

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph

December 30, 2018

Beloved, we are God's children now; what we shall be has not yet been revealed.— *1 John 3:2a*

HOME IS WHERE THE FAMILY IS

The idea, dream, and reality of family is so strong and durable that we use it to describe all that is best about human gatherings. We speak of the family of nations, of our church and parish families. The greatest compliment we can pay a friend or gracious host is to say that we feel at home with them, we feel part of the family.

Families are the first crucibles in which love is tested and tempered. Jesus himself was one of three people who lived in the shadow of each other. This family, like our own, did not always "get it right," but they always tried to. These three "amateurs" were on holiday, and one of them got lost. Two were worried sick and took great measures to find the third, a boy after all, who was seeking the meaning of his calling. He found his vocation—to do his Father's work—but he also returned home with his parents

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

Today's feast is new as feasts go, and it sets us this year in a very modern crisis. Amid conflicting schedules and commitments, a young man, testing the limits, has strayed from his parents and gone off to the big city. Mary and Joseph search frantically, only to find the child Jesus in the temple, conversing with the elders and scholars of the law, who are amazed at his wisdom.

In the time of Jesus, the temple was the religious center of Jewish ritual. Outside of Jerusalem, people gathered in the synagogues, centers of learning, for daily prayer and study. Still, everyone longed to journey to the temple to participate in the offerings, and to fulfill certain obligations of the law that could only be done there. On this feast, we catch a glimpse of the family of Jesus: parents dealing with the normal stresses of raising a child, and yet completely grounded in the ways of faith and tradition.

There has always been an appreciation in Christianity for the value of pilgrimage—the journey to holy places that is a symbol of our life's journey to God, and a sense of connection to important events in our family history. During the Christmas season, many of us undertake pilgrimages to the family homestead for festival meals, to the parishes where we were formed in the faith, or perhaps even to a beautiful manger scene or festival of lights. There are few better days than this in our calendar for spending time with the family, especially on a short pilgrimage to a favorite place. Just make sure that no one gets left behind!



MASS INTENTION

Parishioners

St. Regina's Church Staff

Pastor: Fr. ANTHONY ONYEKWE

Secretary: Patricia Humble

DRE: Christina Hammond

Choir Director: Susan Slattery

Facilities Manager: Jim Molitor

Web Page: saintreginacatholicchurch.org

Email Address: saintregina@outlook.com

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — Hannah conceived, and at the end of her term bore a son whom she called Samuel (1 Samuel 1:20-22, 24-28) or *Sirach 3:2-6, 12-14*.

Psalm — Blessed are they who dwell in your house, O Lord (Psalm 84) or *Psalm 128*.

Second Reading — See what love the Father has bestowed on us that we may be called the children of God (1 John 3:1-2, 21-24) or *Colossians 3:12-21 [12-17]*.

Gospel — The boy Jesus remained behind in Jerusalem, but his parents did not know it. They found him in the temple, in the midst of the teachers (Luke 2:41-52).

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

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

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

Wednesday: 1 Jn 2:22-28; Ps 98:1-4; Jn 1:19-28

Thursday: 1 Jn 2:29 — 3:6; Ps 98:1, 3cd-6; Jn 1:29-34

Friday: 1 Jn 3:7-10; Ps 98:1, 7-9; Jn 1:35-42

Saturday: 1 Jn 3:11-21; Ps 100:1b-5; Jn 1:43-51

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

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday: The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph

Monday: Seventh Day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord; St. Sylvester I: New Year's Eve

Tuesday: The Octave of the Nativity of the Lord; Mary, the Holy Mother of God; World Day of Prayer for Peace; New Year's Day

Wednesday: Ss. Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzen

Thursday: The Most Holy Name of Jesus

Friday: St. Elizabeth Ann Seton; First Friday

Saturday: St. John Neumann; First Saturday

Remember In Prayer

Michaelle Box, Connie Galvan, Fr Robert Ponticello, Don Reed, Emanel Milligan, Charley Therrell, Leonard Humble, Louis Humble Sr., Dolores Mullins, Martha Jo Neuenschwander, Paul Jelonek, David Korabek

New Years Eve

St. Andrew 10:00 pm

New Years Day

St Andrew at 9:00 am

St Regina at 11:00 am

Solemnity of the Holy Mother of God

(This is a holy day of obligation)

Thanks to all who helped decorate the church.

A very special THANK YOU to Ann who volunteered to decorate and arrange all the flowers at the altar.

December 31st and January 1st: The office will be closed.

Jan. 6th

Lector: Peggy

E M: Jim/Tom

Ushers: Michael/Jesus

Server: Karina

12/23/2018

BUDGET \$1249.00

ACTUAL 1331.45.00

B&M

\$400.00

Priest retirement residence

\$99.00