

**Saint Christina Parish of Turner County
PO Box 610 Parker, South Dakota 57053**

Sunday, December 26, 2021

HOLY FAMILY of JESUS, MARY and JOSEPH

“I proclaim to you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. For today in the city of David a savior has been born for you who is Christ and Lord.” these words from the angels to the shepherds in Bethlehem should give us reason to pause and consider. If the savior has been born, is this good news for me? It all depends on whether or not I need a savior. If not, Christmas is not good news. It is just another day. If I do need a savior, however, then this is a for the greatest imaginable joy. This is the question Christmas confronts us with : do I need a savior or not?

Here is where Christmas slams into one of the greatest threats to our spiritual life: self-reliance. Self-reliance is the belief that I do not need anyone, that I can make it on my own, that I can rely totally on myself. Self-reliance is often synonymous with being American. The problem with self-reliance is that it is anti-Christian because it ultimately means that I do not need a savior. If I live my life in an attitude of self-reliance, then Christmas is not good news for me, in fact, Christmas would just be a threat to my belief that I do not need help.

One of the greatest breakthroughs we can make as Christians and human beings is to admit that I really do need help. I need to be rescued. I need to be saved. I can recognize this when I look at my inability to manage the sinfulness in my life. I realize that I hurt people through my selfishness. I overlook the needs of others through a focus on myself. I continue to do what I know is wrong and will make me unhappy because I cannot seem to choose what is good. This is called sinfulness and it is a part of being human. This is where the angels' announcement to the shepherds on that first Christmas night is such lifechanging news. If a savior has been born for me, then I do not need to save myself. It bears repeating: I do not need to save myself! Let's thank God for that! Alleluia!

This is why we celebrate Christmas. It is a recognition that Jesus has come to save me from my sinfulness. He is the one who can transform my life and make me into a new creation. He is the one I can rely on. I do not have to rely on myself when I have a savior in Jesus. This is the good news the angels proclaim to the shepherds and that they proclaim to all of us today: a savior is born. Let's allow Jesus to save us this Christmas, after all, it's the very reason he was born.

Fr. Tyler

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WEEKLY MASSES—— St. Christina

**“Feast of the Holy Family of
Jesus, Mary and Joseph”**

Sunday, December 26th: Mass 11:00AM

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++Tuesday, December 28th :

Confessions 5:00PM

Holy Mass 6:00PM

Int: +Ron Muller

++Thursday, December 30th:

Holy Mass 8:00AM

Int: +Myron Luke

+*+*Saturday, January 1st:

“Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God”

Holy Mass 10:00AM

Int: All Priests—Living & Deceased

Sunday, January 2nd: Mass 11:00am

“Epiphany of the Lord”

1 Graders: Kings & Angels

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Feast of the Holy Family **Bud Ozar**

Today's gospel contains this truth about parenting:
"but his parents did not know." One of the reasons
parenting is so difficult is because our children don't
tell us everything. If the Holy Family had trouble with
their teenager, why do we think it will be easier for us?

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Mary, Mother of God **Bud Ozar**

The gospel tells us "Mary kept all these things, ponder-
ing them in her heart." We would do well to imitate
Mary in our New Year's resolution. Instead of criticiz-
ing let's "keep it in our hearts." Criticism isn't produc-
tive or well received anyway!

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St. Christina Church Support: Deposited

Monday, December 20th, 2021:

42 Env. Reg. Giving \$4160.00; 1 Env. Reg. Giving \$80.00;
Loose Giving \$142.00; 3 CFSA Pledges \$850.00;
1 Env. Capital Improvement \$50.00..
Thank You for your Generous Treasure.

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Holiday Mass Schedules:

St. Christina, Parker:

****New Year's Day Mass: 10:00AM**

St. Nicholas, Tea:

****New Year's Eve Mass: 6:00PM**

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Thank You to everyone that helped in any way
with the decorating of the Church. Thank you also for
the donations for the Beautiful Flowers which always is
the Crowning Touch when decorating for Christmas
and also for Easter. Prayers for all Families & Friends
and so many Christmas Memories.