THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH

Annunciation Catholic Church Bogalusa, Louisiana December 27, 2020

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

Family life is rooted in the unconditional love of God as witnessed by the Holy Family.

THE REAL THING

"He came to the temple, now inspired by the Spirit, and when the parents brought in the Child Jesus to perform for Him the customary ritual of the law, he took him in his arms and blessed God."

Some orthodox Jews have the custom of using the birth of a baby boy as an occasion to discourse on the coming of the Messiah. An older relative traditionally starts the conversation with the question: "Could this baby be the Messiah?" Then various relatives wax eloquently about the coming and the glories of the Messiah.

Some people may have thought that Simeon and Anna were only engaging in this traditional conversation when they were talking to the Child Jesus "to all who looked forward to the deliverance of Jerusalem". Simeon and Anna may have even more vehemently insisted that Jesus was "a revealing light to the Gentiles, the Glory" of Israel. But people may have thought this was part of the game. Then Simeon and Anna would have tried to tell them this wasn't a game, but the real thing. This Baby was the Messiah!

We face similar situation in our day. When we proclaim Jesus as Messiah and Lord, people think this is merely the religious game and the standard church-talk. Yet we, like Simeon and Anna, must be filled with the Holy Spirit and proclaim that this is the real thing. Jesus is the Messiah. Christmas is real. God has become a man. We are saved. Jesus is Lord and God.

Prayer: Father, may our family life be so holy that it shouts Jesus as the Messiah.

Promise: "He remembers forever His covenant which He made binding for a thousand generations."

Praise: "Observe, my son, your father's bidding, and reject not your mother's teaching" Jesus, we thank You for modeling humility and obedience in family life.

Respect Life Intention

For all families, that they may be strengthened to welcome the gift of new life, whether planned or unplanned,

We pray to the Lord....

<u>Collection Envelopes—2021</u>
Please pick up your collection envelopes. They have all been placed in the vestibule of the Church.

Archdiocesan Silver Wedding Anniversary Celebration Will take place on Sunday, March 14, 2021 at 3:00 PM, in St. Joseph Church in New Orleans. Please contact the Church Office for an application 985-732-4280.

A Stewardship Moment

Holy Family of Jesus Mary and Joseph

The ultimate aim of Saint Paul's Letter to the Colossians is to teach the community how to deepen its relationship with Christ Jesus. His list of virtues summarizes the ideals of communal stewardship: compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. For Paul, practicing these virtues opens our hearts to Christ as individuals and as a worshipping community. This is how the Christian community ought to love. This is how its members should behave in their dealings with particularly with fellow believers. As we approach a new year, how might we embrace one of these virtues more fully in order to deepen our relationship with Jesus?

PARISH PRAYER LIST

Danny Augustine, Anne Atkinson, Patty Bailey, Mary Barber, Mickey Bergeron, Rhody Bertoniere, Dale Boler, Ray Bonnett, Tim Blansett, Buddy Breland, Linda Brennan, James Brignac, Mary D. Brignac, Margie Brown, Troy Carney, Louise Clocksin, Kelly Chighizola, Marettie Corkern, Charles "Bud" Crain, Kay Crowe, Alex Diaz, Andy Daley, Merle Daley, Stella Dicharry, Gary Duncan, Edward (Eddie) Dunn, Diane Pepe Earles, Buddy Green, Vic Haik, Carolyn Hardy, Trey Hayman, Mike Henley, Sylvia Hughes, Aline Hymel, Perry Keen, Walter Landrum, Denise Langston, John Lee, Kathleen Lemoine, Steve Lindsoe, Julie Lott, Ann Martin, Mary Mavfield, Karen McGhee, Royce McGhee, Brittany Mitchell, Marie Mizell, Sarah Mizell, Marty Paige, Ruby Penatallo, Rhonda Penton, Val Perry, Huey Pierce, Tammie Pierce, Pat Pounds, Ethel Quirk, Emanuel Rachel, Kathleen Rachel, Tommie Jean Rayburn, Stephanie Reeb, Wayne Rhoden, Mitch Russo, Dick Saba, McKenna Scroggs, Sheryl Shelby, Joyce Starett, Elizabeth Stewart, Jerri Stewart, June Phillip Talley, Stewart, Dudley Talley, Sidne' Tate, Diana Thibodeaux, Gloria Tullier, Colby Wheat, Shirley Wheat, Alfred Widmar, Chuck Williams, Sharon Williams

Mass Schedule

<u>Monday</u>	(December 28, 2020)
8:00 AM	Comm. Serv. – Church
3:00 PM	Rosary - Church
Tuesday	(December 29, 2020)
8:00 AM	Comm. Serv. – Church
Wednesday	(December 30, 2020)
8:00 AM	Comm. Serv. – Church
Thursday	(December 31, 2020)
8:00 AM	Comm. Serv. – Church
4:00 PM	Vigil Mass - Church
	Solemnity of Mary
<u>Friday</u>	(January 1, 2020)
8:00 AM	Mass – Church
	Solemnity of Mary
Saturday	(January 2, 2020)
3:00 PM	Confessions
4:00 PM	Vigil Mass - Church
Sunday	(January 3, 2020)
8:30 AM	Mass - Church
10:30 AM	Mass – Church
4:30 PM	Confessions (en Español)
5:00 PM	Mass (en Español)

THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY, AND JOSEPH

Annunciation Catholic Church Bogalusa, Louisiana December 27, 2020

Weekly Mass Intentions

4:00 PM Saturday, December 26th

Mickey Paduda, EJ and Dody Champagne, John Underwood, Lawrence Wille, David Arceneaux, Sarah Parker, Gilly Charbonnet, Welfare of Tabetha Ezell, Welfare of Jerri Stewart, Robert Shaquille Pierce, Welfare of Marty Paige, Kathleen Shirer, Bennie Saltaformaggio

Sunday, December 27th

Earl Hughes, Betty Scroggs, Bobby Bush, Irma Lee Ratcliff, Edward Ratcliff, Lawrence Wille, Maggie Seal. Newell Bush, Gilly Charbonnet, Welfare of Karen McGhee, Robert Shaquille Pierce, Linda Haaga, Lynn Pigott

10:30 AM

Annunciation Catholic Church Parishioners

8:00 AM Tuesday, December 29th Lawrence Wille, Irma Lee Callender

Wednesday, December 30th

8:00 AM Lawrence Wille, Robert Shaquille Pierce

Thursday, December 31st

3:00 PM

Lawrence Wille, Gillky Charbonnet

Friday, January 1st 8.00 AM

Lawrence Wille,, Irma Lee Callender, Lilnda Haaga

Saturday, January 2nd 4:00PM

Mickey Paduda, EJ and Dody Champagne, John Underwood, Lawrence Wille, Sarah Parker, Helen and Dorman Crowe, Welfare of Sylvia Hughes, Welfare of Marty Paige, Kathleen Shirer, Joe Krebs, Welfare of Baby Clara, Antionette Warner, Victoria Nielsen

Sunday, January 3rd

Earl Hughes, Betty Scroggs, Irma Lee Callender, Lawrence Wille, Newell Bush, Jeff Dugan, Greg Dugan, Kathleen Shirer, Linda Haaga, Lynn Pigott

10:30 AM

Annunciation Catholic Church Parishioners

Sanctuary Lamp

Our Sanctuary Lamp burns for the Repose of the Soul of:

Theresa Busbv

Last Week's Collection December 19^{th} and 20^{th} 2020

Loose-Checks and Cash \$1,722.00

Envelopes

\$1,625.00

Total:

\$3,347.00

Funds Needed to Operate: \$6,299.00

Amount Under Weekly Budget \$2,952.00

Parish Maintenance Fund \$1,261.00

> Thank You for Your Generosity!!!

Merry Christmas!

Merry Christmas! I am so happy that you are celebrating Christmas with us, be it at home through a live-stream or in person with us at one of our many Masses. I have been remembering all of you throughout the Advent Season as we prepared for the Solemnity of Christmas. I am acutely aware from a natural perspective that it has not been ideal.

I am praying most especially for those who are alone or are downtrodden because they are not able to be with family this year. Most especially, when we think supernaturally, we are reminded that through the Incarnation of Christ, we are not and will never be alone that God is with us! It would do us all well to reach out to any friend that we know that is alone this Christmas. Perhaps dropping of a little care package on the carport of someone who fits that bill might be in order? It will certainly give them hope and allow us to serve the Lord.

In addition to the Solemnity of Christmas, there is Sunday's feast of the Holy Family when we pray for our families as we celebrate the love and devotion of St. Joseph and the Blessed Virgin Mary for the Christ Child. The scriptures tell us that in his family, Jesus advanced in wisdom and age and favor before God and man. What an amazing context for such growth: through a family. Perhaps this Sunday (which is still

in the Christmas Season) could be a family day to do something special with your immediate family?

Then on January 1, we celebrate the Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God. We celebrate that Mary is Theotokos - "The God Bearer." We ponder that our mother Mary gave birth to Jesus' humanity as well as his divinity. This would be an awesome day to pray the Rosary's Joyful Mysteries with your family, meditation on the events surrounding the birth of Christ and his childhood. You could even rent the movie, FATIMA that was produced this year which recounts the apparition of Mary to the three shepherd children in Portugal.

And finally, we celebrate the Feast of the Epiphany which comes January 6, twelve days after Christmas day. Liturgically, we celebrate the Epiphany on the closest Sunday to the 6th, that's January 3rd in our case in 2020. The feast celebrates the three Wise Men paying their respects to the newborn King. The Wise Men, or "kings" famously gave the Holy Family gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. Wouldn't it be great to give your family members a little religious gift on the Epiphany - a Rosary, a book, or a story of a saint that we found inspiring?

After all of our wonderful parish liturgies, who knows what I'll be up for during this Christmas season. Certainly, there will be a couple well needed naps! But I'll also do a fair amount of duck deer hunting in the coming weeks - 'tis the season after all! Since I missed all of this year's Thanksgiving Day festivities because of contracting the coronavirus, I am especially looking forward to a nice Christmas meal and some tasty Christmas treats! I do hope to see some members of my family and friends during the Christmas Season. I hope you will, too!

In Christ's love at Christmas,

- Fr. Bru