

**TO WALK IN THE PATH OF THE HOLY FAMILY IS TO IMITATE THEIR HOLINESS, HUMILITY, GENTLENESS AND DEEP CONCERN FOR ONE ANOTHER.**

The Gospels give us very few details of the daily life of Jesus growing up in Nazareth. Here and there we get snippets of what his early life must have been like and of course we can fill in some of the missing details from what we know of first-century life in Palestine. As a carpenter, Joseph was probably a man of modest means from the lower middle class. While a member of the Davidic clan, he and his family, and indeed his community, lived modestly.

Today’s Gospel passage, often known as the *Finding of the Child Jesus in the Temple*, is very familiar. Here the Holy Family has traveled to Jerusalem to celebrate Passover, and on their way home they realize that Jesus is no longer with them. Passover was, and continues to be, the key defining feast of Judaism – a commemoration of Israel’s liberation from slavery and the source of its identity as God’s Chosen People. Today, it stands as the backdrop to Luke’s revelation of Jesus’ fullest and deepest identity. Here, the Gospel tells us, Jesus reveals himself as the Father’s Son who has come among us to answer the great questions of human experience.

Filled with concern for his safety and indeed with a little bit of righteous annoyance, the parents return to Jerusalem where they find him – not with children of his own age but with the elders. We can all imagine their emotions and fears before they found him, and their relief and joy when they found him safe.

This Gospel, however, is not so much a commentary on family life, but more a testimony to its importance in God’s plan for our world. Having experienced the wonder of Jesus birth, Mary and Joseph do not keep his holy presence to themselves nor closet him away from the world. Instead, as faithful people of the Covenant, they ensure that he is brought up as part of a worshipping and faith-filled community. There, he would grow in grace and favor even in the face of life’s struggles and challenges.

Today’s feast sets before us the truth that, with God’s help and despite all the challenges of life, we can grow in goodness and holiness. Imagine what a difference we could make in our own families if we sought to understand more fully, as Saint John reminds us in our second reading, that we already share a holy dignity as God’s children and a holy destiny that has yet to be revealed.

As we celebrate the Holy Family, let us invite Christ Jesus to bring his loving presence into our homes this day – binding us together, healing our rifts and allowing us to give ourselves over to loving God and others. Then we would truly be God’s holy family.

**WEEKLY ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT**

January 3rd, we will have our weekly Thursday Adoration from 6:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m. This week Adoration will be in the CATHEDRAL. Adoration is a special time to spend with Jesus in the Holy Eucharist. You don’t have to spend the whole hour, our Lord just wants to be with you.

**READINGS FOR THE WEEK**

<b>Mon</b>	<b>Dec 31</b>	1 Jn 2:18-21, Jn 1:1-8
<b>Tues</b>	<b>Jan 01</b>	Nm 6:22-27, Gal 4:4-7, Lk 2:16-21
<b>Wed</b>	<b>Jan 02</b>	1 Jn 2:22-28, Jn 1:19-28, Eph 4:1-7, 11-13, Mt 23:8-12
<b>Thu</b>	<b>Jan 03</b>	1 Jn 2:29—3:6, Jn 1:29-34
<b>Fri</b>	<b>Jan 04</b>	1 Jn 3:7-10, Jn 1:35-42, 1 Cor 13:4-13, Lk 10:38-42
<b>Sat</b>	<b>Jan 05</b>	1 Jn 3:11-21, Jn 1:43-51, Jn 10:11-16
<b>Sun</b>	<b>Jan 06</b>	Is 60:1-6, Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6, Mt 2:1-12



**YOUR SUNDAY TITHING AND CONTRIBUTIONS**

Regular Collections	\$	34,258.00
Maintenance	\$	1,423.00
Capital Improv.	\$	230.00
Nativity Elem.	\$	20.00
Christmas Collections	\$	14,025.45
<b>TOTAL COLLECTION</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>49,956.45</b>

**Thank you for your generous contributions!**

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

- Dec 31** Feast of Mary, Vigil Mass, 6:00 p.m.
- Jan 01** Holy Mother of God, Mass 10:00 a.m.
- Jan 02** Cleaning Team “C”
- Jan 03** Greenbriar Mass, 10:00 a.m.  
Adoration, 6:00 p.m.
- Jan 04** Mom’s Bible Study, 10:30 a.m., SHC



**NATIVITY CATHEDRAL RECTORY CLOSED**

In observance of Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God, the Cathedral rectory will be closed Tuesday, January 1, 2019. We will reopen on Wednesday, January 2, 2019 at 9:00 am.

**CCD/LifeTeen News**

CCD/LifeTeen will still be on a Christmas break. We will resume classes from 5:30-6:30 in the Sacred Heart Center on Wednesday, January 9. We wish all of your families a wonderful, blessed Happy New Year.

**RCIA**

Please continue to pray for our Catechumens, Candidates and their Sponsors during this Christmas Season. If you would like further information, please contact Greg or Penny Payne 228-365-6348.

<b>EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS</b>	<b>LECTORS</b>	<b>ALTAR SERVERS</b>
<b>Jan 05 4:00 pm</b> 1. Kalin Lloyd 2. Gerrie Weldon 3. Liz Joachim 4. Gayle Mavar 5. Helen Languirand	<b>Dec 31 6:00 pm</b> Patrick Hall	<b>Jan 05 4:00 pm</b> Keegan Cuevas
<b>Jan 06 7:00 am</b> 1. Jim Shugart 2. Danny Kavanagh 3. Colleen Kavanagh	<b>Jan 01 10:00 am</b> Linda Bourgeois	<b>Jan 06 7:00 am</b> Clayton Stoddard Ava Stoddard Bryan Stoddard
<b>9:00 a.m.</b> 1. Vicki Howard 2. Judy Trahan 3. John Brauchle 4. Joan Straham 5. Linda Bourgeois	<b>Jan 05 4:00 pm</b> Rose Anne Kimbell	<b>9:00 am</b> Terrence McDonnell Cameron McDonnell McKinzy Mathis Nicholas Gruich
<b>11:00 am</b> 1. Deacon 2. Deacon 3. Nanette Burke 4. Marianne Sherman 5. John Sherman	<b>Jan 06 7:00 am</b> Marcia Mayfield	<b>11:00 am</b> Aiden Tarrant Brennan Tarrant Annabelle Tarrant Bailey Joy Tarrant
<b>5:30 pm</b> 1. Tricia Creel 2. Roland Creel	<b>9:00 am</b> Terry Simons	<b>5:30 pm</b> Dylan Mitchell Sydni Wills
	<b>11:00 am</b> Peter Abide	
	<b>5:30 pm</b> Youth Ministry	
	<b>CANTORS</b>	
	<b>NEW YEAR'S DAY</b>	
	<b>10:00 am</b> Peter Abide	
	<b>Jan 05 4:00 pm</b> KC Arnold	
	<b>Jan 06 9:00 am</b> Nicholas Rodolfich	
	<b>11:00 am</b> Dennis Burke CATHEDRAL CHOIR	

	<b>6:30 AM</b>	<b>8:00 AM</b>
<b>Mon Dec 31</b>	<b>6:00 PM</b> Marilyn Galle	
<b>Tue Jan 01</b>	<b>10:00 AM</b> Collins-Sims Family	
<b>Wed Jan 02</b>	Maria Hoang Thi Khoai	Hugh Kavanagh
<b>Thur Jan 03</b>	Annette Luther (S.I.)	Int. of Exten. Society
<b>Fri Jan 04</b>	Maria Gioi	Glenn/Joyce Pisaric
<b>Sat Jan 05</b>	<b>8</b> Don/Mabel Viator (S.I.)	<b>4</b> Thomas Andrews
<b>Sun Jan 06</b>	<b>7</b> - Delores Lee	<b>9</b> - F. T. P.
	<b>11:00</b> - Yvonne Cobb	<b>5:30</b> Sr. Mary Riorden (S. I.)

**PLEASE KEEP OUR SICK IN YOUR PRAYERS**

Sr. Mary Jo Mike, Phil Beining, Mable Viator, Buck O'Gea, Nicholas Rodolfich, Marsha Marie, Nick Pass, Cooper Williams, Sue and Gene Daudelin, Lesa Walker-Kirkman, Rose Collins, Elie Hebert, Jerry Ellis, Lehmon Skrmetti, Helen Gutierrez, Annette Luther, Macklin Holloway, Mary Wimberly, Candy Widener, Tiffany Whitehead, Lena Marchioni, Holly Hill, Georgia Bellais Dominick, Maxine Kiddinger, Marie Manning, Betty Hilton, Mickey Bradley, Cheryl Terry, Gwen Gollott, Greg Hotaling, Jack Joachim, Jr., Michael Zorich, Sr. Fatima Starks and Karen Skremetta.

**From the Music & Fine Arts Ministry:**

**CHILDREN'S CHOIR SCHEDULE:**

The Children's Choir will celebrate the 9:00 a.m. Mass on Sunday, January 27th in celebration of Catholic Schools Week.

**CATHEDRAL CHOIR SCHEDULE:**

The Cathedral Choir will be on continued holiday recess and will resume their normal Wednesday evening rehearsals on January 9th at the normal time of 7:00 p.m. The Cathedral Choir will sing for Epiphany for the 11:00 a.m. Mass on Sunday, January 6th. They will warm-up in the Chapel at 10:15 a.m.

**"GLORIA IN EXCELSIS":** Our Cathedral/Diocese's Choral Society will resume their rehearsal on a new night in the New Year. Rehearsals will be held on Monday evenings starting on January 14th at 7:00 p.m. All interested singers – Catholic or non-Catholic are cordially invited to attend.

**HOW CAN YOU AID THE MUSIC & FINE ARTS MINISTRY?** Consider making an honorarium or memorial donation to assist the financing of new music, or an instrumentalist, or other programming for the Ministry. For more information contact Terry Maddox. Much "Thanks!" to those who have! For more information regarding our Music & Fine Arts Ministry Programs - please contact Terry D. Maddox, M.M. – terrydalemaddox@gmail.com and/or 251- 406-1454.

**LITURGICAL MINISTERS:**

If you are interested in serving our Cathedral Parish as a Lector or Eucharistic Minister, please contact Fr. Dennis at dcarver@biloxidiocese.org or by calling the rectory at (228) 374-1717. Because our Cathedral Parish celebrates 5 weekend Sunday Masses, we need sometimes as many as 25 Eucharistic Ministers and 5 Lectors per weekend. We are blessed to offer so many Sunday Masses to our community and visitors. Please help fill this most important and worthy need by volunteering as a Lector or Eucharistic Minister.

**THE SANCTUARY LAMP**

The Sanctuary Lamp is lit this week for Michael Sicuro, with love from the Martino family.

**NATIVITY BVM ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

It's not too early to mark your calendars for our school's annual Open House.....Sunday, January 27<sup>th</sup> from 10:00-2:00.

School will resume for Nativity BVM on Thursday, January 3<sup>rd</sup>.

**Nativity Life Teen/Youth Ministry**

Life Teen will resume on Wednesday, January 9, 2019. Thank you to everyone that supported our fall fund raisers! Wishing you and yours a very Blessed and Happy New Year! Please keep our youth and adults in your prayers as they prepare for their pilgrimage to March for Life in Washington D.C. January 16-20, 2019.

**BINGO MANIA:**

Bingo Mania will resume with its regular schedule on January 8, 2019.

**MUSIC FOR THIS WEEKEND**

ENTRANCE HYMN	#102
OFFERTORY	#77
COMMUNION	#110
SENDING	#95