The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph

BEARERS OF THE WORD

The feasts of Stephen, John the Evangelist, and the Holy Innocents form a summary of the life lived in Christ, the Word made flesh. What do these have to do with the feast of the Holy Family, which crowns the Octave of Christmas? These feasts remind us that suffering will occur in fulfilling the mission of Christ, and that we are all called to be bearers of this Word whose birth we celebrate.

We also see this manifested in the lives of Joseph and Mary, both of whom took social and religious risks in obedience to the will of God, and both of whom were open to the word of God sent to them from on high. In these ways they prefigured the life of Jesus himself. Most likely, few of us found ourselves at Mass this past Tuesday, Wednesday, or Thursday, but the essence of these feasts and the essence of the holiness of Joseph, Mary, and Jesus remain central, a holiness we celebrate today.
The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph
December 31, 2017

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

Mass Schedule

SAT. DEC 30 - VIGIL MASS
3:30 † Hilda and Thomas Marcellus by Family
SUN. DEC 31-
7:30 † Patrick Boland by Ron and Sue Kubit
9:00 † Mary Maiorano by Tom and Sandy Leahy
10:30 † Jeannette Drzewiecki by Matt & Barbara Grattenthaler
1:15 Latin Mass
MON. JAN 1 — NEW YEAR’S DAY MASSES
SOLEMNITY OF MARY, MOTHER OF GOD
8:00 † Mary Mochrie by Husband, Ken
9:30 † Jim Littorin by Ken
12:00 Latin Mass
TUE. JAN 2 -
8:00 † Riccio Boys by Mr. and Mrs. John Troia
WED. JAN 3 -
8:00 † Catherine Franey & James B. Kennedy by Maureen and James Franey
THU. JAN 4-
8:00 † Patricia Johnson by St. Vincent de Paul
FRI. JAN 5 -
8:00 † Kevin Sorbello by St. Vincent de Paul
SAT. JAN 6 -
8:00 ♥ Charles Sanders by Grandma and Grandpa
SAT. JAN 6 - VIGIL MASS
3:30 † Patricia Hally Aldave by Michael Hally
SUN. JAN 7 - EPIPHANY
7:30 ♥ People of the Parish
10:00 † Judy and David Quaid by Sue and Jerry Quaid
10:30 † Peggy Devic by Husband, Charley
1:15 Latin Mass

CONFESSIONS - Saturdays 2:15-3:15 or 15 min. before Sunday Masses or by appointment.

REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS......all those who have gone before us marked with the sign of faith.

PRAYERS FOR PRIESTS -
Please join us every Thursday immediately after the 8:00 Mass to pray for priests.

RESURRECTION PRAYER LINE MINISTRY
For prayer requests or to sign up as a volunteer call: 481-1170.

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph

Gospel Reading
Mary and Joseph present Jesus at the Temple in accordance with the Law of Moses.

Background on the Gospel Reading

Today’s Gospel describes the presentation of the child Jesus in the Temple and shows Joseph and Mary as devout Jews, following the prescriptions of the Law of Moses. The Gospel alludes to several aspects of the Law of Moses: circumcision, the dedication of the firstborn son to the Lord, and the purification of a woman after childbirth.

Today’s Gospel notes that Jesus was circumcised on the eighth day after his birth, in accordance with the Mosaic Law. At that time, he was called Jesus, the name he was given by the angel Gabriel. On the 40th day after Jesus’ birth, in accordance with the Mosaic Law. At that time, he was called Jesus, the name he was given by the angel Gabriel. On the 40th day after Jesus’ birth, in accordance with the Mosaic Law. At that time, he was called Jesus, the name he was given by the angel Gabriel. On the 40th day after Jesus’ birth, in accordance with the Mosaic Law. At that time, he was called Jesus, the name he was given by the angel Gabriel. On the 40th day after Jesus’ birth, in accordance with the Mosaic Law. At that time, he was called Jesus, the name he was given by the angel Gabriel. On the 40th day after Jesus’ birth, in accordance with the Mosaic Law. At that time, he was called Jesus, the name he was given by the angel Gabriel.

Another Jewish rite referenced in this Gospel is the dedication of the firstborn son to the Lord. In remembrance of the feast of Passover, when the firstborn children of the Israelites in Egypt were saved from death, the Law of Moses prescribed that all firstborn males of Israel should be consecrated to the Lord. In this scene, Luke identifies Joseph and Mary as being poor, and indeed throughout Luke’s Gospel, Jesus will show special concern for the poor.

In Jerusalem, Luke reports that Mary and Joseph encounter two devout Jews, Simeon and Anna, who recognize the infant Jesus as the fulfillment of Israel’s hope for redemption. In Simeon’s words we find a prediction of Mary’s witnessing of Jesus’ death on the cross. The Canticle of Simeon, also called by its Latin name, Nunc Dimitis, is prayed at night prayer, or compline, during the Liturgy of the Hours.

SOLEMNITY OF MARY,
MOTHER OF GOD
NEW YEAR’S DAY
Mass times:
8:00am, 9:30am
12:00pm (Latin)
**WEEKLY OFFERING**
Offertory amounts unavailable at time of printing.
Please check future bulletin.

December 24, 2017, Christmas Day, Christmas Education

Thank you!

**This week’s Sanctuary Candle:**
For Thomas Flynn
by Wife, Marie and Children

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**Letter from Bishop Dewane:**

Annual Seminary Collection

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

United as one Church, we pray for vocations to the priesthood and religious life. As young men come forward to discern their call to the priesthood, the Diocese needs your assistance in their priestly formation. In the Diocese of Venice we are blessed by the such young men who are on a journey to become dedicated priests.

The formation of our seminarians includes the costs of tuition, housing, education, health care, pastoral training, etc. Your spiritual and financial support is of great assistance to these young men. Programs to invite more men to consider the priesthood must also be organized and funded. By your generosity you ensure that the sacraments will continue to nourish the faithful for generations to come.

Parishes in the Diocese of Venice will conduct this Annual Seminary Collection the weekend of January 6 and 7, 2018.

This Collection ensures that the Diocese continues to have priests to serve you, your family, and our future. Thank you for your generosity!

I take this opportunity to extend to each of you the assurances of my prayers for the New Year. Have a Blessed and Healthy New Year!

Gratefully yours in Christ,

+Frank J. Dewane
Bishop of the Diocese of Venice in Florida

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**NO Coffee & Donuts**
On 12/31
Will resume on Sunday, January 7th
All are welcome!

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**Pope Francis Prayer Intention for December**

The Elderly
That the elderly, sustained by families and Christian communities, may apply their wisdom and experience to spreading the faith and forming the new generations.
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, Mondays, 10:00 a.m. For more information call Alouise 481-8168
Craft Club, Tuesdays, 8:30 - 10:30 a.m.
Men’s Club, 2nd Monday of month, 7:00 p.m., Sept. - May
Men’s Gospel Forum, Fridays 8:30 a.m.
Our Lady of Miraculous Medal Novena, Saturdays after the 8:00 a.m. Mass, church
Prayer for Priests, Thursdays after the 8:00 a.m. Mass, chapel
RCIA, Sundays, after the 9:00 a.m. Mass, for info, 482-6883
Rel. Ed., September - May
Resurrection for Life, for info, call Judy at 287-1237
Resurrection Prayerline Ministry, call Deanna Latell 481-1170.
Rosary, before daily Masses and Tues. & Thurs., 1:30 p.m., chapel
Rosary Makers, 3rd Thursdays Oct. thru May, 9-11 a.m.
St. Vincent DePaul Board Meeting, 1st Tues. every month, 7:00 pm. For SVDP assistance call 239-600-6749, or email, svdp@resurrectionch.org
Teams of Our Lady, call Joann for more information, 482-7982
Women’s Guild, 3rd Wednesday every month, 8:30 a.m.
Sept. - May

MINISTRY OF THE SICK

IMPORTANT NOTE TO ALL PARISHIONERS AND VISITORS:

When admitted to the hospital please register as Catholic and notify the parish office immediately, 481-7171. Resurrection priests visit the hospitals daily.

To protect your privacy hospitals do not give out information on patients without their permission.

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

* Gulf Coast Hospital - visited daily by St. 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

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RESURRECTION FOR LIFE

PLEASE JOIN US AT THE ABORTION CLINIC AT 3900 BROADWAY, FORT MYERS
EVERY 2ND SATURDAY
(after the 8:00 Mass) FOR THE ROSARY.
Music Announcement!

Come join the “Children’s Choir” at the 10:30 Mass on the first Sunday every month!

The music will be chosen specifically with our younger parishioners in mind.
We will meet in the choir room one-half hour before Mass to warm up and review.
Anyone who would like to serve as the cantor should see Connie to sign up for a specific month.
Children’s choir will take place on:
   Jan. 7, Feb. 4,
   Mar. 4, Apr. 1, and May 6.
   In addition, we will also sing at the Children’s Mass on Christmas Eve (4:00 pm, 12-24-17).
If you have any questions, please call Connie (239-274-6760) or jill.rhone@bvhs.org with any questions.

BISHOP VEROT
CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL
OPEN HOUSE
will take place on
Wednesday, January 24th at 6:30pm.
Find out what a small school with big opportunities is all about.
Register at www.bvhs.org/admissions in advance.
Campus tours will be available.
We are still accepting applications for the 2018-2019 school year.
We accept the Step Up for Students Scholarship.
Please contact Jill Rhone at 239-274-6760 or jill.rhone@bvhs.org with any questions.

PLEASE JOIN US EACH 1ST FRIDAY FOR ADORATION IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE 8:00 MASS

A Meditation from the Diary of St. Faustina, entry 1485 - Jesus: I am your strength, I will help you in the struggle.
Soul: Lord, I recognize your holiness, and I fear you.
Jesus: My child, do you fear the God of Mercy? My holiness does not prevent Me from being merciful. Behold, for you I have established a throne of mercy on earth - the tabernacle - and from this throne I desire to enter into your heart. I am not surrounded by a retinue or guards. You can come to me at any moment, at any time; I want to speak to you and desire to grant you grace.

SIX WEEKS WITH THE BIBLE
WEDNESDAY MORNINGS
JANUARY 10 - FEBRUARY 21
PARISH CENTER
10am - 11:30am

Begin 2018 as a “living bridge” to valuable insights into God’s purposes.

Through our readings of Scripture we can hear God speaking to us, challenging us to join him in the Fulfilling of His purposes!

Jan. 10 - Introductions - GETTING THE BIG PICTURE
Jan. 17 - HUMANS: A MARVELOUS GROUP
Jan. 24 - ISRAEL - GOD’S PILOT PROJECT
Jan. 31 - AHAB & JEZIBEL: POWER ABUSERS
Feb 7 - JESUS - CENTER OF GOD’S PLAN
Feb 14 - DISCIPLES - THOSE WHO SERVE
Feb 21 - THE CHURCH: YEAST IN THE DOUGH

ALL ARE WELCOME!
JOIN US ANY WEDNESDAY

BOOK GUIDES AVAILABLE $8.00
CALL TO RESERVE YOUR GUIDE
481-7172
AdultFaith@resurrectionch.org
**JOIN US FOR LUNCH & BOOK CLUB DISCUSSION**

Join us in the Parish Center Conference Room

**January 12 @ NOON for Lunch and Conversation**

Reserve your lunch for $10.00

Call 481-7172 or email: AdultFaith@resurrectionch.org

**January book:** “Crazy Faith - Ordinary People, Extraordinary Lives”

by Susan K. Williams Smith

"It hasn't been extraordinary people who have changed the world; rather, it's been people who have been willing to act and live on faith," observes pastor and author Susan Smith. Drawing on biblical, historical, and contemporary stories of what she calls "crazy faith," this inspirational volume challenges readers to dare to step out and make a difference in the world. Faith is "vision fueled by action," Smith declares. Follow in the footsteps of those who have earned a place in the Hall of Faith, including Moses, Harriet Tubman, David, Nelson Mandela, Sarah and Abraham, Mother Teresa, Noah, and Mary McLeod Bethune. “

**February 9 and March 9: choices open from participants - Bring in your favorite suggestions**
What will separate us ... from the love of Christ?
Will anguish, or distress, or persecution,
or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or the sword?
“What then shall we say to this?
If God is for us, who can be against us?”

Have you considered becoming Catholic?
We are here to listen to your questions...

Inquiry Classes on Sundays
Following 9:00am Mass
Please contact: Joanne MacPeek
e-mail: AdultFaith@resurrectionch.org
Phone: 239-481-7171

Jesus promises:
“I will be with you always...yes to the end of time!”

When ill - SVdP offers an assist to those at Salua Care. A beautiful young lady needed a prescription for an infection costing $207.00! We were blessed to assist.

When Hungry - SVdP has food available for all in need. No questions. Food is prepared for Hispanic families, the homeless or those living in hotels.

When thirsty - SVdP provides water, juice to the poor. Prayer quenches the thirst for God’s love.

When a stranger - SVdP seeks out and finds those in need regardless of creed, ethnic background, health, gender or political background.

When naked - Clothing and diapers are provided. SVdP Thrift Shop referrals clothe those in need.

PLEASE DON’T FORGET THE POOR BOXES; THEY ARE THE BREAD BOXES OF THE POOR!

Living out Christmas in the New Year
How do we live out the message of Christmas in the New Year, rather than pack it away with the ornaments?
Each year the Octave Day of Christmas falls on the first day of the New Year, on which we also celebrate the Solemnity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Mother of God.
Her open heart and courageous “yes” to God show us how to live year-round—with hearts open to the Lord, following where He leads. We are called to place our trust in Him, to enter compassionately into the suffering of others, and to love one another as Christ loves us. Like Our Blessed Mother welcomed Jesus, we are called to cherish and protect the gift of human life, at every stage and in every circumstance.
One way to live out the message of Christmas and follow

Our Lady's example is to join 9 Days for Life, a digital pilgrimage of prayer and charitable action. The U.S. Catholic bishops invite you to join thousands of Catholics nationwide from Thursday, January 18 – Friday, January 26. Join today at www.9daysforlife.com!

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Celebrating Christmas with RYM and our friends at Catholic Charities

Love one another with mutual affection; anticipate one another showing honor.

~Romans 12:10
Catholic Charities Venetian Ball
Saturday February 3, 2018, 6:00pm
at the Hyatt Regency Coconut Point Resort, Bonita Springs.
The evening will include a cocktail hour, auctions, a raffle for a car and other exciting items, dinner and dancing.
For information and tickets, visit www.catholiccharitiesdov.org

Couples Celebrating Marriage
All couples celebrating 25, 30, 35, 40, 45, 50, or more than 50 years of marriage are invited by Bishop Frank J. Dewane to an Anniversary Mass in their honor. The Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in two locations:
11a.m. Saturday February 17, 2018 at Epiphany Cathedral in Venice and 10 a.m. Saturday March 10, 2018 at St. Leo the Great Parish in Bonita Springs.
Check in parish office in January for more information.

2018 Women's Conference
Women of all ages are invited to a day filled with the richness of our faith at the 2018 Diocese of Venice Women’s Conference.
Saturday, February 3, 9-3pm
at Bishop Verot Catholic High School/Fort Myers.
Cost: $20 (pre-registration online), students $5 pre-registration.
Cost at the door is $30, and $10 for students.
Speakers: Kimberly Hahn, Sonja Corbitt, Rosario Rodriguez. To register go to dioceseofvenice.org/womens.

2018 Men's Conference
The Diocese of Venice extends an invitation to all men who desire to encounter the presence of God to attend the 2018 Men’s Conference.
Saturday, February 24, 9-3pm
at Bishop Verot Catholic High School/Fort Myers.
Cost is $20 (pre-registration online), student preregistration $5.
Cost at the door is $30, and $10 for students.
Speakers: Dcn Harold Burke-Sivers, Patrick Coffin, Bob Rice. To register, go to dioceseofvenice.org/mens
The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph

“[H]e thought the one who had made the promise was trustworthy.” Abraham trusted in God, although what God had promised seemed impossible. And yet, God fulfilled his promise to Abraham and Sarah and gave them a much-longed-for son, through whom the people would be as numerous as the stars of the sky.

Mary and Joseph fulfilled the law of God by bringing Jesus to the temple for the customary rites. They obeyed the law of the Lord, even though it could be argued that Jesus, being God, was exempt from the law.

We see in their example how faith in God is considered “an act of righteousness.” We can follow in their footsteps and believe that the Lord is one whose promises are trustworthy.

GOD’S WORD HAS BEEN FULFILLED

In this joyous Christmas time, it is fitting that we turn our attention from all the angels and shepherds and kings to take a look at the more intimate picture of the Holy Family in their ordinary life. They come with Jesus to consecrate him to the Lord, as is written in the law, and they come upon Simeon and Anna, prophets of the Lord, who have amazing things to say about this child and Mary, his mother. One can wonder what Mary must have thought when Simeon told her that “you yourself a sword will pierce.” We interpret that in hindsight she would suffer greatly at the crucifixion of her beloved son. But what must she have thought at the possible literal interpretation of this prophecy? And yet she was, as always, obedient to God and accepting of God’s word for her.

TWO PROPHETS

Simeon and Anna recognized in this infant the Messiah of God. Both were “righteous and devout” and prayed in the temple constantly. Simeon spoke at length to Mary and Joseph about this child, and Anna proclaimed to all the salvation of Israel in Jesus. Throughout the centuries, God had made use of many prophets to proclaim the coming of Jesus, as Jesus explained to the two disciples on the road to Emmaus after his death and resurrection. But people, being hard-hearted and somewhat clueless, did not recognize these prophecies as referring to the Messiah and later, to Jesus. Many in his time heeded the words of the prophets and believed, but many walked away. To those who believed, he gave the words of eternal life. They believed that “the one who had made the promise was trustworthy.” These loving parents would protect and raise this miraculous child, and he “grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favor of God was upon him.”

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