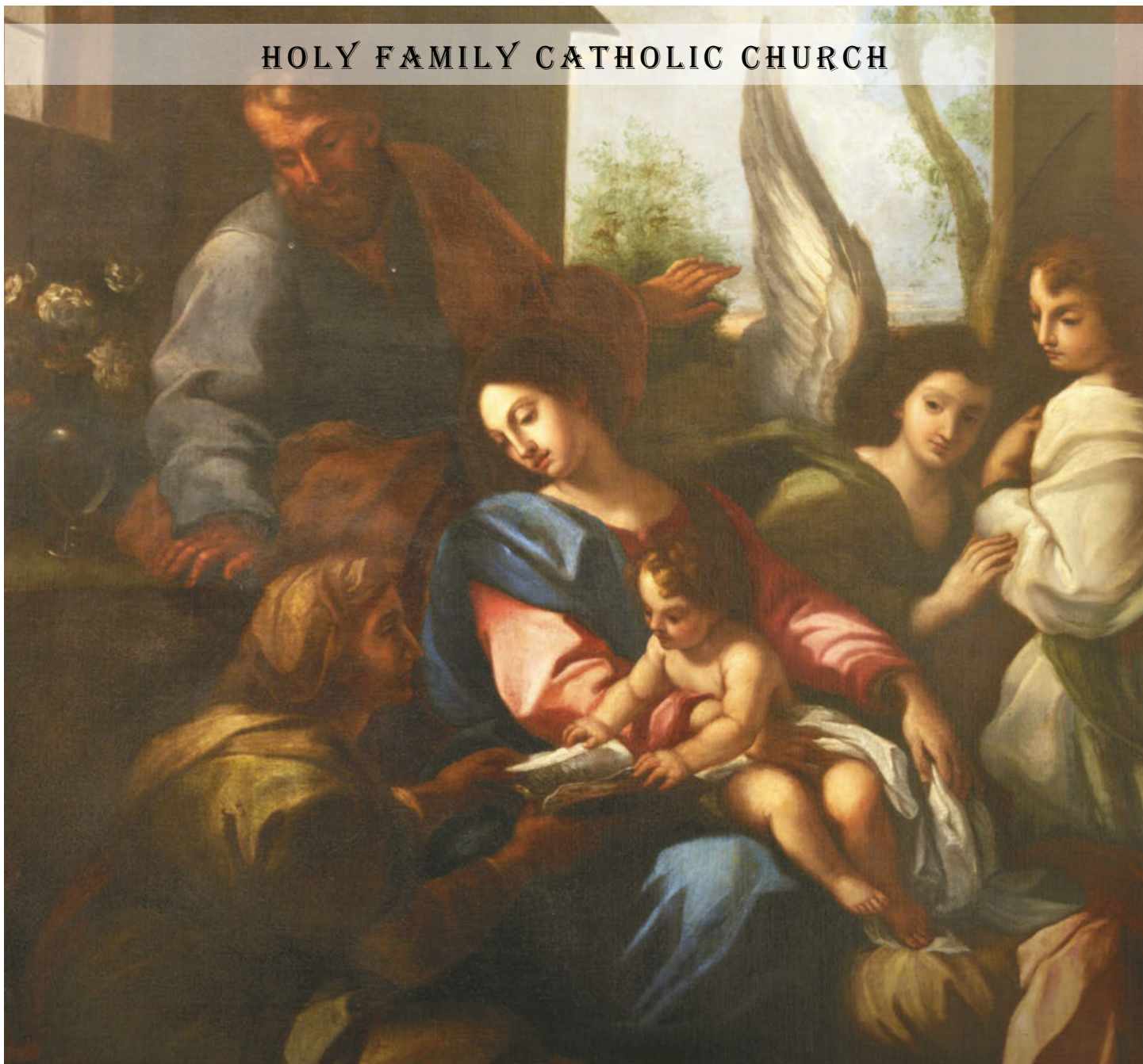


HOLY FAMILY CATHOLIC CHURCH



THE HOLY FAMILY

DECEMBER 26, 2021



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

HolyFamilyChurch.us



THE ARCHDIOCESE OF
GALVESTON-HOUSTON



SOCIETY OF THE OBLATES OF
THE SACRED HEART

WE ARE ROYALTY

by Deacon Jeffrey A. Speight

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Many people are fascinated with the British Royal Family. On this Feast of the Holy Family, we not only honor Jesus, Mary and Joseph. We are reminded we are more than earthly royalty. St. Paul tells us: “we are God’s children now.” This is not some sentimental thought, it is fact!

If we are God’s children, that should influence how we live. The Holy Family models for us how to have 1) devotion to mission and 2) obedience to God.

Devotion to Mission. When His parents found Him in the temple, they knew Jesus had been called to a special mission of saving His people, even if they did not yet understand how. As good parents, they helped Jesus prepare for his *mission* as best they could.

Each of us has a holy mission too—a vocation. Unlike a job, a vocation identifies who you are, not just what you do for a living. Ask God to help you discern your vocation. Maybe it is to be a priest, deacon, or religious sister or brother. Or maybe it is to live out a Christian life in the world as a married or single person.

Obedience to God. Mary was obedient when she said “yes” to God. In the Year of Saint Joseph we just completed, we were reminded of Joseph’s unselfish devotion to his family and obedience to God—something every modern-day father should strive for. As we begin every day, our prayer should conclude, “Lord, what is your will for me today?”

It may be fun to read stories about royalty. Yet we are part of something even bigger. We are adopted sons and daughters of God, and heirs of the King of kings. That makes us much more than royalty. Merry Christmas!



WE GIVE BECAUSE GOD GAVE FIRST

Online giving is a fast, safe, and easy way to support the ongoing operations here at Holy Family Church. Visit [HolyFamilyChurch.us](https://www.HolyFamilyChurch.us) and click on the green

DONATE button. You can set up a recurring payment and select which funds to support, including the Society of St. Vincent de Paul and the Building Fund, which helps us to reduce our building loan debt.

We are able to serve because of your generous prayers and financial support. If you haven’t already, consider giving through our online portal!

MASS INTENTIONS

Monday, December 27th

8:45 am: Emigdio Hinojosa (+) by Stella Hinojosa
12:10 pm: Eddy Uyanwune (-) by Theresa Uyanwune

Tuesday, December 28th

8:45 am: Sebastian & Julie Job (-) by Michaeyla Francis
7:00 pm: Joseph Job & Jamie Maddox (-) by Michaeyla Francis

Wednesday, December 29th

6:30 am: Emilio and Elsa (-) by Lissy Manakkil
8:45 am: Hung Le (+) by Anna Le

Thursday, December 30th

8:45 am: Jimmy Fos (+) by Nora Peralta
7:00 pm: Miembros del Movimiento Familiar, Vivos y Difuntos

Friday, December 31st

6:30 am: Fr. Joy James, O.S.H. (-) by Martha Halvorsen
8:45 am: Vince Mule (+) by Joe & Bessie Falsone

Saturday, January 1st

8:45 am: Geraldine Nwosu (-) by Family
5:30 pm: For All Parishioners, Living and Deceased

Sunday, January 2nd

7:00 am: Rose & Ed Koudeka (+) by Linda & Harvey Koudelka
9:00 am: Frank & Mary Maiorka (+) by Family
11:00 am: Concepcion Domasing Gonzales (+) by Esperanza Gomez
1:00 pm: David Mosqueda (+) by Nancy Fromco

TABERNACLE CANDLE SPONSORSHIP: DECEMBER 2021

November 29—December 5

In Honor of Fr. Roy Oggero by the Francis Family

December 6—December 12

In Memory of Robert Rives by Hank & Kathy Mrczkowski

December 13—December 19

In Memory of Francisco Pena by Family

December 20—December 26

In Memory of Teresa Velasquez by Family

December 27—January 2

In Memory of Maria Trinidad Aguilar
by the Cervantes, Ruiz, and Resendiz Families

Tabernacle Candle Sponsorship: \$20 / week

PRAYERS FOR THOSE SERVING OUR NATION

NAVY

Jacob De Paz, Thomas Franklin Hill

Do you have family serving our nation? Send us their name and the name of their branch of the armed forces and we will pray for them. Names can be sent via email to information@holymfamilychurch.us or by calling (281) 499-9688.

PRAY FOR THE SICK

Jason Janda



PRAY FOR THE DECEASED

Sibi Mathew

CONGRATULATIONS!

WINNERS

2021 CHRISTMAS RAFFLE WINNERS

GRAND PRIZE \$4000 Gift Card Nicole Mrianda	6TH PRIZE: \$1000 Sherri Peugh
2ND PRIZE: \$3000 Gloria Batiste-Roberts	7TH PRIZE: \$1000 Oscar Rizarri
3RD PRIZE: \$2000 Monica Ibarra	8TH PRIZE: \$1000 Barbara Janda
4TH PRIZE: \$1000 Ann Maria Jose	9TH PRIZE: \$500 Aurora Dickson
5TH PRIZE: \$1000 Dean Schmidt	10TH PRIZE: \$500 Ranin Apostol
	11TH PRIZE: \$500 Esperanza Valle

Please note that the Parish and CCE Offices will be CLOSED on Friday, December 31st. In addition, there will be NO Eucharistic Adoration on the 31st.

Will you help to keep our bulletin free?

Holy Family Catholic church has partnered with LPI (Liturgical Publications Inc.) to support our Parish communications by providing our weekly full-color bulletin. Holy Family Catholic Church will receive the bulletin, at no cost, due to the generosity of our bulletin advertisers. Those who are interested in advertising can contact our representative Mike Anderson at (314) 704-0916 or via email at manderson@lpi.com at any time for more information. Thank you for your support!

A Shepherd's Message

by Daniel Cardinal DiNardo

"I bring you good news of a great joy which will come to all the people; for to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord... You will find a babe wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a manger." - Luke 2:10-12

The words of proclamation by the Angel to the shepherds as written in the Gospel of St. Luke are words repeated from earlier verses in the same Gospel about the fact of His birth and will be words spoken again by the shepherds upon seeing the Christ Child. St. Luke seems to dwell on certain details given by the Angel.

The birth of Christ in a manger is no doubt from the tradition St. Luke received. His emphasis on Jesus being placed there may well be due to a reference at the very beginning of the Book of the Prophet Isaiah. The Lord God of Israel complains that the ox knows its owner and the donkey its master's manger, but Israel has not known me! Here in the coming of the Savior and the worship and proclamation by the shepherds, that statement is overturned. Israel will now know its Lord!

The emphasis on swaddling clothes may evoke poverty for some and certainly Mary and Joseph are portrayed as humble and poor, as well as obedient to the Law and resourceful in finding ways to approach their situation in faith. But swaddling clothes, rather than emphasizing poverty, are a mark of the care that Mary shows in bringing her first-born Son into the world. He is treasured with human bands of love and affection.



It should also be noted that "Bethlehem" means "House of Bread." The place where Jesus was born was in Bethlehem, a fact noted by both St. Luke and St. Matthew, who differ on other details. Jesus is born in the city that is known as the House of Bread and He will become the bread of Life for all. No one spends more time on the nature of Christ feeding and nourishing people both with His word and with physical food than does St. Luke. Even in His birth and infancy He is Bread; He is food for those who travel with Him towards the fullness of life with His Father.

Thus, St. Luke gives us important details that are not only cherished memories but ways of teaching and evangelizing!

This has been a difficult year for us because of all the effects of COVID-19. Christmas comes amidst joys and anxieties, hopes and worries, not unlike that first Christmas. We do not have to fear as the Angel told the shepherds. The Savior is here and comes to never abandon us but to lift us up. Merry Christmas!

Mensaje de un Pastor

by Daniel Cardinal DiNardo

"...os traigo buenas nuevas de gran gozo que serán para todo el pueblo; porque os ha nacido hoy, en la ciudad de David, un Salvador, que es Cristo el Señor. Y esto os servirá de señal: hallaréis a un niño envuelto en pañales y acostado en un pesebre." - Lucas 2:10-12

Las palabras de proclamación del Ángel a los pastores como están escritas en el Evangelio de San Lucas son palabras repetidas de versículos anteriores en el mismo Evangelio acerca del hecho de su nacimiento y serán palabras habladas de nuevo por los pastores al ver al Niño Cristo. San Lucas parece morar en ciertos detalles dados por el Ángel.

El nacimiento de Cristo en un pesebre es sin duda de la tradición que recibió San Lucas. Su énfasis en que Jesús sea colocado allí bien puede ser debido a una referencia al principio mismo del Libro del Profeta Isaías. El Señor Dios de Israel se queja de que el buey conoce a su dueño y al burro al pesebre de su amo, ¡pero Israel no me ha conocido! Aquí, en la venida del Salvador y en la adoración y proclamación de los pastores, esa declaración es revocada. ¡Israel ahora conocerá a su Señor!

El énfasis en la ropa pañales puede evocar la pobreza para algunos y ciertamente María y José son retratados como humildes y pobres, así como obedientes a la Ley y ingeniosos en encontrar maneras de enfocar su situación en la fe. Pero la ropa pañales, en lugar de enfatizar la pobreza, es una marca del cuidado que María muestra al traer a su Hijo primogénito al mundo. Es atesorado con bandas humanas de amor y afecto.

Cabe señalar también que "Belén" significa "Casa de los Panes". El lugar donde Jesús nació estaba en Belén, un hecho observado por San Lucas y San Mateo, que difieren en otros detalles. Jesús nace en la ciudad que se conoce como la Casa del Pan y se convertirá en el Pan de la Vida para todos. Nadie pasa más tiempo en la esencia de Cristo alimentando y alimentando a la gente tanto con su palabra como con comida física que San Lucas. Incluso en su nacimiento y infancia él es Pan; él es alimento para todos.

¡Así, San Lucas nos da detalles importantes que no solo son recuerdos preciados, sino formas de enseñar y evangelizar!

Este ha sido un año difícil para nosotros debido a todos los efectos de COVID-19. La Navidad viene en medio de alegrías y ansiedades, esperanzas y preocupaciones, no desemejante de esa primera Navidad. No tenemos que temer como el Ángel dijo a los pastores. El Salvador está aquí y viene a no abandonarnos, sino a levantarnos.

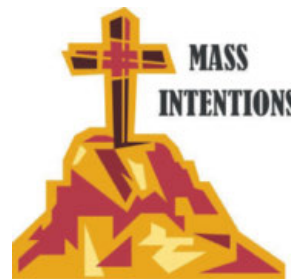
¡Feliz Navidad!



4 SIMPLE WAYS TO LIVE UP CHRISTMAS

- GIVE AT LEAST ONE SPIRITUAL GIFT**
 Give a spiritual gift (e.g. a book) to someone who needs it.
- LEAVE THE DECORATIONS UP UNTIL THE 10TH**
 Christmas time doesn't end until January 10th, Feast of the Baptism of the Lord.
- ATTEND CHRISTMAS MASS**
 Go to Mass to celebrate the Birth of our Lord! Invite your family to come as well.
- PRAY THE CHRISTMAS NOVENA**
 It's a simple and beautiful way to prepare our hearts. Invite your family and friends to pray as well.

CatholicLink



We only have a few more intentions for Holy Mass available from January–June 2022. Stop by the Parish Office during regular business hours to complete an intention envelope.



Catholic New Year's RESOLUTIONS

1. Make more time for spiritual reading
2. Pray the rosary
3. Do more acts of service
4. Share your Catholic faith with others
5. Receive the Sacrament of Penance regularly

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 THE FREE CATHOLIC PRAYER APP

Download on the **App Store** or Get it on **Google Play**

An offering from the **AUGUSTINE INSTITUTE**

December 26, 2021

Written by
THE
FAITHFUL
DISCIPLE

Feast of the Holy Family

Sir 3:2-6, 12-14 | Col 3:12-21 or 3:12-17 | Lk 2:41-52

GROW AS A DISCIPLE | PRAY, STUDY, ENGAGE, SERVE

Some of my fondest childhood memories are of my dad leading my three sisters and me in song as we made the hour-long drive to visit my grandparents every other weekend. Granted, our silly car songs don't qualify as "singing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs," as Paul advised the Colossians, but I do think they reveal that my dad took to heart Paul's advice about family and faith. Paul writes that in putting on holiness, kindness, gentleness, and forgiving one another, we "put on love, that is, the bond of perfection." Whatever we do, in word or deed, we ought to do in the name of the Lord Jesus. Fathers, mothers, and children are to love one another, seeking and choosing the good for one another, and helping each other along life's journey - on long car trips as well as in a lifetime of situations. On this feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph, we honor their perfect holiness and love, and pray that God may continue to perfect us in holiness and love within our own families, that we may bear good fruit for the Kingdom.

GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

Three Days? Mary and Joseph couldn't find Jesus for three days! Any parent who has had a child missing for a few seconds understands the anxiety Mary and Joseph experienced in three long days of searching for Jesus. In the end, though, all is well - they find him, and the peace of Christ casts out their fears. It is a remarkable scene: Jesus' parents are *astonished* to see him teaching in the temple, and Jesus is curious as to why they were looking for him - did they not know where he would be? This event marks a sort of milestone in their lives together, as Jesus has hinted at his future public ministry, and his parents have experienced that first bit of soul-piercing that Mary will later fully undergo. For each of them, love is what directed their actions. Joseph and Mary put aside everything to search for their son; Jesus put aside everything to serve his Father; and they joined together in humble obedience to God's will for them. The Holy Family models a way of living for us to imitate, and to witness to others in that imitation.

SERVE/STUDY Perhaps you have some down time in this coming week between Christmas and New Year's. As a family, choose an activity that allows you to think outside yourselves and serve others. Or make a plan to read the Scripture for each day of the upcoming week; everyone can choose a favorite verse to memorize each day. You may be surprised how often these verses enter your mind throughout the week.





"A Mass of Remembrance"
honoring the birthday of
Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

January 16, 2022
3:00 pm
Co-Cathedral of the Sacred Heart



MARRIAGE INFORMATION SESSIONS are held on the
First Monday of the month, via Zoom, at 7:00 pm.

For more info and to register, please contact
Deacon Cuong Nyugen at
cuong.nyugen@holymfamilychurch.us or by calling
(281) 499-9688 x314.

Texas Rally for Life
Saturday, January 22, 2022
Austin, TX

Buses depart from
St. Dominic Center, 9am
March & Rally in Austin, 1-3pm

Reserve your spot today!
<https://event.me/kkXL2Z>

THE ARCHDIOCESE OF
GALVESTON-HOUSTON



**Could You Not Spend
One Hour With Me?**

As we return to 12-hour Eucharistic Adoration in 2022,
we continue to seek Adorers. Would you be willing to spend
one hour with the Lord? Let us know at:
information@holymfamilychurch.us

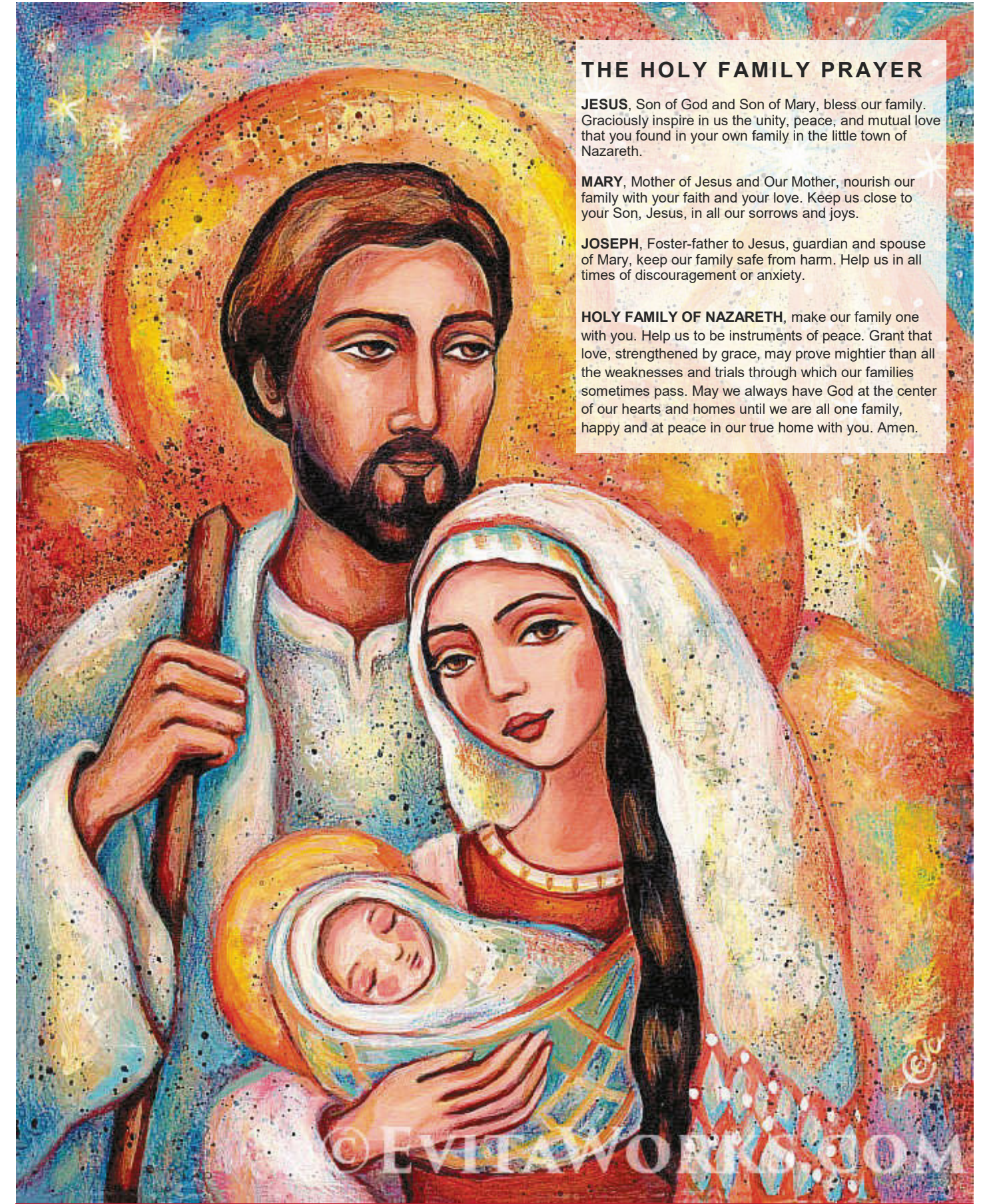
Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give
thanks in all circumstances; for this is the
will of God in Christ Jesus for you.

1 THESSALONIANS 5:16-18

Bible Study Tools

Pushpay

Giving online is easier than ever!
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THE HOLY FAMILY PRAYER

JESUS, Son of God and Son of Mary, bless our family. Graciously inspire in us the unity, peace, and mutual love that you found in your own family in the little town of Nazareth.

MARY, Mother of Jesus and Our Mother, nourish our family with your faith and your love. Keep us close to your Son, Jesus, in all our sorrows and joys.

JOSEPH, Foster-father to Jesus, guardian and spouse of Mary, keep our family safe from harm. Help us in all times of discouragement or anxiety.

HOLY FAMILY OF NAZARETH, make our family one with you. Help us to be instruments of peace. Grant that love, strengthened by grace, may prove mightier than all the weaknesses and trials through which our families sometimes pass. May we always have God at the center of our hearts and homes until we are all one family, happy and at peace in our true home with you. Amen.

FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY: Sunday, December 26th