

**December 29, 2019**

**Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph**

Dear Parishioners,

Let us reflect with Pope Paul VI on the life of the Holy Family:

*“We ask therefore the favor of joining Our Lady, mother of the home at Nazareth, and her humble but courageous husband St. Joseph, in their intimacy with Jesus Christ, her human and divine Son.*

*Nazareth is the school in which we begin to understand the life of Jesus. It is the school of the Gospel. Here we learn to observe, to listen, to meditate, and to penetrate the profound and mysterious meaning of that simple, humble, and lovely manifestation of the Son of God. And perhaps we learn almost imperceptibly to imitate Him. [...]*

*It is here, in this school, that one comes to grasp how necessary it is to be spiritually disciplined, if one wishes to follow the teachings of the Gospel and to become a follower of Christ. Oh, how We would like to repeat, so close to Mary, Our introduction to the genuine knowledge of the meaning of life, and to the higher wisdom of divine truth! [...]*

*The lesson of silence: may there return to us an appreciation of this stupendous and indispensable spiritual condition, deafened as we are by so much tumult, so much noise, so many voices of our chaotic and frenzied modern life. O silence of Nazareth, teach us recollection, reflection, and eagerness to heed the good inspirations and words of true teachers; teach us the need and value of preparation, of study, of meditation, of interior life, of secret prayer seen by God alone.*

*The lesson of domestic life: may Nazareth teach us the meaning of family life, its harmony of love, its simplicity and austere beauty, its sacred and inviolable character; may it teach us how sweet and irreplaceable is its training, how fundamental and incomparable its role on the social plane.*

*The lesson of work: O Nazareth, home of “the carpenter’s son,” We want here to understand and to praise the austere and redeeming law of human labor, here to restore the consciousness of the dignity of labor, here to recall that work cannot be an end in itself, and that it is free and ennobling in proportion to the values – beyond the economic ones – which motivate it. We would like here to salute all the workers of the world, and to point out to them their great Model, their Divine Brother, the Champion of all their rights, Christ the Lord!”*

In this year, let us entrust ourselves to the Holy Family with our consecration prayer as a family.

*Holy Family, pray for us! Fr. Martin Flum*

**Some suggested New Year’s resolutions**

On this feast of the Holy Family, our New Year’s resolutions may be directed to our relationships in the family. Here are a few suggestions:

1. Ask the Lord to grant the grace of helping someone become Catholic.
2. To seek reconciliation with a family member.
3. To have the courage to invite the family to lead a more Catholic life.
4. To commit our family to the daily Rosary or to arriving at Mass in time to pray the Rosary with our parish family and our Mother in heaven.
5. To endeavor to fulfill our Lady’s request at Fatima for the *First Saturday devotion*. (See the insert below under that title in this bulletin).
6. As parents, to take back full responsibility for our children’s Christian formation, relying less on teachers and other caregivers.
7. As children, to spend less time in the virtual world of technology and more time in relationship with parents and siblings.

**PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR SICK**

For those who suffer from various illnesses, especially Joe Aviles, Madison Brady, Ann Canter, Charlene Cardwell, Tom Cardwell, Joyce Chambers, Thomas Chambers, Jackie Chapman, Brianna Daniels, Dorothy Dunston, Kathy Fisher, Mabel Hamilton, Florence Henderson, Crystal Johnson, Bernice Kirby, Marie Knobel, Wanda Langley, Betty Lindsay, Kenny Lindsay, Adam Lumpkins, Rachel Makle, Michael Mohun, Ralph and Regina Nasatka, Fannie Newman, Joyce Pickeral, Rev. Robert Pittman, Ann Proctor, Betty Proctor, Dawn Russo, Lucille Shanks, Dee Smith, Geraldine Stewart, Willie Stewart, George Thomas, Terry Wilson and Belinda Windsor, may their crosses be joined to the Cross of Jesus.

**Lessons and Carols - Dec. 31st**

What are you doing New Year’s Eve?

Join us at St. Michael's on December 31st for Lessons and Carols at 6pm, followed by the Vigil Mass for the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God. The Festival of Lessons and Carols is a service of Scripture and song that dates back to the late 19th century. We will hear the Word of God relating to the promise of the Messiah and His coming and sing carols to accompany our meditation on the Scriptures.

End the year 2019 well, come and enjoy! Lessons and Carols will begin at 6 PM, followed by Mass at 7 PM. This 7 PM Vigil Mass will fulfill your obligation to attend Mass on the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God (Jan. 1st).

**MASS INTENTIONS**

Saturday,	12/28/19	5pm	Doris B. Reiss +
Sunday,	12/29/19	8am	Parishioners & their families
Sunday,	12/29/19	10am	Fred Daly +
Sunday,	12/29/19	11:30am	Students of St Peter’s School
Monday,	12/30/19	8am	JR West & Family
Tuesday	12/31/19	8am	Mrs Tina Wagner & Family
Tuesday	12/31/19	6:30 pm	Mrs Maria J. Gancayco +
Wed	01/01/20	9am	Kim Oliver & Family
Thursday,	01/02/20	8am	Rev Thomas A Gude +
Friday,	01/03/20	8am	Yesid Palencia
Friday,	01/03/20	7:30pm	
Saturday	01/04/20	8am	Mrs. Maria J. Gancayco +

**YOUR SACRIFICIAL OFFERINGS**

<b>St. Michael’s</b>		
Offertory Collection for December 22		\$ 3,409
<b>St. Dominic’s</b>		
Offertory Collection for December 22		\$ 1,194

*There will be a Second Collection for the Archdiocese of Military Services at next weekend’s masses.*

**Readings for the week of December 29,2019**

Monday:	1 Jn 2: 12-17 /Ps 96/ Lk 2: 36-40
Tuesday:	1 Jn 2: 18-21/Ps 96/Jn 1: 1-18
Wednesday:	Nm 6: 22-27/ Ps 67/Gal 4: 4-7/ Lk 2: 16-21
Thursday:	1 JN 2:22-28/Ps 98/JN 1:19-28
Friday:	1 JN 2:29–3:6/Ps 98/JN 1:29-34
Saturday:	1 JN 3:7-10/Ps98/JN 1:35-42
Next Sunday:	IS 60:1-6 /Ps 72/EPH 3:2-3A, 5-6/ MT 2:1-12

**MINISTRY SCHEDULE FOR NEXT WEEK**

<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>12/31/2019</b>	<b>7pm</b>
Rosary Leader: Irene Goldsmith		
Server: Julissa Holly	Lector: James Holly	
EMHC: Joan Royal		
<b>Wednesday -New Year’s</b>	<b>01/01/2020</b>	<b>9am</b>
<i>Holy Day of Obligation</i>		
Rosary Leader: Betty Lindsay		
Server: Kathy Fisher	Lector: Maureen Ingle	
EMHC: TBD		
<b>Saturday,</b>	<b>01/04/2020</b>	<b>5pm</b>
Rosary Leader: Alice Williams		
Server: James Aviles	Lector: Arlene Bloom	
EMHC: TBD		
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>01/05/2020</b>	<b>8am</b>
Rosary Leader: Betty Lindsay		
Server: Julissa Holley	Lector: James Holley	
EMHC: TBD		
<b>Sunday,</b>	<b>01/05/2020</b>	<b>11:30am</b>
Rosary Leader: Kevin Mondorff		
Server: Taylor Nickens	Lector: David Mason	
EMHC: TBD		

**THANK YOU!!**

To those who generously gave alms for the Christmas flowers and to those who decorated the two churches for Christmas - thank you from all of us! Your devotion and hard work assisted us all to raise our minds and hearts to God! May the Holy Infant reward you!

Thank you also to all those who provided voice and talent for joyful hymns of Christmas joy!

**January 1<sup>st</sup> – a Holy Day of Obligation**

The Church regards the Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God, as so important that it is a Holy Day of Obligation. On this day, we are reminded of the role that the Blessed Virgin played in the plan of our salvation. As we begin another year, we draw inspiration from the selfless love of the Theotokos, who never hesitated to do the will of God. O Mary, Mother of God, pray for us!

**Remaining Christmas Season Schedule**

Tuesday ,	12/31	8am	Morning Mass
		6 pm	Lessons & Carols – St. Michael’s
		7 pm	Vigil Mass – St. Michael’s
Wed,	1/1	9am	Solemnity of Mary -St. Michael’s

**FIRST FRIDAY AND FIRST SATURDAY**

January 3rd is First Friday, and we will have Mass and Sacred Heart devotions. Mass will be at 7:30 PM, preceded by confessions beginning at 7 PM. After Mass, there will be adoration until 9 PM. The next morning, at 8 AM, we will be back for First Saturday Mass and devotions! Mass will be followed by adoration, the rosary, the opportunity for confession, and a 15 minute reflection on the mysteries of the rosary. The **Blue Army** group will be gathering for breakfast and their meeting afterwards. If you are new to the **Blue Army** and have questions or would like to attend a meeting, please contact Joanna Mason at the office or email [evangelization.stmichaelbaden@gmail.com](mailto:evangelization.stmichaelbaden@gmail.com).



**Remember to open your Christmas gift!**

Sign up with your gift subscription at [formed.org/signup](http://formed.org/signup):

- 1) Click “Sign Up”
- 2) “I Belong to a Parish”
- 3) Search for **St. Michael’s Catholic Church** (it will pop up if you type in Brandywine, MD)
- 4) Enter your info, and you're in!