

# The Feast of the Holy Family

Dear Friends,

It's a hard way of life. There never seems to be enough hours in the day to get everything done that needs to be done. Adequate sleep seems to be in short supply. There is always something or someone that demands immediate attention. Random things always interrupt the most carefully planned day. Innumerable hours are spent in counseling, listening to problems, offering advise, bringing comfort, resolving conflict, and extending healing. Being on call for a late night dash to the emergency room is just part of the job. So much effort is poured into everything, but no one seems to appreciate it. It is a thankless vocation. Sound familiar?

No. I'm not describing the life of a priest, although in many ways it does accurately describe what our lives as priests are like. What I'm actually referring to is the life of parents!

People often mention to me that life as a priest must be really difficult. They admire how much we priests sacrifice our lives for the sake of others. So many have thanked me for saying "yes" to such a hard life. Yet, I always tell people that I don't consider my vocation to be any more difficult than that of parents. In fact, I think of parents as having the harder vocation. At least I can usually go to sleep on my own terms at night. I may always be on call, but parents are on call 24/7!

I admire parents because they have to deal with kids all the time. They have to put up with screaming, yelling, complaining, emotional tirades, struggles with homework, running from one activity to another, getting them in bed, getting them up, and forming them into responsible human beings. Children each have their different issues and needs that require unique solutions.

Parents have to face tough decisions about where to send their kids to school, how to pay for college, how to address behavioral problems, whether or not to let them date this boy or that girl, and how to balance work with family life. Parents also deal with their own feelings of inadequacy regarding child-rearing. On top of that, parents also have to struggle to come to agreement with each other about how to address certain problems that arise with their children.

Most parents I know have to deliberate over medical issues, financial issues, and other things, while also providing good meals, creating wholesome family traditions, and a positive environment in which to nurture their children. Whether it is a two parent family, a single-parent family, or a family dealing with divorce, it simply is not easy to juggle the many variables that are present in family life.

Children too have a challenging life. They have to learn to cooperate with parents and siblings in the home. Children have to learn to live up to what is expected of them and they need to develop responsibilities related to their position in the family. So often, they are not in control of the situations that occur everyday, and they must learn to adapt to the circumstances as they come. They have to accompany family to a sibling's extracurricular events, and wait patiently for parents while they converse with friends. They have to share toys, chores, and even rooms. Family life is tough.

It would be nice if everything in family life were neat and tidy. Unfortunately, things are not usually that way. We have to take it as it is, with all of its strengths and with all of its weaknesses. Whatever the state of perfection or imperfection the family is in, it is precisely the environment where love can grow.

This weekend, we celebrate the Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph. They are held



*Live as the Holy Family. Unite yourselves in love and respect for each other, live in peace with all people and pray that you may share in the life of the Lord.*

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Saint Pius X  
CATHOLIC CHURCH AND SCHOOL "To renew all things in Christ"  
50 Years of Faith

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up for us as a model of what family life is. Mary and Joseph shine as examples for us because they responded to the grace that God afforded them. Their lives were not void of challenges and difficulty either. They lived in exile in a foreign land, they endured the hardship of making ends meet. They knew the daily trials of hard work and labor. Yet, we find that they had a deep respect for each other and, because they were receptive to God's action in their lives, they exemplified the mutual dignity, love, and respect that should be present in all families.

Parenting is tough business. Parenting well is even tougher. Maintaining love and keeping faith alive in the family is not for the fainthearted. However, if we look to the Holy Family as our model, God's blessings will descend upon our families, and he will enable all of us to be find joy in our lives together! God bless!

### **Parish Offices Closed**

The parish offices will be closed Tuesday - Friday, December 30th - January 2nd, for the New Year holiday. They will reopen on Monday, January 5th, at 9:00 a.m.

### **No Adoration This Week**

So that families can enjoy New Year's Day together, Adoration will not be held this

Thursday, January 1st. We will resume Adoration on Thursday, January 8, 2015.

### **Mass Schedule on New Year's Day-Holy Day of Obligation**

The Vigil Mass will be at 5:30 p.m. on Wednesday, December 31st, and then at 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. on Thursday, January 1st. There is no evening Mass on New Year's Day.

### **Healing Mass Next Friday**

Our parish will celebrate the Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick at Mass this coming Friday, January 2nd at 5:30 p.m. All who are infirm, preparing for surgery, or advanced in years are particularly encouraged to join us for the Sacrament of Healing.

### **2015 Calendars**

Our 2015 calendars can be found at the doors of the church. So that all of our parish families have the opportunity to get one, please be sure that you are taking only one calendar per parish family.

### **Thank You Seaside Funeral Home**

We would like to extend our thanks to Seaside Memorial Park & Funeral Home for, once again, providing us with our Catholic Heritage calendars which were distributed to parishioners for 2015.

Parish Office Hours:

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

### **Schedule of Services**

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

*First Saturday: 8:15AM*

*Saturday: 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: 8:15AM, 12PM & 6:00PM(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 2:00PM*

*Baptismal Instruction: Pre-register through the office.*

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

## Blood Drive at St. Pius

Got Blood? Giving so that others may live! The bloodmobile will be here today from 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. All donors will receive a Sonic coupon, t-shirt and donor store points! Top 5 Reasons to Give Blood:

\*Cancer, transplant and trauma patients, and patients undergoing open-heart surgery may require platelet transfusions to survive.

\*If all blood donors gave three times a year, blood shortages would be a rare event (The current average is about two.)

\*The Coastal Bend Blood Center provides blood for patients at 13 medical facilities in 10 Coastal Bend counties; your donation helps those patients.

\*About 1 in 7 people entering a hospital need blood.

\*One pint of blood can save up to three lives.

## Comings and Goings

*The Week at a Glance*



Sunday, December 28th

9:00AM-2:00PM – BLOOD DRIVE

1:00PM – Baptism

Monday, December 29th

7:30PM – Angels – CC#1

Tuesday, December 30th

OFFICE CLOSED

6:00-8:00AM – Men's Journey – CC#1&2

10:00AM-12:00PM – Journey – CC#2

Wednesday, December 31st

OFFICE CLOSED

Thursday, January 1st

OFFICE CLOSED

Friday, January 2nd

OFFICE CLOSED

5:30PM – Healing Mass – CH

6:30PM – Santo Niño Mass - CH

Saturday, January 3rd

2:00PM – Wedding - CH

Sunday, January 4th

K. of C.'s Sale of Raffle Tickets

8:30-10:00AM – RCIA – YC

10:00AM – Scouts at Mass – CH & Cafeteria

1:30PM – Baptism class – CC#1

## ST. PIUS X YOUTH MINISTRY

**Edge (6th-8th grade)**

We are taking a break over the holidays, but we'll be starting back up on January 7th so we hope to see you all then!

## Life Teen (9th-12th grade)

We hope you all enjoy your break, and we look forward to seeing you when we return on January 11th.

## COMING UP

We are excited to announce that we are having a Life Teen retreat at the beautiful El Shaddai Retreat Center from February 13-15. God is calling you to "Be Mine" at this retreat February 13-15th as we examine how our relationship with Him impacts our relationships with others. All high school students are welcome (and this can also fulfill the retreat requirement for confirmation candidates). So mark your calendars now and we will have registration forms available at our return Life Night on January 11th.

We are also looking into providing a retreat for our EDGE teens this spring, so watch the bulletin after the break for more info.



## Altar Servers

January 2nd – 5:30 p.m.

- Healing Mass

Toby Johnson

Emily Rodriguez

Briana Rodriguez

Sun. 10:00 a.m.

MC Brianna Salazar

MC Dalton Rives

Emily Salazar

Ryan Rives

Sean Campos

January 3-4

Sat. 5:30 p.m.

MC Kyle Pekar

Hannah Cazalas

Preston Cazalas

Pierson Cazalas

Sun. 12:00 p.m.

MC Ranger Quintero

Matthew Lutz

Kyler Ross

Christian Mirabal

Sun. 8:00 a.m.

MC Santiago Mendizabal

Lucy Kainer

Maddie Benson

Ethan Benson

Sun. 5:30 p.m.

MC Marisa Matthijetz

MC Isaac Matthijetz

Benjamin Mikulencak

Hudson Mikulencak

## Epiphany Banquet for Parish Volunteers

If you are a parish volunteer, ministers or member of a parish organization and have not received your Epiphany Banquet invite in the mail, please call, 993-4053, or email the parish office at [parishoffice@stpiusxcc.org](mailto:parishoffice@stpiusxcc.org) by tomorrow, December 29th, to RSVP. The invitation is for you and your spouse or one guest only.

## Confirmation II - Mandatory Meeting

There will be a mandatory meeting for all Confirmation II candidates, parents and sponsors, on Monday, January 12th, at 6:30 p.m. in the youth building.

## Mass Intentions



### Saturday, December 27th

5:30PM † James T. Catchings by Lisa & Dewayne Catchings

### Sunday, December 28th

8:00AM † Mathews Deceased Relatives by Dorothy Mathews

10:00AM † Jesus Medina's Anniversary by Elva Arellano Rodriguez

12:00PM † David Case's Anniversary by Mary Fodor

5:30PM For the Parishioners

7:30PM † Peter Loi by family

### Monday, December 29th

8:15AM † Richard J. Shirley's Anniversary by Patricia Janosek

### Tuesday, December 30th

8:15AM † Cecil Newbury by Sr. Mary Ann Pagano

### Wednesday, December 31st

8:15AM † Sarah Ann Schmidt by Peter & Joanne Volpe

† Donella McHugh by Roseanne Conger

Bill & Nancy Lee Healing Intentions

5:30PM † Joyce Shirley's Anniversary by Willie Mae Shirley

† Bruce A. Balli by family

† Cynthia Schuman by Berta Guerrero

† Don Leiser by Bill & Button Ruzicka

† Albin Janosek's Anniversary by family

### Thursday, January 1st

9:00AM † Christopher & John Janosek by John & Debra Janosek

11:00AM For the Parishioners

### Friday, January 2nd

8:15AM † Sarah Ann Schmidt by Peter & Joanne Volpe

5:30PM † Teresa Anorga's Anniversary by the Tamez family

† Don Leiser by Dorothy Mathews

† Grace Gonzalez & Irma Nichols by Eligio & Martha Saenz

### Saturday, January 3rd

8:15AM † Richard Rodriguez by Bonifacio Rodriguez & family

5:30PM † Ricardo Saenz' Anniversary by Dolores Saenz

### Sunday, January 4th

8:00AM † Gumecinda & Alejandro Salinas by Art & Mary Salinas

10:00AM † Paulita Barrera by the Barrera family

12:00PM † Anna Mae Moses by Theresie Kmavek

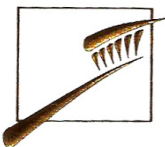
5:30PM For the Parishioners

## Please Pray for our Sick & Shut-Ins:

Marcie Aguilar, Alicia & Luis Alvarado, Henry Aragon, Luisa Arevalo, Sugar Arras, Ann Bednorz, James Buehrig, John Braunstein, Cecil Brezina, Stella & Michael Campos, Mary Lee Cantwell, Sabrina Cisneros, Olivia Cordova, Shirley Currie, Andrea Dahlstrom, Patrick Delgado, Mark DeGaish, Pat & Sandy DeGregorio, Florinda DeLaGarza, Minga DeLosSantos, Samantha Didear Deste, Pud'n Dellinger, Annie Dornak, Liz Elovitz, Natalie & Elaine Elwood, Elijah Ethridge, Bobby Floyd, Jay Francis, Sherry Frenzel, Esperanza Garcia, Antonio Garza, Dora Garza, Terry Garza, Sally Gilbreath, Elida Gonzalez, Maria Griffin, Charlotte & Tommy Groner, Jared Groner, Suzy Guzman, Colleen Habeeb, Marie Habeeb, Rose Marie Hand, James Hartman, Bill Hennings, Chris Holland, Josh Holland, Graham Hughes, Ben Janosek, Debra Janosek, Elizabeth Johnson, Dorothy Krause, Dora Lambert, Arlene Leep, Richard Lewandowski, Dorothy Mathews, Michael McCloskey, Virginia Medrano, John Morgan, Jackie O'Keeffe, Sharron Odle, Patricia Paris, Tom Patterson, Robert M. Pope, Dolores Puckett, Raymond Richter, Bonifacio Rodriguez, John & Irene Rosales, Rebecca Rosales, Marguerite Ross, Paul Rossi, Albert Rubio, David Russell, Billy Ruzicka, Americo Salazar, Luis Salazar, Tim Salch, Amber Saylor, Josephine Sheldon, Tina Shepherd, Msgr. Richard Shirley, Willie Mae Shirley, Helen Shropshire, Judy Slaughter, Adrian Sosa, Renato Sovran, Eian Stamp, Mary Ann Starkey, Mamie Stoner, Lydia Tey, Diane Thompson, Norbert & Rosalind Thonnard, Sara Trevino, Luke Valdez, Idolina Vela, Luz Villarreal, Liz Vrana, Melva Walet, Carole & Paul Zanetti, Sarah Zuniga and all those who asked for and need our prayers.



CHARLES M. ALLEN, D.D.S.



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Smile... God loves you!

