

REFLECTION

Family Living

The first reading from the book of Sirach sketches for us a picture of ancient family customs of a patriarchal society, the father is the head of the family. Although this society may be different from ours, we find values that are enduring and speak to our society today. We clearly discover the values of mutuality, respect, and service between wives and husbands, and children, and the old. The and obedience their parents. As demonstrates, the dependent on the becomes his



between parents between the young focus is the respect that children owe Sirach Son who was once father now caretaker. These values challenge us today. The gospel depicts Joseph as the one who is open and obedient to the directives of God. For the sake of the safety of the child, he willingly leaves behind his familiar life and with Mary journeys to a foreign land. He is the model of a parent who puts the needs of the child before his own. Our children are not our possessions; we hold them in trust for God, the giver. In Joseph, we see one who took this trust very seriously. This gospel story is a marvelous example of family values in operation.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

- Dec. 29 – Jillian Anderle, Duane Fojtik, Hattie Olle, Earlene Pilat
 Dec. 30 – Kalla Gaertner, Jayme Raab
 Dec 31 – Clarence Bohuslav, Addisyn Greive, Marlon Novosad
 Jan. 1 – Edwin Pavlicek
 Jan. 2 – Rosie Koudelka, Benedict Wenske
 Jan. 3 – Amy Greive, Allen Hermes, Mava Jalufka, Stayton Jalufka, Loretta Janak, Sheryl Zimmerman
 Jan. 4 – Gladys Kubenka

YOUTH MINISTRY NEWS

- Dec. 29 - Jan. 4** – No C.C.D./YMC (Christmas Holidays)
Next Sunday – C.C.D. Resumes
Jan. 6 & 8 – YMC After School Programs Resume

Remember the sick in your prayers this week,
especially Susan Jasek.

The K.J.Z.T. Society will lead the Saturday evening rosary during the month of January.

Pray for the repose of the soul of
Robert (Bob) Olle
 and the comfort of his loved ones.
May he rest in peace.



Happy New Year !

The first of January has many observances: We mark the conclusion to the octave of Christmas; it is New Year's Day; we celebrate the Day of Prayer for World Peace; and we observe the solemnity of Mary, Mother of God.

Mary The God-bearer: The Church today celebrates Mary as the Mother of God. She is called



Theotokos (God-bearer), for “God sent his Son born of a woman.” Because Mary found favor with God, his Son took the flesh of Mary – it is thanks to her that Jesus is *fully* human with flesh like ours, except for sin, and also fully divine. Mary is the ultimate symbol of

the Christian, for what is a Christian if not one who bears Christ within our world and brings him to people?

PRACTICE OF CHARITY

The most important thing about family is that it gives children their first glimpse of God, who is unconditional Love. Imagine yourself holding Mary's infant. Look at the tiny hands, his mouth, his sleeping face. Notice the wonder and love he evokes in you and reflect it back to him. That feeling, that pouring out of wonder and joy, is what God feels for us, for our children.



Family Prayer

O God, You have created us in love and saved us in mercy, and through the bond of marriage you have established the family and willed that it should become a sign of Christ's love for his Church. Shower your blessings on this family gathered here in your name. Enable those who are joined by one love to support one another by their fervor of spirit and devotion to prayer. Make them responsive to the needs of others and witnesses to the faith in all they say and do. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Sacred Heart Men's A.C.T.S. Retreat March 12-15, 2020



Registration forms are available at the main entrance to church. For more information contact David Raab.