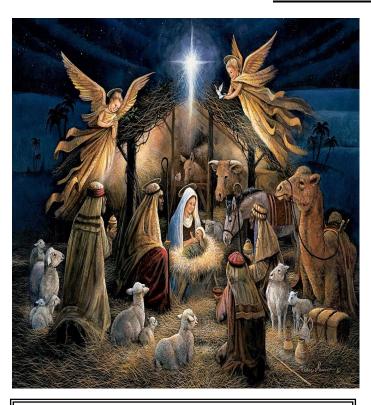


Adoration of the Shepherds (Detail), Mengs (1764-65)

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph December 26, 2021



Holy Mary, Mother of God (January 1st)

This year the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God **is not a Holy Day of obligation**. The normal weekend Mass schedule will be celebrated.

Mary, Mother of God

Called in the Gospels "the mother of Jesus," Mary is acclaimed by Elizabeth, at the prompting of the Spirit and even before the birth of her Son, as "the mother of my Lord." In fact, the One whom she conceived as man by the Holy Spirit, who truly became her Son according to the flesh, was none other than the Father's eternal Son, the second person of the Holy Trinity. Hence, the Church confesses that Mary is truly "Mother of God."

(Catechism #495)

She is 'clearly the mother of the members of Christ' since she has by her charity joined in bringing about the birth of believers in the Church who are members of its head. "Mary, Mother of Christ, Mother of the Church." (Catechism #975)

We believe that the Holy Mother of God, Mother of the Church, continues in heaven to exercise her maternal role on behalf of the members of Christ. (Catechism #975).

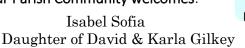
Christmas celebrates more than a single event, more than just the birth of a child in a Bethlehem cave long ago. Christmas celebrates a presence that continues to this day and for all time. "Emmanuel - God is with us."

In Christ's birth, God touches human history, hope reigns, justice takes root, peace is possible. The challenge to each one of us is to take on the work of "Emmanuel" - to make God's presence tangible by being His "arms" for the hurting, His "hands" to the needy, His "heart" with the grieving.

In the middle of our own dark nights of pain and anguish, God comes and transforms them into holy nights of His peace. Amid the noise and clamor that consume us, the voice of God speaks to us in the silence of our hearts. May we have hearts to embrace the silence of God in our midst and spirits to welcome the holiness of Christ, who is the very peace and compassion of God. May this night transform all of our nights and days in the brightness of heavenly peace.

BAPTISMS

Our Parish Community welcomes:



Scripture Readings for the Week

Monday: 1 Jn 1: 1-4; Jn 20: 1, 2-8

Tuesday: 1 Jn 1: 1-5 – 2: 2; Mt 2: 13-18

Wednesday: 1 Jn 2: 3-11; Lk 2: 22-35 Thursday: 1 Jn 2: 12-17; Lk 2: 36-40 Friday: 1 Jn 2: 18-21; Jn 1: 1-18

Saturday: Nm 6: 22-27; Gal 4: 4-7; Lk 2: 16-21 Sunday: Is 60: 1-6; Eph 3: 2-3, 5-6; Mt 2: 1-12

POOR CLARES' PRAYER LINE

Do you need prayer today? Are your loved ones, coworkers or neighbors in need of God's loving guidance? Call the Poor Clares' Prayer Line at 216-361-0783.

Mass Intentions for the Week

Monday, December 27 - Saint John

5:15 PM Thomas Mathew McGuire

Tuesday, December 28 - The Holy Innocents

8:00 AM Ryan McGuire (Living)

Wednesday, December 29 - 5th Day within the

Octave of the Nativity of the Lord

Poor Souls in Purgatory 5:15 PM †

Thursday, December 30 - 6th Day within the

Octave of the Nativity of the Lord

Alen Lind (Living) 8:00 AM

Friday, December 31 - 7th Day within the

Octave of the Nativity of the Lord

5:15 PM Noah Smith (Living)

Saturday, January 1 - Holy Mary, Mother of God

8:00 AM The Healy Family

(Living & Deceased)

The McGuire Family 4:00 PM

(Living & Deceased)

Sunday, January 2 – Epiphany of the Lord

9:00 AM For the People of the Parish

11:00 AM † Elizabeth Scheff

Sisters of St. Joseph Prayer Line:

216-252-0548

Out of Town for the Holidays?

For nationwide Mass times and locations, visit: www.masstimes.org and click "Church Lookups."

2021 Contributions

To receive credit for the 2021 tax year, please have all your contributions into the office by December 31st.

Finance Corner

Collection for weekend of December 12th - \$ 3,989.00 Monthly Collection - \$ 285.00 Immaculate Conception - \$ 590.00 Religious Retirement Fund - \$ 348.00 Solemnity of Mary - \$ 20.00 Thanksgiving (St. Vincent de Paul) - \$ 650.00

Holy Christmas - \$ 280.00

Online giving: Monthly - \$ 414.00 - Weekly - \$ 1,377.00

St. Vincent de Paul Society - \$ 5.00 Thank you for your continued support and generosity to the parish.

A Prayer of Blessing for the Family

Bless us, O Lord

Bless the mothers and fathers of the world who, like Mary and Joseph, care for their children with love and do all they can to keep their children safe. Bless the children of the world who give us hope in the future we try to create. Bless all who have no family to support and nurture and love them. Bless those who reach out to create bonds to unite us with each other. Bless us who feel alone, and give them comfort and solace.

Bless those who see all humans as belonging to one human lamily.

Bless us, O Lord. Amen

Catholic Cemeteries

Catholic Cemeteries Association offers free, safe and compassionate monthly Grief Support meetings in-person in six of our offices and virtually. For details, visit:

www.clecem.org/Information/Bereavement.aspx.

The FEST Internship

Calling all college students looking for a internship! summer The **FEST** paid (www.theFEST.us) is looking for summer interns to make next years's event the best FEST yet! We are looking for students with interests in theology, business marketing and communications, event planning, or logistics management, to join the team that puts together our annual diocesan family festival. Interns will be a part of a fast-paced team and will play a critical role in the marketing, planning and coordination of the annual event for thousands of people. Interns will provide support responsibilities including public speaking, marketing, mailings, digital and social media, press releases, logistics, event planning, and more. Interns must have strong people skills, work ethic, critical thinking, organizational skills, and reliable transportation. For more information or to apply, please send your resume by January 9th, to: Caitlin@theFEST.us.

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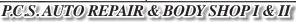
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