

THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH

December 29, 2019

Dear Parishioners,

As the Lord has forgiven you, so must you also do. (Colossians 3:13)



If you could name just one quality that makes a family holy, what would it be? You might say love, or any of the other virtues that St. Paul lists in today's second reading. And you may well be right. But what do you think keeps a family holy? What keeps them together for the long haul? Forgiveness.

Why? Because we are all fallen human beings. Even though we have Jesus living in us, we still commit sins. We are bound to hurt each other at times, even when we don't intend to. That's why forgiveness in a family is so important.

You might think that the only family that never needed to forgive one another was the Holy Family. After all, Mary was born without original sin, Joseph is a saint, and Jesus is the Son of God! But even without actually sinning against one another, there were still plenty of times when mercy and forbearance were necessary. Maybe Mary forgot to let the bread rise one morning, so they had to go without it that day. Perhaps the boy Jesus accidentally broke the water pitcher. Or maybe Joseph felt hurt because he misunderstood something Mary had said to him. Each of these "innocent" events could have led to resentment if it wasn't dealt with right away.

The ability to forgive one another, even for the minor offenses that happen in daily life together, is the oil that makes family relationships run well. Saying "I'm sorry; will you forgive me?" and "I forgive you" should roll off our tongues as readily as the words "I love you." Because without forgiveness, bitterness can grow and love can wither.

So make forgiveness a goal for your family for the coming year. Show your children and grandchildren how to forgive by modeling it yourself. It's not a concession to say you're sorry to another person; it's a grace—one that the Holy Family will give you for the asking!

"Jesus, give me the humility to ask for forgiveness and the mercy to grant it."

Deacon Mark Race, Administrator

Men, Mark Your Calendars

Transfiguration Annual Retreat for men will be held at Mater Dolorosa Retreat Center on the weekend of January 24, 25, and 26 2020. Join your fellow parishioners for this weekend of spiritual enrichment and growth. The Passionist retreat team offer inspirational talks on the theme, as well as time for quiet prayer, Mass, and Confession and Stations of the Cross. You may arrive as early as 3:00 PM Friday. Our retreat opens at 5:45 PM with a buffet supper and closes Sunday after lunch about 12:30 PM. A **\$50.00 non-refundable deposit is required to reserve your weekend Retreat, this is reserved for you.** This year's Retreat theme: **"God is doing something New In Us... Exploring paths of deepening Faith"**. For more information or to make your reservation please call Greg Warner your parish retreat Captain at 323.974.7405 or 310.538.2214.

You may register online at: materdolorosa.org/event/mens-weekend-retreat-jan-24-26-2020

Daily Scripture Readings

WHEN GOD COMES

My God, what joy is when you come to us in daily visitation; what peace is ours when by your coming we find life anew. Come, O come to live with us and reign within, now and forever. Amen.

Sunday	Sir 3:2-14, Ps 128:1-5, Mt 2:13-23
Monday	1 Jn 2:12-17, Lk 2:36-40
Tuesday	1 Jn 2:18-21, Jn 1:1-18
Wednesday	Nm 6:22-27, Ps 67:2-8, Lk 2:16-21
Thursday	1 Jn 2:22-28, Jn 1:19-28
Friday	1 Jn 2:29-3:6, Jn 1:29-34
Saturday	1 Jn 3:7-10, Jn 1:36-42
Sunday	Is 60:1-6, Ps 72:1-13, Mt 2:1-12

Mass Intentions

Saturday	December 28
5:15 PM	Soul of Jose Luis Montano
Sunday	December 29
8:00 AM	Intention of all Parishioners
10:00 AM	Soul of Slade Campbell
12:15 PM	Soul of Angela Dupré

Weekly Offering for December 22, 2019

\$8892.00 Tithes and Offering
68.00 Building Fund
11.00 "We Care"

Did You Know?

Everyone is in charge of their own bodies

It is important to allow children to decline signs of physical affection if they are uncomfortable or don't want to receive them. It's also equally important to teach children that this rule works both ways — if someone does not want a hug or a kiss, that decision should be respected. For young children who may be grabby or touchy-feely, this can be a tough lesson to instill, but it sets the groundwork for a critical understanding of the word "no" and how to react to it. Remind children about their own boundaries, and the boundaries of others, and reinforce ways to express love and friendship while respecting those boundaries.

For more information,

<https://www.parents.com/parenting/better-parenting/advice/reluctant-hugs-why-you-shouldnt-force-kids-to-show-physical/>

Christmas Schedule

NEW YEAR'S EVE MASS

Tuesday, December 31st at 8:00 AM

NEW YEAR'S DAY MASS

The Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God

Wednesday, January 1, 2020 at 8:00 AM

Christmas Flower Offering

We are asking that you be as generous as possible with your giving. Envelopes are at the church exit. We will place the envelopes on the altar for prayer in Memory of, or in Honor of, your love ones.

Stewardship Thought

"Wives, be subordinate to your husbands..."

Husbands, love your wives... Children, obey your parents in everything... Fathers, do not provoke your children..."

COLOSSIANS 3:18-21

Pope Francis said that families, through their life of prayer and love, become "schools of true human growth." Being credible witnesses of Christian love, especially that of family members, exerts the most positive influence on our children. We are all children of God, let us pray and love each other as God, Our Father, does for us.

Rosary Procession January 4th

You are invited to participate in the monthly Rosary Procession in Honor of the Blessed Virgin Mary, on **Saturday, January 4, 2020** at 4:30 PM at Transfiguration. The Rosary is one of the most powerful prayers on earth. The 5:15 PM Mass will follow.

Transfiguration School Vacation Break

December 18, 2019 and return January 6, 2020

Memorial Service for Howlett Smith

The **memorial service** for Howlett Smith also known as "Smitty", former 8:00 AM Cantor for Transfiguration, will take place on Saturday, February 1, 2020 at 10:00 AM.

2020 Calendars are available in the church sacristy for a donation of \$2. Thank you for your support.

Pray for the Sick

LaVerne Agnew, Cyd Michelle Anderson, Brian Argusta, Percenia Beasley, Fr. Emile Belletty, Glenda Brown, Vivian Burgess, Barbara Butler, Brownie Cain, Sister Cecilia Calva, Alberto Casanova, Christopher Chestnut, Sister Ann Paul Clare, Katherine Clark, Agnes Cooper, Edward Cousin, Juanita Davis, Beverly Colvin-Dorsey, Jayden Dunn, Nigel Dunn, Alton Duhon, Cynthia Fortier, Teresa Franklin, Judy Felton-Gardner, Michael Frierson, Avis Gibbs, Barbara Harris, Darren Harris, Jacqueline Holman, Janie Jackson, Robert Johns, Aaron Katz, Briana Katz, Barbara Lagarde, Irwin Lagarde, Jeanne LeBlanc, Mercedes LeBlanc, Baby Amani Leffall, Barbara Lindsey, Connie Louie, Joe McZeal, Vylfred Manor, Sister Marianna, Dorothy Okoye, Aliyah Patterson, Sally Price, Wiley R. Pugh, Vickie Race, Andrea Raggette, Doris Rogers, Dana Semien, Dudley Semien, Chris Simon, Joan Spencer, Annie Starks, Sandra Sterling, Leila Thomas, Iris Turner, Mabel Walton, Johnnye Washington, and Alice Williams.