

DECEMBER 29, 2019

THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH



Today, as we continue celebrating the Christmas season, we focus our attention on the Holy Family. This is a great time to thank God for the gift of family life. The Catechism of the Catholic Church refers to the family as the “domestic church,” so today’s feast is a fitting time to consider the importance of the virtue of the stewardship pillar of hospitality within the context of our own domestic churches.

Why is hospitality so important? Well, we can hardly expect our family members to pray together, study their faith, and serve others if we have a home where we are disconnected from each other, or the atmosphere is stressful and tense. Of course there will be moments like this. But we must be intentional in creating homes where everyone feels accepted and important. We want our homes to be the place to get recharged to go out and bring love to everyone we encounter outside our home.

This is not easy, but we can turn to the Holy Family for help. Lest we think that the Holy Family is somehow unable to sympathize with our struggles, we see in our Gospel passage from Matthew that this Family was certainly not free from trials and stress; quite the contrary. The very life of the newborn Jesus was threatened by Herod’s extreme jealousy such that the family had to flee suddenly into a foreign land for protection until Herod’s death. Yet Mary and Joseph remained united and ever obedient to the Holy Spirit for direction. Who better to turn to for help and inspiration for our own families?

CATHEDRAL APPEAL UPDATE

Did you know that the memorial bell at the Cathedral, named after Monsignor Michael Cullinane (St. Catherine of Alexandria Church pastor 1936-1946), rings each day at 12 noon and 6 p.m.? Why? It calls the faithful to pray the Angelus. Accordingly, the bell calls the living to worship, to mourn the dead, and interestingly enough, to ward off lightning. This is part of the rich history of the Cathedral of St. Catherine of Alexandria. Ring in the New Year of 2020 by making a donation to our Cathedral restoration project! With your help we will meet our goal of \$1.2 million. Be sure to visit us on the web at www.saintcd.com/appeal or pick up a brochure and pledge form in your church today to play your part in this amazing restoration project. **May God bless you!**

SO MANY OPTIONS FOR MASS...

Travelling? Whether near or far away, there are always options for Mass. Sunday Mass is a vital part of our spiritual life. In case you need to find a Mass time in another parish, please visit www.masstimes.org.

There’s a complete list of parishes across the world that includes Mass times, maps, and more.

PARISH CALENDAR & MASS INTENTIONS

MON, DEC 30	8:30 am	Anne Charlton † Melissa Monachino †
TUES, DEC 31	8:30 am	Mass
		THE SOLEMNITY OF MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD
	5:00 pm	Mary & Joseph Petric
WED, JAN 1		THE SOLEMNITY OF MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD
	10:00 am	Mass
THURS, JAN 2	8:30 am	No Mass
FRI, JAN 3	8:30 am	Mary Grimes †
	9:00 am	Holy Hour
SAT, JAN 4	5:00 pm	Cecil Hoekstra †
SUN, JAN 5	9:00 am	Rose Bonasheski † Alfonso DiFrancesco †
	11:00 am	Mass for the People

CWL NEWS



At the annual national convention of the CWL held August 2019, a motion was made for CWL to establish an annual day of prayer for Christians in the Holy Land. The Feast of the Holy Family is celebrated yearly on the last Sunday in December. This year, the Feast of the Holy Family is celebrated on Sunday, December 29th. We encourage all members to join the League's faith community in prayer that God will protect the families and give them peace during this Christmas season and protect the families of the Holy Land and remain with them forever.

DID YOU KNOW.....

New Year's Day is not just the start of a new year, it's also a Holy Day of Obligation in the Catholic Church? On January 1st we celebrate the Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God, a liturgical feast day honoring the Blessed Virgin Mary's motherhood in the wake of the birth of the baby Jesus Christ. This holiday is also the Octave of Christmas or the 8th day of Christmas. As Mary's fiat reminds the faithful: "Be it done unto me according to Thy word." A solemnity is the highest ranking holy day in the Church calendar. As a family of believers here at St. Julia, let us begin the new year together, in prayer as we turn to our blessed Mother for her intercession as she takes our prayers and petitions for the year ahead to her son, our savior Jesus Christ!



1 Corinthians 13—Christmas Version (Author Unknown)

If I decorate my house perfectly with plaid bows, strands of twinkling lights, and shiny balls, but do not show love to my family, I am just another decorator.

If I slave away in the kitchen, baking dozens of Christmas cookies, preparing gourmet meals, and arranging a beautifully adorned table at mealtime, but do not show love to my family, I am just another cook.

If I work at a soup kitchen, carol in the nursing home, and give all that I have to charity, but do not show love to my family it profits me nothing.

If I trim the spruce with shimmering angels and crocheted snowflakes, attend a myriad of holiday parties, and sing in the choir's cantata, but do not focus on Christ, I have missed the point.

*Love stops cooking to hug the child.
Love sets aside the decorating to kiss the spouse.
Love is kind, though harried and tired.*

Love does not envy another's home that has coordinated china and table linens.

Love does not yell at the kids to get out of the way, but is thankful they are there to be in the way.

Love does not give only to those who are able to give in return, but rejoices in giving to those who cannot.

*Love bears all things, believes all things,
hopes all things, and endures all things.
Love never fails.*

*Video games will break, pearl necklaces will be lost,
golf club will rust,
But giving the gift of love will endure.*

Amen

Congratulations

We welcome the following children into our Catholic family through the Sacrament of Baptism



**Connor Feren
Aria Saunders**

VISIT OUR FRESHLY LAUNCHED ST. JULIA WEBSITE

We invite you to visit our fresh, crisp and inviting relaunched website. We see this as a valuable tool in conjunction with our Facebook page in promoting all that is happening here at St. Julia Church. Feedback is always welcome. A very special thank you to Sharon Thiessen for sharing her time and talent, and for her dedication in working on the website and Facebook page.

www.stjuliastc.com

Liturgical Ministries

December 28 – 29, 2019

	5:00 pm	9:00 am	11:00 am
Eucharistic Ministers	C. Crowley G. Pawlowski P. Paone	C. Buckley E. Matuch R. Adams	J. Waters G. DiFrancesco A.M. Stockwell
Readers	P. Michaud M. Szeideman	K. Neureuther E. Sauer	L. Flynn S. Lohnes

Counters: T.. Marciniac, B. Marciniac, M. Tacinelli (Dec. 30)