



Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

Lectionary: 17

Reading I Sir 3:2-6, 12-14

God sets a father in honor over his children; a mother's authority he confirms over her sons. Whoever honors his father atones for sins, and preserves himself from them. When he prays, he is heard; he stores up riches who reveres his mother.

Whoever honors his father is gladdened by children, and, when he prays, is heard.

Whoever reveres his father will live a long life; he who obeys his father brings comfort to his mother.

My son, take care of your father when he is old; grieve him not as long as he lives.

Even if his mind fail, be considerate of him; revile him not all the days of his life;

kindness to a father will not be forgotten, firmly planted against the debt of your sins

—a house raised in justice to you.

OR: 1 Sm 1:20-22, 24-28

In those days Hannah conceived, and at the end of her term bore a son whom she called Samuel, since she had asked the LORD for him.

The next time her husband Elkanah was going up with the rest of his household to offer the customary sacrifice to the LORD and to fulfill his vows, Hannah did not go, explaining to her husband, "Once the child is weaned, I will take him to appear before the LORD and to remain there forever; I will offer him as a perpetual nazirite." Once Samuel was weaned, Hannah brought him up with her, along with a three-year-old bull, an ephah of flour, and a skin of wine, and presented him at the temple of the LORD in Shiloh.

After the boy's father had sacrificed the young bull, Hannah, his mother, approached Eli and said: "Pardon, my lord!

As you live, my lord, I am the woman who stood near you here, praying to the LORD.

I prayed for this child, and the LORD granted my request.

Now I, in turn, give him to the LORD; as long as he lives, he shall be dedicated to the LORD." Hannah left Samuel there.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5.

R. (cf. 1) Blessed are those who fear the Lord and walk in his ways.

Blessed is everyone who fears the LORD, who walks in his ways!

For you shall eat the fruit of your handiwork;

blessed shall you be, and favored. R. Blessed are those who fear the Lord and walk in his

Your wife shall be like a fruitful vine in the recesses of your home; your children like olive plants

around your table.

R. Blessed are those who fear the Lord and walk in his ways.

Behold, thus is the man blessed who fears the LORD.

The LORD bless you from Zion: may you see the prosperity of Jerusalem all the days of your life.

R. Blessed are those who fear the Lord and walk in his ways.

OR: **Ps 84:2-3, 5-6, 9-10.**

R. (cf. 5a) Blessed are they who dwell in your house, O Lord.

How lovely is your dwelling place, O LORD of hosts! My soul yearns and pines for the courts of the LORD. My heart and my flesh cry out for the living God.

R. Blessed are they who dwell in your house, O Lord. Happy they who dwell in your house!

Continually they praise you.

Happy the men whose strength you are!

Their hearts are set upon the pilgrimage.

R. Blessed are they who dwell in your house, O Lord.

O LORD of hosts, hear our prayer; hearken, O God of Jacob!

O God, behold our shield,

and look upon the face of your anointed.

R. Blessed are they who dwell in your house, O Lord.

Brothers and sisters:

Put on, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, heartfelt compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience, bearing with one another and forgiving one another, if one has a grievance against another; as the Lord has forgiven you, so must you also do. And over all these put on love, that is, the bond of perfection. And let the peace of Christ control your hearts, the peace into which you were also called in one body.

And be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, as in all wisdom you teach and admonish one another, singing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs with gratitude in your hearts to God.

And whatever you do, in word or in deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

OR:

Reading II

Col 3:12-21 or 3:12-17

Brothers and sisters:

Put on, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, heartfelt compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience, bearing with one another and forgiving one another, if one has a grievance against another;

as the Lord has forgiven you, so must you also do. And over all these put on love, that is, the bond of perfection.

And let the peace of Christ control your hearts, the peace into which you were also called in one body.

And be thankful.

Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, as in all wisdom you teach and admonish one another, singing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs with gratitude in your hearts to God.

And whatever you do, in word or in deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

Wives, be subordinate to your husbands, as is proper in the Lord.

Husbands, love your wives, and avoid any bitterness toward them.

Children, obey your parents in everything, for this is pleasing to the Lord.

Fathers, do not provoke your children, so they may not become discouraged.

OR:

1 Jn 3:1-2, 21-24

Beloved:

See what love the Father has bestowed on us that we may be called the children of God.

And so we are.

The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him.

Beloved, we are God's children now;

what we shall be has not yet been revealed.

We do know that when it is revealed we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is.

Beloved, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have confidence in God and receive from him whatever we ask, because we keep his commandments and do what pleases him.

And his commandment is this:

we should believe in the name of his Son, Jesus Christ, and love one another just as he commanded us.

Those who keep his commandments remain in him, and he

Those who keep his commandments remain in him, and he in them, and the way we know that he remains in us is from the Spirit he gave us.

Alleluia

Col 3:15a, 16a

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

Let the peace of Christ control your hearts; Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly.

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

OR: **Cf. Acts 16:14b**

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

Open our hearts, O Lord,

to listen to the words of your Son.

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

Gospel <u>Lk 2:41-52</u>

Each year Jesus' parents went to Jerusalem for the feast of Passover, and when he was twelve years old, they went up according to festival custom.

After they had completed its days, as they were returning, the boy Jesus remained behind in Jerusalem, but his parents did not know it.

Thinking that he was in the caravan, they journeyed for a day and looked for him among their relatives and acquaintances, but not finding him, they returned to Jerusalem to look for him.

After three days they found him in the temple, sitting in the midst of the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions, and all who heard him were astounded at his understanding and his answers.

When his parents saw him, they were astonished, and his mother said to him, "Son, why have you done this to us? Your father and I have been looking for you with great anxiety."

And he said to them,

"Why were you looking for me?

Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?" But they did not understand what he said to them.

He went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was obedient to them:

and his mother kept all these things in her heart. And Jesus advanced in wisdom and age and favor before

God and man.

Parish Mission Statement: We, the Parish Family of St. Mark's in our quest to follow the Gospel of Jesus Christ, are building a faith-based community that assists all people in life's journey to be open to God's love and to share His joy. We are further committed to address the spiritual, physical, emotional and social needs of all people through service to individuals, families, parish and the greater community. As responsible stewards using our individual gifts, we promise to celebrate, renew and strengthen our faith, and to live our lives as a reflection of Christ's love for others. St. Mark's is designated as a Center for Hispanic Ministry in the Diocese of Trenton.

New Office Hours

Beginning Tuesday, January 4, 2022 the Rectory will be open Monday-Friday 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM

Weekend Masses

Saturday 4:30 PM Sunday 8 AM, 10 AM, and 12 Noon 5PM in Spanish

Daily Masses

Holy Rosary and Divine Mercy Chaplet after Daily Masses

Monday-Friday at 7:30 AM and 11 AM Saturday 7:30 AM Only (No 11 AM Mass) Tuesdays 6 PM Spanish Mass

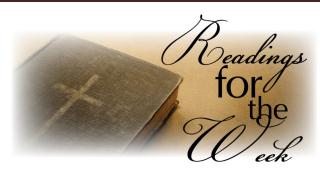
Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturdays 3:30 PM to 4:15 PM and Thursdays after the 7:30 AM and 11 AM Masses

Devotions and Novenas

Miraculous Medal Novena after daily Masses on Wednesdays
Eucharistic Adoration on Fridays after 11 AM Mass.

Benediction at 1:45 PM
1st Fridays Spanish Adoration beginning at 7 PM



December 26, 2021

Monday: 1 Jn 1:1-4; Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12; Jn 20:

1a and 2-8

Tuesday: 1 Jn 1:5 — 2:2; Ps 124:2-3, 4-5, 7cd-8;

Mt 2:13-18

Wednesday: 1 Jn 2:3-11; Ps 96:1-2a, 2b-3, 5b-6;

Lk 2:22-35

Thursday: 1 Jn 2:12-17; Ps 96:7-8a, 8b-9, 10;

Lk 2:36-40

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

Saturday: Nm 6:22-27; Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8; Gal 4:4-7;

Lk 2:16-21

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

If you are a parishioner who has not been able to attend Mass and would like to have a Eucharistic Minister bring Holy Communion to you, please contact **Donna at the rectory**, 732-449-6364 x100 or email donna@stmarkseagirt.com.



Please Note: New Policy for the Pray for our Sick. Names will remain on the sick list read at mass for 4 weeks and then removed unless the requester calls to remain on the list for another 4 weeks. To ensure the consent of the person whose name appears here, the pastor's policy requires that only they or a family member may request a name be added to this list. Names will remain in the bulletin until the person or family request it be removed.

Frances Dougherty, Jim & Andrea Trischitta, Mary Jane Lorenzo, Erin Rubas, Dennis Maloney, Dr. William Burns, Robert Czech, Deacon Mike, Janet Thomas, Edward Morea, Rosalie Renda, Alice Healy, Benjamin Ohlweiler, Jeremy Pavlick, Lucy Gargano, Christine Frauenheim, Robert MacPherson, Jake Gilbert, Bill Lesniak, Jim Bogan, Bruce Bogan, Sr., Alexandra Gavilanes, Sarah Gallagher, Jimmy Azzollini, Vivian Wilson, Ken Hauck, Dorothy Waugh, Patricia Cavanaugh, Rose Courtney, Grace Philhower, Maria Valdez.

Eternal Rest grant onto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them.

Please remember in your prayers those of our diocese, parish, friends, and family members who have recently died.

† Eugene Murray

May the angels lead you into paradise...

St. Mark's Bereavement Ministry

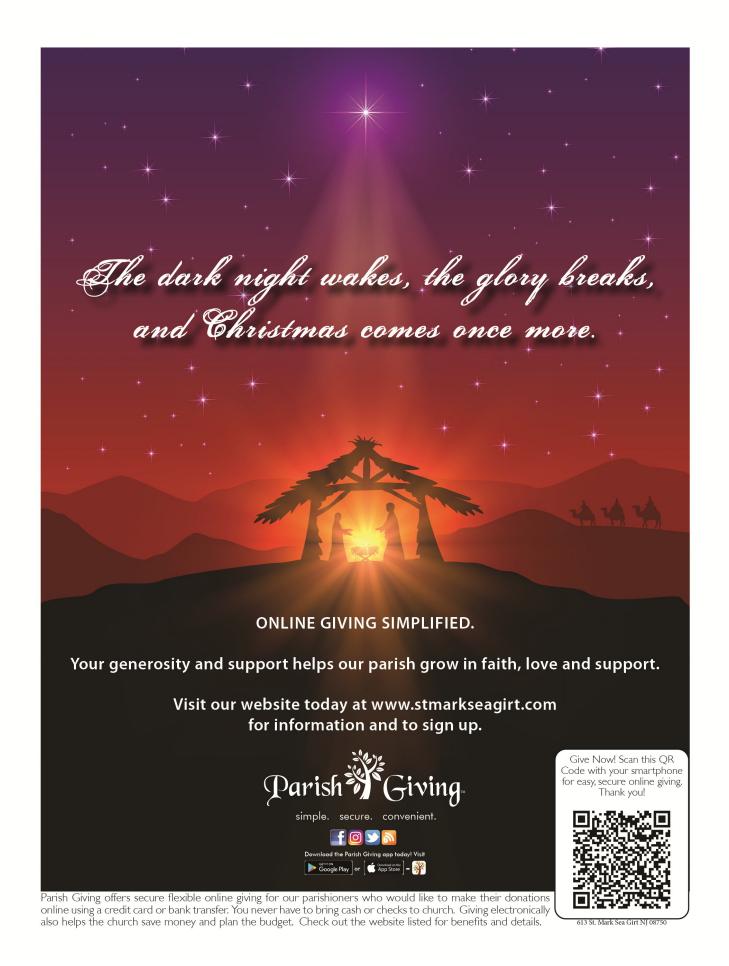
Our Bereavement Ministry helps those who are grieving the loss of a loved one during their most difficult times. They meet on Wednesdays at 11 AM at St. Mark's.

Please call Sue Nolan at 718-637-1162 for more information. All are welcome!

Thank You! We are so grateful to all those who financially sacrifice each week to support our parish and it's ministries!

We would especially like to thank all of those who faithfully use their weekly parish contribution envelopes and those who give online through the Parish Giving Program.

December 12, 2021 collection total \$14,322.



	† This Week's Mass Inten	tions
DATE	INTENTION	REQUESTED BY
Monday, Decemb	er 27	
7:30 AM	† Deceased Members of the Azzarella & Callahan Families	Margaret Azzarella
11:00 AM	† Julia Buonocore	Saint Mark's Altar Rosary Society
	† Suzanne Smith	John and Maria Checton
	† William Joule	Patty and Cae Allgor
Tuesday, Decemb	er 28	
7:30 AM	† Maureen Hoppes	Rebecca Marzen and Family
	† Ellen Klutkowski	Stan and Lorraine Ciemniecki
11:00 AM	† Robert Kowitski	Saint Mark's Altar Rosary Society
	† Lynn Harvey	Dennis and Denise Tonry
	† Joseph F. Green	Catherine and John Luthin
Wednesday, Dece	mber 29	
7:30 AM	† Julia Buonocore	Ken and Maureen Hauck
	† Betty Durkin	Fell Family
11:00 AM	† Humphries Family	Jerry Flynn
	† Leo McGee	Gerri and Tom Bleach
Thursday, Decem	ber 30	
7:30 AM	† Austin Behnken	Family
	† Helen G. Malloy	Family
11:00 AM	† Frank Walsh	Marybeth and Joe Walsh
	† Mary Lou Hart	Fell Family
Friday, December	r 31	
7:30 AM	† Colette Casey	Estate
	† George Gilbert	Kathleen Santella
	† Cathryn Falcone	Family
11:00 AM	† John Carey	Tom and Pam Kenah
	† 2nd Anniversary Guy Christopher Lueddeke	Family
	† Lillian Connolly	William Travers
Saturday, Januar	y 1 New Year's Day	
7:30 AM	† Butler & Torpey Families	Family
	† Althea Smith	Pam Zusi & Family
2:00 PM	People of the Parish	
4:30 PM	People of the Parish	
Sunday, January	2 The Epiphany of the Lord	
8:00 AM	† Betty Lou Stypa	Saint Mark's Parish Family
10:00 AM	† Patricia Farrell	Frank and Susan Sharp
	† William C. Murphy, Jr.	Suzanne and Skip Quigley
	† Mary Wroblewski	Ertle-Sullivan Family
12 Noon	† Jane Ferguson	Robert & Rose Ann Ferguson
	† Robert Kowitski	John and Gail Monteleone
5:00 PM	Miguel Urbano	Hernandez Family
1		

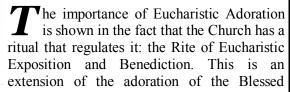


CYO News

Every year after the wreath sale and other CYO fundraisers we try to deliver our donations in person so that we get to meet the people who are doing all of these wonderful things to help the poor and the needy. The Missionary of Charity sisters are always delighted to welcome everyone and so appreciate any help or donations given. We love it when we are invited into their chapel to say a prayer. Becky Blonski at Madonna House will always show us the hundreds of new toys donated for the Christmas toy drive. Wonderful and brimming with Christian joy, Sr. Carole has done so much for the Ugandan Mission effort. This year CYO junior Mikey Flanagan added a new organization to our list of CYO charities: Jersey Shore Rescue Mission which specifically aids the homeless in our area. Mikey gave an outstanding presentation on the work of JSRM at a CYO meeting and then rallied everyone to make donations of much needed clothing, hygiene items and other things to assist our homeless brothers and sisters. He also encouraged everyone to sell and buy our beautiful Christmas wreaths. Here he is pictured at the Mission with two very grateful new friends he made there. We are so proud of Mikey and all our CYO angels for all they do to make a difference. We weren't able to hand deliver to Good Counsel Homes but they are another fantastic organization which offers a home and

loving support to those choosing life for their unborn children.

Eucharistic Devotion



Sacrament which occurs in every Mass: "Behold the Lamb of God, behold him who takes away the sins of the world. Blessed are those called to the supper of the Lamb." Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament flows from the sacrifice of the Mass and serves to deepen our hunger for Communion with Christ and the rest of the Church. The Rite concludes with the ordained minister blessing the faithful with the Blessed Sacrament.

Please join us on Friday's immediately after the 11 AM Mass for Adoration. Benediction begins at 1:45PM. It broadcast also be on livestream stmarkseagirt.com. Come spend some quiet time with the Lord.

The Rev. John F Welsh Knights of Columbus is pleased to announce the winner of our annual 50/50 raffle held on December 4th. The winner is a local Brielle resident who wishes to remain anonymous. The winning ticket #117 was sold at Brielle Day. The winner will receive a check for \$2.805. The net proceeds will be deposited into our Charity account for local charities.

Thank you to all who participated in this year's raffle. We wish you a Merry and Joyful Christmas. Vivat Jesus.

Homebound seniors can remain comfortably home with the dignity of independence and the security of having someone **MEALS** on **W** visit once a day with a nutritious meal. Also, the warm smile of one of our



wonderful volunteers or caring meals-on-wheels drivers is important to them and often serves as a wellness check.

If you would like more information, please call Meals on Wheels 732-502-3277 or Barbara Anderson 848-444-3123.



MASS MATTERS

Fr. Bausch's book "Mass Matters" is on sale in the rectory for \$15. Please call ahead and we will have it ready for you to pick it up! 732-449-6364.

CONNECT WITH A FAMILY OR SENIOR IN

Love Thy Neighbor Christmas "Connect" program is underway with local needy families and seniors. You can buy a gift card to be sent or gifts to be delivered. If interested call Diana at 732-542-7012 ext. 105 and get the information needed and give the gift of joy to those in need.

If you know someone who doesn't have access to the internet and would like a copy of the bulletin, please call the Rectory at 732-449-6364.

Wonderfully Made Mother-Daughter Tea Sunday, January 23, 2022 from 12:30-3:00 PM hosted by St. Denis Parish, Manasquan

All mothers and their daughters age 10 and up (along with Aunts and Grandmothers) are invited to a very special inaugural event. The fee for this event is \$20 per family; pre-registration is required, and seating is limited. To learn more about this event and to register, go to www.dioceseoftrenton.org/nfp-info-for-mother-daughter-connection, or contact Peg Hensler, Associate Director for Marriage Ministries and NFP; 609-403-7156; phensler@dioceseoftrenton.org.



RETROUVAILLE: REDISCOVER THE LOVE IN YOUR MARRIAGE - Tens of thousands of couples have healed their marriages through Retrouvaille (pronounced Retrovy). If you know anyone who could benefit from this program, please pass this on. Couples learn to build communication skills and to increase intimacy. It provides help for marriage problems, difficulties or crises. The next program begins the weekend of February 11-13, 2022 at the Family Life Center in Malvern, PA. For more information, or to register, visit www.HelpOurMarriage.org or call 215-766-3944 or 800-470-2230. All inquiries are strictly confidential.

Save the Date: St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Feast Day is January 4th. You're invited to celebrate and honor her on January 9th, 2022 at St. Margaret Church at the 10:00 AM Mass. More details to follow.



Offerings at Francis House of Prayer

Spiritual direction, a one-on-one conversation with a spiritual director about God in your life, is always available. We offer the Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius on a monthly and weekly basis, many opportunities to

learn and practice contemplative prayer, reading programs on St. John of the Cross and other Carmelite Saints, and contemporary writers such as James Martin, Thomas Keating, Richard Rohr, Thomas Merton and special one-time programs.

Trenton Diocesan Spiritual Center and Retreat House 609-877-0509 or FHOP@verizon.net

Please check or click on www.FHOP.org for programs and registration.

WORD OF LIFE

"Like every other human family, the Holy Family had to confront real and concrete challenges. Yet, 'in every situation, Joseph declared his own 'fiat'' (PC 3). His 'yes' to the Lord meant that regardless of the hardship and personal sacrifice to himself, he consistently chose to put the needs of Mary and Jesus before his own. Joseph's devotion helps reveal to us our own call to show special care for the lives of those whom God has entrusted to us." *Excerpts from Patris corde, © 2020,

The Mission of Mary's Child Pro-Life Ministry is to defend the truth of Jesus Christ. Each human being is a gift from God, made in His image and likeness, worthy of dignity, respect, and protection from conception until natural death. We raise our prayers, concerns, and funds in support of this Truth, and we support organizations that consistently live and value the Gospel of Life. If interested in this ministry, contact the rectory for our parish Pro-Life representative.

FACING UNPLANNED PREGNANCY? Need Help? Contact Birthright @ 800-550-4900 or locally @ 732 747-7600 for assistance with testing, doctors, food, housing, counseling, and other services at little or no charge.

Visit our Websites: dioceseoftrenton.org/respect-life-ministry USCCB: respectlife.org

ACTION CENTER -- Please continue to pray for the Supreme Court to thoughtfully reach a favorable decision in the Dobbs Case in support of God's gift of life. Science has confirmed what God has always taught us. The baby in the womb is fully human and fully alive. "Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, and before you were born I consecrated you." Jeremiah 1:5

INTERCESSION

For all families:

That as the domestic Church, they may pursue holiness, pass on the faith, and persevere in love; *We pray to the Lord*:



The Upper Room is a spiritual and educational center rooted in a

contemplative and holistic approach that supports and nourishes the spiritual growth of laity, religious, and clergy. Sponsored by the Diocese of Trenton, the Upper Room serves women and men within and outside the diocese through on-site and outreach programs. The For information on programs, please visit www.theupper-room.org or e-mail: office@theupper-room.org





New Year's Day Saturday, January 1, 2022					
Readers			Tom Malloy		
Eucharistic Ministers			Connie Duffy Pat Holt		

The Epiphany of the Lord						
Sunday January 2, 2022						
	8:00 AM	10:00 AM	12 Noon	5PM Spanish		
Readers	Peggy Hardiman	Lori Savino	Rose Crimmins			
Eucharistic Ministers	Pat Cademartori Gary Cademartori	Jay Lorenzo Todd Leonhardt	Dan Crimmins Jim Mulvihill			

St. Mark's Youth Music Ministry!

Music helps us feel God's joy and love!

St. Mark's Parish is forming a musical ensemble led by our youth!

Youth members age 6th grade and up will have the opportunity to sing or play instruments for weekend Masses and other special events!

If you or your family members are musically talented, please reach out to Dr. Jarred Tafaro, Director of Music, at Tafmuspno@gmail.com, or

Linda Rosa, Business Administrator, at Linda@stmarkseagirt.com.

Singers and all instruments are encouraged.

Making music with friends is one of life's great joys.

Come share that joy! Get involved! Joinus!

The Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

DECEMBER 26, 2021



We celebrate the Feast of the Holy Family on the first Sunday after Christmas! This feast day is a reminder to us of the example Mary and Joseph set for all of us in welcoming Jesus into their lives. The Holy Family serves as a model for us all in which to live in faith and simplicity.

Prayer for Family Commitment

Dear God our Father, you have called all Christian families to be a sign of your love to the world.

Help us to be generous with the gifts of life and love that you have showered on our family. May we share them so that our homes become true signs of unitive and fruitful love.

Let us never forget to thank you each day for all that sustains us and to look to Christ, who comes to us in the events of family life, in the sacraments of the Church, and in service to the poor.

In all of this, our family becomes a living expression of your Church, a hallowed home of life and love. By the power of the Holy Spirit, may all of us—spouses, parents, and children— share, as members of his Body, in Jesus' mission to build a civilization of love. Father, we ask this in Jesus' name in union with the Holy Spirit. Amen.



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Msgr. Sean P. Flynn, Pastor Rev. José Fernandez-Bangueses, Sacerdote Residente

josefernandez@stmarkseagirt.com

Teléfono: 732 449-6364 ext. 122

Apostolado Hispano

Horario de oficina en Español: Lunes, Miércoles & Viernes 9:00 A.M. - 3:00 P.M.

spanishministry@stmarkseagirt.com
Oficina: 732 449-6364 ext. 104

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Diana Zuna Nieves
diana@stmarkseagirt.com

Teléfono: 732 449-6364 ext. 105



Fiesta de la Sagrada Familia Diciembre 26, 2021

Primera Lectura: 1 Sm 1, 20-22. 24-28.

En aquellos días, Ana concibió, dio a luz un hijo y le puso por nombre Samuel, diciendo: "Al Señor se lo pedí". Después de un año, El caná, su marido, subió con toda la familia para hacer el sacrificio anual para honrar al Señor y

para cumplir la promesa que habían hecho, pero Ana se quedó en su casa. Un tiempo después, Ana llevó a Samuel, que todavía era muy pequeño, a la casa del Señor, en Siló, y llevó también un novillo de tres años, un costal de harina y un odre de vino. Una vez sacrificado el novillo, Ana presentó el niño a Elí y le dijo: "Escúchame, señor: te juro por mi vida que yo soy aquella mujer que estuvo junto a ti, en este lugar, orando al Señor. Éste es el niño que yo le pedía al Señor y que él me ha concedido. Por eso, ahora yo se lo ofrezco al Señor, para que le quede consagrado de por vida". Y adoraron al Señor.

Salmo Responsorial: Salmo 83, 2-3. 5-6. 9-10. Señor, dichosos los que viven en tu casa.

Anhelando los atrios del Señor se consume mi alma. Todo mi ser de gozo se estremece y el Dios vivo es la causa.

Señor, dichosos los que viven en tu casa.

Dichosos los que viven en tu casa, te alabarán para siempre;

dichosos los que encuentran en ti su fuerza y la esperanza de su corazón.

Señor, dichosos los que viven en tu casa.

Escucha mi oración, Señor de los ejércitos; Dios de Jacob, atiéndeme.

Míranos, Dios y protector nuestro, y contemplo el rostro de tu Mesías. R.

Señor, dichosos los que viven en tu casa.

Segunda Lectura: 1 Jn 3, 1-2. 21-24.

Queridos hijos: Miren cuánto amor nos ha tenido el Padre, pues no sólo nos llamamos hijos de Dios, sino que lo

somos. Si el mundo no nos reconoce, es porque tampoco lo ha reconocido a él. Hermanos míos, ahora somos hijos de Dios, pero aún no se ha manifestado cómo seremos al fin. Y ya sabemos que, cuando él se manifieste, vamos a ser semejantes a él, porque lo veremos tal cual es. Si nuestra conciencia no nos remuerde, entonces, hermanos míos, nuestra confianza en Dios es total. Puesto que cumplimos los mandamientos de Dios y hacemos lo que le agrada, ciertamente obtendremos de él todo lo que le pidamos. Ahora bien, éste es su mandamiento: que creamos en la persona de Jesucristo, su Hijo, y nos amemos los unos a los otros, conforme al precepto que nos dio. Quien cumple sus mandamientos permanece en Dios y Dios en él. En esto conocemos, por el Espíritu que él nos ha dado, que él permanece en nosotros.

Aclamación antes del Evangelio: Cfr Hechos 16, 14b R. Aleluya, aleluya.

Abre, Señor, nuestros corazones, para que aceptemos las palabras de tu Hijo. R. **Aleluya.**

Evangelio: Lc 2, 41-52.

Los padres de Jesús solían ir cada año a Jerusalén para las festividades de la Pascua. Cuando el niño cumplió doce años, fueron a la fiesta, según la costumbre. Pasados aquellos días, se volvieron, pero el niño Jesús se quedó en Jerusalén, sin que sus padres lo supieran. Creyendo que iba en la caravana, hicieron un día de camino; entonces lo buscaron, y al no encontrarlo, regresaron a Jerusalén en su busca. Al tercer día lo encontraron en el templo, sentado en medio de los doctores, escuchándolos y haciéndoles preguntas. Todos los que lo oían se admiraban de su inteligencia y de sus respuestas. Al verlo, sus padres se quedaron atónitos y su madre le dijo: "Hijo mío, ¿por qué te has portado así con nosotros? Tu padre y yo te hemos estado buscando llenos de angustia". Él les respondió: "¿Por qué me andaban buscando? ¿No sabían que debo ocuparme en las cosas de mi Padre?" Ellos no entendieron la respuesta que les dio. Entonces volvió con ellos a Nazaret y siguió sujeto a su autoridad. Su madre conservaba en su corazón todas aquellas cosas. Jesús iba creciendo en saber, en estatura y en el favor de Dios y de los hombres.