

St. Teresa of Kolkata Parish

STRONGER TOGETHER

WEST SALEM AND BANGOR, WI

December 26, 2021



THE HOLY FAMILY

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

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OFFICE HOURS Please contact the appropriate staff member to make an appointment.

AQUINAS CATHOLIC SCHOOLS: 608.784.8585

BULLETIN DEADLINE To appear in the bulletin, items must be received no later than 12:00 noon on the preceding Tuesday.

Stewardship Reflection The Holy Family experienced many of the same joys and trials that all parents and children experience today. And, so, we can look to this Family for help in our own family lives and see in them a model of stewardship in family life. The Gospel passage from Luke starts by telling us something about Jesus' parents: "Each year Jesus' parents went to Jerusalem for the feast of the Passover, and when he was 12 years old, they went up according to festival custom." This Family took the stewardship of their time seriously. The "Holy Couple" carefully observed the traditions and practice of their Jewish faith and brought up their Son to do the same. They worshiped as a family and with their faith community. And they did so faithfully. We can take their example to heart by making Sunday Mass attendance a priority for our families, by making prayer with our family a priority every day, by making sure that we regularly celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation, and by observing in our family life the feasts and fasts appropriate to the liturgical calendar. When we, as families, prioritize our time with God and worship Him, we will be imitating the Holy Family. On this Feast of the Holy Family, let us reclaim the beauty and importance of family life. Let's commit to stewarding our families well in 2022, making time spent with God and practicing our faith the most important appointments on our family calendars.

New Year's Day Mass On January 1 we celebrate the Solemnity of Mary Mother of God. While it is not considered a holy day of obligation for 2022, Mass will be offered on Friday, December 31, at 4:30 p.m. and on Saturday, January 1, at 9:00 a.m. There will not be a Mass at 8:30 a.m. on December 31 or 4:30 p.m. on Saturday, January 1.

Christmas Trees A special thank you to Jon and Lyn Labus from Pine Hobby Farms for the donation of Christmas trees in memory of their daughter Angela.

Donation Deadline Please keep in mind that any donation to the parish or Diocesan Annual Appeal that you wish to claim on your 2021 taxes must be received in the office by December 31. Donations received after that date cannot be claimed on your 2021 taxes.

Retirement Fund for Religious Thank you for your contributions to the retirement fund for senior Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests. It's not too late to make a donation. Please use the envelope marked "Retirement Fund for Religious" from your envelope packet to give to those who have dedicated their lives in service to God.

Christmas Flower Memorials

In Memory of	By
Marty Elsen	Peter & Barb Elsen
Tammy Thomas	Duane & Felecia Thomas
Duane Johnson	Kevin & Ann Bina
Margaret Johnson	Kevin & Ann Bina
Karen Hundt	Kyle Leis
Jean Leis	Kyle Leis
Jeff Hundt	Kyle Leis
Ben & Hulda Rondorf	Donna Garves
Flo Page	Pat Niebuhr
Noel Grattan	Jane & Brandon Mathison
Kathy Grattan	Jane & Brandon Mathison
Donna Mathison	Jane & Brandon Mathison
Leona Atkinson	Jane & Brandon Mathison
Delbert Atkinson	Jane & Brandon Mathison
Mary Lynn Lendabeja	Jane & Brandon Mathison
Lynn Lambert	Jane & Brandon Mathison
Dorothy Garber	Jane & Brandon Mathison
Carmen Dunnum	Jane & Brandon Mathison
Elbert Miller	Jane & Brandon Mathison
Victor & Agnes Barta	Ray & Marianne Barta
Anton J. & Anna Mary Piatz	Ray & Marianne Barta
Marion Barta	Ray & Marianne Barta
Galen Romskog	Pat Romskog
Don & Jean Sesevold	The Sesevold Family
Daniel Hesselberg	Joe & Barb Hesselberg
Rebecca LaForce	Joe & Barb Hesselberg
George Althoff	Delores Althoff & Family
Walt & Rose Reyzer	Tom Reyzer
Monica Schneider	George & Marlene Gersch
Janice Schweitzer	George & Marlene Gersch
Eugene & Lillian Blaski	Ciechanowski Family
John & Florence Rydzynski	Ciechanowski Family
Miller & Mikshowsky Families	Mike & Connie Miller
Herbert & Elreda Meyer	Mark & Julie Miller
Vickie Johnson	Mark & Julie Miller
Tom Kneifl	Family
Carole Gooden	Lisa Miller & Family
Cheryl Keivel	Family
Dave & Rita McClintock	Mary McClintock
Jess Johnson	Louis & Mary Benchina
Kocyan Family	Louis & Mary Benchina
Larry Calkins	Carol Calkins
Joe Breier	Connie Breier
Don, Lil & Chris Miller	Anne Gleason
Harold & Mary Mashak	Brian & Carmen Mashak
Norman Mayer	Brian & Carmen Mashak
Herbert & Elreda Meyer	Mark & Julie Miller
Vickie Johnson	Mark & Julie Miller

Adult Bible Studies Forgiveness is powerful! We often struggle with how God can be so merciful to us as sinners. His love for us is almost unfathomable. Many of us understand the need for confession, but find it difficult to actually go and confess. If this is you, then now is the time to understand God's forgiveness and accept it. As we await the Lenten Season, join us for **Forgiven: The Transforming Power of Confession**. A Bible Study that explores the grace and healing offered in Confession and shows how this sacrament of mercy reveals the depth and bounty of God's love in 5 sessions. Please join us on Tuesdays, January 25 - February 22 at 6:15 p.m. and register by January 10th, 2022. Following the Forgiven Bible Study, we will take a break before beginning **Presence: The Mystery of the Eucharist** in preparation for Easter. A Pew Survey from 2019 shows that 69% of Catholics no longer believe in the Real Presence of Jesus in the Eucharist, but that the bread and wine are simply symbols. However, transubstantiation is a basic tenet of our Catholic faith. The Presence Bible study will explore the truth and beauty of Christ's real presence in the Eucharist. Please register by February 10, 2022 for the this session which will be on Tuesdays, March 8 – 29 at 6:15 p.m. Each Bible Study will begin in the Annex following the Tuesday evening 5:30 pm Mass. The meetings will run approximately 90 minutes. The cost is \$10 each and payment is due at the first session. To register, contact Karla Schams at stteresacre@wsbcwi.org or at 608.786.0610 ext. 2.

DIOCESAN ANNUAL APPEAL REPORT		
2021-22		
\$ 32,080.00		Parish Target
\$ 26,810.00		Amount Received
84%		Percent of Target Met
\$ 5,270.00		Amount Needed
\$ -		Monies Returning to Parish
READINGS & MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK		
Monday: 1 Jn 1:1-4/Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12/Jn 20:1a, 2-8		
Dec 27	Private Mass	† Bob & Mary Laxton by Bill Laxton
Tuesday: 1 Jn 1:5—2:2/Ps 124:2-5, 7b-8/Mt 2:13-18		
Dec 28	5:30 PM	Louis Edward Francksen Health by Jane & Brandon Mathison
Wednesday: 1 Jn 2:3-11/Ps 96:1-3, 5b-6/Lk 2:22-35		
Dec 29	8:30 AM	† Carmen Dunnum by Jim Murphy
Thursday: 1 Jn 2:12-17/Ps 96:7-10/Lk 2:36-40		
Dec 30	8:30 AM	† Sharon Friet by Family
Friday: 1 Jn 2:18-21/Ps 96:1-2, 11-13/Jn 1:1-18		
Dec 31	4:30 PM	Charles Zwicker Health by Erich Zwicker and family
Saturday: Nm 6:22-27/Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8/Gal 4:4-7/Lk 2:16-21		
Sunday: Is 60:1-6/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-13/Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6/Mt 2:1-12		
Jan 1	9:00 AM	† Grace Finn by Men's Club
Jan 2	8:00 AM	† Donald Elsen by The Elsen Family
	10:00 AM	Pro Populo

Church Decorating We appreciate all the help decorating the church for Christmas. Volunteers are needed to assist in taking down the decorations on Wednesday, January 12, following the 8:30 a.m. Mass. Please join us if you are able to help.

Lakeview Caring Tree Thank you to those who purchased gifts for the residents of Lakeview Health Center. Your kindness helped make their Christmas special.

Inspiration for the Week It was the best of times and it was the worst of times. Our families can bring out the best and the worst in us. This is true of our families of origin, the current family of which we are a part, the family of our church, our society, and the like. In all of our family experiences, what stands out as our most challenging memory? Everything human can be found on the pages of family life. But there is also a Divine story to be discovered as well. When life gets difficult and perplexing, today's Feast of the Holy Family stands to remind us that it is not just by human effort that we tread treacherous waters. We have to remember and learn from the Divine effort too. We need this perspective if our love lessons are going to be learned completely and well. We are all works in progress and we all come from homes that are broken by imperfection. In whatever life brings us and in whatever family we find ourselves, may the promptings we feel toward faith and hope lead us to greater love.



Statement of Activity	
December 6-12, 2021	
	Total
4110 Adult Envelopes	5,450.00
4111 Offertory Collections, Youth	4.00
4112 Plate Collection	435.00
4125 Votive Candles	21.40
4125 Flower Memorials	150.00
4212 Restricted - New Church Fund	220.00
4150 Sale of Missals	14.00
Total Revenue	\$ 6,294.40

MINISTRY SCHEDULE		
Sunday, January 2: The Epiphany of the Lord		
Ushers	8:00 AM	Ron O'Connell, Bill White, NOT FILLED
	10:00 AM	Pat Schams, Adam Schams, Kevin Schams
Servers	8:00 AM	NOT FILLED, NOT FILLED
	10:00 AM	NOT FILLED
Cantors	8:00 AM	Wyatt Molling
	10:00 AM	Brynn Hofmeister
Readers	8:00 AM	Tammy White
	10:00 AM	Arin Miller
Musicians	8:00 AM	Kelli Martin
	10:00 AM	Kelli Martin
Counters		Charlotte Hershey, Karla Zeman, Steve Zeman

Holy Family

T P I S M O T H E R I W M K C S R E H C A E T
 T R V J P B L J D E W O T S E B F R S J X G E
 R E P T D E V O L E B S Y E B O O E T J S O A
 V S N R E M A I N E N H O J L K U H N Z M D T
 I E H O J Q S S E N D N I K C A N T E E R P O
 M R T F L E P A S S O V E R Z O D A R V I T N
 O V E M G Z R P V C Y Q R A E R M F A O F J E
 D E R O O U G U R D N M I U C S B M P L N E S
 S S A C R B T V S A Z F C T I D P E A Y O S U
 I S Z C A S E E L A Y P H H T L H I L N C U B
 W H A H F T M D K G L S E O S T O T R I D S M
 R C N R E R P K I A R E S R U S N V C I E E C
 E A Y I A A L Q R E K U M I J U O Y E S T V D
 K R W S S E E Q K H N E S T F J R I J J T P E
 U I J T T H K H Y B V T G Y L T X C V C U B J
 L S C B R H A E N E R D L I H C H P R O V A F

Find the following words in the puzzle.
 Words are hidden ↑ ↓ → ← and ↘ .

ATONES	COMMANDED	HONOR	LUKE	PRESERVES
AUTHORITY	CONFIRMS	JERUSALEM	MOTHER	REMAIN
BELIEVE	FATHER	JESUS	NAZARETH	RICHES
BELoved	FAVOR	JOHN	OBEDIENT	SIRACH
BESTOWED	FEAST	JUST	OBEYS	SPIRIT
CHILDREN	FOUND	JUSTICE	PARENTS	TEACHERS
CHRIST	GOD	KINDNESS	PASSOVER	TEMPLE
COMFORT	HEARTS	LOVE	PRAYS	WISDOM

LITURGICAL LIFE

RESPONDING *to the Call*

EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP

Recognize God In Your Ordinary Moments

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.

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

FORMED

PICK OF THE WEEK

December 26, 2021

WATCH

FORGIVEN—SESSION 1: WHERE ARE YOU?

As we make resolutions for 2021, don't forget about your spiritual well-being! Through our *Forgiven* series, you can help guide friends and family to new spiritual beginnings!



To set up your free account visit formed.org/signup and select our parish.



WHY DO WE DO THAT? Catholic Life Explained:

Question:

I have been away from the Church for a few years and really want to get active again, not so much for me, but for my children. Is this a bad reason to come back to Church?

Answer:

If you are on your way to the supermarket, and you are forced to detour from your usual route because of road work, does the food you buy taste different? Is the meal less filling? Are the vegetables less tasty? Of course not. In our faith journey, there are many detours called sin. Some are greater than others, some are even a bit longer. But God's grace comes to us in ways we understand and recognize and need. Your children leading you back to the Church is not as important as the fact that you are back.

This is an opportunity for you to renew, strengthen, and deepen your faith. Regardless of how we get to Church, or what draws us closer to God, the fact is we are there. Do what you need to do to get right with God and the Church. Go to confession, begin good family religious practices, and be involved in the ministries your parish offers. Be more than a lukewarm parishioner. Be the kind of Catholic you want your children to be.

WORSHIP & MEDITATION



FIRST READING

"I prayed for this child, and the LORD granted my request. Now I, in turn, give him to the LORD; as long as he lives, he shall be dedicated to the LORD."
(1 Sm 1:27-28)



PSALM

Blessed are they who dwell in your house, O Lord. (Ps 84)



SECOND READING

See what love the Father has bestowed on us that we may be called the children of God. And so we are. (1 Jn 3:1)



GOSPEL

After three days they found him in the temple, sitting in the midst of the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. (Lk 2:46)

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GOSPEL MEDITATION

Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

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.

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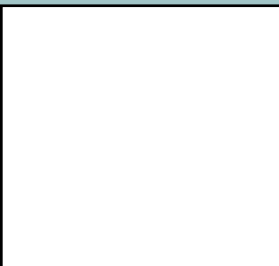
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