



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

UPCOMING DATES

Tues Jan 1, New Years Day Mass 9 AM
Wed Jan 2, St. Elizabeth Guild Meeting 1 PM
Finance Committee Meeting (TBA)
St. Colman Guild Meeting (TBA)

PRAY FOR OUR BROTHERS & SISTERS

Who are ill or in pain: Nilda Falero, Don Schaffert, Lawrence Peterson, Claudette West, Alan Barich, Ed Copeland, Andrew Cebalo, Nina Cantacessi, Posie, William Donnellan, Ernest Souder, Robert Cebalo, Kathleen Sheridan, Sister Gabrielle, Virginia Loosli, David Cross, Helen Johnson, Billy Henthorn, Steve Arcia, Jim & Mary Crowther, Lorelie Fulwider, Fr. Andrew Metcalf, JoAnn Coules, Dinah Smith, Lorna Marie Hastings, Laverne Jones, Joanne & Bill Rodgers, John Breig, Linda Schmidt, Michell Jackson, Jim Ward, Nini Sanchez, Jacqueline Donovan, Art McNulty, Terry Devlin, Mary Hall Smith, Stan Moorman, Maggie Nelson, Stella Dunne, Nina Cantacessi, John Hoffman, Mary Tamargo, Don La Plante, Sarah & David, Ed Fulwider, Vicki Gonzalez, Jesus Chavez Torres.

Who have been called to Eternal Life: Evelyn Shuster, John Seymour, George Ayoob, Charlie Marbach, Joe Mercieca, Elaine Benson, Suzi Schaffert, Janet Guidotti, Keith Poulsen, Doris Porras, Helen Leseberg, Bette Campbell, Margaret Maher, Carole Williams, Fr. Philip Ryan, Joseph Kobler, Rebecca Jane Ruiz, Janine Bekker Carrig, Margie Sanchez, Matthew Gonzalez, Billy Ferree, Tom King, Tom Kelly, Axel Avera, Victor Theander, John Sanchez, Don Covello.

PARISH DONATIONS

No information at this time.

MASS INTENTIONS

Sat 4 pm: All Parishioners
Sat 5 pm: George Ayoob⁺
Sun 9 am: John Seymour⁺
Sun 11 am: All Parishioners

READINGS

1 Sm 1: 20-22. 24-28 or Sir 3: 2-6. 12-14
Ps 84: 2-3. 5-6. 9-10
1 Jn 3: 1-2. 21-24 or Col 3: 12-21
Lk 2: 41-52

PASTOR'S DESK

Popular author, the late *Merle Shain* told the story of a man she knew who searched for fulfillment all his life:

"In the beginning, perhaps because he was born poor, he thought it had to do with having things that money seems to carry in its wake. And after he'd become an engineer and then a developer and a millionaire, he discovered that money was not it. So, he tried serial dating and fancy cars -- even a dog and a yacht, but they failed him too. So, he tried traveling, and not working, and ultimately dropping out, but nothing seemed to help.

"By the time I'd met him," she wrote, "he'd searched everywhere anyone could suggest he look. He searched and searched, trying to find the thing that had eluded him. He tried guitar lessons, taking three a day, one in classical guitar, one in flamenco, and one from a folk singer.

"He tried figure skating, practicing by day, and working his figures out with his slide rule every night. He tried antique collecting -- filling his apartment with so many grandfather clocks and

Persian rugs he had to open up a store. He alternately tried eating and dieting, getting married and divorced, and finally, he tried fasting and celibacy and giving up his worldly goods.

"He'd been a Buddhist Monk for several years when I saw him next. His hair was gray, he wore a robe, but he still looked the same. And when I asked him if he'd found fulfillment yet, he answered, 'No, it's still out there.'"

God, in His goodness, provides for our fulfillment, beginning in infancy when we are helpless. He offers a place where we are loved, a place where we are accepted, a place where we can make mistakes, a place where we can try out rebellion, a place where we can grow and stretch and learn.

Often there are times when we all yearn for more out of life. Moreover, what we craved last year -- even last week -- isn't enough today. It remains that elusive butterfly, that ferry boat pulling away from the dock. It's still out there, we imagine. And the chase goes on ... and on ... and on ... until we begin to understand that it's not out there, but in here. And that starts with the family. When you said "Yes" to Jesus Christ, you were brought into a "family" and never again were you alone in the way you were before. Never!

No matter who you are or where you are on your journey to fulfillment, remember: You are loved! You have a family, and the family is here!

Happy New year!

Fr. Luis

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Thanks to the 30+ parishioners who gathered to decorate the church for our Christmas services hanging wreaths, lighting the trees, setting up the manger and in the background the beautiful music of the choir practicing. It was a wonderful community experience.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

by Anne Osdiek, St. Louis University

First Reading:

Sirach 3:2-6, 12-14, 1 Samuel 1:20-22, 24-28

1. Sirach: God brings each of us to the other by uniting us to the Trinity. Discuss. Does God's love for someone help you to love that person?
2. 1 Samuel: Sunday's feast celebrates not only the Holy Family—Jesus, Mary and Joseph—but also the Christmas family of God that we all become. Explain.

Second Reading:

Colossians 3:12-21 or 3:12-17 1 John 3:1-2, 21-24

1. John: What does the term "children of God" imply about God? St. John says we can have confidence in God and receive from him whatever we ask. What kinds of things do you ask for?
2. Colossians: St. Paul says how we can love each other and live together with "heartfelt compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience, bearing with one another and forgiving one another. ..." How are you doing with these things in your life? How are we as Church doing with them?

Gospel Luke 2:41-52

1. Imagine Mary's and Joseph's anxiety as they searched for Jesus for three whole days. And imagine the long-term anxiety his answer gave them: "Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?" How do you think Mary reacted? How would you have reacted?
2. "He went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was obedient to them ..." Pope Francis told the people in the Philippines that we are all called to make a home for Jesus. What does the Pope recommend that we do to make this happen?

As Christians, you too are called, like Joseph, to make a home for Jesus. You make a home for him in your hearts, your families, your parishes and your communities.

To hear and accept God's call, to make a home for Jesus, you must be able to rest in the Lord. You must make time each day for prayer. But you may say to me: Holy Father, I want to pray, but there is so much work to do! I must care for my children; I have chores in the home; I am too tired even to sleep well. This may be true, but if we do not pray, we will not know the most important thing of all: God's will for us. And for all our activity, our busyness, without prayer we will accomplish very little.

Pope Francis Meeting with Families

Sri Lanka and the Philippines

Friday, 16 January 2015

Does your will include your gift to God?

To be placed on our Sunday Bulletin email list, send your request to: ChurchElizabeth@comcast.net

The deadline for Bulletin submissions is Wednesday at 5pm. Submit them (proofread and spell-checked) via email or the following meetings at St. Hubert's Hall:

St. Elizabeth Guild Meeting (1st Wednesday at 1 pm)

Finance Committee Meeting (3rd Wednesday at 4 pm)

St. Colman Guild Meeting (4th Tuesday at 12 pm)