



DECEMBER 27TH, 2020
THE HOLY FAMILY

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.

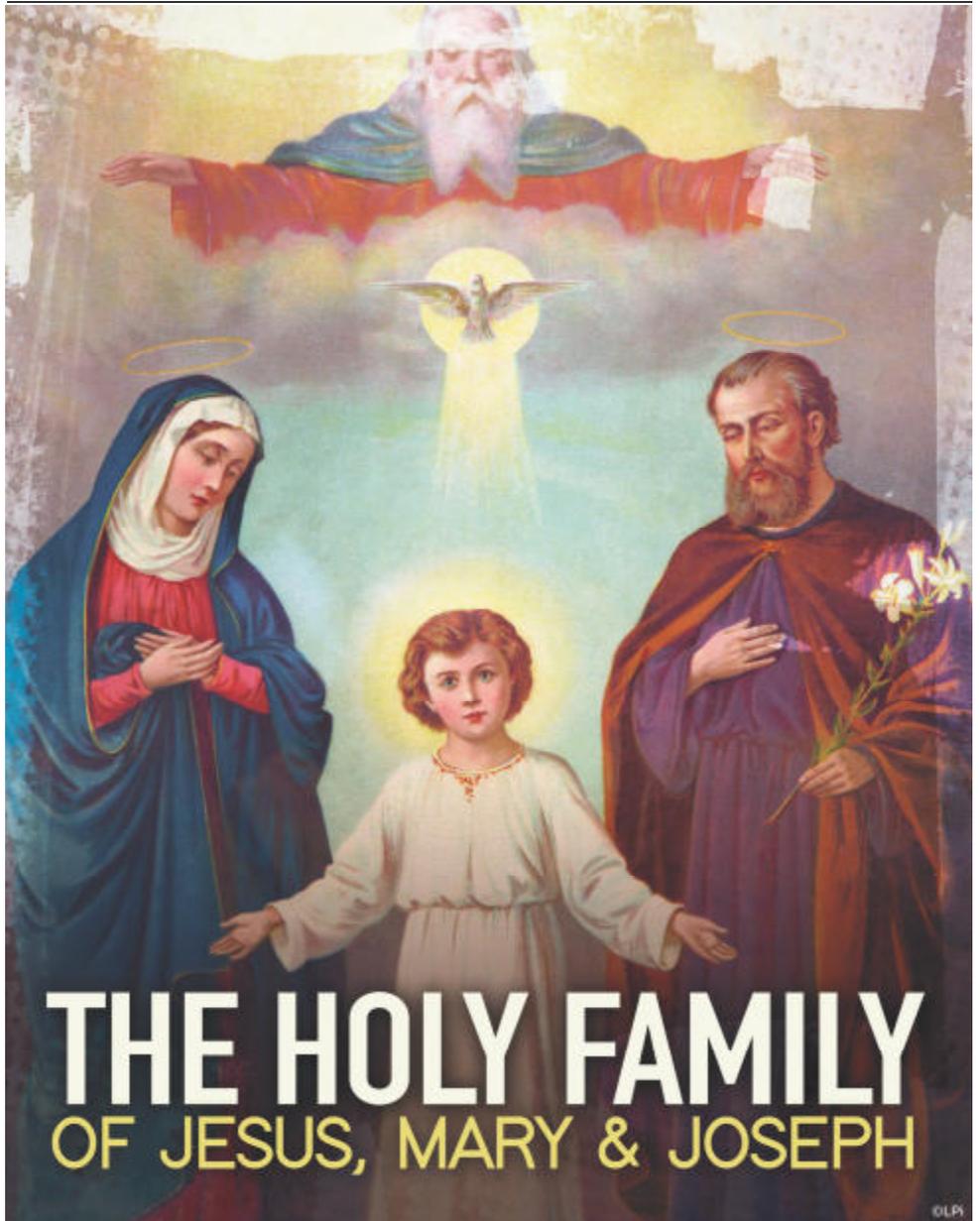
Our families of origin can be sources of grace, heartache or a combination of both. Families are intended to be pivotal in providing us with proper social structure and understanding, a support system, lessons about relationships and communication, and the unconditional acceptance and love we so desperately 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!

Sacred Heart

P A R I S H

555 BAILEY ROAD • CRYSTAL CITY, MO 63019



MISSION STATEMENT

We the parish family of Sacred Heart, with the guidance of the Holy Spirit seek to bring all to a fuller understanding of God's love by teaching, praying, witnessing for Christ and service to one another. Through the sharing of our time, talents, and treasures, we shall build up the body of Christ in our local parish, deanery, archdiocese and the world.

2 Staff & Parish Info

Pastoral Staff

Pastor, Rev. Mathew
Cheruparambil

E-Mail.....frmathew@archstl.org

Deacon, Jerry Stoverink Deacon

E-Mail.....jstoverink@sbcglobal.net

Director of Rel. Ed...... Karen Weber

Phone.....636-937-5298.....E-Mail...

.....kwebersacredheartdre@gmail.com

Finance Council Chair, Steve Bacon

E-Mail.....sjbacon@bcd-llc.com

Parish Leadership Chair,

Jim Sparling

E-Mail.....jimsparling@sbcglobal.net

Parish Offices

Rectory(636) 937-4662

Toll free St. Louis/fax(636) 931-5507

E-mailsh324cc@sbcglobal.net

Adoration Chapel.....(636) 933-0454

Parish Website: [sacredheart
crystalcity-festus.weconnect.com](http://sacredheartcrystalcity-festus.weconnect.com)

Parish Secretary

Office hours..... M-F 8:30 am-4:30 pm

Email.....shccsecretary@sbcglobal.net

Eucharistic Celebrations

Weekend: Saturday 5:00 pm; Sunday
7:30, 9:00 & 11:00 am

Weekday: Monday-Thursday 8:00 am;
(Friday 8:00 am-Communion Service)

Holy Day: Day 8:00 am, 12:00 noon &
7:00 pm

Sacraments

Reconciliation

Saturday at 4:00 pm or by appointment.

Baptism

Held on 2nd and 4th Sunday of each
month following the 11:00 am Mass.

Baptism is an introduction to the Catholic
way of life, attendance at Sunday Mass is
an obligation which is not taken lightly.

Baptism preparation will be held on the 1st
Monday of each month. Call to register for
Baptism preparation and Baptisms (636-
937-4662).

Marriage

Preparation class must begin at least six
months in advance of date of marriage.

Make an appointment with the priest .

Communion Calls

If you are unable to come to Mass for sev-
eral weeks due to illness, contact the Parish
Office for a visit.

Perpetual Adoration Chapel

Open twenty four hours a day in the Con-
vent Chapel. If interested contact the Parish
Office (636) 937-4662.

PSR Classes

Held at school every Wednesday evening
during school year from 6:40-8:00 pm.

Bulletin Deadline

Announcements must be turned in to
Parish Office by Sunday evening.

Email.....shccsecretary@sbcglobal.net



Greetings from the Pastor

Is there a perfect family? Have you ever seen a perfect couple? I have been looking for one, but haven't come across one yet. May be, I am wasting time by looking for what actually doesn't exist.

Somehow, I have been thinking lately about the Holy Family of Nazareth. How was that holy? People think theirs was an *ideal* family. Far from it, to be honest. There was nothing *deal* about the family of Nazareth. Honestly, consider some of the aspects of that family. That had a wired start to begin with, I mean, it was an 'unnatural' family set up. The woman was 'found to be with child' as we read a few days ago. Joseph had thoughts of divorce, a common problem that we have in our day. They, I was told, never 'lived together', that is, they never consummated their marriage. Joseph was a guardian to Mary and Jesus. That is not common in a real family. They didn't have a place to give birth to baby Jesus, a tragic delivery of a transcendental child in a cattle-shed, perhaps while cattle were looking on. Their plight started even before that. Even after the delivery, the family had to flee from place to place for the safety of the child and the family. Then, the birth of a baby caused massacre of many infants in the city, which might have broken the heart of Joseph and Mary. Jesus, as child, was lost in the temple; another common problem that baffles us. Why my children seem lost in their life, especially their spiritual life?

Yet, we call the family of Nazareth the Holy Family. Why?

A family becomes holy family not because everything is holy about it. There was nothing much 'holy' about the family of Nazareth, from what we saw. This family became Holy Family because it had the presence of God – Jesus - in it; Emmanuel –God with us – was in the family of Mary and Joseph.

So, what do you think? How's your family? How can our family be holy families even amidst myriads of problems like thoughts of divorce, plights, financial issues, unemployment, illnesses, children being spiritually or physically lost. The answer is simple: KEEP GOD. May He find a place in your family. Enthroned him as the king of your family. May He reign in the center of your hearts. Sanctify your homes with family prayer, family dinner and big and small sacrifices for the welfare of one another in the family. Our families are going to be holy families too.

Happy feast of the Holy Family.

Love you all.

Fr. Mathew

Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God

Friday, January 1, 2021 is a Holy Day of Obligation. Mass will be January 1st at 8:00am, Noon and 7:00pm.

Mary, Mother of God
©LPI

The Gifts of Stewardship



December 27, 2020

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

"...as the Lord has forgiven you, so you must forgive." - Colossians 3:13

Forgiving is one of the hardest things for people to do. We can't give what we don't have. We need to receive God's mercy and forgiveness first before we can give it to others. Go to the sacrament of Reconciliation and receive God's mercy and forgiveness. Then, share give the gift of forgiveness with someone – a family member, a friend or a co-worker. Pick up the phone or text someone right now.



EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP - RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

The Gift of Family

What a year it has been! How will we speak of these times a decade from now? As time goes by, our impressions of this past year will certainly change. How we feel today about dealing with a killer virus and all the chaos surrounding that is still fresh for all. I would assume that most of us right now are also holding those we love a little closer and hugging them a little harder. Hopefully, even if the fears and concerns of 2020 dissipate in the future, the way we feel toward our family should never leave us.

Stewardship is certainly about everything. God has given us so much, great and small, profound and common. One of the greatest gifts that all have received is family. Families take all shapes and sizes and some look very different than others. For some, family is a caretaker or temporary guardian. For others it is a friend when everyone else seems to have vanished. The bottom line is that, to quote a song from many years ago, "people need people."

When God gave the world His only Son, the Incarnation did not come on a cloud or with a flash of light. He was born into a family. Jesus understood the gift of family all his life. Do you think that if having a family wasn't important God would have still included this in the plan of salvation?

As this year draws to a close, remember your stewardship many days begins and ends with the people closest to you. Don't misuse or take for granted this precious gift. God gives us gifts on purpose, even to His only begotten Son.

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

Your Gift of Treasure Week of December 13, 2020

| | |
|--------------------------------|------------|
| Envelopes Mailed..... | 593 |
| Envelope Gifts..... | \$7,565.00 |
| Number of Envelopes..... | 132 |
| Online Gifts..... | \$2,022.00 |
| Number of Online Donations.... | 44 |
| Loose..... | \$165.00 |

Scrip Program December 13, 2020

| | |
|------------------------------|------------|
| Number of orders..... | 14 |
| Amount of Orders..... | \$1,780.00 |
| Amount earned this week..... | \$71.11 |
| E-Scrip Revenue..... | \$0.00 |
| Amount earned YTD..... | \$1,107.59 |

Week of December 20 will be in next weeks bulletin due to early deadline.

First Saturday Devotion FOR WORLD PEACE

A Redemptorist priest will have Mass and Confession for the First Saturday Devotions of Fatima at Sacred Heart Church, Crystal City on Saturday, January 2 at 8:30am and a taped program with meditations on the rosary.



PRAYER

Hope, O my soul, hope.

You know neither the day nor the hour.

Watch carefully, for everything passes quickly, even though your impatience makes doubtful what is certain, and turns a very short time into a long one.

Dream that the more you struggle, the more you prove the love that you bear your God, and the more you will rejoice one day with your Beloved, in a happiness and rapture that can never end.

-St. Teresa of Avila

Rare 'Christmas Star' to shine brightly for first time in 800 years

For the first time in 800 years, the "Christmas Star" or "Star of Bethlehem" will be visible in the night sky. During the upcoming winter solstice on Dec. 21, Jupiter and Saturn will align to create the bright star of wonder, Forbes reported.

The two planets have not appeared this close together since the Middle Ages.

"Alignments between these two planets are rather rare, occurring once every 20 years or so, but this conjunction is exceptionally rare because of how close the planets will appear to be to one another," Patrick Hartigan, astronomer at Rice University, told Forbes. According to Forbes, a star-sighting of this magnitude won't happen again until 2080.

The star will be visible in the southwest portion of the sky about 45 minutes after sunset in the northern hemisphere on Dec. 21. However, sightings of the star may be visible throughout the week.

HOLY FAMILY NOVENA

The priests of the Missionaries of the Holy Family, www.msf-america.org, invite you to join them in praying the Holy Family Novena for your family and all families of the world. The novena begins on the Feast of the Holy Family, Sunday, December 27, 2020, and runs through Monday, January 4, 2021. Please join us at Mass or pray the novena at home with your family. Masses are at Saint Wenceslaus Church in Saint Louis. For daily Mass times and free novena pamphlets, please call (314) 577-6300 or send an e-mail to mprater@msf-america.org. Thank you and God bless your family! +JMJ+



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 the rear-view 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.

Dynamic Catholic, Alive! – Spiritual Leadership

Joseph is a model of spiritual leadership. Humility and obedience are not things that are praised in our culture today. But, remember, our goal is not possessing more things on earth, rather our goal is eternal life with God! Spiritual warfare is real. Through silence, we are able to discern God's will for us and our families. Studies show that when dad takes his faith seriously, so do his children. Men, the best thing we can do for our families is to be the men God is calling us to be, to be the spiritual leaders for our families. The best gift we can give our families is to teach them how to pray. archstl.org/dynamic



The Knights of Columbus will be sponsoring a Free Throw Contest at the Sacred Heart Gym on January 9th for boys and girls ages 9-14. Participants should arrive between 9 & 10 am. Shooting will start at 10:00 am. Please bring proof of age (copy of birth certificate). Any Knights who wish to help should arrive at 9:00 am. If you need more information please reach out to Paul Eisenbeis at 636-208-0428



Adoration of the Lord
Sacred Heart Adoration Chapel is OPEN and volunteers are needed.

“One need not say much to pray well, we know that Jesus is there in the tabernacle; let us open our hearts to Him, let us rejoice in His Sacred Presence. That is the best prayer.”

We have **SEVERAL OPENINGS** please call at **Terri Wolk at 314-620-7527** for more information.

Openings for the following hours are needed to be filled ASAP. This is a great way to give your time and talent to your Parish and The Lord!

- Sunday: 6:00pm**
- Tuesday: 9:00pm**
- Thursday: 11:00pm**
- Friday: 7:00am & 7:00pm**
- Saturday: 8:00pm & 9:00pm**

Rosary Services

Please come 35 minutes early to weekend Mass to pray the rosary for Pro-Life and our country. If you would like to lead the rosary call the Parish Office.



St. Wenceslaus Parish has a job opening for a Custodian/Maintenance Manager.

General Duties:

- Perform maintenance and janitorial tasks as assigned
- Perform minor electrical, plumbing, and mechanical repairs as needed

Email resume to: stwencebulletin@sbcglobal.net, or mail to: St. Wenceslaus Parish, 3014 Oregon Ave., St. Louis, MO 63118

Thank you from Sacred Heart St. Vincent DePaul



The Sacred Heart Society of St. Vincent de Paul would like to thank everyone in the parish for your support over the past year. We have helped 558 people and have given our neighbors in need help including clothing, utility assistance (gas-electric-water), rent or mortgage assistance, furniture, prescriptions, transportation, and more. There is a saying that there is no charity foreign to the St. Vincent de Paul. If there is a need, we try to help. If we can't help, we try to refer people to other resources.

Donations received help people in our parish boundaries which includes Crystal City and parts of Festus, Pevely and Herculaneum. We received \$65,595.39 in donations, grants, sale of Our Sunday Visitor and clothing sales the past year and have spent \$55,788.31 to help our neighbors in need.

Did you know that there is a clothing shop in the Sacred Heart Annex Building? Clothes are sold for a small cost to anyone. Often we give clothing to those in need at no cost. The clothing room is open every Tuesday and Saturday from 9 am to Noon. Donations of clothing are also taken at these times.

The people that we help are very grateful and especially at this time when COVID is causing an upset in their financial plan. There are many people who need our help. For instance, we recently got a call from a family where both adults are employed but their jobs were affected by COVID and were unable to work for weeks. They finally got back to work and now their hours are being cut again. We were able to pay their electric bill and they were so grateful. Your contributions are helping those in the community.

The organizers of the Jefferson County Toys and More are also grateful for the toy and underwear donations that they receive from our collections.

There are over 30 active and associate members in the Sacred Heart St. Vincent de Paul who commit themselves to this ministry. A big thanks to them as well.

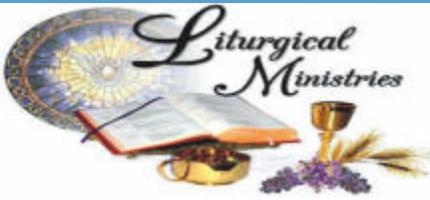
Thanks again for your support! -- Diane Stoverink, President of the Sacred Heart Society of St. Vincent de Paul.

St. Vincent dePaul's St. Valentine's Day Raffle

Thank you to Julie Carey who has donated a beautiful quilt, in memory of our late parishioner Barb Casper, to St. Vincent dePaul to raise much needed funds to support our work. We will begin selling chances on Sunday January 3 with the drawing on Sunday February 14 after the 11 am mass. Since it is a St. Valentine's Day Raffle, we invite everyone buying a ticket to write the name of a loved one on the back of their ticket. We will put that name on a Valentine tag, which will be displayed in the church.



Ministry Schedules



Liturgical Ministers Weekend of January 2nd & 3rd

Altar Servers

| | |
|---------|-------------------|
| 5:00pm | Carolyne Argana |
| 7:30am | Shayne Hofmeister |
| 9:00am | Server Needed |
| 11:00am | Percy Pfohl |

Eucharistic Ministers

| | |
|---------|------------------|
| 5:00pm | Sue Boyer |
| 7:30am | Deacon Jerry |
| 9:00am | Vickie Eisenbeis |
| 11:00am | Sharon Pierce |

Lectors

| | |
|---------|------------------------------------|
| 5:00pm | Denise Yount Sue Cresswell |
| 7:30am | Cathy Johns Diane Stoverink |
| 9:00am | Elizabeth Steffen Judith Bailey |
| 11:00am | Carrie Loukas Carrie Loukas |

Script

| | |
|---------|-----------------|
| 5:00pm | Sue Boyer |
| 7:30am | Pat DeClue |
| 9:00am | Carly Roubidoux |
| 11:00am | Carrie Loukas |



Mass Schedule

Monday, December 28th

8:00am Marvin Jeffers

Tuesday, December 29th

8:00am Jewell & Ervil "John"
Bittick

Wednesday, December 30th

8:00am Charles Petercin

Thursday, December 31st

8:00am Anna Marie Drury

Friday, January 1st

8:00am Glenda, Timothy &
Michael Miller

12:00pm Allen Naeger

7:00pm Jill Lednick

Saturday, January 2nd

5:00pm John & Kevin Haselhorst

Sunday, January 3rd

7:30am People of the Parish

9:00am Edna Stolzer

11:00am Jeannie Linderer

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 2:1-12 |

Observances for the week of December 27, 2020

| | |
|------------|--|
| Sunday: | The Holy Family |
| Monday: | The Holy Innocents, Martyrs |
| Tuesday: | St. Thomas Becket, Bishop and Martyr |
| Wednesday: | The Holy Family |
| Thursday: | St. Sylvester I, Pope; New Year's Eve |
| Friday: | Mary, The Holy Mother of God; New Year's Day; World Day of Peace |
| Saturday: | Sts. Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzen, Bishops and Doctors of the Church |
| Sunday: | The Epiphany of the Lord; National Migration Week |

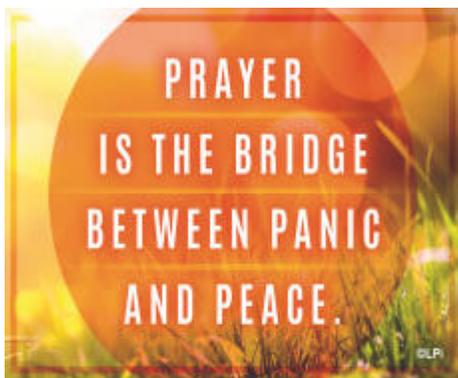
Parish Calendar

| | | |
|----------------------------|---|-----|
| Tuesday, 8:45am | December 29th Legion of Mary | RMR |
| Wednesday, | December 30th No PSR Classes | |
| Thursday, 8:45am | December 31st Quilters | ANN |
| Friday, 8:00am | January 1st First Friday Devotions Holy Day-Mary, Mother of God | CH |
| | 12:00pm Holy Day Mass | |
| | 7:00pm Holy Day Mass | |
| Saturday, 8:30am | January 2nd First Saturday Devotions | CH |

**The Parish Office will be
closed New Year's Day.**



Please pray for the repose of the soul of Timothy O'Brien of our Parish.

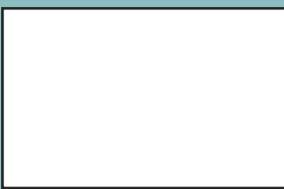


Pray For Our Sick: Your prayers are requested for the sick of the Parish. Please remember the many people who are suffering with cancer and various other illnesses in the hospitals, the Nursing Homes, as well as at home and **also remember** all those of the parish who are pregnant that they will have a safe delivery and a healthy baby. **Prayer Requests:**

- | | | | |
|---|---|--|---|
| Gina Allen Martin Ames Agnes Baker Terry Bates Norma Bequette Kevin Blechle Carole Boxdorfer Brenda Boyer Mary Breitbarth Carolyn Bridges Frances Burch Ryan Burger Francis Coleman Charles "Jerry" DeClue Jonie DeClue Jeff & Karen Dettmer Joe Douglas James Eisenbeis Karen Eisenbeis | Glen Elsworth Phyllis Elsworth Tim Fears Steve Figge Wanda Figge Wilfred Figge Michael Foley Michael Frey Nicholas Green Joseph Grohs Al & Joyce Guenther Lori Hassel Mary Hill Phyllis Hill Shari, Bert & Andrea Horn Steve Jennings Mike Johnson Carol Kaltenbronn Carol Kestermont Bill Krey | Joshua Lucas Beth Mahn Holly Martin Ethel Meyer Carol Turgeon- Miller Joshua Miller Cerita Munshaw Bonnie Neimanis John & James Norris Jax Okenfuss Ashley & Jimmy Perrot Tim Perry Ed Peterein Carolyn Pool Kathleen Portell Geraldyn Prior Prosser Family Donna Riedy Millie Ritcher Kathy Robertson | Steve Roth of Iowa Linda Schmitt Jeanette Smock Janene Spresterbach Louise Spresterbach Alice Stubits Patricia Swader Juanita Swyers Rita Thuesen Merrily Varone Leah Broyles Vogt Jim Wadsworth Henry Walker Patty & Greg Ward Michelle Waters Robert Weber Stella Weidenbenner Ken Werner Jordan Winkel Chuck Yount |
|---|---|--|---|

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