

# St. Joseph Church

Rev. Bernard Starman, Pastor  
 Rev. James Weeder & Rev. Joseph Sund, Associates  
 Deacon M.J. Kersenbrock  
 Atkinson, Nebraska  
 402-925-2122, Emergency/After Hours---402.340.0277  
[www.stjosephatkinson.org](http://www.stjosephatkinson.org)  
[www.holtboycatholic.org](http://www.holtboycatholic.org)

## The Holy Family 12/29/19

Monday NO MASS  
 Tuesday 5:00 PM + Marilyn Wenner  
 Wednesday 10:00 AM Mass in Stuart  
 Thursday NO MASS  
 Friday 8:15 AM + SJ Memorial Society  
 Saturday 6:00 PM + Pete Schmaderer  
 Sunday 10:30 AM + Don Schaaf



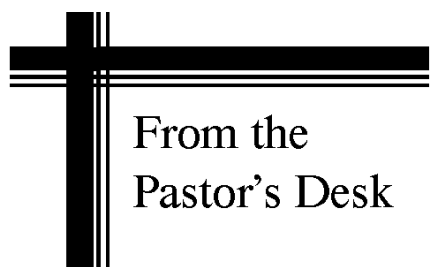
### Mass Schedule

Jan 4/5	Saturday	Sunday
Atkinson, St Joseph	6:00pm	10:30am
St. Boniface, Stuart	No Mass	8:30am
St Patrick, O'Neill	5:00pm	9:00am
St Joseph, Amelia	No Mass	11:00am
Ss. Peter & Paul, Butte	No Mass	8:30am
St Mary, Spencer	No Mass	10:30am
Assumption, Lynch	5:30pm	No Mass



### Sacrament of Reconciliation

for Ss. Joseph and Boniface:  
 One half hour before each  
 weekend Mass or by appointment



## From the Pastor's Desk

It's likely that in our own minds we've conflated the nativity stories of Luke and Matthew into one. But reading Matthew on his own terms reveals something fascinating. In Matthew's telling, Joseph and Mary had a home in Bethlehem, where Jesus was born. The magi eventually found their way to the home to find the child Jesus (not the infant). And now Joseph takes the child and his mother into Egypt. Only after Herod had died did Joseph have the courage to return. Even then, he was inspired by an angel in a dream. And he did not return to Bethlehem, but instead made his way to Nazareth.

For Matthew, this entire episode fulfills Scripture in several ways. The evangelist quotes from the Old Testament frequently, showing precisely how the actions of the Holy Family fulfill holy writ. But beyond a literal fulfillment of sacred text, Matthew's story of the Holy Family's flight into Egypt is essentially a story of refugees. Matthew states clearly that Joseph was afraid. He feared the authorities and what might happen if he and his family were apprehended. This is no mere artistic rendering, painting, or sculpture of an exhausted family, such as we might see with the caption "flight into Egypt." The fears were real, and the danger proximate. The Holy Family crossed boundaries into Egypt to escape the authorities. Upon Herod's death, the coast was not clear, only clear enough to leave Egypt and settle somewhere else. So that is precisely what they did. Joseph, Mary, and the child left Egypt. Instead of settling in Bethlehem, their home, they made a home in Nazareth. The shifting, perhaps chaotic early years of Jesus' life speak to a reality that millions unfortunately face and have faced throughout human history.

In our modern world, we are witnessing a magnitude of migration of peoples not seen since World War II. As Christians we might ask ourselves how do we treat these people? Can we see the Holy Family in their plight? Or are they merely scofflaws, evading the authorities? It can be one thing to look with pity on the Holy Family and their flight into Egypt. We admire the artistic representations of this biblical story. But what of the lived reality of this biblical story in the lives of so many in our world today? May we as followers of this child refugee, this migrant Holy Family, recognize that same presence today and, in so doing, act on their behalf.

Domesticating the gospel happens far too frequently. It's difficult to read or hear these stories fresh or in a new way when we are so familiar with them. But with today's gospel we are reminded of the reality that Joseph, Mary, and the child Jesus were political refugees. They feared for their lives, as Herod had massacred the innocents. The Holy Family found safety and refuge in a foreign country. Though Jesus was Emmanuel, danger was present and must have seemed a specter shadowing the Holy Family. We know that Jesus will ultimately lose his life at the hands of the state. Is it any wonder that the gospel message was so popular with the outcast and marginalized?

As we live the paschal mystery, we are called to let go of the domestication of the gospel and allow it to speak to the realities we face. Let us, as disciples, identify with the outcast, marginalized, and afflicted, for that is how the Holy Family lived. In so doing, we will suffer and die in this struggle only to be raised to new life.

Wishing all of our parishioners and school families a Happy and Healthy New Year!

Ad Multos Annos!



*Our Sincere Sympathy...* to the Ries family with the passing of Janice. Janice was called to eternal life on Christmas day. May perpetual light shine on Janice and all whom the Lord has called back to Himself.

**The HARVEST IS GREAT, LABORERS ARE FEW**----Taking the vocation crucifix this week—Jim & Rosemary Ketteler. The week of Jan. 5—Roger & Pam Frickel.

**PRAY FOR . . .** Emma Lou Gunther, Darrin Wedige, Gianna Slaymaker, Lois Tunender, Nathan Boyle, Garrett Scholz, Marilyn Morrison, Blakely Bouska, Miranda Ijames, John Gilg, Phil Fritz, John Mathis, Jerry Schaaf.

*Good Sam. & Prairie Winds*----Jan. 5----Don & Chris Slaymaker

**A Teacher...** will be needed for the juniors & seniors to teach in Atkinson **beginning in January.** Contact Deb Liewer, 402.340.2288.



**All Students...** ages 9 through 14 are welcome to take part in the KC Free Throw contest at West Holt on **January 5 @ 1pm.** Doors open @ 12:30. Direct ??? to Doug Kubik, 402.925.5438.

**EVENTS**

- **Sun., Jan. 5**—Free Throw Contest @ WH
- **Wed., Jan. 8**—Adoration, 9am—3pm
- **Wed., Jan. 8**—CCD resumes
- **Wed., Jan. 15**—First Reconciliation & also **Penance Service for all parishioners, 7pm**
- **Jan. 26 through Feb. 1**—Catholic Schools Week
- **Fri., Jan. 31**—Parish Carnival

*Liturgical Ministers*----*Vigil*---*Solemnity Of Mary, The Mother Of God*  
**Dec. 31....5pm**

**EMHCs:** S&D Osborne, CSholes      **SERVERS:** Gabriel Monasterio, Marek & Berkleigh Dvorak  
**LECTOR:** Harold Krumwiede  
**OFFERTORY:** Dennis Hytrek Family

**LITURGICAL MINISTERS...Jan 4/5**

MASS TIMES	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
EMHCs	BLaible KTunender GThurlow	LWolf, DMorgan, HKrumwiede, C&L Nemetz
LECTORS	Madison Tunender	Jack Wolf
GIFT BEARERS	M/M Geo. Schmit	M/M S. Osborne
ORGANIST	Jayne Fetherston	
SERVERS	Valeria Nava M & A Cadwallader	Emersyn Mlady Charlie Flannery Ezra Sholes
<b>JAN USHERS</b>	Phillip Hamik Mike Laible Jeff Hostert Volunteer	Dan Ziska George Schmit Todd Seger Roger Frickel

**THE LORD'S PORTION---12.22.19**

Adult envelopes	2,479.00
Loose cash	295.25
Loose checks	380.00
Midweek deposit	5,000.00
Online Giving	<u>445.00</u>
	8,599.25
<b>Budget...Sunday...</b>	<b>3,561.58</b>
	<b>+5,037.67</b>
<b>Religious Retirement</b>	<b>10.00</b>
<b>Immaculate Conception</b>	<b>60.00</b>
<b>Christmas</b>	<b>125.00</b>

**THE LORD'S PORTION**

<b>Christmas</b>	<b>7,979.25</b>
<b>Adult Env (Dec 15/22)</b>	<b>55.00</b>