DECEMBER 28, 2014
THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS,
MARY AND JOSEPH

WE ARE GOD’S HOLY FAMILY

The scriptures of Israel are filled with many stories of barren couples who were miraculously granted the gift of children by God. Surely the best known among these is the first reading from today, from which Luke took inspiration when he recounted the miraculous birth of John the Baptist to Zechariah and Elizabeth, and the more miraculous birth of Jesus to Mary and Joseph. In each instance, we are given examples or role models of those who trusted in God. More than examples of those who trust, they are models of self-surrender. They abandoned their own presuppositions and prejudices about the workings of the world and turned their lives over to belief in a God who can make life grow where none ought to; a God who can turn death around into a new and unimagined life; a God who can, today, take a tiny child of humble parents in an insignificant town and make Him into a light for all the world. This is what we, as God’s holy family, are called to do each day: to trust not in ourselves and the way we think things should be, but to open ourselves and surrender ourselves in faith to a God of endless promise.
The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph
December 28, 2014

My eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared in the sight of all the peoples.
~ Luke 2:30-31

TODAY’S READINGS
First Reading — Those who honor their parents will be greatly blessed and will atone for sins.
(Sirach 3:2-6,12-14) or Genesis 15:1-6; 21:1-3.
Psalm — Blessed are those who fear the Lord and walk in His ways (Psalm 128) or Psalm 105.
Second Reading — Be thankful; do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus (Colossians 3:12-21 [12-17]) or Hebrews 11:8, 11-12, 17-19.

Come visit the Nativity located in our
Holy Family Chapel
Beginning Christmas Eve

Solemnity of Mary, 
Mother of God

January 1, 2015 HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION
Mass Times:
VIGIL MASS Wed. Dec. 31, 5:30 pm
Thurs. Jan. 1
7:30 am
9:00 am
10:30 am
12:45 pm (Latin Mass)

GIFT SHOP HOURS:
Thurs. 8:20 - 10:00
Sat. 2:30 - 3:30
Sun. 8:00 - 12:45
RESURRECTION CALENDAR

ALL events take place in the Parish Center unless otherwise stated.

Adoration, First Fridays, 8:30 – 9:30 a.m.
Bereavement & Beyond Ministry, Every Monday, 8:30am., Alouise 481-8168
Coffee & Donuts, Sundays after 10:30 Mass
Craft Club, Tuesdays, 8:30 - 10:30 a.m.
Men’s Club, 2nd Monday of month, 7:30p.m., Sept. - May
Our Lady of Miraculous Medal Novena, Saturdays after the 8:00a.m. Mass, church
Prayer for Priests, Thursdays after the 8:00a.m. Mass, chapel
RCIA, Wednesdays, 7:00p.m., call 482-6883 for information
Rel. Ed., September - May
Resurrection for Life, 2nd Wednesday of Oct, Jan, Apr. 9 a.m
Resurrection Prayerline Ministry, call Deanna Latell 481-1170.
Rosary, before daily Masses and Tues. & Thurs., 1:30p.m., chapel
Rosary Makers, 3rd Thurs every month, 9-11 a.m.
St. Vincent DePaul Board Meeting, 1st Tues. every month, 7:00 pm. For SVDP assistance call 239-600-6749
Teams of Our Lady, call Joann for more information, 482-7982
Women’s Guild, 3rd Wednesday every month, 8:30a.m. Sept. - May

MINISTRY OF THE SICK

The following hospitals are attended to by the parish in which they are located:

* Gulf Coast Hospital - visited daily by Blessed Pope John XXIII Parish, 561-2245
* Lee Memorial Hospital - visited daily by St. Francis Xavier Parish, 334-2161
* Lee Memorial and Hospice at Health Park - visited daily by St. Columbkille Parish, 489-3973

A priest is on call 7 days a week, 24 hours a day for the above hospitals at the above telephone numbers.

TO ALL PARISHIONERS AND VISITORS:

To protect your privacy hospitals do not give out information on patients without their permission. If you wish a visit from one of the Resurrection priests please notify the hospital as well as the parish office, 481-7171 as quickly as possible. Resurrection priests visit the above hospitals daily upon request.

WEEKLY OFFERING

December 14, 2014

Reg. Offertory: $29,197.02
Religious Retirement: $7,198.00
Immaculate Conception: $2,974.13
Latin: $952.00
SVDP: $828.00

December 21, 2014

Figures unavailable at time of printing. See next week’s bulletin.
The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

Reflecting on God’s Word

On Christmas we celebrate God becoming human, when the face of creation was changed. We ponder that great mystery of the Incarnation: Jesus is true God and truly human. The divine has entered into communion with the human in the body and soul of Jesus of Nazareth.

Christmas is not a single day, however, but an entire season. Today, the Sunday after Christmas, we ponder the Holy Family. What difference does this mystery of the Incarnation make for families? Jesus came to bring together the children of Israel into a new family, a family united not by blood but by faith in Him. So in today’s Gospel we see some of the first members of that family.

Luke’s Gospel has been called the Gospel of Jesus as the compassion of God, the Gospel of prayer, the Gospel of the Holy Spirit; we can also think of it as the Gospel of family. He first introduces us to Mary’s cousin, Elizabeth, and Elizabeth’s husband, Zechariah, parents of John the Baptist. Then we meet Mary and Joseph.

Today we meet two other family members, Simeon and Anna, not related by blood, but only by faith in the promises of the God of Israel. Each sees in the child Jesus the glory of Israel and the light for the Gentiles.

Christmas reminds us that by baptism into Christ we are now part of God’s family. As God’s family, “God’s chosen ones,” as Paul reminded the Colossians (3:62), we are to put on heartfelt compassion, kindness, gentleness, and patience, bearing with one another and forgiving one another.

—James A. Wallace, C.Ss.R.

Living God’s Word

Spend a few quiet moments in prayer, thanking God for calling us to be part of God’s holy family, for giving us at baptism and at confirmation the gift of the Holy Spirit. This Spirit has been poured into our hearts and dwells within us, binding us together.

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Bishop Verot Catholic High School Calendar Raffle

Bishop Verot’s 4th Annual Calendar Raffle is underway for the 2015 Calendar year. Your $20 entry puts you in the running for the 180 daily drawings, giving away a total of $12,000. A name is drawn each school day of 2015, with most daily prize amounts of $25, up to $2,500. Every winner is eligible to continue winning the rest of the year, for multiple chances! For daily drawing amounts and more information, please visit www.bvhs.org/calendarraffle.

Thank you so much for your continued support of Bishop Verot Catholic High School. Please Fill out the Calendar Raffle Entry below, include your check for $20 per entry and mail to:

Bishop Verot Catholic High School
Attn: Calendar Raffle
5598 Sunrise Dr.
Ft. Myers, FL 33919

I have enclosed $__________ for __________ number of raffle entries.

NAME___________________________________________________
ADRESS_________________________________________________
CITY____________________________________________________
STATE___________________________________________________
ZIP___________
PHONE___________________EMAIL_________________________

____Please donate all of my winnings to support Catholic education at Bishop Verot
____Please donate half of my winnings to support Catholic education at Bishop Verot

We would like to welcome you to our parish family. In order to better serve you, please fill out a registration card which is located at the entrances of the church and leave it with an usher or put it in the collection plate. You may also register by stopping by the church office. A reminder that one needs to be a registered member of a parish in order to be a Baptismal or Confirmation sponsor.

WE WELCOME OUR NEWEST PARISHIONERS:
Denis & Kathy Neill, Paul Canamare, Christopher & Margaret Walsh and Family, Anthony Scheip.

May they experience the love of Christ here at Resurrection Parish, and may we all help them feel welcome in their new church home.

RMC for the last 20 years has been filling many of the needs of our parish. Formed in 1994 at the request of then Fr. McNamara. Over the years the RMC has provided man-hours and money to help those in need in our parish, our community and our Diocese. RMC was also set up as a social organization to allow us to get to know our fellow parishioners. RMC now needs your help. All men of the parish are asked to consider joining our organization to allow us to continue our service to this great parish. Time and the spinning off of 3 other parishes from ours has reduced the number of our members. We need to rejuvenate our membership. That means YOU!! We need you and your energy and commitment to serve your parish.

Our meetings are held on the 2nd Monday of each month at 7:30 p.m. The meeting is preceded by the recitation of the Rosary at 7:15 p.m. Prayer and service is our guiding mission. Can it be yours?

Call 437-6650 for more information.
Interested in becoming Catholic?

If so, the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) is for you!!!

If you or someone you know is questioning becoming Catholic please have them either call or e-mail me,
Lea @ 482-6883 or lea@resurrectionch.org

As people journey through life, sometimes they realize that they are wanting something more from life. Many times you are searching for a faith community.

If you are searching and want to inquire more about Catholicism, please do not hesitate to call— I would love to talk with you!

Thank you!!!

Thank you to every one who made our Christmas Pageant a success!!!
Thank you to the children— and most importantly thank you to the Parent Volunteers!!!

On Christmas Eve, our students became our teachers! The children taught us about the birth of the Christ Child by reenacting the Nativity Scene. God loves us so much that God became human through the Incarnation.

A special thank you goes out to our many seamstresses who made our new costumes this year— the children really shined!!!

Religious Education Syllabus

**Sun. 1/11 — Chapter 12
**Wed. 1/14— Chapter 12
Sun. 1/18— NO CLASS
Wed. 1/21— NO CLASS
Sun. 1/25— Chapter 13
Wed. 1/28— Chapter 13
Sun. 2/1— VIRTUS
Wed. 2/4— VIRTUS
**Sun. 2/8— Chapter 15
**Wed. 2/11— Chapter 15
Sun. 2/15— NO CLASS
Wed. 2/18— ASH WED
Sun. 2/22— Lent Reconciliation
Wed. 2/25— Lent Reconciliation
Sun. 3/1— Chapter 16
Wed. 3/4— Chapter 16
**Sun. 3/8— Chapter 17
**Wed. 3/11— Chapter 17
Sun. 3/15— Chapter 18
Wed. 3/18— Chapter 18
**Sun 3/22— Seder
**Wed. 3/25— Seder
Sun. 3/29-Palm Sunday-NO CLASS
Wed. 4/1— NO CLASS
Sun. 4/5— EASTER—NO CLASS
Wed. 4/8— NO CLASS
Sun 4/12— Chapter 19
Wed. 4/15— Chapter 19
Sun. 4/19— CLASS REVIEW
Wed. 4/22— CLASS REVIEW
Sun. 4/26-RELICS-LAST CLASS
Wed. 4/29-RELICS-LAST CLASS
**Sun. 5/3— Communion Retreat

** Parent & Student Sacramental Prep
* Student Sacramental Prep
RYM SPREADS CHRISTMAS CHEER WITH OUR SENIOR CITIZEN FRIENDS AT SIGNATURE HEALTHCARE
An Immersion in the Faith for the Whole Parish

Using state-of-the-art technology, and stunning video catechesis, Symbolon is designed to deliver a dynamic and compelling presentation of the faith to every parishioner 24/7!

Every Parishioner Has Access!

With the Symbolon digital platform, parishioners receive a login that allows them to use the Symbolon resources on their own throughout the week using smart phones, tablets or computers.

Two Ways to Register to watch each session and to print out participant study guides:

1) Go to the Church of the Resurrection Web Page at www.resurrectionch.org and click the register now link on the left hand side of the page (under the green buttons)

2) Go to Http://symboloncatholic.org/register and enter code 377363

SYMBOLON
TRANSFORMING PARISHES FOR THE NEW EVANGELIZATION
The Catholic Faith Explained

Come and join us in the Parish center
Wednesdays 7:30-9pm to join in discussion each week
Or
Watch each session in your own home and join our discussion when you can!

Two ways to Register:
1) Go to the Church of the Resurrection Web Page at www.resurrectionch.org and click the register now link on the left hand side of the page (under the green buttons)
Or:
2) Go to Http://symboloncatholic.org/register and enter code 377363 to watch each session and to print out participant study guides

Knowing the Faith

October 29—SESSION 2: DIVINE REVELATION: God Seeking Us and the Compass for Our Lives
November 5- SESSION 3: THE BIBLE: God’s Love Letter to Humanity
November 12- SESSION 4: THE STORY OF SALVATION: Creation, Fall and Redemption
November 19- SESSION 5: WHO IS JESUS?: Just a Good Man or Lord of our Lives?
December 3- SESSION 6: THE PASCHAL MYSTERY: The Mystery of Jesus’ Death and Resurrection
December 10- SESSION 7: THE HOLY SPIRIT AND THE LIFE OF GRACE: God’s Divine Life Within Us
January 14- SESSION 8: WHY DO I NEED THE CHURCH?: The Mystery of the Catholic Church
January 21- SESSION 9: MARY AND THE SAINTS: Our Spiritual Mother and the Communion of Saints
January 28- SESSION 10: THE LAST THINGS: What Happens After We Die?

Living the Faith

February 4- SESSION 11: THE SACRAMENTS: Baptism & Confirmation
February 11- SESSION 12: THE EUCHARIST: Source & Summit of Christian Life
March 4- SESSION 14: PENANCE & ANOINTING OF THE SICK: God’s Mercy Revealed
March 11- SESSION 15: MATRIMONY & HOLY ORDERS: The Sacraments of Service & Communion
March 18- SESSION 16: A CATHOLIC MORAL VISION: Virtue, Grace & the Path to Happiness
March 25- SESSION 17: A LOVE THAT LASTS: The Call to Self-Giving Love
April 15- SESSION 18: A LOVE THAT LASTS: God’s Plan for Sexuality
April 22- SESSION 19: CATHOLIC SOCIAL TEACHING: Building a Civilization of Love
April 29- SESSION 20: CATHOLIC SOCIAL TEACHING: Protecting the Dignity of the Human Person
Theology On Tap is a monthly gathering for Catholic young adults (20’s and 30’s). We meet in a comfortable setting to explore our faith, make friends and build community. We invite you to join us for a pint and a prayer. For Questions and RSVP contact: George L. Smith • (941) 484-9543 ext. 3036 • gsmith@dioceseofvenice.org
PLEASE DON'T FORGET THE POOR BOXES; THEY ARE THE BREAD BOXES OF THE POOR!

THE 2015
VENETIAN
CHARITY BALL

Enjoy an exciting elegant evening filled with dinner, cocktails, dancing, entertainment and auction. This event will benefit the Catholic Charities program and services in Lee, Hendry and Glades counties. (For every dollar raised 93 cents will go directly to Catholic Charities programs & services) The Ball will be held on February 14, 2015 at the Hyatt Regency Coconut Point. Reservations are $200 per person. For more information to reserve tickets, donate, volunteer, or to learn about sponsorship opportunities please call (239) 337-4193 or email VenetianBall@ccslee.org.

CAREGIVER DAY OF PRAYER

Our Lady of Perpetual Help Spiritual Retreat Center in Venice, FL is pleased to be sponsoring a Caregivers Day of Prayer on January 7, 2015.

Beginning at 10 AM on that date, the day will include a continental breakfast, lunch, 2 conferences, and Mass. Come spend a day at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Retreat Center, and let the Spirit of our Lord care for you. Spend some time learning from the example of our Blessed Mother, how Jesus not only desires to console our hearts, but invites us to console his.

The cost for the day is $30. For reservations, or further information, please call Nancy Gazo at 941-486-0233. Or email gazo@olph-retreat.org.

We are still in need of ushers. If you are able to volunteer please call John at 481-3456.