. In Spring 2022, we replaced the 20-year-old roofs of the parish rectory, the parish office, and the parish center. All the buildings have strong new roofs to shelter us from the Florida storms! We painted the rectory and we landscaped the classroom courtyard.

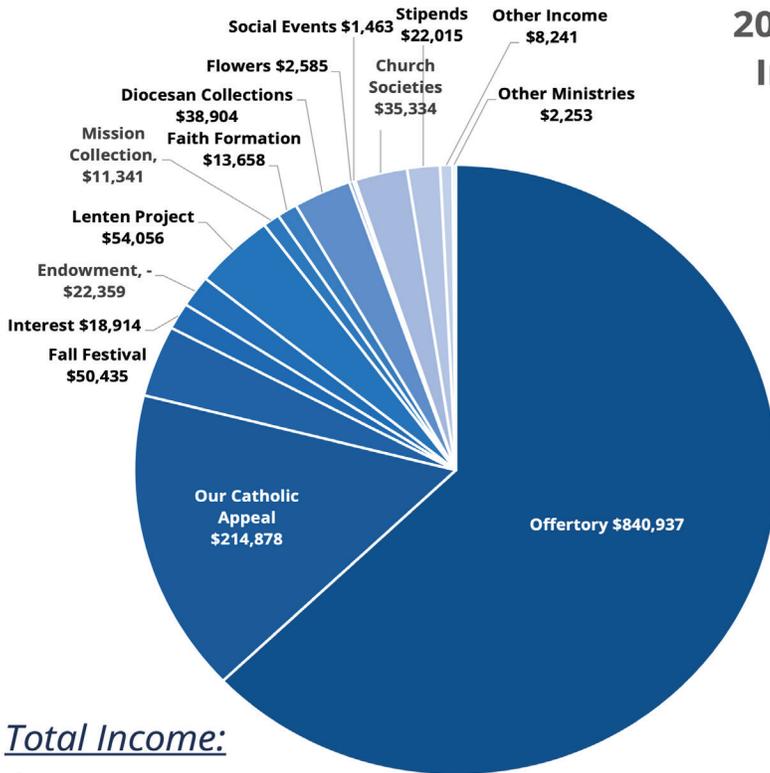
The Fall Festival resumed in full strength after its hiatus during the pandemic. Many parishioners took turns serving up delicious food, providing entertainment, and hosting games for the children. Favorites such as the Plant Booth, ceramics, Bling Boutique, bingo, car show, and book nook filled the rooms. The Fall Festival 2021 gathered families and friends of Lake Mary and Longwood for a fun weekend.

More parishioners made the leap of faith to give a percentage of their income to the church. “As each one has received a gift, use it to serve one another as good stewards of God’s varied grace” (1 Peter 4:10). Our prayerful, purposeful giving has borne fruit in the parish life described in this annual report. It makes possible our purpose to make disciples who worship, witness, and serve the poor. Each year, I raise my tithe by one percent. Somehow, I end up with more than I need—our cup overflows!



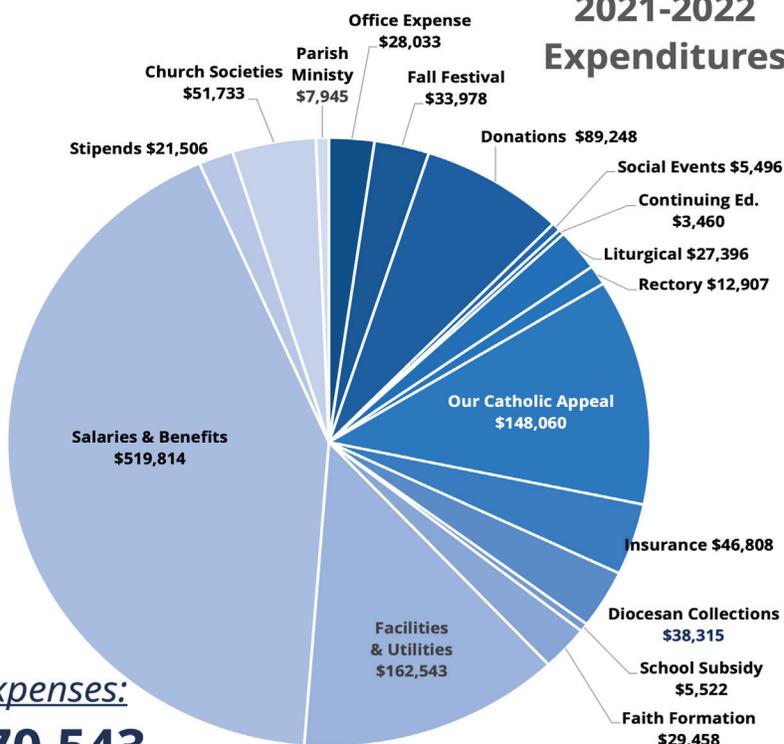
FINANCIAL REPORTS

2021-2022 Income



Total Income:
\$1,378,179

2021-2022 Expenditures



Total Expenses:
\$1,270,543

CLERGY

Fr. David Scotchie

Pastor

Ext 205 | dscotchie@nativity.org

Rev. Mr. David Baker

Permanent Deacon

Ext 214 | dbaker@nativity.org

Rev. Mr. Steve Knych

Permanent Deacon

Ext 207 | sknych@nativity.org

STAFF

Wanda Chandia

Faith Formation Assistant

Ext 212 | wchandia@nativity.org

Jennifer Chellberg

Coordinator of Youth & Young Adult Ministries

Ext 208 | jchellberg@nativity.org

JoAnn Elder

Director of Faith Formation

Ext 211 | jelder@nativity.org

Don McCaslin

Maintenance Supervisor

Phillip Revekant

Director of Music

Ext 215 | prevekant@nativity.org

David Stabler

Parish Receptionist

Ext 200 | dstabler@nativity.org

Billy B Williamson

Director of Liturgy & Communication

Ext 202 | bwilliamson@nativity.org

Vicky Wulff

Business Manager

Ext 203 | vwulff@nativity.org

FOLLOW US

YOUTUBE

youtube.com/c/nativitylongwood

FACEBOOK

facebook.com/nativitylongwood

INSTAGRAM

[@NativityLongwood](https://instagram.com/NativityLongwood)