

THE PARISH OF THE IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY

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Rev. Fr. Charles Collins, Administrator

Rev. Fr. Peter Gitendran, In Residence



Feast of the Holy Family

MASST INTENTIONS

Monday December 30

12:05 pm For the intentions and healing of
Danielle Treacy
requested by Lorraine & Charles Rozario

Tuesday December 31

New Year's Eve

5 pm † Angeles & Leon Aureus
requested by Cora & Ruben Lopez

Wednesday January 1

*Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God
[New Year's Day]*

10 am For the People of the Parish

Thursday January 2

*Sts. Basil the Great & Gregory Nazianzen,
Bishops & Doctors of the Church*

12:05 pm

Friday January 3 *[1st Friday]*

*[followed by Exposition and Benediction of
the Blessed Sacrament]*

12:05 pm † Elaine Loxton
requested by Don Smith

Saturday January 4 *[1st Saturday]*

[followed by Devotions to Our Lady of Fatima]
9 am

5 pm For the People of the Parish

Sunday January 5

Epiphany of the Lord

9 am

11 am



God is at the heart of all Christian families.

Today we celebrate and recognize the Holy family – Jesus, Mary and Joseph – as the model of all Christian families. Saint Joseph set a good example for all of us as his family faced the crisis of Herod's plot to kill Jesus: He listened to God's voice and cared for his family according to the word of God.



REGISTRATION

First Holy Communion and Confirmation



Registration for the 2020 Sacrament programs has already begun. Registration has already taken place at the school this year.

Anyone still interested in registering can pick up a form at the back of the church. All completed forms must be returned to the Parish Office along with a copy of the child's Baptismal Certificate and registration fee.

Deadline for registration is January 11, 2020. Any registration submitted after this time will not be accepted.



Gift Store

Please support our newly of open gift store for statues, medals, rosary, necklaces & many more items.

Open 7 days a week after all Masses!



OFFERTORY ENVELOPES

Tips & notes for 2020

1. Discard all prior year **unused** envelopes
2. New address or telephone:
Indicate the change on the envelope and write 'New' OR contact the Parish Office
3. Use **Visitor's** envelopes which can be found in the literature rack in the foyer of the church if:
 - You forgot your envelopes
 - You are visiting
 - You are new in the community. Also, pick up a registration for if you would like to use church envelopes
4. Use appropriate envelopes for specific type of donations with separate donation for each type.

Note: Please avoid putting a total of one amount to be divided into several type of donations.



We thank you for your contribution & co-operation!



Through Divine Grace we are at the beginning of a New Year. God alone knows whether we shall reach the end of it, so we should spend it in reparation for the past and in preparing for the future with good resolutions. ~ St. Padre Pio ~

FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY

The feast of the Holy Family, which is situated appropriately between Christmas and New Year's Day, serves as a context for the events it bridges: the birth of Christ and the octave of Mary.



As the humanity of Jesus is our path to the Father, remembering the family of Jesus is a fitting way to end and begin a year. When we recall that Jesus is Emmanuel — God with us — we are sustained in our darkest hours,

and are able to find hope and joy. It puts our whole life in perspective. As we treat ourselves and others, so we treat him (see Mt 25:40; 45).

In their Gospels, evangelists Matthew and John most profoundly emphasize Jesus as the Word made flesh, and they also stress that it's love of the Church, and particularly its most vulnerable members, that is the determining factor in the final judgment. The epistles of James and Paul likewise echo this perspective. This most profound theological concept is realized in the foundational moral concept of love of neighbor and self, and this unity is a hallmark of biblical and Catholic teaching.

Living in a loving manner sometimes can be most difficult within the family (the domestic Church), where intimate conflicts yield deep wounds, and where routine and familiarity can breed contempt and complacency. So we look to the Holy Family as models of fraternal love in a world of fractured family life and institutions.

Embracing the Holy Family

To best learn how to live as the Holy Family did, we must incorporate Jesus, Mary and Joseph into our lives through affection. As within our own families, analysis and reason are insufficient when it comes to enduring trials. Only love, supplemented by faith and hope, will suffice. As human beings, love is a choice that we are always free to make. Thus the Gospels and the Church, particularly in her liturgy, stress Jesus' total freedom in giving his life for us.

Embracing the Holy Family means accepting them as they are — and ourselves as well. We (re)discover the Holy Family through the process of *lectio divina* on the Scriptures, by which we invite them into our lives and open ourselves to the Spirit. Traditional devotions such as the Rosary and the Stations of the Cross are proven ways of entering into the mystery. We embrace them as we would a family member, and in a different way they are no less challenging. They long to become a part of us, related by adoption through human and divine choice. The feast of the Holy Family is a wonderful time for Catholics across the theological spectrum to renew their devotion to them.

Devotion to the Holy Family and love of family are complementary practices as the former is the model of the local and universal human family. Embracing the Holy Family means entrusting ourselves to them like a child, in the manner proposed by Jesus (cf. Lk 18:16-17). Through emulation in prayer, service and obedience, we cultivate this enthusiastic disposition.

~ by Karl A. Schultz ~

PRAYER TO THE HOLY FAMILY

**Jesus, Mary and Joseph,
in you we contemplate
the splendour of true love,
to you we turn with trust.**

**Holy Family of Nazareth,
grant that our families too
may be places of communion and prayer,
authentic schools of the Gospel
and small domestic Churches.**

**Holy Family of Nazareth,
may families never again
experience violence, rejection and division:
may all who have been hurt or scandalized
find ready comfort and healing.**

**Holy Family of Nazareth,
may the approaching Synod of Bishops
make us once more mindful
of the sacredness and inviolability of the family,
and its beauty in God's plan.**

**Jesus, Mary and Joseph,
graciously hear our prayer.**

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