

DECEMBER 26, 2021 | FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY & JOSEPH

MASS SCHEDULES

Saturday Anticipated Mass | 4:30 p.m. Sunday Mass | 9:30 a.m. - Mass will be Live Streamed

Daily: Tuesday – Friday | 8:00 a.m. - Tuesday and Thursday Mass will be Live Streamed

SACRAMENTS

Marriage: Six month notification required Baptism: By appointment

Confession: Available the Second & Fourth Weekends each month. Saturday: After 4:30 p.m. Mass Sunday: After 9:30 a.m. Mass

> Pastoral Emergencies: Contact Father Bandura, Pastor 724-552-2535

PARISH OFFICE & STAFF

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Rectory & Office: (724) 668-2829 www.stjamesnewalexandria.org

Bulletin Deadline: Monday | 4:00 p.m.

Public Office Hours

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Thursday - 11:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. Friday - Office Closed



Feast of the Holy Family, Jesus, Mary and Joseph

A PARISH OF THE

DIOCESE OF

GREENSBURG

PREPARE YOUR HEART FOR MASS

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 62/00, 1998, 7970.CCD. The English translation of Pealm Responses from Lectionary for Mass @ 1969, 1981, 1997, International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved.

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

MEDITATIONS AFTER HOLY COMMUNION FOR THE FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY, JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH

Use your imagination or look at the nativity scene at your parish and allow that to enlighten your imagination. Picture the scene: Mary and Joseph there, the shepherds and the Magi, all of these Christmas figures adoring Christ the Lord. Can you simply sit there and adore the Christ Child with His mother, His foster father, and the other onlookers? In your imagination, ask Mary if you can hold the Christ Child.

"Thank you, Lord for being born in Bethlehem for us. By becoming the Word made flesh, You began Your work or redemption. Thank you for the gift of the Eucharist and for allowing me to be a little Bethlehem."



"Christmas is a ray of light for all, because it reveals to us God's love and makes us feel the presence of Jesus with everyone, especially with those who are suffering. Just for this reason Jesus willed to be born in poverty and in the abandonment of a cave and to be laid in a manger."

~ Pope John Paul II, Address to young people, 1978 ~

THE HOLY FAMILY

FROM THE DESK OF OUR PASTOR PAGE 3

My first Christmas!

This is my first Christmas celebration with you, the Saint James community, and my first Christmas as a pastor. The past four years, during my time as Episcopal Master of Ceremonies for Bishop Malesic, not being assigned to a parish, I served as Father *"Fill In"* for Christmas. If a priest became ill at the last minute, I was called to cover their Masses. It always made for an interesting Christmas, not knowing which parish I would be called to cover. This year, I am delighted to know exactly where I will be, and that is with you, my parish family, as we begin this Christmas season. Please remember that today is only the second day in the Octave of Christmas. Christmas is one of the two solemnities in the Church designated as an octave celebration. Therefore, for the next eight days, until the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God, live as if it is Christmas Day. That's right, continue singing Christmas songs, listening to Christmas music, eating Christmas cookies, gathering with family and friends, and lighting up your Christmas tree and lights around the house. What God has done for us on Christmas day is too important to celebrate for just one day. Without the birth of our Savior, our future would look very bleak, and in fact, hopeless.

Welcome Guests

I want to offer a special welcome to all guests with us for Christmas and the Feast of the Holy Family. You are most welcome here at Saint James Parish. We are glad you can be here to visit with family and friends, and most importantly, join us for the sacred celebration of Mass. Enjoy your time here, and safe travels home.

Thank you!

We all know that preparing for any celebration takes time, and Christmas is no exception. I want to offer my personal gratitude to all those who have assisted the Saint James Parish in preparation for the Christmas Season. A particular word of appreciation to Mrs. Nance Disciascio and her many volunteers who prepared the environment of the church and the sanctuary for our liturgical celebrations. Thank you to Ms. Bridget Widdowson who coordinates our liturgical ministers (lectors, servers, ushers, greeters and eucharistic ministers). Also, in a particular way, to Mrs. Roxanne Rouse for your work in coordinating the liturgical music with choir members, cantors and instrumentalists.

The outside of the church provides a festival welcome due to the hard work of the Holy Name Society members. I am grateful for their time in decorating.

Thank you to the Rosary Altar Society members for sponsoring the Christmas gifts to our homebound parishioners and for you continued support in so many ways.

Finally, I must offer my gratitude to the staff of Saint James Parish for their ongoing work and dedication in supporting me in my ministry and the ministry of the Church. Their unique gifts and talents offered in such humble ways make things run so smoothly.

Please know of my prayers for you and your family as we continue this beautiful celebration of the birth of our Savior. May the Christ child bring us hope and strength.

In Prayer,

Father Bandura

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SAINT JAMES NEWS MASS SCHEDULE

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 25, 2021 | ANTICIPATED MASS - THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY & JOSEPH 9:30 p.m. [†] For Homebound & ill SUNDAY, DECEMBER 26, 2021 | THE FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY & JOSEPH 9:30 a.m. † George Pastor (Wife, Catherine & Family) MONDAY, DECEMBER 27, 2021 | SAINT JOHN, APOSTLE & EVANGELIST - NO MORNING MASS TUESDAY, DECEMBER 28, 2021 | THE HOLY INNOCENTS, MARTYRS 8:00 a.m. [†] Larry & Pat Beck (Betty Nemchik & Family) WEDNESDAY, DECEMBERR 29, 2021 | FIFTH DAY WITHIN THE OCTAVE OF THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD 8:00 a.m. [†] In Remembrance of the Forish & Hornock Family (Marge Forish) THURSDAY, DECEMBER 30, 2021 | SIXTH DAY WITHIN THE OCTAVE OF THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD 8:00 a.m. [†] Mary Sacriponte (Charles & Nancy McNaughton) FRIDAY, DECEMBER 31, 2021 | SEVENTH DAY WITHIN THE OCTAVE OF THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD 4:30 p.m. [†] Birthday Remembrance for John R. Widdowson (Daughter Bridget & Family) SATURDAY, JANUARY 1, 2021 | SOLEMNITY OF MARY, MOTHER OF GOD 9:30 a.m. † Thomas & Anna Simunich (Ray & Anna Marie Mowery) SATURDAY, JANUARY 1, 2021 | ANTICIPATED MASS OF THE SOLEMNITY OF THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD 4:30 p.m. [†] Gary L. Stivason (Mark & Laura Nalevanko) SUNDAY, JANUARY 2, 2021 | SOLEMNITY OF THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD 9:30 a.m. [†] For the People

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.

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JANUARY 2022 EVENT



9:30 AM Mass 10:30 AM Gather in the Social Hall 10:45 AM Teaching on Epiphany 11:45 AM Lunch

An Intergenerational Gathering

Adults, teens, and children of all ages join us and break into groups to learn about Epiphany

Jan.



Visit our website or complete the attached registration form by January 2



COME TO THE FEAST REGISTRATION FORM

Register by **Sunday**, **January 2**, **2022** either by completing this form and returning in the offertory basket or you can also register on-line on our website: <u>www.stjamesnewalexandria.org</u>.

Name:				
Number of Adults Attending: Number of Children Attending:				
Telephone Number:	Email Address:			
	Catered food will be provided for the Intergenerational lunch.			

NEW YEAR'S MASSES

New Year's Mass Schedule

Solemnity of Mary Mother of God

Vigil Mass: Friday, December 31st at 4:30 p.m. Saturday, January 1st at 9:30 a.m.

Solemnity of Epiphany of the Lord

Vigil Mass: Saturday, January 1st at 4:30 p.m. Sunday, January 2nd at 9:30 a.m.

Epiphany - "Come to the Feast" Our Next Intergenerational Event

Sunday, January 9th, 2022 beginning with 9:30 a.m. Mass

ROSARY ALTAR SOCIETY NEWS STOCKING STUFFER TICKET

We are pleased to report that all tickets have been sold. Thank you to all those that sold and purchased our annual Christmas ticket. Please remember to return all money and stubs for the stocking stuffer tickets at the Parish Office by *Monday, December 27, 2021 but no later than Wednesday, December 29, 2021.* The drawing will begin on *January 1, 2022* and we would like to have everything turned into the Parish Office before the first number is drawn. Thank you!

SOUP SALE - SATURDAY JANUARY 8, 2022

The Rosary Altar Society Members are having their January Soup Sale - *please note: Hours of pickup have been changed from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. in the Social Hall.*

Chili :_______ # of quarts - \$10.00 Quart Minestrone :______ # of quarts - \$10.00 Quart



Name: _

Telephone Number: ____

Soup Order Deadline: **Wednesday, January 5, 2022** via our website or completing this form and submitting to the Parish Office.

SAINT JAMES NEWS



PARISH OFFICE CLOSED

In commemoration of the Christmas and New Year's Holidays, the parish office will be closed at **12:00 p.m.** on **Thursday, December 23rd through Monday, December 27th, 2021**. The office will reopen at **9:00 a.m. Tuesday, December 28th, 2021**. The office will also be closed on **Friday, December 31st.**

On behalf of Father Bandura and the staff of Saint James Parish, we wish everyone a very blessed Christmas and a very Happy New Year!

CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 26TH DURING 9:30 A.M. MASS "Let the little children come to me."

Matthew 19:14



Join us for our Donut Social after Mass in the Parish Social Hall on Sunday, December 26th at 10:30 a.m.

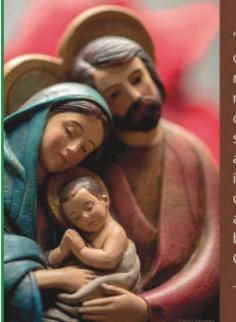
THANK YOU

I would like to thank everyone for their prayers, cards and well wishes during my sickness and recovery this year.

Grateful, Mrs. Patty Jack

THE FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY OFJESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH

DECEMBER 26, 2021



"Holy Family of Nazareth, make us once more mindful of the sacredness and inviolability of the family and its beauty in God's plan."

-Amoris Laetitia, 325

We celebrate the Feast of the Holy Family on the first Sunday after Christmas!

This feast day is a reminder to us of the example Mary and Joseph set for all of us in welcoming Jesus into their lives. The Holy Family serves as a model for us all in which to live in faith and simplicity.



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Prayer for Family Commitment

Dear God our Father, you have called all Christian families to be a sign of your love to the world.

Help us to be generous with the gifts of life and love that you have showered on our family. Maywe share them so that our homes become true signs of unitive and fruitful love.

Let us never forget to thank you each day for all that sustains us and to look to Christ, who comesto us in the events of family life, in the sacraments of the Church, and in service to the poor.

In all of this, our family becomes a living expression of your Church, a hallowed home of life and love. By the power of the Holy Spirit, may all of us—spouses, parents, and children—share, as members of his Body, in Jesus' mission to build a civilization of love. Father, we ask this in Jesus' name in union with the Holy Spirit. Amen.



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CORNER

BY: MRS. CATYLN BAILEY, DIRECTOR OF RELIGIOUS FORMATION EMAIL: <u>CBAILEY@DIOCESEOFGREENSBURG.ORG</u>



Feast of the Holy Family

The Sunday after Christmas is always the feast of the Holy Family. This year, it falls on December 26th. This is a great time to reflect on the Holy Family and how it relates to each of our families. Many times I have pondered this and often times feel defeated in that the Holy Family was just so perfect and it just isn't obtainable for MY FAMILY. However, in my most recent reflection about the Holy Family, I think it boils down to just saying yes! Listening to what God is calling us to do in the small everyday moments of our family and saying yes. During this season of Christmas, take some time as a family and listen to the voice of God and be ready to say yes to whatever he is calling you to. Happy Feast of the Holy Family, do something together to celebrate!

Spiritual New Year Resolution

The new calendar year is right around the corner. As you're thinking of resolutions this new year don't forget about ways to renew your spiritual life. Here are just a few ideas:

- Pray a rosary daily or weekly. Go to confession once a month (2nd or 4th Sundays after mass).
- Spend time before the blessed sacrament (look for Eucharistic Adoration each month in the bulletin).
- Read a spiritual book (visit Ascension Press or Sophia Institute Press suggestions).

NEW YEAR PRAYER:

Thank You Lord for giving me The brand new year ahead. Help me live the way I should As each new day I tread. Give me gentle wisdom. That I might help a friend, Give me strength and courage So a shoulder I might lend. The year ahead is empty, Help me fill it with good things Each new day filled with joy And happiness it brings. Amen.

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STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE

COLLECTION REPORT DECEMBER 12 & 13, 2021

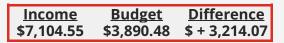
Total:	\$7,131.55
Oplatki:	\$35.00
Donations:	\$1,300.00
Advent:	\$320.00
Immaculate Conception:	\$510.00
Catholic Accent:	\$27.00
Flowers:	\$1,067.00
Christmas:	\$310.00
Candles:	\$316.55
Second Week 12/21 EFT:	\$555.00
Fuel & Maintenance:	\$100.00
Offertory Loose:	\$307.00
Adult Envelopes:	\$2,284.00

73 Adult Envelopes

31 % out of **237** who choose to use regular Sunday envelopes

Immaculate Conception Envelopes: 30

Christmas Envelopes: 8





MASS ATTENDANCE

Due to the early bulletin deadline, Mass attendance for the weekend of December 18th and 19th will be included in next weekend's bulletin.



<u>Friday, December 31, 2021</u>

4:30 p.m. Lector - Jane Strittmatter

<u>Saturday, January 1, 2021</u>

<u>9:30 a.m.</u> Lector - Bridget Widdowson

> <u>4:30 p.m.</u> Lector - Nicole Wells

Sunday, January 2, 2021

<u>9:30 a.m.</u> Lector - Greta Gump Eucharistic Minister - Nancy McNaughton

THE SANCTUARY LAMP

The Sanctuary Lamp acknowledging the Real Presence of Christ in the tabernacle is burning during the month of:

January 2022

In Memory of:

Mr. George Pastor, Mr. George Dickerson, Mr. & Mrs. Ronnie & Peggy Hamlin and Mr. & Mrs. Raymond & Marie McNaughton

Requested By: Dave & Georgette McNaughton



Prose consider a gift His Christman in the Children and Family Services Appent, the account collection at al Masses December 34 and 35.

SECOND COLLECTION NEXT WEEKEND

Every year the second collection at all Christmas Masses has been the Children and Family Services Appeal, for less fortunate people living within our Diocese. At Christmas, which reminds us of the gift of God's own Son, Jesus Christ given to each of us without question of our merit or eligibility, you are asked to support the Children and Family Services Appeal and help to change the future of an individual, family or child through the good work of Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Greensburg.



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Virtual Bible Studies to Start in January

Two new virtual Bible studies will be offered over the Zoom platform beginning January 4th. *"The Acts of the Apostles"* will be held Tuesdays from 6:30-8:00 p.m. and *"Samuel 1 and 2"* will be held Fridays from 9:30-10:45 a.m. There is no cost, but registration and a workbook are required. The studies are offered through Journeys Online Spiritual Ministry. For more information or to register, contact Molli Vassar at 724-366-9552 or **molli.vassar@gmail.com**.

<u>Vendor Fair</u>

January 8th at Saint James Parish, Apollo

A vendors' fair will be held **Saturday, January 8th, from 9:00 a.m.-2:00** p.m. in the Saint James Parish Center, Apollo. All vendors are needed. Cost is \$15.00 per table (\$20.00 with electric). For information, call Linda at 724-882-8776.

Rummage Sale

January 8 at Our Lady, Queen of Peace Parish, East Vandergrift

A rummage sale will be held **Saturday, January 8th, from 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. and Sunday, January 9th, from noon-1:00 p.m.** at Our Lady, Queen of Peace Church, East Vandergrift. Many new items will be available, and Christmas items will be 50% off.

Blood Drives Set Around Diocese

The American Red Cross continues to experience an emergency blood and platelet shortage. All blood types, especially type O, are needed. Locally, the following blood drives are planned (donors are asked to make an appointment by using the Red Cross Blood Donor App, visiting **RedCrossBlood.org** or calling 1-800-RED CROSS):

Indiana County

Dec. 27: Trinity United Methodist Church, Indiana, 1:00-6:30 p.m.

Dec. 28: Cherryhill Township Volunteer Fire Department, 1:30-6:00 p.m.

Dec. 29: Church of the Nazarene, Homer City, 12:30-6:00 p.m.

Dec. 30: Indiana Mall, 9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.

Westmoreland County

Dec. 27: American Legion Post 515, Latrobe, noon-5:30 p.m.

Dec. 29: Greensburg Blood Donation Center, noon-6:00 p.m.



Dear God, rest your hands on recovery efforts in the Kentucky communities. Let all people find relief and healing in you. Amen.

