The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph
Colossians 3:12-21

The Forgiving Family

The Christian family is a symbol of forgiveness and love. Every family has its rough spots. Within one family not everyone believes the same and prays the same. Some show love comfortably, others with embarrassment. Some naturally look out for someone else; others are concerned about themselves. Some boast about their accomplishments, others are humble. Some have old hurts that still ache, others have healed and forgiven. Families are not perfect, but they are designed for love.

On Holy Family Sunday, we remember that the model of family love is the love that Christ gives us. The Letter to the Colossians says, “As the Lord has forgiven you, so must you also do.”

All society is a symbol of forgiveness and love. At least it should be. God loved us all enough to send Jesus into the world. He came to save us. We do not always respond to this love the way that we should. But at least we have a model for what love is. It is compassionate, kind, humble, gentle, and patient. Within the world, we have our differences, but we hold this in common: the ability to live in peace and the grace of God’s forgiveness.

At Christmas we celebrate the gift of God’s forgiveness, Christ, our redeemer. We try to imitate that forgiveness as individuals, as families, and as a community. If the forgiving Christ dwells in each family, each family will bring forgiveness to the world.


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HOLIDAY OFFICE HOURS
Dec. 31  Office closes at 3:00 p.m.
Jan.  1  Office closed

EUCARISTICADORATION
This week’s adoration is on Thursday, January 2nd. It will begin following 9:00 a.m. Mass and end at 8:00 p.m. Please consider joining your fellow parishioners for an hour of adoration of the Blessed Sacrament on the first Thursdays of the month. Come for an hour or for a few minutes. There is still a need for regular adorers in several time slots. Sign up for an hour this week (or every week) on the sign-up sheet in the vestibule.

CONFESION: Sunday 7:30 – 7:50 a.m.; Tuesday and Thursday 8:25 – 8:55 a.m.; Wednesday 5:25 – 5:55 p.m. and by appointment.

BAPTISM
Parent preparation session is required. Please call the parish office prior to the birth.

ANOINTING OF SICK
As requested after Mass and by appointment.

CONFIRMATION: Program for high school students, according to Diocesan guidelines.

MARRIAGE
Please call the parish office when engaged. A nine-month preparation period is required (diocesan policy). One party should be a registered, attending parishioner.

EUCHARISTICADORATION
Every Thursday from 10:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m.

PRAYER CHAIN REQUEST
If you wish to be added to the prayer chain, please contact Roberta Klein at (816) 540-5980.

NEW PARISHIONERS
Welcome! Please register after Mass using the registration form in the vestibule, download form from our website, or contact the office.

Friends of St. Bridget,
God is good......all the time!! It’s a feeling that is repeated many times over a NCYC weekend for youth. This is good medicine for each of us. Perhaps we take a dose of this medicine each morning and see how our lives change. God truly is good all the time. As the year of 2019 and the decade comes to an end, it’s not too late to remember St. Bridget Parish in your charitable giving program. Funds must be received in our office or postmarked by December 31 in order be reflected in your charitable giving record for 2019. We also ask that you please consider remembering St. Bridget in your estate planning process. Preplanning may relieve you and your family members of some stressors and make sure that your wishes are honored. It’s a best practice to speak with your financial planner or we can put you in touch with someone in the Planned Giving and Stewardship Office at the diocese who can provide some assistance with these matters. Remembering St. Bridget in your will can leave a great legacy. Thank you for your consideration. Happy New Year.

Tim Long
Business Manager

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS FREE THROW CONTEST
All boys and girls ages 9 to 14 are invited to participate in the local level of competition for the 2020 Knights of Columbus Free Throw Championship. The local competition will be held Saturday, January 11th from 1:00—3:00 p.m. at Pleasant Hill High School Gym.

The Knights of Columbus Free Throw Championship is sponsored annually, with winners progressing through local, district, and state competitions. All boys and girls 9 to 14 years old are eligible to participate and will compete in their respective age divisions. A state wide competition is held to crown the annual Knights of Columbus Free Throw Champions.

REPORTING ABUSE
The Diocese of Kansas City-St. Joseph is committed to combating sexual abuse in the Church. If you are a victim of sexual abuse, or if you observe or suspect sexual abuse:

1. Call the Missouri Child Abuse Hotline at (800) 392-3738 (if the victim is currently under the age of 18), and
2. Contact your local law enforcement agency or call 911, and
3. After reporting to these civil and law enforcement authorities, report suspected sexual abuse of a minor or vulnerable adult to the Diocesan Ombudsperson, Joe Crayon, at (816) 812-2500 or crayon@ombudsmankcsj.org, if the abuse involves a priest, deacon, employee or volunteer of the Diocese of Kansas City — St. Joseph. The Diocese has a sincere commitment to providing care and healing resources to victims of sexual abuse and their families. Please contact the Victim Services Advocate, Kathleen Chastain, at (816) 392-0011 or chastain@diocesekcsj.org for more information.

This weekend we celebrate the Solemnity of the Holy Family: Jesus, Mary, and Joseph. During the Christmas Season for us Catholics, this is the opportune time for us to reflect on the holy life that was lived out in the Holy Family.

Given the nature of this time of the year, many families gather together for Christmas and New Years. It can be a time of great family get togethers or a time of family charity being lived out amongst those relatives with whom we have a hard time to showing love.

I remember a homily from many years ago that hits home for times like this. The priest mentioned from the pulpit, “It is a choice to love.” In our dominantly secular culture, “love” has been more defined as an emotional feeling, especially if it makes one happy. If one is not feeling loved and/or happy, then one needs to find love somewhere else; that’s how our culture determines love. However, God says otherwise. To love someone is to make a choice that you are going to love them, show them charity, smile at them, pray for them, give them a helping hand, write a note to them, etc.

The best example of love that is a choice is the Death of our Lord on the Crucifix. Our Lord was not feeling loved when being nailed to the Cross. Particularly because of the immensity of the pain, He was not happy either with His sufferings. Yet He made the tough decision to carry His Cross, be nailed to it, and die on the Cross. He made the choice to love by His Death and Resurrection so that you and I can be redeemed.

Making the choice to love those people in our life that are a burden to us, even family members, is us carrying our cross and making the choice to nail our pride to it so that an even greater bond of friendship may come forth. Love is not a feeling, it is a choice, and our Lord demonstrated that on the Cross.

Let us learn to love everyone around us, making the choice to love them, even if they are a burden to us. We may not see the fruits of our choice in loving these individuals in this life, but our God does see our labor. He sees our burden, He sees our choice to love (even with the tough family members), and He will not forget them when we see Him in the next life. Let us depend on the intercession of the Holy Family in Jesus, Mary, and Joseph as we grow more in choosing to love everyone around us. God bless you all. Father Vogel

A NOTE FROM FATHER VOGEL

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2020 SECOND COLLECTION SCHEDULE
Please be generous. Thank you.

Jan. 1  Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God
Jan. 5  DREAM Fund and Subscription Sunday for The Catholic Key
Jan. 20  Catholic Home Missions Appeal
SCHEDULE, INTENTIONS, READINGS

Saturday, December 28
The Holy Innocents
5:00 p.m. • Bud Sweger (Jim and Laurie Jo Holmes)
1 Jn 1:5-2:2 | Ps 124:2-3, 4-5, 7-8 | Matt 2:13-18

Sunday, December 29
The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph
8:00 a.m. St. Bridget Parishioners
Sirach 3:2-6, 12-14 | Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5 | Colossians 3:12-17 | Matthew 2:13-15, 19-23

Monday, December 30
No Mass
1 Jn 2:12-17 | Ps 96:7-8a, 8b-9, 10 | Luke 2:36-40

Tuesday, December 31
No Mass
1 Jn 2:18-21 | Ps 96:1-2, 11-12, 13 | John 1:1-18

Wednesday, January 1
Mary, the Mother of God—Holy Day of Obligation
9:00 a.m. • Patty Ruth (Bible Study)

Thursday, January 2
St. Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzen
9:00 a.m. • Ray Bryant (Chris Porter)
1 Jn 2:22-28 | Ps 98:1-2, 3ab, 3cd-4 | Heb 1:1-2 | John 1:19-28

Friday, January 3
No Mass
1 Jn 2:29-3:6 | Ps 98:1-3cd, 4-6 | John 1:14a, 12a | John 1:29-34

Saturday, January 4
St. Elizabeth Ann Seton
5:00 p.m. • Titus Boston (Jim and Laurie Jo Holmes)
1 Jn 3:7-10 | Ps 98:1, 1-7, 8, 9 | John 1:35-42

Sunday, January 5
The Epiphany of the Lord
8:00 a.m. St. Bridget Parishioners
Isa 60:1-6 | Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13 | Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6 | Matt 2:1-2
+ In Memory of Confessions prior to weekday and Sunday Masses Rosary prayed 30 min. prior to weekend Masses Rosary and Chapel of Divine Mercy prayed prior to Tuesday morning Mass

DAILY ANTIPHONS

December 28
ENTRANCE ANTIPHON
The innocents were slaughtered as infants for Christ; spotless, they follow the Lamb and sing for ever: Glory to you, O Lord.
COMMUNION ANTIPHON
Rev 14: 4
Behold those redeemed as the first fruits of the human race for God and the Lamb, and who follow the Lamb wherever he goes.

December 29
ENTRANCE ANTIPHON
Luke 2:16
The shepherds went in haste, and found Mary and Joseph and the Infant lying in a manger.
COMMUNION ANTIPHON
Baruch 3:38
Our God has appeared on the earth, and lived among us.

December 30
ENTRANCE ANTIPHON
Wis 18:14-15
When a profound silence covered all things and night was in the midst of its course, your all-powerful Word, O Lord, bounded from heaven's royal throne.
COMMUNION ANTIPHON
Jn 1:16
From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace.

January 1
ENTRANCE ANTIPHON
Is 8:5
A child is born for us, and a son is given to us; his scepter of power rests upon his shoulder, and his name will be called Messenger of great counsel.
COMMUNION ANTIPHON
Jn 4:9
God sent his Only Begotten Son into the world, so that we might have life through him.

January 2
ENTRANCE ANTIPHON
Hail, Holy Mother, who gave birth to the King, who rules heaven and earth forever.
Or: Is 9:1, 5; Lk 1:33
Today a light will shine upon us, for the Lord is born for us; and he will be called Wondrous God, Prince of peace, Father of future ages: and his reign will be without end.

January 3
ENTRANCE ANTIPHON
Ps 112 (111):4
A light has risen in the darkness for the upright of heart; the Lord is generous, merciful and just.
COMMUNION ANTIPHON
Jn 4:9
By this the love of God was revealed to us: God sent his Only Begotten Son into the world, so that we might have life through him.

NEW YEAR’S EVE DAY MASS
There will be no Mass on Tuesday morning, December 31, at St. Bridget. Evening Mass will be at 7:00 p.m. at St. Patrick’s for the holy day and Wednesday Mass will be at 9:00 a.m. at St. Bridget.

LITURGICAL ROLES AND SERVICES
New Year’s Day
LECTORS
9:00 a.m. • Laura Long, Rick Bouchard
EXTRAORDINARY MINISTER OF HOLY COMMUNION
9:00 a.m. • Mango O’Malley
SERVERS
9:00 a.m. • Aidan Fleischmann, TBA
SACRISTAN
9:00 a.m. • Don and Cathy Vogel
USHERS
9 a.m. • TBA
CANTOR
Kaitlin

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Saturday, December 28
4:30 p.m. • Rosary
5:00 p.m. • Mass
Sunday, December 29
7:30 - 7:50 a.m. • Confession
7:30 a.m. • Rosary
8:00 a.m. • Mass
Monday, December 30
No Mass
Tuesday, December 31, New Year’s Eve
No Mass at St. Bridget
7:00 p.m. • Mass at St. Patrick’s
Wednesday, January 1, New Year’s Day
9:00 a.m. • Mass
Office Closed
Thursday, January 2
8:25 a.m. - 8:55 a.m. • Confessions
9:00 a.m. • Mass
After Mass - 8:00 p.m. • Adoration
Friday, January 3
No Mass
9:00 a.m. • Friday Morning Bible Study
Saturday, January 4
4:30 p.m. • Rosary
5:00 p.m. • Mass
Sunday, January 5
7:30 - 7:50 a.m. • Confession
7:30 a.m. • Rosary
8:00 a.m. • Mass

THIS WEEK AT ST. BRIDGET

COMMUNION ANTIPHON
Heb 13:8
Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and for ever.

January 2
ENTRANCE ANTIPHON
Cf. Jn 1:1
In the beginning and before all ages, the Word was God and he humbled himself to be born the Savior of the world.
COMMUNION ANTIPHON
Jn 3:16
God so loved the world that he gave his Only Begotten son, so that all who believe in him may not perish, but may have eternal life.

January 3
ENTRANCE ANTIPHON
Ps 112 (111):4
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COMMUNION ANTIPHON
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DEAR FRIENDS OF ST. BRIDGET AND BROTHERS AND SISTERS IN CHRIST,
I was presented with a card on behalf of parishioners of St. Bridget and inside the card a gift of generosity beyond my pleasure to work for each of you.

May the light of our Savior shine in your hearts today and always. Thank you, Merry Christmas, and Happy New Year to all of our friends at St. Bridget.

Tim

ANTIPHON
Is 9:1, 5; Lk 1:33
Today a light will shine upon us, for the Lord is born for us;
or: Is 8:1-4; Lk 1:30-33
Jesus has been born to you, a Savior who is Christ the Lord;
Hail, Holy Mother, who gave birth to the King,
who rules heaven and earth forever.

ANTIPHON
Wis 18:14-15
When a profound silence covered all things and night was in the midst of its course, your all-powerful Word, O Lord, bounded from heaven's royal throne.

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Our God has appeared on the earth, and lived among us.

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