



The Nativity of the Lord

St. John the Baptist Catholic Church

Mass Intentions for the Week

MONDAY, DECEMBER 27, 2021

9:00 AM George Metz

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 28, 2021

9:00 AM Claudette Leszczynski

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 29, 2021

9:00 AM Alfredo Alban

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 30, 2021

9:00 AM All Souls Remembrances

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 31, 2021

9:00 AM All Souls Remembrances

SATURDAY, JANUARY 1, 2022

10:00 AM For Our Parish Family

1:00 PM For all those in captivity (Spanish Mass)

5:00 PM All Souls Remembrances

SUNDAY, JANUARY 2, 2022

10:00 AM Elaine Baumgartner

1:00 PM For Our Parish Family

This Week in our Parishes

Monday, December 27, 2021

9:30 am Legion of Mary—St. John

6:30 pm R.C.I.A. Classes at Holy Family

Wednesday, December 29, 2021

After Mass Divine Mercy/Bible Study-St. John

6:30 pm Bible Study-Holy Family Msgr. Galic Rm

7:00 pm Choir Practice

Thursday, December 30, 2021

8:30 am Bible Study-H.F. Msgr. Galic Rm

Saturday, January 1, 2022

9:00 am Solemnity of Mary-Holy Family

10:00 am Solemnity of Mary—St. John

11:00 am Solemnity of Mary-Holy Family

5:00 pm The Epiphany—St. John & H.F.

Sunday, January 2, 2022

10:00 am The Epiphany

1:00 pm La Misa en Española

WEEKLY PRAYER

READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 26, 2021

Sunday: Sir 3:2-6, 12-14/Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5 [cf. 1]/Col 3:12-21 or 3:12-17/Lk 2:41-52 or 1 Sm 1:20-22, 24-28/Ps 84:2-3, 5-6, 9-10 [cf. 5a]/1 Jn 3:1-2, 21-24/Lk 2:41-52

Monday: 1 Jn 1:1-4/Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12 [12]/Jn 20:1a, 2-8

Tuesday: 1 Jn 1:5—2:2/Ps 124:2-3, 4-5, 7b-8 [7]/Mt 2:13-18

Wednesday: 1 Jn 2:3-11/Ps 96:1-2a, 2b-3, 5b-6 [11a]/Lk 2:22-35

Thursday: 1 Jn 2:12-17/Ps 96:7-8a, 8b-9, 10 [11a]/Lk 2:36-40

Friday: 1 Jn 2:18-21/Ps 96:1-2, 11-12, 13 [11a]/Jn 1:1-18

Saturday: Nm 6:22-27/Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8 [2a]/Gal 4:4-7/Lk 2:16-21

Next Sunday: Is 60:1-6/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13 [cf. 11]/Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6/Mt 2:1-12

OBSERVANCES FOR THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 26, 2021

Sunday: The Holy Family

Monday: St. John, Apostle and Evangelist

Tuesday: The Holy Innocents, Martyrs

Wednesday: St. Thomas Becket, Bishop and Martyr

Friday: St. Sylvester I, Pope; New Year's Eve

Saturday: New Year's Day; Mary, The Holy Mother of God; World Day of Peace

Next Sunday: The Epiphany of the Lord; Sts. Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzen, Bishops and Doctors of the Church

LIVE THE LITURGY

Inspiration for the week

It was the best of times and it was the worst of times. Our families can bring out the best and the worst in us. This is true of our families of origin, the current family of which we are a part, the family of our church, our society, and the like. In all of our family experiences, what stands out as our most challenging memory? Everything human can be found on the pages of family life. But there is also a Divine story to be discovered as well. When life gets difficult and perplexing, today's Feast of the Holy Family stands to remind us that it is not just by human effort that we tread treacherous waters. We have to remember and learn from the Divine effort too. We need this perspective if our love lessons are going to be learned completely and well. We are all works in progress and we all come from homes that are broken by imperfection. In whatever life brings us and in whatever family we find ourselves, may the promptings we feel toward faith and hope lead us to greater love.

~~~~NEWS & NOTES~~~~

DIOCESAN OFFICES NOW HIRING

There is no better time to work for the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend! The diocese is now hiring for multiple positions at both the Fort Wayne and Mishawaka diocesan offices. Opportunities include administrative, ministry, communications, and more! Bilingual candidates needed for certain positions. For more information about specific openings and to apply, visit diocesefwsb.org/careers.

MARCH FOR LIFE REGISTRATION NOW

OPEN The Diocesan March for Life pilgrimage for students grades 9-12 is January 20-23, 2022. Tentative schedule includes the National March for Life on Friday, Jan. 21, and a Diocesan Mass at the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception with Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades on Saturday, Jan. 22. Join hundreds of students and adult leaders from our diocese as we pray and march for the protection of human life! Learn more and register at diocesefwsb.org/march-for-life.

Parish News

Prayer Chain: Do you need prayers? Call the St. John's Prayer Chain and within hours these intentions will be in the prayers of every member of the prayer chain. To start the prayer chain, call Sylvia Ryan at 574-233-2869.

Hospital & Home Communion Calls: If you are in the hospital or homebound and would like to receive Communion or a visit from Fr. Glenn or Fr. Sunday, please call the Rectory at 574-233-5414 or Holy Family at 574-282-2317. Also if you know of any parishioner that is in a nursing home or assisted living, please let us know so we can visit them. Thank you

All parishioners have access to www.formed.org: This is like Netflix for Catholics, check out the series: The Search, and also "Who am I to Judge?" Great resources! Please take time to look at them. It will be great for your soul!

The Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God is not a Holy Day of Obligation this year. Therefore we will not be having a vigil mass on Friday, December 31, 2021. We will however have masses on Saturday, January 1 at 10:00 am and 1:00 pm (Spanish).



We will reopen on Monday, January 3, 2022.



Fr. Glenn's Pen

This Weekend the Sunday after Christmas we celebrate the Feast of the Holy Family. I recall Saint John Paul II's beautiful document, *Familiaris Consortio*, On the Family! A remarkable quote, "All of humanity passes by way of the family! I believe it was Sr. Lucia, one of the Fatima visionaries who was told that the family will be under attack. That is certainly the case. A family in the minds of many is seen as a group that decides to be a family, but this is not the case. At the heart of the family is a community of persons who bound together by a covenant which often in turn brings children into the world. A man and a woman love for each other often generates new life! Pope Francis in *Amoris Laetitia*, states: *The couple that loves and begets life is a true, living icon – not an idol like those of stone or gold prohibited by the Decalogue – capable of revealing God the Creator and Saviour.*

The other ties of family life can be forged through foster parenting. In that case people take on the legal obligation of being seen as a real family. St. Joseph, for example, is the Foster Father of Jesus. A real father of Jesus even though he had no genetic ties.



At the core of human desire is to be a real member of a family. So many broken homes exist in our world as the result of misunderstanding of the value of the other! The so called *Sexual Revolution* has arguably done incalculable harm. Sexual relations have seemingly been reduced to mere recreation and lost their noble and sacred character. So many people have been conditioned to try this partner or another for a time to see if a commitment is possible. Think about what such an outlook implies, "I want to see if you are good enough for me now! The future may give ME a better partner!" This attitude is tragic on so many levels. At the heart of the family life that God intends is pure selfless love! Unlike the animals the procreative act in humans is not just reproducing, but has many levels. Animals are in heat, but not so with the human person. The core of any family is never driven by sexual desire, but the desire to make oneself a total gift to the other as God has given Himself to us through Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit.

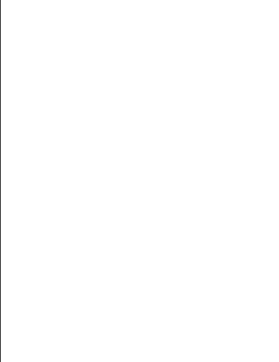
The Holy Family epitomizes this ideal. Mary and Joseph were so open to God that they had been invited to be the mother and earthly father to Jesus. They said yes! We had just concluded a year to St. Joseph who is a man of few words in the Bible but was described as "a just man". A *zedek*, or sometimes rendered, *zadok*. The root is associate with Melki-(zedek), the King of Salem or can be seen the king of righteousness. This term associates Joseph with the Priestly and kingly rule. A Zedek was known as a highly educated person which accounts for his ability to protect the Holy Family as they fled into Egypt. It is likely "zedeks" would have known multiple languages. Fathers at the heart are to be protectors. Joseph is such a great model for this. Mary is the perfect mother who is profoundly sensitive to the needs of her children, namely, that would be us!

Pope Francis also recounts the common understanding that the family is to be the domestic church! The Church is often portrayed as an ark that carries us to heaven. May our families forge intentional disciples for Christ and our world.

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