

Saint John XXIII Parish

Holy Family



December 27, 2020



Mass Intentions

Saturday

SJE 4:00 PM

IJ 6:00 PM

Sunday

SJE 8:00 AM

IJ 10:30 AM

Tuesday

IJ 8:30 AM

Wednesday

SJE 8:30 AM

Thursday

IJ 8:30 AM

SJE 4:00 PM

Friday

SJE 8:30 AM

Saturday

SJE 4:00 PM

IJ 6:00 PM

Sunday

SJE 8:00 AM

IJ 10:30 AM

December 26 Anticipated Weekend Mass

Deceased loved ones of

Tom & Debbie Gagnon

Alfred G. Gaudreau 32nd Anniv.

By his family

December 27 Feast of the Holy Family

Deceased members of the Parker family

Deceased family and friends of

Steve & Denise Theriault

December 29

Intentions of the parishioners

December 30

Kenneth Clark by Rita Clark

December 31

Intentions of the parishioners

Anticipated Mass for Solemnity of Mary

January 1 Solemnity of Mary

New Year's Day Mass

January 2 Anticipated Weekend Mass

Deceased loved ones of

Kevin Natwick

Deceased loved ones of Douglas Dame

January 3 Epiphany of the Lord

Deceased loved ones of

Anne Marie Bitler

Theresa Duchesne 2nd Anniv.

By her family

SOLEMNITY OF MARY MASSES

DECEMBER 31

4:00 PM SJE CHURCH

JANUARY 1

8:30 AM SJE CHURCH

IJ = Infant Jesus Church SJE = St. John the Evangelist Church

PRAYER INTENTION BOOK

We invite you to enter your prayer requests in our Intention Books located at the main entrance of both churches. These intentions are remembered in the "Prayer of the Faithful" at all of our Masses.

Readings for the Week – December 28 through January 3

Monday: Jn 1:5—2:2; Ps 124:2-3, 4-5, 7cd-8; Mt 2:13-18

Tuesday: 1 Jn 2:3-11; Ps 96:1-2a, 2b-3, 5b-6; Lk 2:22-35

Wednesday: 1 Jn 2:12-17; Ps 96:7-8a, 8b-9, 10; Lk 2:36-40

Thursday: 1 Jn 2:18-21; Ps 96:1-2, 11-12, 13; Jn 1:1-18

Friday: Nm 6:22-27; Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8; Gal 4:4-7; Lk 2:16-21

Saturday: 1 Jn 2:22-28; Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4; Jn 1:19-28

Sunday: Is 60:1-6; Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13; Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6; Mt 2:1-12



Saint John XXIII Parish

SISTERS OF HOLY CROSS CLAIRE DANEAU LEGACY FUND

For the past seven years the Sisters of Holy Cross have sold raffle calendars to help fund their orphanage in Haiti. Due to the pandemic and the aging membership of the Sisters, they will no longer sell calendars. If anyone would like to continue to support the orphanage donations can be forwarded to: Sisters of Holy Cross, c/o Claire Daneau Legacy Fund, 365 Island Pond Road, Manchester, NH 03109. Thank you for all the support and encouragement throughout the years.

REFLECTIONS FOR THE FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY

To be cute about it, I quote here an American humorist by the name of Evan Esar (d. 1995): "Family: A social unit where the father is concerned with parking space, the children with outer space, and the mother with closet space."

Whether Mr. Esar was fully correct or not, there is a grain of truth in what he wrote, and there is always some truth in wholesome humor.

However, for my purpose I prefer this statement of Sir Winston Churchill about the nature of family. "There is no doubt that it is around family and the home that all the greatest virtues ... are created, strengthened, and maintained."

Over this holiday time of year we are most likely to be with family, either literally or virtually because of the virus. We can verify Sir Winston's observation. Family also gives us the answers to most of life's important questions.

Do you think the young Jesus had questions? Certainly He must have, because remember He took on a human nature "like ours in everything but sin." What is one of the principal ways we learn? Through answers to questions. Through that triple-spoke process of lessons taught, example given, and experience lived, Our Lord and Savior indeed grew in wisdom and grace.

I think it is an important detail that all this happened in the little village of Nazareth. It was located on the edge of the empire, far from the high society and corruption of Rome. So insignificant was it that it is nowhere even mentioned in the whole Old Testament. Great things can happen in humble places, as our family homes most often attest.

Could Our Lord have had better teachers in how to handle life than Mary and Joseph? Hardly. Without any advanced degrees after their names, we can say with conviction that both Christ's parents had "PhD's" in holiness. Mary who was declared "full of grace" by an archangel, and Joseph remembered as a "just man" in the Scriptural sense cannot be excelled at their task. The Holy Spirit has decided not to tell us if any peers taught Jesus things, but we can imagine they too played a part, for better or worse, in His human upbringing. So we stand back for a time from all our concerns to admire and celebrate this Holy Family. We can see the necessity of these thirty or so years to prepare Our Lord for His incomparable mission.

That brings up the subject of our mission. Obviously it begins in our family circle, but it has to expand from there if we are to take our Baptismal and Confirmation promises seriously. That means doing our part to tell the waiting world all about Jesus and His Good News, even if the world neither acknowledges nor cares that it is waiting. Waiting for something, or more accurately, Someone, beyond its own calculations to give it purpose. Taking up the admonitions of Sirach and Colossians, which we read this weekend, is a good place to begin. After all, that's our way to heaven. Here is George Bernard Shaw's take on family: "A happy family is but an earlier heaven." Think about that! God love you and give you His peace in 2021!

Reflection by Rev. Leonard N. Peterson

STEWARDSHIP REPORT

Weeks Ending ~ Dec 5 / 6 & Dec. 12 / 13 2020	
Adult Envelopes (105)	\$4,272.00
WeShare (Online Giving) (50) 2 weeks	\$1,740.00
Loose Cash	\$713.00
Offertory Total:	\$6,725.00
Christmas Flowers	\$671.00
Retired Religious	\$600.00
<i>May our loving God bless you for your continued generosity!</i>	

BABY SHOWER FOR JESUS

Your donations to our recent "Baby Shower for Jesus" for the Real Options Pregnancy Center were very much appreciated. Your continued generosity over the years, especially during these challenging times, is awesome! Thank you!

ONLINE BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP FROM CATHOLIC CHARITIES

Have you recently lost a spouse, family member or friend, and are struggling with grief and loss? Catholic Charities NH will be hosting its next online support group, "Bereavement – Experiencing Loss, Being Lost and Finding your Way Again," a six-series program helping participants learn about the dynamics of grief, discover new ways to cope while healing and gain the opportunity to be supported and support others also sharing a painful journey. Sessions will be held on Thursdays (January 28 – March 4) from 3:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. To register, visit www.cc-nh.org/beravement. You may also call 603-752-1325 or email efrenette@nh-cc.org.

CORPUS CHRISTI FOOD PANTRY VAN DRIVER NEEDED

Corpus Christi Food Pantry is in need of a volunteer to drive the pantry van. Someone to make "food pick-ups" at the food bank in Manchester and at local grocery stores in Nashua. This position requires some "muscle" and good driving record. If you can help, please call Maryellen at 882-6372 or email corpuschristifp@outlook.com

SAINT JOHN HUDSON COMMUNITY FOOD PANTRY GROCERY COUPONS

St. John Hudson Community Food Pantry continues to look for your unused grocery coupons to shop to fill their shelves. Coupons can be placed in the receptacles at both church entrances in Hudson and the main entrance in Nashua. They can accept coupons that are expired (within a 6 month period) which can be redeemed by our Armed Forces at their local PX stations.

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Please consider Your Parish in Your Will.
For further information, please call the Parish Office.
Thank you.

Child Safety Reporting
If you know of or suspect abuse or neglect of a minor (under 18 yrs.), you must report it to the NH Division for Children, Youth and Families: 1-800-894-5533 or 603-271-6566.

If you have experienced abuse by someone representing the Catholic Church, you may contact the Office for Healing and Pastoral Care of the Diocese of Manchester: 603-668-0014 or 800-475-5585 x233.

Sponsored by the Office for Ministerial Conduct, Diocese of Manchester.

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What's My Name?
The #WHATSMYNAME Movement asks everyone to simply ask drivers "What's my name?" before entering their vehicle to make sure it is the car they are supposed to enter.

#WHATSMYNAME
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