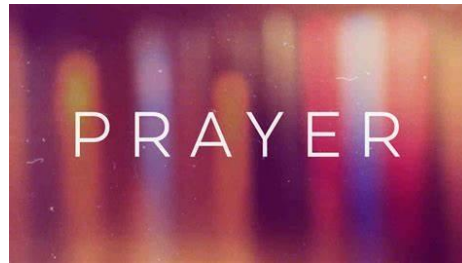


Pastor's Corner

Praying in the New Year; Solemnity of Mary; Year of the Eucharist and St. Joseph



Praying in the New Year on December 31; Solemnity of Mary on January 1: We will gather for prayer in Church from 1 – 4 pm on Thursday, December 31, New Year's Eve. We will bid 'goodbye and good riddance' to 2020 and beg God's blessings in 2021 on our nation, our families and our parish community. Prayer will be before the Blessed Sacrament. All are invited to pray. Ordinarily, January 1, the Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God, is a holyday of obligation, but the obligation is dispensed this year because of Covid. Nonetheless, it is great day to pray to Our Lady, Patroness of the U.S., for our needs. Mass times: 4 pm on December 31; 6:30 am and 8:00 am on January 1.



2021: Year of the Eucharist and St. Joseph: Last month, Archbishop Aymond announced that 2021 would be The Year of the Eucharist in the Archdiocese of New Orleans. The Year is designed so that we all might grow in relationship with Jesus, in appreciation of Jesus' "Real Presence" in the Eucharist, in understanding of the parts of the Mass, and in comprehension of the obligation of Catholics for Sunday worship. The Year of the Eucharist was set to begin on the Feast of the Lord's Baptism, January 9-10.

On December 8, Pope Francis announced that 2021 will be The Year of St. Joseph in the Universal Catholic Church. St. Joseph is the Patron of the Catholic Church worldwide, and there been growing devotion to St. Joseph for many years. The Year of St. Joseph will feature special prayer opportunities and indulgences – the remission of punishment for sin in the life hereafter. Archbishop Aymond decided to combine the Year of the Eucharist locally with the Year of St. Joseph universally to give us "The Year of the Eucharist and St. Joseph." Stay tuned for additional details. 2021 is looking like a time of great spiritual grace for the Catholic Church.

Happy New Year: On behalf of Fr. Thien, our Deacons, Ms. Dwyer, and our Parish and School Staffs, we wish you and your loved a blessed, joyous and healthy 2021.

Fr. Joe