

St. John the Apostle Catholic Church

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December 27, 2020
Feast of the Holy Family

HOLY FAMILY of Jesus, Mary & Joseph

Dearest Brothers and Sisters,

Happy Feast of the Holy Family.

The ordinary events of the Holy Family should not blind us from seeing that God is truly in our midst and only God brings us to the fullness of life. The full Gospel text for today is an account of the Presentation of Jesus in the Temple. This includes the encounter between Jesus' parents and Simeon and Anna. The presentation allows us to recognize that the event of Jesus' birth is greater than a simple family moment. His Nativity is intended to change the course of history, as represented in the beautiful prayer of Simeon. This change begins with Jesus' family life, but will eventually affect our lives. We are part of his family, his beloved, and his disciples.

The Catechism of the Catholic Church teaches us about the nature of the family and particularly the role of a Christian Family as a domestic church.

I. THE FAMILY IN GOD'S PLAN: The nature of the family

2201 The conjugal community is established upon the consent of the spouses. Marriage and the family are ordered to the good of the spouses and to the procreation and education of children. The love of the spouses and the begetting of children create among members of the same family personal relationships and primordial responsibilities.



THE HOLY FAMILY

The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favor of God was upon him. - Lk 2:40

2202 A man and a woman united in marriage, together with their children, form a family. This institution is prior to any recognition by public authority, which has an obligation to recognize it. It should be considered the normal reference point by which the different forms of family relationship are to be evaluated.

2203 In creating man and woman, God instituted the human family and endowed it with its fundamental constitution. Its members are persons equal in dignity. For the common good of its members and of society, the family necessarily has manifold responsibilities, rights, and duties.

(continued on page 5)

If you have any questions about our parish or would like to join, please contact our parish office
417 Washington St. Oregon City, OR † 503-742-8200 † Fax: 503-742-8219

Limited-Participation Masses offered by sign-up only

Confessions: Saturday 3:30pm - 4:30pm in the church

For Prayer Requests: email sjachurch.prayerchain@gmail.com

CONNECT

Sign Up Information:

We are now able to have up to **100** people at each Mass in the church, with the number for the chapel and choir loft remaining at 25 due to space size. Masks are required, and physical distancing must be maintained. This seems to be an ever-changing situation and we are adapting as best we can.

At each location, a hospitality minister will greet you, check your name off a list and suggest where to sit. Communion will be brought to each location.

Please be patient with us as we work on allowing more people to come to Holy Mass. At this point, we're allowing you to sign up for weekend Mass **once in each signup period (weekly, right now)**. If there is not room at your preferred mass time, then you can choose another mass time.

A list will be posted on the entrance doors to indicate the area to which you are assigned.

- **For the Main Church, please use the side door as usual.**
- **For the Chapel, in the door on Washington Street near 4th Street.**
- **For the Choir Loft, please use the door by the bell tower.**

PRAY

Mary, Mother of God Mass Schedule

Mary, Mother of God Vigil - December 31 - 5:00pm

Mary, Mother of God - January 1 - 10:00am

Christmas Flowers donated In Memory Of or In Honor Of

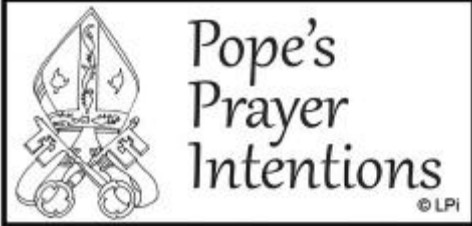
Hermanns	Tinka Benfield	Ryan Schulz
Kinishs	Helen Musa	Betty Forney
Jacobs	Linda Musa	John Forney
Harvey Carlson	David Gogch	David L Raines
Christine Baldwin	Shirley Lowen	Liam Anthony Hyde
Donald Carlson	Dennis Carlson	Phyllis Karch
David Riggs	Orlando Galleges	Urban Kluthe
Dan & Ann Faxon	Evangeline Galleges	Robert P Foy
Del & Kat Riggs	Anastasia Schulz	

Condolences



To Ruth Gobet at the loss of her husband, Leon; to Marcia & Kristin Daiker at the loss of their mother, Doris; to Kathy Jackson at the loss of her mother, Joy Reeves; to the Felix and Ann Barba family at the loss of his brother, David.

PRAY



Pope's Prayer Intentions - December

For a life of prayer. We pray that our personal relationship with Jesus Christ may be nourished by the Word of God and a life of prayer.

JANUARY - Human fraternity.

May the Lord give us the grace to live in full fellowship with our brothers and sisters of other

Church Open During The Week For Prayer

The church will be open **Monday - Friday after 8:00am Mass to 4:00pm (Saturday - 8:00am - 3:00pm)** for personal prayer and reflection. Bring your family and come spend some time with Jesus. Please enter through the side door of the church.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Every Friday:

All are invited to Adoration every Friday from after 8:00am Mass (about 8:45am) to 4:00pm. Please come spend some time in prayer and reflection with your family before the Blessed Sacrament.



Act 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. I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You.

Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.

GROW

Next Bible Study - "Lectio: Eucharist, Discovering the Mass in the Bible"

You do not have to have done the previous study to do this one!

We're going deeper!

During this 11 week study, author and teacher Dr. Brant Pitre digs down to the biblical roots of the Eucharist, through its foreshadowing in the miraculous events of the Old Testament, The Gospels, and Apostolic teaching. "The Lamb of God", "The Bread of Life", "The Body and the Blood of Christ"...

these are phrases we know from the Mass. But do we understand what they mean in the greater and deeper context of Scripture and Church teaching? We'll discover firsthand how Christ's Body and Blood are an integral and wondrous part of God's plan for our salvation.



Online registration will open January 2 on our parish website. In-person registration will take place January 9/10 & 16/17 after all Masses. There will be in-person and Zoom options available on all meeting days, Sunday 6:30pm, Wednesday 6:15pm, and Thursday 9:00am. Because the wrap-up videos are on-line on

FORMED, there is also the option of self-study.

Unfortunately, we cannot offer childcare for Sunday evenings at this time. The cost of the study is \$10 for the study guide and \$4 for the optional companion book. Meetings will begin the week of January 31st. Contact Kathy Call with any questions at (503)349-4181.

Parish & School Staff

Pastor:
Fr. Maxy D'Costa | 503-742-8200
pastor@sja-catholicchurch.com

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Pastoral Council Chair: Nichole Blair |
971-925-8500 | nicbicky@aol.com

School Principal: Mary Haluska
mary.haluska@sja-eagles.com

School Secretary: Leslie McDowell
503-742-8232 | leslie@sja-eagles.com

Mass Intentions

<i>Sat</i>	<i>Dec 26</i>	<i>5:00pm</i>	<i>Gregg Foix Family INT</i>
<i>Sun</i>	<i>Dec 27</i>	<i>8:30am</i>	<i>All Parishioners</i>
		<i>10:30am</i>	<i>Charles Fuller INT</i>
		<i>1:30pm</i>	
<i>Mon</i>	<i>Dec 28</i>		<i>Julie Endres †</i>
<i>Tues</i>	<i>Dec 29</i>	<i>8:00am</i>	<i>Marilyn Misch †</i>
<i>Wed</i>	<i>Dec 30</i>	<i>8:00am</i>	<i>Charles Lujan †</i>
<i>Thur</i>	<i>Dec 31</i>	<i>8:00am</i>	<i>Eric Nelson †</i>
		<i>5:00pm</i>	<i>Leon Gobet †</i>
<i>Fri</i>	<i>Jan 1</i>	<i>10:00am</i>	<i>All Parishioners</i>
<i>Sat</i>	<i>Jan 2</i>	<i>5:00pm</i>	<i>Sue Ann Jones †</i>
<i>Sun</i>	<i>Jan 3</i>	<i>8:30am</i>	<i>All Parishioners</i>
		<i>10:30am</i>	<i>Carol Dickey INT</i>
		<i>1:30pm</i>	

St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry

This week's need is mac & cheese.



Welcome Cafe

Welcome Cafe will continue to distribute sack lunches on the 3rd and 4th Sundays.

Sacraments and Services

About Baptism Formation: To begin the process, contact Ryan Mainard, Pastoral Associate: Phone 503-742-8228
Email: r.mainard@sja-catholicchurch.com.

Marriage: Couples that plan to get married, please contact our Parish Priest for Marriage Formation Classes 9 months prior to the desired wedding date. (pastor@sja-catholicchurch.com)

Funeral Mass / Service: Please first contact Rev. Maxy D'Costa at 503-742-8200 to plan a funeral service at St. John the Apostle for your loved one at your earliest convenience. If you would like your loved one buried in the St. John the Apostle cemetery, please contact Gary Avery at 503-655-7148 to make those arrangements

Family Member that has moved to assisted living/care facility/hospice: If you have a family member that has moved to a care facility, please inform the parish office so we can arrange for pastoral care and we will note the address in our records.

Assisted Hearing System: We have an assisted listening system to help facilitate better hearing for all of our members. Contact the office.

FORMED! Connect Now

Online Faith Formation Content.
Visit sja-catholicchurch.formed.org to register.

Bulletin Announcements

Bulletin Announcements due on the Friday, nine days before the Bulletin publication date. bulletin@sja-catholicchurch.com



Weekly Offertory

Week of November 29	\$ 11,195.18
Week of December 6	\$ 7,025.67
Week of December 13	\$ 13,765.52
YTD Budgeted	\$ 300,570.28
YTD Received	\$ 263,516.94
Difference	\$ (23,287.82)

This week's featured advertiser is:
Providence Hospice

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Pastor's Weekly Reflection – continued from front page

The Christian family

2204 "The Christian family constitutes a specific revelation and realization of ecclesial communion, and for this reason it can and should be called a *domestic church*." It is a community of faith, hope, and charity; it assumes singular importance in the Church, as is evident in the New Testament.

2205 The Christian family is a communion of persons, a sign and image of the communion of the Father and the Son in the Holy Spirit. In the procreation and education of children it reflects the Father's work of creation. It is called to partake of the prayer and sacrifice of Christ. Daily prayer and the reading of the Word of God strengthen it in charity. The Christian family has an evangelizing and missionary task.

2206 The relationships within the family bring an affinity of feelings, affections and interests, arising above all from the members' respect for one another. The family is a *privileged community* called to achieve a "sharing of thought and common deliberation by the spouses as well as their eager cooperation as parents in the children's upbringing."

The Popes in recent years have all emphasized the importance of building strong faith families in modern society. Pope Francis said in his apostolic exhortation, *Amoris Laetitia*, "The Church is a family of families, constantly enriched by the lives of all those domestic churches." St. John Paul II begins his apostolic exhortation, *Familiaris Consortio* in these words, "The family in the modern world, as much as and perhaps more than any other institution, has been beset by the many profound and rapid changes that have affected society and culture." The attack on the institution of marriage and family in recent years have only grown worse.

Every baptized person is a member of the family of God and is part of the mystical body of Christ. We are one Body of Christ on this pilgrim journey, helping each other to grow in holiness and leading each other to heaven, our eternal home.

Friends, I cannot emphasize enough the importance of building vibrant catholic families at St. John the Apostle Parish, the future of the Church depends on it. Let us pray to the Holy Family of Nazareth for our parish families and families throughout the world that they will abide by God's plan of creation and salvation.

YEAR OF ST. JOSEPH

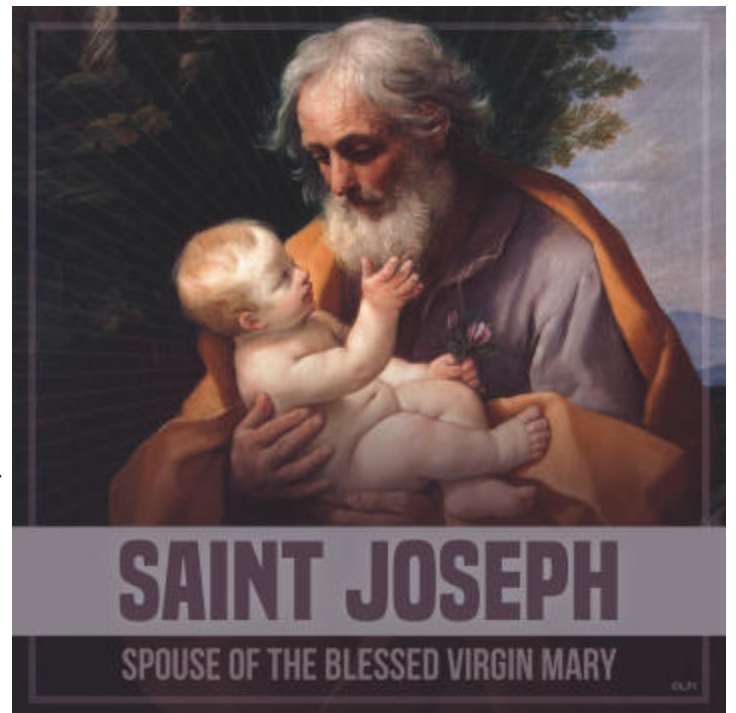
In a new Apostolic Letter entitled "Patris corde" ("With a Father's Heart"), Pope Francis describes Saint Joseph as a beloved father, a tender and loving father, an obedient father, an accepting father; a father who is creatively courageous, a working father, a father in the shadows. The Letter marks the 150th anniversary of Blessed Pope Pius IX's declaration of St Joseph as Patron of the Universal Church. To celebrate the anniversary, Pope Francis has proclaimed a special "Year of St Joseph," beginning on the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception 2020 and extending to the same feast in 2021.

The Holy Father wrote *Patris corde* against the backdrop of the Covid-19 pandemic, which, he says, has helped us see more clearly the importance of "ordinary" people who, though far from the limelight, exercise patience and offer hope every day. In this, they resemble Saint Joseph, "the man who goes unnoticed, a daily, discreet and hidden presence," who nonetheless played "an incomparable role in the history of salvation."

Many blessings



Rev. Maxy D'Costa
Pastor



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