



**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 26, 2021**

## **THE HOLY FAMILY**



### **THE COMMUNITY OF ST. ANNE CATHOLIC CHURCH AND SCHOOL TOMBALL**

1111 S. Cherry St. Tomball, TX 77375 — 281-351-8106 — [parishoffice@stanne-tomball.org](mailto:parishoffice@stanne-tomball.org)  
Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston

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

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# Contact Us

**For most effective communication, please use email addresses or Direct Inward Dial phone numbers shown below.**

**Thank you.**

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**Billy Schmidt**  
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## St. Anne Catholic Church

ARCHDIOCESE OF GALVESTON-HOUSTON  
1111 S. Cherry St. Tomball, TX 77375  
Tel: 281-351-8106

**Website:** www.stanne-tomball.org  
**Email:** parishoffice@stanne-tomball.org  
**Facebook:** St. Anne Catholic Community Tomball

Parish Office Hours:  
Monday—Friday  
8:30 a.m.—12:00 Noon  
(Closed from 12:00—1:00)  
1:00 p.m.—5:00 p.m.

**The Parish Office will be closed Friday, December 31st and Monday January 3rd in observance of New Year's Day.**

**After Office Hours Emergency Only**  
Phone Number 281-205-1183  
*Leave a detailed message: This line will be monitored after office hours and on the weekend.*



## St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry

Please schedule an appointment via website at [www.svdpstanne-tomball.org](http://www.svdpstanne-tomball.org) or phone 281-255-2894



## St. Anne Catholic School

**PRINCIPAL**

**KENDALL SHAMAS**

Email: kshamas@stanneschool-tomball.org  
Tel: 281-351-0093  
Website: saintannecs-tomball.org

### MISSION STATEMENT

St. Anne, a Eucharistic Catholic Community, baptized in the Holy Spirit, is united with Jesus Christ in glorifying the Father and in teaching and serving the people of God.

Declaración de Mision Santa Ana, una comunidad Católica, Eucarística, Bautizada en el Espíritu Santo, estamos unidos con Jesucristo en la glorificación al Padre y al servicio a la gente de Dios.



THANK YOU TO ALL WHO HAVE SO GENEROUSLY PARTICIPATED IN THE MATCHING CHALLENGE FOR CHRISTMAS!

A generous parishioner challenged us to be extra generous during this Christmas season. He will personally match our contributions up to \$50,000. So, our goal is to receive \$50,000 in donations for Christmas Offertory while still collecting our sustaining donations. Mark your special gift as 'Christmas Offering' and have your contribution matched dollar-for-dollar! Time is running out as the Christmas Offertory will be counted this week.

***Give and gifts will be given to you; a good measure, packed together, shaken down, and overflowing, will be poured into your lap. For the measure with which you measure will in return be measured out to you.***

***Luke 6:38***

**PLEASE NOTE:** We are experiencing programming difficulties with My Own Church and the posting of online giving to contribution statements, but are working closely with Parishsoft to resolve the issues. We fully expect to have the problem solved in order to meet the deadline of January 31, 2022, for mailing contribution statements. Contributions in any form must be dated no later than December 31st to qualify for tax exemptions in 2021. Thank you for understanding.



The DSF Fund Appeal for 2021 closes December 31st. In order to apply to this year's campaign and be included in tax exemption amounts for the year, all donations must be dated no later than December 31st **and received by the Chancery Office by January 7, 2022.** If you have not made a contribution for 2021 and wish to do so, please send your gift directly downtown to: Diocesan Services Fund  
P. O. Box 4681  
Houston, TX 77210-4681

DSF envelopes are available in the Narthex.

Due to scheduling, we cannot process funds donated payable to the parish and have them apply to 2021 past those already received: we apologize for the inconvenience. Thank you to all who have participated in this year's 'Walk in the Light of Christ' campaign.

## **SCHEDULES FOR THIS WEEK**

### **Wednesday, December 29th**

*No weekday 8:30 AM Mass*  
Mass at 6:30 PM

### **Thursday, December 30th**

8:30 AM Weekday Mass  
*No Evening Reconciliation*

### **Friday, December 31st**

New Year's Eve  
*No 8:30 AM Mass*

### **Saturday, January 1st, 2022**

(New Year's Day)  
Mary Mother of God  
10:00 AM English  
12:00 Noon Spanish  
*No 5:00 PM Vigil Mass*

### **Sunday, January 2nd, 2022**

Regular Mass Schedule  
8:00 & 10:00 AM Mass—English  
12:00 Noon Mass—Spanish

**The Parish Office will be closed  
Friday, December 31st  
&  
Monday January 3rd in  
Observance of New Year's Day.**

*For more information on scheduling changes, please see page 5.*





*Masses This Weekend*

December 26, 2021:

Sun 12/26 8:00 AM ~ George Shirley Jr. ✠  
 Sun 12/26 10:00 AM ~ People of St. Anne Parish  
 Sun 12/26 12:00 PM ~ People of St. Anne Parish

*Weekday Masses*

Wed 12/29 No 8:30 AM Mass  
 6:30 PM ~ People of St. Anne Parish  
 Thur 12/30 8:30 AM ~ People of St. Anne Parish  
 Fri 12/31 No 8:30 AM Mass (New Year's Eve)

*Upcoming Weekend Masses*

January 1—2, 2022:

Sat 01/01 10:00 AM ~ People of St. Anne Parish  
 12:00 PM ~ People of St. Anne Parish  
 No 5:00 PM Vigil  
 Sun 01/02 8:00 AM ~ People of St. Anne Parish  
 Sun 01/02 10:00 AM ~ People of St. Anne Parish  
 Sun 01/02 12:00 PM ~ People of St. Anne Parish



O St. Anne,  
 you are my spiritual grandmother.

Please pray for me!

I come to you today  
 knowing that you know what it's like  
 to wait on God to answer  
 your heart's greatest desires.

I come to you today  
 Asking that you will ask God  
 to grant my petition  
 the way that He granted yours.

I ask that you pray, St. Anne,  
 to ask Our Lord to have  
 mercy and favor on me.

Please pray for *our Mass Intentions*.

But most of all,  
 please pray that I may be open to God's will  
 the way that you were,  
 and that I will be able to wait  
 with patience, perseverance in faith and hope,  
 and with absolute trust  
 in the Lord's plan for me.

Amen.



## ADORATION OF THE EUCHARIST



### ADORATION AWARENESS

"In beholding the Word made flesh, now sacramentally present in the Eucharist, the eyes of our bodies are united with the eyes of faith in gazing upon the presence 'parexcellence' of Emmanuel 'God with us' until that day when the sacramental veil will be lifted in the Kingdom of heaven."

- St. Pope John Paul II

**There will not be Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament on Thursday, December 30<sup>th</sup> (in anticipation of adorers being out of town for Christmas).** Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament will resume on Thursday, January 6, 2022.

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament - Thursdays (in the church), after the 8:30 AM Mass - 7:00 PM.

Patriotic Rosary - after the Blessed Sacrament is reposed at 7:00 PM.

**More adorers are needed and are always welcome.**

Adoration is available for all at the scheduled times. If you would like to sign up for a weekly Hour of adoration, please contact:

Rosalie Melia - [rtcmelia@gmail.com](mailto:rtcmelia@gmail.com)  
Marty Lang - [mmmjlant@gmail.com](mailto:mmmjlant@gmail.com)

## Schedule Adjustments at St. Anne—Tomball

*A LOT is happening in the coming weeks! Please note a few activities that are being postponed due to the holiday schedule.*

No 8:30 a.m. Mass on  
Wednesday, December 29—  
6:30 p.m. Weekday Mass only

No Youth Group Wednesday, December 29  
and January 5, 2022.  
Resumes January 12, 2022

Weekday Mass @ 8:30 a.m.  
Thursday, December 30  
as regularly scheduled

No Reconciliation on Thursday, December 30.  
Resumes January 6, 2022

No Patriotic Rosary or Exposition of the Eucharist  
Thursday, December 30.  
Resumes January 6, 2022

No 8:30 a.m. Weekday Mass  
(and therefore no anointing)  
On Friday, December 31.  
Resumes January 7, 2022

No First Saturday Mass in January.  
Resumes February 5, 2022

No Children's Liturgy or CCE  
Sunday, January 2, 2022.  
Resumes January 9, 2022

No Breaking Open of the Word for RCIA  
Sunday, December 26 and January 2, 2022.  
Resumes January 9, 2022



## WEEKLY PRAYER

### READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 26, 2021

**Sunday:** 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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**Next Sunday:** 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

### OBSERVANCES FOR THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 26, 2021

**Sunday:** The Holy Family

**Monday:** St. John, Apostle and Evangelist

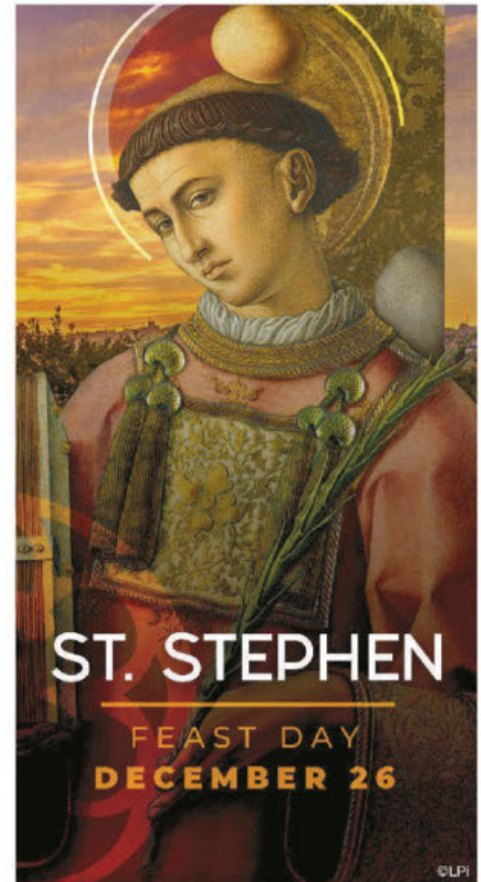
**Tuesday:** The Holy Innocents, Martyrs

**Wednesday:** St. Thomas Becket, Bishop and Martyr

**Friday:** St. Sylvester I, Pope; New Year's Eve

**Saturday:** New Year's Day; Mary, The Holy Mother of God; World Day of Peace

**Next Sunday:** The Epiphany of the Lord; Sts. Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzen, Bishops and Doctors of the Church



## ST. STEPHEN

FEAST DAY  
DECEMBER 26

### SAINT OF THE WEEK

The Acts of the Apostles tells the story of St. Stephen, the first Christian martyr. A man filled with grace and power, he worked great wonders among the people. Some Jews debated with St. Stephen but could not match his wisdom and spirit. Eventually, a charge of blasphemy was brought up against him, and the local population demanded that he be tried and sentenced. He was seized and carried before the Sanhedrin.

Despite the danger he faced, in front of the Sanhedrin and his accusers, St. Stephen gave a long speech about the history of Israel and the blessings that God had given upon His chosen people. He talked about how Israel had become disobedient despite God's abundant mercy. This enraged his accusers, and eventually the crowd dragged him out of the city and stoned him to death.

Even in his final moments, St. Stephen displayed great forgiveness and even asked God not to hold the sins of his attackers against them. Hundreds of years after his death, he is still a role model for us to follow.



# LITURGICAL LIFE

## QUESTIONS OF THE WEEK

### Invite Parishioners to Reflect and Respond to Scripture

#### First Reading

Hannah, the mother of Samuel, and Samuel's father are portrayed as parents of deep prayer and great faith. How would you describe the faith of your mother or father?

#### Second Reading

John teaches us that if we believe in Jesus and love one another, "we may be called children of God." How do you show gratitude for being part of this holy family?

#### Gospel Reading

Luke is the only Evangelist to preserve a story about Jesus from his youth. In this account, Mary and Joseph are filled with "great anxiety" as they searched for Jesus who they thought was lost. How do you seek God's help for the anxious moments in your family?

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## LIVE THE LITURGY

### 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.

## GOSPEL MEDITATION

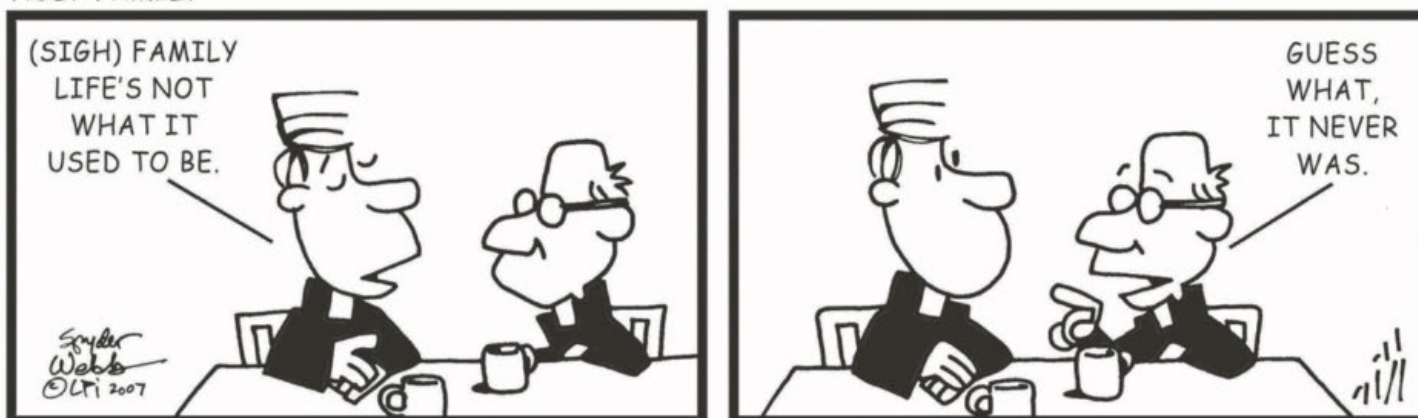
### Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

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.

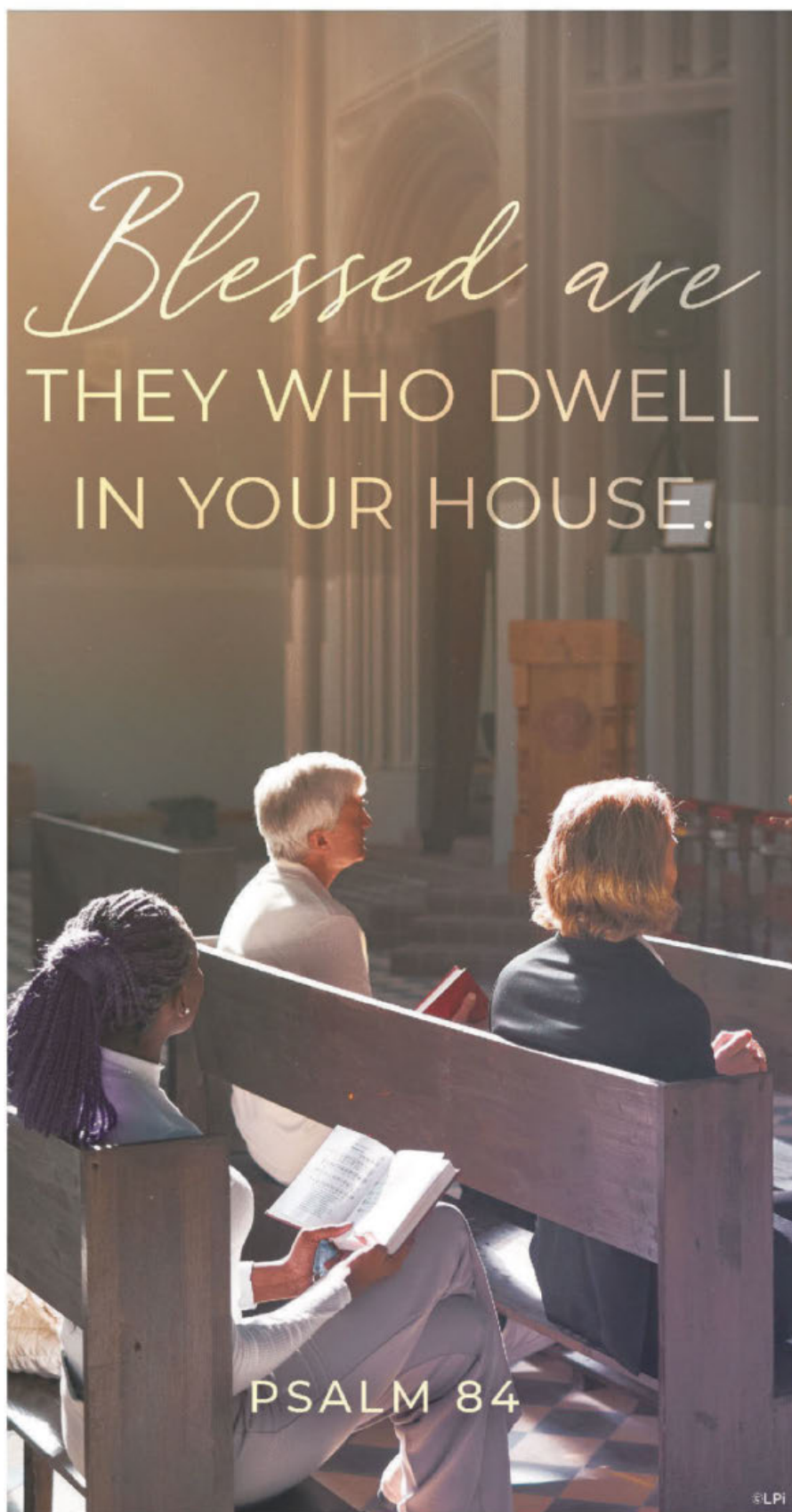
In order to break the cycle of dysfunction we have to remember that it is not only by human effort that we negotiate the difficult and challenging events of our lives. There is a Divine Effort at work as well. For sure, the human effort can create quite a mess and easily destroy lives. This is true of 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.

#### HOLY FAMILY







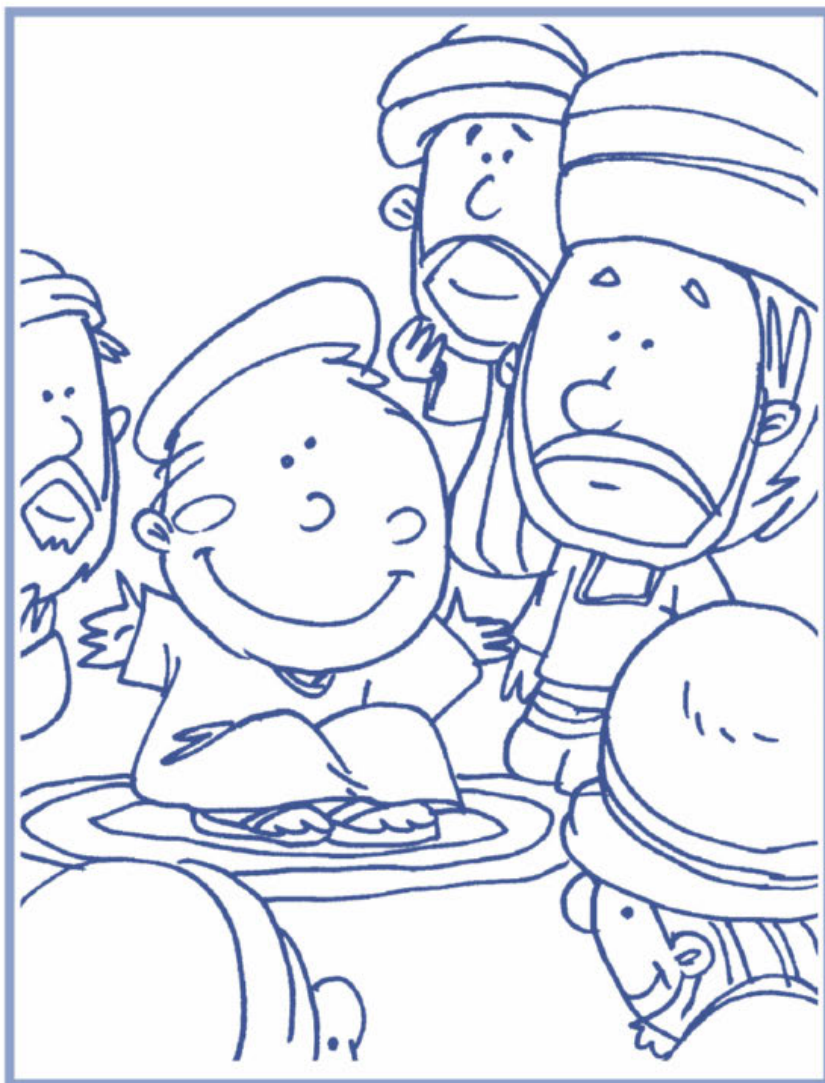
*He went down  
with them  
and came to  
Nazareth, and  
was obedient  
to them; and  
his mother  
kept all these  
things in  
her heart.  
And Jesus  
advanced in  
wisdom and  
age and favor  
before God  
and man.*

*- Lk 2:51-52*

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass  
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# Kids Corner

READ THE  
GOSPEL &  
COLOR



Imagine Jesus goes to your church today. After church, Mary and Joseph find him on the altar telling stories from the Old Testament to the priests and the Sunday School teachers. Mary and Joseph would be amazed. They would want Jesus to come home. Jesus would love his parents so much that he would go home with them. He will stay with them until he grows older, wiser, and stronger.

## PRAYER

Lord, teach me your Bible stories so that I can teach them to others.

## MISSION FOR THE WEEK

I will always let my parents know where I am, so they won't worry.


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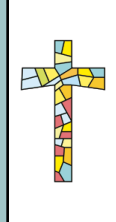


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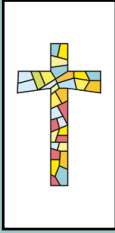


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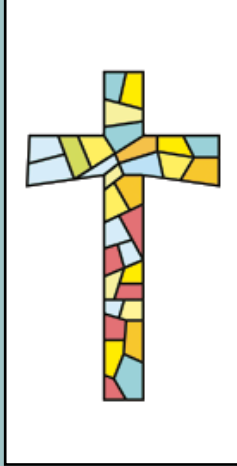
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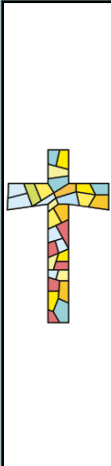
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