

COME,
Lord Jesus!



**PARISH
NEWSLETTER**

DECEMBER

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Merry Christmas!
from
Your Parish Family



Please check the Narthex beginning Dec. 18th to receive your Christmas gift from Holy Family Catholic Parish. "52 Sundays" is a dynamic guide to help families reclaim the Lord's Day with Gospel readings, prayer, activities, food and more! Created by the Archdiocese of Detroit, it offers simple, practical, and fun ways to spend time as a family learning more about the Catholic faith each Sunday of 2022. Mugs with our beautiful Holy Family logo will also be given with a special treat inside.

Merry Christmas & Blessings on the New Year!



Reflections on the Advent Season



Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

On the first Sunday of Advent, the Church begins her four-week preparation for the celebration of Christmas, the birth of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior. The liturgical color of Advent is purple, which suggests that there is a certain penitential dimension to this season. The readings for this season stress the need to stay awake and be ready as we await the coming of the Lord.

According to the tradition of the Church there are three comings of the Lord. The first when he was born of the Virgin Mother in Bethlehem to fulfill the ancient prophecies made by God to his people, Israel. The second coming is the saving presence of Christ in each new generation of believers as they live out their daily lives in obedience to his teaching. His third and final coming will be the end of time when he returns in glory to judge and to make all things new. Our lives might be described as an Advent, as a time of waiting in faith for the final coming of our Savior.

During his time on earth Christ taught us to pray for the coming of God's Kingdom. Each of us, therefore, is called upon to play our part in building up that kingdom by what we say and do in the ordinary events of our lives.

Let us remember that Christ here and now comes to us whenever we think thoughts of peace, pray for peace and reconciliation, and follow his example of loving our neighbor as he taught. As he says, blessed indeed are the peacemakers!

The days and weeks leading up to Christmas are busy for most of us, but the wonderful season of Advent gently reminds us to stop, take stock, and to remember and make our own the great truth of our faith that the Son of Mary still knocks today at our door, desiring our company and friendship, and that he will finally return to take us home to heaven.

I encourage you to read through this newsletter and consider ways you can actively participate in and grow in faith as a disciple of Christ. Holy Family Parish has many service opportunities, extra Adoration and Confession times, and feast days in the coming months. Additionally, every person of our parish has free access to the Lakeshore Academy for the New Evangelization's (LANE) classes and resources which include "The Road to Bethlehem: Advent and Christmas Time" program. This self-paced program features a compilation of Advent and Christmas resources which include themes; to experience Jesus more fully in the Eucharist, to honor Jesus as King, to delve more deeply into Advent devotions, sounds of the seasons with music playlists, and activities focused on the Saints celebrated in the Advent and Christmas seasons leading all the way to Epiphany.

I pray that Advent may be a grace filled time for you and your families, and that you may experience all the blessings of him, who is the Prince of Peace.

Yours in Christ,

Fr. Mike



The Road to Bethlehem

Advent and Christmas Time



When the time came for Jesus to be born, Joseph brought Mary to “the city of David that is called Bethlehem [**“house of bread”**], because he was of the **house and family of David**” (Luke 2:4). Soon, both shepherds and magi also made the journey. The child they encountered in the house of bread and the house of David was and is “the living bread that came down from heaven” (John 6:51), and “the Lord God will give him the throne of David his father” (Luke 1:32).

This Advent and Christmas Time, we too will take **the road to Bethlehem**. As we anticipate and then celebrate the feast of our Lord’s birth, we will submit ourselves to his reign and allow him to feed us with his Body and Blood in the Eucharist.



Advent
begins on
Sunday, November 28th



Prepare for the season of Advent and Christmas by using the many beautiful resources available to us through LANE Academy. If you are already enrolled in LANE courses and have an account simply go to

www.lanecatholic.org/course/advent-2021

If you don’t have a LANE account, create one for free. Go to www.lanecatholic.org/subscription/holy-family-digital-passport. Click the “Register for free” button. Then check out the Advent information on participating in the Mass, Adoration, Confession, penance, service, and evangelization. Finally, browse the seasonal resources and choose some for you and your family to use during Advent and Christmas Time.

***Help with registration will be available Dec. 4 @ 4:15pm in the library and Dec. 5 @10:15am in St. Mary Hall.**

Participate in the Mass

Advent and Christmas time give us an opportunity to refocus on Jesus' coming in the Mass.

Holy Days:

- **First Sunday of Advent: November 27th @ 5pm, 28th @ 9 & 11 am.** (*Adult Choir at 11am Mass*)
- **Second Sunday of Advent: December 4th @ 5pm, 5th @ 9 & 11 am.** (*Bell Choir at 5pm Mass & Adult Choir at 9am*)
- **Feast of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary** (Patronal Feast Day of the United States of America): **December 8th @ 9 am & 7pm.**
- **Third Sunday of Advent: December 11th @ 5pm, 12th @ 9 & 11 am.** (*Harp Soloist Alyssa Bursch at all Masses*)
- **Fourth Sunday of Advent: December 18th @ 5pm & 19th @ 9 & 11 am.** (*Adult Choir at 5pm – Bell Choir at 9 & 11am*)
- **Christmas Eve Masses: December 24th @ 4pm, 7pm & 10pm.** (*Music will begin 25 minutes prior to each Mass– 4pm– Family Choir, 7 & 10 pm Soloists and Ensembles*)
- **Nativity of the Lord: December 25th @ 10 am.** (*Music will begin 25 minutes prior to Mass*)
- **Feast of the Holy Family: December 26th @ 9 & 11am**
- **Vigil of the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God: December 31st @ 7pm.**
- **Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God: January 1st @ 5pm.**
- **Epiphany of the Lord: January 2nd @ 9 & 11 am.**
- **Baptism of the Lord: January 8th @ 5pm, 9th @ 9 & 11am.**



Weekday Mass Opportunities at Holy Family:

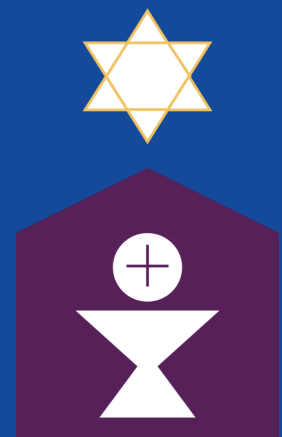
Daily Masses, Wednesday – Friday 9:00 am
(no 9 am Mass December 24th)

Holiday COVID Recommendations

Parishioners and guests are strongly encouraged to wear a mask during Mass and other indoor public gatherings. Masks can be found in the entrance of the narthex. The right section of the church has been reserved for those wearing masks only. This section is also set up for social distancing. If you are unable to wear a mask, please sit in another area of the church.

For the Christmas Masses, there will not be a sign up option online, as in the past it will be first come, first serve, so we suggest you arrive early, as the church does fill quickly. Overflow seating will be available.

Thank you for your cooperation.



Adore Jesus in the Eucharist

During these holy seasons and throughout the year, Adoration extends our worship of our Eucharistic Lord beyond the Mass. It gives us an opportunity to honor him as king and give thanks for the nourishment he gives us in the Blessed Sacrament.



Eucharistic Adoration at Holy Family:

- Thursday, December 2: following 9:00 AM Mass – 7:30 PM
- Friday, December 3: 9:45 – 10:45 AM
- Thursday, December 9: following 9:00 AM Mass – 7:30 PM
- Wednesday, December 15: 6:30 – 7:30 PM
- Thursday, December 16: following 9:00 AM Mass – 6:00 PM
- Thursday, January 6: following 9:00 AM Mass – 6:00 PM



Obtain the King's Pardon in Confession

Advent and Christmas time remind us of Christ's first coming as the infant king, but they also direct our attention forward to His second coming as the Triumphant King. As we long for His kingdom to come, we realize that we do not always abide by the kingdom's law of love. Through Confession and penance, we obtain our king's pardon and reconcile ourselves to His kingdom. When we receive absolution, the Prince of Peace gives us His peace in our hearts.

Advent Opportunities for Confession at Holy Family:

- Thursday, December 2: 6:30 – 7:30 PM
- Friday, December 3: 9:45 – 10:45 AM
- Thursday, December 9: 6:30 – 7:30 PM
- Wednesday, December 15: 6:30 – 7:30 PM
- Every Saturday: 4:00 – 4:30 PM



Holy Family Service Opportunities

There are many ways that you can help serve others. Listed below are just a few of the opportunities we have at Holy Family! Please call the parish office to inquire or sign up!

- Volunteer to provide rides to/from Mass 1 weekend/month for a Davenport Student
- Volunteer once a month to deliver pre-cooked meals to Degage Ministries
- Volunteer to help out with our Holy Family Food Pantry: shopping, sorting, helping clients, stocking shelves, etc.
- Volunteer to help out with our facilities department ie: cleaning, landscaping, trimming etc.
- Help out with the cleaning and upkeep at our 3 cemeteries
- Help with event set up and tear down/clean up
- Volunteer to bring in food for a funeral luncheon or help out the day of the luncheon
- Help label monthly newsletters
- Help is needed delivering packages to our homebound
- Become a Homebound Eucharistic Minister
- Join an Usher Team, become an Altar Server, Become a Lector at Mass
- Sing in the Choir – many different choirs to choose from
- Volunteer to help out with Liturgical Environment (decorating in the Narthex)
- Volunteer to help out with Faith Formation Programs ie: Catechist, Aides, Program Support, Safety Patrol
- Tech/sound system help is needed for Masses, Volunteer to help with tech for large events
- Volunteers are needed to help plan and coordinate the Mardi Gras Parish Appreciation Party
- Help Deck the Halls and decorate our facility for Christmas
- Donate gifts for the needy on the Giving Tree, and /or items to the Prison/Jail Ministry



Part Time Positions Available



Holy Family is looking for a part-time team member for the role of the **Children's Ministry Coordinator**. This role is a part-time position which coordinates the students and volunteers within the Monday and Wednesday K-5 sessions, and through providing support for homeschooling families. The ideal candidate has knowledge and experience working with children and families, and has a heart to serve the Lord and His people. The CMC will work closely with the Director of Discipleship and faith formation staff, and should be a practicing Catholic in good standing.

Holy Family is also looking to fill the position of **Parish Care Coordinator**. This role coordinates the parish's pastoral care ministry to parishioners and their families who are sick, elderly, homebound, bereaved, or struggling with exceptional life circumstances. Responsible for the recruitment, education, and evaluation of volunteer ministers. Establishes a network of community referral resources and oversees the making of referrals to assist parishioners in need. Coordinates the regular prayer presence and sacramental visitations for the sick and dying. May serve as a leader of prayer at wakes, meetings, community meetings, church services and nursing homes.

The detailed job description can be found on our parish website. Please email your resume and cover letter to Deb Hazelbach at dhazelbach@holyfamilycaledonia.org

Holy Family Novena

Whether or not our family members are together during this Christmas season, we can unite ourselves in prayer. The Holy Family Novena is a nine-day devotion to pray for families: our family, your family, our Holy Family Parish Family, every family! The novena begins on the Feast of the Holy Family, which falls each year on the Sunday between Christmas Day and the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God (January 1): This year, the novena begins on December 26. As we come to the end of one year and anticipate hope and happiness in the New Year, we ask for the blessings of Jesus, Mary and Joseph.

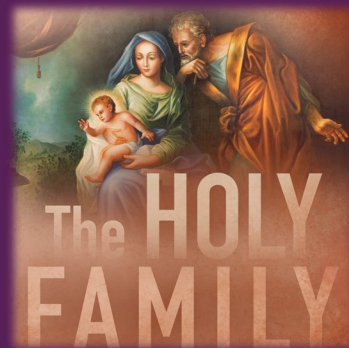
Saint Joseph Novena

Wednesday, December 1st

9:30 AM - 10:30 AM and 6:30 - 7:30 PM

On December 8, 1870 Pope Pius IX declared Saint Joseph Patron of the Catholic Church. In commemoration of the 150th anniversary of this declaration, the Holy See proclaimed 2021 the Year of Saint Joseph for the Universal Church. We give thanks to God for Saint Joseph and his patronage as we ask our Lord to graciously accept the prayers we offer through Saint Joseph's humble intercession.

***Novenas will be available on the table in the Narthex.**



Participate in a Discipleship Opportunity

- **Year of St. Joseph** concludes with St. Joseph Novena and Holy Hour, Wednesday December 1, 9:30 AM and 6:30 PM
- **That Man is You**, Wednesdays December 1, 8, 15th from 6:15-7:15 AM
- **Scripture Study** to study the Readings for the upcoming weekend Mass, Wednesdays from 10-11am in St. Mary's Hall
- **Blessed is She** Prayer Walk, Saturday December 4 at 9 AM
- **Men's Adoration** and Prayer group, Saturdays December 4, 11, 18 from 6:00-8:00 AM
- **Blessed is She And Hay Became Holy** Advent Devotional book discussions, Mondays Dec 6, 13, 20 at 1 PM and 7 PM in St Mary's
- **Young Adult Group**, Mondays December 6, 13 & 20 from 9:00 PM **6:30 PM-**
- **Blessed is She** Holy Hour, Tuesday, December 7. Holy Hour is from 7:00-8:00 PM & Social time is 8:00-10:00 PM



Faith Formation and Bible Study

Christmas Break Class/No Class dates

Faith Formation: There are no Faith Formation classes Dec. 20 - Jan. 2.

Bible Study: There is no Bible Study on 12/29.

Classes resume Monday, Jan 2, 2022.

The Faith Formation Office will be closed Dec. 22 through Jan. 2.



Holy Family

Giving Tree

Our annual Christmas Giving Tree will return again this year! The ornaments will be available beginning November 18-21 or until they are gone. Each ornament will provide a child's age & ideas for appropriate gifts.

*We will also be collecting travel size shampoo, body wash, lotion, and chap stick for the Jail & Prison Ministry. Thank you for your kind generosity.

We are asking that you put the gifts unwrapped, with the ornament attached to the gift, underneath the tree by December 2nd.

Any questions, please contact Chris Koryto (616-581-7520) or
Gail Mancuso (616-366-8347)
Thank you in advance.

