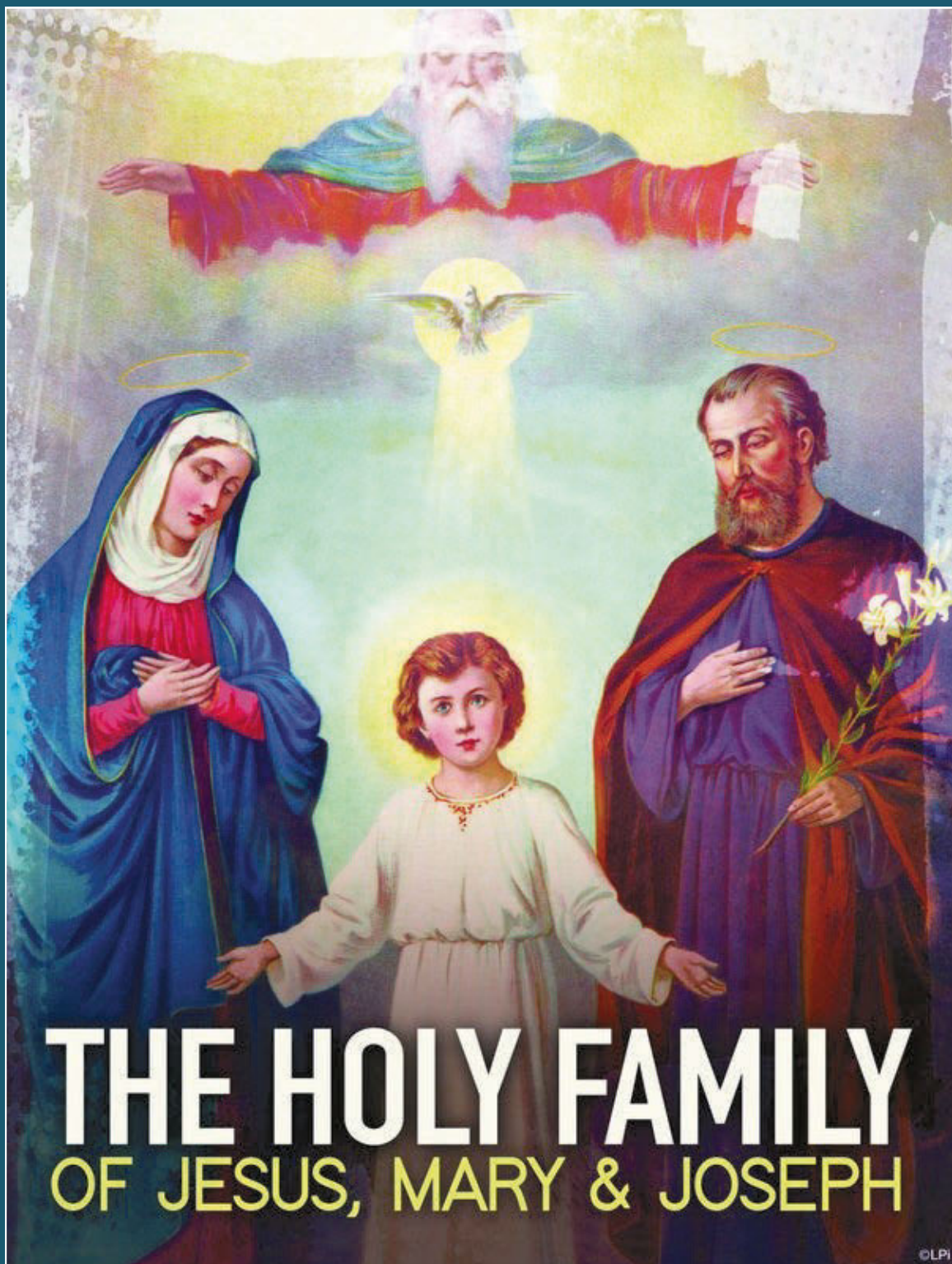


Holy Rosary Catholic Church

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DECEMBER 26, 2021

THE HOLY FAMILY

SUNDAY'S READINGS

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)

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

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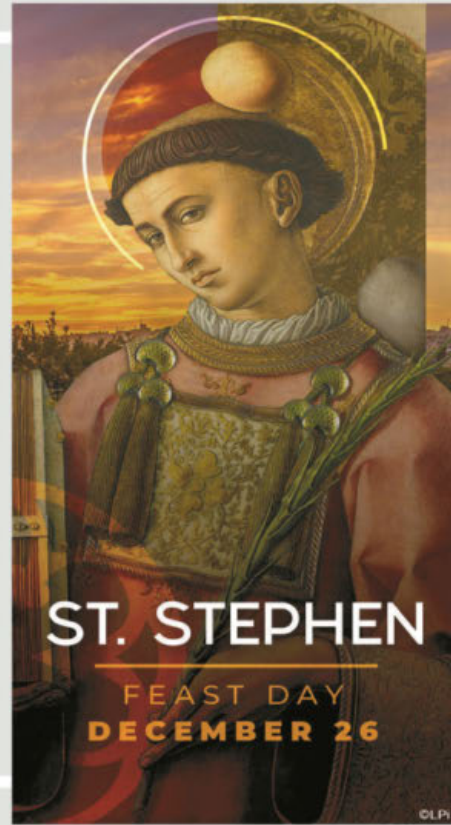
OBSERVANCES FOR THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 26, 2021

- 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



THE HOLY FAMILY

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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.

The Journey of Faith with THE Holy Family

Family is important. Family is that place where the love of God can and should become real for us as we encounter and become God's presence to one another, as we delight in His goodness and many blessings, and as we share in the life and communion of the Trinity. Family is the place where we as individuals become holier; where we choose each day to love God first and others before ourselves. This doesn't just happen on its own, though. Love is a choice—and in families, it is something that must be chosen over and over and over again. Jesus laments the division that will exist within families because of Him—father set against sons and so forth, as some choose to authentically follow Him, and others don't. The Holy Family was only such because each sought the Lord, and together they sought the Lord. And our families can be holy as well—living more and more in the love of God.

Family Prayer

We should always have our individual prayer life. Couples should pray together, placing Christ at the center of their relationship as they ask Him to teach them the way of love. Families should also pray together, truly turning the Lord together and acclaiming Him as King. Families do all sorts of things together. Should not prayer be first and foremost if they want to be in Heaven together?

Family Worship

A few weeks ago, I was talking with my brother about the number of basketball games and practices they have to get kids to each week. It was a crazy number between three nephews and a niece. But they make it work. We make things work that are important to us. If it is true for work, school, leisure, and recreation, how much more so should it be true of our worship?

Heaven is unity with one another in and through unity with God in His presence. Sunday Mass is a foretaste. If a family wants to be together in Heaven, they should begin here and now—in God's presence, to praise and thank Him with the community, and be fed on the Eucharist.

Family Meals

So many find themselves going in so many directions, and they don't spend enough time authentically together. Sitting down together. Literally facing one another. No distractions—no tv, no cell phones. Just each other, and yes, food.

And maybe company. I always enjoy visiting people, joining them for dinner, blessing the house, playing a game, etc.

Invite me over sometime. Meal time can be crazy with littler ones. That is true with my family, too. Its okay. It is beautiful in its own way. Togetherness in real and tangible ways is important.

Family Mission

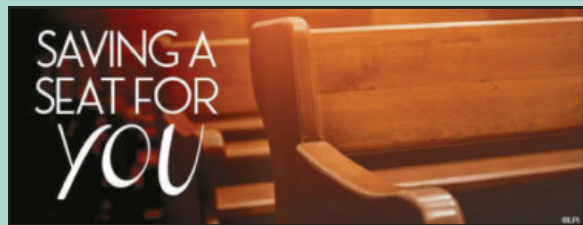
These things are a part of an identity and vision. Its good to be mindful of that, to name it. Maybe even adopt St. Paul's words today as your own plan for family life:

Put on, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, heartfelt compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience, bearing with one another and forgiving one another, if one has a grievance against another; as the Lord has forgiven you, so must you also do. And over all these put on love, that is, the bond of perfection. *Colossians 3:12-14*

As we celebrate the feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph, St. Paul gives us a path of how to live a holy life ourself—a life as the beloved of God. What a beautiful vision of life! How might you as an individual, and as a family, more fully embrace life in Christ?



LITURGY SCHEDULE



Archbishop Etienne has reinstated the general obligation to attend Mass on Sundays and holy days of as of December 8, 2021, the Feast of the Immaculate Conception of Mary. If you've been away from Mass during the pandemic, we invite you to come back to receive the Eucharist, rebuild community life and renew your commitment to Sunday Mass. More information can be found at archseattle.org.

If are unable to join us at Mass, there are exceptions to this such as:

- Having underlying conditions, pregnancy, or considered to be in a high-risk category.
- Exhibiting flu-like symptoms.
- Possibly being asymptomatic of a contagious illness (being in close contact with someone who tested positive for a contagious illness such as COVID or influenza, for example).
- Caring for the sick, homebound or infirmed.
- Being 65 years of age or older (per the Centers for Disease Control's recommendation for high-risk individuals).
- Being unable to attend Mass through no fault of your own (i.e. no Mass is offered; you are infirm; or, while wanting to go, you are prevented for some reason you cannot control, such as your ride did not show up).
- Receiving a dispensation from the pastor directly.

Liturgy Schedule for December 2021 and January 2022

December 26, Sunday -

Feast of Holy Family

Masses at 8:30, 10:30am

December 27-30 - Church closed.

No daily Masses. No Tuesday confessions.

December 31, Friday - Vigil of Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God

Vigil Mass at 5pm

January 1, Saturday -

Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God

Mass at 9am

(No Saturday Vigil Mass for Epiphany on New Year's Day. No Saturday confessions.)

January 2, Sunday, - Feast of Epiphany

Masses at 8:30, 10:30am

Livestreams & videos at vimeo.com/holyrosary

Therefore, if anyone is in
Christ, he is a new
creation. The old has
passed away; behold, the
new has come.

—2 Cor 5:17 (ESV)

May God's peace be upon
you and remain with you
throughout the year.

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

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?

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.



OUR PARISH COMMUNITY

Before Covid, we traditionally had exposition of the Blessed Sacrament on First Fridays. We hope to restore this monthly sacred

**EUCCHARISTIC
ADORATION
RETURNS | 2022**



tradition on the first Fridays of the month throughout 2022 and beyond. Because the exposed Blessed Sacrament in the monstrance on the altar must never be left alone, it is essential that we have committed persons to cover the hours after Mass (9:30 am - 4:30 pm) until Benediction at 4 pm.

A minimum of two persons per hour are necessary for safety reasons and to ensure coverage. Hopefully, more than two persons per hour will come to spend time with the Lord Jesus Who longs to bless us with His love, mercy and grace.

Ideally, it would be helpful if individual persons volunteered to participate at the same time on each first Friday of the months throughout the year. For example, a person would commit to 10:30 am until 11:30 am each first Friday for the entire year.

The practice of Eucharistic Adoration is a source of many blessings and graces, not only for the persons who spend time with the Lord, but for the parish, the neighborhood, the Church and the world.

I have volunteered to be in charge of scheduling so that the Blessed Sacrament is never left alone while exposed on the altar. If you have any questions or wish to reserve a certain hour for your personal prayer time either for January 7th or for certain months or for all of the 12 months of 2022, please contact me by email or phone, or in person if you see me at church or around the neighborhood.

Connie King

mc42king@comcast.net

206 708-4291 (cell) | 206 938-3859 (home)

GIVING TREE UPDATE

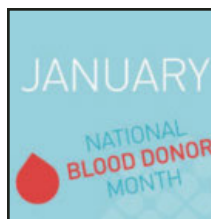
Because of our generous community's steadfast commitment to our brothers and sisters in need, Holy Rosary Parish was able to deliver over 350 Target gift cards to St.



Vincent de Paul and Catholic Immigration Legal Services for a grand total of over \$9,000. Not only that, but we also delivered more than 225 pairs of new socks to families in need. We could not do it without you.

THANK YOU, EVERYONE!

January is Blood Donor Awareness Month



To create awareness and to help ensure an ample blood supply for our community, Holy Rosary School is running a two week blood donation campaign with Bloodworks Northwest.

About the campaign: Give blood by visiting any Bloodworks Northwest Donor Center or temporary pop-up Donor Center located near you between Mon, Jan 3 and Mon, Jan 17.

Upon arrival, register to give blood under donor code "HRS". Please provide this code so the blood center can track our impact! Help us reach a goal of at least 30 donations over the two-week time frame!

Appointments are required.

Make your appointment between Jan 3 - 17 by scanning the QR codes below with your phone. For help booking an appointment, email schedule@bloodworksnw.org or call 800-398-7888. For more info, visit www.Bloodworksnw.org.



Use your smart phone camera or QR app to scan code to make an appt.



Online Giving

Thank you to those who already give online. If you wish to support our ongoing labors, please visit <http://www.osvhub.com/holyrosaryseattle>

By Mail

You can use the business envelope included in your monthly envelope packets, or mail to:

Holy Rosary Church
4139 42nd Ave SW
Seattle, WA 98116

Drop Off

Please use the south parish door mail slot when dropping off checks and/or envelopes.

Thank you for continuing to support us in carrying out the mission of Christ.

Holy Rosary Parish Staff

Main Line: 206-937-1488. Enter extension listed below.

PASTOR: Very Reverend Matthew Oakland
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CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES—1st Sacraments, Children: Sister Stella
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SCHOOL PRINCIPAL: Anna Horton
ahorton@holyrosaryws.org | ext. 218

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL: ext. 300
Fr. Oakland is available for indoor or outdoor meetings, homebound visits, and the Sacraments by appointment. Please call 206-937-1488 ext 200 or email Melissa @ MTuthill@holyrosaryseattle.org to schedule.



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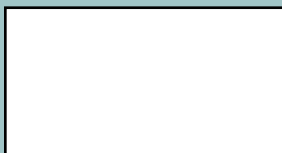
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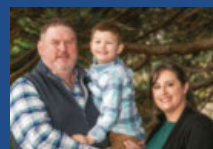

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