

The Feast Of The Holy Family

December 31, 2023

Mass Intentions

January	1	9:00 AM	Nellie McGeehan requested by Tom Hayden
January	2	8:00 AM	Mike Landis requested by John & Mary Blair
January	3	8:00 AM	Tony Forlizzi requested by Pat & Glenn Harshberger
January	4	8:00 AM	John Cover requested by Mark & Ginny Ticehurst
January	5	8:00 AM	Mike Landis requested by Madeline Rogers
January	6	8:00 AM	Diana Prowell requested by Joseph & Suzann Meyer
		5:00 PM	Rose & Clement LaVia requested by Mary Zimmerman
January	7	8:00 AM	People Of The Parish
		10:30 AM	Helen Hayden requested by Ronald Kurtz

Liturgical Ministries January 6-7

	Lectors	Extraordinary Ministers	Servers
5:00 PM	Dave Suydam	Patty Suydam	Terry Meek
8:00 AM	Joe Dailey	Scott Sheaffer	Helena Krieger
10:30 AM	Bill Davies	Nancy Stanton	The Hoffman Family

Schmidt Center Cleaning

December 24

Kim Lane & Marian McCoy

January 7

The Raugh Family

Next Sunday's Readings

Please prepare for Mass and the Homily by reflecting on these texts from the Sacred Scriptures

Genesis 15:1-6, 21:1-3

Hebrews 11:8, 11-12, 17-19

Luke 2:22-40

Christian Stewardship

Last Sunday's Collection amounted to: \$5,269.75

The Collection on this date one year ago amounted to: \$5,912.80

The Christmas Collection amounted to: \$7,590.00

May God Bless you for your generous and responsible stewardship!!!

Church Calendar

Sunday, December 31st (Holy Family Sunday)

Confessions, 7:00-7:45AM

Mass, 9:00AM

No CCD

Monday, January 1st (Mary, Mother of God)

Mass, 9:00AM

Tuesday, January 2nd

Mass, 8:00AM

Wednesday, January 3rd

Mass, 8:00AM

Prayer Group, 8:30AM

Thursday, January 4th (St. Elizabeth Ann Seton)

Mass, 8:00AM

Confessions, 6:15-6:45PM

Sacred Heart Devotions, 7:00PM

Friday, January 5th (St. John Neumann)

Mass, 8:00AM

Saturday, January 6th

Mass in Honor of IHM, 8:00AM

Confessions, 4:00-4:45PM

Mass, 5:00 PM

Sunday, January 7th (Epiphany of the Lord)

Confessions, 8:00-8:45AM

Masses, 8:00AM and 10:30AM

CCD, 9:15-10:15AM

**“Jesus, Mary, and Joseph,
Pray for us.”**

From the Pastor’s Desk:

St. Teresa of Calcutta once said, “If we love, naturally we will try to do something. First in



our own home, our next-door neighbor, in the country we live, in the whole world.” In this quote we see a shift from the idyllic to a hard dose of reality: love means sacrifice and service. Perhaps it’s worth asking

ourselves: Does our family always get our best self? None of us is perfect, so the honest answer is probably no. If it’s tempting to think, “well, the Holy Family was perfect,

so what does this feast have to do with our family?” let’s remember we are celebrating the Feast of the HOLY Family, not the feast of the perfect family. Yes, they were holy. They embodied this in their faith and devotion in those expanding circles of which St. Teresa spoke. They gave to God first – in today’s Gospel we see the family travel to Jerusalem to present Jesus in the temple. They then returned to Nazareth where Jesus grew strong and was “filled with wisdom; and the favor of God was upon him.”

What does this feast mean for us today? It means that being a holy family is not unattainable. St. John Paul II once said: “The Redeemer of the world chose the family as the place for his birth and growth.” (2001) In other words, God’s will was fulfilled in the simplest and most ordinary of human circumstances when Jesus was born to Mary and Joseph in a stable. He sanctified what had been profaned by sin. Are our families perfect? No. But are we holy? That is our baptismal vocation and is within our reach each and every day. With the dawn of the new year, let’s make an effort to place Christ at the center of our lives. Let’s try to love our family members with all our heart, and bear witness in our actions and words. And finally, and most importantly, we must pray with and for one another.

Family prayer is powerful and transformative, uniting and equipping us to go out into the world each day and bear witness. Pray together: Jesus, Mary, and Joseph, graciously hear our prayer.

Remember the Sick of our Parish in your charity and prayers: John Kapp, Rosemary Anderson, Cathy Steiner, Marietta McQuaid, Marie Dishman, Suzanne Matunis, Jeanette Fasick, Pat Widdowson, Kay Dorundo, Mike Brennan, Gene Odato, Annetta Round, Marian Shatto, Joann Speis, Joni Lawrence, Shirley Scotta, and all the long-suffering in our community and at Perry Village.

Deacon Robinson’s Contact Information: You may contact Deacon Robinson at his cell phone (602-6298) or through his email: dcnrobin@ptd.net.

Online Information: You can access the weekly bulletin and information at our parish website at www.stbernardsnbpa.org.

Use of Parish Kitchen and Facilities: In accordance with the norms of our insurance company, Catholic Mutual, a person must be 16 years old to work or enter the kitchen. If parishioners want to use the kitchen or other parish facilities, which you are always free to do, please reserve the space with the parish office and sign the insurance form at least one week before your event. If your event is parish related, no additional insurance is needed. If personal, you must secure additional insurance from your own insurance company or through Catholic Mutual in case of accidents or physical harm. Call the parish office for further information.

Parish Contribution Statements for your church offerings will be available in early January. If you would like to have a statement emailed to you, please contact the parish office (info@stbernardsnbpa.org) and request one. Paper statements will also be available upon request.

Weekend Masses for Sunday/Monday, December 31st and January 1st: We will change our Masses for the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God (New Year's Day) weekend. Mass on Sunday, December 31st will begin at 5:00PM and the Mass on Monday, January 1, 2024, will begin at 9:00AM.

First Friday Devotions: Friday of this week is the First Friday of the Month of January. Devotions to the Sacred Heart of Jesus will begin Thursday evening, January 4th with Confessions available at 6:15PM and the Litany and Consecration to the Sacred Heart at 7:00PM. Our prayers will conclude with Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament. Why not start the New Year off right by spending time with the Eucharistic Lord!!

First Saturday Mass in Honor of the Immaculate Heart of Mary will be celebrated on Saturday morning, January 6th at 8:00AM. Mass will include the Litany of the Blessed Mother and the Consecration to her Immaculate Heart.

Resolution suggestions for 2024

- If you have a warm handclasp, use it.
- If you have a gift of speech, speak
- If you have energy, spend it for good.
- If you have money, give it.

- If you have time, share it.
- If you love little children or youth, lead them.
- If you can sing, glorify God with your voice.
- If you are fond of the beautiful and the artistic, decorate God's world.
- If you have a heart of love, visit the sick, greet the stranger, and sympathize with the sorrowing.
- If you have business ability, the church and the pastor need you.
- If you have faith, pray without ceasing.
- If your church means life to you and yours, then attend worship regularly and give thanks.
- If your church means life to you and yours, tell others about it.

Catholic Spiritual Resolutions:

- Increase your Marian devotion
- Make more time for spiritual reading
- Share your Catholic faith with others
- Bring back a sense of penance and practice it
- Go to Mass an extra day each week
- Pray a daily rosary
- Pick a patron Saint for this year and imitate their virtues and ask their intercession!

New Year's Masses

Sunday Masses
December 30/31st
Saturday, December 30th at 5:00PM
Sunday, December 31st at 9:00AM

New Year's Eve
Sunday, December 31st
5:00PM

Mass on New Year's Day
Monday, January 1st
9:00 AM

An attitude, not a resolution: This year let's forego formal resolutions and tune up our instincts for being more faithful Catholics and living better lives. God has called you to be a "light to the nations" to bring His salvation to the ends of the earth. Live your Catholic faith with authenticity and don't be covered by fear of what others might say to you or about you. Our world is growing darker with false ideologies that obscure the truth of faith and the gospel. So, let's call it an attitude change, not a resolution!