



ST. JOAN OF ARC CATHOLIC CHURCH

DECEMBER 27, 2020 | HOLY FAMILY OF JOSEPH, MARY AND JESUS

WELCOME

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Monday-Thursday

9:00 AM-4:00 PM

closed for lunch 12-1:00 PM

MASSES NOW

Saturday: 4:00 PM

Sunday: 8:00 & 11:00 AM

Spanish Mass is at 1:00 PM

DAILY MASS

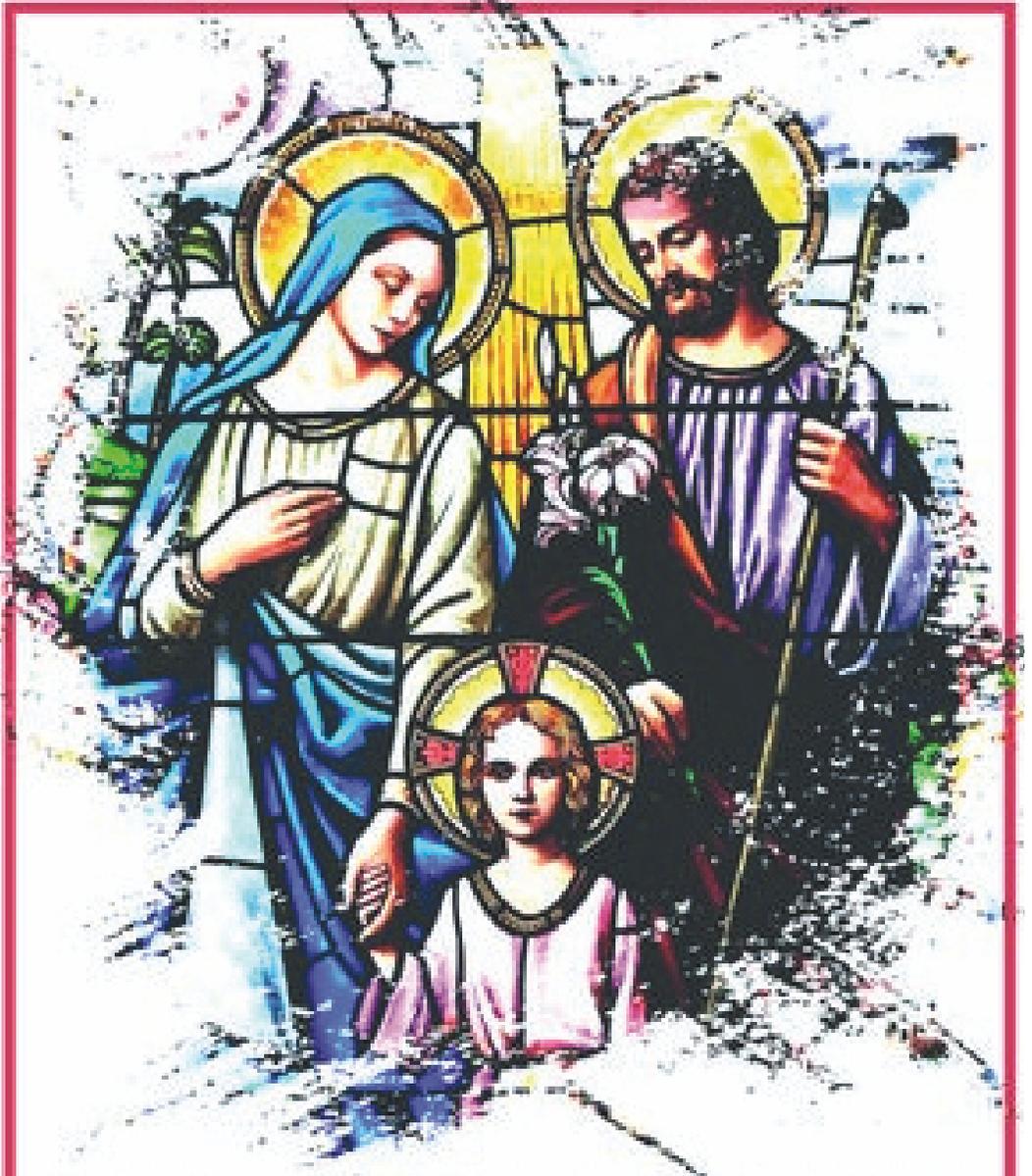
9:00 AM Monday-Saturday

MISSION

The Mission of St. Joan of Arc Parish is to put Jesus first in our lives by seeking to know Him in Scripture, Encountering Him in Prayer, Celebrating His Presence among us in praise and worship and uniting with one another in loving service.

NOTE

WEEKEND MASSES WILL BE CELEBRATED AT THE TIMES LISTED ABOVE UNTIL AT LEAST THE END OF DECEMBER. MASKS ARE REQUIRED. WE WILL ALLOW ONLY 50% CAPACITY FOR EACH MASS AND YOU MUST PRACTICE SOCIAL DISTANCING. THANK YOU. YOU ARE IN OUR PRAYERS.



THE CHILD GREW AND BECAME STRONG, FILLED WITH WISDOM; AND THE FAVOR OF GOD WAS UPON HIM.
—LK 2:40

THE HOLY FAMILY

From the Pastors' Desk

In the first reading from the second Book of Samuel that we read last week, we saw the importance of faith in God. In that reading King David wants to build a nice Temple for the Lord. This is because the dwelling place or Arc of the Covenant for God was just a tent. In that passage, King David tells Nathan, the prophet of God, to intercede for him and ask God for this request. King David wants to thank our Lord for all God has done for him as well as the people of Israel. Nathan does not think that there will be a problem in building a nice home for the Lord. Nathan assumes that there should not be a problem.

However, after Nathan prayed to God that evening, Our Lord had other plans. God told Nathan that He did not want King David to build Him a temple to dwell in. Instead, God will build King David a house. God wants King David to realize that the only reason he became king was because of Our Lord. David could not have done this without God's help. God brought David out of his humble existence as a shepherd boy. David was caring for sheep when God chose him to care for the people of Israel. This was a lesson in humility.

At the same time, as David was leading Israel he had to destroy their enemy. This resulted in the shedding of blood. God did not want His Temple to be built by a warrior. Because David was a person of faith, he accepted God's "no" and God allowed David's son Solomon to build the Temple for God. David's request was good, but God still said no.

God still tells Nathan that David should continue caring for the people instead of trying to take care of God's needs. God will continue to care for David, even to the point of protecting David's line, which will last forever. God calls the shots, not King David. King David realized that accepting God's "no" requires as much faith as carrying out God's yes.

In last week's Gospel, we see the appearance of the Angel Gabriel. The name Gabriel means, "God is my strength". God's strength is made clear in the announcements that Gabriel made. First, before this passage reading, Gabriel appears to Zechariah and tells Zechariah that his wife, who is barren, will give birth to a son who is to be called John. Six months later, Gabriel appears to Mary and tells her that she will give birth to a son and He will be called Jesus. These two announcements by Gabriel are seen as God's plan of salvation. John comes before Jesus to prepare the way of the Lord.

In God's plan of salvation, the lowly are chosen by God in order to humble the mighty. The poor are chosen to bear God's message to the rich, who are stubborn of heart. Both Mary and Elizabeth fit the description of being lowly and poor. Elizabeth is barren and too old to bear a child. Mary is a peasant girl, which puts her on the lower rungs of society. Both women are considered voiceless in their communities. Yet both Mary and Elizabeth are chosen for God's plan of salvation. Through faith, we know that nothing is impossible for God. Salvation depends on free will to accept the goodness of the Lord. God will never force anything on mankind. Like Mary and Elizabeth, we have the freedom to say yes or no.

This type of faith reminds me of Rose Kennedy. She was asked how she survived with all the tragedies in her life. Without hesitation she said that it was her faith. Faith makes a difference in our life. It does not magically take away sorrow, but helps us to walk in union with Jesus who became flesh in the womb of the Blessed Virgin Mary. May we always hold fast to our faith. And forever, in good times and in bad, may we be grateful for the goodness of the Lord.

NOTES FROM DEACON FRED

Two Turtle Doves

Turtle doves have a special quality about them. They are joined for their entire life, always staying together as family. Two turtle doves were an offering acceptable to God in place of a yearling lamb, to be offered after a child was born in expiation of sin. In place of a lamb for those who could not afford a lamb, two turtle doves were offered.

Mary did not have to make such an offering for she was without sin and Joseph did not have to make such an offering for he was chaste. Yet, to honor God, they offered two turtle doves as they presented their Son. The blood of the doves was sprinkled on each side of the altar with the main altar being reserved for the sacrificial lamb. The Christ child was presented to His Father in such a way...

Fidelity and sacrifice is what love is all about. An offering of husband to wife, and of wife to husband, and both brought to the altar of the God is the beginning of family. The divine blessing of children within the family brings new life into the world ... and fidelity and sacrifice brings witness to the love of family and the love of God.

Jesus, Mary and Joseph lived that relationship perfectly. They were of modest means and offered to God all that they had and they had the heavenly blessing of being the guardians and earthly parents of our Savior. Those that first visited them were also of modest means and spent time with them as the angels announced our Savior's birth. Even the Magi who came to visit knew that what they had as wealth was not wealth at all. The time they spent with the Christ child was priceless.

Simeon having recognized the Christ child because the Holy Spirit was with him, held the Child and thanked God for the time he had with Him. He could not hold in the good news that salvation has come... a light to the gentiles... Simeon experienced a radical moment of grace that carried him through his passing.

As we gather together as Church this coming year, let us remember to ask the Holy Spirit to bring to each of us new life and the grace to know we are in the presence of the Holy Family and we bring with us our fidelity and our sacrifices, and our two turtle doves as we approach the altar of the Lamb. May the grace and peace of our Lord Jesus Christ always be with us...

NOTITAS DEL DIÁCONO JOSE CRUZ

Los niños pequeños pueden hacer muy poco por sí mismos; los padres tienen que hacérselo todo con paciencia. Por el lado opuesto están las personas mayores, que a menudo dependen igualmente de sus hijos. Sirácide instruye a los hijos para que cuiden de sus padres ancianos, reconociendo que no sólo su fuerza física, sino también la razón de ellos puede debilitarse. Esto puede ser bastante difícil tanto para los hijos como para los padres. Pero es precisamente entonces que debemos mostrarles amor y ser compasivos, magnánimos, humildes, afables y pacientes . . . soporte mutuamente y perdón, pues el vínculo dúctil del amor puede fácilmente zafarse o quebrarse. 26 27 de diciembre de 2020 Si se usa Génesis/hebreos:

Abraham vivió lleno de una gran fe, una fe que se probó por su disposición de hacer cualquier cosa que el Señor le pidiera. Simeón y Ana vivieron con una fe enorme, tal como lo evidencia su continua presencia en el templo. Ellos reconocieron inmediatamente en este pequeño niño "al Mesías del Señor" (Lucas 2, 26). ¿Reconocemos nosotros al Mesías del Señor en todas las circunstancias? Sabemos que Cristo está presente en nosotros y creemos que lo que hacemos por los más pequeños de nuestros hermanos y hermanas lo hacemos por él. Pero, ¿vemos el poder redentor del Señor y nuestra propia redención en los ojos de ellos? Cualquiera de las opciones:

El momento para la lectura de este Evangelio es muy oportuno, pues esta escena sólo puede acontecer cuando María ya ha dado a luz al Hijo de Dios. Sin embargo, la vida de Ana y de Simeón, al menos en sus últimos años, simbolizan el tiempo de Adviento. Ambos han estado esperando este momento durante años: el momento en que verían el rostro de la salvación. Ambos debieron haber estado llenos de una fe increíble para poder reconocer al Mesías en este pequeño niño. Cada uno de ellos da inmediatamente gracias a Dios por haberles concedido el cumplimiento de este deseo final antes de morir. Ellos proclaman el poder de Jesús —Simeón a María y Ana a todos los que estaban en el templo— dando así inicio a otro período de esperanza anhelante.

Pregunta de la semana

¿Cómo puedo ver mejor a Cristo en los miembros de mi familia? ¿De qué manera pudiera ver mejor a mis allegados y desconocidos como hermanos y hermanas?

ATTENTION ALL MEN!!!

At St. Theresa’s parish they are establishing a **Parish Honor Guard (PHG)** for all of our parishes, as a service opportunity. The public appearance of the **PHG** at functions is an important activity. Its role is as a ceremonial honor guard that adds dignity to the celebration and/or emphasizes the importance of the proceedings.



The **PHG** will provide an honor guard when the bishop comes for Confirmation, when we have 1st Communions, for the Corpus Christi procession, and other celebrations for all of our parishes.

To be part of the **PHG** you must:

- ◆ Be a male, at least 18 years old, and have received the 3 Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation and Holy Eucharist.
- ◆ Be a practicing Roman Catholic “in good standing with the Church”. To be “in good standing with the Church” means that the man must be living his Catholic faith on a daily basis. He must be attending Mass every weekend and Holy Days of Obligation as long as it is humanly possible. If he is married, his current marriage must be recognized as valid by the Catholic Church.
- ◆ The man must be willing to make himself available for a minimum of 2 events a year and commit himself to attend practices to learn the procedures of the **PHG**.
- ◆ The man must provide all parts of his own **PHG** uniform except the sash. The uniform is: **either** a black tuxedo; **or** a black suit; **or** a black blazer and black dress trousers. White shirts, a black bow tie, white gloves and black shoes complete the uniform.

To be on the **PHG**, it is **NOT NECESSARY** to be a member of any organization in your parish. Members of other parishes are invited to serve on St. Theresa’s **PHG for this will be in service for all of our parishes.**

If you would like to be on the **PHG**, fill out the slip below and either bring or mail it to your parish office or put it in the collection basket.

Name _____ Phone _____ D.O.B. ____/____/____

Address _____

City / State / Zip _____ Email _____

Readings for the week of December 27, 2020

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

Observances for the week of December 27, 2020

Sunday: The Holy Family
Monday: The Holy Innocents, Martyrs
Tuesday: St. Thomas Becket, Bishop and Martyr
Thursday: St. Sylvester I, Pope; New Year's Eve
Friday: Mary, The Holy Mother of God; New Year's Day; World Day of Peace
Saturday: Sts. Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzen, Bishops and Doctors of the Church

In this week of celebrating Jesus' birth in Bethlehem,
help save a child's life: Option Line Alternatives to Abortion- Call: 1-800-395- HELP (4357)

MASS INTENTIONS

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 26

9:00 am † Steven Waggoner req by
Mary Jo Waggoner
4:00 pm † Bernie Schwindenhammer req by
Loving Wife

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 27

8:00 am For healing for Mary Brennon
req by Anne McGovern
11:00 am For Our Parish Community
1:00 pm † Rosa Diaz req by
Ramona and Felipe Vasquez

MONDAY DECEMBER 28

9:00 am † Mark Tallent req by
His loving wife, Melanie

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 29

9:00 am † Robert Siem req by His Family

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 30

9:00 am † Krishna Subick req by
McKenzie Family

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 31

9:00 am † David Robert Bounds req by
Kathy Szczesiak

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 31

VIGILS for MARY, MOTHER OF GOD

4:00 pm † Jennifer Vilavdi req by Mom and
Dad and her loving Family
10:00 pm † Nancy Bednarski req by
Mom and Dad

FRIDAY, JANUARY 1 SOLEMNITY OF MARY, MOTHER OF GOD

10:00 AM † Mildred Bayliss req by Her loving
Friend, Joanne Lambraia
11:30 AM Para las almas en Purgatorio
req by Dora

SATURDAY, 2

9:00 AM † Charles Waggoner req by
Mary Jo Waggoner
4:00 pm † Frank Tine req by
Marilyn Tine

SUNDAY, JANUARY 3

8:00 AM † Maria and Gaspare Orlamdo
Denise and Lenny Orlando
11:00 am † Marie Denig req by Joan and Felix
Ruiz
1:00 pm For Our Parish Community

The Christmas Giving Tree

I want to thank everyone who contributed to the Christmas Giving Tree for the children of our parish and those families associated with St. Vincent de Paul. We helped many children this year and their families. It is because of your generosity and your sacrifice that these families received Christmas Gifts and Food for their Christmas Celebration. Thank you indeed to parishioners of St. Joan of Arc, proving again, how loving and generous our parishioners are.

God Bless You All!

Fr. Pat



EXPOSITION AND BENEDICTION IS AGAIN CELEBRATED ON THE FIRST THURSDAY OF EVERY MONTH. YOU ARE ALL INVITED TO ATTEND AT 6:00 PM ON JANUARY 7TH. LET'S BEGIN PRAISING THE LORD IN HIS HOLY PRESENCE THIS NEW YEAR OF 2021.

PLEASE CONSIDER ONLINE GIVING

Our parish is grateful for your continued support at this time.

Please consider online giving.

Go to our website: www.StJoanofarcfl.com

and click on Online Giving.

Thank you.

STEWARDSHIP

WEEKEND OF DECEMBER 20, 2020

Attendance 383

Offertory \$9550.00

Catholic Campaign \$11.00

Religious Retirement Fund \$5257.00

St. Joan of Arc Knights of Columbus would like to take this opportunity to thank all the parishioners for the generous support of the curbside meal pick up that we have been doing all the last 2 months. With your support we have been able to continue our support I've retired priests, St Jude Child Hospital, and seminarian. We are about to undertake the replacement of the kitchen dishwasher and with your continued support we hope to be able to complete this task in the month of January.

Thank you again for your generous support of your St Joan of Arc Knights of Columbus.

BAPTISM CLASSES

Baptism classes are the Third Wednesday of every month. Our January class will be on January 20th at 6:00 pm. Please call the office to let them know you will attend.



PARISH STAFF

Pastor Rev. Patrick Rebel

Asst. Priests..... Rev. Edward Reiter
Rev. Michael Kouts
Rev. Dennis Kaelin
Msgr. Joe Sobiesiak

Deacons Deacon Fred LaPiana
Deacon Jose Cruz
Deacon Mike Ruffner

Parish Business ManagerAnne Cofone

Director of Faith Formation Mary Jo Waggoner
Stjoanreled@gmail.com

Director of Junior High and Youth MinistryNancy Lovelock
Sjoa-youth@tampabay.rr.com

Director of Music.....Joyce Thorpe
Sjoaorganist@gmail.com

SACRAMENTS

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturday: 10:00 am-11:00 am & by appointment.

BAPTISM FOR CHILDREN

Please call the Parish Office. (352) 688-0663

MATRIMONY IF YOU ARE CONTEMPLATING MARRIAGE AT ST. JOAN OF ARC CHURCH, PLEASE BE MINDFUL THAT THERE IS A SIX MONTH PRIOR NOTICE REQUEST REQUIRED.

PARISH INFO

OFFICE EMAIL

Sjoa-office@tampabay.rr.com

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MARY & MARTHA’S GIFT SHOP (NOT OPEN AT THIS TIME)

Wednesday 9:30 am-10:30 am

Saturday 3:30 pm-5:30 pm

Sunday 7:00 am-1:00 pm

Closed during all Masses & the month of August.

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