THE MUSTARD SEED

SERVING THE CATHOLIC PARISHES OF ST. LAWRENCE & HOLY FAMILY

Once it is sown, it springs up and becomes the largest of plants and puts forth large branches, so that the birds of the sky can dwell in its shade. - Mark 4:32

MASS TIMES AND LOCATIONS

Sunday 9 am at HF

11am at SL

Tuesday Noon at HF

Wednesday 8am at HF (when school

is in session)

Wednesday Noon at SL Thursday 8 am at HF Friday 8 am at SL Saturday 4 pm at SL

Confessions

Sundays 8 am HF
Tuesdays 11:30am HF
Wednesdays 11:30am SL
Saturdays 3 pm SL
Or by Appointment

EUCHARISTIC ADORATION:

Tuesdays 8:30 am - 8:30 pm at SL Wednesdays 8:30 am - 6:30 pm at HF



THE FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH

| December 26, 2021

HOLY FAMILY

2430 W 3rd St, Duluth, MN 55806

218-722-4445

Admin. Assistant - Ginny Nelson Office Hours: M-F 8:30 am - 4 pm E-mail: holyfamilyduluth@yahoo.com

St. Lawrence

2410 Morris Thomas Rd, Duluth, MN 55811

218-722-2259

Admin. Assistant - Stephanie Jago Office Hours: M, W, Th 8:30 am - 4 pm E-mail: stlawrencechurch@msn.com

Please contact your parish office for baptisms, marriage preparation, funeral planning, to register as a new parishioner, or if you are interested in possibly becoming Catholic.

Fr. Eli Gieske's Message



Dear Parishioners,

Happy Feast of the Holy Family! Since one of our parishes is under the patronage of the Holy Family, this is a very special day for us. I pray you and your family are enjoying this Christmas season. We have much to be grateful for.

The Church celebrates this Feast of the Holy Family on the Sunday after Christmas in order to emphasize the importance of the family as a critical building block of our faith and our society. There are a lot of challenges to living as a family in our day. The Christian model of family is viewed by many as an outdated concept. Today, people aren't always aware of the benefits and

the natural goods that come from a traditional family. Many of us have been affected by difficult marriages or troubled family relationships. Therefore, we may not always trust that the traditional Christian formula of a Mother Father and children is really the best way to raise a family.

When we have experiences of abuse, divorce, constant fighting or anger in our families, that tends to negatively impact our perception of what a healthy family ought to look like. None of our families are perfect, and we shouldn't let the imperfect be the enemy of the good. I think for some young people today, they are afraid of making mistakes... What if I choose the wrong spouse... What if I can't care for my children like my parents cared for me...? Family relationships don't automatically become loving and healthy. We are formed by our family experience, and so if there has been trauma or difficulties in our past family tree, that is going to have an impact on us. We've experienced so many problems in our family units... and now it's causing difficulties which seem to be overwhelming the natural stability that family is meant to bring.

When an earthquake disrupts a human city, it takes time to rebuild and bring order back. If another earthquake strikes again before order has been reestablished it will cause even more destruction. The systems of human society can't keep up with the forces of nature. In some sense we are experiencing this in the human family currently. There have been so many disruptions to family life, and so many families have been negatively Impacted, that we can't find that stability we need for families to be healthy and to flourish.

I think we can all see this if, we are honest, and we look at where we are and what our past has been. What can we do? For those who are married... I think we need to make our family relationships a priority. Parents need to make tough decisions to create a home space that is family oriented. We have to avoid becoming just a group of people who live in the same space. Find ways to develop family relationships and patterns that bring you and your children together. Cut out anything from your home that undermines this effort, and don't allow outside activities to drive the flow of your family dynamics. This is counter-cultural and so it requires intentionality.

If you are a young person, looking to get married someday... Allow yourself to be formed in virtue and basic self-sacrifice now, so that you will be able to continue that pattern when you are married. You might need to spend extra time preparing for marriage or healing if you have had experiences in your family or your life that have negatively impacted you. None of us is beyond help, but each of us needs to be honest about our past if we want to form healthy relationships... especially with a future spouse.

If you are a grandparent or an aunt or uncle. Invest in that generation that is raising children, give them a hand, and support them. The rebuilding of the family will happen slowly and with diligent and intentional people living in healthy ways, and seeking holiness together. During this Christmas season, take time to be with your family and grow in love for one another.

In Christ, -Fr. Eli

Mass Prayers & Readings

VOCATIONS PRAYER:

Almighty Father, we beg you for an increase in religious vocations and holy marriages in our diocese. Help us to be generous in our response to Your call. Choose from our homes those who are needed for Your work and strengthen us with the courage to say "yes" and to follow You. Help us as a diocese, as a parish, as families to encourage and foster vocations to the priesthood, permanent diaconate, and consecrated life. We commend our prayers to our Patroness, Mary, Queen of the Rosary, and ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord.

FIRST READING:

Sir 3:2-6, 12-14

God sets a father in honor over his children; a mother's authority he confirms over her sons. Whoever honors his father atones for sins, and preserves himself from them. When he prays, he is heard; he stores up riches who reveres his mother. Whoever honors his father is gladdened by children, and, when he prays, is heard. Whoever reveres his father will live a long life; he who obeys his father brings comfort to his mother. My son, take care of your father when he is old; grieve him not as long as he lives. Even if his mind fail, be considerate of him; revile him not all the days of his life; kindness to a father will not be forgotten, firmly planted against the debt of your sins—a house raised in justice to you

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

Ps 84

Blessed are they who dwell in Your house O Lord.

SECOND READING:

1Jn 3:1-2, 21-24

Beloved:

See what love the Father has bestowed on us that we may be called the children of God. And so we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. Beloved, we are God's children now; what we shall be has not yet been revealed. We do know that when it is revealed we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is.

Beloved, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have confidence in God and receive from him whatever we ask, because we keep his commandments and do what pleases him. And his commandment is this: we should believe in the name of his Son, Jesus Christ, and love one another just as he commanded us. Those who keep his commandments remain in him, and he in them, and the way we know that he remains in us is from the Spirit he gave us.

GOSPEL:

Luke 2:41-52

Each year Jesus' parents went to Jerusalem for the feast of Passover, and when he was twelve years old, they went

up according to festival custom. After they had completed its days, as they were returning, the boy Jesus remained behind in Jerusalem, but his parents did not know it. Thinking that he was in the caravan, they journeyed for a day and looked for him among their relatives and acquaintances, but not finding him, 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. When his parents saw him, they were astonished, and his mother said to him, "Son, why have you done this to us? Your father and I have been looking for you with great anxiety." And he said to them, "Why were you looking for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?" But they did not understand what he said to them. 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.

NICENE CREED:

I believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible. I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Only Begotten Son of God, born of the Father before all ages. God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father; through him all things were made. For us men and our salvation he came down from heaven, (all bow through "and became man") and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate, he suffered death and was buried, and rose again on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead and his kingdom will have no end. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church. I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.



CLERGY

Pastor: Fr. Elias Gieske Deacon John Foucault Deacon Timothy Kittelson

ALTAR LINEN CARE

January

Holy Family ~ Karen Perfetti St. Lawrence ~ Pat Reynolds

ALTAR SERVER GARMENT CARE

January

St. Lawrence ~ Sandy Finch

CONTRIBUTION REPORTS

HOLY FAMILY

December 12, 2021

Envelopes & Plate: \$ 3,770.50 Fiscal Year to Date: \$ 74,216.73 UCA GOAL 2021 HAS BEEN MET. Overages will be used for UCA 2022

St. Lawrence

December 11 & 12, 2021

Envelopes & Plate: \$ 18,660.00 Fiscal Year to Date \$ 119,378.40 UCA GOAL 2021 HAS BEEN MET. Overages will be used for UCA 2022

A HUGE THANK YOU TO ALL THAT HELPED US REACH OUR UCA GOALS!

Please keep your parish in mind when estate planning

Mass Intentions for the Week

Sun	Dec 26	9am 11am	HF SL	† Parishioners Intentions † Living & Deceased members of the Walczynski Family
Μ	D 27	D		•
Mon	Dec 27	Private Mass		Fr. Anthony
Tues	Dec 28	NO MASS		
Wed	Dec 29	NO MASSES		
Thurs	Dec 30	8am	HF	† Greg Travis
Fri	Dec 31	8am	SL	† Joan Segel
Sat	Jan 1	9am	HF	† Lianna Bush-Walczynski
Sat	Jan 1	4pm	SL	† Parishioners Intentions
Sun	Jan 2	9am	HF	† Sue McQuiston
		11am	SL	† Jack Frestedt

Join us for the recitation of the Rosary prayed 1/2 hour before all Masses at both churches.

To schedule a Mass intention to be said at either of our parishes, please contact Ginny at 218-722-4445.



Daily Readings for the Week of December 26, 2021

Sun: Sir 3:2-6, 12-14/Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5 [cf. 1]/Col 3:12-21 or 3:12-17/Lk 2:41-52 or 1 Sm 1:20-22, 24-28/Ps 84:2-3, 5-6, 9-10 [cf.

5a]/1 Jn 3:1-2, 21-24/Lk 2:41-52

Mon: 1 Jn 1:1-4/Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12 [12]/Jn 20:1a, 2-8

Tues: 1 Jn 1:5—2:2/Ps 124:2-3, 4-5, 7b-8 [7]/Mt 2:13-18

Wed: 1 Jn 2:3-11/Ps 96:1-2a, 2b-3, 5b-6 [11a]/Lk 2:22-35

Thurs: 1 Jn 2:12-17/Ps 96:7-8a, 8b-9, 10 [11a]/Lk 2:36-40

Fri: 1 Jn 2:18-21/Ps 96:1-2, 11-12, 13 [11a]/Jn 1:1-18

Sat: Nm 6:22-27/Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8 [2a]/Gal 4:4-7/Lk 2:16-21

Next Sun: Is 60:1-6/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13 [cf. 11]/Eph 3:2-

3a, 5-6/Mt 2:1-12

LITURGICAL SUPPORT

SUNDAY JAN 2, 2022 Mary, the Holy Mother of God 9am Holy Family Saturday, Jan 1, 2022,

> 9am Holy Family EM's: Joanne Connor

Chuck Gehlen Steve Gilbert

Frank Gerard Ushers: Tim Walczynski

Frank Gerard Randy Nelson Dave Makowsky Jeanine VanNispen Jeanine VanNispen **Andy Brunette**

Dave Makowsky Reader: Mark Dobosenski

Reader: Patti Kittelson Matt LaFontaine Servers:

Arabella Skrivanek Servers: Jeff Nelson Niko Carlson Evelyn Monson Natalie Skrivanek Kayla Chapin

Aidan Chapin

EM's:

Ushers:

11am St. Lawrence SATURDAY JAN 1, 2022

4pm St. Lawrence Greeter: Laura Donovan

Nick Sloboda EM's: EM's: Jim Donovan

> Steve Wedel Barb Olson Judy Spehar Dcn. John

Dale Wick **Angel Carl** Jerry Spehar Bill Malinowski Paul Howard Roger Morrison

Ushers:

Reader: Joan Carlson Reader: Matt Gannucci

Isaac Baker Servers:

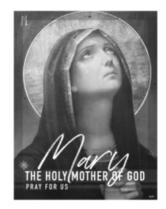
Christopher Gannucci

Jim Segel

YOUTH FAITH FORMATION

MISSION TRIP UPDATE! There are a few spots left! We will be having a meeting in January to plan out upcoming fundraisers- this trip to Alive in You will be July 12-17. A deposit of \$150 is needed to hold your spotany youth entering 8th grade and above are welcome to attend!

FLOCKNOTE is the main communication tool we use for programs within Faith Formation, events and reminders, and to communicate class closing because of weather. You can sign up for FLOCKNOTE messages via our parish website: www.catholicduluth.org or by calling Karen in the parish office at 722-2259; t's never TOO LATE to JOIN Faith Formation- ALL are welcome!



We offer our sincere sympathy to the family and friends of Joseph Haasl, Father of Jean Esler. May he rest in the eternal embrace of our Lord.

Prayer for the Dead:

Ushers: John Quillen

Father, source of forgiveness and salvation, through the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary and all the saints, grant Joseph, whom you have called from this life, to share your eternal happiness in the communion of saints. Through Christ our Lord. Amen

PRAYER SUPPORT MINISTRY

St. Lawrence: Marie Warner 727-1708 Holy Family: Sue Wick 591-7183

Email our prayer chain: needofprayers@gmail.com

Parish Announcements



The parish offices will be closed Monday Dec. 27th & 28th.

There will be no Adoration or Week-

day Masses Tuesday, Dec 28th, or Wednesday, Dec 29th.

THEOLOGY UNCAPPED is excited to announce our next event, Thursday January 27, 2022, featuring Father Richard Kunst and Pastor Rollie Brockbrader. This event topic is: "Salvation" and is being held at St. Benedict Catholic Church, 1419 St. Benedict Street, Duluth MN. The cost is \$25 which includes a catered meal from Famous Dave's, beer, wine, pop and coffee. Seating is limited at 215, so register now at www.theologyuncapped.org. Please contact Deacon John Foucault @ (218)393-0631 if you are unable to register online.



We are in need of a regular adorers for Eucharistic Adoration at BOTH PARISHES. Contact Sr. Therese Marie at 218-722-4445, if you are interested in spending an hour in the comfort of our Lord.

TEXT-TO-GIVE... We are now set up to Text to Give to St. Lawrence or Holy Family. There are 3 simple steps to giving by text. 1.) Text T2GLAW for St. Lawrence or T2GHF for Holy Family to 800 -950-9952. 2.) Click on the link, and 3.) Complete your gift. Please call your parish office if you have any questions.

Nurse for Priests

The Nurse for Priests promotes the healing ministry among the Presbyterate of the Diocese of Duluth, especially senior priests. This position provides leadership in identifying and responding to the health -related needs of the priests. The nurse articulates the relationship of health of mind, body, and spirit for active and retired priests. If you are interested in this part-time role (20 hours per week), please email Mary Rasch at mary.rasch@duluthcatholic.org

The MN Alliance for Ethical Healthcare, a partner organization of the MN Catholic Conference, is a coalition of nearly 80 organizations that advocates for compassionate alternatives to the legalization of assisted suicide. We need individuals like you to help ensure that real care is available throughout life's journey. To receive updates and action alerts on how you can support this critical effort, register at ethicalcaremn.org/join-us.

Restored Retreat for Adults All adults. 21 and older, are invited to come to the diocesan Restored retreat! Come be restored in both body and soul. Enjoy good food,

time with others in good community, thoughtprovoking talks, time for relaxation, and an opportunity for Adoration, Mass, and Confession. The retreat will be taking place January 21 - 23 at Sugar Lake Lodge near Grand Rapids. The link to register and more information can be found at: *www.dioceseduluth.org/Restored*. Spots are very limited due to COVID, so register today!

The annual St. Lawrence Knights of Columbus Winter Blood Drive will be held on Monday, January 17th. Whether you are a regular or a first time donor, we need you. Due to COVID-19, local blood supplies remain extremely low. Parishioners throughout our cluster are encouraged to donate. Remember you can donate whole blood every 56 days. Please try to schedule your donations so you can give at our blood drive too. Donation is by appointment only. Register on line at mbc.org or you can contact Steve Gilbert at 727-6206. Thanks in advance for your lifesaving gift!

Contact Ginny Nelson at 722-4445 or e-mail holyfamilyduluth@yahoo.com with announcements, stories or pictures you would like to share in the Mustard Seed. Articles due by noon Monday.

Thank you CREED FUND! SMA was generously awarded over \$18,000 from the Catholic Religious Education Endowment Fund. These funds went towards needs-based tuition assistance for over 50 families attending SMA. Additionally, funds were made available to SMA's director of faith formation, Jenny Boran, to attend a course at the Theology of the Body Institute in Pennslyvania! Stella Maris Academy is deeply grateful for this gift from CREED FUND and their ongoing and faithful support of our school and diocese!

Stella Maris Academy is seeking to fill the following positions. Please visit us at <u>www.stellamaris.academy/</u> employment to apply.

Custodian (part time & full time) Lunchroom Aide (part time-1.75 hrs/day)

Development Director (full time) Information Technology (full time)

Extended Day Aides (part time-3 hrs/day) Substitute Teachers



During our RCIA/Intro to Catholicism class will resume Jan 4 with The 4 Marks of the Church, and Holy Spirit.

St Nick's party wrap up meeting will be in the social hall after mass Sunday Jan 2. Please join us and bring your comments and suggestions!

Thank You to all who donated to The Best Christmas Ever, the recipient received a house for 18 months, a car, and a house full of groceries, beds, linens, and Christmas gifts for the entire family. After being homeless and living in a camper they are VERY grateful!!

THANK YOU to the advertisers on our bulletin who pay for the printing of our bulletin each week. It is from their generosity and support of our community that we are able to keep you up to date with the happenings in our parishes. When you support our supporters, they feel more confident in supporting our Churches.









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