



Emily Raja

4A

"...Jacob the father of Joseph, the husband of Mary. Of her was born Jesus who is called the Messiah."
-Matthew 1:16

Emily, 4th Grade
Christmas Art Contest Champion

Mass Intentions

January 3	Monday
January 4	Tuesday
6 p.m.	Rose Marie Tucker
January 5	Wednesday
8 a.m.	All Souls in Purgatory
January 6	Thursday
8 a.m.	Barbara Bullerdick
January 7	Friday
8 a.m.	Juliana
January 8	Saturday
8 a.m.	Andrew
5 p.m.	Francis Hesse
January 9	Baptism of the Lord
8 a.m.	Parishioners of Holy Family Parish
10:30 a.m.	Anthony Schmitt
6 p.m.	DC & JC Special Intention

Parish Information

To Schedule a Mass Intention: Please contact the parish office to request an intention. The suggested stipend for a Mass intention is \$10. We will schedule on or as close as possible to the date(s) you request.

Prayers: Please write in the Book of Intercessory Prayers located at the east entrance to the church, sitting below the statue of the Holy Family.

Bulletin Deadline is 10 days prior to the Sunday of publication.

Anointing of the Sick or Hospital Ministry: Celebrated upon request at home or in the hospital. In an emergency call Fr. Jeremy Gries at (812) 944-8283x1. If you or someone you assist is in the hospital and would like Fr. Gries to visit, please call the parish office.

Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults: This is the process for those who wish to enter the Catholic Church. Meetings take place weekly from late August to a few weeks after Easter Sunday as you learn about the Catholic faith and discern if you are being called to join the Roman Catholic Church.
Contact: Fr. Gries

Infant Baptism: Parents are required to attend a Baptism Preparation Session prior to the Baptism of their first child or if it has been more than three years since you last attended this class. *Contact: Theresa Shaw*

First Communion, First Reconciliation & Confirmation: Preparation begins in August each year. For First Communion and Reconciliation, contact Theresa Shaw. For Confirmation, contact Abbi Hamm.

Attendance Report for December 18 - 19

Saturday, 5:00 p.m.	110
Sunday, 8:00 a.m.	150
Sunday, 10:30 a.m.	188
Sunday, 6:00 p.m.	No count
Total	448
6 month average	562

Staff Directory

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New to the Parish?

Welcome! If you're interested in registering to be a member of Holy Family, visit our website and click "I'm new" or contact Karen Schoenfelder in the parish office.



*When Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea,
in the days of King Herod,
behold, magi from the east arrived in Jerusalem, saying,
“Where is the newborn king of the Jews?
We saw his star at its rising
and have come to do him homage.”*

Matthew 2:1-2

HOMAGE is not exactly an everyday word. There seems to be no appropriate place for homage, and even less a willingness. All humans are equal in dignity; and as such, the idea of showing extreme honor, respect, or prestige seems out of place and out of mind. Even with the socially mild online Oxford dictionary definition of a “special honor or respect shown publicly,” we seem resistant. It’s not that we don’t honor others. It’s not that we don’t show respect, even publicly. We just never quite seem ready to say ‘I’m somehow lower in stature, status, or state than you.’ And I suppose among us human persons, there is more than a hint of truth in that. However, it once was, even if we didn’t truly honor or respect the other person, we could still somewhat/somewhat respect the position of responsibility of another. No doubt, many such persons holding such positions of responsibility have held them poorly or worse; and so, positions, institutions, relationships of import also receive little or no homage.

Reading up on “homage”, the Britannica Encyclopedia made a distinction of ‘medieval homage and fealty’. Stating that such homage was a: “Solemn act of ritual by which a person became a vassal of a lord in feudal society. Homage was essentially the acknowledgment of the bond of tenure that existed between the two. It consisted of the vassal surrendering himself to the lord, symbolized by his kneeling and giving his joined hands to the lord, who clasped them in his own, thus accepting the surrender... The lord then performed a symbolic investiture of the new vassal, handing over to him some object representing his fief. The whole procedure was a recognition of both the assistance owed by the tenant to his lord and the protection owed by the lord to the tenant” (britannica.com/topic/homage).

We in our age are a long, long, long way from a feudal way of living, and of this kind of homage giving. Yet, in fact, this medieval homage is much closer to the homage made and intended by the magi in the Gospel, than the simple respect & honor, public or otherwise made (or not made) in our own day. Note, how often the magi are depicted with bended knee before the Christ child. Matthew 2:11 states that the magi ‘prostrated themselves’. Literally, they made themselves as low and lowly as possible before Jesus Christ and Mother Mary, by lying flat. Was this a ‘solemn ritual’? That is not stated, but they certainly understood their visit as one to a king to whom a deep relationship was due – that of a vassal and lord – tenant to master. There is an acknowledgment of a bond existing between the two. There are tokens exchanged – gold, frankincense, and myrrh. In essence, there is tribute and spoils given by those who surrender to the One to whom they surrendered, Jesus the Newborn King of the Jews. And as Britannica states, there was a mutual relationship between the tenant to the Lord (obedience) while experiencing the protection of the Lord over the tenant (God’s Grace, forgiveness, incorporation & eternal care).

You of course know where this is going? Are you willing to even contemplate this sort of homage of submission and obedience of will & intellect, words & deeds, life & death to Christ the King? What is being asked here is not grand, but hollow, gestures of prostrating one’s self before the Eucharist, but the humble & hard surrendering of one’s life to the Lord. So that His Mission may become your mission; His ministry, your ministry; His Truth, yours; His purpose, yours; His way, yours. Jesus is Lord & King. I guess that might be why HOMAGE is not exactly an everyday word, let alone action. Honestly, He will accept nothing less than everything; yet, while He promises in return all you will ever need – His Grace, Forgiveness, Healing, Protection, Truth, & Love.

COME LET US DO HIM HOMAGE!

Holy Family, who received the Homage of the Magi, Pray for us.

~ Fr Jeremy M. Gries

NEWS & UPDATES

The Epiphany of the Lord

This Week at a Glance

SUNDAY, JANUARY 2

Coffee & Donuts ————— 9 - 10:30 a.m.

MONDAY, JANUARY 3

7/8 Boys Basketball Practice ————— 6 - 8 p.m.

Catholic Book Club ————— 6:45 - 8 p.m.

MS Small Group ————— 7 - 8 p.m.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 4

Quilters ————— 8:30 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Legion of Mary ————— 10 am. - 12:30 p.m.

5/6 Boys Basketball Practice — 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.

Young Adult Open Gym (18+) — 8:30 - 10:30 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 5

Adoration ————— 9 a.m. - 9 p.m.

School Choir Gr. 3 - 8 ————— 3 - 4 p.m.

7/8 Boys Basketball Practice — 3:30 - 5:30 p.m.

5/6 Boys Basketball Practice ————— 6 - 8 p.m.

Cub Scouts ————— 6 - 8 p.m.

RCIA ————— 6:30 - 7:30 p.m.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 6

Cheerleading Practice ————— 3:30 - 5 p.m.

Marketing Meeting ————— 6 - 7 p.m.

School Commission Meeting ————— 7 - 8 p.m.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 7

Fridays for Fathers ————— 6 - 7:30 a.m.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 8

CFF ————— 9 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Legion of Mary Chapter Meeting — 1 - 3:30 p.m.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 9

Coffee & Donuts ————— 9 - 10:30 a.m.

Lauds & Lunch: HS Small Group — 11:30 - 12:30 p.m.

Confirmation Prep ————— 7 - 8:30 p.m.

YOUR ST. VINCENT DEPAUL SOCIETY

would like thank you for your incredible generosity as we helped our neighbors have a very Merry Christmas! Thank you for filling up our food pantry and for providing over 300 Angel Tree gifts. Thanks for the elves that coordinated deliveries, sorted and packed the gifts, filled and loaded the boxes of food and presents into our awesome delivery driver vehicles that visited 37 families in Floyd County. We were asked to pass on their thanks and large smiles to all that helped! However, our food pantry is now practically empty and we will continue to receive and fill requests for food. Please consider picking up an extra can or two of hearty soups (no cooking soups please, I.e., Cream of ... type soups), canned tuna or canned chicken breast and drop them off at the donation bin inside of the In Heaven's Eyes drop off area. Again, thanks for all you have done to help others celebrate our Lord's birth!



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS FISH FRY

- Join us at Cardinal Ritter Council 1221 Knights of Columbus 809 E. Main St in New Albany as we offer our First Friday Fish Fry on January 7. Lunch drive-thru only service is from 11 -1 and sit-down or carryout will be available from 4:30 - 7:30. All your seafood favorites. Proceeds to fund Kentucky

Tornado Rebuilding Efforts. Call (812) 944-0891. You gotta eat!

JOB POSTING - St. Elizabeth Catholic Charities is hiring for a full-time Support Services Advocate. This position will focus on providing case management and supportive services for women and children who have experienced domestic violence. The Support Services Advocate will help assess and coordinate shelter via the agency's transitional housing program and/or rapid rehousing options in the community. Please send resume and salary requirements tbyrd@stcharities.org to apply.

KY TORNADO RELIEF COLLECTION UPDATE

- Thank you for all of your generous donations for the victims of the recent KY Tornadoes. We are pleased to announce that \$6,792.92 was raised to help support those families in need! We're blessed with the best Holy Family family!





HOLY FAMILY
SCHOOL

OPEN HOUSE

Sunday, January 30

- Speak with current parents.
- Tour the school.
- Meet our principal & teachers.

Stay tuned for details on how to register!

MISSION OPPORTUNITY

Cook for IHE

Once Wednesday a month prepare and drop off a crockpot of soup, casserole, or macaroni and cheese type meals for our homeless ministry through In Heaven's Eyes.

2 volunteers needed
Commitment: One Wednesday a month
Crockpot is provided



Contact Kelli Reutman:
kreutman@holyfamilynewalbany.org • 812-944-8283x3
holyfamilynewalbany.org/mission



United in the Eucharist

BEING UNITED TODAY HELPS US GIVE OTHERS HOPE FOR TOMORROW


We often think of sacrifice as a difficult and unnecessary thing. However, the true meaning of the word "sacrifice" is "to make holy."

Sacrifice makes our lives holy because we are giving back to God something that actually belongs to Him.

We make a gift to Him of a gift He has already given to us. It is a good and beautiful thing.

*"Therefore, our God, we give You thanks.
For everything is from You,
and what we give is what we have from You."
- 1 Chronicles 29:13-14*

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Next Louisville Weekend
February 18-20, 2022

NEWS & UPDATES

The Epiphany of the Lord

LIVE THE LITURGY INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK

Human beings easily get bored. Life's routines can become so predictable that there is often little time for excitement or freshness. Today is all about the new and the wonderful. In celebrating the beauty and simplicity of the Epiphany, we see in tangible ways God's creative, redemptive, and restorative power. This refreshment and revitalization is offered not only to a select few but to everyone throughout the world. There is nothing routine or static about God. Surprises, wonders, miracles, opportunities, healings, and joy without measure are available to those who believe. There are never any endings, just beginnings. And, when darkness, boredom, and gloom seem to be the order of the day, a bright new light now shines pointing us to truth and reminding us that we are loved.



You have been dealt an invitation to join us for a

EUCHRE PARTY!

MAKE SURE LADY LUCK IS ON
YOUR SIDE AND GET READY FOR A BLAST!

January 22, 2022 • 6:00 PM
Holy Family Catholic Church
Pizza will be served



The Epiphany
OF THE LORD

✝

*"And you, Bethlehem,
land of Judah,
are by no means least among
the rulers of Judah;
since from you shall
come a ruler,
who is to shepherd
my people Israel."*

- Mt 2:6

Scriptures from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.



PLEASE HOLD EACH OTHER IN PRAYER,
ASKING THE FATHER WITH CONFIDENCE TO
STAY CLOSE TO HIS CHILDREN.

ONLINE PRAYER REQUESTS

[HTTPS://WWW.HOLYFAMILYNEWALBANY.ORG/PRAYERS](https://www.holyfamilynewalbany.org/prayers)

GOSPEL MEDITATION

ENCOURAGE DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE

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 night pointing us to truth and reminding us that we are loved.

"And you, Bethlehem, land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; since from you shall come a ruler, who is to shepherd my people Israel."

- Mt 2:6

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1996, 1970 CCD.

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JANUARY 2, 2022



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