

December 30, 2018 – The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

University Parish Newman Center

Immaculate Heart of Mary Chapel

Catholic Campus Ministry
at Kent State University

As a university parish entrusted by the Church with a specific mission, we embrace fully our ministry of serving as a strong Catholic presence at Kent State University. By focusing on worship, learning, and service to the local and global community, we accompany our students toward lifelong commitment to faith and to our Tradition. Enriched by many persons from within and beyond the university, we commit ourselves to the hospitality, generosity, and prayerfulness that mark those gathered at the table of the Risen Lord.

Welcome to the University Parish Newman Center. We cherish your presence among us and invite you to enter wholeheartedly into our worship. As Catholics, we understand our worship as our community's grateful response to God's goodness and love. Thus our liturgy is not a "spectator" experience; participation in prayer and in song is everyone's responsibility and privilege. Please do not be a stranger. Pray and sing with us as members of God's human family.

Music for Worship

Gathering Song: Once in Royal David's City (455)

GLORIA

Psalm 128: Blest Are Those Who Love You (86)

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Presentation of Gifts: O Little Town of Bethlehem (446)

UNIVERSITY PARISH MASS

Holy, Holy, Holy
Memorial Acclamation
Amen
Lamb of God

Communion: God Rest You Merry, Gentlemen (435)

Sending Forth: Hark! The Herald Angels Sing (424)

LITURGICAL MINISTERS

December 31

6:00 pm

Coordinator— Marlene Wetshtein

Lectors— Barb Boltz, Sue Lanning

Eucharistic Ministers— Veronica Victoria (H),
Barbara Kubala, Paul Kubala

Altar Server— Justin Barzellato

Greeter— TBA

January 6

9:00 am

Coordinators— Rob and Jen Flecksteiner

Lectors— Mary Batyko, Barb Boltz

Eucharistic Ministers— Colleen Bright (H),

Cathy Ahrens, Dave Bissler, Kathy Bissler,
Margaret Gerhardtstein

Altar Server— Natalie Bright

Greeters – Mary and Emma Graichen

11:00 am

Coordinator— Robert Colecchi

Lectors— Paula Kiel, Tom Larkin

Eucharistic Ministers— Jen Garretson (H),

Tracey Colecchi, Heather Crow, Terri Crow,
Shelly Kainrad

Altar Servers— David Molina, Connor Thigpen

Greeter – Sallie Messerly

Parish Staff

Rev. Steven J. Agostino

Pastor

sagostin@kent.edu

Mrs. Carmen J. Roebke

Pastoral Associate for

Christian Formation

croebke@kent.edu

Mr. Jordan G. Cinderich

Associate Director of

Campus Ministry

jcinderi@kent.edu

Dr. John P. Roebke

Director of Music

jroebke@kent.edu

Ms. Veronica A. Victoria

Office Manager

vvictori@kent.edu

Contact Information

Phone: 330.678.0240

E-Mail: kentnewmancenter@gmail.com

Web: kentnewmancenterparish.org

Sunday Mass Times

Sunday Morning Masses: 9 am & 11 am

Sunday Evening Mass: 8 pm (January 27-May 5)

Mass Intentions

9 am Mass – Priscilla Trudeau

11 am Mass – For the Community

SUNDAY COLLECTION

Sunday, December 23

\$6,686.00

Christmas

\$6,968.00

Thank you for your generosity!

COFFEE & DONUTS

January 6

Set-up Jim & Barb Boltz

Refresh Jen & Josh Garretson

Clean-up John & Shelly Kainrad

Mass Intentions

If there is a loved one and/or friend you would like to remember at Mass, please contact the parish office to schedule dates. Mass offerings are \$10.00 each. You may place your offering in an envelope marked "Mass Intentions" and put it the collection basket.

Today's feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph is an invitation for us to see the holiness that dwells in our own families. Because we often confuse "holy" with "perfect" it is easy to distance the example of the Holy Family from the messiness that makes up our daily experience of family. In doing so we do bleach the Holy Family of their humanity and reduce their expression of family to a portrait on a Christmas card.

Our gospel reading today challenges our notion of what it is to be holy, and it certainly isn't perfect! Perfect parents wouldn't accidentally leave their child behind, but the holy ones would go back and search for him. And we would do well to recognize that Luke doesn't record the entirety of the conversation between Jesus and his parents. The phrase "and he was obedient to them" suggests that on the return trip to Nazareth there might have been some parental "laying down of the law." This story reveals that Mary and Joseph take their parenting responsibilities seriously and that, clearly, it wasn't always easy.

The Church draws our attention to the Holy Family today because it wants to remind us that the family is the smallest subsidiary, or unit, of the Church. Referred to in Church documents as the domestic Church, the family is the place where the faith is transmitted to future generations. We know, empirically and anecdotally, that the transmission of the faith in this time and place is not happening as effectively as in past generations. It is kind of a chicken and an egg scenario: is the family struggling because of a lack faith or is the faith struggling because the notion of family is undergoing seismic change?

Rather than either/or, the answer is probably both/and. Without a doubt the family, no matter if it is traditional, intact, fractured, blended, single-parent, biracial, multigenerational, transgendered, or whatever adjective you choose, is under a great deal of pressure. The world, it seems, is more dangerous than when we were children. Information technology is changing every human interaction. Even the blessings of this time take their toll: in seeking out the opportunities available for our families, such as school, athletics, music, dance, work, and yes, church, the family is kept running at a frenetic pace. Where is Jesus in all of this, much less the notion of family as Church?

Our children learn what is important by our example. They will know what is important by what we give our time to. If you want your children to value Church then Church has to move up on the priority list. If you want your children to know Jesus, they must observe you in relationship with Jesus. Do you ever talk about Jesus? Maybe the nightly praying of the rosary strays into the area of perfection, but do you pray as a family at meal time? Do you bless your children before they go to sleep or to school? Do you have any religious art or iconography in your home? Do your children know where the Bible is in the house? (Need one? Come see me...)

Likewise, the Church has to let families know they are important too. Those of us in ministry will continue to seek ways to accommodate the reality that is family life today and yet provide solid faith formation for children and adults alike. We will never find the perfect solution or program, but we will continue to journey together.

Today let us embrace the example of the Holy Family, not the "perfect" family, and be open to the mystery of holy love in our own families.

Carmen Roebke

Pastoral Associate for Christian Formation

Readings for the Week of December 30, 2018

Sunday The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph
Sir 3:2-6, 12-14; Ps 128; Col 3:12-21; Lk 2:41-52

Monday 1 Jn 2:18-21; Ps 96; Jn 1:1-18

Tuesday Solemnity of the Blessed Virgin Mary,
the Mother of God
Nm 6:22-27; Ps 67; Gal 4:4-7; Lk 2:16-21

Wednesday Memorial of Saints Basil the Great and Gregory
Nazianzen, Bishops and Doctors of the Church
1 Jn 2:22-28; Ps 98; Jn 1:19-28

Thursday 1 Jn 2:29-3:6; Ps 98; Jn 1:29-34

Friday Memorial of Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton, Religious
1 Jn 3:7-10; Ps 98; Jn 1:35-42

Saturday Memorial of Saint John Neumann, Bishop
1 Jn 3:11-21; Ps 100; Jn 1:43-51

Sunday The Epiphany of the Lord
Is 60:1-6; Ps 72; Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6; Mt 2:1-12

News and Noteworthy

The parish office will be closed December 31 and January 1. Regular office hours resume January 2.

Offertory Envelopes have arrived and are available in the Social Hall. Can't find your envelopes? Contact Veronica at the office.

Mass for **Mary, the Mother of God** is a vigil Mass on Monday, December 31 at 6 pm.

We are in need of people to help with **coffee and donut set-up** on Sunday mornings. If you can help with this important hospitality ministry, please contact Veronica as soon as possible.

Portage County Dinner and Doctrine returns January 15 from 6-8 pm. Presenter Dr. Thomas Sauline joins us for *United in Jesus*. Tickets are \$25 and include a delicious buffet dinner at the Overlook. See Carmen Roebke for tickets or more information.

If you have moved within the last year, please email Veronica at the office with your new address. Having current membership information facilitates sending out tax letters in January.

ACME's Community Cash Back has concluded! You can still turn in receipts dated **August 9, 2018 through December 29, 2018** and drop them off in the box at the back of Church.

If you use E-Giving:

Thank you to all who use electronic giving to support the parish! Just a reminder: as we move into a new calendar year you may need to go to members.myeoffering.com and schedule your payments for 2019. Also, if you are paying by credit card and have recently received a new credit card, please check your e-offering account; your donations might have been denied due to a card change. Contact the parish office if you need assistance.

Please keep in mind these additional collections in January:

January 1 - Mary, the Mother of God

January 27 - Church Overseas Combined Collection

Parish Directory

If you would like to have your portrait in the parish directory but were unable to attend the photography sessions, you can submit a photo. The cost is \$10 which gets you a copy of the directory. The submitted photo may be sent to Veronica at the parish office in physical or digital format. Please do not send irreplaceable original photos. Digital photos must be in jpg, pdf, or tif files and resolution should be 600x900 minimum. The deadline to submit your photo and payment is January 4, 2019. If you have any questions or to submit your photo and \$10, please contact Veronica at 330-678-0240 or kentnewmancenter@gmail.com.