



**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.

-- © J. S. Paluch Co.

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!

—Rev. James Field, © J. S. Paluch Co.

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

Pope Francis Quote

“God enters history and does so in His original style: surprise. The God of surprises *always* surprises us.”

Finance Corner:

Your generosity is greatly needed and appreciated!

Weekly Offering



© J. S. Paluch Co., Inc.

For the month of **December/January** offerings:

12/23: 1st (only) collection: \$2331. 12/25: Christmas: \$3354 and Capital Expenditures: \$1613. 12/30: Rural Food.
1/1: Mary, Mother of God. 1/6: Operating Expenses.

Mark your Calendar for Future Events & Meetings:

Parish Council: Fri., 1/25/19, at 10AM in Hall

Finance Council: Wed., 2/13/19, at 11AM in Hall

Liturgy Committee: Fri., 2/22/19, at 9:30AM in Hall

St. Teresa Ladies Guild: Contact Diane, 823-6044

St. Philip Ladies Guild: Contact Susan, 829-1189

Every Friday, Centering Prayer: 9:30AM at St Philip

Coffee & Goodies: Following 8AM Sunday Mass and Wednesday/Friday after 9AM Mass, at St Philip Hall

Mondays & Wednesdays-Seniors Lunch at 12noon:

All seniors welcome! (No lunch Monday before 2nd Tuesday of month)



✠ ♥ ✠ Mass Intentions ✠ ♥ ✠ Schedule

Sat., Dec. 29, 5pm Mass ✠ Marcella & Joseph Kiefer

Sun., Dec. 30, 8am Mass for the People

Sun., Dec. 30, 9:30am Mass ✠ Holly White

Sun., Dec. 30, 11:15am Mass ✠ Emily & Joe Palmer

Mon., Dec. 31, No Mass

Tues., Jan. 1, 9am Mass *at Bodega*, [Holy Day] Mary, Mother of God

Tues., Jan. 1, 12pm Mass *at Occidental*, [Holy Day] Mary, Mother of God;
for the People

Wed., Jan. 2, 9am Mass Mary O'Donnell

Thurs., Jan. 3, 9am Mass ✠ Holly White & ✠ Sean White

Fri., Jan. 4, 9am Mass Paul Wallace

Sat., Jan. 5, 5pm Mass ✠ Brendan Smith

Sun., Jan. 6, 8am Mass for the healing & support of all victims of
clergy sexual abuse

Sun., Jan. 6, 9:30am Mass for the People

Sun., Jan. 6, 11:15am Mass ✠ Jim Ernst

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

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

Monday: 7th Day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord;
St. Sylvester I

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

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

Prayer Requests: Teresa K., Pat K., Thomas T., Susan B., Jamie Silva, Lorri McCamen, Sarah, Clifford J., Terri Andrews, Marilyn Vitali, Fred Pisani, Theresa Spiteri, Sara, Mary Anne Parque, Sr. Marjorie Krusky, Barbara, Kathy Higgins, Fr. Logan, Dave Creeth, Jim P., William, Parson Pfsorich, Dave, Mary O., Bill Z., Daniel, Sally Tillsbury, Mary Karp, Columбина A., Michael Dan, Richard Macche, Kathleen, Lisa, Rosa Santos, Papke family, Susan Bonomine, Zeidan family

Thanks to the Occidental Fire Dept. for the wonderful toys they donated to the St. Philip's Children's Mass on Dec. 24th. The children loved the toys and responded with grateful hugs! ~ Santa

RURAL FOOD PROGRAM UPDATE for DECEMBER 2018

On December 11, we welcomed 112 families representing 155 adults, 72 children and 37 seniors for a total of 264 people receiving nutritional support. This program is funded through the Rural Food Collection on the last Sunday of each month as well as through private donations and the generous support of our volunteers.

During this season of Christmas, all of us who volunteer each month to offer nutritious groceries and produce to our clients give special thanks for the incredible generosity of our parish and other donors. We also give thanks for the many examples of faith, hope and love expressed in the lives of those we serve each month. Together we witness God's love in action.

Please continue to collect paper grocery bags, especially with handles, and egg cartons. We are looking into biodegradable produce bags and recyclable grocery bags for our clients.

RURAL FOOD VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Saturday, January 5, from 9-10:00am repackaging -- Parish Hall Monday, January 7, from 12:30 – 2:30pm to set up the Parish Hall Tuesday, January 8, from 8:30 – 11:00am to distribute the food and assist clients. We need more volunteers on Monday and Tuesday to help with set up and help our clients and their loaded grocery carts to their vehicles. Thank YOU!

CELEBRATE 2019

SUNDAY - JANUARY 27, 2019

4-8PM AT THE UNION HOTEL

>Each ticket is \$45. Tickets are on sale after Sat/Sun Mass and at the office weekday mornings.

>For the past few weeks we've announced that tickets are available for \$45 and we are welcoming your donations of items for our raffle on January 27. That is still the case but we also want to share how your support of the CELEBRATE event has impacted this parish.

>We want to say THANK YOU -- With your generous financial support:

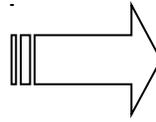
We gave local fire victims \$16,000 after last year's event.
We repaired and repaved St Philip Parking lot.
We painted St Teresa and repaved driveway.
We repainted the parish hall, replaced the hall floor and dining tables.
We put a new roof on the rectory and upgraded the landscaping.
We made improvements at Calvary Cemetery.
We have increased our endowment fund by \$22,000.
We truly have much to be thankful for— Happy New Year!

> We welcome your donation of items for raffle at the event. Please contact Cathy McCool (after Mass or call 861-9302) if you have an item you'd like to donate.

NOTE: As of November 30, 2018, our endowment fund balance was \$92,774.

Exclusive Limited Print of Ansel Adam's original picture of St. Teresa Church from 1953: All proceeds support needed restoration of St. Teresa of Avila Mission. A limited number of prints have been printed from Ansel's original negative. Each reprint is individually numbered. Prints are available for a donation of \$175. Please contact a restoration committee member for your own limited print: Peg 707-867-6073 or Bob 707-875-9148.

Featured Parish Bulletin Advertiser:



Kelly McCool Construction
Experienced Residential Remodeling
707-529-9004

Important ALERT from the Chancery & Parish Office

Once again, a reminder that there are a number of scams coming by phone calls, text messages, and emails. These scams are supposedly from a priest or other person you know, asking for money or gift cards. Please do not respond to these scam requests. (Point: no priest or church staff person would ever ask you for such a favor or such help. They have other resources they can go to instead.) If you are concerned, call directly the real person you know to find out the truth.



A Christmas "Thank You"

I think I can speak on behalf of all parishioners and visitors when I express enormous gratitude to all those parish volunteers who contributed to our Christmas Eve and Christmas Day liturgies. At the risk of leaving people out, I'd like to express special thanks to the two church Guilds and the other people who decorated the churches so beautifully, to the liturgical ministers who assisted at the Masses--these include choir members, musicians, lectors, communion ministers, sacristans, ushers, greeters, and altar servers--and to the children who participated in the 3:30 Mass, along with their parents and our parish catechists.

May God bless all of you for your contributions to the liturgies celebrating this Holy Season of Christ's Birth. ~Fr. Fergal

Parish Ombudsman Team

The Ombudsman Team may be contacted by any parishioner with a concern or question they would like to relay to the Pastor, but would rather not do so directly. Team members can meet with parishioners to discuss their concerns and then bring them to the Pastor (anonymously, if preferred by the concerned person).

The Ombudsman Team members are:

Rodney DeMartini
roddemar@comcast.net
707-799-7466

Ella Rozett
ella@interfaithmary.net
707-874-3397

Bill Merget
willmerget@comcast.net
707-292-9706

Judi Goodin
jlgoodin@hotmail.com
707-823-0705 (please leave message)