



DECEMBER 26, 2021

Saint John *the* Baptist

CATHOLIC CHURCH

502 NORTH MONROE
CLINTON, ILLINOIS 61727

Administrator

Rev. James Owusu-Yeboah, SMA

Deacons

Patrick Comfort
Scott Whitehouse

Parish Office

Phone.....217-935-3727
Emergency Cell815-414-3083
E-Mail..... stjohnsclinton@yahoo.com
Bulletinstjohnsbulletin@yahoo.com
(Bulletin Items Due By Monday 9:00am)
Website.....clintonstjohns.org

Parish Staff

Religious EducationSue Neuschwanger
Parish SecretaryDebbie Askins
Bulletin Secretary Kathie Summers
Parish TrusteesFrancis Jackson
Becky Wisher
PPC PresidentBill Spencer

Parish Office Hours

Tuesday and Wednesday
9:30 am to 2:30 pm

Outreach Ministry Hours

Tuesday and Wednesday
9:30 am to 2:30 pm

Confessions

Saturday 3:20 pm or by appointment.

Weekend Mass Schedule

Saturday 4:00 pm
Sunday 8:30 am

Weekday Mass Schedule

Wednesday 8:00 am
Friday 8:00 am
Adoration Last Friday of Month
following 8:00 am Mass

Baptism

Parents must be registered members and attend a class prior to scheduling the Baptism. Contact the Parish Office for details.

Marriage

Couples planning a marriage need to contact the Pastor at least six months Prior to the date of the wedding.

Pastoral Care

Contact the Parish Office for a home visit or Anointing of the Sick.



Not finding [Jesus], they returned to Jerusalem to look for him. After three days they found him in the temple, sitting in the midst of the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions, and all who heard him were astounded at his understanding and his answers. — Lk 2:45-47

Schedule

Monday, December 27th

8:00 am For the People of St. John the Baptist and Sacred Heart Parishes and Their Benefactors

Tuesday, December 28th

8:30 am Mass at Sacred Heart FC

Wednesday, December 29th

8:00 am + Marilyn Bielenberg

Thursday, December 30th

8:30 am Mass at Sacred Heart FC

Friday, December 31st

Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God

5:30 pm Mass at Sacred Heart

Saturday, January 1st, Epiphany of the Lord

4:00 pm + Dorothy Kuntz

Sunday, January 2nd, Epiphany of the Lord

8:30 am + John Slowey

10:30 am Mass at Sacred Heart FC



Prayers for Those in Nursing Homes
Sue Thompson

Prayers for the Sick

Kay Bailey, Mary Lou Barnett, Pamela Boatright, Connie Brown, Martha Cooper, Phyllis Fehr, Roy Harrold, Bev Hartsock, Mary Hirsch, Linda Kilgarriff, Patty Lecomte, Steve Lighthall, Mike Mannix, Tina Mannix, Joni Mollet, Fran Runyen, Bill Sargent, Angie Walden, Rita Williams, Brett Willits, Florence Workman, Charles M. Yeagle.

Collection Counters this week are
Silvia Comfort and Donna Hall.
Thank you for serving in this way.



Saturday, December 18th 4:00pm
and
Sunday, December 19th 8:30am

Sunday Envelopes \$1,585.00
Loose \$306.50
Total Collection \$1,891.50

Retired Religious Collection \$1,386.82

New Year's Mass Schedule *Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God*

Friday, December 31st

5:30pm Sacred Heart, Farmer City

Saturday, January 1st

10:00am St. Patrick, Wapella

The Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God is not a Day of Obligation this year because it falls on Saturday. However, Mass will be offered for those who wish to attend.

Readings for Solemnity of Mary: Numbers 6:22-27/

Galatians 4:4-7/Luke 2:16-21

Readings for Epiphany of the Lord: Isaiah 60-1-6/Ephesians 3:2-3a,5-6/Matthew 2:1-12

New Parish Office Hours

Beginning January 1, 2022 the Parish Office will be open on Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 9:30am to 2:30pm. Father James will be available for appointments during these hours. Father will also be available for appointments on Thursdays from 9:30am to 2:00pm at Sacred Heart Rectory. Bulletin articles will continue to be due on Mondays by 9:30am. Collection Counters will continue to count on Monday mornings.

New Weekday Mass Schedule

Beginning January 1, 2022 St. John's Weekday Mass Schedule will be Wednesdays and Fridays at 8:00am. Sacred Heart Weekday Masses will remain at 8:30am on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Adoration will be held at Sacred Heart on the first Friday of the month at 11:00am followed by Mass at noon. Adoration will be held at St. John's on the last Friday of the month following the 8:00am Mass. The Weekend Mass Schedule will remain the same.

Confessions Schedule

Please make note that Father James is now hearing Confessions every Saturday from 3:30pm to 3:50pm before the 4:00pm Mass or by appointment. He will be located in the Servers Sacristy (room on left in Sanctuary). He has also begun hearing Confessions every Tuesday at Sacred Heart following the 8:30am Mass from 9:00am to 9:30am.

Father Jim Update: *Father Jim was temporarily moved to St. John's Hospital in Springfield. However, plans are in the works for him to be moved to a new Rehab Facility in Peoria. Please send get well cards or Christmas cards to the Parish Office and we see that they are forwarded to him as soon as a new address is available. We will publish the new address in the bulletin.*

2022 Church Calendars

Calendars are now available at the church entrances. These calendars are provided free of charge courtesy of Calvert-Belangee-Bruce Funeral home in Farmer City. So please take one home today!



The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

What is a family? The classical definition of a family would be mother, father, children. How does this definition look today in our 21st Century world? Simply stated, it doesn't hold up. So how do we define family and what it looks like in today's family?

Contemporary families would include single parent homes. Families (right or wrong) may include single gender parent homes. Today families would also count those households where grandparents are assuming many of the traditional roles of "classical" families. There may homes where one parent is the primary source of income. We have to count two income households as almost the norm for our contemporary society. With all this being said, how do we celebrate the feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph?

No matter what a family may look like today, we can model the family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph by stressing the HOLY. All families can look to Jesus, Mary and Joseph for how each can be holy. The Holy Family are holy because of their relationship with God.

As we read in Paul's Letter to the Philippians, Jesus, the Son of God did not deem equality with God something to be taken for granted. Paul tells us in chapter 2, verse 6 and following that these are the qualities we need to develop and foster: humility, obedience, no grumbling, to be blameless and innocent in the sight of God and to always REJOICE. Imagine what family life would be like if these qualities were part of every home. We need the example of the Holy Family because each in their own way lived these qualities. Each were obedient to God's Will. Each were humble before God the Father. Each were innocent and blameless before God.

No matter how difficult the mission given by God, each rejoiced to do what God asked. Each lived their calling. Mary as mother and heart of the home at Nazareth. Joseph, as parent, taught his son what would be important to know as a Jew living in the first century. Jesus, as we hear in the Gospel, learned obedience to both the Father and to Mary and Joseph as his parents on this earth. We all have much to learn from the Holy Family. May we follow each as best we can.

Why December 25 for Birth of Jesus?

Although the date of Christ's birth is not given to us in Scripture, there is documented evidence that December 25 was already of some significance to Christians prior to A.D. 354. One example can be found in the writings of Hippolytus of Rome, who explains in his *Commentary on the book of Daniel* (c. A.D. 204) that the Lord's birth was believed to have occurred on that day.

FROM ADMINISTRATOR'S DESK CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR GREETINGS "For Unto Us a Child is Born. His Name shall be called Wonderful Counsellor, The Mighty God, The Everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace" Isaiah 9:6

Fr James wishes all Parishioners Merry Christmas and a Prosperous New Year. Christmas is a time for Peace, Joy, Hope, Love and Sharing. Wishing all Parishioners a Christmas full of Joy, Blessings and Fulfilment. May your New Year be filled with grace, joy, prosperity, good health and New Opportunities!

HAPPY CHRISTMAS AND A WONDERFUL NEW YEAR TO ALL Fr James, SMA

Pastoral Care Visits to the Sick

Effective January 1, 2022 Father James will begin making Pastoral visits to the sick following Adoration on the first and last Fridays of the month. If you or someone you know would like a Pastoral Visit, please call the Parish Office with name, phone number and address. Our Pastoral Care Eucharistic Ministers will continue their ministry in addition to Father's visits.

Confirmation Class Service Project 2021

St. John's and Sacred Heart Confirmation students helped distribute Christmas Food Baskets last Saturday as part of their service project hours for Confirmation. The students who helped are pictured below.



Pictured Left: (LtoR) Aiden Petersen, Lesley Guerrero, Santa, Sarah Mills, Karla Rodriguez and Davis Howell.



Right: (LtoR) Back Row: Paul Toohill, Miguelangel Mendoza, Aiden Petersen, Davis Howell, Fatima Rodriguez. Front Row: Lesley Guerrero, Michael Toohill, and Karla Rodriguez.

Many thanks to these students for their service and for giving up their Saturday morning to help Santa help those who are struggling right now.

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