

SAINT JEROME CHURCH

DECEMBER 26, 2021
THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY & JOSEPH

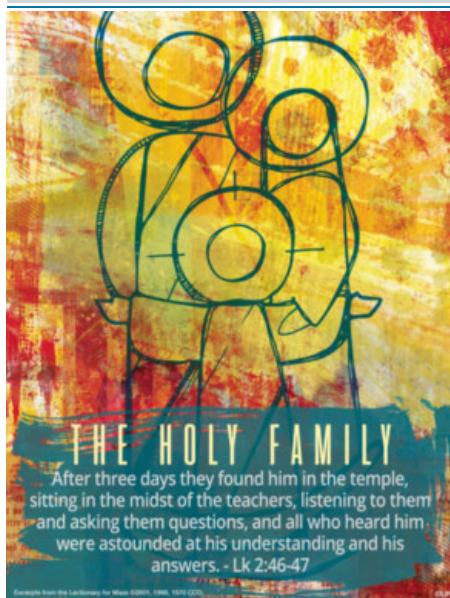


P.O. Box 38 • FANCY FARM, KY 42039

Phone: 270-623-8181 • **Fax:** 270-623-6341

E-mail: stjerome@wk.net | **Website:** <http://www.stjeromefancyfarm.com> | **Pastor:** Rev. Darrell Venters

Business Hours: 7:30 AM–4:00 PM, Monday–Friday



PARISH OFFICE CLOSED

The Parish Offices will be closed **Monday, December 27** for the Christmas holiday. The St. Jerome Staff wishes everyone a Happy New Year!

NEW YEAR'S EVE DANCE | DECEMBER 31

The Ladies Auxiliary will host a New Years Eve Dance at the St. Jerome Parish Center (former KC Hall) from 8:30 PM – 12:30 AM. Doors open at 7:30 PM. Tickets in advance are \$30 a couple, \$20 single and can be purchased from any Ladies Auxiliary member till December 28th. After the 28th they can be purchased at the door, \$40 couple and \$25 single. Music will be provided by DJ, James Hines. Snacks and party favors are included. No drinks brought in.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS NEWS

*Msgr. Thompson 4th Degree Knights of Columbus Assembly of Fancy Farm is sponsoring an **Outdoor Nativity Scene** presentation to promote a visible profession of our faith during the Christmas Season. The rules:

> Place the Nativity Scene in your front yard or front porch. Nativity scenes will not be judged.

> To be eligible for the drawing, your Nativity Scene must be up by December 23rd and it has to remain in your front yard until January 2nd, which is the feast of the Epiphany.



- > Call the St. Jerome Parish Office at 270-623-8181 to let them know your nativity display is up.
- > Four \$50 dollar cash prizes will be awarded by a random drawing. The random drawing will take place on the feast day of the Epiphany, Sunday, January 2nd. A 4th Degree Knight will verify that the Nativity Scene is still up and deliver to that home a \$50 dollar cash prize. If you take it down before the 2nd of January then you become ineligible.
- > This is open to all parishioners from St. Jerome, St. Charles and St. Denis.

*Knights of Columbus meeting will be held on **Monday, January 10, 2022** at 6 PM.

*Blood Drive will be held on Sunday, **January 16, 2022**, from 9:00 AM–1:00 PM at the St. Jerome Parish Hall.

SYNOD INFORMATION

Recently, Pope Francis announced a worldwide synod to focus on the life and mission of the Church as we move forward together. The theme for this synod is, "For a Synodal Church: Communion, Participation and Mission." Rather than simply a meeting of bishops, Pope Francis has asked us, the People of God, to take part in the synod—to "journey together" with our brothers and sisters in Christ along the path of renewal, guided by the Holy Spirit. The Holy Father has asked that every parish in the Diocese participate in this synod in order to listen to the living voice of the entire People of God. Our parish will conduct a two-part synodal listening session on **January 25 and February 24 (place TBD)** as part of the synod. These sessions will provide an opportunity for every member of our parish community to share our thoughts and feelings, but more importantly to discern how the Holy Spirit is guiding us in our journey together. Please join us for this important event. We want you to gather with us. However, if you can't make the parish listening sessions, share your input online at <https://owensborodiocese.org/synod/>.

"I hope for the maturation of a true synodal journey"

Card. Mario Grech
Special Representative
of the Holy See



Welcome Visitors ... We are delighted to have you visit with us here at St. Jerome Catholic Church. We hope your visit with us has been a happy and faith-filled experience.

2 REFLECTION ON THE GOSPEL ... THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY & 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. ©LPI



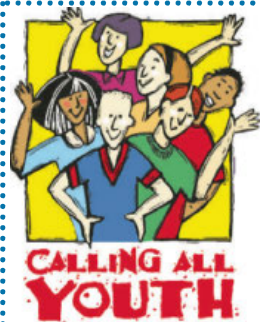
ONGOING GROWTH IN FAITH

If you have a desire to grow in your Catholic faith and enjoy social media, check out Our Sunday Visitor's program entitled *Real + True*. It is pretty engaging and reaches a broad audience. It is based and inspired by the Catechism and has videos and podcasts. You can find it at <https://realtrue.org>.



We extend our prayers to:

*Alice Jean Elliot during the loss of her sister, *Mary Carrico Willett*, on December 10.



*Thursday, December 30th: Middle School Girls Overnight @ Youth House. STARTS at 7 PM with supper and ENDS on Friday, December 31st at 8 AM.

*Wednesday, January 5th: Youth Council @Youth House ... Middle School 6:30–7:15 and High School 7:30–8:15 PM

*Wednesday, January 19th: Middle School Fun Night - 6:30–8:00 PM. Details TBD.

*Saturday, January 22nd: High School Girls Overnight ... Begin with Mass at 5 PM on Saturday through Sunday morning (we will head straight to PRE). More details to follow.

*February 12/13: Souper Bowl Collection.

Contacting the Staff (via e-mail)

Fr. Darrell Venters — frdarrell@wk.net

Sister Martha Keller — martha.keller@maplemount.org

Marie Woodrum — stjerome@wk.net

Sherry Jones — sdjones1@wk.net

Lacy Riddle — lacyriddle@live.com

Shanda Purcell — shandapurcell@gmail.com

Timmy Hobbs — stjerome@wk.net

Parish Registration

If you have just moved into our community or have changed your address, please call the parish office to update your information.

Rite of Christian Initiation (R.C.I.A.)

For adults, youth, and children (over age 6) who have a desire to learn more about the Catholic faith. Weekly sessions are held for adults. You may contact the parish office or Sister Martha Keller.

Funerals

The funeral Mass replaces the regularly scheduled weekday Mass.

Sacraments

Contact the Parish Office for information about Baptism, Reconciliation, Communion, Confirmation, Matrimony.

The Diocese of Owensboro requires couples to make arrangements at least six months in advance of the desired date of Marriage. You must be 19 years of age or have graduated from 12th grade for at least one year.

Hospital Visits

Please call the Parish Office or have someone call for you if you are admitted to the hospital and would like a priest to visit. When you are admitted, please let the hospital know which parish you belong to.

Parish Religious Education (PRE)

Classes for Kindergarten–11th grade are held on Sundays from 9:00-10:10 am. 12th grade will meet September thru December on Wednesdays from 7:00–8:00 pm.

STEWARDSHIP

MAYFIELD-GRAVES COUNTY NEEDLINE AND FOOD PANTRY

Item needed this week is cereal & juice. Place donations in back of church and they will be picked up. Thanks to everyone for their donations.

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. — Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

©LPi

SAINT JEROME PRAYER LINE / EMAIL REQUEST

To submit a prayer request to those who are praying for the needs of others daily, please send your intention to SaintJeromePrayerRequests@gmail.com

SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION IN 2022

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Parent Meeting for First Eucharist: Parents of our First Communion candidates, please mark your calendars for a meeting on **Wednesday, January 12, 2022 at 6:30 PM** in the Parish Center.

Parent Meeting for Confirmation: Parents of our Confirmation candidates, please mark your calendar for **Wednesday, February 2 at 6:30 PM** in the Parish Center. More info to follow.

Service Opportunities: If you have any service needed, please contact the parish office, our candidates are willing to help.

RCIA will resume this week, **Monday, January 3 at 6:00 PM**. The topic is the Sacrament of Confirmation.

MESSAGE OF GRATITUDE

With a grateful heart we thank each person for your generosity and presence. It is truly a powerful response of the Gospel. We are blessed!

~St. Jerome and the surrounding community



PRAYER REQUESTS

Parishioners: Jeanette Harms, John Willett, John Andrews, Clay & Karen Willett, Vicky Riley, Pat Wilson, David Redden, Shelley Cook, Eugene Willett, Robert "Butch" McClure, Gayle Vermillion, Norris & Elexie McNutt, Dot Murphy, Joy Ann Toon, Code & Shirley Rowe, Terry Goatley, Vayda Bollenbecker and Family, David & Geralynn Carbine, Joey & Sue Elder, Scott Elder, Jackie Langham, Elmer Elliott, Mark Elder, Will Dee Stahr, Dorothy Hobbs, Algene & Debbie Wilson, Allen Cissell, Susan Crenshaw, W. Dewey Hobbs, Pat Carrico, Wayne & Ruth Ann Higdon, Sara Elliott, David Thompson, Andrea Kemp, Joyce Wilson, Lydia Hobbs, Dorothy Elliott, Dennis Tharp, Teresa (David) Hobbs, Joe Elliott, Larry & Delores Wilson, Brenda Goatley, James & Dottie Wilson, Danny & Theresa Thompson, Helen Lockett, Angela Hayden.

Non-Parishioners: Sister Charles Mary Burns, Tracy French, Elaine Hinkebein, Christy Anderson, David Seay, Vince Roberts, Brayden Barnett, Joyce Matthews, Debbie Underwood, Kathy Butler, Randy Cope, Lori Jody, Michael Brian Rowland, Rhonda West, Steve Rehrig, Al Cash, Kyle Thomas, Kara Goodman, Bruce Lee, Ronnie Smith, Penny Nelson, Gordon Dickerson, Barbara Brown, Jaxon Short, Mike Mortensen, Kristen Hobbs, Jeff Cooper, Zoie Pyle, Sandy Donohoo, Frank Redden, Marilyn Miller, Kelly Walker, Ronnie Reed, Ruthie Ellegood, Charlie Crider, Mark Barnett, Robin Evans, C.W. Jackson, Graham Hosman, Nick Smith, Charles Hokanson, Karla Ray, Carolyn Ramsey, Wayne Viniard, Johnny & Phyllis Walker, Ricky Walker, Daniel Hayden, Katie Harms, Ellen Mortensen, Cheryl Ayers, Dorothy & Robert Pierceall, Mary Brame, Kye Thomason, Owen Coombs, Florence Vessels, Cecilia Burnett, Eric Ritzie, Amanda Dunlap, Bobbie Edds, Lisa P. Nelson, Robert Toon, Ray Willett, Ryan Ballard, Dustin Turska, Tina Elder Via, Peggy Adams, Tracey Hargrove, Stephanie H. Dunn, Cody Carrico, Belinda Rucker, Bobby Hobbs, Phillip & Karen Carr, Leon & Vicki Elder, Sue Farris, Betty Ballard, Mark Wilson (Liz's son), Seth Karlson, Michael Curtis Hobbs, Jeanette Hobbs Farrell.

The **tornado victims**, doctors, nurses, essential workers, the homebound, those in the hospital, assisted living & nursing homes. Pray for our enemies.

Pray for all men and women serving in the armed forces, especially Nathaniel Brown, David Michael Clifton, Adam Curtsinger, Autumn Goatley, Jarred Lutz, Michael McGrath, Luke Nimmo, Josh & Sarah Thompson, Tanner Webster, Luke Westmoreland, Brittany Willett, and Thomas Wilson.

4 LIVING THE LITURGY

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. ©LPI

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. ©LPI

OBSERVANCES FOR THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 26

Sunday: The Holy Family

Monday: St. John, Apostle and Evangelist

Tuesday: The Holy Innocents, Martyrs

Wednesday: St. Thomas Becket, Bishop and Martyr

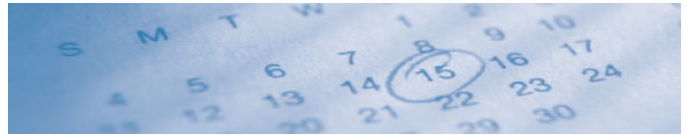
Friday: St. Sylvester I, Pope; New Year's Eve

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 ©LPI

POPE FRANCIS' INTENTIONS FOR JANUARY 2022

For true human fraternity ... We pray for all those suffering from religious discrimination and persecution; may their own rights and dignity be recognized, which originate from being brothers and sisters in the human family.



WEEKLY SCHEDULE

Sunday, December 26, 2021

8:00 AM Mass [Our Parish Family]

9:00 AM NO PRE for K–11th grade



10:30 AM Mass [Jackie Ballard (d)]

5:30 PM Rosary at the Grotto

Monday, December 27, 2021

8:00 AM No Mass

6:00 PM NO RCIA

Tuesday, December 28, 2021

8:00 AM Mass [Mike McFarland (d)]

Wednesday, December 29, 2021

8:00 AM Mass [John Ed Ballard (d)]

9:00 AM Quilting

Thursday, December 30, 2021

8:00 AM Mass [Carol Curtsinger (d)]

Friday, December 31, 2021

6:30 PM Mass [Kim Cash (d)]

Saturday, January 1, 2022

9:00 AM Mass [Sam & Ella Dean Hayden (d)]



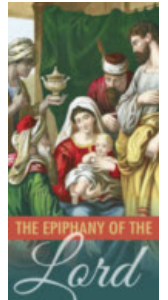
Sunday, January 2, 2022

8:00 AM Mass [Our Parish Family]

9:00 AM NO PRE for K–11th grade

10:30 AM Mass [Bill Elliott (d)]

5:30 PM Rosary at the Grotto



HOOR OF PRAYER FOR THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 26

Sun: Marian Fickey

Mon: Kathy Goatley

Tues: Vivian Goatley

Wed: Karen Goff

Thurs: Richard Hayden

Fri: Bill & Angela Higdon

Sat: Natalie Higdon



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