



The Evangelist



The Weekly Newsletter of St. John the Evangelist Parish



*The shepherds went in haste,
and found Mary and Joseph, and the Infant lying in a manger. Luke 2:16*

Our Mission

We are a Roman Catholic Family of Faith that seeks to help one another to love the Lord with all our hearts and our neighbors as ourselves. Our life centers on the Eucharist and the sacramental life of the Church. From these encounters we seek to be Christ's eyes, hands, voice and heart in the world. We warmly welcome visitors and seekers and anyone who is curious about faith, Church and God; we rejoice in the Lord when returning brothers and sisters join us at Table.

*To be truly happy, find a way to serve God.
Father Tom Frechette*

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Contact Us

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Welcome to St. John the Evangelist

Mass Schedule

All Masses Live Stream and live attendance

Sundays:

8:00 AM & 10:30 AM
4PM Saturday Vigil

Daily Mass:

7:30 AM Monday-Thursday

Bourne TV's Public Channel 13 (Comcast - 1 week delay)

Saturday: 3:00 PM Rosary: 7 days a week at 7:30 AM
Sunday: 3:30 PM

Live Stream & Archives: <https://www.stjohnspocasset.org/livestream>

Daily Rosary (in-person or live stream): Monday - Thursday 6:50 AM, Friday 7:30 AM

Holy Days: Vigil 4PM; Holy Day: 7:30AM, 7 PM *Check newsletter to confirm times*
New to Our Faith Family? We are blessed you could join us at the Eucharistic Table! It is our hope and prayer that you find a welcoming, faith-filled, spiritual home as you grow in your relationship with God. Stop by the Welcome Center. If you are interested in or curious about any of our offerings and don't know where to begin, a Staff Member will be happy to help.

Welcome Center & Store Hours (508) 563-5887:

Monday - Friday: 9 AM - 1 PM **Saturday & Sunday:** Closed

Faith Formation Office Hours:

Monday & Wednesday: 9:30 AM - 4 PM **Tuesday:** 9:30 AM - 6 PM
Sunday: By Appointment

Sacraments

Baptism: Please contact the Welcome Center prior to making any arrangements. Parents and the child will meet with the Deacon. All will be explained and a date will be selected for the Baptism at that meeting.

Reconciliation: Saturdays 2:30-3:00 PM or by appointment.

First Communion & Confirmation: Formation is conducted in a two-year Sacramental preparation program. Contact Deborah for more information. Baptized Adults 18+ seeking Confirmation should contact Father Tom or Deacon John.

Marriage: Congratulations! Please contact the Welcome Center at least six months prior to the intended wedding date.

Sick & Homebound: Contact the Welcome Center to arrange regular visits.

Holy Orders: Please contact Father Tom for more information.

Becoming Catholic: Are you an adult looking to become a Roman Catholic and wish to complete your Sacraments of Initiation? We are happy to accompany you along this faith journey. Contact Father Tom or Deacon John for more information.

† Our Parish Calendar †

Some events may require
prior sign-up.

Check inside for more details
or call the Welcome Center.

COVID-19 protocols: Masks are no longer required but we ask you to respect each individual's decision to wear or not wear a mask in church. Please respect each other's personal space.

If you feel at all under the weather, or if you have been or suspect you have been exposed to COVID-19, for your own health and safety and that of those around you, DO NOT attend Mass or any other church function.

Please note: All church events are Live attendance and live-streamed.

Week of December 26, 2021

Sunday, December 26: Holy Family Sunday

- **Sunday Mass** 8:00, 10:30 AM

Monday, December 27:

- **Welcome Center closed**
- **Rosary** 6:50 AM
- **No Daily Mass**

Tuesday, December 28:

- **Rosary** 6:50 AM
- **Daily Mass** 7:30 AM
- **No Lunch Bunch**

Wednesday, December 29:

- **Rosary** 6:50 AM
- **Daily Mass** 7:30 AM
- **Prayer Shawl Ministry** - 9:30 - 11 - WC Hall
- **Small Group - Schutten** Room 1 10:30-12 Noon

Thursday, December 30:

- **Rosary** 6:50 AM
- **Daily Mass** 7:30 AM
- **Prayers For Priests** Immediately following Mass
- **Seasons of Hope Bereavement** - 10 AM Room 5

Friday, December 31: New Year's Eve

- **Welcome Center** - Closed until January 3

Saturday, January 1, 2022: Happy New Year!

- **Mass:** 4 PM - New Year's Liturgy
- **Reconciliation** 2:30 - 3 PM



Week of January 2, 2022

Sunday, January 2: Epiphany of the Lord

- **Sunday Mass** 8:00, 10:30 AM

Monday, January 3:

- **Rosary** 6:50 AM
- **Daily Mass** 7:30 AM
- **Walking With Purpose** WC Afternoon 1-2:30 PM
Evening 6:30-8 PM

Tuesday, January 4:

- **Rosary** 6:50 AM
- **Daily Mass** 7:30 AM
- **Lunch Bunch** 12 Noon WC Hall

Wednesday, January 5:

- **Rosary** 6:50 AM
- **Daily Mass** 7:30 AM
- **Prayer Shawl Ministry** - 9:30 - 11 - WC Hall
- **Small Group - Schutten** Room 1 10:30-12 Noon

Thursday, January 6:

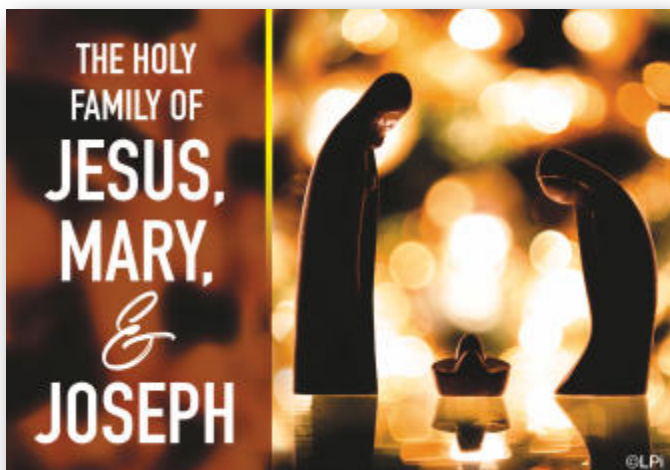
- **Rosary** 6:50 AM
- **Daily Mass** 7:30 AM
- **Prayers For Priests** Immediately following Mass
- **Seasons of Hope Bereavement** - 10 AM Room 5

Friday, January 7:

- **Rosary** 7:30 AM

Saturday, January 8:

- **SVdP Monthly Meeting** 8:42 AM Rooms 1 & 2
- **Mass:** 4 PM
- **Reconciliation** 2:30 - 3 PM



† A View From the Loft †

Confessions of a Commitment-phobe By John Brennan

First I have to confess: A large part of my first vocation (and love) here, the Music Ministry, is to attract and obtain commitment from my Music Ministers (please don't tell them about this confession! I'll never hear the end of it!) It takes commitment and hard work to prepare to sing and play every weekend, and the people we have in the Music Ministry right now are so dedicated to making that happen ~ we are truly blessed!

Second confession (isn't there a booth for this somewhere?) I hate making commitments! I think it may stem from not being a quitter, and therefore having to see through a several week commitment simply because I said 'yes' to the first meeting. It's a curse!

2021 began with introducing a new concept here at St. John's: the Small Group. From the moment I heard it, I said to myself: "No! Not another thing! I can't! I WON'T!" Now in my defense, in addition to my regular duties of preparing the music for every Mass, including Funerals, Weddings, and HoDoOs (Holy Days of Obligation), I also schedule musicians, publish the Newsletter, work with Bourne Comcast Cable Channel 13 to ensure our Masses get on the air and keep the livestream up and running, among lots of other little things; I am also a proud member of the St. Vincent de Paul Society and one of the co-leaders of Seasons of Hope, our bereavement group. So maybe now you know why I said "No mas!" As the time drew nearer to the start of our small groups and the excitement around them built, I was swept up in it and joined a group. I have never been so happy to go against my gut instinct. Meeting with my small group has absolutely become one of the highlights of my week and we have all found close friends in each other. I can and have reached out to them in times of need and joy and sorrow: I feel they have my back...it is an indescribable feeling!

As 2021 rolled on, Father Tom came into my office with news of a new men's ministry he was starting: That Man is You! [see *adjacent page*] It would meet on Saturday mornings at 6:30 (thank you Thank You THANK YOU to the core group for saying to Fr. Tom, "Father that's just too early!" and moving it to 7 AM (still early, but more doable!) Father subtly asked me to consider being a part of it by saying "You'll be there, right!?" My inner commitment-phobe was screaming into the thought bubble over my head "No NO NO!" but alas...

To my surprise, I like it! The pre-meeting banter during the coffee and breakfast foods section is priceless. I can now put a name with so many men's faces that I knew from Masses and various parish activities, and I know a lot more of their individual stories. The topics are challenging and the small group discussions are emotional and spiritual and engaging. So, I had to give up the ONLY day I did not have to set an alarm in order to be there, but I am so glad I did. I'm looking forward to the next semester and continuing this journey with at least 40 other men, and hopefully more.

So what's my point? (I can literally *feel* you asking that question!) As 2022 dawns, I challenge you to stand up to your inner commitment-phobe (ICP) and stretch yourself to join in a parish activity or ministry in the coming year. It may be tough. You may have to hold off on binge-watching Netflix for a couple of hours or shift things around to accommodate the time, but it will be so worth it. My faith has grown and I have witnessed it grow in countless others and all we had to do was say 'yes' and show up. Pray on it, then listen to your heart and God's calling, and tell you're ICP all will be fine!

† Year in Review - That Man is YOU! †

That Man Is (indeed!) You!

We have just finished our first semester of this great group! We have to offer a word of thanks to all who participated, and especially to our Core Team Members. The time we spent together was a valuable experience of getting to know each other and sharing the journey of being “A Man After God’s Own Heart” in our own families and community. Though gathering as we do involves some sacrifice (it being on Saturday mornings at 7:00 am!), it has provided a rare opportunity for men to gather for serious reflection and fellowship. Over 40 men participated overall, with an average attendance of about 35 per week.

We will be beginning our next semester on January 22nd. This Lenten-focused program promises to be even more fulfilling than what we just experienced, and we want to invite all the men in our parish to consider joining with us for this journey (which will take us to Easter). There is no cost to join with us, and breakfast foods are always provided. We are proud to say that we end promptly at 8:30 am, so you can make definite plans for the rest of your Saturday. Also, missing a session is not a deal-breaker, as we can provide ways for you to have access to the missed sessions.

Most of the men were so enthused that they tried very hard not to miss the socializing and discussions that took place, and caught up easily if they did have to miss a session. If you have questions or want more information you can talk to our Core Team Members Rick Creed, Phil Henderson, Matt O’Brien, Bill Satkevich, and Father Tom, or any of the guys who shared this last semester. Feel free also to speak to my Pastoral Assistant, John Brennan (also our Parish Music Director) who was an ever-present support and participant, as well. And, as always, Patty Parsons (our Parish Secretary and Director of Adult Ministries) can answer many questions, as well. We hope you will consider joining us!

In Christ,

Fr. Tom

† Worship Aid: The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph †

NOTE: Please take this home with you. Thank you!

Opening: Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

1. Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King"
Peace on earth and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled.
Joyful all ye nations rise, Join the triumph of the skies,
With angelic host proclaim, Christ is born in Bethlehem.
Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King"

2. Christ, by highest heaven adored, Christ, the everlasting
Lord, late in time behold him come, offspring of the Virgin's
womb:

Veiled in flesh the Godhead see, Hail the incarnate deity
Pleased as man with us to dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel
Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King"

3. Hail the Heaven-born Prince of Peace

Hail the Sun of Righteousness

Light and life to all He brings, Risen with healing in His wings
Mild he lays his glory by, born that we no more may die,
born to raise us from the earth, born to give us second birth.
Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King"

Christmas Gloria

Response: Gloria in excelsis Deo! Gloria in excelsis Deo!

A reading from the First Book of Samuel:

1 Sm 1:20-22, 24-28

In those days Hannah conceived, and at the end of her term bore a son whom she called Samuel, since she had asked the LORD for him. The next time her husband Elkanah was going up with the rest of his household to offer the customary sacrifice to the LORD and to fulfill his vows, Hannah did not go, explaining to her husband, "Once the child is weaned, I will take him to appear before the LORD and to remain there forever; I will offer him as a perpetual nazirite."

Once Samuel was weaned, Hannah brought him up with her, along with a three-year-old bull, an ephah of flour, and a skin of wine, and presented him at the temple of the LORD in Shiloh. After the boy's father had sacrificed the young bull, Hannah, his mother, approached Eli and said: "Pardon, my lord! As you live, my lord, I am the woman who stood near you here, praying to the LORD. 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." Hannah left Samuel there.

The Word of the Lord. **All: Thanks be to God**

Responsorial Psalm: Blessed are they who dwell in your house, O Lord.

How lovely is your dwelling place, O LORD of hosts!

My soul yearns and pines for the courts of the LORD.

My heart and my flesh cry out for the living God.

R. Blessed are they who dwell in your house, O Lord.

Happy they who dwell in your house! Continually they praise you. Happy the men whose strength you are! Their hearts are set upon the pilgrimage.

R. Blessed are they who dwell in your house, O Lord.

O LORD of hosts, hear our prayer; hearken, O God of Jacob!
O God, behold our shield, and look upon the face of your anointed.

R. Blessed are they who dwell in your house, O Lord.

A reading from the first Letter of Saint John

1 Jn 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.

The Word of the Lord **All: Thanks be to God**

Gospel Acclamation

Cantor, then All repeat: **Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

Open our hearts, O Lord,

to listen to the words of your Son.

R. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

The Lord be with you: **All: And with your spirit**

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Luke:

All: Glory to you, O Lord

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.

The Gospel of the Lord

ALL: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ

Homily

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;

† Worship Aid: The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph †

through him all things were made. For us men and for our salvation he came down from heaven,

(all bow your heads for the next two lines)

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

Prayers of the Faithful

Preparation of Gifts: Infant Holy, Infant Lowly

1. Infant holy, infant lowly, for his bed a cattle stall;
oxen lowing, little knowing Christ the babe is Lord of all.
Swift are winging, angels singing, Noels ringing, tidings bringing:

Christ the babe is Lord of all! Christ the babe is Lord of all!

2. Flocks were sleeping, shepherds keeping vigil till the morning new
saw the glory, heard the story, tidings of a gospel true.
Thus rejoicing, free from sorrow, praises voicing, greet the morrow:

Christ the babe was born for you!

Christ the babe was born for you!

Holy

Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Hosts, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord, Hosanna in the highest, Hosanna in the highest.

Mystery of Faith

We proclaim your death O Lord, and profess your Resurrection, until you come again.

Amen

Our Father

Our Father, Who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name; Thy kingdom come; Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

Lamb of God

Lamb of God you take away the sins of the world have mercy, have mercy on us
Lamb of God you take away the sins of the world have mercy, have mercy on us
Lamb of God you take away the sins of the world
Grant us, grant us peace

The Prayer of Spiritual Communion

“My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love You above all things,

and I desire to receive You into my soul.

Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally,

come at least spiritually into my heart, and allow me to unite myself wholly to You.

Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.”

Communion Hymn: Child of the Poor

1. Helpless and hungry, lowly, afraid, wrapped in the chill of midwinter; Comes now, among us, born into, poverty's embrace, new life for the world

Refrain: Who is this, Who lives with the lowly? Sharing their sorrows, knowing their hunger?

This is Christ revealed to the world in the eyes of a child, a child of the poor

2. Who is, this stranger? Here in our midst? Looking for shelter among us? Who is, the outcast? Who do we see amidst the poor? The children of God?

3. Bring all, the thirsty, all who seek peace; Bring those with nothing to offer. Strengthen the feeble, Say to, the frightened heart: “Fear not: here is your God!”

Meditation Hymn: Love Has Come

1. With one voice, the Angels sing, Songs that make creation ring. Prophets hear and call us to live in spirit and in truth

Refrain: Word of God enthroned, Dwell in us forevermore
Love has come to show the way

Hallelujah, peace be with us,
Love has come to show the way

2. God the Father, Elohim, Voice of thunder, spirit wind,
Breathe on me your very life, Grace will make the darkness bright. **Refrain**

5. Now salvation has come, in the New Jerusalem
Dancers dance and singers roar, Proclaiming Jesus Christ is Lord. **Refrain**

Closing Hymn: Go, Tell it on the Mountain

Refrain: Go, tell it on the mountain, Over the hills and everywhere. Go, tell it on the mountain, that Jesus Christ is born

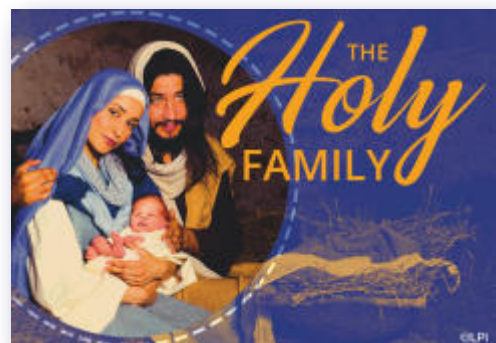
1. While shepherds kept their watching, O'er silent flocks by night. Behold throughout the heavens
There shone a Holy light **Refrain**

2. The shepherds feared and trembled, When high above the Earth, rang out the angel chorus,
That hailed our Savior's birth **Refrain**

4. Down in a lowly manger, the humble Christ was born
And God sent us salvation that blessed Christmas morn **R**

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† Points to Ponder †

GOSPEL MEDITATION - ENCOURAGE DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE

December 26, 2021

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph

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.

©LPi

Coming Back to Church

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. ©LPi

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 ©LPi



✠ Take Five for Faith ✠



Sunday, December 26, 2021

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

Bless the children

Holy families aren't necessarily picture-perfect. But they are faithful and consistent in their values and goals. Like Mary and Joseph and biblical parents before them, holy families consecrate their children early and often to the care of God. They do this by baptizing them and seeing to their sacramental preparation. They do this by praying for and with their little ones. They provide them a religious education and share faith-filled practices of compassion and charity. All the children in our lives look to us for love and acceptance, guidance and Christian example. Teach the children well.

TODAY'S READINGS: 1 Samuel 1:20-22, 24-28; 1 John 3:1-2, 21-24; Luke 2:41-52 (17C).

Monday, December 27, 2021

FEAST OF JOHN, APOSTLE AND EVANGELIST

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.

TODAY'S READINGS: 1 John 1:1-4; John 20:1a, 2-8 (697).

Tuesday, December 28, 2021

FEAST OF THE HOLY INNOCENTS, MARTYRS

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.

TODAY'S READINGS: 1 John 1:5—2:2; Matthew 2:13-18 (698).

Wednesday, December 29, 2021

FIFTH DAY WITHIN THE OCTAVE OF NATIVITY OF THE LORD; MEMORIAL OF THOMAS BECKET, BISHOP, MARTYR

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."

TODAY'S READINGS: 1 John 2:3-11; Luke 2:22-35 (202).

Thursday, December 30, 2021

SIXTH DAY WITHIN THE OCTAVE OF THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD

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.

TODAY'S READINGS: 1 John 2:12-17; Luke 2:36-40 (203).

Friday, December 31, 2021

SEVENTH DAY WITHIN THE OCTAVE OF THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD

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?

TODAY'S READINGS: 1 John 2:18-21; John 1:1-18 (204).

Saturday, January 1, 2022

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

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.

TODAY'S READINGS: Numbers 6:22-27; Galatians 4:4-7; Luke 2:16-21 (18).

Invest just five minutes a day, and your faith will deepen and grow—a day at a time.

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† Pray for our Family of Faith †

Our Faithful Departed

Teresa Bandy
 Brenda Baxley
 Tyler Jameson Becker
 Peggy Black
 Margaret May & Mac Borden
 Stacey Bowen
 John Joseph Carroll
 Richard & Maureen Charlton
 Larson Coffin, Jr.
 Edward F. & Mary B. Collins
 Matthew Conlon
 Elizabeth Coyle
 Corrinne A. DeMoss
 Philip DiModica
 Mary Carole Earnst
 Sylvia Embrescia
 Dorothy Emmons
 Paul Fahey
 Lou Fougere
 John Gordon
 Jan Guerriere
 Wilbur & Arda Halliday
 Tricia Halpin
 Bob and Marie Hanson
 Alfred Hoffmeister
 Toots Holden
 Betty Kelley
 Catherine Laird
 Jamie Lambert
 Monica Layton
 Paul Leary
 Edward Linhares
 Joseph Lombardo
 Bill Loos
 Barbara MacKinnon
 Cornelius "Neil" Maher
 Nancy McCann
 Paul Medeiros
 Marie Mosher
 Jim Murray
 Barbara Nagle
 Annmarie O'Brien
 John O'Grady
 John O'Neil
 Alyson Bowers Perez
 Helen Rando
 Ken Rago
 Sylvia Rose
 Dorothy Silvestro
 George & Joan Smith
 Betty Songer
 Ann M. Thomas
 William Trucchi
 Susan & Stephanie Tsimortos
 Vincent Vendice
 Myra Vincent
 Brian Way, Sr.
 George Weinert
 Lindsay Erica West
 P. Nicolas Wherity
 Peter Wilde
 Robert Williamson

Our Military

S.N. Ian Angell, USCG
 CPT Kathyne Elizabeth
 Bauchspies, ARMY
 Dempsey A. Brown, USMC
 Patrick M. Brides, USN
 Ensign Colin Carroll USN
 LT COL John J. Carroll, USAF
 1ST LT John P. Carroll, ARMY
 CDR Sean Carroll, USN
 Joseph J. Ciampa, USAF
 LCPL Paul Cody, USMC
 SSGT Daniel Corriveau, ARMY
 CW3 Matthew John Crowley, ARMY
 2ND LT Michael F.X. Dolan, ARMY
 Charles B. Dunn, MIDN, USN
 LT. Andrew R Gerry, USN
 Major Stephen D. Gerry, ARMY
 1st LT Andrew M. Greenwood,
 USMC
 SGT Matthew Krueger, ARMY
 LCDR Matthew Lewis, USN
 CPT Connor J. Lyons, USAF
 Brendan MacGregor, ARMY
 CAPT Kristie Mangers, USAF
 CAPT Zachary Mangers, USAF
 LT COL Brian McCarthy, ARMY
 CDR Michael McCarthy, USCG
 Michael E. McGillycuddy, USAF
 LT Devin K. Mulcahy, USN
 MIDN 1/C Mitchell Pastizzo, USN
 LCDR John J. Piccone, USN
 LT Elizabeth Quinlan, USN
 LT Michael W. Quinlan, USN
 Mark F. Roncase, USMC
 R.J. Sansoucy, USN
 TSgt Robert Shea, USAF
 CWO5 Paul M. Stirling, ARMY-NG
 CDR Daniel Swisshelm, USN
 1st LT Preston Towers, USMC
 CMDR Richard Walsh, USCG
 CAPT Chris Whitmore, ARMY
 LT CMDR Jonathan
 Wolstenholme, USCG
 Dillon E. Woodside, MANG

Our Sick

Angela, Erick and Mateo Ayala
 Madeline Bagdonas
 The D. Boucher Family
 Betty Brady
 Ellen Bragg
 Isaac Brennan
 Sheldon Brown
 Sharon Caldeira
 Bill Casson
 Doris Cetrangelo
 Andrew Chapman
 Joe Corley
 Anthony Cortese III
 Bette Crowell
 Gerald Czarnetzki

Our Sick (cont'd)

Arlene Dineen
 Andrew Ellis
 Carol Ellis
 Barbara Foley
 Cynthia Fougere
 Jean Marie Fullerton
 Pat & Jack Garrity
 Cheri Geilar
 Kelsey Harris
 Nancy Hill
 The Hurst Family
 Paul Janovitz
 Norm Jones
 Melia Jusyck
 Sandy Katz
 Claire Kondochriste
 Carol Krauspe
 Kevin Leary
 Jim Lema
 Kerry Leone
 Brandon Manter
 Kathleen McCarthy
 David McNulty
 Robin Mello
 Judith Merritt
 Jacqueline Oliva
 Cathy Pasioneck
 Marion Popielnicki
 Brandy Power
 Jax Ray
 Ann Rohmer
 Kimberly Roberts
 Chris Saheed
 Olivia Margaret Smith
 Marilyn Timo
 James Verrington
 Chris Waterman
 Rosalie Wherity
 Fr. David White
 Bethany Whitewing
 Betsy Zinzer

Special Intentions
 For the well being of our
 friends at CCSR, PCHC &
 Bourne Manor and all
 whose health is
 compromised
 An end to COVID-19



Sunday, December 26

8:00 AM For the People of
 St. John the Evangelist
 10:30 AM Robert A
 Lindberg

Monday, December 27

No Mass Today

Tuesday, December 28

7:30 AM Lindsay West

Wednesday, December 29

7:30 AM Jack Higgins

Thursday, December 30

7:30 AM Liam Maguire

Saturday, January 1, 2022

4:00 PM George Smith

Sunday, January 2

8:00 AM Richard Boucher
 10:30 AM For the People of
 St. John the Evangelist
 Parish

Monday, January 3

7:30 AM Richard
 Whitcomb

Tuesday, January 4

7:30 AM Joseph Laperle

Wednesday, January 5

7:30 AM Keith Ellis

Thursday, January 6

7:30 AM Rita Soulia

Saturday, January 8

4:00 PM Adam Chalker



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*Week of December 27th - January 2nd
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*Week of January 3rd - January 9
 In Honor of the DeMeo and Walton Families*



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