

December 26, 2021 The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

Stewardship is a Way of Life. Tithing is God's Plan for Giving:

Tithing income for the week of December 12, 2021:
Regular: \$1,595.00

Immaculate Conception: \$35.00
Retirement Fund: \$80.00
Christmas Flowers: \$110.00

A FRESH PERSPECTIVE ON THE SUNDAY
READINGS

HIS WORD TODAY by Rev. William J. Reilly
Most Holy Name Catholic Church, Garfield, NJ
The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph
December 26, 2021

“Thinking he was in the caravan, they journeyed for a day, and looked for him among their relatives and acquaintances, but not finding him, they returned to Jerusalem to look for him... When his parents saw him, they were astonished, and his mother said to him, ‘Son why have you done this to us? Your father and I have been looking for you with great anxiety.’”

The care and concern of Joseph and Mary is no different than that of our parents today. We worry, provide for, and breathe filled with anxiety for the wellbeing of our family.

Imagine time spent in the shop of the carpenter, the hours spent in the kitchen, time for prayer and pilgrimage. What happened in Nazareth, happens in our lives today.

Reading the Word of God, may we be like His parents, and spend time 'looking for Jesus' and when we discover Him, enjoy His presence in our homes

First Reading: Sirach 3:2-6, 12-14

Sirach emphasizes the importance of honoring one's parents. He explains that spiritual riches will come to those who are kind to their mother and father.

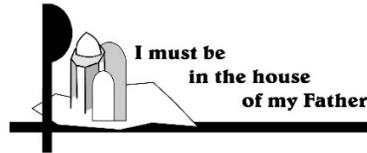
Second Reading: Colossians 3:12-21

Paul advises us to treat each other with kindness and mercy and to forgive as God forgives us. His words remind families to always love and respect one another and let Christ's peace reign in their hearts and in their homes.

Gospel: Luke 2:41-52

When Jesus was twelve years old, the Holy Family traveled to Jerusalem to celebrate the feast. Jesus did not return with the company. Instead, he stayed in Jerusalem, sitting among the teachers while amazing them with his understanding and questions. When found by his concerned parents, Jesus reminded them that he

must be in the house of his Father. Returning together, Mary kept these things in her heart.



LITURGICAL NOTES

Mass  for the
Intentions *for the Week*



And Weekly Readings

Saturday, December 25: The Nativity of the Lord
Isaiah 9:1-6,(14ABC); Psalm 96:1-2, 2-3, 11-12, 13;
Titus 2:11-14; Luke 2:1-14

10:00 AM Jose Luis Garcia

**Sunday, December 26: The Holy Family of Jesus,
Mary and Joseph**

1 Samuel 1:20-22, 24-28 (17C); Psalm 84:2-3, 5-6,
9-10; 1 John 3:1-2, 21-24; Luke 2:41-52

9:15 AM John and Sarah Gerberich
from Bill Gerberich

1:00 PM People of the Parish

**Monday, December 27: St. John, Apostle and
Evangelist**

1 John 1:1-4; Psalm 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12;
John 20:1a & 2-8

9:00 AM People of the Parish

**Tuesday, December 28: The Holy Innocents,
Martyrs**

1 John 1:5-2:2; Psalm 124:2-3, 4-5, 7cd-8;
Matthew 2:13-18

**Wednesday, December 29: Fifth Day within the
Octave of the Nativity of the Lord**

1 John 2:3-11; Psalm 96:1-2a, 2b-3, 5b-6;
Luke 2:22-35

**Thursday, December 30: Sixth Day within the
Octave of the Nativity of the Lord**

1 John 2:12-17; Psalm 96:7-8a, 8b-9, 10;
Luke 2:36-40

**Friday, December 31: Seventh Day within the
Octave of the Nativity of the Lord**

1 John 2:18-21; Psalm 96:1-2, 11-12, 13; John 1:1-
18

**Saturday, January 1: Solemnity of Mary, The Holy
Mother of God**

Numbers 6:22-27 (18ABC), Psalm 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8;
Galatians 4:4-7; Luke 2:16-21

10:00 AM Jack & Patricia Marshall
from Scott & Alice Arnold

Sunday, January 2: The Epiphany of the Lord
Isaiah 60:1-6; Psalm 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13;
Ephesians 3:2-3a, 5-6; Matthew 2:1-12

9:15 AM Charles Ames from Dan Ames
1:00 PM People of the Parish

**Please continue to pray for the
repose of the souls of:**

Genevieve Gregos	John T. Kromel
Steven Graham	William Nash
Nicholas Spak	Roseanne Spak
Mary Ann Truitt	Mary Tonge

FIRST FRIDAY: January 7, 2022 at 9:00 a.m.
Mass will be followed by adoration.

MASS SCHEDULE:

December 25th - 10:00 a.m. *There is no
Saturday evening mass on December 25th

January 1st – 10:00 a.m. *There is no Saturday
evening mass on January 1st

**ATTENTION YOURH AND ADULTS: JOIN THE
MARCH FOR LIFE ON JANUARY 21, 2022:**

Please join us and thousands of other pro-life youth
and adults for a one-day trip to the annual March for Life on
the National Mall in Washington D.C., Friday, January 21,
2022. Yoder Tourways will load passengers at both Sacred
Heart and St. Jude parishes early in the morning of the March.
On the way, we will make an interesting side trip to one of
three possible locations. We are in the beginning stages of
planning for this event, so more details will follow in coming
bulletins.

If you are Interested, youth and adults can register by
signing up on the sheet available in the social hall or by
emailing Karen Thome, kkthome@centurylink.net, as soon as
possible so that we can finalize plans.

Once we know approximately how many will attend,
we can estimate the cost/person. We try to keep it as low as
possible by asking for donations. If you cannot attend but
would like to sponsor a youth or make a donation to sponsor
the trip, we would be most grateful.

More details to come, but, in the meantime, **please
sign-up on the sheet in the social hall as soon as possible.**

Any questions or to make a donation contact Karen
Thome, kkthome@centurylink.net, 717-348-8051.

ALTAR SERVERS: Anyone interested in becoming
an Altar Server, please contact David Treaster at
717-436-2968.

**UPDATE YOUR HOME ADDRESS AND PHONE
NUMBER:**

If you have moved or changed your phone number,
please e-mail the office at
rectory@stjudemiffintown.org or give your updated
information to Alice Arnold. Thank you!

Sacred Heart Parish Office Holiday Hours

The Parish Office will be closed on
Monday, December 27th in observance
of Christmas. The office will reopen on



Tuesday, Dec. 28th. The office will be closed on **Friday,
December 31st** in observance of New Years.

New Parish Office Hours

THE PARISH OFFICE WILL NOW BE CLOSED ON

WEDNESDAYS. Our office will be
**open Monday, Tuesday, Thursday
and Friday from 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM.**



Friday, December 24 Christmas Eve 6:00 PM

Lector: C. Fitzgerald

Cantor: M. Miller and Choir

Altar Server: St. Michael's Guard

Usher: D. Ames, P. Ames

Saturday, Dec. 25 Christmas Day 10:00 AM

Lector: M. Tonge

Cantor: A. Arnold

Altar Server: TBA

Usher: TBA

NO 5:30 PM MASS on Christmas Day

December 26, 2021 9:15AM

Lector: J. Fitzgerald

Cantor: A. Arnold

Altar Servers: St. Michael's Guard

Ushers: D. Ames, P. Ames

FAITH MATTERS

With Fr. Peter Rettig

How's your Prayer life?



Something that's been resonating in my soul the past
few weeks is the importance of silence. And when I
refer to silence, I don't necessarily mean lack of noise
– I mean a lack of all distractions from within. Even my
daily holy hour with Fr. Bill seems to be threatened by
an inundation of random thoughts. I sit in silence,
breathe, bask in God's presence and, all of a sudden, I
think about an email I have to send or a reminder on my
calendar I have to set. Yes, even as a priest it takes
discipline for me to keep my eye on the prize (God)
while I'm praying. Practicing what I preach is hard, but
I want to challenge you this Advent to make time for
silent prayer. And I want you to challenge me, too! Pull
me aside and ask me how my prayer is going these next
three weeks! Silence is key to our relationship with God.
There are times for prayer with verbal responses, like
at Mass or the Rosary. In that sense, we are praying as
a community for and with each other. But we truly
nourish our relationship with God through silent prayer.
So be intentional. Cut out time for you and God this
Advent. If our relationship with God boiled down to a
recipe, it would be the simplest recipe in the world! It
only requires two ingredients and one step! It's easier

than no-bake cookies or jailhouse chili! The recipe would look like this:

*****Cut out the below recipe and put it in your quiet place where you can see it every day.*****

Recipe for Fruitful Prayer

You will Need:

1. Love for God
2. Silence

Step 1 (Only Step): Thoroughly mix your love for God with at least five minutes of silence per day. What do you want to tell God? What does he say back?

That's it... Start with just 5 minutes in the morning when you sip your coffee. If you're used to reading the news in the morning, just set it aside for five minutes and talk to God. Then read the news after. I find my most critical time of the day is the first hour where I talk to God over coffee. You and I can make a difference this Advent through prayer. Pray for me and I will pray for you that we are prepared for Christ's coming on Christmas Eve. God bless you!

A rogue Catholic congregation is meeting at a local fire hall claiming to celebrate Mass Sunday afternoons. There seems to be a priest associated with this gathering but it is uncertain if he has valid Holy Orders. I have notified Bishop Ronald Gainer of this splinter organization which is very sympathetic to the same sex attraction agenda. Below is a statement issued by the bishop's office.

BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENT FOR SACRED HEART PARISH, LEWISTOWN AND SAINT JUDE THADDEUS PARISH, MIFFLINTOWN:

Periodically, groups which are not affiliated with the Catholic Church attempt to portray themselves as truly Catholic. Their ministers may present themselves as Catholic priests, and their services may contain elements of the Catholic Mass. In recent years, these groups have included the "American Catholic Church," the "Independent Catholic Church," the "Old Catholic Church," and the "Saints Peter and Paul Roman Catholic Mission." The Diocese of Harrisburg wishes to inform all faithful Catholics that these groups are not in any manner affiliated with the Roman Catholic Church. Their prayers and services are not licit sacraments. Attendance at their services does not satisfy the obligation of Catholics to participate in the Mass on Sundays and Holy Days of obligation. It is important for Catholics to remember that an essential element and obligation of Catholic identity is communion with the local bishop, and with the successor of Peter, the Pope. All of these groups lack this element of Catholic identity, and many of their doctrines deny

authentic Catholic teaching. Any Catholic who willingly joins or embraces the teachings of one of these dissident sects or groups is in schism with the Catholic Church and is subject to the penalty of excommunication.



SHS Gala, **RAISE THE STAKES**, will be held on Saturday, **Feb. 5, 2022** at the **Lewistown Country Club**. Tickets are now available at the Parish Office; prices are **\$60** per person through Jan. 28th and **\$70** Jan. 29th thru Feb. 3st.



Check This Out

The Knights of Columbus sponsored billboards with the theme "**Keep Christ in Christmas**" may now be viewed on Highway 322 West. **One billboard is located on 322 W, just past the Clarion Inn exit, by Daubert's Trucking and the second is on the right side of 322 E, past Red's Diner heading toward Mifflintown.**



Sacred Heart School students **George Grove** and **Jocie Wert** were the talented winners whose posters were turned into billboards. The Knights of Columbus would like to thank all the students of our parish and Sacred Heart School who are fantastic artists and submitted posters. **It's important to remember Christ at Christmas and that he gave us the ultimate gift.**

