**DECEMBER 26, 2021** *The Holy Family* 

### The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph

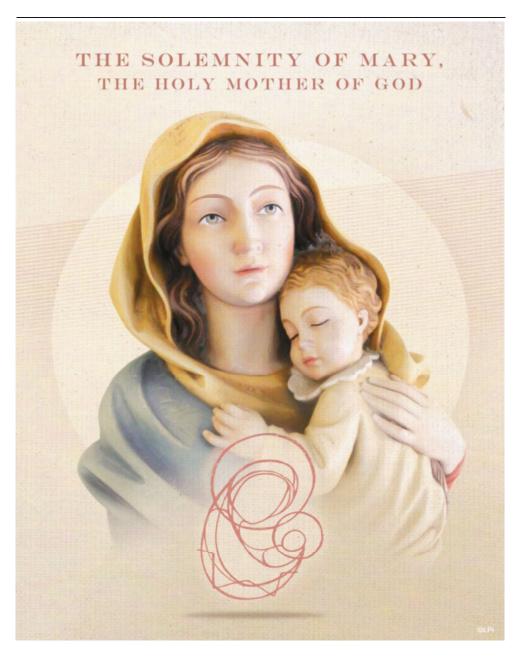
Families can be very difficult things to negotiate. This is true not only of our families of origin, the current family of which we are a part, the family of our Church, our society, and our global family as well. Everything human can be found in family stories. Those stories speak of wonderful life-giving successes as well as painful spirit-robbing abuses. Our greatest joys and our greatest wounds are usually connected with the experience of family. Our needs, experiences, and unresolved baggage often color what we bring to our familiar relationships. They contribute to our level of defensiveness, how guarded and protected we become, and what prejudices we believe.

In order to break the cycle of dysfunction we have to remember that it is not only by human effort that we negotiate the difficult and challenging events of our lives. There is a Divine Effort at work as well. For sure, the human effort can create quite a mess and easily destroy lives. This is true of any family with which we are associated. Today's Feast of the Holy Family serves to help us understand that there is a Divine Story being told as well. It is a story of perseverance in the face of hardship, determination in the face of despair. healing when we see nothing but wounds, and light where there is darkness.

Do we believe that God is always working, guiding, restoring, and leading? Unless we do, we will never be free from the imperfections and wounds that bind us and never be able to understand what it really means to forgive. Pope Francis tells us that the "light which comes from the Holy Family encourages us to offer human warmth to other families." While this is most certainly true, we can only really begin to do this when we realize that we are still works in progress, not anchored to the wounds and sins of our past, and still a leading star in God's continually unfolding story of love. The Holy Family persevered and radiated warmth because they knew they were not alone. We can too.

## Sacred Heart

#### 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.

#### Staff & Parish Info 2

#### **Pastoral Staff**

Pastor, Rev. Mathew Cheruparambil E-Mail.....frmathew@archstl.org Deacon, Jerry Stoverink Deacon  $E\text{-}Mail.....j\_dstoverink@sbcglobal.net$ Director of Rel. Ed..... Karen Weber Phone-636-937-4662, 314-623-1139 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-mail.....sh324cc@sbcglobal.net Adoration Chapel ....... (636) 933-0454 Parish Website: sacredheart crystalcity-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 Fr. Mathew 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 several weeks due to illness, contact the Parish Office for a visit.

#### **Perpetual Adoration Chapel**

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

#### **PSR Classes**

Held at school every Wednesday evening during school year from 6:45-8:00 pm.

**Bulletin Deadline** 

Announcements must be turned in to Parish Office by Sunday evening. Email.....shccsecretary@sbcglobal.net





Greeting from the Pastor Welcome 2022! Jesus came to here we through the days of 2022.

2021 is going to be history hereafter, with memories both sweet and

sour, success and failures, tears and laughter, fall and rise, and dreams and despairs, loss and gain were all part of 2021, and will continue to be with us also in 2022. When you look over your shoulders to say good-bye to the outgoing year, maybe, you have mixed feelings. For most of us, 2021 wasn't as bad as 2020; 2021 was certainly better with less fear of Covid due to mass scale vaccination. Let us be thankful to the good Lord. Although we are not fully there yet, we could see some rainbows of hope and smile. And let us keep smiling at the odds of life. First and foremost, we are still alive. That itself is a huge accomplishment. And remember, everything that has a beginning has also an end. This too shall pass.

Learn to say *cheers* to failures, and *all the best* to people who hurt you. Oh, by the way, if I hurt any of you, I beg your pardon. Dwell a little on the shadows of year slipping by; slowly dive into the uncertainties the New Year brings. Have courage to shake off the dust of the past. As St. Paul exhorts, "that you should put away the old self of your former way of life, corrupted through deceitful desires, and be renewed in the spirit of your minds, and put on the new self, created in God's way in righteousness and holiness of truth" (Ephesians 4:22-24).

New Year is a new take of life. Take a U Turn if you took a wrong exit the last year; hopefully, you have another whole year ahead of you to stay right. When God offers you another chance of retake, don't turn your back to Him. Personally, I don't mean to make any new year resolution this year, as uncertainties are still looming over us. Let us, therefore, take one day at a time.

Personally, 2021 wasn't very colorful for me. I had huge personal losses in my family. Yet, I have a sense of accomplishment, though I know I could have done better. I am most grateful to the Lord for all the blessings showered on me and on Sacred Heart. I plan to start all over again, plan on living the moment with greater zest as it comes to me. I have a few projects in cooking, which I think I can wind up soon.

May I encourage each of you to stay positive, and help others stay positive as we all plod on through tough times. Know that no one is alone in this journey. We fight together. Do something to help uplift the drooping spirits and spread the joy that comes from your core of life. Let me wind up by quoting St. Paul: "If there is any encouragement in Christ, any solace in love, any participation in the Spirit, any compassion and mercy, complete my joy being of the same mind, with the same love, united in heart, thinking one thing. Do nothing out of selfishness or out of vainglory; rather, humbly regard others as more important than yourselves, each looking out not for his own interests, but everyone for those of others (Philippians 2:1-4).

With love,

Fr. Mathew

May the love that came that holy night light all your days with hope and joy.

## Stewardship and More

#### 2021 SEMINARY CHRISTMAS COLLECTION

This weekend at all the masses will be the Seminary Collection.

As we prepare our hearts and homes for the birth of Our Lord, we ask for your prayers and financial support for today's seminarians who have been called by God to discern the holy priesthood.



St. Stephen | Feast Day December 26

The Acts of the Apostles tells the story of St. Stephen, the first Christian martyr. A man filled with grace and power, he worked great wonders among the people. Some Jews debated with St. Stephen but could not match his wisdom and spirit. Eventually, a charge of blasphemy was brought up against him, and the local population demanded that he be tried and sentenced. He was seized and carried before the Sanhedrin.

Despite the danger he faced, in front of the Sanhedrin and his accusers, St. Stephen gave a long speech about the history of Israel and the blessings that God had given upon His chosen people. He talked about how Israel had become disobedient despite God's abundant mercy. This enraged his accusers, and eventually the crowd dragged him out of the city and stoned him to death.

Even in his final moments, St. Stephen displayed great forgiveness and even asked God not to hold the sins of his attackers against them. Hundreds of years after his death, he is still a role model for us to follow.





#### Dear Father,

I thank You that throughout the season of life, there are endings and new beginnings. I bless Your Word that reminds us that there is a time for every purpose under heaven. So, I thank You for the things that

have ended in my life and I bless you for new beginnings.



Coming Back to Church

Question:

I have been away from the Church for a few years and really want to get active again, not so much for me, but for my children. Is this a bad reason to come back to Church?

Answer:

If you are on your way to the supermarket, and you are forced to detour from your usual route because of road work, does the food you buy taste different? Is the meal less filling? Are the vegetables less tasty? Of course not. In our faith journey, there are many detours called sin. Some are greater than others, some are even a bit longer. But God's grace comes to us in ways we understand and recognize and need. Your children leading you back to the Church is not as important as the fact that you are back.

This is an opportunity for you to renew, strengthen, and deepen your faith. Regardless of how we get to Church, or what draws us closer to God, the fact is we are there. Do what you need to do to get right with God and the Church. Go to confession, begin good family religious practices, and be involved in the ministries your parish offers. Be more than a lukewarm parishioner. Be the kind of Catholic you want your children to be.

#### Your Gift of Treasure

#### Week of December 12, 2021

Envelopes Mailed	580
Envelope Gifts	\$10,949.00
Number of Envelopes	115
Online Gifts	\$1,927.00
Number of Online Donations49	
Loose	\$105.00

Scrip Program December 12, 2021	
Number of orders	
Amount of Orders	\$2,795.00
Amount earned this week	\$110.62
E-Scrip Revenue	\$0
Amount earned YTD	\$1,074.41

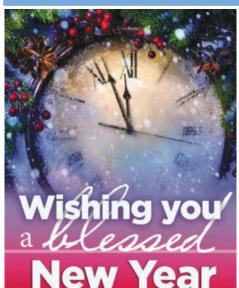
12.19.21 Gift of Treasure will be in the next bulletin due to early submission.



THERE WILL BE NO STATIONS OF THE CROSS, FRIDAY THE 31 OF DE-CEMBER AND NO FIRST SATURDAY DEVOTIONS ON SATURDAY THE 1ST OF JANUARY. HOPE TO SEE EVERYONE IN FEBRUARY.

3

## Parish & Community Events



#### December 26, 2021 <u>Feast of the Holy Family</u> <u>of Jesus, Mary and Jo-</u> seph

"See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are." (1 JOHN 3:1)

During this season of giving, let us remember a beautiful gift that we have received – being children of God! As God's children, it's in our DNA that we share and express our love for others as well. Tell your spouse, children, other family members and friends that you love them, every day! Also, pray for those people that are different than you, those that you may not like or those that go out of their way to annoy you. Your prayers may be the start of a new friendship.

The Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph DECEMBER 26, 2021

We celebrate the Feast of the Holy Family on the first Sunday after Christmas! This feast day is a reminder to us of the example Mary and Joseph set for all of us in welcoming Jesus into their lives. The Holy Family serves as a model for us all in which to live in faith and simplicity.

Prayer for Family Commitment Dear God our Father, you have called all Christian families to be a sign of your love to the world. Help us to be generous with the gifts of life and love that you have showered on our family. May we share them so that our homes become true signs of unitive and fruitful love. Let us never forget to thank you each day for all that sustains us and to look to Christ, who comes to us in the events of family life, in the sacraments of the Church, and in service to the poor. In all of this, our family becomes a living expression of your Church, a hallowed home of life and love. By the power of the Holy Spirit, may all of us—spouses, parents, and children— share, as members of his Body, in Jesus' mission to build a civilization of love. Father, we ask this in Jesus' name in union with the Holy Spirit. Amen.



EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP - RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MO-MENTS

#### All in the Family

At first glance, we can often find the image of the Blessed Mother, St. Joseph and the Christ Child intimidating — who are we to aspire to that level of discipleship? How could we ever hope to conform ourselves to that mold? Sometimes, it can even be painful — perhaps we hail from a broken family or struggle with a broken relationship within our family, or perhaps we long to be a mother or a father ourselves and that state in life has eluded us.

But the image of the Holy Family is, in reality, a beautiful invitation to us all, no matter our vocation or our state in life, and the example of Mary, Joseph and Jesus is rich with the symbolism of stewardship.

You need not be a biological mother who has carried a child in her womb to be a mother in spirit. Who in your world needs you to love them with the heart of a mother?

The same goes for fatherhood. The Church and the world are crying out for the courageous witness of Christian men like St. Joseph. Who can you love with the steadfast, selfless protection of a father?

Who in your life needs you to love them with the faithful, unconditional love of a son? Who needs your gentle and constant love as a daughter?

We are the Body of Christ, friends. Those of us rejoicing in heaven, those of us suffering in purgatory, and those of us struggling here on earth. We are the great family. Let us love each other well.

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## Parish & Community Events



Adoration of the Lord Sacred Heart Adoration Chapel is OPEN and <u>volunteers are needed.</u>

"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 SÉVÉRAL OPENINGS. Please call **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!

Monday:	5:00am
Tuesday:	8:00am
Thursday:	11:00pm
Friday:	12:00am
Saturday:	7:00pm 8:00pm 9:00pm 10:00pm
Sunday:	4:00am

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





5

Happy birthday to our parishioners celebrating these milestones in January:

Joe Grohs - 70 Denise Roussin-70 Donna Keathley-80 Larry Compton-90 Harold Peterein-90

If you see them, please wish them a happy birthday!

If you do not wish to have your birthday in the bulletin please call the office.



#### GOSPEL MEDITATION - ENCOURAGE DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE

#### December 26, 2021 The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph

Families can be very difficult things to negotiate. This is true not only of our families of origin, the current family of which we are a part, the family of our Church, our society, and our global family as well. Everything human can be found in family stories. Those stories speak of wonderful life-giving successes as well as painful spirit-robbing abuses. Our greatest joys and our greatest wounds are usually connected with the experience of family. Our needs, experiences, and unresolved baggage often color what we bring to our familiar relationships. They contribute to our level of defensiveness, how guarded and protected we become, and what prejudices we believe.

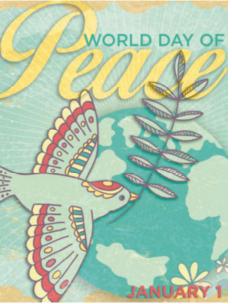
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## Ministry Schedules



Altar Serve	rs	
5:00pm	Carolyne Argana	
7:30am	Samantha Helbrueck	
9:00am	Zander Street	
11:00am	Luke Wren	
E	Miniatana	
	Eucharistic Ministers	
5:00pm	Mary Ann Roesch	
7:30am	Pat DeClue	
9:00am	Deacon Jerry	
11:00am	Barb Case	
Lectors		
5:00pm	Gene DeClue	
5.00pm	Sue Cresswell	
7:30am	Cathy Johns	
7.50am	Teri Gansner	
9:00am	Diane Stoverink	
9.00aiii	Marian Branson	
11.00	Jessel Matlock	
11:00am		
	Bob Graf	
Scrip		
5:00pm	No Scrip Sold	
7:30am	No Scrip Sold	
9:00am	No Scrip Sold	
11:00am	No Scrip Sold	
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The office will be closed Monday, December 27 for Christmas.

Please note the Mass **time change** on New Year's Eve, December 31st... **4:00pm** 

# MASS

	<b>December 27</b> Prayer Service
	<b>December 28</b> Glena, Timothy & Michael Miller
Wednesday, December 29	

8:00am Prayer Service

Thursday, December 308:00amCharles Peterein

Friday,December 314:00pmRita Thuesen

Saturday, January 18:00amKenneth Basler5:00pmPeople of the Parish

Sunday,January 27:30amBernice Hardin9:00amLarry Garrett11:00amCarl Portell

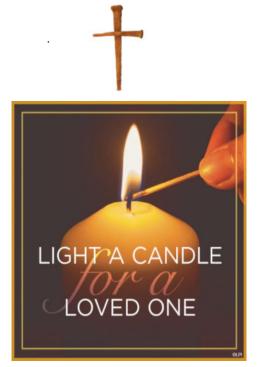
### Readings for the week of December 26, 2021

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
Thursday:	
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





**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 Amber Alford Martin Ames Agnes Baker Matt Bequette Mary Breitbarth Lucy Brindley Marian Charleville Clare Coleman Galena Coleman Francis Coleman Wendell Coleman Diana DeClue Karen Dettmer Angie Dill Mylissa Dornself Chris Doskocil Joe Douglas Leanne Doza Glen Elsworth Joe Elsworth Marilyn Emily

Kristine Fears Tim Fears Sergeant Robert Paul Figge Jacob Finch David Friesner Dorothy Hendrix Traci Hendrix Steve Jennings Joanne Johnston Carol Kaltenbronn Donna Keathley Carol Kestermont Joshua Lucas Beth Mahn Holly Martin Nadine McConnell Carol Turgeon- Miller Joshua Miller Doris Moeller Cerita Munshaw Megan Newly

Ruth Nichols John & James Norris Jax Okenfuss **Jeff Osia** Ashley & Jimmy Perrot Tim Perry Susan Peterein Miranda Pfaff Carolyn Pool Kathleen Portell Prosser Family Coletta Reecht JoAnn Reeves Donna Riedy Millie Ritcher Kathy Robertson Steve Roth of Iowa Jeanette Smock Joe Sonnenshein Pat Spillers Janene Spresterbach

Louise Spresterbach Patricia Śwader Juanita Swyers Donna & Francis Tricamo Larry Turley Wayne Turley Sharon Varagona Merrily Varone Leah Broyles Vogt Al Walker Patty & Greg Ward Lucille Warden Scott Weber Rose Weeks Stella Weidenbenner Bobby Wilde Jordan Winkel Chuck Yount

PLEASE NOTE: If a name has been on for a long time, it may be taken off to make room for others who are also seriously ill.





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Sacred Heart, Crystal City, MO

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