Those whom the LORD has ransomed will return and enter Zion singing, crowned with everlasting joy; they will meet with joy and gladness, sorrow and mourning will flee.

~ Isaiah 35:10

December 15, 2019
Third Sunday of Advent

Complimentary 2020 Calendars
Complimentary Holy Family 2020 calendars are available to be picked up near all the Church doors.

Young Adult Sunday Gospel Discussion
The Young Adult Gospel Discussion will meet today following the 9am Mass in the Nazareth House, 3144 Zarthan Avenue. No preparation or RSVP is required for this casual discussion. Please contact Mary Fink with any questions at 763.307.3947 or email mary.stlucy@gmail.com.

Blessing of Expectant Mothers
All expectant mothers are invited to receive a special blessing today, Sunday, December 15th at 10:30am. Please come to the communion rail. Family is welcome to attend!

Blessing of the “Bambinelli”
During the 11am Mass, we will have a special blessing for the Baby Jesus figurine from your nativity scene so it will be all ready to display come Christmas Eve!

Our Lady of Guadalupe Fiesta
Reminder: if you have made a reservation for today’s event please come down to Fr. Moorman Hall following the 11am Mass for lunch and festivities.

Theology à la Carte
Youth group activities are open to all current 8-12 graders with a welcome to recent Youth Group alumni. We will meet in the Nazareth House Sunday, December 15th from 6-8pm for pizza, snacks, night prayer, etc.
"Man is a relational being. And if his first, fundamental relationship is disturbed—his relationship with God—then nothing else can be truly in order."

~ Pope Benedict XVI, Jesus of Nazareth: The Infancy Narratives

In today’s Gospel, Saint John the Baptist asks Jesus the only question that matters: “are you the one we have been waiting for?” The Chosen People had waited for centuries for the promised Messiah to come. We generally aren’t very good at waiting. Witness our Advent practices which look more like Christmas than the Christmas season will look like in our homes through January 12th! Now imagine waiting for generations for something so important…

Waiting sometimes dulls our desire. Other times, we are so consumed with what we think something will be like that it becomes a disappointment when it finally arrives. The Israelites made both mistakes. God wasn’t coming so they got distracted by other things. Additionally, they were so certain of what the coming of the Messiah would look like that they rejected the Babe of Bethlehem as not fitting into their preconceived notion of salvation.

Are you looking for Jesus the Savior to forgive your sins or for Santa Claus to fulfill your wish list? Are you eager for Jesus to return or dreading it? Have you become so comfortable in the world that you prefer to create Heaven on earth rather than to continue the pilgrimage of life to our true home in Heaven above?

The joy of this “Gaudete” Sunday comes from answering these questions correctly. If Jesus is the one you are looking for—with all His challenges to His disciples—then rejoice! If you prefer someone who will allow you to stay in your “comfort zone,” then keep looking!

Please pray that the St. Louis Park City Council approves our project this coming Wednesday at their next meeting. We hope to have an exciting display of the new facility from our architects to show you for Christmas. And keep praying that we achieve our $5 million stretch goal: this is a wonderful opportunity for more people to learn by their sacrifices that God is never outdone in generosity!

"ARE YOU THE ONE WHO IS TO COME, OR SHOULD WE LOOK FOR ANOTHER?"

Grateful Hearts — Forward in Faith

A PRAYER FOR OUR CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

Loving Father, our grateful hearts are filled with joy as we remember your blessings.

We look forward in faith, trusting your providence to guide us by the light of the Holy Spirit.

Make us generous in your service and direct our present efforts to build a parish life center where your family of faith may continue to flourish for generations to come.

Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

“A Man is a relational being. And if his first, fundamental relationship is disturbed—his relationship with God—then nothing else can be truly in order.”

~ Pope Benedict XVI, Jesus of Nazareth: The Infancy Narratives

Church Office: 952.929.0113

General Maintenance: 612.716.8008

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Parish Business Administrator

Kathy Fink 952.999.4884
Parish Office & Sacramental Records

Tricia Gawarecki 952.999.4884
Parish Office & Background Checks

Mark Eldridge 952.999.4885
Facilities Manager

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Faith Formation Staff

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Confirmation Coordinator

Apostolates

Mary Barron kbarron1313@yahoo.com
Altar & Rosary Society

Tim Hereen GrandKnight@kofc3949.org
Knights of Columbus

Please see the parish website www.hfcmn.org for contact information for other Apostolates.

If you or someone you know is in need of emergency assistance, please contact:
STEP Emergency Program: 952.925.4899
SUNDAY STEWARDSHIP

“Stewardship is not about raising money; it’s about raising Christians who willingly trust God.” – Unknown

Even when the second collection goes to another organization, please fill out all checks to “Holy Family Catholic Church” with the name of the second collection on the memo line; the church then is able to write one check to the organization.

Thank you for your generosity!

STAY CONNECTED

Get updates through Holy Family’s communication tool, Flocknote. You’ll get weekly updates from the parish, as well as any timely updates from the groups you join (e.g. Adorers of the Blessed Sacrament).

JOIN FLOCKNOTE:
1. Visit www.flocknote.com/HFC or -Text HFCMN to 84576
2. Fill in your information and join those groups that pertain to you. Please be sure to join the group representing your regional neighborhood.
3. You can log in anytime to change what groups you follow!

FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK!
“Like” Holy Family on Facebook to get updates on parish life, Catholic topics around the archdiocese, and upcoming parish events! For the Church, click the button on the homepage at www.hfcmn.org. For HFA, click the button at www.hfamn.org.

YOUTH GROUP (TEENS)

CAROLING—FRIDAY, DEC. 20TH
All Holy Family teens and friends are invited to our 4th annual neighborhood caroling party on Come warmly dressed and meet in the church for Vespers at 6:30pm. We will then carol, visiting the nearby homes of parishioners and Fr. Joseph! Song sheets provided. Hot chocolate and snacks provided afterwards in Fr. Moorman Hall. Parents, you are invited to bring cookies and help serve! Email Elizabeth at elizabeth.brown@hfcmn.org with questions/to offer cookies.

CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations on Your Ordination to the Diaconate!

Parishioners Deacon Eric Evander, Deacon Bill Schroeder and their classmates, were ordained to the permanent diaconate for the Archdiocese of Saint Paul and Minneapolis on Saturday, December 7, 2019.

Deacon Eric Evander  Deacon Bill Schroeder

Contributions for Weekend of December 7-8, 2019

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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<td>Online Giving</td>
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<tr>
<td>Second Collection:</td>
<td>$1,194.44</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

This week’s and next week’s Second Collection will benefit the Care Fund which meets the emergency needs of Holy Family parishioners and the wider community.

Thank you for your generosity!

STEWARDSHIP NOTE:

Even when the second collection goes to another organization, please fill out all checks to “Holy Family Catholic Church” with the name of the second collection on the memo line; the church then is able to write one check to the organization.
FORMED.ORG

Gain free access to Catholic movies, books, audio recordings and more, by registering at www.formed.org!

This week’s recommendation:

FORMED: The Juggler of Notre Dame

Enjoy this story, dating back to at least 12th century France, in which Barnaby, a juggler, learns about how to give gifts to the Lord at Christmas. To access this video, click on the search tab at www.Formed.org, and enter “Juggler Notre Dame.” Enjoy!

ALTAR & ROSARY SOCIETY

SUGAR PLUM DAYS RAFFLE WINNERS

1. Red wine basket: Mike Peck
2. White wine basket: Betty Schurman
3. Beer & cheer basket: Bobbi Hanson
4. Gift cards galore: Mary Kotchevar
5. Mountain bike: Gene Schurman
6. American flag: Lois Sicora
7. Cloisonné rosary: Brandi Reed

Dear Ladies of Holy Family,
Sugar Plum Days created strength amongst us. Our Blessed Mother must be well-pleased! Your dedication, decisiveness, and desire worked as a recipe for success! The fundraiser was covered in prayer, and we had great weather as a result.
Gratefully, Your sister in Christ,
Mary Barron, President of the Altar & Rosary Society

INTERCESSIONS

Please pray for:

Rich Jacobson
Frank Lewandowski
(brother of Mary Lewandowski Jace)
Virginia Thiel
Mary Glen Joe

To request prayers, go to www.hfcmn.org/prayer-requests, or call the parish office 952.929.0113. Submitted prayer intentions will be shared via “Prayer Partners” Flocknote messages and the bulletin for one week per request.

HERE AT HOLY FAMILY

DECEMBER CHRISTMAS POTLUCK
SAINTS & SINNERS DINNER

For December, our monthly, community-building, small-group dinners will be changed to be one, big potluck dinner so that we can all celebrate Christmas together! Come to re-kindled friendships or get to meet new people and celebrate the Christmas season as a family of faith!

Who: All adult singles and couples of the parish (21+)
What: A fun way for parishioners to meet in a relaxed, informal atmosphere over a meal
Where: Fr. Moorman Hall, lower level of Holy Family Catholic Church
When: Friday, December 27th at 6:30pm
How: Please sign up online www.hfcmn.org/news/monthly-potlucks
RSVP by Sunday, December 22nd

WARNING: SCAMS VIA EMAIL AND TEXT

Sadly, some parishioners have received scam emails and texts, from senders claiming to be Fr. Joseph. It seems that scammers will harvest parishioner and staff emails and phone numbers from a church website (either listed or linked), and then send messages asking for help. Once someone responds, he or she is instructed to send iTunes or Amazon gift cards to widows, etc. Some of the messages can be fairly convincing, but are a scam. Please disregard and delete them. Important: If you receive an email that is actually from Fr. Joseph (or any Holy Family staff), it will come from an email address ending with “@hfcmn.org” (i.e., “staff@hfcmn.org”), “@hfamn.org,” or through Flocknote, not from a Gmail (or AOL, etc.) account. If you are ever unsure of the veracity of a message that seems to be from Holy Family, please contact the parish office at staff@hfcmn.org (952.929.0113), and we’ll let you know if it’s from us!

YOUNG ADULTS

For those in their 20’s and 30’s, the following are a series of activities designed to promote both fellowship and the faith. Contact Adrian Ahlquist at youngadults@hfcmn.org for more information about any of the following events:

VESPERNS / FAITH AND FELLOWSHIP

Thursday evening, December 19th, young adults gather for evening prayer ~ open to everyone, in the church at 6:30pm. From 7-9pm, they meet in the Nazareth House (behind the church parking lot) for prayer, discussion, and socializing each week. Initial evenings will focus on faith and culture. There is never any homework for Thursday evenings—just show up!

ONGOING WEEKLY OPPORTUNITIES

*Sunday Gospel Discussion* about the Scriptures from Mass following the 9am Mass in the Nazareth House. No homework – just show up!
www.facebook.com/pg/holyfamilyya/community/

*Friday evenings* “Indoor Sports Night” hosted by West Metro Young Adults. Friday, December 20, 7pm at St. Gabriel’s (St. John’s Campus) 6 Interlachen Blvd. in Hopkins. Check out their webpage for more events www.facebook.com/pg/westmetroya/events/

MASS INTENTIONS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Mass Time</th>
<th>Intention</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sun. Dec. 15th</td>
<td>9:00am</td>
<td>For the Parish</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sun. Dec. 15th</td>
<td>11:00am</td>
<td>Katya Kurimay †</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon. Dec. 16th</td>
<td>8:00am</td>
<td>Juan Robinson Valenzuela †</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tues. Dec. 17th</td>
<td>8:00am</td>
<td>Helen Connell †</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed. Dec. 18th</td>
<td>8:00am</td>
<td>Father Paul La Fontaine †</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thu. Dec. 19th</td>
<td>8:00am</td>
<td>Tim Bussen</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri. Dec. 20th</td>
<td>8:00am</td>
<td>Mala Samaratunga †</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sat. Dec. 21st</td>
<td>5:00pm</td>
<td>Max Holly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sun. Dec. 22nd</td>
<td>9:00am</td>
<td>Mark Heinz †</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sun. Dec. 22nd</td>
<td>11:00am</td>
<td>For the Parish</td>
</tr>
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</table>
CHRISTMAS OPPORTUNITIES AT HOLY FAMILY

Join in with the many opportunities to prepare your heart and share joy this Advent season at www.hfcmn.org/news/advent-2019.

SPECIAL EVENTS

CHILDREN’S CHRISTMAS EVE PAGEANT
All children (ages 5-12) from Holy Family are invited to participate in the Nativity Pageant at the 4pm Christmas Eve Mass. There is a mandatory rehearsal on Saturday, December 21st from 9-11am. We are looking for shepherds and angels and a few lead roles. We can provide some costumes but if you have your own, please bring it. The special parts of Mary, Joseph, the Christmas Star and the Angel Gabriel, will be drawn at 9am the day of the rehearsal. Please arrive on time. Call Marilyn Grutsch 952.240.6191 or Katie Norton 952.221.9413 if your child is interested in being in the drawing.

CHRISTMAS POTLUCK SPECIAL DECEMBER “SAINTS & SINNERS” GET -TOGETHER
Save Dec. 27th to attend this celebration, see page 4 for more details.

FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY CELEBRATION
Sunday, December 29th in Fr. Moorman Hall we will celebrate after both the 9 and the 11am Masses our Patronal Feast Day. Plan on a cake, mimosa and Irish coffee reception.

EPHANASY PAGEANT
The “Entrance of the Magi” will be Sunday, January 5th, at 10:55am (before the 11am Mass) Children (ages 9 and up) are needed to play the parts of the three Magi, the Bethlehem Star, and the camel leaders. Six people (ages 14 and up) are needed for the camels. We have room for everyone who would like to participate! Rehearsal is Saturday, January 4th at 10am. Costumes are provided. Contact Sharon Pero if you have any questions Sharon.Pero@hfcmn.org.

SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES

DECORATING THE SANCTUARY FOR CHRISTMAS
- It will soon be time to decorate the Church for Christmas, so please check your calendars in advance and schedule in a bit of time to help.
  - On Monday, December 16th we will put up ALL the trees, large and small! Many hands are needed to shape the trees and put the lights on (men, you are particularly needed)! Please meet in Fr. Moorman Hall after the 8am Mass (adults only please, due to the nature of the work.) After coffee and a donut you will be given instructions; we will start work at 9:30am.
  - On Monday, December 23rd, the Liturgical Decorating Committee will finish the remaining decorating: wreaths, banners, and poinsettias. After the 8am Mass, come to Fr. Moorman Hall for a cup of coffee and a few instructions. Work will begin at approximately 9am. Thank you for your time and assistance! If you have questions, call Sharon at 952.999.4890.

TREE FOR LIFE
The “Tree for Life”, located in the back of church, is decorated with ornaments indicating items needed for parents who have chosen life for their babies. If you are able to donate an item, please choose an ornament. Place your new, unwrapped gift, with the ornament attached, under the tree by January 6. The unwrapped donations will be taken to the Robbinsdale Women’s Center and Southwest Options for Women. Thank you for your generosity!

DONATE A POINSETTIA
You are invited to help decorate the sanctuary this Christmas by donating a beautiful poinsettia plant! The cost per plant is $10.00. For your convenience, either put your offering in any weekend collection basket (you can enclose it in the “Christmas Flower Offering” envelope included with your donation envelopes), or go to www.hfcmn.org/donate-poinsettias. Thank You!

CHRISTMAS OPPORTUNITIES AT HOLY FAMILY

HOLY FAMILY ACADEMY

HOLY FAMILY ACADEMY REGISTRATION
Parishioner registration for the 2020-2021 school year at Holy Family Academy is underway! Registration for the general public will open January 6, 2020. For more information on registration, please contact the HFA office at 952.925.9193.

ADVENT CONCERTS
This Thursday, Dec. 19th we will delight you with songs for the season. See page 3 for details.

SHOP ON AMAZONSMILE FOR HFA!
Shop on Amazon? Instead, shop on AmazonSmile (www.smile.amazon.com), and the AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of price of eligible items purchased to HFA (On your first visit to AmazonSmile, before you begin shopping, you will be prompted to select a charitable organization- please choose Holy Family Academy). From then on, each eligible purchase you make on AmazonSmile will result in a donation to our school! Thank you!

VOCATIONS CORNER

ARCHBISHOP’S DISCERNMENT RETREAT
Saturday, December 28, 5pm – Monday, December 30, 1pm at Christ the King Retreat Center, Buffalo, MN
The Director of Vocations offers this annual retreat with talks by Archbishop Bernard Hebda. This is for men discerning priesthood who are seniors in high school to age 50. This retreat is a wonderful opportunity to gain clarity in your discernment process and to meet other men who desire to follow Christ and to know his will for their lives. Register online at 10000vocations.org.

TRAVELING CHALICE
We welcome more families to sign up for the traveling chalice and to pray for vocations in their homes for one week. The chalice with the prayers are exchanged at church on Sunday in the Sacristy. Please contact Phyllis with questions 612.702.3735 or email thegconnec@aol.com to sign up. Thank you for praying for vocations!

The exchange is at the 9am Mass
- Dec. 15 Paul & Kathy Fink Family
- Dec. 22 Nate & Jenny Bullard Family

MESSAGE FROM VOCATIONS DIRECTOR:
“I send my messenger ahead of you to prepare your way before you.” Are you called to be sent by Jesus as a priest, sister or brother? Contact the Vocation Office at 651.962.6890 or email Fr. David Blume frblume@stthomas.edu.
CHILDREN’S EUCHARISTIC ADORATION HOLY HOUR
All children, with their parents or caretakers, are invited to join us on Wednesday mornings from 9-10am in the Adoration Chapel. Please join us as we help lead the children in prayer in the presence of our Lord. We'll pray traditional prayers, sing songs, and read stories about the saints. Feel free to come for ten minutes during the hour or stay the whole time. If you have any questions, please contact Kari O’Brien at Obrien.kari.ann@gmail.com.

ARCHDIOCESAN SYNOD
Come Holy Spirit
Make our ears to hear
Make our eyes to see
Make our mouths to speak
Make our hearts to seek
Make our hands to reach out
And touch the world with your love.
AMEN.
Mary, Mother of the Church, Pray for us.

AROUND THE ARCHDIOCESE
MEN’S GETAWAY—ELI BROOMTREE
The 15th annual Eli Broomtree Cabin getaway is January 17-20, 2020 (MLK weekend) at the Boyd Lodge Cabins in Crosslake, MN. This is a weekend of fellowship, open to men (21+) who deserve a much needed break. If you like the outdoors, wood fires, good food and conversation, then this is for you. For more info and to sign up email or call Tom Bertoldi at bert.mn@centurylink.net or 952.479.0014.

SUMMER PILGRIMAGE TO AUSTRIA & GERMANY
Go on pilgrimage with our pastor Fr. Joseph Johnson to see the famous Passion Play in Oberammergau—held only once per decade. Also visiting the shrines and historical sites in and around Munich, Salzburg, and Vienna: August 4-14, 2020. Only a few seats remain—www.petersway.com/9617.html or call 800.225.7662.

For this week’s daily readings, please visit www.usccb.org/bible/readings
**EUCHARISTIC ADORATION**

It is our goal at Holy Family to have at least two adorers present at each hour on the adoration schedule, so that every adorer can have a partner for scheduling back-up and safety during nighttime hours. Please call or text, Mike Zwack, our Adoration coordinator, at 612.710.5007 if you are willing to make an hour (or greater) commitment each week or for information on the other times available.

Shirley Weddell works at the Catherine of Siena Institute which runs the spiritually fruitful “Called and Gifted” workshops. I hope we can organize one of these workshops here at Holy Family next year or maybe even do a Lenten book study of her subsequent book *Becoming a Parish of Intentional Disciples*.

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**PARISH OFFICE CLOSURES**

Parish Offices will be closed on Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, and Dec. 26th and then again on New Year’s Eve and New Year’s Day.

Check our website [www.hfcmn.org](http://www.hfcmn.org) for more details.