



... put on love ...
Holy Family

Living in the world today as disciples of Jesus the Christ

saint **John Fisher** chapel
UNIVERSITY PARISH

December 27, 2020

Calendar

December 26, 2020 - January 3, 2021

Saturday, December 26

- 6:15am ● Manna Soup Kitchen
- 9:00am ● Mass
- 4:30pm ● Reconciliation
- 5:30pm ● Mass

Sunday, December 27

- 10:00am ● Mass - Feast of the Holy Family
- 6:00pm ● Mass - Feast of the Holy Family

Monday, December 28

- 12:15pm ● Mass

Tuesday, December 29

- 12:15pm ● Mass

Wednesday, December 30

- 12:15pm ● Mass

Thursday, December 31

- Parish Offices Closed
- 6:00pm ● Reconciliation
- 6:00pm ● Eucharistic Adoration
- 7:15pm ● Mass - Solemnity of Mary

Friday, January 1

- 12:15pm ● Mass - Solemnity of Mary

Saturday, January 2

- 8:30am ● Reconciliation
- 9:00am ● Mass
- 4:30pm ● Reconciliation
- 5:30pm ● Mass

Sunday, January 3

- 10:00am ● Mass - The Epiphany
- 6:00pm ● Mass - The Epiphany

Readings for the week of December 27

Sunday: Sir 3:2-6, 12-14 or Gn 15:1-6; 21:1-3/Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5 [cf. 1] or Ps 105:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9 [7a, 8a]/Col 3:12-21 or 3:12-17 or Heb 11:8, 11-12, 17-19/Lk 2:22-40 or 2:22, 39-40 ● **Monday:** 1 Jn 1:5—2:2/Ps 124:2-3, 4-5, 7b-8 [7]/Mt 2:13-18
● **Tuesday:** 1 Jn 2:3-11/Ps 96:1-2a, 2b-3, 5b-6 [11a]/Lk 2:22-35 ● **Wednesday:** 1 Jn 2:12-17/Ps 96:7-8a, 8b-9, 10 [11a]/Lk 2:36-40 ● **Thursday:** 1 Jn 2:18-21/Ps 96:1-2, 11-12, 13 [11a]/Jn 1:1-18
● **Friday:** Nm 6:22-27/Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8 [2a]/Gal 4:4-7/Lk 2:16-21 ● **Saturday:** 1 Jn 2:22-28/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4 [3cd]/Jn 1:19-28 ● **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

OR

Please access the following link from the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops website to view the readings for each day:
<https://bible.usccb.org/bible/readings>

Offertory 12-13-2020 YTD Total: 111,765,

short (51,802) Please find more detailed information in “Offertory Collections.”

Due to the bulletin submission accelerated schedule, the offertory report for December 20 will appear in the January 3 bulletin.

Holy Family - Sunday, December 27

A meditation based on Colossians 3:12-21

Put on love. (Colossians 3:14)

Everyone knows that family life is a combination of happiness and sadness, with a lot of the ordinary in between. But what about the Holy Family? Surely there was nothing but peace and happiness?

Not really. Life wasn't always a bed of roses for them. Remember Joseph's initial plan to divorce Mary to protect her from shame when her pregnancy was discovered (Matthew 1:19)? Or Mary having to give birth in a stable (Luke 2:1-7)? Or what about Mary and Joseph losing track of their son on the way home from Jerusalem (2:44)? They also had to deal with Herod's murderous rage, a secret flight to Egypt, resettlement in Nazareth, and Joseph's early death. All of these occasions, and more besides, could have filled them with anxious, fearful thoughts. In similar circumstances, we certainly would have felt tempted to wish for an easier life.

But whatever Mary and Joseph and Jesus thought about their struggles, one thing is clear. They never gave up. In their faithfulness and trust - and even more so, in their commitment to love one another - they show us how to weather the storms of life.

Love. That's what makes a holy family. Not the sentimental love of songs and movies but the strong, relentless, stubborn love of God. The divine love that the Spirit pours into our hearts (Romans 5:5). The selfless love that bears all things, hopes all things, and forgives all things. The pure love of a God who became one of us and died to save us.

No family has a perfect life. Every family faces hardships of one sort or another. But every family also has a heavenly Father who loves them and delights in teaching them how to love each other. So on this feast of the Holy Family, let's pray for our families, and for every family on earth. May we all learn to "put on love" (Colossians 3:14)!

Pray... "Father, pour out your merciful, healing love on every family today."

- Taken from [Five Minutes with the Word Advent 2020](#), *The Word Among Us* publication.



what's coming? events, programs, classes ...

Tuesdays and Thursdays

Front Office days and hours open have changed

To navigate in these tough times, the front office has had to fluctuate in whether it opens or not and also the length of time it stays open.

Due to the pandemic, the front office has been closed for weeks. Unless an extension was added to the current state restrictions ending date, the front office was opened as of December 22.

To help navigate our financial situation, office days and hours have been cut. The office will be open on Tuesdays and Thursdays and be closed on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. For now, office hours will be from 9am to noon. At times it will be open longer but the starting time will be the same, 9am. **Masses WILL continue at the regularly scheduled times.** If you need to drop off your offertory or other letter sized documents, and the front office is closed, please use the black mailboxes bolted to the wall next to the coat room or the mailbox bolted on the outside brick post near the East church doors.

Please check the calendar

on our parish website:

www.stjohnfisherparish.org/calendar, for the latest updates.

Please email the frontoffice@sjfcup.com if you have questions.

Ongoing Pledge

Catholic Service Appeal

In his pastoral letter, *Unleash the Gospel*, Archbishop Allen H. Vigneron asks us to make Jesus "known by our word and deed" - timely guidance for the 2020 Catholic Services Appeal.

The CSA gives us an opportunity to live out our discipleship in Christ through the many benefits our annual appeal provides. These ministries, programs, and services meet the spiritual and physical needs of parishes and countless people throughout the Archdiocese. Our support demonstrates our own Catholic faith as we strive to grow in our love of Jesus as His missionary disciples.

When we embrace the CSA for carrying out the Spiritual and Corporal Works of Mercy, we witness Christ, and in turn, we open doors so others may also develop a deeper relationship with Him. We also extend our personal involvement in our local Church

beyond our home parishes.

The CSA enables Archbishop Vigneron, his auxiliary bishops, the clergy, religious men and women, and the lay faithful to carry out Christ's ministry of mercy and love throughout southeast Michigan and beyond - works no one individual or parish could possibly do alone.

St John Fisher Chapel goal is: \$75,945. Please pledge to help support the CSA programs. If you have any questions contact: Lori Rafferty, 248-373-6457, X3109 or busmgr@sjfcup.com

Ongoing Prayer

Help from Mary: A Memorare Prayer Campaign

Help us Pray 1 Memorare for Every \$1 needed

The Objective: To help St. John Fisher Chapel University Parish obtain every Dollar needed to cover our Financial Shortfall.

The Details: Each week pray as many Memorares as you and your family are able/willing. At the end of each week write down your total on the cards placed in the back of church and put it in the box provided.

Holy Cards with the Memorare Prayer are available in the back of church.

did you know?

information, opportunities, notes ...



Thank you!

Hello to all of you this first week of Christmas, when we celebrate the Feast of the Holy Family.

This year has given us some very challenging moments and for many in our community, this Christmas was very difficult. For those who are in struggle, your generosity through our Giving Tree was a ray of light, an ease of burden and a gift of dignity especially for families. For the organizations Rochester Neighborhood House, Catholic Community Response Team and HOPE Warming Center, we as a community have provided a total of \$1925.00 in gift cards

and bus tickets. Indeed we have brought a little joy through your generosity.

Thank you to everyone who contributed to this effort these past few weeks. We are so grateful to have this opportunity to give especially this year when we all are feeling this pandemic more.

Thank you for your continued support, your love and solidarity. Please keep the people and families who received these gifts in your prayers.

May the grace of Christ's birth be born again in your heart. Peace and Blessings through the New Year.

- Drew Peters, Outreach Ministry

Mask Etiquette - Masks Required in the Building

We would like to remind our parishioners that **facial coverings are required** at all times while we worship together, whether it be at weekend or weekday Masses. Facial coverings are also required when just dropping something off, making a donation or stopping in the office. This is for the safety and protection of the Parish and office staff. While it is not always comfortable, it is now an essential part of our wardrobe to keep us healthy during this

time of pandemic. Please wear it up over both your nose and mouth for it to be most protective for yourself and others around you. If you are unable to wear a mask due to health reasons, please wear a face shield.

Hand sanitizers are located at the front of each entrance for your convenience. If you forget your own mask, please notify the priest and he will get one for you. During this time, we trust and appreciate your responsibility for caring for your health and that of others.

Marriage: A Sacrament of Holiness

The Feast of the Holy Family reminds us that, as the basic unit of the universal Church, each family is called to holiness. In fact, Jesus Christ has instituted two Sacraments in His Church to make society holy – the Sacrament of priesthood and the Sacrament of marriage. Through the Sacrament of priesthood, Jesus sanctifies the priest as well as his parish. Similarly, by the Sacrament of marriage, Jesus sanctifies not only the spouses but also the entire family. The husband and wife attain holiness when they discharge their duties

faithfully, trusting in God, and drawing on the presence and power of the Holy Spirit through personal and family prayer, meditative reading of the Bible, and devout participation in Holy Mass. Families become holy when Christ Jesus is present in them. Jesus becomes truly present in the parish Church through the Sacrifice of the Holy Mass. Similarly, Jesus becomes truly present in a family when all the members live in the Christian spirit of sacrifice. This happens when there is mutual understanding, mutual support and mutual respect. There must be proper care and respect given by children to their parents and grandparents, even after they have grown up and left home.

Taken from: "Reflections for the feast of the Holy Family" by Fr. Anthony Kadavil.

<https://www.vaticannews.va/en/church/news/2018-12/sunday-reflections-30-december-2018.html>

In Sympathy

The St. John Fisher Community extends its deepest sympathy and prayers to:

Nancy Brennan and family on the death of her husband and parishioner, **Richard "Dick" Brennan**, who passed away November 19, 2020, in Rochester Hills, MI.

Offertory Collections...

Our Offertory is the primary source of funds for our day-to-day operations. Donations through our Online Giving program are deposited daily. Please contact Lori Rafferty with any questions.

Week ending December 6, 2020:

Envelopes: \$7,677

Electronics: \$1,088

Total: \$8,765

Fiscal Year July 1, 2020 to

June 30, 2021

YTD Offertory Collected: \$111,765

YTD Offertory Budgeted:

\$163,567

Over/(Short) from Budget:

\$(51,802)

Other Collections:

Peter's Pence: \$225

Priests' Pension: \$683

Mission Sunday: \$23

Catholic Charities of SEM: \$77

Retirement for Religious: \$375

Total: \$1,383

Our current year to date offertory shortfall of \$(51,802) is measured against an offertory budget target. This target was established to reflect giving levels during the pandemic, and following leadership changes at the parish. Current parish operations cannot be sustained with this growing deficit! We will be forced to make more operational changes if this level of giving continues.



Following Francis

Let us give thanks for all the good there is in the world, for the many people who dedicate themselves freely, for those who spend their lives in service, to build a more humane and just society. We know: alone we cannot save ourselves.

- Pope Francis



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**St. John Fisher Community
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Parish Finance Council
Chair: TBD

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