

# WEEKLY PRAYER

## READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 27, 2020

- SUN 12/27** 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
- MON 12/28** 1 Jn 1:5—2:2/Ps 124:2-3, 4-5, 7b-8 [7]/Mt 2:13-18
- TUE 12/29** 1 Jn 2:3-11/Ps 96:1-2a, 2b-3, 5b-6 [11a]/Lk 2:22-35
- WED 12/30** 1 Jn 2:12-17/Ps 96:7-8a, 8b-9, 10 [11a]/Lk 2:36-40
- THR 12/31** 1 Jn 2:18-21/Ps 96:1-2, 11-12, 13 [11a]/Jn 1:1-18
- FRI 1/1** Nm 6:22-27/Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8 [2a]/Gal 4:4-7/Lk 2:16-21
- SAT 1/2** 1 Jn 2:22-28/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4 [3cd]/Jn 1:19-28
- SUN 1/3** 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

## OBSERVANCES FOR THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 27, 2020

- Sunday:** The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph
- 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
- Sunday:** The Epiphany of the Lord; National Migration Week

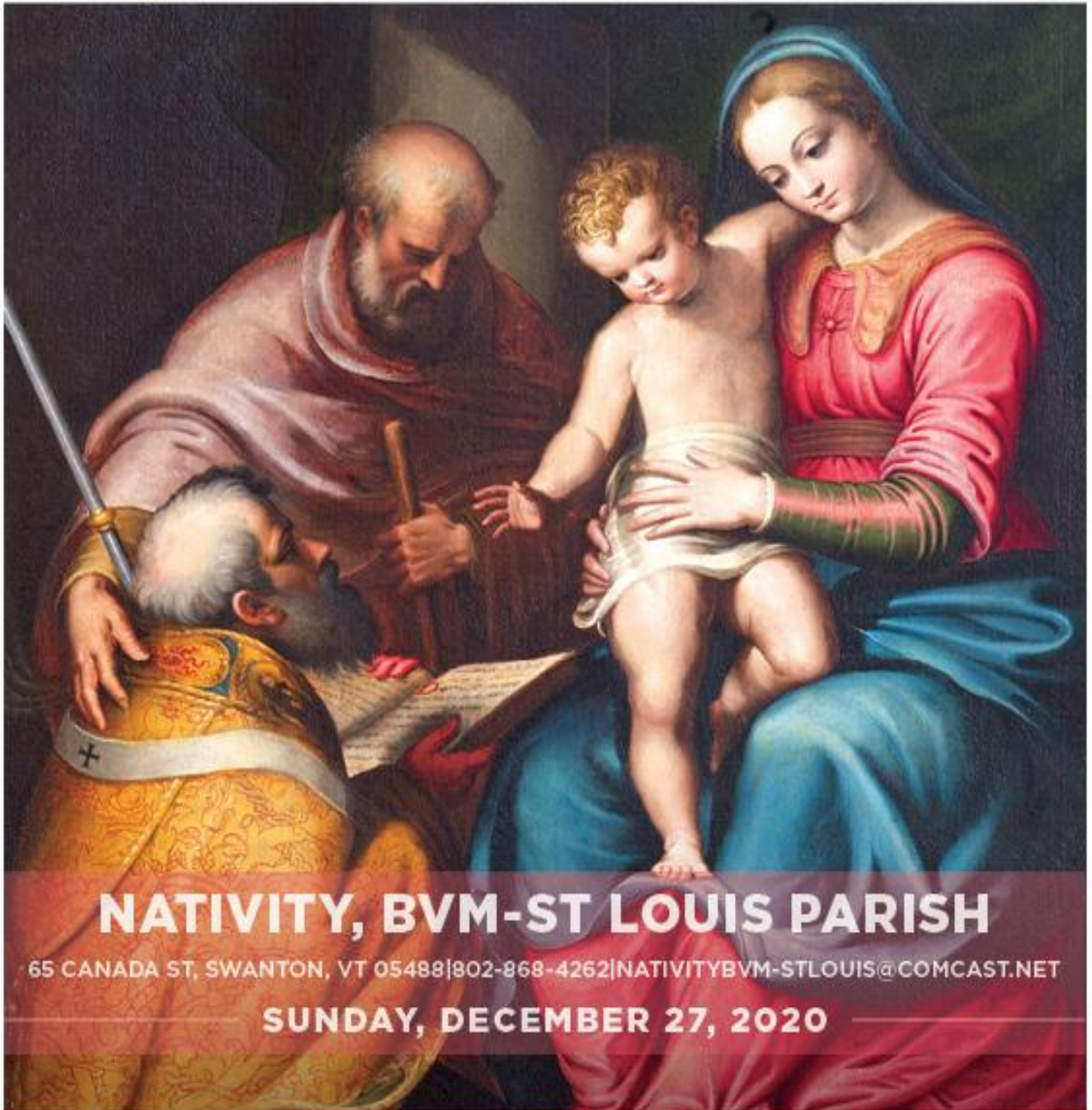
## LIVE THE LITURGY

### Inspiration for the week

While families come in all shapes and sizes and no two are the same, they all need a common focus and grounding. Families are intended to be pivotal in providing us with a proper social structure and understanding, a support system, lessons about relationships and communication and the unconditional acceptance and love we so desperately crave. In addition to all of these things, the axis of every family has to be centered on faith. It is here that we can learn about the virtues and discover the windows to God Himself in His gifts of faith, hope, and love. We can learn, modeling our experience after the Holy Family, how to use these as anchors in our lives so that we can live out the other virtues with greater integrity. Because our human families struggle with weakness and sin, we have to come back to the Holy Family often for inspiration and guidance. In the bond of love that they shared, they clung to the anchor of God Himself and endured challenges far greater than many we will ever face.



*New  
Year's  
Blessings*



## **NATIVITY, BVM-ST LOUIS PARISH**

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**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 27, 2020**

## **THE HOLY FAMILY**



The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom;  
and the favor of God was upon him. - Lk 2:40

# Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph

**The Lord remembers his covenant for ever. *Psalm 105***

**Sunday, December 27, 2020 Cycle B**



SATURDAY, December 26 Nativity 5pm	†Living Members of the Favero family by Sandra Renaudette
SUNDAY, December 27 Nativity 8:30am +++++	†Xavier Nye (1st Anniv) by the family & Intention of Parishioners +++++ †Ed & †June Such by Mr. & Mrs. Gilbert Boucher
<b>No Mass</b> <b>Monday, December 28<sup>th</sup> &amp; Tuesday, December 29<sup>th</sup></b>	
WEDNESDAY, December 30 Nativity 8:30am	†Bill Conway & †Warren Fournier by Don & Dot Bruyette
SATURDAY, January 2 Nativity 5pm	†Claire Handy by Ron & Fern Cota
SUNDAY, January 3 Nativity 8:30am +++++	†Marie Beaulieu St. Francis by Mom & Dad +++++ †Laurent & †Pauline Desjardins by Keith & Louise Machia & Intention of Parishioners
MONDAY, January 4 St Louis 8:30am	†Warren Fresn by Paul Laroche
TUESDAY, January 5 Nativity 6:30pm	†Irene Freeman by Bob & Maddie Freeman
WEDNESDAY, January 6 Nativity 8:30am	†Gerard Roussin by his sister, Laurette Rogers
THURSDAY, January 7 Nativity 8:30am	†Toni Gutenberg by Helen Stimets
FRIDAY, January 8 St Louis 8:30am	†Gerard Roussin by his sister, Laurette Rogers
SATURDAY, January 9 Nativity 5pm	†Irene Brosseau by Ron & Fern Cota & †Mother, Father, Brother by Eva Quebec
SUNDAY, January 10 Nativity 8:30am +++++	†Germain Bourdeau by Marcel & Theresa Begnoche +++++ †Intention of Parishioners



**THURSDAY, December 31**  
Nativity 4pm  
†Cleo Yandow by the family

**FRIDAY, January 1**  
St Louis 9am  
†Laroche & †Rainville families  
by Joe & Lorraine Rainville

**Rest in Peace** Our parish family extends our sympathy and the assurance of our prayers to the families and friends of recently deceased **Morris "Sonny" Belisle, Jr. and Bunny Langlois.**



**Please PRAY for** ...Members of our parish who are ill, facing surgery, hospitalized, or experiencing difficult times, especially during this pandemic and have asked for our prayers:

- |                 |                  |
|-----------------|------------------|
| Alan Barratt    | Henry Laroche    |
| Lanny Brow      | Brant Masse      |
| Aleta Bushey    | Betty Pudvah     |
| Rebecca Dumont  | Jean Rainville   |
| Lena Gadouas    | Carolyn Rondeau  |
| Jessica Gemmell | Cheryl Spaulding |
| Mike Hutchinson | Wm. Thompson     |
| Richard King    |                  |



# Parish Calendar

*The office is closed on Monday, December 28-Friday, January 1, 2021*

## Confession Schedule



**SUNDAY, December 27/January 3:**

*St Louis after Mass*

**TUESDAY, January 5:**

*Nativity 7-7:45pm*

**SATURDAY, December 26/January 2:**

*Nativity 4:15-4:45pm*

## Food Shelf



**TUESDAY, December 29/January 5:**

*Nativity 9-12pm*

**Needs:** Condiments, Bakery Items-Cake Mixes, Quick Breads, Cookie Mixes, Flour, Sugar

## Eucharistic



## Adoration

**WEDNESDAY, December 30/January 6:**

*Nativity 9-12pm/Rosary 11:30am*

*Benediction 11:50am*

**TUESDAY, January 5:**

*Nativity 7-7:45pm*

*Benediction 11:50am*

**FRIDAY, January 8:**

*St Louis Adoration 9am followed by Confession*



**Sunday, December 20:**

*Offertory: \$1,901/Religious Retirement: \$901/Fuel: \$635*

**Sunday, December 27:**

*Offertory/Fuel*

**Thank you for the many cards, gifts, goodies, and prayers** you have extended to me during this holy time. Your thoughtful generosity is much appreciated! Thank you, also, to those who helped in a variety of ways prepare for the beautiful liturgies throughout this Christmas season. And to those who filled shoeboxes, contributed to the Food Shelf, and donated gift cards and other items for individuals and families in need – Thank You. All these sacrifices point to the goodness of God, alive and at work in the hearts of His children. I pray that this Christmas season and New Year will be filled with an abundance of God’s blessings and graces for you and your family, and that the peace of Christ may find a home in your soul and bring joy to your life.

*Merry Christmas and Happy New Year,  
Fr. James Dodson*

# NEWS FROM The Inland See

December 26, 2020 – January 1, 2021

FOR THE DIOCESE OF BURLINGTON

## New ministry to support those who are ill, alone



Even in the midst of the Covid-19 pandemic, the parish community of St. Mark in Burlington is moving forward with plans for a new ministry to support those who are ill or alone and in need of prayers.

The Illness Support Ministry, which grew out of the priorities of the 2018 Diocesan Synod, is meant to reach out to anyone who contacts the parish for prayers in the face of sickness, or those who are homebound or in nursing homes.

Often, those who contact the parish may not even be parishioners, said Barry Comeau, parish synod delegate.

One of the primary goals, Comeau explained, is to create an information card for those in need of prayers, which would include addresses, contact information and names of family

members, if possible; anything that would make connecting with the sick possible, especially during this time when visits are restricted because of Covid-19.

The committee — which also includes Marie Forcier, Donna Russell and Jan Hevey — has been hampered by the pandemic in efforts to gather but is deciding on uplifting prayers and messages of support to be mailed to the sick, and to family members in some cases, to let them know they are being prayed for and remembered.

VTC • Mary Clifford Morrell

## U.S. Bishop Chairmen for Pro-Life and Doctrine Address Ethical Concerns on the New COVID-19 Vaccines

On December 14, Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades of Fort Wayne-South Bend, chairman of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops' (USCCB) Committee on Doctrine, and Archbishop Joseph F. Naumann of Kansas City in Kansas, chairman of the USCCB's Committee on Pro-Life Activities, issued a statement on the new COVID-19 vaccines. In their statement, the bishops address the moral concerns raised by the fact that the three vaccines that appear to be ready for distribution in the United States all have some connection to cell lines that originated with tissue taken from abortions.

With regard to the Pfizer and Moderna vaccines, they concluded:

"In view of the gravity of the current pandemic and the lack of availability of alternative vaccines, the reasons to accept the new COVID-19 vaccines from Pfizer and Moderna are sufficiently serious to justify their use, despite their remote connection to morally compromised cell lines.

"Receiving one of the COVID-19 vaccines ought to be understood as an act of charity toward the other members of

our community. In this way, being vaccinated safely against COVID-19 should be considered an act of love of our neighbor and part of our moral responsibility for the common good."

With regard to the AstraZeneca vaccine, the bishops found it to be "more morally compromised" and consequently concluded that this vaccine "should be avoided" if there are alternatives available. "It may turn out, however, that one does not really have a choice of vaccine, at least, not without a lengthy delay in immunization that may have serious consequences for one's health and the health of others," the bishop chairmen stated. "In such a case ... it would be permissible to accept the AstraZeneca vaccine."

At the same time, the bishops also warned that Catholics "must be on guard so that the new COVID-19 vaccines do not desensitize us or weaken our determination to oppose the evil of abortion itself and the subsequent use of fetal cells in research."

The full statement from the bishop chairmen may be found at: <https://www.usccb.org/moral-considerations-covid-vaccines>

— Public Affairs Office, USCCB

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## Christ Our Hope Campaign Update

To learn more or make a gift visit: [christourhopevt.org](http://christourhopevt.org).

37%

As of Dec. 16: \$3,570,467

Goal: \$9,582,456

## Upcoming Events



01|07, 14, 21, 28 THURSDAYS  
**Vermont Catholic Book Club:  
Silence**

via Zoom • 7:30 - 8:30 pm

This January, join us as we read Shusaku Endo's *Silence*. Two missionary priests secretly travel into 17th century Japan at a time when Christians are being persecuted harshly. What does it mean to be faithful to Christ in difficult times? This question and many others are posed in this challenging and gripping novel. We will meet four times to discuss the book and how we might learn from it. Bring a friend! Register: [vermontcatholic.org/event/book-study-silence/](http://vermontcatholic.org/event/book-study-silence/)



01|13, 20, 27 WEDNESDAYS  
**Family & Faith in the Home**

via Zoom • 8 - 9:30 pm

Parents are invited to attend an interactive webinar sponsored by the Diocese of Manchester with guest speakers Mike and Alicia Heron of the Messy Family Project. Mike and Alicia have 10 children, and have much to share with parenting while living the Catholic faith. The webinars are as follows:

January 13, 8-9:30 p.m. – Communication in Marriage

January 20, 8-9:30 p.m. – Messy Parenting 101

January 27, 8-9:30 p.m. – Evangelizing Your Children

Register: [vermontcatholic.org/event/family-faith-in-the-home/](http://vermontcatholic.org/event/family-faith-in-the-home/)



01|20 WEDNESDAY  
**Vermont Catholic Professionals  
Virtual Event**

via Zoom • 8 - 9 am

Our January guest speaker is Deacon Pete Gummere – Bioethicist and Director of the Permanent Diaconate – of the Diocese of Burlington. He will be presenting, "Discernment: Family, Career and Service to the Church." Register: [vermontcatholic.org/event/vermont-catholic-professionals-virtual-event/](http://vermontcatholic.org/event/vermont-catholic-professionals-virtual-event/)



01|21 THURSDAY  
**"Just Mercy" Book Study Group**

via Zoom • 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm

Mercy Corps, a newly formed group of parishioners at Saint John Vianney Catholic Church, is hosting an online book study for *Just Mercy* by Bryan Stevenson. The series will meet monthly, January through June. Saint John Vianney Church will have copies of the book available for \$10/copy. For more information, to make arrangements to pick up a copy of the book, or to register, please contact Connie McDonald at [SJVGoodNews@gmail.com](mailto:SJVGoodNews@gmail.com).



DEC. 27, 2020 – JAN. 2, 2021

**CHALLENGES  
TO GROW  
YOUR  
MARRIAGE**

*OUR SAVIOR IS HERE.*

How do you welcome him into your home?  
Together, create a "Welcome to Our Home" feast  
to honor the Holy Family. Keep those holiday decorations  
displayed to help celebrate!

[vermontcatholic.org/marriagechallenge](http://vermontcatholic.org/marriagechallenge)

CHRIST OUR

Hope



2020 BISHOP'S ANNUAL APPEAL

Thank you to all those who have made a gift already. We are more than 20% behind our goal and ask those that can to please consider a gift before the end of the year. You can make a gift online: [vermontcatholic.org/donate](http://vermontcatholic.org/donate)

100%

2020 Bishop's Annual Appeal Goal: \$2,651,157

78%

As of December 16: \$2,068,325



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