

December 31 - Feast of the Holy Family



THE CHILD GREW...
AND THE
**FAVOR OF
GOD**
WAS UPON HIM.
LUKE 2:40

In God's own good time, not ours, the promise of salvation is fulfilled. Abraham and Sarah were promised a land and as many descendants as there are stars in the sky. Finally, they received a son, Isaac, and his aged mother laughed at the very idea of him. They all lived out their lives in expectant faith that the Lord's promise would be kept. Joseph, Mary, Simeon, and Anna saw the infant Jesus who, despite all

obstacles, would be a light for the nations and the glory of the people Israel. God still gives us time to follow Jesus and to place faith in the Savior. (Philip J. Sandstrom, STD © 1996, OCP. All rights reserved.)



FEAST OF MARY, MOTHER OF GOD

Holy Mary, Mother of God...such familiar words to us. The Hail Mary was probably one of the first prayers you learned as a child. And if you pray the rosary you call upon Mary, the Mother of God, many times. Do you see her as your spiritual mother, with an interest in you and an everlasting love for you? Yes, Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us now and every day of 2018!

Mass for this Feast: St. Maurice Church,
December 31, 4:00 PM.

PRAYER SERVICES

Wed., Jan. 3	7:45 AM	Morning Prayer
Fri., Jan. 5	7:45 AM	Morning Prayer

MASS INTENTIONS

Sat., Dec. 30	4 PM	Richard Wagner
Sun., Dec. 31	10 AM	Louis Dickman
Sun., Dec. 31	4 PM	Paul Herbert
Sat., Jan. 6	4 PM	Julie Eckstein
Sun., Jan. 7	10 AM	Art Simon

LITURGICAL MINISTERS

Saturday – January 6 at 4:00 PM

Greeters: John and Linda Wagner
Mike and Cathy Wagner
Server: Kara Merkel
Cantor: Rachel Toops
Lectors: Jack Ferkinhoff, Cathy Wagner
Euch. Ministers: Terry Harmeyer, Janet Wagner
Beth Simon, Gene Moorman

Sunday – January 7 at 10:00 AM

Greeters: David and Laurie Husted - *back*
Mark Wagner - *back*
Steve and Julie Gilland - *side*
Servers: Lilly Simon, Caleb Simon
Cantor: Scott Simon
Lectors: Julie Stephens, Sharon Miller
Euch. Ministers: Patty Simon, Dolly Stirn
Ray Merkel, Mary Merkel

PARISH SUPPORT

Adult Envelopes	\$6303.00
Children's Envelopes	\$ 11.12
Loose Collection	\$1166.60
Total Regular Collection	\$7480.72
Religious Retirement	\$250.00
Capital Improvement	\$500.00
Christmas Flowers	\$75.00
Immaculate Conception	\$105.00

Blessed New Year!

"The object of a new year is not that we should have a new year. It is that we should have a new soul..."

~ G.K. Chesterton



LITURGY MEETING – Wednesday, January 3, 6:30 PM.

FINANCE MEETING – Thursday, January 4, 7:00 PM.

BLESSED SACRAMENT – The Blessed Sacrament will be exposed for adoration this Friday, January 5, 8:00 AM - 12:00 Noon.


UCA – \$15,460 has been pledged to the United Catholic Appeal. This is **134%** of our goal, which was **\$11,539**. Thank you.

MARRIED COUPLES – Couples married 40+ years are asked to save this date on your 2018 calendar: **Sunday, April 8, 6:00 PM!**

RELIGIOUS ED – No classes for Preschool through Grade 5 on Wednesday, January 3. Classes will resume January 10.

Classes for Grades 6 through 11 next Sunday, January 7, 8:30 AM.

THE LORD'S LAUGHTER – One of the most glorious messes in the world is the mess created in the living room on Christmas Day. Don't clean it up too quickly. (Andy Rooney)


SET YOUR FAITH ON FIRE

People who have Set My Faith on Fire:
 ...The Sisters who were my teachers throughout my schooling helped set my faith on fire.

...Archbishop Tobin helped set my faith on fire with his humility and his enthusiastic embrace of our Faith.

...Reading the lives of the saints helped set my faith on fire, especially the women who were holy and those who made great sacrifices because of their faith.

...Some people who helped set my faith on fire were the Catholics who came to the New World early in the history of our country, and set a good example working for the good of their fellowman.

...People who have the courage of their convictions to work for justice and peace have helped set my faith on fire.

SANCTUARY LIGHT – The sanctuary light will burn December 31 through January 7 for Paul White.

WORDS OF GRATITUDE – "Many thanks for all the Christmas cards and gifts. I look forward to serving all the great people of these parishes this coming New Year. May God's blessings be with you all." (Fr. Bill)

"The Volume of God's Gifts to Us We Cannot Comprehend." (Hess) How true that statement is this Christmas season. We thank you for all the ways you have gifted us this holy season with your cards, prayers and gifts. May you also be blessed abundantly this new year! (Sr. Shirley, Fr. John)

From Safe Passages: "This is always an incredibly busy time for Safe Passages. As the season declares messages of joy and peace, violence is often escalating in relationships, and our service peaks. Your generosity has helped us to meet the needs of those we serve - and provide some comfort and caring as well. As you prepare your heart and home for the holidays, we are deeply grateful for how you have touched ours! Warmest wishes in the Christmas season and always." (Jane Yorn, Executive Director)

GRATEFUL FOR PARISHIONERS – To say thank you is very human and lovely. (Cardinal Hume). And so we say thank you to all the parishioners who have made this Christmas season special through your ministry: all our liturgical ministers, our organists and cantors, our liturgy committee and those who assisted with all the decorations and that includes our outdoor crib and finally our church cleaners! You know, and even more important, God knows who you are!