



The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph December 30, 2018

Dear Members and Friends of St. Mary's/
St. Patrick's, and St. Peter's Cathedral:

On this Sunday after Christmas, the Church celebrates the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph. This feast fits perfectly into the twelve days of Christmas and like Solemnity of Mary on New Year's Day it provides an additional opportunity to look at and reflect upon the meaning of the incarnation. (And remember that January 1 is a Holy Day of Obligation!)

We are reminded on this day that Jesus was born into a family. The circumstances were unique, but to all appearances the Holy Family was an ordinary family. There is a mother, a father and a child. The parents protect, form, and guide the child. The Holy Family is a reminder to us that Jesus is fully human. Not only did the Son of God take human flesh; he took it in the ordinary context. When he became one of us, he became one like us.

The family these days, as we all know, is under stress. Social conditions, materialism, and the sexual revolution discourage many young people from marrying and forming families. In some quarters the very idea of the family is under attack as a regressive, patriarchal institution that oppresses women and children. For too many people the ideal

of complete personal autonomy devastates any understanding of the beautiful sacrifices entailed in family life.

So the Holy Family provides us not just with a theological lesson about the incarnation. It also provides a beautiful example – a sort of icon – of something to which people can aspire. Not all are called to marriage and not all are blessed with children, but marriage and children are a blessing for all. Certainly, the perfections of the Holy Family exceed our grasp, but the beauty of the Holy Family and the beauty of images of the Holy Family call us to something higher and better.

Images of the Holy Family call us to see Jesus in his full humanity and therein to comprehend the fullness of God's love for us. They call us – men in particular – to imitate Joseph the faithful protector. There is a good reason why St. Joseph is the patron of the Universal Church. And they call us to see in Mary's faith, trust and discipleship a model for us and a Mother for us all.

In Christ,

Fr. Klein
Rector

Pray for the Sick

Darlene Bargelski, Facenda Burton, Michael Dineen, Helen Dugan, Cal Fuhrmann, Jaxon Gardner, Valencia Giannantonio, Ann Hagan, David Kidd, Kathy Kingsley, Fr. Leonard Klein, Rita Lynam, Bill Marshall, Barbara Mondzelewski, Francesca Olivere, Alice Goetz O'Neill, Teresa Rodriguez, Earlene Roles, John Sarnecky, Howard Scott, Cheryl Smith and Olga Yapó.

2019 Calendars

Help yourself to our 2019 calendars in the back of Church.

Birthday Wishes

Prayers and warm wishes for the following parishioners who have birthdays this week: **December 29:** David Haar, Clara Menton; **January 2:** Dennis Menton, Jr., Jessamy Hummel

Contribution Report

If you need a copy of your contribution report for your 2018 tax return, please call the Parish Office. Contribution reports are only sent upon request.

Masses/Services for the Week

Saturday, Dec. 29

4:00 PM Howard and Gloria Dobson

Sunday, Dec. 30

(The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph)

8:00 AM Parishioners

11:00 AM Living Intentions of the Kennard Family

Monday, Dec. 31

(m, Seventh Day Within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord; Saint Sylvester I, Pope)

9:00 AM Stanislaw Rzonca

Tuesday, Jan. 1

(S, Solemnity of Mary, The Holy Mother of God, The Octave Day of the Nativity of the Lord [holy day of obligation])

10 AM James and Marie Golden

Wednesday, Jan. 2

(M, Saints Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzen, Bishops, Doctors of the Church)

12:10 PM Betty Mulrine

Thursday, Jan. 3

(m, The Most Holy Name of Jesus)

12:10 PM Jay Thompson (L)

Friday, Jan. 4

(M, Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton, Religious)

12:10 PM Sr. Mary George Barlow, D.C.

Saturday, Jan. 5

4:00 PM Anna E. Smith

Sunday, Jan. 6

(The Epiphany of the Lord)

8:00 AM Frances Licki

11:00 AM Parishioners

Mass Schedule

Mass for Monday, December 31 will be at 9 AM and Tuesday, January 1 will be at 10 AM (there will be no 12:10 PM Masses on those days).

History Book in Celebration of the 150th Anniversary
"Rejoicing in the Lord," has been published to help commemorate the 150th anniversary of the Catholic Diocese of Wilmington. This book features histories and photographs of all Catholic churches in Delaware and Maryland's Eastern Shore. Books will be available after all Masses in the back of Church. The cost is \$35.00 per copy. If you would like to reserve a copy while supplies last, please call the Parish Office at (302) 654-5920 or email cathedralstp@comcast.net.

Book of Sacred Liturgy

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Readings/Responsorial Psalm Pg. 484

Angels We Have Heard on High #783

What Child is This #785

Good Christian Men Rejoice #801

Word of Life

"Blessed Joseph, You took Mary and Jesus into your home. You followed the prescripts of the Law, presented Jesus in the Temple, taught him skills at the plane and the lathe, and, daily, you shared traditions which were built on the covenants he came to fulfill. Hear the prayers of the siblings, grandparents, aunts, uncles, and entire families of children who have been adopted. May they be a source of loving welcome and a fount of faith. Through Christ our Lord. St. Joseph, descendant of David, pray for us."

—USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities "Novena to St Joseph for Those on the Path of Adoption."

Thank You!

A word of thanks to all who helped make Advent and the Christmas Season so beautiful, prayerful and dignified at the Cathedral. Special thanks go out to Michael Davidson and all who participated in the music ministry during this time, as well as to Maggie Menton and all who assisted in assembling, and maintaining the Cathedral's Christmas decorations.

Catholic Forum

Listen to *Catholic Forum* anytime at www.cdown.org/Catholic-Forum, or search "Catholic Forum" on Apple, Spotify, or iHeartRadio podcasts. Next Sunday, January 6, Leila Miller will discuss her book, *Made This Way: How to Prepare Kids to Face Today's Tough Moral Issues*.

Marriage Help

Retrouvaille is Christian-based, and Catholic in origin, but welcomes couples of all faiths as well as non-religious couples. The next program begins on the weekend of February 8-10 at the Family Life Center in Malvern, PA. Additional weekends will be held in April and August. For more information or to register for one of the weekend programs, visit www.HelpOurMarriage.com or call 1-800-470-2230. All inquiries are kept strictly confidential.

Vocation Reflection

We have so much to learn from the Holy Family: Mary allows God's will to change her life; Joseph pays close attention to and follows the prompting of the angel; Jesus says to the Father "not my will, but Thine be done." What is the Father's will for *you*? Are you taking steps to find out? If you think God might be calling you to live out a religious vocation, call or write Fr. Norm Carroll, Diocesan Director of Priestly and Religious Vocations (302) 573-3113; vocations@cdow.org. And check out our website: www.cdown.org/vocations!