



ST. ROMUALD CATHOLIC CHURCH

394 N HWY 259 · HARDINSBURG KY 40143

www.stromuald.org

Parish Office:

Phone: 756-2356

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Hours: Monday - Friday

8:00am - Noon, 1:00 - 3:00pm

Email: stromuald@bbtel.com

Pastoral Staff:

Pastor, Father Brian Johnson

Email: Brian.Johnson@pastoral.org

Deacon, Tony Anthony

Deacon, Mike Wiedemer

Administrative Asst, Jane Haynes

CRE: Adult, Rosa Hockenberry

CRE: RCIA, Lyvenia Anthony

CRE: 7-12, Gayle Poole

CRE: K-6, Kim Brumfield

Pastoral Council:

Dana Bland, Harry Mattingly,

Janet Bland, David Morton

Christi Brooks, Kevin Oelze

Chris Brumfield, Don Payne,

Jerry Dowell, Gail Pollock

Betty Heavrin, Pam Pollock

St. Romuald

Interparochial School:

Phone: 756-5504

Website:

www.stromualdschool.org

Principal, Rob Cox

School Board

Representatives:

Jamie Barr, Amy Flood,

Jennifer Payne



The Nativity of the Lord

December 25, 2016 - The Nativity of the Lord

Masses for the Week

December 26th - January 1st

Tues	1:00 pm	Martha Matthews (Extended Care)
Wed	5:00 pm	Paul & Anne O'Reilly (SO)
Thurs	9:00 am	Mary Cundiff (AJ) (Medco)
Fri	9:00 am	Special Intention (WB)
Sat	5:00 pm	Raphael Powers (JP)
Sun	7:00 am	Tim Hardesty
	10:00 am	Raymond Wethington (DW)

CONFESSIONS

Wednesday 4:00-5:00pm

Saturdays 4:00 pm

Readings for the Week

Sunday: Vigil: Is 62:1-5/Ps 89/Acts 13:16-17, 22-25/Mt 1:1-25 or 1:18-25
 Night: Is 9:1-6/Ps 96/Ti 2:11-14/Lk 2:1-14
 Dawn: Is 62:11-12/Ps 97/Ti 3:4-7/Lk 2:15-20
 Day: Is 52:7-10/Ps 98/Heb 1:1-6/Jn 1:1-18 or 1:1-5, 9-14
 Monday: Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59/Ps 31/Mt 10:17-22
 Tuesday: 1 Jn 1:1-4/Ps 97/Jn 20:1a, 2-8
 Wednesday: 1 Jn 1:5--2:2/Ps 124/Mt 2:13-18
 Thursday: 1 Jn 2:3-11/Ps 96/Lk 2:22-35
 Friday: Sir 3:2-6, 12-14 or Col 3:12-21 or 3:12-17/Ps 128/Mt 2:13-15, 19-23
 Saturday: 1 Jn 2:18-21/Ps 96/Jn 1:1-18
 Next Sunday: Nm 6:22-27/Ps 67/Gal 4:4-7/Lk 2:16-21

Liturgical Publications Inc

Stewardship of Finance

Last Sunday's Collection will be published next week

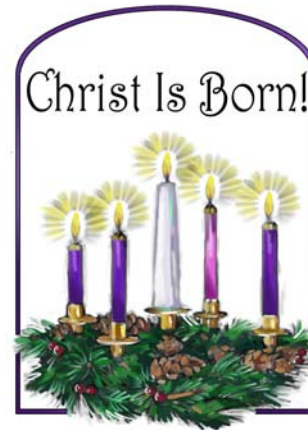
Sunday Collection	\$
Building Fund	\$
Children	\$
Loose change for the Poor.....	\$

St. Romuald Parish Financial Summary

July-November, 2016

Total Income	\$215,200
Total Expenses	\$212,600
	\$ 2,600

Thank you for your financial stewardship!



December 31st & January 1st

	Eucharistic Ministers	Lectors	Ushers	Servers	Rosary Leaders	Music Ministers
5:00 pm	Jerry Jarboe Shelly Jefferies	Jennifer O'Reilly Melissa Oelze	C-Tony Critchelow* C-Arnold O'Reilly S-Paul Shalosky S-Jim Siler	Phillip Shalosky Autumn Siler	Brenda Wheatley	Shannon
7:00 am	Amelia Anthony Shirley Bland	Pete Anthony	C-Blake Flood* C-Byron Flood S-Doug Flood S-Michael Flood	Madison Anthony Darrian Flood	Volunteer	
10:00 am	Kathryn Ables LaDonna Barton Aulton Richards Rhonda Walz	Sarah Arnold Lori Carwile	C-Drew Hinton* C-Mike Hinton S-Tyler Hinton S-Joey Walz	Luke Walz Shelbey Walz	Kathryn Ables	P.J./Choir Cantor: Carlos
Radio Minister: Chuck Robbins		Children's Liturgy:				

Words from the Pastor

+JMJ+

Merry Christmas! I pray everyone is blessed with a good set of Holy Days (Christmas-Dec 25 and Mary Mother of God-Jan 1), full of good family visiting and sharing in food, gifts and time with others! I want to take the opportunity to thank you, my parish family for the blessing to be here and serve as a priest among you. You bless me by your lives of faithful witness & prayerful discipleship to Christ! I feel so blessed as we move along together, sharing in both joys and struggles as we seek God's will in community with one another. That is church! Following Jesus in company with one another! So, I take Christmas and the end of the year to thank you for being so good to me! God always works among His people open to serving his Will!

How about those shepherds! I am glad that someone was awake that night to receive the angels' message and go over to that humble scene and visit with St Joseph, the Blessed Mother and baby Jesus to see just what the angels had prophesied! The shepherds found the angels' sign just as they were told: a newborn Savior-King born in the simplest of conditions. What did they find? The Child Jesus born in an out of the way place, around animals eating and finding their rest in a quiet way after their long day's labor. Jesus himself was wrapped in warm cloths lying in a barn manger. More than the clothes, Jesus' blessed and loving parents were embracing and wrapping him with their concern. And more than a simple animal's feedbox, the manger identifies the purpose of Christ: God's own presence, **come to feed his people** (maybe like we wrap up a delicious morsel of dinner to enjoy even more later). Jesus will say in John 6:33 "the bread of God is that which *comes down from heaven* and gives life to the world." And then in John 6:51 "I am the living bread that came down from heaven; whoever eats this bread will live forever; and **the bread that I will give is my flesh for the life of the world.**" The prophet Isaiah (40:11) had prophesied about the coming Savior that "Like a shepherd he feeds his flock; in his arms he gathers the lambs, carrying them close to himself...." Jesus does come to feed us, and keep us in close relationship to Him. I love the additional point that the word 'Bethlehem' means "House of Bread". All of this is revealed by the angels to lowly shepherds at work in the fields. The shepherds then become the first evangelists carrying the message into town for others to hear. Those listening and open accept the good news of God coming to live among His People! All because of those first humble shepherds who carry the message to others!

What is your favorite Christmas carol? Like a lot of things, when we hear them over and over, we may become deaf to the actual words. An enlightening exercise for us this Christmas may be to listen closely to the words we are singing in our favorite Christmas carols. One of my favorite carols is "**It Came Upon a Midnight Clear**" that has these powerful lines:

"Yet with the woes of sin and strife, *The world hath suffered long; Beneath* the angel-strain have rolled, *Two thousand years of wrong; And man,*

at war with man, *hears not.* The love song which they bring: **O hush the noise, ye men of strife,** And hear the angels sing." I heard that! The world is filled with warring tension and wrong ideas about human progress and fulfillment, until we 'listen' and 'look up' to God. The Savior has come. Jesus has shown the way, yet the world has persisted in only hearing and exalting itself. Another carol that I pray over throughout the Christmas season is "**O Little Town of Bethlehem**" which has the line "*No ear may hear His coming,* But in this world of sin, *Where meek souls will receive* Him still, *The dear Christ enters in.*" Imagine how God entered our world: through a helpless baby, on a still night, in the backwater of little Bethlehem, in the borrowed space of a stable, amid day-laboring animals, first visited only by lowly shepherds. God didn't have a flashy, hyped press conference-rally amid glitz and gold, attended by industry bosses, to introduce himself into our history. No. He appeared in the modest, meekest, mildest way to suggest a way of living that brings life to all who are open to receive the divine gifts of peace, reconciliation and justice that only come through God's Kingdom. May our celebration of Christmas this year open new ears and new eyes for the world to experience freshly the intended peace of the Kingdom of God for all people, just as the angels sang "Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's people on earth" (Luke 2:14).

Here are some daily questions to consider in our prayer time!

Sunday: Every Mass is Christmas! What did God place into my humble heart today for me to be able to share with others I encounter this week?

Monday: Have I passed along good news today? Have I listened to bad news? We do have good to tell, so let us add to our conversations uplifting God-focused news.

Tuesday: Jesus is our shepherd who begins his life among shepherds. How may I shepherd another today in Jesus' name (feed, tend wounds, lead, hold together others)?

Wednesday: We hear about angels, dreams and stars in the Christmas story. Are we open to the many signs God places in our paths to guide us in ways of holiness and justice?

Thursday: God is faithful. By coming to live among us, he patiently stays with us. Do we attend to His presence (notice his closeness)?

Friday: Perform some act of mercy or anonymous act of kindness for someone today.

Saturday: How can I participate more actively at mass this weekend? Consider volunteering to read, usher, serve communion or help with decorating the sanctuary throughout the year.

Peace and Prayers, Fr Brian Johnson

Marriage Help – Retrouvaille (pronounced retro-vi) has helped thousands of couples who are disillusioned or even experiencing misery in their marriage. This program can help you too. For confidential information about or to register for the January program beginning with a weekend on Jan 13, 2017, call 270-852-8346, or email: fl Elliot@audubon-area.com or visit the web site at www.retrouvaille.org

Catholic Men's Conference featuring Cardinal Timothy Dolan: Saturday February 11 at the RiverPark Center (101 Daviess Street, Owensboro, KY 42303) is the 6th annual Diocesan Catholic Men's Conference. Come participate in day of men's spirituality. For ticket info, visit www.kycatholic.com

A Rachel's Vineyard Retreat for Healing the Wounds of Abortion

will be offered the weekend of **January 13-15, 2017** in the Diocese of Owensboro, Kentucky. Participation in this retreat is open to any woman or man who has been involved, or touched by, abortion. If you have lost a child or grandchild, or a sibling, nephew or niece, to abortion, or if you have at any time in your life been involved in an abortion, then the Lord Jesus would like to offer you both healing and peace! Both Catholics and non-Catholics are welcome to participate, and our retreat is conducted with absolute confidentiality.

For more information, visit our website: HopeAfterAbortionKY.com, or call Debbie at (270) 570-4717 or Jennifer at (931)

Marriage Enrichment Retreat: The Family Life Office is pleased to bring Mario Sacasa, to our Diocese for a "Married Couple's Retreat-Living the Gift of Marriage" on March 25-26, 2017 at Lake Barkley Lodge in Cadiz, Kentucky. TO register or for more info, please call the Family Life office 270-683-1545

2017 Parish Calendars: The new year brings a new calendar! Please pick up your calendars (there should be several extra, in case you need a couple)! Also, I want to thank our generous and faithful advertisers whose gifts provide the calendars for us. Please thank them too by your business with them. Hardinsburg Animal Clinic (Doug & Sherrie Taul), Mountain Laurel Lake Cabins (Larry & Patty Mattingly), and Trent-Dowell Funeral Home (Bob & Linda Rhodes). Thank You!

Nativity of the Lord

"Do not be afraid; for behold, I proclaim to you good news of great joy that will be for all the people"

The good news of the incarnation is meant to be shared with all people. We are each called to be proclaimers of this Good News in a particular way. If you think God might be calling you to share the joy of the Gospel as a Catholic priest, contact the vocations office for more resources and to learn more about discerning your vocation: 270-683-1545, jason.mcclure@pastoral.org, www.owensborovocations.com

Al-Anon Meeting: Mondays 7:00 pm St Romuald Parish Hall. Come find support and understanding to recover a sense of serenity in your life.

Regional Meetings of Catholics at the Capitol: Saturday January 14, 2017 at Holy Name Henderson from 10:00am-12:30 pm, concerned Catholics interested in advocacy for Life and Justice issues are gathering to plan the next meetings with representatives at Frankfort Capitol in February. For more info, please call Richard Murphy at 270-883-1545.

A Word from Pope Francis:

"In Mary, we see a strong, active and helpful faith, not a retiring and resigned faith. The Annunciation story bears all the dynamism of the visit of God: when God comes to meet us He moves us inwardly, He sets in motion what we are until all our life is transformed into praise and blessing. When God comes to us, he leaves us with a 'healthy restlessness' to be with and take care of others. God invites us to proclaim that He lives present among His people. Blessed Mary, as the first disciple and missionary, is a prime example of this, Far from remaining in the reserved space of our temples, she goes out to meet and accompany others. Once she hears of the older Elizabeth's pregnancy, and she goes out to serve and stay with her" (Homily 12-12-2016)



THIS WEEK:

Mon	1:00 pm	Blue Army Rosary
	7:00 pm	Al-Anon Meeting
Tues	10:00 am	Scripture Study
	1:00 pm	Mass (Extended Care)
Wed	4:00 pm	Confessions
	5:00 pm	Mass
Thur	9:30 am	Mass (Medco)
	6:00 pm	Family Holy Hour
Fri	9:00 am	Mass
Sat	5:00 pm	New Year's Eve Mass
Sun	7:00 am	New Year's Day Mass
	10:00 am	New Year's Day Mass

UPCOMING:

Jan. 6/7 24 Hour Eucharistic Adoration

Pray to end abortion: Join other Catholics and those from other faiths that gather each Saturday at 2nd and Market in Louisville from 7:00-8:00 am (EST) to pray for families entering the abortion clinic. Many children have been saved and mothers spared future grief by this prayer action and support. With God, all things are possible! Archbishop Kurtz is known to show up and pray with everyone too!

We Pray For:

Gene Aldridge, Joe Ammons, Jim Ball, Gene Bennett, Joe Bennett, Bradley Berry, Ronnie Bruner, Juanita Burch, Joann Butler, Waylon Carman, Billy Carwile, Jerry Carwile, Russel Carwile, Janet Chambliss, Diane Charlebois, Sharon Church, Joan Clark, Mary Crook, Vonda Decker, Roger Dowell, Kenneth Dowell, Davye Duggins, Mary Catherine Edge, Shelby Elder, Rodney Elliott, Michael Ernest, Carroll Ferguson, Rhett Flener, Donny Flood, Ginny Flood, Shannon Ford, Andrea Fuqua, Barnard Gagel, Henrietta Gibson, Dorothy Greenwell, Bill Greenwood, Jerry Grimes, Sr., Laura Beavin Hawley, Davy Haycraft, Jessica Henderson, Dale Henning, JoAnn Henning, Lisa Henning, Karen Herbert, Kitty Himmelhaver, Bill Hinton, Doug Hinton, Janet Hodson, Steve Hodson, David Horsley, Daniel Hoskins, Rick Hurley, Mary Lois Irwin, Barbara Jarboe, Virginia Jeffries, Don Jerrell, Kiara Jo, Jerry Johnson, Jim Johnson, Mary Ann Johnson, Jack Jolly, Lovel King, Faith Klingsmith, David Lane, Angie Lawrence, Linda Ledford, Annette Lucas, Jennie Maiden, Mark Masterson, Keith McDaniel, Ann Medlen, Kevin McHugh, Bevan Michael Miller, Richard Miller, Blaise Mills, Ian Moore, John Moore, Barbara O'Connell, Don O'Donoghue, Eddie O'Donoghue, Joe Oelze, Earl O'Reilly, Libby Osborne, Rowan Palmer, Peggy Phillips, Judy Popham, Bobby Potts, Doris Priest, Joe Priest, Robert Priest, Sandy Priest, Tracy Ralston, Jamie Riley, Rita Roach, Julie Robbins, Shirley Robbins, Suzanne Rose, Annelise Sebastian, **Judy Seelye**, Terri Shiffer, Colleen Simmons, Jerry Sosh, Lucye Stupak, **Pam Sturgeon**, Loretta Swink, Adalee Taul, Becky Taul, Beavin & Gina Thornsberry, Dorothy Tillberg, Paul Tucker, Brook Tyler, Bobby Upchurch, Gil Urban, Johnny Vessels, Nancy Vincent, Buddy Weatherholt, Greg Weise, Greg Wethington, Raymond Wethington, Millie Whittler, Judy Whitley, Jimmy Whitworth, Mary Rita Whitworth, Carolyn Wilcheck, Kevin Wilcheck, Robert D. Wilson, Shaun Winstead, Anne Wolfe, Sandra Zanone. **Serving in the Armed Forces:** Mandie Adams, Kevin Arnold, Fred Barham, Austin Brown, Timothy Cashen, Cody Garst, Parker Findlay, James Hanor, Jack Hayes, Stevie Higgs, James Howard, Charles Kuhlman, SSgt Bradford O'Reilly, Jordan Pate, Cody Simmons, Liana Tindle, Chase Upchurch, Garrett Wadsworth



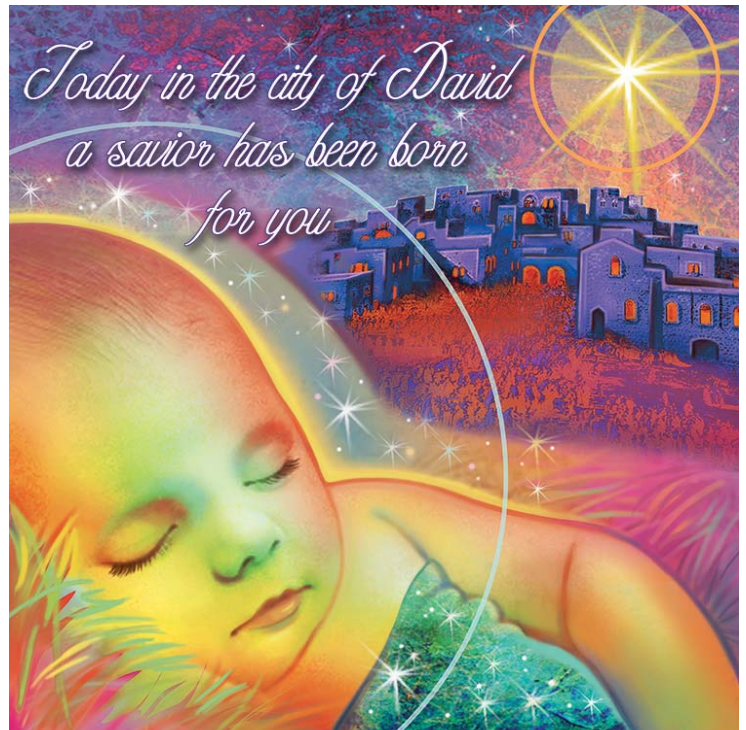
New Year Mass Schedule:

New Year's Eve Mass—5:00 pm
New Year's Day Masses 7:00 am & 10:00 am

Matthew 25:36 "I was sick and you cared for me..." Are you being called to be a Communion Minister to the Sick? If you are interested in joining this caring ministry to the sick and administering Holy Communion please contact Deacon Mike 270- 756-0120 or Fr Brian 270-756-2356.

Advent Giving Tree 2016:

The Advent Giving Tree was a complete and total success thanks to everyone who took an angel off the tree and filled those Christmas wishes. Charmaine Priest who worked diligently to deliver the giving tree gift bags, wishes to thank everyone who in any way helped to make those Christmas wishes come true. Anyone who helped in any capacity, it was very appreciated! We are blessed at St. Romuald to have such giving and caring parishioners. Merry Christmas to everyone from all the Advent Giving Tree volunteers and gift givers!



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First Friday 24-hour Adoration:

Following the 9:00 am Mass on January 6, we begin the 24 hour adoration until Saturday morning mass at 8:00 am. We are blessed with dedicated adorers for each hour, but can use extra people for some hours. Please call Minnie Nimmo 270-617-0297 or Patsy Whitfill 270-617-2557 to volunteer spending an hour in prayer with Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament.

Celebration

BIRTHDAYS: Helen Fentress, December 29th; Mack Mattingly, January 1st; Ginna Thornsberry, January 1st and Helen O'Reilly, January 3rd.

ANNIVERSARIES:
Derrick & Brittany Henning Dec. 30 10 Years
Rob & Robin Cox Dec. 31 40 Years
Jeff & Tammy Fuqua Dec. 31 5 Years

**Seniors
Christmas Celebration**



**SRIS 2016
Christmas Program**



**Mass
Etiquette
Column**



Knights of Columbus Autumn Raffle Winners:
3rd Prize—\$500 Joyce Webster, Hardinsburg
2nd Prize—\$1,000 Marvin Mattingly, Hardinsburg
1st Prize—\$1,500 Patty Johnson, Owensboro
Thanks to all for your support!

We thank our advertiser for making the bulletin possible! Please take a moment to read the back of the bulletin and note the generous advertisers from the business community who provide our bulletin each week! Each time you visit their business, let them know you are thankful for their support of our parish's weekly bulletin!

Advertiser of the week:
Commonwealth Machining
270-756-1449

Thank you for supporting St Romuald Church!



SUNDAY, DECEMBER 25, 2016
SOLEMNITY OF THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD (CHRISTMAS)

Look for the love on Christmas

Christmas Day is here! After weeks of preparation, are you filled with excitement? Exhausted? Perhaps a bit of both? On this holy morning, imagine sitting and talking with Mary, mother of the newborn. She carried the child in her womb for nine months; she labored and gave birth. Perhaps she was exhausted that morning, perhaps she was filled with hope and joy—perhaps, like you, a bit of both! The essence of this day is the birth of that child, who came to bring love to us all. Look for that love today in the smile of a child, the story of a parent, a meal at your table, or a word of gratitude.

TODAY'S READINGS: *Isaiah 9:1-6; Titus 2:11-14; Luke 2:1-14 (14)*. "You have nothing to fear! I come to proclaim good news to you."

MONDAY, DECEMBER 26
FEAST OF STEPHEN, THE FIRST MARTYR
Deacons on the front line

Stephen was a deacon in the early church. Evidence suggests that both women and men served as deacons in the early church, and Pope Francis recently established an official commission to study the question of the diaconate of women. The word "radical" means going back to "the root," so if radical change is ahead for the diaconate, it will be deeply rooted in Christian history and tradition. Pray for wise discernment by all those involved in the commission.

TODAY'S READINGS: *Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59; Matthew 10:17-22 (696)*. "You are my rock and my fortress; for your name's sake you will lead and guide me."

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 27
FEAST OF JOHN, APOSTLE, EVANGELIST
Tell him I AM sent you

Each gospel has an emphasis, and John's is the divinity of Christ revealed in signs of service: feeding multitudes, raising Lazarus, forgiving the adulterous woman, turning water into wine, and washing feet like a slave. In John, Jesus often uses the divine name, I AM: in the poetry of vine and branches, the good shepherd, the bread from heaven. Because you are baptized, divinity lives in you as well. As the hustle of the holidays continues, feed, not thousands, but one hungry person; wash someone's feet by volunteering somewhere; be a good shepherd, a mentor to a young person; be a forgiving, divine vessel of joy. Show that love does not die as Christmas Day passes by.

TODAY'S READINGS: *1 John 1:1-4; John 20:1a, 2-8 (697)*. "What we have heard, what we have seen with our eyes."

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 28
FEAST OF THE HOLY INNOCENTS, MARTYRS
Martyrs of today

Our Christmas joy is interrupted today. We remember the children who were slaughtered in Bethlehem by King Herod. Such tragedies continue today—pray for all who die daily from violence and neglect. Pope Francis has reminded us many times that these are the martyrs of today. On this Christmas weekday we must stop and reflect on the fact that even though there may be darkness and a rejection of life, the light of love, the light of Christmas, shines much brighter and scatters hatred and brings about a new world.

TODAY'S READINGS: *1 John 1:5—2:2; Matthew 2:13-18 (698)*. "A voice is heard in Ramah, weeping and great mourning, Rachel weeping for her children and refusing

to be comforted, because they are no more."

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 29
MEMORIAL OF THOMAS BECKET, BISHOP, MARTYR
Fight for what's right

We teach kids to stand up to bullies, but how often do we adults do the same? How many times do we ignore hurtful, inappropriate comments to others in person and online? How often do we fail to advocate for those in our city, country, and world who aren't being treated fairly? It's not easy to risk the repercussions of doing the right thing, but we are called to do so nonetheless. Find courage in the example of Saint Thomas Becket, who gave his life for standing up to someone—his friend, boss, and king—who was in the wrong.

TODAY'S READINGS: *1 John 2:3-11; Luke 2:22-35 (202)*. "Lord, now let your servant go in peace; your word has been fulfilled."

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 30
FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY, AND JOSEPH
All you need is love

"Jesus himself was born into a modest family." So writes Pope Francis in his letter, "*The Joy of Love*." We tend to think of that small family as perfect, but we presume, too, that they worked, prayed, and traveled together as many families do today. Although we don't know their daily rituals and routines, we do know that the child of the family became a man of justice and compassion who showed us how to love. To celebrate this Feast of the Holy Family, put love on your lips and in your heart and do something today that imitates the Lord's unconditional love.

TODAY'S READINGS: *Sirach 3:2-6, 12-14 or Colossians 3:12-21; Matthew 2:13-15, 19-23 (17)*. "Over all these virtues, put on love which binds the rest together and makes them perfect."

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 31
MEMORIAL OF SYLVESTER I, POPE
Keep the Christmas spirit alive

Don't you wish the wonder of Christmas lasted longer than one day? Well, it actually does! The Nativity of the Lord is celebrated on the liturgical calendar as an Octave—that is, eight days long—in this case, from December 25 to January 1. Easter is also celebrated as an Octave, because the importance of these two events demands a full week of attention. Because today is also the feast day of Sylvester I, who was pope during the Council of Nicea, which affirmed that Jesus was both human and divine, take time to contemplate this part of the mystery of Christ's birth.

TODAY'S READINGS: *1 John 2:18-21; John 1:1-18 (204)*. "The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us, and we saw his glory."

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