

December 27, 2020

Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish

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PASTOR:

Rev. Msgr. Joseph G. Diermeier
dierjoe@aol.com

BULLETIN EMAIL:

bulletin@stmarysmarathon.org

WEEKEND MASSES:

Saturday—4:00 PM

Sunday—7:00 AM, 8:30 AM, and
10:00 AM **Due to limited
capacity.**

**For health reasons please take
this bulletin with you as you exit
the building after Mass.*

Thank you ☺

PHONE:

Rectory 715 443 2045
School 715 443 3430
Religious Ed. 715 443 2433





We would like to welcome
Carl and Marie Radtke
who have recently joined our parish.



Congratulations go out to the following:

Samuel and Adrian Dallman on the baptism of their son, Henry Samuel.

Dustin and Margaret Kaiser on the baptism of their son, Milo Ambrose.

End of Calendar Year Charitable Contributions As the end of the calendar year approaches we want to remind you that charitable contributions must be applied to the year in which they are received. The only exception would be that when a check is mailed: it is applied to the year the check is postmarked, even if it is received in the next calendar year.

The Marathon Circle of Joy would like to thank everyone who helped out this year by choosing a name from the Giving Tree located at Peoples State Bank and purchasing gifts for the less fortunate families. You have helped make those families' Christmas a whole lot better.

With much Gratitude,

Anita Krautkramer, Giving Tree Coordinator.



FROM THE PASTOR

This is a brief note to say thank you to all who have been attending our Masses and worshipping as a community of faith. I understand the hesitation that many still have but I also am encouraged by those who have returned to the liturgy as well as to those who watch the Mass online and enter into Spiritual Communion with the Lord. Also, it has been a blessing to see individuals enter the church and spend time here in prayer.

I am grateful to the members from the Knights of Columbus and others who have assisted with ushering and with the sanitizing the church after each of the liturgies. So many of our parish members volunteer in a variety of ways to make our parish a vibrant faith community.

I also want to express my gratitude to those who sent cards or goodies and especially to those who offered an assurance of their prayers for me. In these and in many other ways I give thanks to God for this parish family.

As we look ahead to the new year, my thoughts for you are well-expressed in the words of Pope-emeritus Benedict XVI who wrote the following: "Dear friends, may no adversity paralyze you. Be afraid neither of the world, nor of the future, nor of your weakness. The Lord has allowed you to live in this moment of history so that, by your faith, His name will continue to resound throughout the world."

God bless all of you as we conclude 2020 and look forward to 2021.

**New Year's Eve and Day Mass
Times:**

December 31 at 4:00pm

January 1 at 9:00am

Week at a Glance

Wed., Dec. 30 HSRE Gr 10 NO CLASS
Wed., Dec. 30 ... Communal Rosary 7:00pm

5 Ways to Gain a Plenary Indulgence for the Year of Saint Joseph as Proclaimed by Pope Francis

Pope Francis proclaimed the year of St. Joseph; this special year will last from 8 December 2020 to 8 December 2021. The Apostolic Penitentiary issues a Decree granting plenary indulgences under certain conditions.

This was on the occasion of the 150th anniversary of the proclamation of St. Joseph as the Patron of the Universal Church.

During this year, the faithful can obtain a plenary indulgence.

The plenary indulgence is granted to the faithful under the usual conditions (sacramental confession, Eucharistic Communion, and prayer for the Pope's intentions) to Christians who, with a spirit detached from any sin, participate in the Year of St. Joseph:

1) The plenary indulgence is granted to those who will meditate for at least 30 minutes on the Lord's Prayer, or take part in a Spiritual Retreat of at least one day that includes a meditation on St. Joseph. "St. Joseph, an authentic man of faith, invites us", the decree reads, "to rediscover our filial relationship with the Father, to renew fidelity to prayer, to listen and correspond with profound discernment to God's will."

2) The indulgence can also be obtained by those who, following St. Joseph's example, will perform a spiritual (To instruct the ignorant, to counsel the doubtful, to admonish the sinner, to bear wrongs patiently, to forgive offenses willingly, to comfort the afflicted, to pray for the living and the dead) or corporal work of mercy (to feed the hungry, to give drink to the thirsty, to clothe the naked, to give shelter to travellers, to visit the sick, to visit the imprisoned, and to bury the dead). St. Joseph "encourages us to rediscover the value of silence, prudence and loyalty in carrying out our duties," the decree notes.

3) The recitation of the Holy Rosary in families and among engaged couples is another way of obtaining indulgences, in order that "all Christian families may be stimulated to recreate the same atmosphere of intimate communion, love and prayer that was in the Holy Family."

4) Everyone who entrusts their daily activity to the protection of St. Joseph, and every faithful who invokes the intercession of St. Joseph so that those seeking work can find dignifying

work can also obtain the plenary indulgence. On 1 May 1955, Pope Pius XII instituted the feast of St. Joseph "with the intent that the dignity of work be recognized by all, and that it inspires social life and laws, based on the fair distribution of rights and duties."

5) The plenary indulgence is also granted to the faithful who will recite the Litany to St. Joseph (for the Latin tradition), or the Akathistos to St. Joseph (for the Byzantine tradition), or any other prayer to St. Joseph proper to the other liturgical traditions, for the persecuted Church ad intra and ad extra, and for the relief of all Christians suffering all forms of persecution. Because, the decree notes, "the flight of the Holy Family to Egypt shows us that God is there where man is in danger, where man suffers, where he runs away, where he experiences rejection and abandonment."

Special Feast Days -

In addition to these, the Apostolic Penitentiary grants a plenary indulgence to the faithful who will recite any legitimately approved prayer or act of piety in honor of St. Joseph, for example, "To you, O blessed Joseph" especially on "19 March, on 1 May, the Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph, on St. Joseph's Sunday (according to the Byzantine tradition) on the 19th of each month and every Wednesday, a day dedicated to the memory of the saint according to the Latin tradition."

Special Circumstances -

Amid the ongoing Covid-19 health crisis, the gift of the plenary indulgence is also extended to the sick, the elderly, the dying and all those who for legitimate reasons are unable to leave their homes.

They too can obtain the plenary indulgences if they are detached from any sin and have the intention of fulfilling, as soon as possible, the three usual conditions and recite an act of piety in honor of St. Joseph, offering to God the pains and hardships of their lives.

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Pax Christi Adoration Chapel

The Adoration Chapel can ONLY be described as a wonderful gift. It is the gift of being close to the presence of the Lord Jesus as we contemplate His love for us.

During the Holy Mass, the bread and wine are changed into the Body and Blood of Christ. During times of Adoration when the Blessed Sacrament is exposed, we see the consecrated bread and the consecrated wine which have truly become the Real Presence of Jesus Christ. In one sense, this is a miracle in our midst – that Jesus would come to us in this way. But often that is the way of the Lord – a silent and unobtrusive way. He comes to us in silence, remains within us and invites us to carry Him into the world around us. None of us can ever fully understand how this occurs, but we do know why it occurs. It happens because God loves us and loves this world so deeply. He wants to remain with us and we with Him.

If you are willing to give the Lord even a bit of your time by adoring Him in the Blessed Sacrament, you will find these words to take on new meaning:

Come in faith, Remain in hope, go out in love.

The effects of adoration: Here is a comment from one of our parishioners who has a weekly hour of adoration. “In the past, I never had a personal relationship with Jesus. I knew of him, I knew about him, but I didn’t know him. I didn’t really love Jesus because you can’t love someone you don’t know. The first time I went to adoration, I was bored out of my mind and spent most of the time looking at my watch. During my second visit, I didn’t pray at all. The third time, however, I was at a low point. Adoration has improved every aspect of my life. I’m no longer in a state of constant worry about situations I have no control over. I don’t know what the future holds, but I find great comfort in knowing the One who does.”

***Currently closed until the Safer at Home restrictions are lessened or lifted.**

Our Mission and Identity

Our parish, Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, grows only in Christ and through the gifts of the Holy Spirit. Flowing from these gifts, we dedicate ourselves to live and proclaim the Gospel message of Christ’s love. To live Christ’s love may at times be difficult. Nevertheless, it is our goal.

We are called to reach out to our parish family, to the needs of the local community, the diocesan Church, the universal Church, and to the global community. We do this by being attentive to the voice of God found in the Sacred Scriptures, in the Sacred Tradition of our Catholic faith, and through an informed conscience which we try to cultivate.

In light of our baptism, we try to be Christ centered in every aspect of our faith life.

December 27, 2020—Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

Gloria

Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to people of good will. We praise you, we bless you, we adore you, we glorify you, we give you thanks for your great glory, Lord God, heavenly King, O God, almighty Father. Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son, Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us; you take away the sins of the world, receive our prayer; you are seated at the right hand of the Father, have mercy on us. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

Liturgy of the Word

Reading 1 SIR 3:2-6, 12-14

Responsorial Psalm: PS 128:1-2, 3, 4-5

R. Blessed are those who fear the Lord and walk in his ways. Blessed is everyone who fears the LORD, who walks in his ways!

For you shall eat the fruit of your handiwork; blessed shall you be, and favored.

R. Blessed are those who fear the Lord and walk in his ways. Your wife shall be like a fruitful vine in the recesses of your home; your children like olive plants around your table.

R. Blessed are those who fear the Lord and walk in his ways. Behold, thus is the man blessed who fears the LORD.

The LORD bless you from Zion: may you see the prosperity of Jerusalem all the days of your life.

R. Blessed are those who fear the Lord and walk in his ways.

Reading 2 COL 3:12-21

Alleluia, alleluia.

Gospel: LK 2:22-40

Homily

Profession of Faith: I believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible. I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Only Begotten Son of God, born of the Father before all ages. God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father; through him all things were made. For us men and for our salvation he came down from heaven, and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate, he suffered death and was buried, and rose again on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead and his kingdom will have no end. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church. I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

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