



# HOLY FAMILY PARISH

# December 26, 2021 January 2, 2022

3720 N. Sterling Avenue 309-688-3427  
Peoria, Illinois 61615

## PARISH ADMINISTRATION

Fr. Paul Joseph Langevin, OFM Conv. 309-688-3427  
*Pastor*

Friar Bede Thigpen, OFM Conv. 704-619-8887  
*In residence*

Friar Jason Warrer, OFM Conv. 219-689-6715  
*In residence*

Deacon Joseph LaHood 309-657-8209  
*Parish Deacon*

Sr. M. Lenore, OSF 309-688-3427  
*Parish Secretary*

Mike Simmons 309-688-3427  
*Business Manager*

Marty Fredericksen 309-686-1664  
*Music Minister*

John Clark 309-408-8748  
*Church Organist*

Philomena Padival 309-688-3427  
*Faith Community Nursing Program*

Dan Vogel 309-229-0747  
*Facilities Manager*

Tom Giunta 309-693-3139

Mark Joseph 309-369-3946

*Parish Trustees*

Jennifer Hay 773-308-3203  
*Parish Pastoral Council President*

Dan Salrin 309-678-2374  
*Eucharistic Adoration Coordinator*

Kate Yesis 309-267-1261  
*Elizabeth Ministry*

Gigi Giunta 309-693-3139  
*Mary & Martha Society*

Joe Jochman 309-276-7697  
*Men's Club*

Dennis Lippert 309-453-7623  
*Mission Committee*

Jon Paul Nay 309-296-5517  
*Compassion Ministry*

Anne Hill 309-573-6529  
*Prayer Circle (intentions in prayer)*

Bob Reading 309-688-9435  
*St. Fiacre Society*

## SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION

Stacie Gianessi 309-688-2931  
*Administrator*

Chelsea Edwards 309-688-2931  
*Secretary*

Parish Office Hours: 8:30am-3:30pm  
Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday  
CLOSED WEDNESDAY



## Feasts of The Holy Family and The Epiphany

## FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

We celebrate the glory of this Christmas season together as a holy family. On behalf of the friars serving with me along with those who have served at Holy Family in the past, I extend our very best wishes and all good things to you and your family. *Thank you! Thank you! Thank you!* for the outpouring of support, kindness, and love you have shown to us over the years.

We are a holy family, united together in Christ as brothers and sisters. And what a beautiful and profound connection that is! But we shouldn't limit our awareness and appreciation of this interconnectedness merely to Christmastime but all throughout the year. As we see the family unit being chipped away, we must do all that we can to preserve and protect our family of faith by regularly coming to Mass, getting involved in the parish, encouraging Baptism of your children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren, and by confidently defending what we believe as Catholics. This year's Christmas gift to the parish is a wonderful book entitled, *"What To Say And How To Say It"* (Brandon Vogt) to help everyone better understand the Church's teachings on topics like atheism, same-sex marriage, transgenderism, abortion, the Eucharist, and the problem of suffering. It also provides the common contemporary arguments against the Church's teachings to help us respond in a calm, clear, and persuasive way.

In the coming year, we will gather each week in thanksgiving for all that God gives us. I pray that gratitude will remain strong in our hearts especially as there will surely be attempts by the Devil to get us discouraged, disappointed, and dissatisfied. He thrives off these and so many other "dis'es. We'll help each other as a family to send him on his way .... he is a most unwelcomed guest. And let the Prince of Peace and the Queen of Peace reign in our hearts all throughout the year.

Finally, let nobody be a stranger among us. May we welcome all those God sends us and embrace them as brothers and sisters in our holy family here at Holy Family. "HERE WE ARE, HOLY SPIRIT" *ADSUMUS, SANCTE SPIRITUS!*

See you at Mass!

*Fa. Paul Joseph*

## Mass Intentions

### MONDAY, December 27-St. John, Apostle

5:30pm †Fr. Anthony Labedis, OFM Conv.  
by Chris & Dianna Russick

### TUESDAY, December 28-The Holy Innocents

7:00am †Jim & Ileene McGinn by Linda Nolan

### WEDNESDAY, December 29-Fifth Day Within the Octave of the Nativity

7:00am †Jeanine Best by Pat Pamamat  
5:30pm †Barbara Woodward by Jay Woodward

### THURSDAY, December 30-Sixth Day Within the Octave of the Nativity

7:00am †Louis Kouri  
by Josephine Malone & Jo Ann Ewing

### FRIDAY, December 31-Seventh Day Within the Octave of the Nativity

7:00am No Mass

## SOLEMNITY OF MARY THE MOTHER OF GOD

(NOT A HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION THIS YEAR)

### FRIDAY, December 31-Vigil

5:00pm Clarence & Gwen Schwindenhammer  
by Rick Schwindenhammer

### SATURDAY, January 1

9:00am †Fr. John Grigus, OFM Conv.  
by Tony & Honey Jacob

## EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

### SATURDAY, January 1

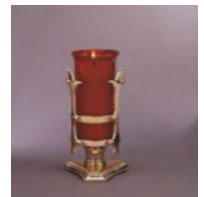
5:00pm †Robert & Barbara Buoy by the Sanderson Family

### SUNDAY, January 2

8:00am For the intentions of Dave & Linda Vorrath  
by Mike Vorrath  
10:30am Living and Deceased Members  
of Our Parish Community

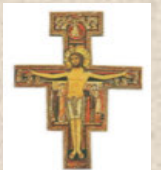
The Sanctuary Lamp intention for the week of

December 25-31, 2021:  
We remember in our daily prayers  
†Fr. Michael Glastetter &  
†Cal Glastetter  
by Family.



### PRAY FOR FRANCISCAN VOCATIONS

Maria Serrano will have the Franciscan vocation picture and say the prayers for an increase of vocations to the priesthood and religious life, especially to the Conventual Franciscans of Saint Bonaventure Province for the week of 12/26/21-1/1/22.



Please sign up for this important ministry opportunity in the vestibule.

*Mass Intentions*

**MONDAY, January 3-The Holy Name of Jesus**

5:30pm St. Vincent de Paul Members

**TUESDAY, January 4-St. Elizabeth Ann Seton**

7:00am †Barbara Woodward by Jay Woodward

**WEDNESDAY, January 5-St. John Neumann**

7:00am Holy Souls in Purgatory by Joe Jochman

5:30pm †Louis Kouri by Dick & Patti LaHood

**THURSDAY, January 6-Christmas Weekday**

7:00am †Anna by The Hoang Family

9:00am **School Mass:** †Geraldine Ralph

by Mary & Jim Donahue

**FRIDAY, January 7-Christmas Weekday**

7:00am †Tom McIntyre by Sue & Mollie McIntyre

5:30pm †Don Bradley by Glen & Mary Ellen Forck

**BAPTISM OF THE LORD**

**SATURDAY, January 8**

5:00pm Louis Kouri by Dick & Patti O'Connor

**SUNDAY, January 9**

8:00am †Alan Kilty by Janet Kilty

10:30am †Jeanine Best by Joan Kirchgessner

*Readings:*  
*Week of December 27-  
January 2*

**Monday:** 1Jn 1:1-4/Jn 20:1a,2-8

**Tuesday:** 1Jn 1:5-2:2/Mt 2:13-18

**Wednesday:** 1 Jn 2:3-11/Lk 2:22-35

**Thursday:** 1 Jn 2:12-17/Lk 2:36-40

**Friday:** 1 Jn 2:18-21/Jn 1:1-18

**Saturday:** Nm 6:22-27/Gal 4:4-7/  
Lk 2: 16-21

**Next Sunday:** Is 60:1-6/Eph 3:2-3a,5-6/  
Mt 2:1-12

*Readings:*  
*Week of January 3-9*

**Monday:** 1 Jn 3:22-4:6/Mt 4:12-17,23-25

**Tuesday:** 1 Jn 4:7-10/Mk 6:34-44

**Wednesday:** 1 Jn 4:11-18/Mk 6:45-52

**Thursday:** 1 Jn 4:19-5:4/ Lk 4:14-22a

**Friday:** 1 Jn 5:5-13/Lk 5:12-16

**Saturday:** 1 Jn 5:14-21/Jn 3:22-30

**Next Sunday:** Is 40: 1-5,9-11/  
Ti 2:11-14;3:4-7/  
Lk 3:15-16, 21-22

The Sanctuary Lamp intention for the week  
of  
January 1-7, 2022:  
We remember in our daily prayers  
†Tommy & Maria Vallas  
by Klara Vallas.



**PRAY FOR FRANCISCAN VOCATIONS**

Clare Ripp will have the Franciscan vocation picture and say the prayers for an increase of vocations to the priesthood and religious life, especially to the Conventual Franciscans of Saint Bonaventure Province for the week of 1/2/22-1/8/22.

**Please sign up for this important ministry opportunity in the vestibule.**



The winner of the Mary and Martha quilt is:

**MARY KAY SOLLBERGER!!!**

Her name was drawn at the Mary and Martha Christmas Luncheon on December 9<sup>th</sup>.

**Highlights of  
Our Parishioners  
on  
Pilgrimage**



**HOLIDAY OFFICE HOURS**

Closed December 27, 2021  
Reopen December 28, 2021

Closed at noon on December 31, 2021  
Closed January 3, 2022  
Reopen January 4, 2022



**HOLY FAMILY NOVENA**

**Novena Dates:**  
**December 26, 2021-**  
**January 3, 2022**

**Feast Day:**  
**December 26, 2021**

**JESUS**, Son of God and Son of Mary, bless our family. Graciously inspire in us the unity, peace, and mutual love that you found in your own family in the little town of Nazareth.

**MARY**, Mother of Jesus and Our Mother, nourish our family with your faith and your love. Keep us close to your Son, Jesus, in all our sorrows and joys.

**JOSEPH**, Foster-father to Jesus, guardian and spouse of Mary, keep our family safe from harm. Help us in all times of discouragement or anxiety.

**HOLY FAMILY OF NAZARETH**, make our family one with you. Help us to be instruments of peace. Grant that love, strengthened by grace, may prove mightier than all the weaknesses and trials through which our families sometimes pass. May we always have God at the center of our hearts and homes until we are all one family, happy and at peace in our true home with you. Amen

Our Father ...

Hail Mary ...

Glory be to the Father...

Holy Family of Nazareth; Pray for us.

**FINANCE CORNER**

If you would like to make contributions electronically, please contact our business office at (309) 688-3427 x 201.

Anyone interest in a convenient method to make their regular Sunday contributions can use the link below. Here at Holy Family, we have implemented a secure website to accept your donations. The website for online donations is:

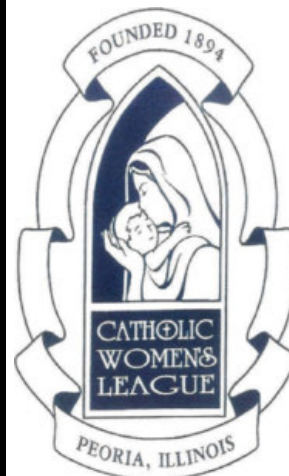
<https://giving.parishsoft.com/app/giving/peoriahollyfamily>

**Thank you and God Bless you.**  
**Figures not available at time of printing.**

First Sunday
Second Sunday
Third Sunday
Fourth Sunday
Fifth Sunday

Monthly Total
Monthly Budget
Monthly Surplus (Shortfall)

Fiscal Year Total
Fiscal Year to Date Budget
Fiscal Year Surplus (Shortfall)



**CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE MEMBERSHIP DUES**

**For the calendar year:**  
January 1-December 2022

**Members:** \$20.00 per year

**Life Members:** \$10.00 per year

Please pay before April 1, 2022

New Members contact Ann Gerado for applications and questions at: 630-464-8474.



## COME SHARE IN THE JOY!

Friar Bede Thigpen, OFM Conv. will be ordained to the Transitional Diaconate on January 15, 2022. The Ordination Mass will be here at Holy Family Church at 11:00am. The celebrant will be Bishop William P. Callahan, OFM Conv. Come share in the joy of the Franciscan Community as one of our friars takes the next step in the journey of his Religious Vocation.



## 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.

## 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.

**January 2, 2022**

**THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD**

In his Apostolic Exhortation, *The Joy of the Gospel*, Pope Francis references a thought from Pope Benedict XVI: “Being a Christian is not the result of an ethical choice or a lofty idea, but the encounter with an event, a person, which gives life a new horizon and a decisive direction.” Today we celebrate an encounter with the Person of Jesus Christ! This simple but holy event in time dramatically changes human life, pointing it toward a new horizon and giving it a decisive direction. This is a message and truth that is not meant to be shared with only a select few who qualify but with the entire world. Pope Francis continues saying, “Thanks solely to this encounter or renewed encounter with God’s love, which blossoms into an enriching friendship, we are liberated from our narrowness and self-absorption. We become fully human when we become more than human, when we let God bring us beyond ourselves in order to attain the fullest truth of our being.”

Look around at people. Where is life heading for them? What gives them direction? Even we who are people of faith can get distracted and lose our focus. God, in all of His fullness, is revealed in Jesus Christ and we can encounter Him! God is tangible, real, vulnerable, poor, and full of wonders, surprises, and opportunities. For those who are struggling and lost, today is a day of great joy. All they have to do is reach out and touch the truth of Christ. This presence is revealed in the poor, exploited, and vulnerable ones who cry out for compassion and love. But it is also found in the faithful ones who see in the Epiphany of God a liberation from structures and systems that hurt us, a narrowness of mind and heart that constricts us, and an absorption in our self-agenda that prevents us from seeing anything other than ourselves as important.

We have been given the charge of preaching this Good News. If only we could find a way to be more effective, it might stand a chance of doing what God intended it to do. There is always tomorrow and our memory of that bright new light that shone so brilliantly that Bethlehem might pointing us to truth and reminding us that we are loved.

**The Light of the Moon**

If you own a television that has been turned on at any point in the last month or so, chances are you’ve caught at least a scene or two of the 1946 classic film “It’s a Wonderful Life.”

If you’re not familiar with the movie, it follows the life of George Bailey from childhood through adulthood. A dreamer by nature, George has big plans for himself that involve world exploration and adventure — but family and community obligations keep him tethered to the same spot on the map, leading an altogether ordinary life.

One of the most memorable scenes from that movie is of George dancing with his sweetheart Mary while they sing “Buffalo Gals — Won’t you come out tonight/And dance by the light of the moon?”

That lyric always catches my ear. Of course, the moon doesn’t have any light of its own. All the moon has is the ability to reflect the light that shines upon it.

The same holds for us, doesn’t it? Our stewardship is purely a reflection of the grace granted to us by another. “Upon you the LORD shines,” writes Isaiah, “and over you appears his glory.” Every good action we will ever take begins in the mind of God. The fact that we have the honor of carrying it out on His behalf is a beautiful gift. It is God that makes our ordinary lives extraordinary.

In the end of the movie, George Bailey realizes that he had a far greater life because, instead of being the hero of his own story, he allowed himself to reflect goodness onto others.

Remember — the magi didn’t chart their own course. They merely followed the star.

— *Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS*



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