



IMMACULATE CONCEPTION PARISH

DECEMBER 31, 2023—THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY, & JOSEPH

Saturday, December 30

8:00 a.m. Special Intentions for
Pat Donnelly III (Kathleen)

3:00 a.m. Cassell/Barker Wedding

4:30 p.m. Frank Napoleon (Judy)

Sunday, December 31

8:00 a.m. Jeff Cole (Al)

10:00 a.m. Deceased Members of the Pavlick
Family (Vespi Family)

11:30 a.m. Jan Zilinskas (Lisa)

Monday, January 1, 2024

9:30 a.m. Bill Shiffler (Carol)

Tuesday, January 2, 2024

7:45 a.m. Our Parish Family

6:30 p.m. Anthony DePaulo (Elizabeth)

Wednesday, January 3, 2024

7:45 a.m. Mildred Kresicki (Patty & Paul)

Thursday, January 4, 2024

7:45 a.m. Barabara Zalinski (Family)

Friday, January 5, 2024

7:45 a.m. Greg Wohar (Immaculate
Conception Family)

Saturday, January 6, 2024

8:30 a.m. Mass at Seton

4:30 p.m. Rev. Matthew Cirilli (Consuelo)

Sunday, January 7, 2024 –The Epiphany of the
Lord

8:00 a.m. Diane Ramsey (Friend Toni)

10:00 a.m. Melvyn Rasel (Ann)

11:30 a.m. Steven Milosvich (Wife &
Children)

PARISH STAFF CONTACTS

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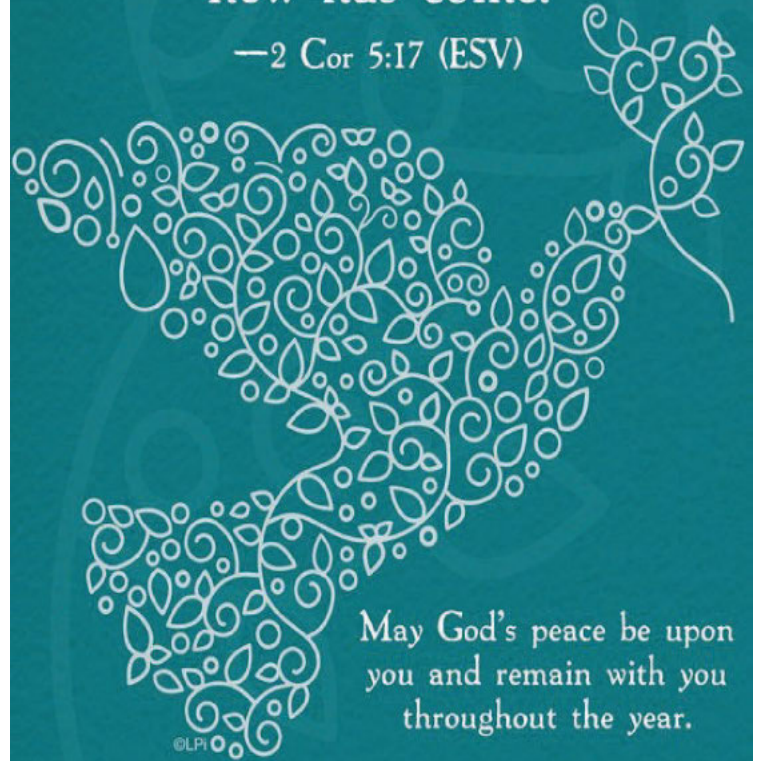
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Therefore, if anyone is in
Christ, he is a new
creation. The old has
passed away; behold, the
new has come.

—2 Cor 5:17 (ESV)



May God's peace be upon
you and remain with you
throughout the year.

Queen of Angels Catholic School

Jennifer Filak, *Principal*
724-978-0144

jfilak@queenofangelssch.org
www.queenofangelssch.org

Diocese of Greensburg

www.dioceseofgreensburg.org

HELP LINES

St. Vincent DePaul

www.svdpgreensburg.org - 724-691-3711

Parish Office Hours - 8am to 4pm

Monday through Friday

308 Second Street - Irwin, Pa 15642

724-863-9550

HAPPENINGS ON THE CORNER & AROUND THE DIOCESE!



**Remember us, O God;
From age to age be our
comforter.
You have given us the
wonder of time,**

**Blessings in days and nights, seasons and
years.**

**Bless your children at the turning of the year
And fill the months ahead with bright hope
That is ours in the coming of Christ.
You are our God, living and reigning,
for ever and ever. Amen**

**THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO SENT
CARDS AND DROPPED OFF GIFTS AND
BAKED GOODS TO THE PARISH
OFFICE! IT WAS ENJOYED BY ALL AND
WAS VERY MUCH APPRECIATED! WE
ARE SO BLESSED TO HAVE SUCH A
WONDERFUL PARISH!**



Knights of Columbus Free Throw Championship -

All boys and girls ages 9 to 14 are
invited to participate in the local
competition for the Knights of
Columbus Free Throw

Championships. The local competition will be
held Sunday, January 7, 2024 at Queen of
Angels Gymnasium, and start time is 1:00 PM.
Boys and girls will compete in their respective
age divisions with winners progressing through
Local, District, Regional and State Competi-
tions. For questions or registration information
please call Al Borgony at 724-864-3487 or
email a.borgony@comcast.net OR
Matt Cheplic at 412-736-9196 or email
mcheplic@gmail.com

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!!!

✠ IMG/IWG—Immaculata Men's and Women's
Group will finish the sessions on "The Chosen"
the following 4 weeks: 1/20, 1/27 2/3 &
2/10/2024 6:30 a.m.

✠ PARISH ADMIN OFFICE HOLIDAY SCHEDULE:

CLOSED MONDAY JANUARY 1st, 2024
OPEN TUESDAY, JANUARY 2nd, 2024



PRAY FOR LIFE

If you are unable to join the March for Life in
Washington, DC, please consider joining The
Greensburg Diocesan Council of the National
Women (DCCW) for a day of prayer (you may
come and go as needed).

When: Friday, January 19, 2024

Where: Christ Our Shepherd Center
Greensburg, PA

Schedule: 11:30 am—Rosary for priests

Noon—Mass

Rosary for Life

Stations of the Cross for Life

3:00 pm—Divine Mercy Chaplet

3:30 pm—Litany for Life

4:00 pm—Closing Prayer

Support Ukrainian Refugee Fund

Support is needed for the Ukrainian
Refugee Fund administered by
Catholic Charities of the Diocese of
Greensburg, which provides assis-
tance to individuals and families
who have been forced to leave
their homelands because of war.
Visit [charitiesgreensburg.org/
donate/donate-now/](http://charitiesgreensburg.org/donate/donate-now/) to donate.



Christian Mothers Women's Guild—CMWG

The general membership meeting will be held on
February 13th at 7 p.m. in Our Lady's Plaza (there is
not a mass at 6:30 p.m.). All are welcome! For more
information please call the parish office at
724-863-9550.

PASTOR'S NOTES CONTINUED

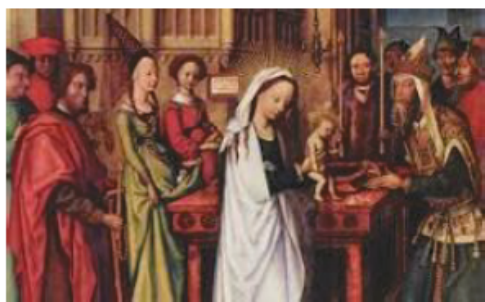
The Prayer and the Holy Family of Nazareth – Pope Benedict XVI

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Today's meeting is taking place in the atmosphere of Christmas, imbued with deep joy at the Birth of the Savior. We have just celebrated this Mystery whose echo ripples through the Liturgy of all these days. It is a Mystery of Light that all people in every era can relive with faith and prayer. It is through prayer itself that we become capable of drawing close to God with intimacy and depth.

Therefore, bearing in mind the theme of prayer that I am developing in the Catechesis in this period, I would therefore like to invite you to reflect today on the way that prayer was part of the life of the Holy Family of Nazareth. Indeed, the house of Nazareth is a school of prayer where one learns to listen, meditate on and penetrate the profound meaning of the manifestation of the Son of God, following the example of Mary, Joseph and Jesus.

The Discourse of the Servant of God Paul VI during his [Visit to Nazareth](#) is memorable. The Pope said that at the school of the Holy Family we "understand why we must maintain a spiritual discipline, if we wish to follow the teaching of the Gospel and become disciples of Christ". He added: "In the first place it teaches us **silence**. Oh! If only esteem for silence, a wonderful and indispensable spiritual atmosphere, could be reborn within us! Whereas we are deafened by the din, the noise and discordant voices in the frenetic, turbulent life of our time. O silence of Nazareth! Teach us to be steadfast in good thoughts, attentive to our inner life, ready to hear God's hidden inspiration clearly and the exhortations of true teachers" (*Discourse in Nazareth*, 5 January 1964).



We can draw various ideas for prayer and for the relationship with God and with the Holy Family from the Gospel narratives of the infancy of Jesus. We can begin with the episode of the **Presentation of Jesus in the Temple**. St Luke tells how "when the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses", Mary and Joseph "brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord" (2:22). Like every Jewish family that observed the law, Jesus' parents went to the Temple to consecrate their first-born son to God and to make the sacrificial offering. Motivated by their fidelity to the precepts of the Law, they set out from Bethlehem and went to Jerusalem with Jesus who was only 40 days old. Instead of a year-old lamb they presented the offering of simple families, namely, two turtle doves. The Holy Family's pilgrimage

was one of faith, of the offering of gifts — a symbol of prayer — and of the encounter with the Lord whom Mary and Joseph already perceived in their Son Jesus.

Mary was a peerless model of contemplation of Christ. The face of the Son belonged to her in a special way because he had been knit together in her womb and had taken a human likeness from her. No one has contemplated Jesus as diligently as Mary. The gaze of her heart was already focused on him at the moment of the Annunciation, when she conceived him through the action of the Holy Spirit; in the following months she gradually became aware of his presence, until, on the day of his birth, her eyes could look with motherly tenderness upon the face of her son as she wrapped him in swaddling clothes and laid him in the manger.

Memories of Jesus, imprinted on her mind and on her heart, marked every instant of Mary's existence. She lived with her eyes fixed on Christ and cherished his every word. St Luke says: "Mary kept all these things, pondering them in her heart" (2:19) and thus describes Mary's approach to the Mystery of the Incarnation which was to extend throughout her life: keeping these things, pondering on them in her heart. Luke is the Evangelist who acquaints us with Mary's heart, with her faith (cf. 1:45), her hope and her obedience (cf. 1:38) and, especially, with her interiority and prayer (cf. 1:46-56), her free adherence to Christ (cf. 1:55).



And all this proceeded from the gift of the Holy Spirit who overshadowed her (cf. 1:35), as he was to come down on the Apostles in accordance with Christ's promise (cf. Acts 1:8). This image of Mary which St Luke gives us presents Our Lady as a model for every believer who cherishes and compares Jesus' words with his actions, a comparison which is always progress in the knowledge of Jesus. After Bl. Pope John Paul II's example (cf. Apostolic Letter [Rosarium Virginis Mariae](#)) we can say that the prayer of the Rosary is modelled precisely on Mary, because it consists in contemplating the mysteries of Christ in spiritual union with the Mother of the Lord.

PASTOR'S NOTES

Mary's ability to live by God's gaze, is so to speak, contagious. The first to experience this was St Joseph. His humble and sincere love for his betrothed and his decision to join his life to Mary's attracted and introduced him, "a just man", (Mt 1:19), to a special intimacy with God. Indeed, with Mary and later, especially, with Jesus, he began a new way of relating to God, accepting him in his life, entering his project of salvation and doing his will. After trustfully complying with the Angel's instructions "Do not fear to take Mary your wife" (Mt 1:20) — he took Mary to him and shared his life with her; he truly gave the whole of himself to Mary and to Jesus and this led him to perfect his response to the vocation he had received.

As we know, the Gospel has not recorded any of Joseph's words: his is a silent and faithful, patient and hard-working presence. We may imagine that he too, like his wife and in close harmony with her, lived the years of Jesus' childhood and adolescence savoring, as it were, his presence in their family.



Joseph fulfilled every aspect of his paternal role. He must certainly have taught Jesus to pray, together with Mary. In particular Joseph himself must have taken Jesus to the Synagogue for the rites of the Sabbath, as well as to Jerusalem for the great feasts of the people of Israel. Joseph, in accordance with the Jewish tradition, would have led the prayers at home both every day — in the morning, in the evening, at meals — and on the principal religious feasts. In the rhythm of the days he spent at Nazareth, in the simple home and in Joseph's workshop, Jesus learned to alternate prayer and work, as well as to offer God his labour in earning the bread the family needed.

And lastly, there is another episode that sees the Holy Family of Nazareth gathered together in an event of prayer. When Jesus was 12 years old, as we have heard, he went with his parents to the Temple of Jerusalem. This episode fits into the context of pilgrimage, as St Luke stresses: "His parents went to Jerusalem every year at the feast of the Passover. And when he was twelve years old, they went up according to custom" (2:41-42).

Pilgrimage is an expression of religious devotion that is nourished by and at the same time nourishes prayer. Here, it is the Passover pilgrimage, and the Evangelist points out to us that the family of Jesus made this pilgrimage every year in order to take part in the rites in the Holy City. Jewish families, like Christian families, pray in the intimacy of the home but they also pray together with the community, recognizing that they belong to the People of God, journeying on; and the pilgrimage expresses exactly this state of the People of God on the move. Easter is the center and culmination of all this and involves both the family dimension and that of liturgical and public worship.



In the episode of the 12-year-old Jesus, the first words of Jesus are also recorded: "How is it that you sought me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?" (2:49). After three days spent looking for him his parents found him in the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions (cf. 2:46). His answer to the question of why he had done this to his father and mother was that he had only done what the Son should do, that is, to be with his Father.

Thus, he showed who is the true Father, what is the true home, and that he had done nothing unusual or disobedient. He had stayed where the Son ought to be, that is, with the Father, and he stressed who his Father was.

It is important at this point, when Jesus was still fully integrated in the life of the Family of Nazareth, to note the resonance that hearing this word "Father" on Jesus' lips must have had in the hearts of Mary and Joseph. It is also important to reveal, to emphasize, who the Father is, and, with his awareness, to hear this word on the lips of the Only-Begotten Son who, for this very reason, chose to stay on for three days in the Temple, which is the "Father's house".

We may imagine that from this time, the life of the Holy Family must have been even more full of prayer, since from the heart of Jesus the boy — then an adolescent and a young man — this deep meaning of the relationship with God the Father would not cease to spread and to be echoed in the hearts of Mary and Joseph.

This episode shows us the real situation, the atmosphere of being with the Father. So it was that the Family of Nazareth became the first model of the Church in which, around the presence of Jesus and through his mediation, everyone experiences the filial relationship with God the Father which also transforms interpersonal, human relationships.

DECEMBER 31, 2023 THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY, & JESUS CANDLES

Sanctuary Candle: In Memory of Joann Barbour by Family

Divine Mercy Candle: In Memory of Joseph Balzer by Wife

St. Peregrine Candle: In Memory of Matthew Washil by Nancy Dupier

Easter Flame Candle: In Memory of Joann Barbour by Family

St. Joseph's Candle: In Memory of Month's Mind

Altar Candles for the Month of December:

In Memory of Beverly J. Sporio by Matthew & Leah Pozzuto

Readings of the Week

December 31- The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph

Sirach 3:2-6, 12-14
Colossians 3:12-17
Luke 22:2-40

January 7, 2024 - The Epiphany of the Lord

Isaiah 60:1-6
Ephesians 3:2-3a, 5-6
Matthew 2:1-12



Prayers and Sympathy

Please pray all of our dearly departed. May they rest in peace and may perpetual light shine upon them.

Psalm 27:4-5

Heavenly Father, I look to You! One thing I ask of You is that I will dwell in Your house all the days of my life so that I may gaze upon Your beauty and seek You in Your temple. Lord, in the day of trouble You will keep me safe in Your dwelling; You will hide me in the shelter of Your tabernacle. Oh Lord, help me find my way to Your dwelling because the grief is overwhelming. Amen.

Homebound Ministry

If you know of any family, neighbors, or fellow parishioners who are homebound and would like to have a Homebound Minister bring them Holy Communion, please call Sharyn Gesmond at the Parish Office 724.863.9550 or Email her at: sgesmond@dioceseofgreensburg.org



We have many opportunities to become involved:

If you are interested in volunteering or planning to resume volunteering for our parish ministries and parish activities please contact Sharyn Gesmond at sgesmond@dioceseofgreensburg.org OR 724-863-9550 to update and/or obtain your clearances.

SACRAMENTS

Anointing of the Sick

The sacrament is available during Confession hour and after each Mass per request.

Matrimony

Couples wishing to celebrate the Sacrament of Matrimony must contact the parish office one year in advance of the wedding.

Baptism

Families of our parish who wish to have their child baptized please email Susan Cheplic at skcheplic@dioceseofgreensburg.org to register for Baptism Preparation.

Confession

Tuesday 5:15 - 6:15 p.m. & Saturday 9-10 a.m.

Immaculate Conception

Parish offers

Online Giving

For additional information

visit our website at:

www.icirwin.org/

giving/funds or scan the QR Code



If you decide to switch to online giving and would like to discontinue your envelopes please contact the parish office. Thank you!



WEEKLY OFFERTORY:

Sunday Offertory -

Dec 16 & 17 \$26,124.75

Online Giving -

Dec 11-17 \$6,143.00

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!
MAY GOD BLESS YOU ALWAYS!**

Matters of Sexual Misconduct Information

If you have any suspicion about the sexual abuse (or any other type of abuse) of a minor child by anyone — please contact PA ChildLine immediately at 800-932-0313. If the alleged abuser is functioning in a parish, school or diocesan position as clergy, religious, paid staff or volunteer you are also requested to contact the Bishop's Delegate for Matters of Sexual Misconduct after you have called the ChildLine number and made the report. The Bishop's Delegate may be reached at 724-837-0901, ext. 1221.

A NOTE FROM FR. LOUIEGENE

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

Greetings of peace and love!

It is my first Christmas here at Irwin and Immaculate Conception Parish, but you have all made me feel as if I've already been a part of your community for a long time. I express my most profound gratitude and sincerest thanks for your kindness towards me - for sending me cards, giving me gifts, and sharing your food. I may not be able to individually reciprocate your goodness, but rest assured that you are all in my prayers.

On this Christmas season, I wish you and your family God's immense grace that never fades, God's immense mercy that always sustains, and God's immense abundance that endlessly overflows.

May the Baby Jesus, who's the reason for this season, remain in our hearts and make us childlike in seeking for God's truth and kingdom. The Baby Jesus is always in our midst - through the lost, the least, and the lonely - so let's continue to help them and care for them in our own humble ways.

May CHRIST in Christmas sufficiently make us happy and joyful!

Blessings,
Father Louiegene



Dementia Support Group:

this group is for anyone dealing with a loved one who has dementia. Dementia Friendly Faith Community support Group meets on the first Tuesday of the month at 6:30 pm in the St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish Center. The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 2, 2024. For more information about the Support Group, contact Gail Henderson at 412-848-2076 or email at gailhend@comcast.net

Crosses on the Wall in the Chapel in memory of a loved one

The crosses on the wall are in memory of our recently deceased loved ones. The engraved crosses are placed on the wall until the next All Souls Mass. When we remove them, we let the loved ones know that they are welcome to take them to keep. If you think you may have forgotten to take yours, please call the office to let us know.

Parish Office: 724-863-9550

\$

\$\$\$ 412 Senior Youth Ministry Super Bingo \$\$\$

Thanks for supporting the 412 Senior Youth Ministry in their two great endeavors... Catholic Heart Workcamp Mission trip in the Summer AND the National Catholic Youth Conference in the Fall.

Saturday, February 24, 2024

***SNOW DATE... (March 2nd)... Watch KDKA for cancellation information

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton — Mack Hall — 200 Leger Rd. N. Huntingdon, PA 15642
Doors Open 10:45 AM — "Early Bird" Bingo Starts 11:45 AM



Jackpot Payout — \$1,000.00

20 Games — \$100 Payout Each (18 cards)

Four Specials — \$50 / \$150 (6 cards)

Extra Packets \$6 (sold at door)

\$30 per Ticket

Lunch & Beverage Included

Name _____ Phone # _____

Address _____

of Tickets _____ Amount Paid _____
(Make checks payable to: **St. Agnes Church**)

Mail check & registration to:
St. Agnes Church
Re: Super Bingo
11400 St. Agnes Lane
N. Huntingdon, PA 15642

or
Purchase tickets at St. Elizabeth
Ann Seton, St. Agnes, or
Immaculate Conception church
offices.

For information, tickets, or to reserve seating after tickets are purchased
please call Mary Frankhauser at 724-600-4894.

\$

CATHOLIC TRADITION: DEVOTIONAL AND LITURGICAL CANDLES

The practice of lighting candles is an important tradition in Catholic churches, communities and families. Its origins may be traced back in the Old Testament times where an oil lamp is lit to “keep a flame burning perpetually” (Exodus 27:19-20) and as a “lamp stand in the Tent of Meeting...from generation to generation” (Exodus 30:7-8) “set up before the Lord as He has commanded Moses” (Exodus 40:24-25).

The New Testament further highlights the sanctity of this light in Paul’s Letter to the Hebrews. “A first tent was prepared with the lamp stand, the table and the bread of the presence; this is called the Holy Place” (Hebrews 9:2). In today’s Catholic tradition, this light has a very special place because it symbolizes Christ who said, “I am the Light of the world; the one who follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have light and life” (John 8:12).



In most every part of Catholic celebrations and rituals, lighting of candles plays a very significant role. Candles are lit during the celebration of the Mass, on liturgical and funeral processions and evening prayer ceremonies. Candles are lit before the Tabernacle to signify the Lord’s presence in the Blessed Sacrament and to call for reverence on the part of the faithful.



In the Sacrament of Baptism, as a person is initiated into the Church, a candle is lit from the Paschal Candle, the symbol, His passion, His death and His resurrection. The person receives the Light of Christ that he—of Christ’s Paschal Mystery may live and walk the path of God’s children and keep the flame of faith burning alive in his heart. And as he receives this indelible baptismal mark, he shall meet the Lord and be one with all the saints in Heaven when the right time comes.

Candles are lit before an image of our Lord and before the saints. Catholics practice this not to honor the image itself but the one it truly represents. The lit candle symbolizes a prayer offering where we present our petitions to the Lord and ask the saints to pray with us and to pray for us during our most dire need. This light, as it is kept burning, also shows our desire to remain in God’s presence as we go through our daily duties at home and in the workplace.

Candles lit before Christ’s image also shows our reverence to Him who deserves our adoration and thanksgiving and who alone can forgive our sins and bring us back into deeper relationship with Him.

Let us then bear in mind that as we celebrate our sacred liturgies, our sacraments and our special prayers, Christ, the Source of all Light, shall come to us to be ever present to strengthen us, instruct us, inspire us hope that His Light will never burn out as long as we live in faith without a shadow of doubt that darkness will ever defeat us.

PASS ON THE TRADITION TO YOUR CHILDREN

Catholic Traditions of Sacramental’s are so important to pass on to our children and participate in them as a family. Lighting candles at church...saying a prayer together and leaving knowing that it continues to be offered on your behalf was a great comfort to me as a child. That is why I make so many opportunities available in our church. Devotions to: the Divine Mercy of Jesus; Mary our Mother; Saint Joseph our family protector.

If you would like a candle lit in memory of a loved one, the following are available and will remain lit in that person’s memory for a two-week period.

St. Joseph Candle, Sanctuary Candle, St. Peregrine Candle, Easter Flame Candle, and the Divine Mercy Candle. Please call the office at 724-863-9550 and we will be happy to help you with your request. There is a donation of \$25.

**ANGEL'S CORNER
QUEEN OF ANGELS CATHOLIC SCHOOL**



QUEEN OF ANGELS CATHOLIC SCHOOL

TODDLER-TWO PROGRAM

This "Toddler Time" Parent/Child Program is designed for children and their parent or caregiver to come together to play and learn.

A typical session will include: Exploratory Play, Arts & Crafts, Circle Time (a gentle introduction to group time) and Snack.

- ✓ **WHO:** 2-3 year old children with a parent or caregiver (Must be 2 before session starts)
- ✓ **WHERE:** Queen of Angels Catholic School
- ✓ **WHEN:** 1 hour class – Monday AND/OR Wednesday
TIME: 1:00 PM – 2:00 PM
- ✓ **SESSIONS AVAILABLE:** Each session is 8 weeks
Fall Oct 2nd/4th- Dec 4th/6th
Winter - Jan 8th/10th- Feb 26th/28th
Spring- March 4th/6th- May 6th/8th
- ✓ **Cost per session:** \$80 for 1 day per week or \$150 for 2 days per week

REGISTRATION FORM

IF INTERESTED, PLEASE SEND FORM AND PAYMENT TO THE SCHOOL OFFICE:

ONE MAIN ST. NORTH HUNTINGDON, PA 15642. YOU MAY ALSO REGISTER AT

[HTTPS://FORMS.OFFICE.COM/R/R3SC5W5CEF](https://forms.office.com/R/R3SC5W5CEF) OR SCAN THE QR CODE



Toddler Two Registration 2023



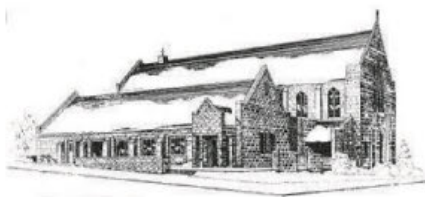
Guardian's Name: _____

Child's Name: _____

Phone Number: _____ Email: _____

Session: _____ Fall _____ Winter _____ Spring

Day: _____ Monday _____ Wednesday _____ Monday & Wednesday



IMMACULATE CONCEPTION PARISH

Irwin, Pennsylvania

Office of Liturgical Music Ministry

THE FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY, AND JOSEPH

December 31, 2023 - Order of the Mass

VOCATIONS PRAYER

Lord Jesus, raise up from our homes those called by the Father:
courageous and humble men to the Priesthood, generous servants to the Permanent Diaconate,
faithful people to Consecrated Life, and holy men and women to the Sacrament of Marriage.
Holy Spirit, help us to live our universal vocation to holiness by listening to the Father's voice and
responding with a sacrificial love. Holy Mary, Model of vocations, pray for us. Amen.

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

Once in Royal David's City

IRBY



1. Once in roy - al Da - vid's cit - y Stood a low - ly
2. He came down to earth from heav - en Who is God and
3. And through all his won - drous child - hood He would hon - or
4. For he is our child - hood's pat - tern, Day by day like
5. And our eyes at last shall see him, Through his own re -



1. cat - tle shed, Where a moth - er laid her ba - by
2. Lord of all, And his shel - ter was a sta - ble,
3. and o - bey, Love and watch the low - ly maid - en
4. us he grew; He was lit - tle, weak, and help - less,
5. deem - ing love; For that child so dear and gen - tle



1. In a man - ger for his bed. Mar - y was that
2. And his cra - dle was a stall. With the poor and
3. In whose gen - tle arms he lay. Chris - tian chil - dren
4. Tears and smiles like us he knew: And he feels for
5. Is our Lord in heav'n a - bove: And he leads his



1. moth - er mild, Je - sus Christ her lit - tle Child.
2. mean and low - ly Lived on earth our Sav - ior ho - ly.
3. all should be Kind, o - be - dient, good as he.
4. all our sad - ness, And he shares in all our glad - ness.
5. chil - dren on To the place where he has gone.

GLORIA

A New Mass for Congregations

Carroll Andrews

All:

Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and on earth peace to peo-ple of good
will. We praise you, we bless you, we a-dore you, we
glo-ri-fy you, we give you thanks for your great glo-ry,
Lord God, heav'n-ly King, O God, al-might-y Fa-ther.

Choir (Congr. ad lib):

Lord Je-sus Christ, On-ly Be-got-ten Son, Lord God,
Lamb of God, Son of the Fa-ther, you take a-way the
sins of the world, have mer-cy on us; you
take a-way the sins of the world, re-ceive our
prayer; you are seat-ed at the right hand of the
Fa-ther, have mer-cy on us.

All:

For you a-lone are the Ho-ly One, you a-lone are the Lord,
you a-lone are the Most High, Je-sus Christ, with the Ho-ly Spir-it,
in the glo-ry of God the Fa-ther. A-men.

Text: ICEL, © 2010

Music: A New Mass for Congregations, Carroll T. Andrews, revised by Ronald F. Krisman © 1970, 2011, GIA Publications, Inc.

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING

Sirach 3:2-6, 12-14

God sets a father in honor over his children; a mother's authority he confirms over her sons. Whoever honors his father atones for sins, and preserves himself from them. When he prays, he is heard; he stores up riches who reveres his mother. Whoever honors his father is gladdened by children, and, when he prays, is heard. Whoever reveres his father will live a long life; he who obeys his father brings comfort to his mother. My son, take care of your father when he is old; grieve him not as long as he lives. Even if his mind fail, be considerate of him; revile him not all the days of his life; kindness to a father will not be forgotten, firmly planted against the debt of your sins —a house raised in justice to you.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalms 128

Michel Guimont

*Blessed are those who fear the Lord
and walk in his ways.*

SECOND READING

Colossians 3:12-17

Brothers and sisters: Put on, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, heartfelt compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience, bearing with one another and forgiving one another, if one has a grievance against another; as the Lord has forgiven you, so must you also do. And over all these put on love, that is, the bond of perfection. And let the peace of Christ control your hearts, the peace into which you were also called in one body. And be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, as in all wisdom you teach and admonish one another, singing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs with gratitude in your hearts to God. And whatever you do, in word or in deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL READING

Luke 2:22-40

When the days were completed for their purification according to the law of Moses, They took him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord, just as it is written in the law of the Lord, Every male that opens the womb shall be consecrated to the Lord, and to offer the sacrifice of a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons, in accordance with the dictate in the law of the Lord. Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon. This man was righteous and devout, awaiting the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was upon him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he should not see death before he had seen the Christ of the Lord. He came in the Spirit into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus to perform the custom of the law in regard to him, He took him into his arms and blessed God, saying: "Now, Master, you may let your servant go in peace, according to your word, for my eyes have seen your salvation, which you prepared in sight of all the peoples, a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and glory for your people Israel." The child's father and mother were amazed at what was said about him; and Simeon blessed them and said to Mary his mother, "Behold, this child is destined for the fall and rise of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be contradicted —and you yourself a sword will pierce— so that the thoughts of many hearts may be revealed." There was also a prophetess, Anna, the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was advanced in years, having lived seven years with her husband after her marriage, and then as a widow until she was eighty-four. She never left the temple, but worshiped night and day with fasting and prayer. And coming forward at that very time, she gave thanks to God and spoke about the child to all who were awaiting the redemption of Jerusalem. When they had fulfilled all the prescriptions of the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favor of God was upon him.

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

CREED

I believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible. I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Only Begotten Son of God, born of the Father before all ages. God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father; through him all things were made. For us men and for our salvation he came down from heaven, and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate, he suffered death and was buried, and rose again on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead and his kingdom will have no end. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church. I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead and life of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

THE LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

PREPARATION OF GIFTS

The Hands that First Held Mary's Child



1. The hands that first held Mar - y's child Were hard from
 2. When Jo - seph mar - veled at the size Of that small
 3. "This child shall be Em - man - u - el, Not God up -
 4. The tools which Jo - seph laid a - side A mob would

work - ing wood, From boards they sawed and
 breath - ing frame, And gazed up - on those
 on the throne, But God with us, Em -
 lat - er lift And use with an - ger,

planed and filed And splin - ters they with - stood. This
 bright new eyes And spoke the in - fant's name, The
 man - u - el, As close as blood and bone." The
 fear, and pride To cru - ci - fy God's gift. Let

day they gripped no tool of steel, They drove no
 an - gel's words he once had dreamed Poured down from
 ti - ny form in Jo - seph's palms Con - firmed what
 us, O Lord, not on - ly hold The Child who's

i - ron nail, But cra - dled from the
 heav - en's height, And like the host of
 he had heard, And from his heart rose
 born to - day, But charged with faith may

head to heel Our Lord, new-born and frail.
 stars that beamed Blessed earth with wel - come light.
 hymns and psalms For heav - en's hu - man word.
 we be bold To fol - low in his way.

EUCCHARISTIC ACCLAMATIONS

Mass for the City
Richard Proulx

Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly

Lord God of hosts. Heav - en and earth are

full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na, ho - san - na, ho -

san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who

comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na, ho -

san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na, ho -

san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

When we eat this Bread and drink this Cup, we pro-

claim your Death, O Lord, un - til you come a - gain.

A - men, a - men, a - men.

Text: ICEL, © 2010
Music: *Mass for the City*, Richard Proulx, © 1991, 2010, GIA Publications, Inc.

LAMB OF GOD

Holy Cross Mass
David Clark Isele

Cantor or Choir: Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world,

All: have mer - cy on us. grant us peace.

To repeat *Last time*

Music: *Holy Cross Mass*, David Clark Isele, © 1979, GIA Publications, Inc.

COMMUNION HYMN

What Child is This?

GREENSLEEVES

Verses

1. What child is this, who, laid to rest, On Ma-ry's lap is
 2. Why lies he in such mean es - tate Where ox and ass are
 3. So bring him in - cense, gold, and myrrh, Come peas-ant, king, to

1. sleep - ing? Whom an - gels greet with an - thems sweet, While
 2. feed - ing? Good Chris - tian, fear: for sin - ners here The
 3. own him; The King of kings sal - va - tion brings, Let

Refrain

1. shep - herds watch are keep - ing? This, this is Christ the
 2. si - lent Word is plead - ing.
 3. lov - ing hearts en - throne him.

King, Whom shep-herds guard and an - gels sing; Haste,

haste to bring him laud, The babe, the son of Ma - ry.

RECESSIONAL HYMN

Angels from the Realms of Glory

REGENT SQUARE

1. An - gels, from the realms of glo - ry, Wing your flight o'er
 2. Shep-herds, in the fields a - bid - ing, Watch-ing o'er your
 3. Sag - es, leave your con - tem-pla-tions, Bright - er vi - sions
 4. Though an in - fant now we view him, He shall fill his
 5. All cre - a - tion, join in prais-ing God, the Fa - ther,

1. all the earth; Ye who sang cre - a - tion's sto - ry,
 2. flocks by night, God on earth is now re - sid - ing;
 3. beam a - far; Seek the great De - sire of Na - tions,
 4. Fa - ther's throne, Gath - er all the na - tions to him;
 5. Spir - it, Son, Ev - er - more your voic - es rais - ing,


1. Now pro - claim Mes - si - ah's birth: }
 2. Yon - der shines the in - fant light: } Come and wor-ship,
 3. Ye have seen his na - tal star: }
 4. Ev - 'ry knee shall then bow down: }
 5. To the e - ter - nal Three - in - One: }

1-5. come and wor-ship, Wor-ship Christ, the new-born King.

Text: 87 87 87; verses 1-3, James Montgomery, 1771-1854; verse 4, *Christmas Box*, 1825;
 verse 5, *Salisbury Hymn Book*, 1857. Music: Henry T. Smart, 1813-1879.

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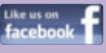
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