

Reflection on Sunday's Readings

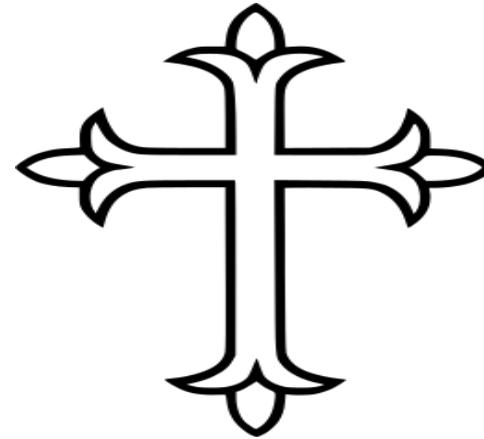
Scripture lessons summarized: **The first reading** is a commentary on the fourth commandment: “Honor your father and your mother.” Ben Sirach has many good things to say about living properly according to the Torah. Sirach reminds children of their duty to honor their parents – even when it becomes difficult. He also mentions the two-fold reward which God promises to those who honor their father and mother. The first reward is “riches,” and the second, long life: “Whoever reveres his father will live a long life.” He reminds children that God blesses them if they obey, revere, and show compassion to their father. **Paul, in the letter to the Colossians**, advises us that we should put on love and remain thankful in our relationships with one another. Paul’s advice is part of the “Household Code” – the rules for members of the Christian family. Though the details date to Paul’s time, the underlying message of being careful with one another – being full of care for one another – is timeless. Paul teaches that children should learn and practice noble qualities like compassion, kindness, forgiveness, and sharing in the warmth of the family. In a truly holy family all members are respected, cherished, nurtured, and supported, united through the bond of love. **Today’s Gospel** describes how Joseph and Mary protected the Child Jesus from the sword of King Herod by escaping with Him to Egypt.

Life messages: 1) **We need to learn lessons from the Holy Family:** The Church encourages us to look to the Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph for inspiration, example and encouragement. They were a model family in which both parents worked hard, helped each other, understood and accepted each other, and took good care of their Child so that he might grow up not only in human knowledge but also as a Child of God.

2) **We need to make the family a confessional rather than a courtroom.** A senior Judge of the Supreme Court congratulated the bride and groom in a marriage with a pertinent piece of advice: “See that you never convert your family into a courtroom; instead let it be a confessional. If the husband and wife start arguing like attorneys in an attempt to justify their behavior, their family becomes a court of law and nobody wins. On the other hand, if the husband and the wife — as in a confessional — are ready to admit their faults and try to correct them, the family becomes a heavenly one.” 3) **Marriage is a sacrament of holiness.** Each family is called to holiness. By the Sacrament of Matrimony (marriage), Jesus sanctifies not only the spouses but also the entire family. The husband and wife attain holiness when they discharge their duties faithfully, trusting in God, and drawing on the power of God by prayer.

St. Aloysius, Gate of Heaven & Sacred Heart Church

THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH DEC 29, 2019



Parish Staff
Rev. Edward Bader, Administrator
Rev. Antony David MMI

Trustees
Ms. Jane Ryan
Mr. Andrew Carlson

Religious Education

Youth Activities
Mrs. Mary Davis

Parish Council Chairperson
Mr. Michael Park

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Mass Schedule

Saturday	4:00 PM	St. Aloysius
Saturday	5:30 PM	Sacred Heart Church (July 4th to Labor day)
Sunday	9:00 AM	St. Aloysius
	11:00 AM	Gate of Heaven

Weekday

M/T/F	8:15 AM	St. Aloysius
Thursday	12:00 PM	St. Aloysius
First Saturday	8:15 AM	St. Aloysius

Adoration

M/T/F	7:30 to 8:15 AM
Friday	9:00 AM to 12:00 PM

Holy Day of Obligation

Holy Eve:	5:30 PM	Gate of Heaven
Holy Day:	9:00 AM	St. Aloysius
	7:00 PM	St. Aloysius

Sacraments

Confession: Before all masses.
Baptism: Call the rectory to make arrangements.
Marriage: Call the rectory to schedule your Wedding and pre-Cana classes
Pastoral Visitation
When confined at home, please call the rectory to arrange for a visit and Holy Communion. Please call the rectory if you are facing surgery or hospitalization and would like the Sacrament of the Sick.

PARISH MISSION STATEMENT

As a parish, we strive to bring our communities of Catholic Christians together, as we have for over 100 years, by loving and serving God and Each other through Worship, education and service.

MASS INTENTIONS: Dec 28- Jan 5, 2020

Saturday, Dec 28

4.00 PM- Mildred Irace

Mon, Dec 30

8.15. AM - Mildred Irace

Wed Jan 01

9. AM- Mildred Irace

7.PM- Mildred Irace

Thurs, Jan 02

12. PM- Vivian Kocher

Saturday, Jan 04

8.15 AM-Unborn children

4.PM- Alice Mc Gowan

Sunday, Dec 29

9:00 AM - Vivian Kocher

11:00 AM - Robert Haley

Tues. Dec 31

8:15 AM - Mildred Irace

5. 30 PM- Mildred Irace

Fri. Jan 03

8.15 AM- Vivian Kocher

Sunday, Dec 29

9:00 AM- Fr. Malet

11:00.AM- Fulton+ Miller Families

NOTE: No Gift can replace offering a mass for departed soul or welfare of living. We have openings for weekdays and weekend masses.

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK & DECEASED

For the Sick: Joni & Vinny Salvatore, Colleen & Jerrilynn O’Neil; Nora Fernandez,; Laurie & William McMichael, Carol Faughn, Christopher Merklin, Jack Tempel, Robert Ackerly, Sr. Grace, Maureen Connolly, Dave Tucker, Shannon Bruning, Patty Lewis, Lynne Hyzer, Beth Marie Martin, Kristi Romolo, Erma Carlson , Jim Wilbur, Dom Formato, Darren Steele, Jonell Dalton, Carrie Neer-Molinari, Mary Muhlig, Scott Branning, Easton Gorr. Joe Salvia. Joe & Linda Mchugh, Jerry & Roe Mills, Ken & Arsenia Mchugh, Deniese Harting, Maureen Molloy, Frank Kinsley, Mary Jones, Carl Diane Rafi and Walter Hanewich.

For the Deceased: Wanda L. McGovern,Gail J. Staudt, Rita Ann Evans, Nickolaus Bermel Jr, Bill Guinan, Sr. Kenneth Reddington, Jim Englehardt, Ellen Krajcovic, John Augusta, Max Evans, Mildred Irace, PaulaJordan,Bernard Greenthal, and Vivian Kocher.

<p>Collection for last Week. Thank you First collection: \$ 1465 Christmas: \$ 3642</p>	<p>Readings for Next Sunday Isaiah 60:1-6 Ephesians 3:2-3a, 5-6 Matthew 2:1-12</p>	<p>BIBLE STUDY Good Soil Bible Study Group will not meet until January 13, 2020. Tuesday 4.00 PM at Rectory.</p>
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THE MASS BOOK IS OPEN FOR 2020

If you would like to offer a mass for your beloved departed ones and your intention, please collect forms placed at the table, fill it and send to the Rectory.

Dear parishioners,

I would like to wish you happy and prosperous New Year. May this New Year bring peace and joy to our families. Let us always listen to Jesus no matter how busy we are with our duties and responsibilities. We should make sure that we give space for God to work in our lives. Let Him take control over us not the things of the world. Let’s us surrender all our undertaking and endeavor to Jesus our Savior and feel that God is with us.

Fr. Antony David

THE MASS SCHEDULE FOR HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION.

December 31, Tuesday
Gate of heaven at 5.30 PM

January 1, Wednesday
St. Aloysius at 9.00 AM
St. Aloysius at 7.00 PM

The greatest love we have known

Think of someone you truly love or have loved. What is the power of that love that draws you to that person? Do you love that person because you have to or because you want to? Does the attraction of love with that person draw you beyond yourself in such a way that if you stopped loving that person, something real and tangible would die, perhaps the spiritual bond of love between you? If you have had an experience of love, then you have had some insight into the Trinity of love. In fact, by loving another person you have been—yes, believe it or not—caught up in the Trinity of love. The Trinity is not three men at a tea party. It is a mystery of relationships—giving, receiving and sharing love. When we say “God is love” we are saying that God is a mystery of persons-in-love. The mystery of God’s love is like ever-deepening love. Within that loving embrace of God, our lives are brought into being and sustained in being. As we have been loved into birth, so, too, we are called to mirror God’s love for others so as to birth God anew in creation. For that is how God, the tremendous lover of life, delights in his creation.

