

Feast of the Holy Family

Dear Friends: Once again, I would like to extend to all of you heartfelt wishes of Christmas joy! Christmas Day may be behind us, but the Christmas season has just begun and will continue for another couple of weeks. This weekend’s celebration of the Feast of the Holy Family is appropriately nestled into the Christmas season. It presents us with a model of what ideal family life should be like.

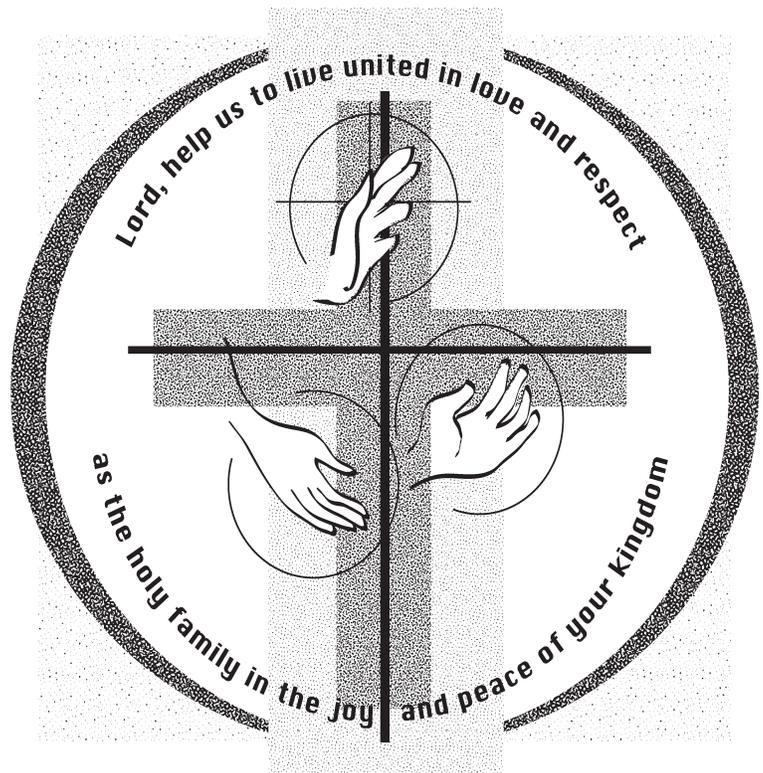
It should seem providential to us that we celebrate the Feast of the Holy Family during a season in which families are in focus. Christmas is the time that most family members try to be together. Being away from family during this season can be lonely. Being together with family at this time can be joyful. It can also highlight family imperfections as well.

This was a particularly joyful Christmas for me. After all the Masses and festivities concluded, I made my way to my parent’s house, as is my custom. The fatigue from numerous holiday activities, pastoral preparations, and late-night services was catching up to me, but I was determined not to let it inhibit me from savoring time with family. What was especially appealing to me about this year’s gathering is that both of my brothers, my sister-in-law, my nephew and his wife were all in town to celebrate. It isn’t often that we are all together like that. We caught up on the latest happenings in each other’s lives, we feasted on wonderful food, we engaged in a couple of lively games of Chicken Foot, and we all even managed to squeeze into a packed theater to watch the movie “Les Miserables.”

I must admit that I thoroughly enjoyed spending time with my kin. Its nice to be able to get together and to get a little crazy without fear that someone is going to think that we are actually crazy! Fortunately, with family there is a comfort level that makes it easy to be oneself.

While holidays with families can be joyful, sometimes they can be painful reminders that our families are far from perfect. I don’t know of any family that is without some problems. In fact, whining kids, little tantrums, stubbornness, and unreasonable demands are all a normal part of family life. Any number of other manifestations of strain within families may be present. Arguments about finances, lack of respect, and inconsiderate comments may be among these. Foul language, name-calling, repeated infractions, and habitual behaviors may likewise rear their ugly heads. If we were to compare our own family to that of the Holy Family, we might feel as though we fall far short.

All of this may seem discouraging. Many parents question whether or not they are doing an adequate job as parents. Children wonder whether or not they will ever find relief. Siblings may wonder if they will ever be able to get along with each other. Some family members may experience real alienation from each other. To be sure, family life is difficult and often quite strained.



Pastor

Fr. Paul Hesse

Parochial Vicar

Fr. Joseph Thang Nguyen

Permanent Deacons

Salvador (Sal) Alvarado

Manuel Marroquin

Parish Secretary/Bookkeeper

Lisa Catchings

Parish Office Assistant

Wilma Toledo

Music Minister

Michael Conley | 991-0995

Music Accompanist

Charles Branning

Youth Mass Band Leader

Mick Boudreau

Director of Religious Education

Sr. Barbara Netek, IWBS

*Director of Adult Faith Formation
and Director of RCIA*

Sr. Annette Wagner, IWBS | 1993-0299

Director of Youth Ministry

Robert Streight | 452-4513

Health Ministry

Dolores Saenz

School Principal

Kathy Clark

School Secretary

Leigh Anne Gibbon

Maintenance

Ernie Peña

Housekeeping

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If we find these things present in our family situation, it is important not to throw in the towel. The Holy Family is not held up for us as a model in order to implicate us. Rather, their role is to illuminate the path for us.

When we see the mutual respect, the charity, and the love that exists in the relationship of the Holy Family, it encourages us to strive for that ideal. The most important thing is to recognize that the Holy Family was able to accomplish what they accomplished due to the grace that was active between them. Our family life can only improve when we pray constantly and respond to the grace of God, which enables us to live in charity and love. Surrender to God's grace and open your eyes to the gift that you are to each other!



Heartfelt Thanks

We would like to thank everyone for the Christmas Cards, baked goods, gifts, and warm Christmas wishes we received during the Christmas holidays. Your genuine expressions of love and good will is very much appreciated! Be assured of our continued prayers for you and your loved ones throughout the New Year!

- Fr. Paul, Fr. Joseph, and Parish Staff

May He Rest in Peace

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Roman V. Arevalo who was buried through our church on Friday.

Women's Retreat

Ladies, mark your calendar for January 26, 2013. You are invited to come to the Parish Hall for a morning retreat just for you! More information to follow later.

Irish Festival

The Irish Festival this year is scheduled for Sunday, March 17th so we are calling all Leprechauns who would like to help with this celebration. Our first meeting will be Sunday, Jan. 6th at 1PM in the Parish Hall. If you cannot make it to the meeting but would like to help, let us know: irishfest13@aol.com

Rectory Office Hours:

Monday-Friday, 9:00AM-5:00PM

Schedule of Services

Masses: *First Friday: 5:30PM - Anointing of the Sick*

First Saturday: 8:15AM Vigil at 5:30PM.

Sunday: 8AM, 10AM, 12PM, 5:30PM (Youth Mass)

(Babysitting at 10AM and 12 noon Sunday Masses - Ages 6mo-5yrs - in Parish Hall Nursery)

Weekdays: Monday through Friday 8:15AM,

Wednesday & Friday 5:30PM

Holy Days: 7AM, 12PM & 6:30PM (Vigil 5:30PM)

Confessions: Saturdays - 4-5PM and 6:30-7:30PM

Marriages: By appointment only and notice six months in advance.

Weddings take place on weekdays any time and on Saturdays no later than 3:00PM

Baptismal Instruction: Pre-register through the office.

Anointing of the Sick: On request and at the 5:30PM Mass on First Fridays

January 1st is a Holy Day of Obligation

Tuesday, January 1st is the Solemnity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Mother of God and is a Holy Day of Obligation. In order to help you fulfill your obligation to attend Mass, we will have the following Mass times:

Monday, Dec. 31st

Vigil Mass - 5:30 p.m.

Tuesday, January 1st

Masses at 9:00 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.

Offices Closed for New Year's Day Holidays

The parish offices will be closed Monday, Dec. 31st and Tuesday, January 1st, for the New Year's Day holiday. The offices will re-open on Wednesday, January 2nd.

Epiphany Banquet for All Parish Volunteers

All parish volunteers, ministers, and members of parish organizations are cordially invited to an Epiphany Celebration in your honor. Invitations were mailed out this past week, but with so many volunteers to keep track of, it sometimes happens that we inadvertently overlook someone, or mail does not get delivered properly. In order to assure that no one gets left out, if you are involved in one of the above ministries or organizations and did not receive an invitation, please know that you are invited. Please contact the parish office to let us know you are coming.

First Friday Healing Mass

This coming Friday, the 4th of January the Anointing of the Sick will be celebrated at the 5:30PM Mass. Those who are seeking healing in their lives are invited to take part in Friday's Eucharist.

Rosary on First Saturdays

Our Lady says: "Pray the Rosary every day! The Rosary can stop wars, the Rosary can bring world peace, the Rosary can convert hearts".

On the first Saturday of each month a rosary will be said at 8AM before the 8:15 Mass. Our Blessed Mother asked us to make 5 first Saturdays for peace and the reparation of sins.

Financial Peace University

If you've ever wanted to get out of debt, invest, buy a home, save for your children's college, plan for retirement, or just be able to give more, our parish is now offering this class beginning January 6th at 10 a.m. The cost for the 9-week course is \$89. For more information, contact the parish office. It is worth it!

Comings and Goings

The Week at a Glance



Sunday, December 30

1:30PM - Baptism

Monday, December 31

OFFICE CLOSED

10:00AM - Private Mass

Tuesday, January 1

OFFICE CLOSED

Wednesday, January 2

7-8:00AM - Joyful Pillars - CC#2

9:00AM-12:00PM - MAP - CC#1

8:00PM - Youth Band practice -CH

Thursday, January 3

1:00PM - Bridge - CC#1&2

6:00PM - Bell Choir - C/R

7:00PM - Adoration - CH

7:30PM - Adult Choir - C/R

Friday, January 4

First Friday Communion Calls

5:30PM - Healing Mass - CH

Saturday, January 5

7:00PM - Epiphany Banquet for Volunteers - PH

Sunday, January 6

8:00-10:00AM - RCIA - CC#2

10:00AM - 12:00PM - Finance Seminar - CC#1

1:30PM - Baptism Class - CC#2



"Because I didn't have any decent church clothes. Why'd you join the choir?"

YOUTH CORNER



PARENTS OF BOTH EDGE AND LIFE TEEN: The EDGE and Life Teen ministries will be having a mandatory Parent Meeting for each ministry. For Parents of EDGE youth, the meeting will be on **January 9, 2013 at 6:30 pm** and will last for approximately 30 minutes. For Parents of Life Teen youth, the meeting will be on **January 6, 2013 at 6:30 pm** and will last 30 minutes. Both meetings will take place in the **Youth Center**. We will be calling families during the holidays to give reminders of this important meeting.

Summer Trip 2013: Sign-Up for the trip **will end on January 20, 2013**. Information for the trip will be discussed at the Parent Meeting on January 6, 2013.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

CCD classes and parents meeting start on January the 9th. at 6:30PM. Confirmation I classes starts on Jan the 14th.



ADULT FAITH FORMATION

EPIC: A Journey Through Church History



Sessions will begin on Monday, January 7, at 7:00 PM; and Tuesday, January 8, at 2:00 PM. We are still meeting in CC#2. We will pick up with Session 11. See you then!

JESUS
MARY
JOSEPH

Altar Servers

Jan. 4 th Healing Mass

5:30 p.m.
Paris Hanna
Luis Lopez
Jacob Lugo
Paxton Hanna



Jan. 5-6
Sat. 5:30 p.m.
MC Brittany McCarty
Dalton Zawicky
Kyle Pekar

Sun. 8:00 a.m.
Christian Toren
Benjamin Toren
Joseph Toren
Justin Gomez

Sun. 12:00 p.m.
MC Sara Rucker
School will serve

Sun. 10:00 a.m.
MC Lali Rodriguez
MC Joshua Harney
Jordyn Harney
Joe Aidan Harney

Sun. 5:30 p.m.
MC Olivia Tamez
MC Steven Wendel
Josh Ramirez
Kyle Wendel
Sarah Ramirez

Lectors

EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

JAN 5	SAT	5:30 P.M.	Dottie Hill
JAN 5	SAT	5:30 P.M.	Fred McCutchon
JAN 6	SUN	8:00 A.M.	Joan Hennings
JAN 6	SUN	8:00 A.M.	Tracie Jensen
JAN 6	SUN	10:00 A.M.	Richard Arizmendi
JAN 6	SUN	10:00 A.M.	Theresa Arizmendi
JAN 6	SUN	12:00 NOON	Art Aubin
JAN 6	SUN	12:00 NOON	Tambra Milot
JAN 6	SUN	5:30 P.M.	Alma Tamez
JAN 6	SUN	5:30 P.M.	Mike Winstead

SAFE ENVIRONMENT (CMSE) CLASSES

RE-CERTIFICATION: Please check your blue cards and if it is expired, attend one of the following recertification classes. There are some changes in the certification process and they will be explained to you. Please bring your expired certification card with you.

ALL CLASSES ARE IN CC#1 AT 6:30 pm

Re-certification class dates:

January 8	February 12	March 12
April 9	May 14	

Christmas isn't always pretty

At Christmas time, our nativity sets usually show an idyllic scene of Mary and Joseph kneeling at Jesus' crib with shepherds and kings worshipping in the background. But that's probably not how it was. Being a follower of Jesus isn't always that pretty.

Remember, Mary and Joseph traveled in the last stages of her pregnancy from Nazareth to Bethlehem. On foot or donkey, it was a dirty and exhausting journey. Once there, they had to stay in a stable with animals. After a short time,



they fled to Egypt with their newborn to escape danger, and stayed there for several years. There wasn't a lot of standing around gazing adoringly at the Baby.

Refugees all over the world flee from violence like the Holy Family. Catholics have a special task to protect them and all the most vulnerable: the children, the elderly, and the poor. God has a special job for each of us in his mission of salvation. Ask God what he is calling you to do for him.

from **Scripture**

Luke 2:41-52;
Jesus is found in the temple

The Feast of the Holy Family (Dec. 30) includes the story of finding Jesus in the Temple, a story of love and obedience. Jesus, Mary, and Joseph traveled to Jerusalem for the Passover, as was the custom for Jews of that time. They traveled in a large group for protection against bandits who infested the hill country. So it wasn't surprising that his parents didn't miss Jesus as they started the return trip. Upon discovering him missing, they hurried back to Jerusalem.

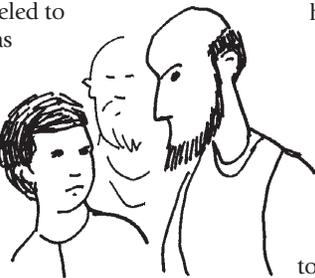
On the third day of searching, they found Jesus in the Temple. He was

questioning the priests and amazing them with his understanding. However, Mary asked how he could have caused his parents so much

worry and Jesus replied, "Did you not know I must be in my Father's house?"

Though they were puzzled by his answer, Mary and Joseph took Jesus back to Nazareth. He remained there in

obedience to his parents until it was time for his public ministry. We learn from this story to obey not only God but also those in authority over us.



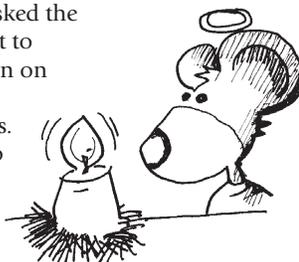
Feasts & Celebrations

Dec. 14 – St. John of the Cross (1591). St. John led a reform in the Carmelite order to encourage more prayer and simplicity. Because of a misunderstanding, he was jailed for nine months, but some of his beautiful spiritual and inspiring writing came from this experience. His mystical-poetical reflections showed his love of prayer.

Dec. 21 – St. Peter Canisius (1597). Born in Holland, he was ordained into the Society of Jesus (the Jesuits) and worked strenuously through his writings and teachings to safeguard the

Catholic faith. His work, *The Catechism of the Catholic Church*, is still used today.

Dec. 27 – St. John (1st century). An apostle and friend of Jesus, St. John was known for his fiery temper. He and his brother, called "Sons of Thunder," once asked Jesus if he could call down fire from heaven on an inhospitable town. Later in his life, he and St. Peter asked the Holy Spirit to come down on the Samaritans. Friendship with Jesus changes a person.



Q & A What does the Holy Spirit do for us?

Among the many offices the third member of the Holy Trinity performs, we receive gifts from the Holy Spirit through the Sacrament of Confirmation.

Just like a tree can produce fruit, the gifts of the Holy Spirit produce fruits. The fruits "are perfections that the Holy Spirit forms in us as the first fruits of

eternal glory. The Church lists twelve of them: charity, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, generosity, gentleness, faithfulness, modesty, self-control, chastity." (*Catechism of the Catholic Church, 1832*)

These fruits help us to live the two great commandments: "Therefore you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your soul... You shall love your neighbor as yourself." (Mark 12:30-31)

As long as we are in a state of grace, the fruits will keep us in harmony with God and with each other. When we exercise the fruits, we follow Christ's example and model to those around us. They are the essence of living the Christian life.

Mass Intentions



- Sat. 12/29 5:30PM Richard J. Shirley's Anniversary by Patricia Janosek
- Sun. 12/30 8:00AM Cecil Newbury by Sister Mary Ann Pagano
 10:00AM David Case's Anniversary by Mary Fodor
 12:00PM Ricardo Saenz' Anniversary by family
 5:30PM For the Parishioners
 7:30PM Gio A. Kim Nguyen by Lisa Nguyen
- Mon. 12/31 8:15AM Joyce Shirley's Anniversary by Willie Mae Shirley & family
 5:30PM For the Parishioners
- Tue. 1/1 9:00AM For the Parishioners
 11:00AM Grace Gonzalez by Martha Saenz
- Wed., 1/2 8:15AM Teresa Anorga's Anniversary by the Tamez family
 Debra Gerdes by Angie Gerdes
 5:30PM Filiberto Martinez by Carolyn Canchola
 Alene Koenig by Harly & Karen Day
- Thu. 1/3 8:15AM Ricardo Saenz by family
- Fri. 1/4 8:15AM Paulita Barrera by family
 5:30PM Gumecinda Salinas by Art & Mary Salinas
 Anna Mae Moses by Theresie Krnavek
- Sat. 1/5 8:15AM Gilbert Schanen by Nancy Schanen
 5:30PM Angie Rossi by the Rossi family
- Sun. 1/6 8:00AM Armi & Robert Pigott 40th Wedding Anniversary Intentions by family
 10:00AM Maximina Rivera's Anniversary by the Ramirez, Leal & Hinojosa families
 12:00PM Joe Shropshire's Anniversary by Helen Shropshire
 5:30PM For the Parishioners

Financial Report

will return next week due to the holidays

"WE CARE" for children and adults



JOSEPH F. CONIGLIO D.D.S., M.S.
 ORTHODONTIST

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Please Pray for our Sick & Shut-Ins:

Manuel Balbin, Madison Beckwith, Ann Bednorz, Don Birt, Sgt. 1st Class William Boone, Bill Brumback, Bob Byrd, Stella & Michael Campos, Ashley Carroll, Reana Carter, Riana Carter, Sherry Coveyou, Jason Cox, Shirley Curry, Alicia de Boza, Florinda De La Garza, Mark DeGaish, Sandy DeGregorio, Minga DeLosSantos, Samantha Didear Deste, Liz Elovitz, Yolanda Escobar, Juan A. Flores, Bobby Floyd, Raymond Garcia, Jr., Elida Gonzalez, Glenda Graham, Vickie Grainger, Maria Griffin, Charlotte & Tommy Groner, Jared Groner, Terry Groner, Coleen Habeeb, Marie Habeeb, Rose Marie Hand, James Hartman, Corina Herndon, Cathy Hervey, Chris Holland, Graham Hughes, Lucas Jean-Baptiste Ramirez, Matteo Jean-Baptiste Ramirez, Elizabeth Johnson, Martha Kaler, Mary Kelly, Dorothy Krause, Arlene Leep, Ed Lewis, Alois Lup, Arlene Lup, Cynthia Lup, Dorothy Mathews, Michael McCloskey, Jean McCullough, Virginia Medrano, Robert Miller, Johnnye Lee Mokry, John Morgan, Dan Murray, Anna Nicolas, Toufic Nicolas, Patricia Paris, Phil Perabo, Robert M. Pope, Ron Randolph, Raymond Richter, Marguerite Ross, Luis Salazar, Tim Salch, Janie San Miguel & children, Amber Saylor, Terry Schacherl, Josephine Sheldon, Tina Shepherd, Msgr. Richard Shirley, Willie Mae Shirley, Mary Pat Slavik, Maxine Sommers, Adrian Sosa, Lydia Tey, Idolina Vela, Luz Villarreal, Melva Walet, Mary Lois Webster, Bea Wilson, Dolly Zihelli, Sarah Zuniga and all those who asked for and need our prayers.

LORD
 Bless us all
 in the coming year



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