

One might think that the family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph is too remote, too special, too holy to be an effective model for our families. But just like our families, they enjoyed times of great joy but also suffered through terrible hardships. The delight of a newborn baby was accompanied by the fear that led them to flee to a foreign land. Today let us pray that the faith and love shown by the Holy Family may sustain us through both our joys and our struggles.



Readings for this Week (Dec. 30—Jan. 4)

Monday: 1 John 2:12-17; Luke 2:36-40
Tuesday: 1 John 2:18-21; John 1:1-18
Wed.: (Solemnity/Holy Day—Mary, Holy Mother of God)
Numbers 6:22-27; Gal. 4:4-7; Luke 2:16-21
Thursday: (Memorial) Eph. 4:1-7, 11-13; Matthew 23:8-12
Friday: 1 John 2:29—3:6; John 1:29-34
Saturday: (Memorial) Deut. 10:8-9; Matthew 11:25-30

Scripture for next Sunday—Epiphany

Isaiah 60:1-6

The glory of the Lord shines on all people.

Ephesians 3:2-3a, 5-6

The Gentiles are coheirs of the promise.

Matthew 2:1-12

They presented gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

A light shines for all to see, revealing God's glory and drawing people from all over. Next Sunday in Isaiah the light is in Jerusalem, the holy city, attracting kings and caravans. In the Gospel, the light is in the sky over Bethlehem, attracting magi from the east. Paul preaches that the light shines equally for all, Jews and Gentiles, "copartners" in the promise of salvation. On Epiphany weekend, let us listen for all the foreign places and peoples, enabling us to sing, "every nation on earth will adore you."

PRAYERS REQUESTED

Your prayers are asked for *Rosa Lieu Ta*, the aunt of Jonathan Mai, who passed away recently in Chicago. Notes may be sent to Jonathan & Denise at 504 Gaffney Rd., Bristol, TN 37620.

NO Religious Education Classes/NO RCIA this week.
All classes will resume the week of **January 5th**.

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

This weekend we celebrate the feast of the Holy Family. The Gospel reading tells us the story of Joseph taking Mary and Jesus to Egypt, reminding us of the slaughter of the Holy Innocents at the hands of King Herod. This event is not directly related to our celebration of the Holy Family, but it is an event that inspires many questions so I thought I would write about that.

The story of Herod ordering the killing of innocent children to prevent a challenge to his authority appears only in the Gospel of Matthew. There is no mention of this anywhere else in the New Testament. Furthermore, there is no historical account of anything like this actually happening. Therefore scholars today are divided as to whether this is an event that actually happened or a literary creation. In either case, there is a significant message in this story for us.

Matthew's Gospel was written for Christians with a Jewish background. He was addressing a community that would have been familiar with the prophecies of the messiah, including the prophecy that God would raise up a new figure like Moses for his people. At the time of Moses' birth, Pharaoh had commanded that all male children born to Hebrew mothers be killed to keep their numbers from increasing. This story in Matthew's Gospel draws a connection between Jesus and Moses.

The story of an evil king persecuting the Jews, Jesus and his family being forced to flee, and finally his coming into Nazareth from Egypt all draw parallels to the story of Moses. This emphasized to those who first read the story that Jesus was the new Moses mentioned in the Old Testament. There is also meaning for us. The connection to Moses reminds us that Jesus was so much more than a great teacher to his people. He truly is the one sent by God to set his people free so we can all experience his salvation.

There will be **NO Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament** this Tuesday, December 31.

BE SURE any donations you want recorded on your 2019 statement are in the parish office by 5pm Tues., Dec. 31.

HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION
Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God

Masses: Tues., Dec. 31 at 5:30 p.m.

Wed., Jan. 1 at 10 a.m.

(incense will be used at 10 a.m.)

The Parish Office will be CLOSED on Wednesday, Jan. 1
for New Year's Day.



In Loving Memory of:

Deceased members of the *Funaro & McSheehy families*
Given by Brendan & Connie McSheehy

Deceased members of the *Keirstead and Bassett families*
Given by Sally Bassett

Tonette Davidson, Norman Smith, and Nick Campangna
Given by Aleta Smith

Pete and Betty Hagerman
Given by their daughters

Deceased members of the
deMartino, Ennis, & Sheppard families
and *Ken Evans*
Given by Patricia Sheppard

Maris Dickert, Robert Dickert and Merle Dickert
Given by George Dickert

Susan Johnson and Baby Shane Christopher Grayson
Given by Kenneth Johnson & Carol Reynolds

Deceased members of the
Carolyn *Ward* and *Rozelma Wagner families*

Deceased members of the
Karban, Dudek and Oliver families
Given by Mary Karban and Frank Karban
and John & Debbie Oliver

Frank Hanson
Given by his wife Mary Anne

Deceased members of the *Sandretto and Burriss families*
Given by Rose Marie & Bill Burriss

James & Audrey Wilson, Charles & Elizabeth Bouton
and *Mark Bouton*
Given by Wayne & Kate Bouton

Hedwig Meussen
Given by her daughter Brigitte Koserski

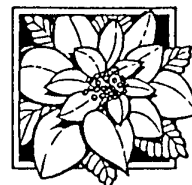
Deceased members of the
Dorula, Blasher and Lester families
Given by Cathy Dorula

Richard "Dick" Green (husband) and *Michael Green* (son)
Given by Joan Green

Deceased members of the *Tilley and Sullivan families*
Given by Maureen & Jim Tilley

Anthony & Theresa Orobona and John & Anna Bannish
Given by Carol & Bob Bannish

Wes Fayler
Given by Richard J. Davis



Poinsettias

In Loving Memory of:

Deceased *family members*
Given by the *Tebeau family*

Theodore C. Kucin (father) and *Robert Kucin* (brother)
Given by John Kucin

Mary Pat Flanagan and Jenifer Kelly
Given by John Flanagan

Veronica Taylor (mother)
Given by JoAnn Van Shepard

Julian "Dave" Pryputniewicz
Given by his wife Sandy and family

John Paloian (husband), *Thomas* (son), and
deceased members of the *Paloian, Gionet, and*
Cholokian families
Given by Joyce Paloian

Donald J. Miles and Jeffery A. Miles
Given by Chris & Bearl Jenkins

Ethel Plishka (sister) and *Anna Stephanik* (niece)
Given by Andy Cyzik

Wes Fayler, Todd Fayler, Jim & Mildred Hamilton,
Gilbert & Gertrude McElheny, Ann & Max Kappner,
and *Ann Harrison*
Given by the Fayler/McElheny family

Genarro Costagliola, Jerry Costagliola,
Josephine Costagliola and Sidney O'Dell
Given by the Costagliola's and the DiBartolo's

Deceased members of the *Nordone family:*
Nicholas Sr., Clotilda, Anthony, Nicholas Jr., & Joseph,
Vito Cericola (husband) and
Lee Culbertson (wonderful son-in-law)
Given by Paula Cericola

Deceased members of the *Verthein and Hale families*
Given by Donna Hale & family

Todd and Wes Fayler, Molly Moore,
and *Fran and Jack MacFarlane*
Given by Pam & Ed Balaban

Bernard & Margaret Raykowitz, and
all *deceased members of the Raykowitz family*
Given by Mary B. Raykowitz

Molly Moore, Deacon Harry Hall, Mike Yaromey
Given by Rosie Mansfield



Mass Intentions for the Week

Saturday, December 28 (Vigil: Holy Family)

5:30 p.m. † Hedwig Meussen

Sunday, December 29 (Holy Family)

8:30 a.m. † Herbert Dittmar

11:30 a.m. † Lynn Roosa

2:00 p.m. Parishioners (Spanish Mass)

Tuesday, December 31 (Vigil: Solemnity of Mary Holy Day)

5:30 p.m. † Dan Dutcher

Wednesday, January 1, 2020 (Holy Day: Solemnity of Mary)

10:00 a.m. † Neal Jewell

Thursday, January 2

6:00 p.m. † Joe Oberle

Friday, January 3

8:30 a.m. † Susan Mellett

Saturday, January 4 (Vigil: Epiphany)

5:30 p.m. † Betty Williams

Sunday, January 5 (Epiphany)

8:30 a.m. † Robert Rhymer

11:30 a.m. † Ron Davis

2:00 p.m. Parishioners (Spanish Mass)

NOTE: Due to the early publishing deadline for this bulletin, the collection results from last weekend and Christmas were not able to be in this bulletin and will be in next weekend.

2ND COLLECTIONS IN JANUARY:

January 5 St. Anne's School

January 19 Respect Life

No Confessions this Tuesday (Dec. 31) due to the Holy Day Vigil Mass that evening. There will be confessions on Thursday at the regular time (5:00-5:30p) and on Saturday from 3:30 to 4:30.

Masses this week: Tues., Dec. 31, 5:30 p.m. (Holy Day Vigil)
Wed., Jan. 1 at 10 a.m. (Holy Day)
Thursday, Jan. 2 at 6 p.m.
Friday, Jan. 3 at 8:30 a.m.

PRAY for VOCATIONS!!

Are you called to serve the family of the Lord and share the Father's love as a priest, deacon, sister or brother? Call Father Brian Capuano at 804-359-5661 or email him at vocations@richmonddiocese.org.

Married Couples Retreat

March 20/21/22 or March 27/28/29

Priestfield Retreat Center in Kearneysville, WV

For more information, call Elaine Galeone at 410-252-5355 or email retreat2020@gmail.com.

THE CHRISTMAS SEASON

The Christmas season extends from Christmas Eve through the Baptism of the Lord—Sunday, January 12! We encourage you to continue your joyful celebration throughout the Season!!



To better know "the concrete problems that trouble the Universal Church, especially those of the missions," the Holy Father asks that his monthly intention be "the object of knowledgeable and responsible prayer on the part of the people of God."

Prayer Intention of Pope Francis: Jan. 2020

Promotion of World Peace: *That Christians, followers of other religions, and all people of goodwill may promote peace and justice in the world.*

BINGO VOLUNTEERS

Making any New Year's Resolutions for 2020??

How about helping out the parish and school as a Bingo Volunteer??!! St. Anne's Bingo is held on Monday (School) and Tuesday/Saturday (Parish) at the Monsignor Hickie Center. Your help will enable this important ministry to continue. If interested in being a Bingo Volunteer, please contact the parish office at 276-669-8200 ext. 0 or email stannes@stannes-bridol.org.

As this year ends

And a New Year begins....

We wish to extend a heartfelt "Thank You" to all of our parishioners for their generosity, their many acts of kindness, their many hours of dedicated service to our ministries and programs... and especially for your faith-filled example as Catholic Christians.

Let us live each day in the most loving ways, the God-conscious way. Let us serve all who are in need, regardless of race, color or creed...

May your new year be filled with peace, prosperity and love. May God's blessings shower upon you and bestow upon each of you a bright, healthy and peaceful New Year!!

Happy New Year!!

The Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph



Donations for Christmas flowers were given:

In Honor of:

Miriam Dutcher

Given by Donna and Alex Hale

Patricia & Jeff Johnson (daughter & son-in-law), and
Friends ***Joanne Waddell, Paula Cericola, Andy Cyzick***

Given by Joan Green

Wendy Smith and Holly Watson

Given by Carol Reynolds & Kenneth Johnson

Chris Neal

Given by Angelina and Mikey DiBartolo

Living members of ***my family***

Given by Patricia Sheppard

Fr. Chris and Staff, Chris Neal and Choir

Given by Pam & Ed Balaban

IN PRAYER for ***all patients at the Hospice House***

Given by Cathy Dorula

HEALING for ***Rebecca Jo Truschke***

Given by Chris & Bearl Jenkins

SOUP KITCHEN VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!!

St. Anne's will staff the community Soup Kitchen from **January 2 thru 15**. Two volunteers are needed each day, beginning at 9 a.m. for approx. 90 minutes to prepare the soup at the United Coal Company campus (located a few blocks from St. Anne's). If you can help our community, please contact Kristie Faylor at faylermom@gmail.com.

Baptism Preparation Class—January 4

Our next Baptismal Preparation Class is scheduled for **Saturday, January 4, 2pm-4pm** in the **Great Room**. If you have a child under the age of 7 who needs baptism, or you are expecting the birth of your child soon, please plan to attend. The nursery will be provided for siblings, if needed. **To register**, please call Sydney Farnum at 276-669-8200 ext. 32 or email sydneyfarnum@stannes-bristol.org **no later than Thursday, January 2.**

BLOOD DRIVE:

Sign up weekends of **Jan. 4/5** and **Jan. 11/12** in the commons! Bloodmobile will be here on Wednesday, January 15 from 2p-6:30p.

Please....will you come **Give the Gift of Life?**

Looking ahead just a bit...

First Tuesday Adoration

January 7, 9a-9p, in the Chapel