



**St. Patrick
Elroy**



**St. John the Baptist
Wilton**



**St. Joseph
Kendall**

**THE TRI-PARISH BULLETIN
December 27th, 2020**



The Holy Family

The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favor of God was upon him. - Lk 2:40

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 ©CC.

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New Members

Always welcome to our parishes.
Please call the office to register.

Baptism

Parents and/or those expecting in the near future may request Baptism for their child by calling the office to begin preparations.

Marriage

Please call the parish office at least six months prior to the anticipated date.

Pastoral Care of the Sick

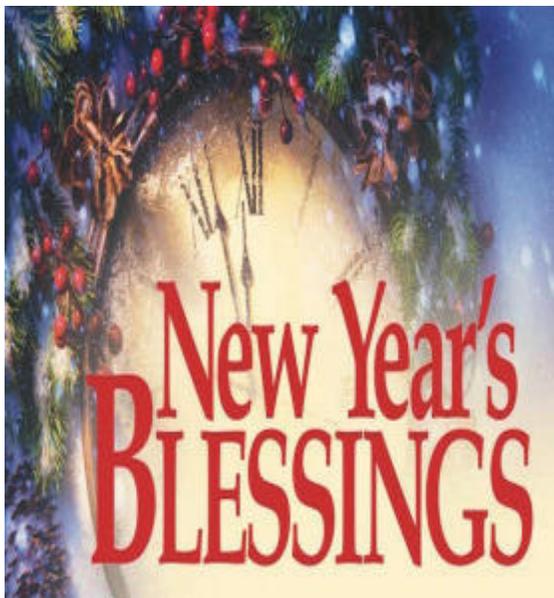
If you are homebound and wish to receive Holy Communion, please contact the office.

Confessions

Saturday 3:15 pm at Kendall or call Fr. John for an appointment.



Monday	December 28th	K
9 a.m.	Bob Mahr	
Wednesday	December 30th	E
9 a.m.	Louise Jensen	
Thursday	December 31st	K
9 a.m.	Mr. & Mrs. Elmer Bradley & deceased fam members	
Friday	January 1st (First Friday)	K
8:00 a.m.	Deceased fam members of Joe & Alice Murphy	
Saturday	January 2nd	K
4:00 p.m.	All Parishioners of EKW	
Sunday	January 3rd	E
9:00 am	Edward Hrobsky	
11:00 am	Ted Ollendick	W



Tri-Parish Prayer List

We pray for the sick and those who have asked for our prayers, especially, Pat Kranz, Bev Cousineau, Carla Von Haden, Ron Hendrick, Joe Ennis, Margaret Leis, Patti Vlasak, Fr. Trainer, Ray Schmidt, Jim Lunde, Ron Miller, Natalie Kiel, Jim Petrowitz, Jim Wopat, Mary Mahr, Madelyn Novachek, Ken and Larry Oliver, Kay Larson, Jerry & Susie Mahr, Don Schreier, Jim Meckstroth, Patty Behan, Avery Brueggen, Katie Wallace, Larry Goodman, Those serving in the Military and Folks in Nursing Homes.

Reflections on the Gospel

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

Tragedy and disappointment are inevitable. What sees you through this? There will be challenges, changes, unexpected circumstances, interrupted plans, hurts, and injustices experienced by every human being at some point in their lives. We will be asked to adjust our plans, change course, and even encounter suffering and death. Where do we learn all of the lessons we need to live life well? Some of them we learn along the way but much of what we bring to life, positive and negative, comes from our early beginnings, our families. This is our early world and provides the blueprint for how we see the bigger, more inclusive world, which unfolds before us. Our families of origin can be sources of grace, heartache or a combination of both. Families are intended to be pivotal in providing us with proper social structure and understanding, a support system, lessons about relationships and communication, and the unconditional acceptance and love we so desperately crave. They can also determine whether we have an accessible and healthy relationship with God. Many of life's challenges can literally bring us to our knees and require that we possess a strength of character that resides well beyond the superficialities of our world. At some point we will all need three coping gifts that can be given to us only by God: faith, hope, and love. Our families help us learn that we are not the ones responsible for their creation, but God!

Our experience of early family life colors all of our relationships and what we expect to achieve from life in general. Resolving conflicts, dealing with difficulty and suffering, celebrating accomplishments, prioritizing our needs, listening to God's call, understanding relationships, understanding disappointment, learning about the virtues and living a centered focused life are all lessons our families either succeed in teaching or do not. To succeed, as God has designed and ordered our world, is to discover his presence and then trust that Presence. The Holy Family can teach even the most dysfunctional family how to best use God's gifts of faith, hope, and love to find him and do his will. Their simple humble example is always before us, showing us the way. Jesus, Mary and Joseph, pray for us!



THIS WEEK'S READINGS

Readings for the week of December 27, 2020

Sunday: Sir 3:2-6, 12-14 or Gn 15:1-6; 21:1-3/Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5 [cf. 1] or Ps 105:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9 [7a, 8a]/Col 3:12-21 or 3:12-17 or Heb 11:8, 11-12, 17-19/Lk 2:22-40 or 2:22, 39-40

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

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

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

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

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

Saturday: 1 Jn 2:22-28/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4 [3cd]/Jn 1:19-28

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 2:1-1

DIOCESAN ANNUAL APPEAL 2020-2021			
	Goal	Received	Under Goal
Kendall	\$10,480	\$3,780	-\$6700
Wilton	\$9,985	\$4,090	-\$5895
Elroy	\$12,840	\$4,715	-\$8125

TRI-PARISH

Thank you for your generous donation to the Wilton Food Pantry. Your continuous support for this worthy cause is greatly appreciated. We strive to provide healthy choices for struggling families and your gift helps us to continue to do that. **THANK YOU!**
Sincerely, Wilton Food Pantry

Rosaries as Decorations **Question:** I've seen people hang rosaries over the rear-view mirrors in their cars and a few of them wear them around their necks. Is it OK to do that?

Answer: The practice of hanging a rosary or a religious medal off of the rearview mirror of one's car is a fairly popular custom across many cultures. While there is no particular rule approving or condemning this practice, we should also be mindful of the respect and reverence due to religious objects and devotional items (i.e. sacramentals). An important point to consider would be the reason why one chooses to place a rosary or religious medal in our cars. Is it a reminder of the protection and intercession of Mary and the saints? Does it encourage us to be mindful of God's presence, even in such a mundane task as driving? Is it an outward expression of our more private devotions? One advantage of having a rosary or religious medal in our cars is that it can also serve as a reminder to pray when we travel, asking for protection for ourselves and for other motorists or commuters. Certainly, invoking the protection and prayers of the saints is a wonderful practice for families, helping to reinforce our belief in the communion of saints and the care and concern we owe to one another.

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Bulletin was due early. No numbers to report.

Catechetical

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Today we focus on the **Holy Family**, the "Model Family." They show us how to live in harmony despite all the trials in life. Their constant trust in God, always led them to His Will in everything. This is a time to remember how important the Family Unit is. We should each evaluate our own family and contemplate on ways we could



improve our unit. Ask yourself what Jesus, Mary and Joseph would do.

Doing things together is crucial in keeping the unit solid and strong. Always try to pray together daily, pray for each other when you can't pray together, read the Bible together, go to Mass together, receive the Sacraments together, work together, play together, and so on. Also, remember that Peace in our World, in our Country, in our Community, begins in our Family. Unfortunately, the Family Unit has been viciously attacked by Satan and his followers, especially in the last century. Many popes, especially Pope Leo XIII, promoted the Feast of the Holy Family as a way to counter the breakdown of the Family Unit. More recently, an American Bishop addressed this breakdown in grave detail. Here are parts of some strong comments from a prince of the Catholic Church, Rockford's Bishop Thomas G. Doran, (1936-2016) (Bishop from 1994 to 2012), which appeared in his column:

He says that American Catholics have to take count of the serious issues of our times, the seven "sacraments" of secular culture. These Alphabetic Offences are: Abortion, Buggery (sodomy), Contraception, Divorce, Euthanasia, Feminism and Genetic experimentation.

Bishop Doran calls these evils a clear and present danger to our survival as a nation. We must remember that violence breeds violence and when we tolerate unjust attacks on the tiniest innocents among us, we habituate ourselves to violence. These barbaric practices corrupt our laws, our medical practice, our ordinary lives. We have become accustomed to immense loss of life in our wars, and those who have killed millions in abortion are not bothered by mass killings. He says the violence of abortion coarsens the lives of us all. We tolerate the rise of domestic violence, the violence of our youth—even road rage is now common. Sin darkens the intellect and weakens the will, and we are now reaping the whirlwind.

Toleration of sexual perversion, contraception, divorce, killing the elderly, radical feminism, embryonic stem cell research—all defile and debase human nature and affect our world. Yet Christ will come someday to judge the world by fire, the living and the dead, and particularly those who by acts of omission or commission have destroyed innocent human life. It is the duty of every Catholic to support the work of pro-life directors and commissions.

The unholy sacraments of secular society are the seeds of the destruction of our nation. He asks, "What nation that kills its young, perverts marriage, prevents new life, destroys the family, kills those they deem useless, causes war between man and woman, and manipulates the genetic basis of human nature, can long endure?"

Dear Holy Family, Pray For Us!!

FAMILY TIME

Our fourth grader celebrated his birthday on crutches, so he couldn't carry the cupcakes into school without help. I asked our sixth-grader, Noah, to help his brother carry them in. "I could," he said, "but I'd prefer not to." Spotting a teaching moment, my husband asked Noah, "What would Jesus do?" Noah answered, "Jesus would heal him so he could carry his own cupcakes."

Be a Happy Family!
 Happy New Year to All!
 ~ Dianne Hansen, CRE



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