

# THE MONO COUNTY CATHOLIC



*You must open the interior eyes of your soul on this light, on this heaven within you, a vast horizon stretching far beyond the realm of human activity, an unexplored country to the majority of human beings.*  
-Saint Vincent Ferrer

## SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR THE FIRST WEEK OF CHRISTMAS

Our commitment to daily prayer using the weekday Mass readings as our guide

**MONDAY 12/31**  
First John 2:18-21  
John 1:1-18

**TUESDAY 1/1**  
Num 6:22-27 + Gal 4:4-7  
Luke 2:16-21

**WEDNESDAY 1/2**  
Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59  
Matthew 10:17-22

**THURSDAY 1/3**  
First John 2:29--3:6  
John 1:29-34

**FRIDAY 1/4**  
First John 3:7-10  
John 1:35-42

**SATURDAY 1/5**  
First John 3:11-21  
John 1:43-51

### Solemnities, Feasts, & Memorials of the Week

Monday, Sylvester; Tuesday, Mary, Mother of God; Wednesday, Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzen; Friday, Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton; Saturday, Saint John Neumann

### 7:00 AM WEEKDAY WORSHIP SERVICES in the MAMMOTH RECTORY

| Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--------|---------|-----------|----------|--------|----------|
| Mass   | Mass    | Service   | Mass     | Mass   | Mass     |

Walk right in and come up the stairs. Stay after for coffee and fellowship.

### ONLINE GIVING

Our parish website, [www.mammothcatholicchurch.org](http://www.mammothcatholicchurch.org), now welcomes secure online giving and financial support of the parish. From the home page, just click "Donate", then "Online Giving" to be taken to a secure off-site page where you can register for online giving and set up regular, automatic participation in the weekly offering, holy days, and annual special collections for national and global causes and organizations. Or, if you choose, you can make a "Quick Give" donation without signing up for an account. Visit us online and check it out. There's no obligation.

### JANUARY 1st HOLY DAY

This Tuesday, January 1st, is the Octave of Christmas, the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God. In some regions of the United States, this is a holy day of obligation. Here in the dioceses of the Western Regions, the obligation to participate at mass has been abrogated; there is no obligation to attend mass. We will celebrate the holy day as a regular weekday mass at 7:00 AM in the Mammoth rectory.

### FIRST FRIDAY DEVOTIONS

As is our custom on every First Friday of the month, we celebrate First Friday devotions, Holy Mass followed by Exposition, Adoration and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament in St. Joseph Church, Mammoth, beginning at 7 o'clock PM.

### PRAYERS

Our prayers are requested for Bonnie Zwart, Mark & Mary Anne Bewsher, Tina Quan, James Zvetina, Pat Glynn, Bobbie Engstrom, Raquel Rodriguez, John Gracey, Bob Tomko, Jr., Virginia Reyes, Elizabeth Cauzza, Kay Reilly, Mary Jo Ferreir, Julie Rogers, Josefina Flores, Glenn Inouye, Peter Mariniello, Consuelo Mendoza Aéyon, Brian Venneman, Gary Boyd, and Jeanne Standley.

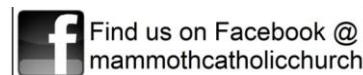
December 30, 2012

Feast of the Holy Family

## Holy Family

For the LORD sets a father in honor over his children; a mother's authority he confirms over her sons. He who honors his father atones for sins; he stores up riches who reveres his mother.

Sirach 3:2-4



### SAINT JOSEPH PARISH OF MONO COUNTY

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Rev. Paul Boudreau, pastor

### SUNDAY MASS SCHEDULE

Mammoth Lakes: St. Joseph Church –  
Saturday Vigil: 6:00 PM  
Sunday Mass: 8:00 AM  
La Misa en Español: 5:30 PM

Lee Vining:

Our Savior of the Mountains Mission -  
Sunday Mass 10:00 AM  
Bridgeport: Infant of Prague Mission -  
Sunday Mass 12:00 Noon

**FIRST READING: Sirach 3:2–7, 12–14**

*My son, take care of your father when he is old; grieve him not as long as he lives. Even if his mind fail, be considerate of him . . . kindness to a father will not be forgotten, firmly planted against the debt of your sins—a house raised in justice to you.*

**P**art of the great human weakness under which we all suffer is family. It is for many the worst of situations. You can choose your friends, the saying goes, but you can't choose your family.

We can, however, choose the course we want to take with them. We can see all their weaknesses and reject them utterly—and perhaps for some families, this isn't a bad idea—or we can step up to being an instrument of change and an opportunity for growth among those with whom we have been placed.

There is a common human weakness that we all share. You can call it our sinfulness, or perhaps it's more a multi-faceted mortality that expresses itself in failure. Throughout a given lifetime, there are many failure points ever for the most successful of us. Then, at the end of life, there's the biggest failure of all. The body that has provided us with the means of success begins to break down and, like an old car, it wears out. Little by little we start losing it and then we die.

We may hold off the inevitable for a while; modern medical science has tried to prolong life, but seems to have succeeded only in prolonging death. Still, in all these failures, we have an opportunity to be Christ for one another, doing what the next reading says to do.

**SECOND READING: Colossians 3:12–21**

*Put on, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, heartfelt compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience, bearing with one*

*another and forgiving one another, if one has a grievance against another; as the Lord has forgiven you, so must you also do.*

**T**he coming of Jesus Christ in the flesh is the embodiment of a new covenant between God and us. God takes on our humanity and is born of a woman, just like we are. He chooses mortality, and therefore weakness, suffering, and death, so that God can be with the objects of his divine affection: you and me. In return, God places in us a Spirit through which we can become the very righteousness of God and the presence of God for each other. (See 2 Corinthians 5:21)

This New Covenant, like any covenant, requires participation from both sides. God does his part by establishing a kingdom for us, a kind of spiritual Promised Land in which we may dwell in peace and security. In this kingdom we have eternal life and the forgiveness of our sins. Additionally, God provides the Spirit that transforms us so that we might enter the kingdom, leaving the world behind. And God nourishes us with the Body of Christ, our spiritual food.

On our part, we participate by being for others what God is for us. If God forgives us and accepts us, we do the same for one another. As God gives us life, providing for us and caring for us, so we offer the same care to those in need. The kingdom of God is like a party: you can't have any fun unless you show up.

**GOSPEL: Luke 2:41–52**

*When his parents saw him, they were astonished and his mother said to him, "Son, why have you done this to us? Your father and I have been looking for you with great anxiety." And he said to them, "Why were you looking for me?"*

**I**t must have been difficult for Mary and Joseph to bring up . . . God! The only story of their relationship as a family offered by the gospels is not exactly the scene of tranquility and harmony we most often see in the depictions of the child Jesus at home with his parents helping out in the kitchen or the woodshop. But Jesus lived not by the values of this passing world, but by the ways of the coming kingdom.

So, keeping to the "last-first, first-last, blind see, lame walk, deaf hear," equation of the kingdom, Jesus, the child, takes the lead in a showdown with his parents. The cliché question of the mother is met with a trump question by the son. This is not about you, Jesus tells his parents. This is about the kingdom of God.

Throughout his ministry, Jesus would consistently teach kingdom values over traditional values of the passing world. "Let the dead bury their dead," he told a man who would delay following Jesus for the sake of his dying father. (Luke 9:59–60) He taught that the kingdom would divide families (Luke 12:53) and the necessity of hating family in order to become a disciple. (Luke 14:26)

The celebration of the Holy Family is a challenge to spouses, parents, and children to reexamine their relationships with each other in the light of the kingdom of God.

**CONFESSIONS**

The Sacrament of Reconciliation is celebrated at St. Joseph Church in Mammoth Lakes from 5:30 to 5:45 on Saturday afternoons, 7:30 to 7:45 on Sunday mornings, y en español a las tardes del domingo de 5:00 a 5:15; and upon request before mass at Our Savior of the Mountains mission in Lee Vining and Infant of Prague mission in Bridgeport. The "Act of Contrition" is available in the confession room.



## la Sagrada Familia

Hoy las lecturas contienen historias parecidas de niños en el templo. Desde su infancia, Samuel es llevado por su madre, Ana, a vivir en la casa del Señor. Después de tres días, Jesús es encontrado por María, en el templo, entre los doctores: Él tiene que ocuparse de los asuntos de su Padre.