Welcome to the Catholic Churches of SAINT JEROME And SAINT JAMES





DECEMBER 26, 2021 • THE HOLY FAMILY



THE HOLY FAMILY

He went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was obedient to them; and his mother kept all these things in her heart. And Jesus advanced in wisdom and age and favor before God and man. - Lk 2:51-52

Readings for the Week of December 26, 2021

Mon: 1 Jn 1: 1-4/ Ps 97: 1-2. 5-6. 11-12/ Jn 20: 1a and 2-8 Tues: 1 Jn 1: 5 -- 2: 2/ Ps 124: 2-3. 4-5. 7b-8/ Mt 2: 13-18 Weds: 1 Jn 2: 3-11/ Ps 96: 1-2a. 2b-3. 5b-6/ Lk 2: 22-35 Thurs: 1 Jn 2: 12-17/ Ps 96: 7-8a. 8b-9. 10/ Lk 2: 36-40 Fri: 1 Jn 2: 18-21/ Ps 96: 1-2. 11-12. 13/ Jn 1: 1-18 Sat: 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/ Eph 3: 2 -3a. 5-6/ Mt 2: 1-12

Murder in the Cathedral

The week after Christmas includes the feasts of St. Stephen, St. John, and the Holy Innocents, on the 26th, 27th, and 28th of December respectively. The 29th of December is the optional memorial of St. Thomas Becket, and the 31st is the optional memorial of a fourth-century pope, St. Sylvester.

St. Thomas Becket is especially worth looking at, as we consider the heritage of Christianity in England, which began when St. Gregory the Great (pope 590-604) sent St. Augustine "of Canterbury" to the kingdom of Kent in England. The story is told that Gregory and Augustine were at a slave market in Rome, and were commenting on the tall, fair-haired slaves from the distant northern island. Augustine said to Gregory that these people were called "Angles." Gregory replied, "Not Angles, but Angels." (This exchange was lampooned in a spoof on English history called 1066 and All That. This time it was Augustine who said they were "Angels," and Gregory replied, "Not Angels, but Anglicans.") The largest city in Kent is Canterbury, which became the headquarters of Christianity in England. To this day, the head of the Church of England is the Archbishop of Canterbury.

Thomas Becket of London was Archbishop of Canterbury when he was killed by agents of King Henry II in the Canterbury Cathedral on December 29, 1170. Becket had been feuding with Henry over securing the autonomy of the Church and keeping it free from interference from the Crown. At one point, these agents overheard Henry saying, "Who will rid me of this turbulent priest?" and they took this to be an instruction to kill the archbishop.

St. Louis native T.S. Eliot wrote a play, *Murder in the Cathedral*, which dramatizes the inner struggles of Thomas. Famous lines in the play include "The last temptation is the greatest treason; to do the right deed for the wrong reason" and "Human kind cannot bear very much reality." It is of interest that a similar conflict occurred in the 16th century, when a king wanted to set up his own church (that "of England"). They bore the same names: Thomas (More) and King Henry (VIII).

Fr. Kern



The following are the scheduled Mass intentions:

2021 Dec 28 Tue: Holy Innocents, mts F 8:00 a.m. NO MASS (St. James)

2021 Dec 29 Wed: Christmas Weekday/ Thomas Becket, bp, mt 8:00 a.m. NO MASS (St. Jerome)

2021 Dec 30 Thurs: Christmas Weekday 8:00 a.m. NO MASS (St. James)

2021 Dec 31 Fri: Christmas Weekday/ Sylvester I, pp 8:00 a.m. NO MASS (St. Jerome)

2021 Jan 1 Sat: MARY, MOTHER OF GOD S (Octave of Christmas). No obligation this year to attend Mass, since it falls on Saturday.

10:30 a.m. † Tom Berkel (St. Jerome)

4:00 p.m. † Lynn Hayes III (St. Jerome)

5:30 p.m. † Don Laughery (St. James)

2021 Jan 2 SUN: THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD S

8:30 a.m. For the parishioners of St. Jerome and St. James (St. Jerome)

10:30 a.m. † Dorothy Holshouser (St. Jerome)

Calendar of Events

2021 Dec 25 Sat: CHRISTMAS DAY

8:30 am: Mass at St. Jerome 10:30 pm: Mass at St. James

2021 Dec 26 SUN

8:00 am: Mass at St. Jerome
9:30 am: Mass at St. James
11:00 am: Mass at St. Jerome
8:00-9:00 pm: Eucharistic Adoration at St. Jerome

2021 Jan 1 Sat:

10:30 a.m.: Mass at St. Jerome1:00-2:00 pm: Confessions at St. James2:30-3:30 pm: Confessions at St. Jerome

4:00 pm: Mass at St. Jerome **5:30 pm:** Mass at St. James

2021 Jan 2 SUN:

8:30 am: Mass at St. Jerome
9:40 am-10:20 am: NO PFF
10:30 am: Mass at St. Jerome
8:00-9:00 pm: Eucharistic Adoration at St. Jerome

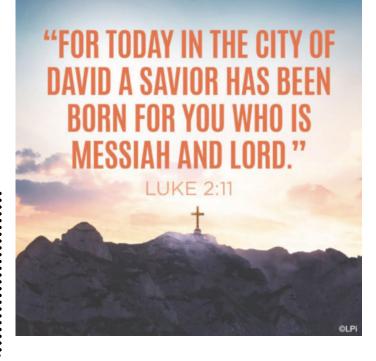


Bulletin articles are due by NOON Dec 30th for the Jan 9th bulletin Please send to Jodi at stjerome@stjeromeparish.org

> The parish office will be closed Dec. 27th – Jan. 3rd. We will return on Tues., Jan 4th. We

wish you peace and joy this Christmas season!

Closed





Stewardship of Treasure: Dec 4/5

St. James: Sister Parish: \$22 Weekly Collection: \$512

St. Jerome:

Cemetery Fund: \$856 Campaign for Justice and Hope: \$25 Catholic Charities: \$200 Catholic Children's Home: \$120 Outreach: \$70 Catholic Times: \$15 Christmas: \$100 Christmas Flowers: \$768 Building fund: \$549 Sister parish: \$371 Immaculate Conception: \$26 Solemnity of Mary: \$25 **Retired Religious: \$10** All Saints Day: \$10 Weekly Collection: \$10,960.82

Thank you for your continued support!

Please Pray For All The Sick, Especially:



Mary Aleman, Mary Ann Friet, Ross Bushur, Michael Daugherty, Joseph Mueller, Hunter Mersinger, Gary Walmsley, Tina Bruner, Charlee-Kate Grapperhaus, quests Mary Wilson, Ava C., Pat Aleman, John & Sharon Aleman, Mary Ann Becherer, Judy

Touchette, Don Siegel, Kay Grotefendt, Bula Jones, Gerald Loyet, Mike Luczak, Katie Fuller, Otto Baumgartner, Helene Kilpatrick, Barbara Klostermann, Millie Loyett, Nancy Varda Smith, Jessica C., JoAnn (Vesci) Graeff, Colleen Campe, Dennis Jablonski, Teresa Dickman, Austin Acree To request a name to be put on the prayer list, contact Jodi at the office (667-6571 ext. 10 or stjerome@stjeromeparish.org)

Steve's Notes (1) on Scripture Stephen Stack, Pastoral Associate for Liturgy & Music

"Let ev'ry heart prepare him room"

In the Christmas story from the Gospel of Luke, we hear of Mary and Joseph finding "no room in the inn." The Greek word translated into English as "inn" means "a putting-down place" — more specifically, a place of hospitality. They were returning to Joseph's hometown for the census, i.e., going home to *family*. But when they got there, they found *no hospitality*: the Holy Family found no welcome among *family*.

From whom would the Holy Family find welcome and recognition? From some shepherds, themselves considered moral outcasts, who were out under the night sky with their sheep. And when the angel hosts appeared to them, and told them to go to the place of the Messiah's birth, what did they see? They saw a swaddled, powerless infant lying in a manger - not a crib, but a feed trough. And, scripture tells us, once they saw, they understood; they recognized him and received him. And all those to whom they would then proclaim this news of great joy were amazed.

Jesus is the Savior of the outcast, the poor, the lowly and marginalized, precisely in being one of them – that is to say one of us. God became one with us who are, of ourselves, of little account, except that He has loved us so. This Child, in His life, death and resurrection, would be Good Shepherd and Bread of Eternal Life for all who receive him.

In his Incarnation Jesus has made us, all who will receive him, to be family — his Holy Family.

...While the Gospel of John doesn't have a birth narrative, it begins instead with a parody of the Book of Genesis about the birth of the world and the creation of human beings in the image and likeness of God, which we hear at the Christmas Mass During the Day:

- "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God....
- "And the Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us" (John 1: 1, 14).

So it is fitting that on this Feast of the Holy Family we hear from the Letter of St. Paul to the Colossians:

"Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, as in all wisdom you teach and admonish one another, singing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs with gratitude in your hearts to God. And whatever you do, in word or in deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him" (Col 3:16-17).

May the Lord Jesus find welcome in our hearts. May we receive him with gratitude and joy, that he may dwell in us—his holy family—richly.





Nurturing Our Faith Sr. Linda Mary, Pastoral Associate for Faith Formation

Feast of the Holy Family

Luke 2: 41-52 Reflection by: Jude Siciliano, OP

Christmas celebrates God's becoming one of us and one with us. Jesus comes as an infant, placed in the care of a struggling but loving family. We celebrate that family today.



The gospel has a familiar ring. We have heard stories of famous people who showed precocious signs of future greatness while they were still young. Jesus,

while still only twelve, declares his primary allegiance. He is to be in God's house, God's work will be his life's work.

Jesus belonged to an observant Jewish family and so his parents take their firstborn to the Temple in Jerusalem. They are teaching him his Jewish heritage. It must have seemed like an eternity for Mary and Joseph--- for three days they search for their missing child. What parent has not had a hint of that feeling when turning around in a mall they notice their child has wandered? How much greater the anguish experienced by those parents whose child has run away, or made decisions they were much too young to make, with consequences that may last the rest of their lives?

Parenting has profound joys and more than its share of worry, fright and anguish. Imagine the relief Mary and Joseph felt when, at last, they found Jesus. Mary's tone sounds like what one would expect from a parent who has just gone through. She is correcting Jesus. But his response isn't the humble request for forgiveness we might have expected. Instead, he seems to reproach them for their worry. Jesus, is a young man finding his calling for life. He will be about God's business and his choice of vocation will take him outside the influence of family and village.

Jesus's response doesn't clarify the matter for Mary and Joseph; they did not understand what he said to them. The call he has heard, to be in my Father's house, and to dedicate himself to God's ways, is exactly right for him---- and for us. This is just the beginning. Jesus will always cause continued questions and anguish for his parents, most especially for Mary, when she stands, wonders and grieves at the foot of his cross.

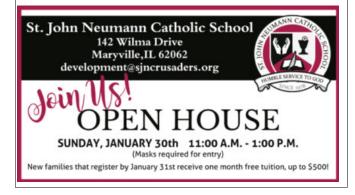
Sr. Linda Mary



ST. JOHN NEUMANN NEWS...

Open House! We will be hosting our Open House from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00

p.m. on Sunday, January 30th. Due to Covid-19 restrictions, only new families interested in enrolling/touring SJN will be allowed to enter the building. Masks are required for all visitors. New families enrolling at the Open House will receive one month free tuition, up to \$500





QUOTABLE by CThomas Merton

Into this world, this demented inn, in which there is absolutely no room for him at all, Christ has come uninvited. But because he cannot be at home in it, because he is out of place in it, his place is with those others for whom there is no room. His place is with those who do not

belong, who are rejected by power because they are regarded as weak, those who are discredited, who are denied the status of person, who are tortured, bombed and exterminated. With those for whom there is no room Christ is present in the world.





From **"The Gospel for All Ages",** Pflaum.com Nativity of the Lord, Christmas Luke 2:1–14

Christmas is finally here! Our Advent time of preparation and anticipation has come to an end, and Christmas Time has begun!

Christmas is such an important feast that we continue to

celebrate it through the Baptism of the Lord (on January 9 in 2022). Within the Christmas season, the Church celebrates several feast days of note:

12/26 - The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, & Joseph;

- 12/27 Saint John; 12/28 The Holy Innocents; 12/29 Saint Thomas Becket;
- 12/31 Saint Sylvester I;
- 1/1 Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God; as well as World Day of Peace;
- 1/2 Epiphany of the Lord;
- 1/3 Most Holy Name of Jesus;
- 1/4 Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton (USA);
- 1/5 Saint John Neumann (USA);
- 1/6 Saint André Bessette (USA);
- 1/7 Saint Raymond of Peñafort;
- 1/7-Saint André Bessette (CAN); and
- 1/9-Baptism of the Lord.

Take time this season to hear about these saints at mass, or read up on their lives.

Christmas is an exciting time! We celebrate the birth of Jesus, look forward to spending time with family and friends, and give and receive presents. Shepherds and Magi came to honor the Jesus. The Magi brought gifts, but Jesus was the greatest gift of all.

How can Jesus be born into your heart this Christmas?

Spend time in front of the church Nativity scene (crèche) and think about who was present at Jesus' birth. Imagine yourself in the scene.

Lord, help us to seek and see you as we celebrate Jesus' coming at Christmas. Amen.

Pax, and Merry Christmas!

Sr. Linda Marg



AND THE WINNER IS Jackie Brenton!

St. Ann's would like to sincerely thank all of those that supported the quilt raffle making it a success. Also, a huge thank you for the donations to the "no bake-bake sale". Your generosity is truly appreciated!





Worldwide Marriage Encounter

wertwide marriage encounter <u>PERSON</u> Experience will be held locally in Springfield, IL at the Villa

Maria Catholic Life Center the weekend of March 18-20, 2022! Early registration is suggested due to limited space. We will have in place all the needed precautions to provide a safe environment for participants. For more information or to apply, go to <u>wwme.org</u>, or call Terry & Eric Engholm at 314-649-7317.

SAVE THE DATE! FEBRUARY 13, 2022 AT 2:30 PM! JOIN ARCHBISHOP MITCHELL ROZANSKI AT THE CATHEDRAL BASILICA OF ST. LOUIS, MO TO CELEBRATE THE SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY ON WORLD MARRIAGE DAY!

AA MEETINGS, MONDAYS AT 7 P.M. in the Basement of the Wayland Avenue Office (*the brick building by the corner of St. Jerome parking lot*). For more information call Central Service Office at 618-251-4000 or at www.aa.org.

PROTECTING GOD'S CHILDREN TRAINING: New trainings are continually being added. Please visit www.dio.org to view the full schedule.

As the liturgical year ends and a new one begins, tune in to Covenant Network for the best in Catholic radio programming to help you prepare your heart to receive the Christ Child this Christmas season. Tune in to WRYT 1080 AM or 92.7 FM on the radio or listen live on our free Covenant Network App or at OurCatholicRadio.org.



OUTREACH COLLECTION NEXT WEEKEND: JANUARY 1/2



Canned soup, macaroni & cheese, ramen noodles, Paper towels, toilet paper

All money collected goes to our Parish Outreach Collection unless designated for Ministries Unlimited. Thank you!

PARISH STAFF

PARISH OFFICE PHONE NUMBER: 618-667-6571

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Email

For ministries to the Divorced, Separated, Annulments, & Bereavement, please contact the parish office.

Parish Office Information

Address: 511 S Main St, Troy, IL 62294-1812 Phone: (618) 667-6571 Fax: (618) 667-2697 Hours: Tuesday-Friday 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. OFFICE CLOSED ON MONDAYS

Website: www.stjeromeparish.org



PLEASE PRAY FOR THE FOLLOWING SERVING IN OUR ARMED FORCES:

Lt Adam T. Biggs MSC USN,SFC Eugene F. Blink Jr., TSgt Branden Boyher, 2nd Lt. Eric

Carter, A1C Alexander Cairy, PVT Scott Corey Cairy, SPC John R. Dempsey, Army, LCpl. Lance Drew USMC, A1C Puanani Gagne, TSgt Ericson Gentry, Maj Bernard Hellrung, Navy-Airman Tanner Hurt, Maj Peter Janyska, Maj Jeremy Kerfoot, Pvt Thomas Kraundel, TSgt Ben W. LeClerc, Maj Nate Low, IS2 Ashleigh G. Martz, Christian North (Air Force), GySgt Jason Schlechte, Capt Christin Scott, 2d Lt Michael Scott, Maj Carl Siegel, Capt Griffin Spencer, Maj Walter Sykes, PO2 Austin Toth, Tim Voruz, Cpl Daniel Warbritton

PARISH ORGANIZATIONS/COMMITTEES *Pastoral Council:*

St. Jerome ~ John Hopkins (Chairperson), Maggie Brorby, Amanda Detmer, Georgeine Hays, Tom Mines, Andrew Schwierjohn, Greg Schrage, Nathan Krisch

St. James ~ Tina Kunz, Judy Touchette, Dennis Daiber, John Nonn

Finance Council:

St. Jerome ~ Austin Garber, John Lazor, Alice Lehnhoff, Tim Poletti, Keith Detmer, Dan Hellrung

St. James ~ Janet Highlander, Dan Dickman, Laura Reilson

St. Jerome "Build or Not" Committee: Along with Fr. Kevin: Dan Jackson, Alice Lehnhoff,

T.J. Norrenberns, Paul Baumgartner, Steve Stack *St. John Neumann School Board:* Shannon Brown,

Tim Poletti, Michelle Schwierjohn, Melissa Tedesco

Father McGivney School Board: Tom Chouinard

St. Ann's Council of Catholic Women: Taryn Gaskill, President

Knights of Columbus: James Sagovac, Grand Knight Paul Baumgartner, Faithful Navigator

NEW PARISHIONER REGISTRATION

New parishioners are always welcome! You may register in person or by calling the Parish Office.

SACRAMENTS

Baptisms \sim Please contact the Parish Office for registration information. Prior to baptism, parents are required to attend a baptism -preparation session. Parents may attend this before their child is born.

Penance ~ Saturdays at 1:00 p.m. at St. James and 2:30 p.m. at St. Jerome or by appointment. Communal services are celebrated during Advent and Lent.

Marriage \sim If you are considering marriage, a minimum of six months is required for preparation. A wedding date cannot be set until after the first meeting with the pastor. At that time, the diocesan and parish guidelines will be explained.

Anointing of the Sick ~ Parishioners who are seriously or critically ill, or having surgery, should contact the pastor for the celebration of the sacrament.

Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults ~ The R.C.I.A. is an ongoing formation process for adults who are interested in becoming a Catholic and would like to receive the sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, and First Eucharist. Call the Parish Office for additional information.

ST. JEROME CEMETERY INFORMATION

St. Jerome owns and operates two cemeteries – St. Jerome Cemetery, located on Troy-O'Fallon Road, and St. John the Baptist Cemetery – located on Lebanon Road. Contact the Parish Office for more information.



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