

THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY, AND JOSEPH

DECEMBER 29, 2019

LIVING GOD'S WORD

The letter to the Colossians urges us to "put on love." Does that motivate you to change the way you treat someone in your parish community, or to mend a rift with a member of your family?

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK DECEMBER 30, 2019

Monday, Dec. 30
8:15AM Intention of Catholic Extension Donor
Tuesday, Dec. 31
5PM Curtis Jany by Sam & Kristina Jany
Wednesday, Jan. 1
9AM Barb Derickson by Bruce & Jessica Buatte
Thursday, Jan. 2
NO MASS
Friday, Jan. 3
NO Mass
Saturday, Jan. 4
5PM Kenny Korando by Dorothy
Sunday, Jan. 5
9AM For the Parish

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK DEC. 29 THRU JAN. 5

Sunday	9AM Mass NO PSR CLASS
Monday	8:15AM Mass in Rectory Dining Room DAYCARE OPEN – 6:30AM-4PM 11AM-1PM K of C Luncheon Lasagna/Fried Chicken
Tuesday	5PM Vigil Mass for Solemnity of Mary
Wednesday	9AM Mass Solemnity of Mary
Thursday	NO MASS
Friday	NO MASS DAYCARE OPEN – 6:30AM-4PM
Saturday	5PM Mass
Sunday	9AM Mass PSR Class after 9AM Mass till 11:15AM

NOTE FROM THE PASTOR: Liturgically, this week we are still singing Christmas songs. Poinsettias still decorate the altar. Yet we have already abandoned the infancy stories. Jesus was born into a messy world. In today's reading, Joseph uproots his family to flee to Egypt to keep the holy child safe. Joseph fulfills his duty as protector of God's Son and his mother. Jesus' vulnerability is highlighted by six references to him as "child." Not only does Joseph lead mother and child away from danger, his actions also allow for the fulfillment of prophecy. The more significant of these is the first, from Hosea 11:1, which refers to the redemption of Israel, God's son from Egypt (Exodus 4:22). It is applied now to Jesus, God's Son, as exemplar and perfect representative of Israel. In mutual love, there is calm amidst the messiness - holy rest, Christmas peace. It doesn't fade away. We find it in family. We find it in friendship. We find it in the solidarity of community. Jesus, you are with us. Help us to put on heartfelt compassion, kindness, humility, and love, especially in our families. Strengthen the bond of perfection in all of our relationships. This flight of faith is challenging. We cannot do it without you. Thank you for abiding with us and surrounding us with your love.

TITHE WEEK OF DEC. 22, 2019

Mary Help of Christians: \$5,578.00
\$10.00 Votive; \$22.00 Child Env.

WEEKLY Budget Need: \$7,000.00

YTD Average Weekly Tithe: \$5,922.68

Fiscal Year Week: 25

YTD Actual Giving: \$148,067.00

YTD Budget Need: \$175,000.00

YTD Budget Difference: (\$26,933.00)

YTD Weekly: (\$1,077.32)

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK: Even during a traumatic time like the flight into Egypt, the Holy Family surely looked at one another in love, to calm the anxious fear of their journey. May their gaze comfort us today.

SERVERS SCHEDULE for Jan. 4 & 5: 5PM, Ethan Colvis, Logan McDonald; 9AM, Nolin Crain, David Grau, William Grau

LITTLE CAESAR'S PIZZA SALE: Contact any SMS student to place an order for Little Caesar's Pizzas. They are also offering breadsticks, a deep dish apple crumble with caramel, and various flavors of cookie dough. Call the school office (826-3120) for more information.

CHESTER AREA CHRISTIAN FOOD PANTRY: Many thanks to everyone who donated to the Scout's food drive. Over 4,500 items were collected. The Pantry is in need of canned meats, canned fruit, and peanut butter.

EVANSVILLE K OF C FISH FRY will be held on Friday, Jan. 3, from 4:30-8PM. They will have four kinds of fish and seven different sides. Adults are \$12.50 and \$5.00 for children ages 5-12.

CHICKEN & BEER DANCE: St. John the Baptist, Smithton, will host the dance on Saturday, Jan. 4, at the Munier Center. Doors open at 6PM; chicken will be served starting at 6:30PM. Tickets are \$25 or donate an auction basket valued at \$25. Visit stjcb.givesmart.com for tickets or call 314-420-5840.

CHESTER K OF C FISH FRIES will begin on Friday, Jan. 10, from 4:30-7PM. This fish fry will benefit the Food Pantry. Come for dinner, enjoy some good fish, and visit with friends!

CATHOLIC SERVICE AND MINISTRY APPEAL...

Blessed to receive, chosen to give: At Sister Thea Bowman Catholic School – the only remaining Catholic elementary school in East St. Louis – 100% of the students graduate from high school and 95% attend colleges and universities! Your support of The Catholic Service and Ministry Appeal helps to make this possible. If you have not already done so, please consider making a gift today. The youngsters at Sister Thea Bowman are counting on you.

EVERY FAMILY IS HOLY: Pope Francis was not the first to urge us to see and be holy people. St. Paul, in Colossians 3: 12-17, calls us holy and beloved – and lists holy behaviors. It recalls the Old Testament covenants and the very peak of creation told in Genesis – human life. How will I, in phone call or letter, speak words of love to my siblings and parents? How will I be ever more holy this day? How will I help families who grieve or hunger or want?

HAPPY NEW YEAR! I share the following resolutions for the New Year 2020. 1) Participate faithfully each weekend as a family in the Eucharist. 2) Be an active parishioner. 3) Be proud of your Catholic Faith, Church, School, and Family. 4) Set aside time each week to do something as a family, even if it's just a meal. 5) Give of the gifts & blessings you have received, thus thanking God for all He has given you. 6) Pray each day, thereby being aware that you are to spread the Good News by all you say & do. 7) Lend a helping hand, pray for Peace in the world & in the hearts of all. Have a Happy & Blessed New Year!