

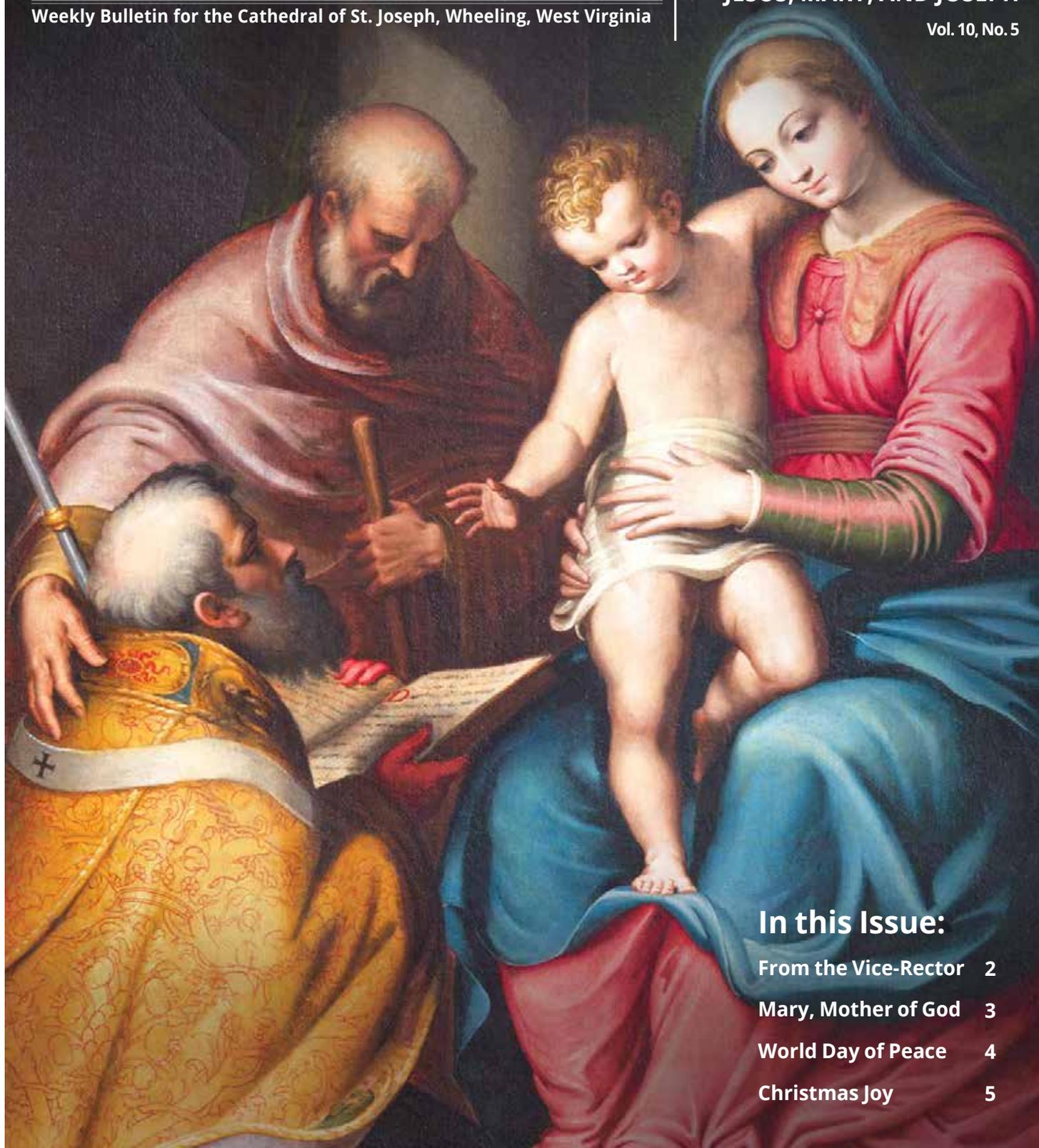
THE Cathedral Courier

Weekly Bulletin for the Cathedral of St. Joseph, Wheeling, West Virginia

27 December 2020

THE HOLY FAMILY OF
JESUS, MARY, AND JOSEPH

Vol. 10, No. 5



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Saint Joseph Cathedral Parish is called to spread the Gospel of Jesus Christ as a community. We are committed: to our urban neighborhoods, to being the Cathedral of the Diocese, and to fellowship, formation, sacrament, and prayer.

This Week

December 27, 2020 - January 3, 2021

SUN 27 The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph

6:00 pm (Sat) Mass for Stephen Pacewicz
8:00 am Mass for the Parishioners
10:30 am Mass for Bob & Betty Foster
(60th Wedding Anniversary)

MON 28 The Holy Innocents

12:05 pm Mass for Albert Schubert

TUE 29 The Fifth Day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord

12:05 pm Mass for Jack Jochum

WED 30 The Sixth Day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord

12:05 pm Mass for Michael Pacewicz

THU 31 The Seventh Day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord

12:05 pm Mass for Adolph and Mary Calovini
6:00 pm Mass for the Parishioners

FRI 1 Mary, the Holy Mother of God Octave Day of the Nativity of the Lord First Friday

9:00 am Mass for the Parishioners

SAT 2 Saints Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzen First Saturday

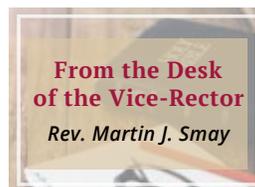
9:00 am Mass for John McCormick
5:00 pm Confessions
6:00 pm Mass for the Parishioners

SUN 3 Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord

8:00 am Mass for Frank Pasden
10:30 am Mass for Thomas Griffin



Dear Parishioners of the Cathedral Parish,
Merry Christmas and happy Feast of the Holy Family!



We have now entered the Christmas season. I think it is worth pondering that our Holy Mother, the Church, gives us not a single day but an entire season to celebrate and meditate upon the birth of our Savior. While we technically celebrate the Incarnation (the Second Person of the Blessed Trinity taking flesh in the womb of the Blessed Virgin Mary) on the feast of the Annunciation, March 25th (i.e. 9 months to the day before Christmas), Christmas is something of an expansion upon this mystery and even its completion. Conception is an event which is not sensible (in the technical meaning of the word) which is to say, conception is not something which we taste, feel, smell, hear, or see. So the coming forth from the womb of our Lord, His birthday, is really the first moment in which the world was able to gaze upon the face of our Lord. It is as though, the idea having been born in our minds at the start of Advent, it comes forth into the visible world at midnight on Christmas and into the full light of day on Christmas morning.

There is truly much to meditate upon and celebrate during this season. The Church in this season suggests the subjects for meditation by the feasts which she gives us. Immediately following Christmas we have the feast of the first martyr, St. Stephen; followed by the feast of the only Apostle not to be martyred, St. John (omitted this year since it falls on a Sunday); then comes the feast of the Holy Innocents; the Sunday within the eight days of Christmas is the feast of the Holy Family. Finally on the last day of the Octave we celebrate the feast of Mary, Mother of God. In truth, any one of these feasts provides us with copious material for reflection and ample opportunity to deepen our understanding of the mystery of God becoming man, the ways that the greatest event in history has changed our lives, and what it means to follow Jesus.

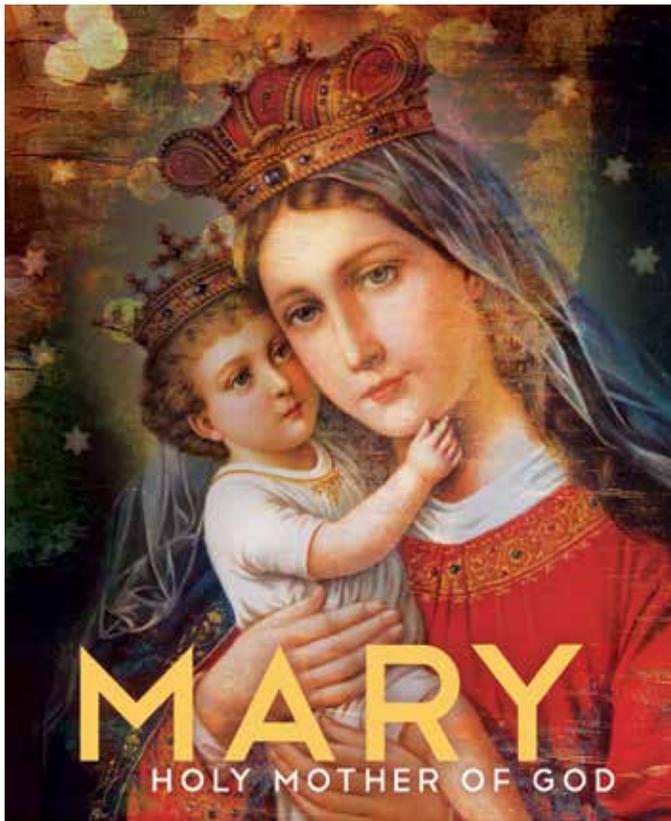
Even the very circumstances of Christ's birth seek to draw us into a meditation upon Who this newborn babe is and what He came to do: He was born in Bethlehem (which means "House of Bread"); He is born away from His hometown of Nazareth; He is born in a stable; He is born amid shepherds who are the first to receive the good news of the birth of the Christ child; He is laid in a manger; He is born during the time of the great Pax Romana; He is born at midnight (the middle of the night); and He is born in the cold of winter (night in Palestine at this time of the year tends to be rather chilly).

There are more circumstances, but I have to leave something for you to seek on your own. And I also leave it to you to unpack the meaning of the aforementioned circumstances – it's a project well fit for this Holy Season of Christmas.

God love you and keep the Faith!

Fr. Martin J. Smay





We are still in the midst of Christmas Time, and on January 1, the Church celebrates the Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God, a Holy Day of Obligation. This solemnity is the most ancient liturgical observance of Mary in the Church's calendar. It honors Mary as *theotokos* or "Mother of God," the title accorded her at the Council of Ephesus in 431. Mary is not just the Mother of Jesus: she is the Mother of God, because Jesus is both God and man, divine and human. As other Marian feasts entered the calendar, January 1 acquired a different focus. The eighth day after birth was the traditional day for the circumcision and naming of a child, and so this became the Feast of the Circumcision of the Lord (and the naming of Jesus). It was only in 1969 that the Marian character of this ancient feast was restored.

The *Catechism of the Catholic Church* tells us that "Mary, the all-holy ever-virgin Mother of God, is the masterwork of the mission of the Son and the Spirit in the fullness of time. For the first time in the plan of salvation and because his Spirit had prepared her, the Father found the dwelling place where his Son and his Spirit could dwell among men. In this sense the Church's Tradition has often read the most beautiful texts on wisdom in relation to Mary. Mary is acclaimed and represented in the liturgy as the 'Seat of Wisdom.'" — *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, 721

Please join us on New Year's Day as we celebrate the Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God and Octave Day of Christmas. Masses will be celebrated at the Cathedral on Thursday, December 31 at 6:00 p.m. and Friday, January 1 at 9:00 a.m.

GUIDELINES FOR ATTENDING MASS

During the COVID-19 Pandemic

We ask that you please review and adhere to these guidelines while attending Mass in the Cathedral:

Wear Face Masks

The faithful are required to bring their own facemasks and to wear them during Mass.

Keep Your Distance

Social distancing is necessary at Mass while seated in the pew and during the Communion procession. Families living in the same household may sit together. We are only able to accommodate 92 people per Mass at the Cathedral. Seating will be on a first come first seated basis.

Some common, though optional practices of the Mass, will be omitted such as the use of hymnals, holding of hands during the Our Father, the Sign of Peace, and the offering of the Precious Blood of Christ to the faithful. The complete list of guidelines are available for your review on the diocesan website: www.dwc.org.

Please keep in mind that Bishop Brennan has given the faithful of the Diocese the dispensation from the obligation to attend Mass. Therefore, sick persons and those more susceptible to infection – the elderly, those already in frail health – are urged to remain at home and participate in televised or online Masses. Anyone who fears being infected by attending Mass should stay home.

A New Year's Prayer for the Family

O God, we thank you for a new year.
 May everyone in our family be willing
 to begin anew with a clean slate.
 We know that you are always ready to forgive us.
 Help us to be willing to forgive ourselves
 and to forgive one another.

As we begin a new year,
 remind us of our truest values and our deepest desires.
 Help us to live in the goodness
 that comes from doing what you want us to do.
 Help us to put aside anxiety about the future and the past,
 so that we might live in peace with you now, one day at a time.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.
 As it was in the beginning, is now,
 and ever shall be, world without end.
 Amen.

Offertory Collection

December 20, 2020

Envelopes: \$1295

Loose: \$483

Online: \$455

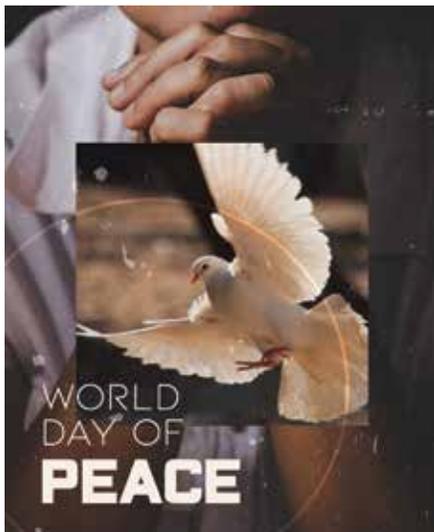
Thank you for
your support!



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@wheelingcathedral



Since 1967, January 1 has been observed not only as the Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God, but also as the World Day of Prayer for Peace. On Christmas night, the angels announced to the shepherds the Good News of "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!" (Luke 2:14). On the Octave Day of the Nativity of the Lord, and the first day of the New Year, we pray for peace in our world and for the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary for all who suffer from war and violence.



The Holy Father's Prayer Intention for January

Human Fraternity

May the Lord give us the grace to live in full fellowship with our brothers and sisters of other religions, praying for one another, open to all.

Tragedy and disappointment are inevitable. What sees you through this? There will be challenges, changes, unexpected circumstances, interrupted plans, hurts, and injustices experienced by every human being at some point in their lives. We will be asked to adjust our plans, change course, and even encounter suffering and death. Where do we learn all of the lessons we need to live life well? Some of them we learn along the way but much of what we bring to life, positive and negative, comes from our early beginnings, our families. This is our early world and provides the blueprint for how we see the bigger, more inclusive world, which unfolds before us.

Our families of origin can be sources of grace, heartache or a combination of both. Families are intended to be pivotal in providing us with proper social structure and understanding, a support system, lessons about relationships and communication, and the unconditional acceptance and love we so desperately crave. They can also determine whether we have an accessible and healthy relationship with God. Many of life's challenges can literally bring us to our knees and require that we possess a strength of character that resides well beyond the superficialities of our world. At some point we will all need three coping gifts that can be given to us only by God: faith, hope, and love. Our families help us learn



that we are not the ones responsible for their creation, but God!

Our experience of early family life colors all of our relationships and what we expect to achieve from life in general. Resolving conflicts, dealing with difficulty and suffering, celebrating accomplishments, prioritizing our needs, listening to God's call, understanding relationships, understanding disappointment, learning about the virtues and living a centered focused life are all lessons our families either succeed in teaching or do not. To succeed, as God has designed and ordered our world, is to discover his presence and then trust that Presence. The Holy Family can teach even the most dysfunctional family how to best use God's gifts of faith, hope, and love to find him and do his will. Their simple humble example is always before us, showing us the way. Jesus, Mary and Joseph, pray for us!

Thank You!

Thank you for your generous donations to our Angel Tree project as well as to the beautiful poinsettias that decorate our Cathedral Church this Christmas season.

May the peace, love, and joy of the Christ Child be yours this Christmas Season and throughout the New Year!

Christmas joy is for everyone, according to Leo the Great

By Philip Kosloski, Aleteia



Christmas is meant to be a joyous occasion, one that everyone should experience. It is not a joy tied to presents or even time spent with family members, but a joy firmly rooted in the coming of Our Savior on Christmas Day.

This means that no one is excluded from true Christmas joy. Whether you are rich or poor, with family or alone, everyone can rejoice on Christmas.

Here is how Pope St. Leo the Great put it in one of his Christmas sermons from the 5th century: "Our Saviour, dearly-beloved, was born today: let us be glad. For there is no proper place for sadness, when we keep the birthday of the Life, which destroys the fear of mortality and brings to us the joy of promised eternity. No one is kept from sharing in this happiness. There is for all one common measure of joy, because as our Lord the destroyer of sin and death finds none free from charge, so is He come to free us all.

Let the saint exult in that he draws near to victory. Let the sinner be glad in that

he is invited to pardon. Let the Gentile take courage in that he is called to life. For the Son of God in the fullness of time which the inscrutable depth of the Divine counsel has determined, has taken on him the nature of man, thereby to reconcile it to its Author: in order that the inventor of death, the devil, might be conquered through that (nature) which he had conquered.

Let us then, dearly beloved, give thanks to God the Father, through His Son, in the Holy Spirit, Who for His great mercy, wherewith He has loved us, has had pity on us: and when we were dead in sins, has quickened us together in Christ, that we might be in Him a new creation and a new production. Let us put off then the old man with his deeds: and having obtained a share in the birth of Christ let us renounce the works of the flesh...Remember the Head and the Body of which you are a member. Recollect that you were rescued from the power of darkness and brought out into God's light and kingdom."



Throughout the month of January, we give special honor to the Most Holy Name of Jesus. Saint Paul wrote to the Philippians: "At the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father" (Philippians 2:10-11). We hold the name of Jesus in special reverence. The very name of Jesus is a prayer.

A Way to Honor the Holy Name

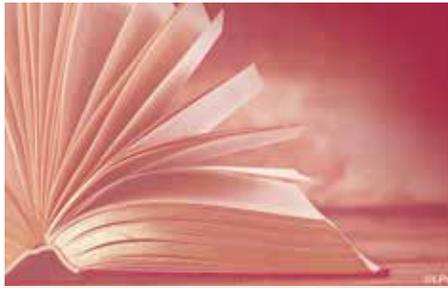
Adopt the pious practice (that used to be more widely practiced and is so meaningful and fitting) of bowing your head whenever you say or hear the name of Jesus (just as we should bow or genuflect before the Real Presence in the tabernacle or make a sign of the cross as we pass a Catholic Church). The Council of Lyons in 1274 stated: "Each should fulfill in himself that which is written for all, that at the Name of Jesus every knee should bow; whenever that glorious Name is recalled, especially during the sacred Mysteries of the Mass, everyone should bow the knees of his heart, which he can do even by a bow of his head." This devotion also helps to make amends for blasphemous use of the Holy Name.

*Rest
in
Peace*

Please remember in your prayers:

Annabelle Socha (d. Dec 20, 2020)

SAINTS OF THE WEEK



SCRIPTURE READINGS

Week of December 27

SUNDAY

Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph

Sirach 3:2-6, 12-14

Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5

Colossians 3:12-21

Luke 2:22-40

MONDAY

1 John 1:5 — 2:2

Ps 124:2-3, 4-5, 7-8

Matthew 2:13-18

TUESDAY

1 John 2:3-11

Ps 96:1-2, 2-3, 5-6

Luke 2:22-35

WEDNESDAY

1 John 2:12-17

Ps 96:7-8, 8-9, 10

Luke 2:36-40

THURSDAY

1 John 2:18-21

Ps 96:1-2, 11-12, 13

John 1:1-18

FRIDAY

Numbers 6:22-27

Ps 67:3, 5, 6, 8

Galatians 4:4-7

Luke 2:16-21

SATURDAY

1 John 2:22-28

Ps 98:1, 2-3, 3-4

John 1:19-28

NEXT SUNDAY

Isaiah 60:1-6

Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13

Ephesians 3:2-3, 5-6

Matthew 2:1-12

The readings are included each week so that those who are unable to join us for daily Mass will be able to consider and pray them in union with the whole Church.

December 27 - St. John, apostle & evangelist (1st century)

Saint John, apostle and fourth Evangelist, is called the “beloved disciple” because of his close relationship with Jesus. Throughout his account of the Gospel, Saint John, named as the son of Zebedee and brother of Saint James the Greater, makes an appearance at significant moments in Jesus’ life; specifically, at the Last Supper, the Garden of Gethsemane, the foot of the Cross, and the upper room. His account of the Gospel is quite different from the synoptic accounts (Matthew, Mark, and Luke) due to his high Christology (divine emphasis), which is proclaimed through symbolic language and poetic form. The eagle is the chosen symbol for John’s account, representing the depth and height to which the human spirit must soar in order to grasp the meaning of John’s text.

Patronage: friendships

December 28 - The Holy Innocents, martyrs (1st century)

During this octave of Christmas the Church celebrates the The Holy Innocents, those small children of the neighborhood of Bethlehem put to death by Herod the Great. Herod fearing for his throne after the Magi told him about the birth of Jesus, ordered the execution of all male children in Bethlehem, hoping that Jesus would be among those killed. According to Matthew, this fulfilled the prophecy of Jeremiah (31:15): “In Ramah is heard the sound of sobbing, bitter weeping! Rachel mourns for her children.”

December 29 - St. Thomas Becket, bishop, martyr (1118-1170)

Saint Thomas Becket, was born in London as the son of Norman parents. He received a good education at Merton Abbey, and later in Paris. When he left school, he became a secretary, a position of some prestige in a society with limited literacy. Eventually, he became assistant to Theobald, Archbishop of Canterbury. Recognizing his talent, Theobald sent him to the court of King Henry II, and eventually Thomas was named Lord Chancellor of England. In 1162, hoping to gain control over the Church, Henry had him installed as archbishop of Canterbury, but Thomas had a conversion, resigned as Chancellor, and thus began a conflict between King and archbishop. When Thomas returned from exile in France and excommunicated Henry’s followers, Henry said in a rage, “Will no one rid me of this meddlesome priest?” Four knights took this as a command and killed Thomas as he went to join the monks for vespers in the abbey church. The story is retold in T.S. Eliot’s play *Murder in the Cathedral* and Jean Anouih’s play, *Becket*.

December 31 - St. Sylvester I, pope (d. 355)

Very little is known about Saint Sylvester, in spite of his being pope during an eventful era in history, from 314 to 334. Shortly before the beginning of his papacy in 314, Constantine I issued the Edict of Milan (313), extending religious tolerance throughout the Roman Empire and enabling the Church to come out of hiding after years of persecution. During Sylvester’s pontificate, some of the great churches in Rome were built: the Basilica of Saint John Lateran, Santa Croce, the first Saint Peter’s Basilica, and several others. The First council of Nicea in 325, at which the Nicene Creed was adopted, occurred during his papacy. Sylvester himself did not attend, but he sent his legates, Vitus and Vincentius, who approved the council decisions on his behalf.

January 2 - St. Basil the Great (d. 379) & St. Gregory Nazianzen (d.390), bishops and doctors of the Church

Saints Basil and Saint Gregory Nazianzen became close friends as students in Athens. Together they fought against the Arian heresy, which denied the full divinity of Christ. Their writings also aided the Church’s understanding of the Holy Spirit and the Trinity. Gregory is known as “the Theologian” by the Eastern Churches. Basil is known as the father of Eastern monasticism and had a great influence on the development of liturgy, East and West.



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. And over all these put on love, that is, the bond of perfection.

- Colossians 3:12-14



Please remember in your prayers all who serve in the Armed Forces. May they be kept safe and out of harm's way.



WHY DO WE DO THAT?

Catholic Life Explained:

Rosaries as Decorations

Question:

Is it OK to hang rosaries over the rear-view mirrors in cars?

Answer:

The practice of hanging a rosary or a religious medal off of the rearview mirror of one's car is a fairly popular custom across many cultures. While there is no particular rule approving or condemning this practice, we should also be mindful of the respect and reverence due to religious objects and devotional items (i.e. sacramentals).

An important point to consider would be the reason why one chooses to place a rosary or religious medal in our cars. Is it a reminder of the protection and intercession of Mary and the saints? Does it encourage us to be mindful of God's presence, even in such a mundane task as driving? Is it an outward expression of our more private devotions?

One advantage of having a rosary or religious medal in our cars is that it can also serve as a reminder to pray when we travel, asking for protection for ourselves and for other motorists or commuters. Certainly, invoking the protection and prayers of the saints is a wonderful practice for families, helping to reinforce our belief in the communion of saints and the care and concern we owe to one another.

REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Andrew Helfer
Archer Hatch
Arthur Danehart
Austin Cook
Barb Mazzocca
Beth Jochum
Betty Teater
Bill Wilson
Bob Armstrong
Bob Jones
Billy Hanasky
Brian Hanasky
Brogan Gallentine
Caleb Hlebiczki
Carolyn Lash
Charles Heizer
Children of the Youth Services System
Christina Helfer
Chuck Fair
David A. Kress, Jr.
Eli Musser
Eva Wood

Fr. Joseph Wilhelm
Frank Davis
Fred Herink
Frederick C. Schweizer
Gail Koch
George Kirchner
Geri Adams Nagy
Hines Rotriga
Janet Cupp
Janie
Jean & Chuck Schultz
Jim Antill
Jim and Dee
Jimmy Hocking
Joe Bechtel
John Petrella
Jon-Michael Lasher
Judy Pack
Julia Sheets
Kathy Cooley
Kaitlyn Hanasky
Kenneth Shores
Kermit Klosterman

Liam Barns
Liam Manning
Lucille Renowicz
Lukie Brown
Margaret Stocke
Marie & Conner Workman
Mark Davis
Marshall South
Martha Yocum
Mary Ann Fowler
Mary K. Schlosser
Mary Walicki
Michael DeBlasis
Milissa Rose
Milly Burke
Nadine Greenwood
Nicholas Barns
Norma Bosold
Patricia Kalisz
Pete Cuffaro
Pete Mack
Philippa Shores

Rachel Wade
R.J. Stocke
Richard Simon
Rick Burgy
Ron Hickman
Rosanne Gaughan
Rosalie Davis
Rose Otey
Sarah Hanasky
Sarah Sargent
Shirley DeCaria
Sr. Mary Florence Burke
Stanley Kyrk
Stephanie Bugaj
Susan Graff
Susan Mize
Susan Schulte
Tammy
Teresa Helfer
Thelma Pearson
Trystan Timmons
Victoria Jeskey

From the Diocesan Office of Safe Environment

The Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston is committed to the protection of its children and young people. The Diocese complies with the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops' Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People by maintaining an Office of Safe Environment. To report an incidence of suspected child sexual abuse, please contact your local law enforcement agency, or you may confidentially contact the West Virginia Bureau for Children and Families/Child Protective Services by calling the Child Abuse Hotline at 800.352.6513. To report suspected cases of sexual abuse by personnel of the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston to the Diocese, please contact one of the Bishop's designees at 888.434.6237 (toll free) or 304.233.0880: Sister Ellen Dunn, ext. 264; Mr. Bryan Minor, ext. 263; Mr. Tim Bishop, ext. 353; Fr. Dennis Schuelkens, ext. 270 or call the Office of Safe Environment at 304.230.1504. For more information on the Diocese's Office of Safe Environment, please go to www.dwc.org, then click the "Diocese" tab, then click "Office of Safe Environment" under the "Offices" menu. To learn more about the Catholic Church's efforts in preventing sexual abuse of children in the United States, please visit <http://www.usccb.org>. Under "Issues and Action," click "Child and Youth Protection" from the drop down menu.

The Cathedral of Saint Joseph



MASS TIMES

- SUNDAYS** 6:00 pm (Saturday)
8:00 am
10:30 am
- WEEKDAYS** 12:05 pm (Monday thru Friday)
9:00 am (Saturday)
- HOLY DAYS** Please consult the bulletin

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CONFESSIONS

- FRIDAY** 11:15 - 11:45 am
- SATURDAY** 5:00 - 5:45 pm
or by appointment

SACRAMENTS

BAPTISMS
By appointment. Please contact the parish office.

**ANOINTING OF THE SICK /
MINISTRY TO THE HOMEBOUND**
Please call the parish office to arrange for anointing for someone who is seriously ill or preparing for surgery. If ill, homebound or hospitalized, a visit can be scheduled upon request.

MARRIAGE
Engaged couples who are members of the Cathedral parish should contact the parish office.

PARISH REGISTRATION
Registration forms can be obtained through the parish office.
Please notify the parish of address changes through contacting the parish office or by visiting the website.

Bulletin Articles due by 9am on Monday (5 days prior to publication). Submitted bulletin content is subject to approval.

