

Catholic Churches

270-281-4802 9515 State Route 144 Philpot, Kentucky 42366 swslparishes.org

## HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY, & JOSEPH, DECEMBER 27, 2021



## THE HOLY FAMILY

Gio.

He went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was obedient to them; and his mother kept all these things in her heart. And Jesus advanced in wisdom and age and favor before God and man. - Lk 2:51-52

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass @2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

## ST. WILLIAM AND ST. LAWRENCE PARISH MISSION STATEMENT

"We come together as members of St. William and St. Lawrence Parishes. Two parishes, with separate identities working together to grow in grace and love as disciples of Christ through the sacramental life of the Church, and to form new disciples by proclaiming the Gospel to all through word and service."

Parish Council Members: Lauren Johnson- Chair, Joe Schepers-Vice Chair, Eathan Johnson, Janey Gilmore, Janae Lanham, Lee Mills, Heather Clark, Shawn Johnson, Isaac Warren, Jenny Hamilton

<u>Finance Council Members:</u> Kathy Roberts-Chair, Bobby Turner, Gerald O'Bryan, Suzanne Murphy, Keith Payne, Linus Murphy

## WELCOME TO ST. WILLIAM AND ST. LAWRENCE PARISHES

#### Pastor:

Rev. Shijo Vadakumkara shijo.vadakumkara@pastoral.org

## Bookkeeper/Secretary:

Connie Lemmons connie.lemmons@yahoo.com

## **Director of Religious Education:**

Kara Burch kbekebrede16@gmail.com

## Maintenance:

Jaime Morris 270-231-5331

## Youth Ministry:

Eathan Johnson

ejohnson5623@gmail.com; 270-315-9904

## **Parish Council Chair:**

Lauren Johnson

#### **Finance Council Chair:**

Kathy Roberts

### **Building Committee Chair:**

Lee Mills

## **Knottsville Knights of Columbus:**

Mike Mudd 270-993-3213

Office Hours: 8:00 a.m.—3:00 p.m.

On Monday-Thursday

8:00 a.m.. — Noon on Friday

**Bulletin Deadline: by Monday NOON** 

## Mary Carrico Catholic School 9546 State Route 144 Philpot, Kentucky 42366

Office: 270-281-5526 www.marycarrico.org

Principal: Martha Warren

mwarren@marycarrico.org

Secretary:

Vicki Conder

vconder@marycarrico.org

School Council Chair: Clint McManaway PTO Chairs: Susan Howard, Jill Williams

## The Holy Family

Dear loving Parishioners,

I like to share with you today a homily preached by Pope Francis on December 30, 2018 during his angelus address on the feast of the Holy Family.

Today we are celebrating the Feast of the Holy Family, and the liturgy invites us to reflect on the experience of Mary, Joseph and Jesus, united by an immense love and inspired by great trust in God. Today's Gospel passage recounts the journey of the family of Nazareth to Jerusalem, for the celebration of Passover. But, on the return journey, the parents realize that their 12-year-old son is not in the caravan. After three days of searching and fear, they find him in the temple, sitting among the teachers, focused on a discussion with them. At the sight of the Son, Mary and Joseph "were astonished" and the Mother revealed their fear to him, saying: "your father and I have been looking for you anxiously". this is really bad. We should feel anxious when these Astonishment — they were "astonished" — and anxiety — "your father and I, anxious" — are the two elements to which I would like to call your attention: astonishment and anxiety.

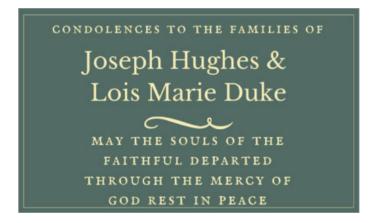
In the family of Nazareth astonishment never waned, not even in a dramatic moment such as Jesus being lost: it is the ability to be astonished before the gradual manifestation of the Son of God. It is the same astonishment that even strikes the teachers of the temple, "amazed at his understanding and his answers" (v. 47). But what is astonishment; what is it to be astonished? Being astonished and being amazed is the opposite of taking everything for granted; it is the opposite of interpreting the reality that surrounds us and historical events according to our criteria alone. A person who does this does not know what amazement is, what astonishment is. Being astonished is being open to others, understanding others' reasons: this attitude is important for mending compromised interpersonal relationships, and is also indispensable for healing open wounds in the familial environment. When there are problems in families, we take for granted that we are right and we close the door to others. Instead, it is important to think: 'What is good about this person?', and to be astonished by this 'good'. And this helps family unity. If you have problems in the family, think about the good things in the family member with whom you have problems, and be astonished by this. This will help to heal familial wounds.

The second element that I would like to grasp from the

Gospel is the anxiety that Mary and Joseph felt when they could not find Jesus. This anxiety reveals Jesus' centrality in the Holy Family. The Virgin and her husband welcomed that Son, protected him and watched him grow in age, wisdom and grace in their midst, but above all he grew in their hearts; and, little by little, their affection for him and their understanding of him grew. This is why the family of Nazareth is holy: because it was centered on Jesus; all of Mary and Joseph's attention and concerns were directed toward him. That anxiety that they experienced in the three days that Jesus was missing should also be our anxiety when we are distant from him, when we are distant from Jesus. We should feel anxious when we forget Jesus for more than three days, without praying, without reading the Gospel, without feeling the need of his presence and of his comforting friendship. And many times, days pass in which I do not remember Jesus. But this is bad, things happen. Mary and Joseph searched for him and found him in the temple while he was teaching: for us too, it is especially in the house of God that we are able to encounter the divine Teacher and receive his message of salvation. In the Eucharistic celebration we have a living experience of Christ; he speaks to us; he offers us his Word; he illuminates us, lights our path, gives us his Body in the Eucharist from which we draw vigor to face everyday difficulties.

And today let us go home with these two words: astonishment and anxiety. Do I know how to be astonished, when I see the good things in others, and in this way resolve family problems? Do I feel anxious when I am distant from Jesus? Let us pray for all the families in the world, especially those in which, for various reasons, peace and harmony are lacking. And let us entrust them to the protection of the Holy Family of Nazareth. Have a blessed week.

Fr. Shijo Vadakumkara **Pastor** 





These are the people that signed up for the Matthew 9 Mission, for the days of 26-1 of every month. They will pray the rosary for vocations to the priesthood. If you would like to sign-up, call the office.

#### **SAINT WILLIAM CHURCH**

- 26 Heather Clark
- 27 Randall & Arlene Cecil; Ann Cecil
- 28 **Brook & Jared Mattingly**
- 29 Lillian Edge
- 30 Joey & Tara Moore
- 31 Dianne Ballard
- 1 Mary Lou Payne



#### SAINT LAWRENCE CHURCH

26 27

Marti Rhinerson

28 29

30 Marty & Kelly Lanham

31

Rhoda Smith; Joan Hayden

## MASS INTENTIONS

## December 27-January 2

Tue.	8:00 a.m. SW	Mass Cancelled
Wed.	8:00 a.m. SW	Mass Cancelled
Thurs.	8:00 a.m. SW	Mass Cancelled
Thurs.	6:00 p.m. SL	Mass Cancelled
Fri.	8:00 a.m. SW	Warren Lanham +
Fri.	6:00 p.m. SW	John W. Lanham +
Sat.	8:00 a.m. SL	Catherine Mudd +
Sat.	4:00 p.m. SW	Freddie Payne
Sun.	6:30 a.m. SW	Chris Haycraft +
Sun.	8:00 a.m. SL	Louis Rhodes +
Sun.	10:00 a.m. SW	Mary Lanham +

## JANUARY DONUT SUNDAY



## Annette Howard





Evan Barr, Mary Johnson, Janette Ford, Janice Payne, Roger Gilmore, Stephanie Mattingly, Charlie Boy Lanham, John Wells, Lisa Mayfield, Margaret & Bobby Hamilton, Bernard & Lillian Haynes, Bob & Helen Ward, Chad Roberts, Chuck Winters, Edith Johnson, Cindy

Payne, Ronnie Goetz, Joe Fitzgerald, Junior Hurm, Shelia Sanders, Dwayne Mattingly, David Montgomery, Ashley Whitaker, Cary Mattingly, Terry Stone, Francine Wright, Donna Barnett, Cecilia Recker, Sherri Murphy, Keilen Aud, Stevie Rhodes, Alex Payne, Whitney Burden, Eddie Burden, Jim Hazel, Nancy Meisenhelder, Jimmy Haynes, Jerome Hamilton, Kent Recker, Paige Morton, Margie Duncan, Janet Cecil Aud, Kenneth Huskisson, Bill McBrayer, Charles Aud

## STEWARDSHIP

December 12, 2021		St. William		St. Lawrence	
		envelopes		envelopes	
Regular Collections	\$	7,361.00	\$	8,803.00	
Loose	\$	67.00	\$	3.00	
Children's	\$	5.91	\$	9.01	
Online giving	\$	846.88	\$	450.00	
Total	\$	8,280.79	\$	9,265.01	
Weekly Budget	\$	9,700.00	\$	3,000.00	
Collections Year to Date**	\$ 2	10,329.05	\$	70,986.63	
Budget Year to Date**	\$ 2	232,800.00	\$	72,000.00	
Over (Under) YTD**	\$	(22,470.95)	\$	(1,013.37)	
Tornado Victims	\$	4,586.00	to	tal	
Christmas Flowers	\$	95.00	\$	20.00	
Retired Religious	\$	345.00	\$	70.00	
Good Works			\$	10.00	
Catholic Charities	\$	75.00			
CAPITAL CAMPAIGN ACCOUNT BALANCE			\$	897,105.95	

## MINISTRY SCHEDULE JANUARY 1-2

## **EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS**

4pm Connie & Katherine Lemmons 6:30am Tina Howard 8am Eathan Johnson 10am Damon Cecil

#### SERVERS

4pm Fish Family: Wyatt Lanham 6:30am Wayne Haycraft 8am Finn & Hugh Williams, Haley Barnett

10am Joe & LT Varble, Graham Miller

## **LECTORS**

4pm Vicki Conder 6:30am Mary Haycraft 8am Tom Smith 10am Heather Clark

#### SACRISTANS

4pm EMHCS 6:30am Kate Mills 8am Eathan Johnson 10am Aliya Murphy

IF YOU CAN'T MAKE IT PLEASE CALL A SUB OR IF THAT DOESN'T WORK THE OFFICE AT 270-281-4802

## **SACRAMENTS**

**CONFESSION:** St. Lawrence Thursdays 5-5:30pm. St. William Saturdays 3-3:30 pm.

BAPTISM: Parents requesting Baptism for an infant or child under age 7, contact Kara Burch, at the parish office. Baptismal preparation is required and is held on the 1st and 3rd Mondays of each month **by appointment only**.

**ANOINTING OF THE SICK:** Anyone having surgery or wishing to receive the Sacrament is asked to call the Parish Office.

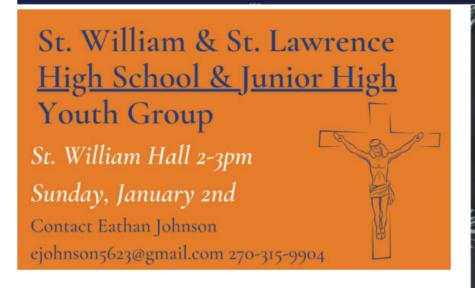
**COMMUNION TO SHUT-INS:** Any home-bound parishioner wishing to receive Communion or a pastoral visit is asked to call the Parish Office. Please notify the Parish Office upon admission of a family member into nursing homes or hospital.

**HOLY MATRIMONY:** At least one party must be a registered member of this parish. Do not set a wedding date before meeting with the Pastor. Please call for an appointment with Fr. Shijo at least six months before scheduling the wedding. The bride and groom must be free to marry in the Catholic Church before a date can be selected.

# Holy Family Mass

Due to Christmas Day being on Saturday, the 4pm Vigil Mass is canceled on Dec. 25th.

You must attend a Sunday Mass on Dec. 26th to fulfill your Sunday obligation. Masses are at 6:30am, 8am, and 10am.



## MERRY CHRISTMAS!

THE PARISH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED **DECEMBER 24, 27, &**; 31 TO CELEBRATE CHRISTMAS AND THE FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY.

# FIND OUR STAFF



WHO WE'RE

We are looking for young adults, at least a year out of high school, who are available all summer, have LOOKING FOR a relationship with desays, only get along well with others. a relationship with Jesus, enjoy working with kids,

## **POSITIONS AVAILABLE**

## SUMMER STAFF

PHOTOGRAPHER/ SOCIAL MEDIA MANAGER **HEALTH CARE PROVIDER**  telling your young adults about the opportunities at Gasper River. Encourage those you think would do well on staff and affirm the qualities you see in them. Please tell them where to find more information and how to apply.

HOW YOU CAN HELP

We would greatly appreciate you

# **FOR MORE**

**VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT** 

IF YOU WOULD LIKE US TO SEND POSTERS, PLEASE EMAIL GASPER.PROGRAM@GMAIL.COM

APPLICATIONS CLOSE FEB. 27

Solemnity of Mary the **Mother of God January 1, 2022** 

This is a Holy Day of Obligation. Mass will be celebrated on

December 31, at 6 pm St. William January 1, at 8 am St. William

\*You can count the January 1, at 4pm St. William as well, but you must then go to another Mass on Sunday to fulfill your Sunday obligation.

## The Milk Grotto

Most of us know a lot about Christmas, but not many of us know what happened after besides what is in the Bible. However, traditions in the Holy Land expose some very interesting details. First, the nativity took place in a cave that functioned as a stable. It is believed that the cave was originally King David's boyhood home. This was very significant because Jesus is the new and eternal king that was promised from the line of David. The cave of the nativity still exists today. It is bigger than you might expect, with three room-type areas. You can see the spot where Jesus was born and the place where he was laid in the manger. Tradition also has one of the rooms designated as Joseph's room, then so regretted his wife's murder that he then went where he stayed during the mystical birth of Christ, paranoid and probably legitimately mentally unstable Since Mary never lost her virginity, most scholars be- becoming obsessed with preventing anyone from taklieve Jesus' birth was so supernatural and without pain ing his throne. So, it was no surprise that Herod orthat Joseph needed to reverence the sacredness of the dered all the children in Bethlehem and the vicinity to mystery. Shortly after Jesus was born, we all know the be murdered after hearing the new "king of the Jews" shepherds came to visit, and 8 days later he was taken would be born there. After all, he himself was the king to the local synagogue to be circumcised and named. of the Jews. So, Joseph led his family to safety in Egypt Next, it seems the holy family moved to a more while Herod's henchmen carried out the slaughter. It is "stable" temporary home setting very close to the na- believed that about 8 babies perished and were buried tivity cave to raise Jesus the first few weeks of his life. in the cave of the nativity. You can still see the tomb of In the Holy Land is the Milk Grotto, this cave home of these babies in the Church of the nativity. Jesus surthe holy family for the next few weeks or months. It is vived with his parents leading him to Egypt, but imagine here that the magi visited Jesus and brought him gifts. the distress Mary and Joseph felt as they knew these Fascinatingly enough, it is believed that once a drop of babies of their neighbors and relatives were being killed Mary's breastmilk dropped to the ground of the cave as because their child was the one they were after. So Jeshe was nursing Jesus. As the drop hit the ground, it sus was partially raised in Egypt before Herod died. This covered the entire cave which became white and is significant because Jesus is also the "new Moses" chalky. You can go there now and brush your finger who will lead his people from the slavery of sin through against the wall and a chalky white substance will come an exodus of baptism to the promised land of heaven. off. Many have attributed miracles to this milk powder, Just as Moses survived an infant massacre, left Egypt especially in regards to those struggling to conceive a for safety, and later returned to fulfill his destiny, simichild. Most cave houses that still exist in the area are larly Jesus survived an infant massacre, left to Egypt for dark and greasy from the many fires that have been lit safety, and later returned to his homeland. Revelations in the caves for warmth, devotion, etc. but this cave is 12:6 tells us the woman fled to Egypt for 1,260 days, or unique with it's white powder. It was also probably durabout 3 and a half years. We're not sure if that number ing this time that Mary and Joseph presented Jesus in is literal or symbolic, but it seems believable that the the temple 40 days after his birth. Next, we know the holy family moved to Nazareth after that length of magi departed the holy family after their stay and re-time. It probably took a while to hear news of the death turned home a different way to avoid telling King Herod of Herod, so surely Joseph wanted to keep the Son of where the Messiah was born. Some months passed God safe until he knew for certain. Jesus then lived in before Herod found out that the magi were not return- obscurity in the podunk town of Nazareth until he was ing. At this point, he went into his typical paranoia rage. baptized by his cousin John and started his public minis-Herod was known for his crazy violence. He killed his try at age 30. So, let us ponder the life of the holy famiwife, three of his sons, two of his sister's husbands, and ly after the nativity, letting the peace, joy, and simplicity



many other people besides his family members. He penetrate us. And all you Holy Innocents, pray for us!

#### December 27, 2021

## FEAST OF JOHN, APOSTLE AND EVANGELIST

Today's readings: 1 John 1:1-4; John 20:1a, 2-8

He lived to tell the tale

John the Apostle is credited with being the author of the Gospel of John. He is also believed to have been the "Beloved Disciple" of Jesus mentioned in that gospel and is presumed to have outlived the other apostles, perhaps being the only one to die of natural causes rather than martyrdom. Imagine being the last survivor, and the heartache he endured on losing his peers to violent deaths for their faith. Perhaps it was John's job to live to tell the story—"that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing you may have life in his name"—as he says in his final line. Take John's mission to heart and embrace his good word today.

"Then the other disciple also went in, the one who had arrived at the tomb first, and he saw and believed."

### December 28, 2021

## FEAST OF THE HOLY INNOCENTS, MARTYRS

Today's readings: 1 John 1:5—2:2; Matthew 2:13-18

Children deserve protection

Nowadays when we think of Christmas pageants, we envision adorable children in bathrobes dressed as shepherds. But in the Middle Ages, religious pageants were a serious business. The whole community gathered to enact mystery plays that told the stories of birth, death, resurrection, and the lives of the saints. It's from such a mystery play that we get the haunting words and melody of "The Coventry Carol"—a song about King Herod's slaughter of the Holy Innocents that asks plaintively, "What may we do to preserve . . . this poor youngling for whom we sing?" Pray today for children who continue to suffer and face certain death without our help.

"A voice was heard in Ramah, sobbing and loud lamentation; Rachel weeping for her children."

## December 29, 2021

## FIFTH DAY WITHIN THE OCTAVE OF NATIVITY OF THE LORD; ME-MORIAL OF THOMAS BECKET, BISHOP, MARTYR

Today's readings: 1 John 2:3-11; Luke 2:22-35

Choose God

Everyone must at times make the choice of serving God or something less. Today we remember Saint Thomas Becket, bishop of Canterbury. Thomas was faced with such a dilemma when his friend the king, Henry II, continuously tried to interfere with church matters. Allowing the king to interfere with the church would have allowed Thomas to be in the king's good graces. Instead, Thomas chose to serve God above anything and anyone else, even at the cost of martyrdom. "When is constancy required," Thomas writes, "except under persecution. Are not friends then proved? If they always yield, how can they ever succeed? They must, one time or other, make a stand."

"And you yourself a sword will pierce so that the thoughts of many hearts may be revealed."

#### December 30, 2021

### SIXTH DAY WITHIN THE OCTAVE OF THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD

Today's readings: 1 John 2:12-17; Luke 2:36-40

Take your time to absorb Christmas

Today we continue as a church to honor the feast of our Savior's birth. It is day six in the octave of Christmas—the eight-day liturgical focus on the birth of Christ. The entrance of the Christ into

human history is such a significant event that the church notes its magnitude by keeping our gaze on it through the specified readings, psalms, and prayers during these eight days. Take a moment today to allow the wonder of God-among-us to continue to sink in. "She gave thanks to God and spoke about the child to all who were awaiting the redemption of Jerusalem."

#### December 31, 2021

## SEVENTH DAY WITHIN THE OCTAVE OF THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD

Today's readings: 1 John 2:18-21; John 1:1-18

Out with the new, in with the old

The end of the year gives us pause to reflect on the past and change for the future. Typically, we find something new to embrace or resolve to do. But if it's true that there's really nothing new under the sun, then perhaps we should look to the old! This is exactly what the church does, as it moves into the new year, not with any newfound epiphany, but instead with a commitment to the very old-school value of peace. As we anticipate the World Day of Peace tomorrow, January 1, what are some deeply held and long-standing values that you would like to deepen during the coming year? How might you go old school?

"In the beginning was the Word."

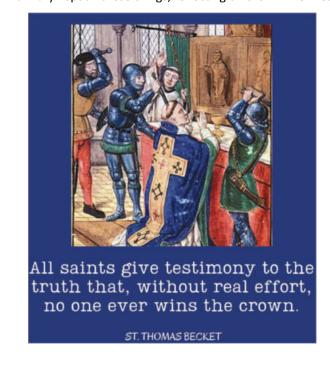
#### January 1, 2021

# OCTAVE DAY OF THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD; SOLEMNITY OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY, THE MOTHER OF GOD; WORLD DAY OF PEACE

Today's readings: Numbers 6:22-27; Galatians 4:4-7; Luke 2:16-21 *Rocking with Mother Mary* 

People in every age have their particular way to celebrate the new year. These days we might change old eating habits to be healthier; get on track financially; spend more time with family. But maybe this year it could be about what young Catholics refer to as "rocking with Mary," that is, getting to know the mother of Jesus on a deeper level. Understanding her courage, strength, and faithfulness can help us realize our own potential as bearers of the Good News. On her feast day and in the days ahead, reflect on Mary and strive to imitate her in bringing Good News to the world.

"And Mary kept all these things, reflecting on them in her heart."



The 98 year old Mother Superior from Ireland was dying. The nuns gathered around her bed trying to make her last journey comfortable. They gave her some warm milk to drink but she refused. Then one of the nuns took the glass back to the kitchen. Remembering a bottle of Irish whiskey received as a gift the previous Christmas, she opened and poured a generous amount into the warm milk. Back at Mother Superior's bed, she held the glass to her lips. Mother drank a little, then a little more and before they knew it, she had drunk the whole glass down to the last drop. "Mother," the nuns asked with earnest, "please give us some wisdom before you die." She raised herself up in bed and with a pious look on her face said, "Don't sell that cow."

**Dependent on Alcohol?** If you drink everyday or feel you need a drink to relax or have a good time, your brain may be dependent on alcohol. Come find freedom or support as a loved one at **A.A. & Al-Anon Meeting: 8pm Sundays at St. Mary of the Woods Cafeteria** 

Marriage Help – Retrouvaille (pronounced retro-vi) has helped thousands of couples who are disillusioned or even experiencing misery in their marriage. This program can help you too. For confidential information about or to register for the October program beginning with a weekend on Oct 15, 2021, call the Family Life office at 270-683-1545, or visit the web site at <a href="https://www.retrouvaille.org">www.retrouvaille.org</a>





## Help make our capital campaign a success!

We need everyone who can give \$5,000 or more to please consider a gift. It can be paid over 5 years. Thank you!

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