



THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH ✕ DECEMBER 31, 2017

Mass Intentions for the Week

Vigil Mass for Solemnity of Mary

Sunday, December 31

5:00 Jean Silviotti

Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God

Monday, January 1

8:00 Colette Donahue

12:00 Pietro Mariani

St. Basil the Great & St. Gregory of Nazianzen

Tuesday, January 2

8:00 Denise Regalado

12:00 Anthony Fiorenza

Wednesday, January 3

8:00 Augusto Revero

12:00 Aleth DelPrado

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton

Thursday, January 4

8:00 Mary & William Hamilton

12:00 Anthony Amarosa

St. John Neumann

Friday, January 5

8:00 Patricia Conole

12:00 Lucy DeVico

Saturday, January 6

8:00 Denise Regalado

12:00 Teresa DiLeo

5:00 John & Margaret Walsh

The Epiphany of the Lord

Sunday January 7

8:00 For the People of the Parish

9:30 Marie Aberle

11:00 Mary Louise Cain

12:30 Dr. Angelo Turturro & Frank Turturro Sr.



Bread and Wine

For: In thanksgiving to Our Lady of Lourdes

By: Maire Deiana



Sanctuary Lamp

For: Philip Curnyn

By: Noreen Curnyn

God's
Chosen One



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First Reading: Gn 15:1-6, 21: 1-3

Abram shows us the Lord keeps His promises, for his offspring were indeed many, like the stars in heaven. We, too, must trust in the Lord, so like Abram, our families might prosper.

Second Reading: Hebrews 11:8, 11-12, 17-19

By faith Abraham and Sarah were blessed with Isaac, and through him, many descendants because they trusted in God's promise and believed in what they could not see. We see that faith, trust and prayer bring forth God's miracles in our lives.

Gospel: Luke 2:22-40

Jesus was brought to Jerusalem to be consecrated according to the law of Moses. A man named Simeon had learned he would not die until he had seen God's anointed. Upon seeing Jesus, he immediately declared he had witnessed "the glory of your people of Israel." The prophetess Anna also gave thanks and spoke of Jesus to all who would listen. Both recognized the power of Jesus, although he was still an infant.

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READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Sunday

Sir 3:2-6, 12-14 or Gn 15:1-6, 21:1-3;
Col 3:12-21 or 3:12-17 or Heb 11:8, 11-12, 17-19;
Lk 2:22-40 or 2:22, 39-40

Monday

Nm 6:22-27; Gal 4:4-7; Lk 2:16-21

Tuesday

1 Jn 2:22-28; Jn 1:19-28

Wednesday

1 Jn 2:29-3:6; Jn 1:29-34

Thursday

1 Jn 3:7-10; Jn 1:35-42

First Friday

1 Jn 3:11-21; Jn 1:43-51

First Saturday

1 Jn 5:5-13; Mk 1:7-11 or Lk 3:23-38

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“They took him up to Jerusalem to present him to 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... 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 regards to him, he took him into his arms and blessed God saying, ‘Now Master you can let your servant go in peace.’”

How often we have attended a baptism, as parent, godparent, big brother or sister, relative or friend. Some assumed the role of Joseph and Mary, others that of Simeon, or Anna who prayed. Whatever our role, we are called to recognize the special presence of the Christ as they did. Joseph protected, Mary reflected, Simeon prayed and praised. We do too.

Pope Francis in his exhortation ‘The Joy of Love’ provides a terrific teaching as we bring one year to a close and turn the page to a new year of grace. He says, ‘Family prayer is a special way of expressing and strengthening this paschal faith. A few minutes can be found each day to come together before the living God to tell him of our worries, to ask for the needs of our family, to pray for someone experiencing difficulty, to ask for help in showing love, to give thanks for life and for its blessings and to ask Our Lady to protect us beneath her maternal mantle. With a few simple words, this moment of prayer can do immense good for our families.’

As we hear of all the new year’s resolutions, may we see this as our priority.



HIS WORD TODAY

BY REV. WILLIAM J. REILLY

A FRESH PERSPECTIVE ON
THE SUNDAY READINGS