

St. Patrick CHURCH OF HARTLAND-FOUNDED 1837

St. Patrick Parish-Hartland 15012 St. Patrick Road Woodstock, IL 60098 815-338-7883 www.stpatrickofhartland.org

Office Hours Tuesday and Thursdays

9:00 a.m.—1:00 p.m. Or by appointment. 815-790-3643

December 26th—The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

We are a Catholic Faith Community, united in Christ through Sacrament, dedicated to charity, community, service and spiritual growth.

Parish Staff

I WIIDII DUWII	
Pastor	Fr. Burt Absalon
	Fr. Sanchez
Marian Spirit.	DrFr. Warren
Deacon	Joe Kayser
	815-236-3803
Business Mgr.	Jeanine Nowakowski
	815-790-3643
Bldg & Grds	Matt Weidner
	Ray Wagner
	Braedon Sullivan
Keyboardist	Ruth Raubertas
Cantors	Madison Kenyon,
	Jordyn Kratochvil,
Caroline Stumpf and Hannah	
McNulty	

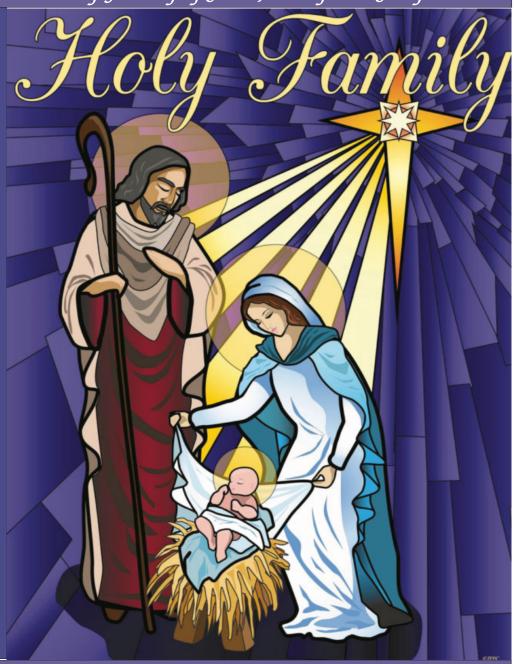
Sunday Masses

8:00 a.m. and 10:15 a.m.

Confessions

30 Minutes prior to each Mass.

We need your help! If you are able to act as a server for either of our Masses, easy instruction will be provided. Please contact Jeanine at 815-790-3643. Thank you!



Disciple Stewardship: The first reading today says that, having found the infant Jesus, the shepherds returned to their work, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen. We, too, have seen and celebrated to mystery of the Word made flesh. Will we follow their example when we return to work tomorrow?

SCRIPTURAL READINGS Solemnity of Mary The Holy Mother of God

First Reading: Numbers 6:22-27 "The Lord bless you and keep you! The Lord let his face shine upon you, and be gracious to you! The Lord look upon you kindly and give you peace!"

Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 67:2-3 May God bless us in his mercy.

Second Reading: Galatians 4:4-7 When the time had come, God sent the beloved Son born of a woman so that we might become adopted children. We are no longer slaves but heirs of God whom we call, "Abba, Father!"

Gospel: Luke 2:16-21

On the eight day, Mary's child was circumcised and given the name Jesus, that is, "God saves." Mary, "kept all these things, reflecting on them in her heart.

The Epiphany of the Lord

First Reading: Isaiah 60:1-6
Darkness covers the earth, and heavy clouds hang over people. But the light has come, and the glory of the Lord shines bright.

Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 72:1-2 Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.

Second Reading: Ephesians 3:2-3a In Christ Jesus, Gentiles and Jews are co-heirs of the family fortune and co-sharers in the saving promise.

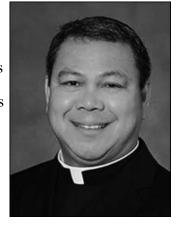
Gospel: Matthew 2:1-12

The magi from the east followed the star until it stopped still over the house. They entered, found the child with Mary, prostrated themselves and did him homage

Remember to pray, pray, pray!

Dear friends in Christ,

Today we celebrate the Feast of the Holy Family. Within days of the great Christmas celebration, our attention is drawn to the fact that God who was born on a manger as a baby grew up as a member of the human family. Anyone who reads the Gospel will see clearly see that the Holy Family had their shares of troubles and woes of this world. The moment Jesus was born; the Holy Family had to endure persecution. Joseph showed courage and paternal in-



stinct to protect as he did his best to shield his wife and his son from the forces of evil. When he learned in a dream of Herod's plot to kill the infant Jesus, he quickly uprooted Mary and the Child and left that night for Egypt where they had to live in exile. The Holy Family of Nazareth was not exempted from trials and tribulations and was no stranger to great difficulties. In our own experience of great hardships and trials, we can look to them for wisdom and guidance.

The feast of the Holy Family provides us an opportunity to reflect on the quality of our home and family life, in so far as they emulate the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph. Family is not so much about parents and children living under one roof as about their hearts beating together in harmony and love. This can only happen if the message of Christ in all its richness is found within its walls. The present age leaves no room for complacency regarding matters of faith. Religion begins at home and parents are the first teachers and models of their children in the ways of faith. Handing on the faith means handing on a way of life. It's no use parents urging their children to pray if prayer is not part of their own adult lives.

The most basic Christian community is the family into which we are born. The very purpose of this feast is to show the importance and the sacredness of the family as the domestic Church and the basic unit of society. The family as a church is the place where we first know about God and His love. It is where prayers are first learned and said and where God is worshiped together. Our universal Church can truly become a vibrant community of faith if it is made up of families who made God the center of home life. The family as the basic unit of society is self-evident in many ways. The breakdown of the very fabric of society is traceable to the breakdown of the family. When family is raised in Christian values, it is sure to provide a nation with productive and law-abiding citizenry.

Happy Holy Family Day to one and all! And Happy New Year too. May the 2019 be a holy year for you and your family because if it is, it will truly be a happy one.

God bless you, Father Burt Absalon



Vocation Corner:

As we approach the new year, many of us are beginning to think about resolutions. Some of us want to purchase new gym passes and lose twenty pounds, while others are planning on learning a new language. The question for you is: what is your plan for 2019? What resolutions are you going to make? Have you ever asked yourself why we make resolutions at all? Well, the reason is because we all desire to be the best possible versions of ourselves! We are in a constant state of wanting to become the people God created us to be. So this, above all, should be your primary goal this new year: to become a better version of yourself (aka, the Saint God knows you can and should be!).

So, how are we going to make this happen? By simply doing three things this year:

1.Never miss Sunday Mass 2.Go to Confession once a month And pray daily for at least 20 minutes.

If you resolve to undertake this plan in the coming new year, you will most definitely wake up in 365 days as a new creation in Christ!



"[W]e are facing an enormous and dramatic clash between good and evil, death and life, the 'culture of death' and the 'culture of life'. We find ourselves not only 'faced with' but necessarily 'in the midst of' this conflict: we are all involved and we all share in it, with the inescapable responsibility of choosing to be unconditionally pro-life."

Pope John Paul II, Evangelium Vitae, 28 © 1995 Libreria Editrice Vaticana. Used with permission.



eople of God

Your prayers are requested for the sick;

Casey Porch Jeff Kruzan Erwin Arendt Cindy Kruzan Lisa Ash Robert Kutella Mary Bassett Barb Lanphier **Emily Davis** Henry Kranz Renee Biestek Steve Welch Rich Biestek Rick Hoffman Mary Lou Billy Matusek Draper John Ferraro Barbara Dye Viola Huff Wayne Dye Paul Kries Steve Fitzgerald Melissa Rath Mary Watson Philip Weidner Dennis Gallagher Jeremy Scully Mary Gillis Geraldine Slarai Nancy Golbeck Derrick Verona Gaye Johnson Rita Hagenbruch



It is time to schedule Mass intentions for 2022—please let Jeanine know through an email at: Jeanine.nowakowski@gmail.com, or a phone call to 815-790-3643. Each Mass intention is \$10.00. Thank you! Please continue to pray for those on our prayer list.



Sunday, January 2nd

8:00 a.m.: Constance Freund

Requested by Ray & Carol Wagner

10:15 a.m: Robert Kutella

Requested by Barb Lanphier

Sacramental Policies

<u>Baptism</u>: Contact the parish Office to participate in the Sacramental Baptismal preparation program. <u>First Eucharist</u>: Children will be permitted to approach First Eucharist upon completion of the Parish Religious Education Program required for the reception of Holy Communion.

<u>Matrimony:</u> Rev. Burt Absalon, should be contacted at least one year prior to the anticipated date for the marriage. It is the policy of the Rockford Diocese that those to be married be at least 19 years of age, and will be required to participate in instructional programs: including Pre-marriage and Natural Family Planning Seminars. One of those to be married must be a registered member of the St. Patrick Parish of Hartland.

<u>Confessions:</u> The Sacrament of Reconciliation will be available 30 minutes prior to the 8:00 a.m. and 10:15 a.m. Sunday Masses.

Anointing of the Sick: For reception of the Sacrament of the Sick, and visits, please contact the Parish office at 815-338-7883.

<u>New Members:</u> New members to our community are asked to fill out a registration form found in the back of the church and drop it in the collection, or contact the Parish office.



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