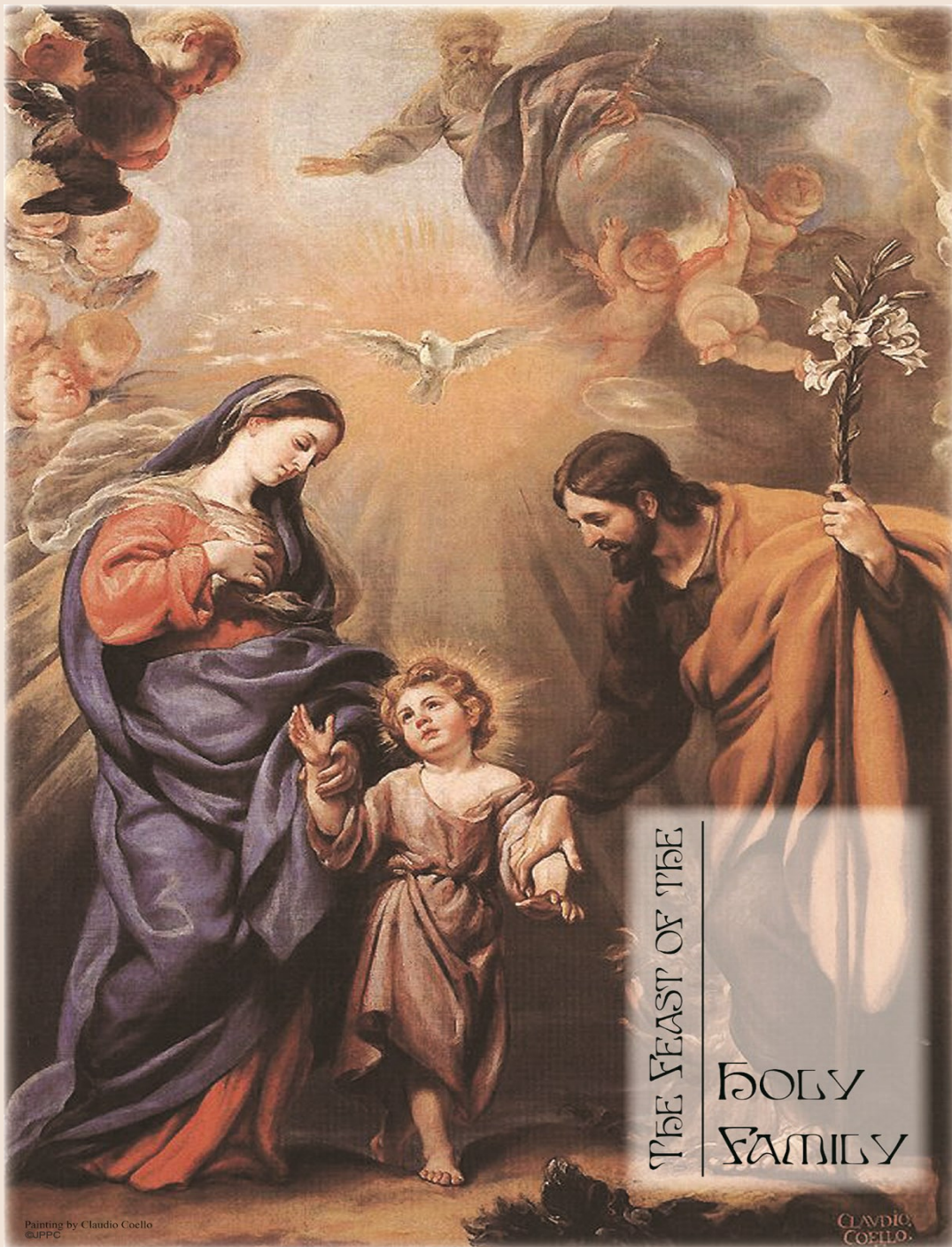


December 27, 2020



## *St. Mark's Catholic Church*

**Rev. Msgr. Sean P. Flynn, Pastor**

**Rev. José Fernandez-Bangueses, Resident Priest**

**Rev. Bernard N. Mohan (*Wednesday and Friday*)**

**Deacon Michael Keary**

215 Crescent Pkwy, Sea Girt, NJ 08750 Phone 732-449-6364 Web: [www.stmarkseagirt.com](http://www.stmarkseagirt.com)

## The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

### Lectionary: 17

#### Reading 1

**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

#### Gn 15:1-6; 21:1-3

The word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision,  
saying: "Fear not, Abram!  
I am your shield; I will make your reward very great."  
But Abram said, "O Lord GOD, what good will your  
gifts be, if I keep on being childless and have as my  
heir the steward of my house, Eliezer?"  
Abram continued, "See, you have given me no  
offspring, and so one of my servants will be my heir."  
Then the word of the LORD came to him:  
"No, that one shall not be your heir;  
your own issue shall be your heir."  
The Lord took Abram outside and said, "Look up at the  
sky and count the stars, if you can.  
Just so," he added, "shall your descendants be."  
Abram put his faith in the LORD,  
who credited it to him as an act of righteousness.  
The LORD took note of Sarah as he had said he would;  
he did for her as he had promised.  
Sarah became pregnant and bore Abraham a son in his  
old age, at the set time that God had stated.  
Abraham gave the name Isaac to this son of his whom  
Sarah bore him.

#### 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  
ways.  
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 105:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9

R. (7a , 8a) The Lord remembers his covenant for ever.  
Give thanks to the LORD, invoke his name;  
make known among the nations his deeds.  
Sing to him, sing his praise, proclaim all his wondrous  
deeds.  
R. The Lord remembers his covenant for ever.  
Glory in his holy name;  
rejoice, O hearts that seek the LORD!  
Look to the LORD in his strength;  
constantly seek his face.  
R. The Lord remembers his covenant for ever.  
You descendants of Abraham, his servants, sons of  
Jacob, his chosen ones!  
He, the LORD, is our God;  
throughout the earth his judgments prevail.  
R. The Lord remembers his covenant for ever.  
He remembers forever his covenant which he made  
binding for a thousand generations which he entered  
into with Abraham and by his oath to Isaac.  
R. The Lord remembers his covenant for ever.

#### Reading 2

**COL 3:12-21**

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

**Col 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.

Or

**Heb 11:8, 11-12, 17-19**

Brothers and sisters:

By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to go out to a place that he was to receive as an inheritance; he went out, not knowing where he was to go. By faith he received power to generate, even though he was past the normal age --and Sarah herself was sterile--for he thought that the one who had made the promise was trustworthy.

So it was that there came forth from one man, himself as good as dead, descendants as numerous as the stars in the sky and as countless as the sands on the seashore.

By faith Abraham, when put to the test, offered up Isaac, and he who had received the promises was ready to offer his only son, of whom it was said, "Through Isaac descendants shall bear your name." He reasoned that God was able to raise even from the dead, and he received Isaac back as a symbol.

**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

**Heb 1:1-2**

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

In the past God spoke to our ancestors through the prophets;

in these last days, he has spoken to us through the Son.

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

**Gospel**

**LK 2:22-40**

When the days were completed for their purification according to the law of Moses, They took him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord, just as it is written in the law of the Lord, *Every male that opens the womb shall be consecrated to the Lord*, and to offer the sacrifice of *a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons*, in accordance with the dictate in the law of the Lord.

Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon. This man was righteous and devout, awaiting the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was upon him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he should not see death before he had seen the Christ of the Lord.

He came in the Spirit into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus to perform the custom of the law in regard to him, He took him into his arms and blessed God, saying:

"Now, Master, you may let your servant go in peace, according to your word, for my eyes have seen your salvation, which you prepared in sight of all the peoples, a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and glory for your people Israel."

The child's father and mother were amazed at what was said about him;

and Simeon blessed them and said to Mary his mother, "Behold, this child is destined for the fall and rise of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be contradicted—and you yourself a sword will pierce—so that the thoughts of many hearts may be revealed." There was also a prophetess, Anna, the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher.

She was advanced in years, having lived seven years with her husband after her marriage, and then as a widow until she was eighty-four.

She never left the temple, but worshiped night and day with fasting and prayer.

And coming forward at that very time, she gave thanks to God and spoke about the child to all who were awaiting the redemption of Jerusalem.

When they had fulfilled all the prescriptions of the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth.

The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favor of God was upon him.

Or

**Lk 2:22, 39-40**

When the days were completed for their purification according to the law of Moses, they took him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord.

When they had fulfilled all the prescriptions of the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth.

The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favor of God was upon him.

# *This Week's Mass Intentions*



Date	Intention	Requested by
<b>Monday, December 28</b>		
7:30 AM	Mr. and Mrs. James Sheridan	Friends
	† Dorothy Wright	Family
11:00AM	† Humphries Family	Jerry Flynn
	† Sr. Anne Powers	Family
<b>Tuesday, December 29</b>		
7:30 AM	O'Meara Family, (Special Intention)	Friend
11:00AM	† Nicholas Venanzi	Joan Hurley
	† Dolores Randazzo	Saint Mark's Parish Family
<b>Wednesday, December 30</b>		
7:30 AM	† Helen G. Malloy	Family
	† Austin Behnken	Family
11:00AM	† Frank Walsh	Marybeth and Joe Walsh
<b>Thursday, December 31</b>		
7:30 AM	† Matthew and Ken Zusi	Family
	† Dorothy Wright	Family
11:00AM	† John P. Healy, Jr.	Mary Murphy
	† Guy Lueddeke	Family
4:30 PM	† Rosalind O'Donnell	Burke Family
	† John Carey	Tom and Pam Kenah
<b>Friday, January 1, 2021</b>		
7:30 AM	† Art McCarthy	Judy and Gene Mulvaney
11:00AM	† Beverly Brandell	Family
	† Harold "Mickey" Fox	Saint Mark's Parish Family
<b>Saturday, January 2</b>		
7:30 AM	† Colette Casey	Estate
4:30 PM	† David Grames	John and Maureen Dough
	† Jane Ferguson	Rose Ann and Robert Ferguson
<b>Sunday, January 3 Epiphany of the Lord</b>		
8:00 AM	People of the Parish	
10:00 AM	† Betty Murray	Carol and David Rahill
	† Alan Smythe	Abrahamson Family
5:00 PM	† Silviano Ramirez	Daughter and Family
	Private Intention, (Special Intention)	Family
	† Eva Villa	Daughter



### Readings for the Week December 27, 2020

**Monday:** 1 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

**Thank You!** We are so grateful to all those who financially sacrifice each week to support our parish and its 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.



Please join us on Friday's for Adoration immediately after 11:00 AM Mass with Benediction at 1:45 PM. It will also be broadcast on livestream @ [stmarkseagirt.com](http://stmarkseagirt.com)



## Pray FOR THE SICK

©JPPC

The list of parishioners, relatives, and friends are in need of your prayers for healing. Note 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. Also if you or a loved one are unable to attend mass and would like to receive Holy Communion in a home or assisted living, please notify Donna at 732-449-6364 ext. 100.

Benjamin Ohlweiler  
Jeremy Pavlick  
Lucy Gargano  
Julia Buonocore  
Fred Buonocore  
Christine Frauenheim  
Alexandra Gavilanes  
Sarah Gallagher  
Jimmy Azzollini

Vivian Wilson  
Ken Hauck  
Dorothy Waugh  
Patricia Cavanaugh  
Rose Courtney  
Grace Philhower  
Jim Bogan  
Maria Valdez  
Ani Slevin

*Eternal Rest grant unto 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.**

† *Karol (Mickey) Fox*

† *Christopher Schneider*

*May the angels lead you into paradise...*



We would like to thank all those who have attended Mass the past few weeks, who wore a mask and adhered to the social distancing requirements. We wish to remind those who are afraid to come to Mass because of health issues, that the dispensation from Sunday and Holy Day obligation will remain in effect until further notice.

Any parishioner who has not been able to attend Mass and would like to have a Eucharistic Minister bring Holy Communion to them, please contact Donna at the rectory, 732-449-6364 x100 or email [donna@stmarkseagirt.com](mailto:donna@stmarkseagirt.com)

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



*The dark night wakes, the glory breaks,  
and Christmas comes once more.*



ONLINE GIVING SIMPLIFIED.

Your generosity and support helps our parish grow in faith, love and support.

Visit our website today at [www.stmarkseagirt.com](http://www.stmarkseagirt.com)  
for information and to sign up.

Parish Giving™  
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Download the Parish Giving app today! Visit



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Code with your smartphone  
for easy, secure online giving.  
Thank you!



Parish Giving offers secure flexible online giving for our parishioners who would like to make their donations online using a credit card or bank transfer. You never have to bring cash or checks to church. Giving electronically also helps the church save money and plan the budget. Check out the website listed for benefits and details.

613 St. Mark Sea Girt NJ 08750

## CYO News

Many thanks to all those who donated new thermal clothing that will be distributed to the homeless on Christmas Day by the Missionaries of Charity sisters. They were delighted to receive them and mentioned to us when we dropped them off that many of the homeless in the area had already contacted them asking if they could receive them soon.

I recall years ago when the CYO spent a day preparing and serving dinners at The Center in Asbury Park that as two men were leaving, we gave them lots of food but they would not take any decorations we offered them. I asked them why and they told me they were homeless. They sought shelter each night underneath the boardwalk, in a train station or an abandoned home. I hugged them both and they left--hauling over their shoulders huge garbage bags carrying all of their world's possessions. Both also had the Aids virus.



I also recall checking out \$200 worth of toys at Kmart a few Christmases ago. The cashier asked me why I had purchased so many toys. I told her that the CYO wanted to donate toys to a local toy drive. This woman abruptly left her cash register, came around to me, hugged me and declared for all to hear that these drives had saved her the year before when she had no money to buy her kids toy for Christmas.

So often we wonder if our contributions make a difference. Yes they do. The proceeds we receive from our wreath sale are helping the destitute poor in Uganda, the girls rejected from their own homes because they choose to give life to their unborn children, and places like Madonna House and the Missionaries of Charity who clothe and feed all the needy people in our area year in and year out.

The CYO reaches out to the good people of St. Mark's ever year with assistance in all our efforts for the poor. Thank you so much and may you all have a blessed and Merry Christmas and a happy and holy new year!

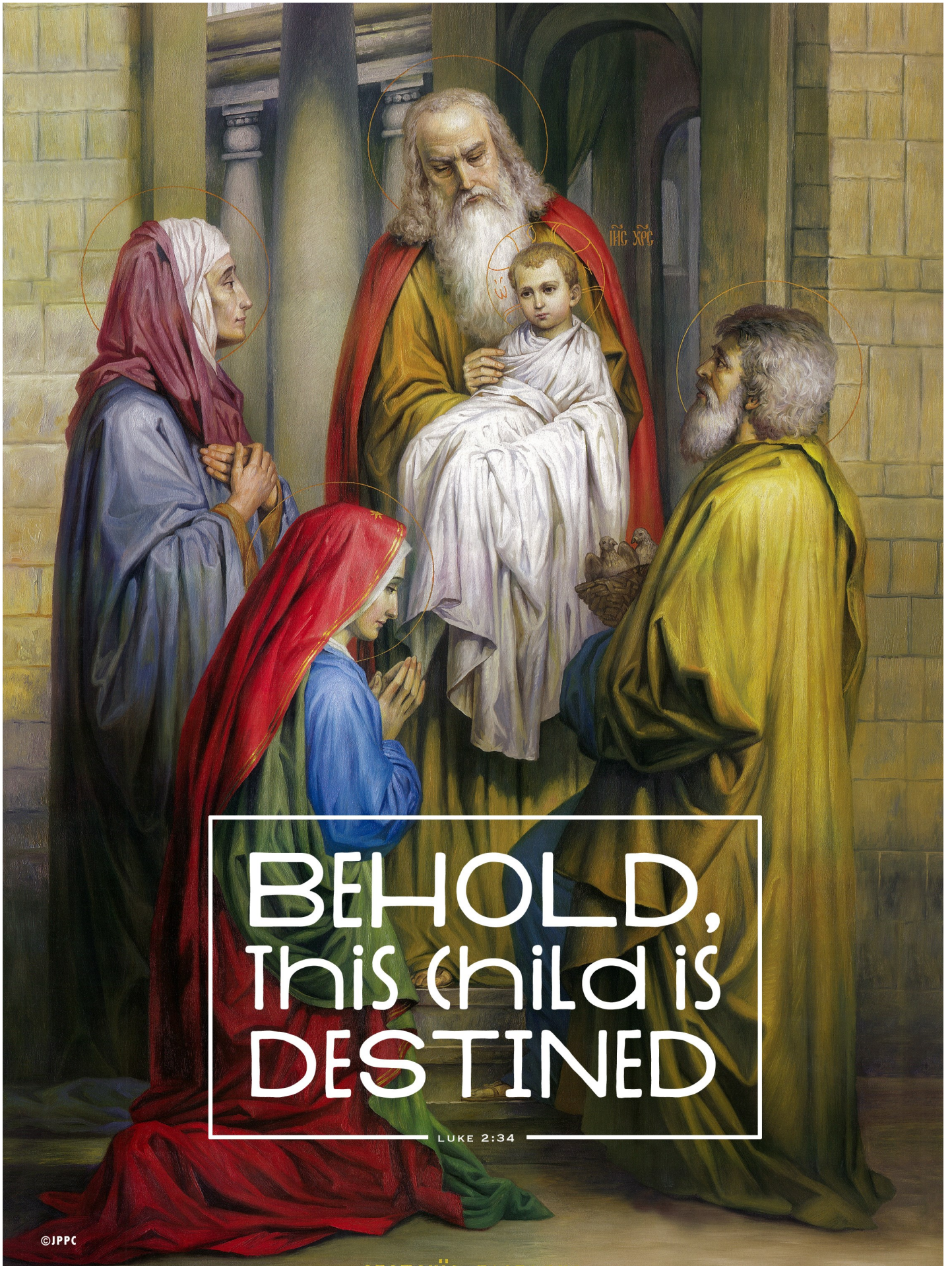


## CYO Christmas Caroling

The CYO stopped by a few homes on the Crescent for Christmas caroling on December 13!

Many thanks to the families that welcomed us: the Lyon's, Schatzman's, Kurtz's, Connellan's, Mayer's and Monsignor Sean!!!!







## Prayer to Jesus for Coronavirus Healing

Jesus Christ You traveled through towns and villages curing every disease and illness. At Your command the sick were made well. Come to our aid now in the midst of the global spread of the corona virus, that we may experience your healing love. Heal those who are sick with the virus, may they regain their strength and health through quality medical care. Heal us from our fear which prevents nations from working together and neighbors from helping one another.

Carry in Your arms those who have died from the virus and bring them home. Be with the families of those who are sick or have died. May they know Your Peace. Be with the doctors, nurses, researchers and all medical professionals who put themselves at risk in serving the sick. May they know your protection. Be with the leaders of all nations. Give them the foresight to act with charity and true concern for the well-being of the people they were meant to serve. Give them the wisdom to invest in long term solutions to help prevent future outbreaks. Our Lord Jesus stay with us as we endure and mourn, persist and prepare. In place of our anxiety, give us Your Peace. Jesus Christ heal us. Amen

### Catholic Charities News

**Community Services is Catholic Charities' link to parishes in the Trenton diocese. Serving families in crises, we provide food, mortgage, rent and utilities assistance, temporary housing, counseling, and immigration services. To learn more about Catholic Charities Community Services visit our You Tube presentation. Click on: <https://youtu.be/-r8YRyPCIY4> If you know of anyone needing assistance, please contact Catholic Charities at 800-360-7711**

## Save-the-Date for the 2021 Bishop's Anniversary Blessing Events

To ensure that all 2020 anniversary couples are able to receive our bishop's personal blessing for the milestone anniversaries of 1 year, 25 years and 50 or more years, Bishop O'Connell extends his invitation to all couples celebrating their 1st or 2nd, 25th or 26th, or 50th or more anniversary in 2021 to the Bishop's Anniversary Blessing events to be held on Sunday, October 10 for Monmouth County Parishes. *Registration will be available in July 2021.* Visit <https://dioceseoftrenton.org/building-strong-marriages>



## St. Mark's Altar Rosary Society

St. Mark's Altar Rosary Society will be reciting the rosary after the 11am mass on the first Monday of each month.

We invite those that cannot make it to church, to join us from home in the recitation of the rosary. In this way we continue to honor our Blessed Mother and follow her directions to continue praying for an end to abortion and all the intentions of her Immaculate Heart.

St. Mark's would like to let our Parishioners know what practices we have in place to protect them during the pandemic so



that they can make informed decisions on whether they feel they would like to attend in person Masses. Social distancing with roped off pews which allows those present to sit at least 6 feet apart, all pews, door handles and railings are sanitized after every Mass daily and during the weekend Masses and Sacraments, sanitizer is at the front and side entrances, bathrooms are cleaned and sanitized on a regular basis, masks must be worn by everyone in the church, the priests and Extraordinary Ministers use hand sanitizer before distributing Communion, Communion is distributed one side at a time to allow for social distance, the windows are open during Mass to help circulate air, collection baskets are placed on the Altar rail rather than the Ushers handling the collection, weekend requirement is entrance thru the front doors for Parishioner count but you may exit thru all doors.

**If you have any questions please call the Rectory Office at 732-449-6364.**

**Please Note:** At this time, because of Covid 19, we are not accepting clothing, or any personal books, devotionals, religious articles or Rosary beads. In the future we will gladly accept your donations, but at the present time and for the safety of all those concerned, we are asking that these items not be left at the church. Thank you.



## *Reflection* by Rev. Leonard N. Peterson

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!





### Our Lady of Guadalupe 2020

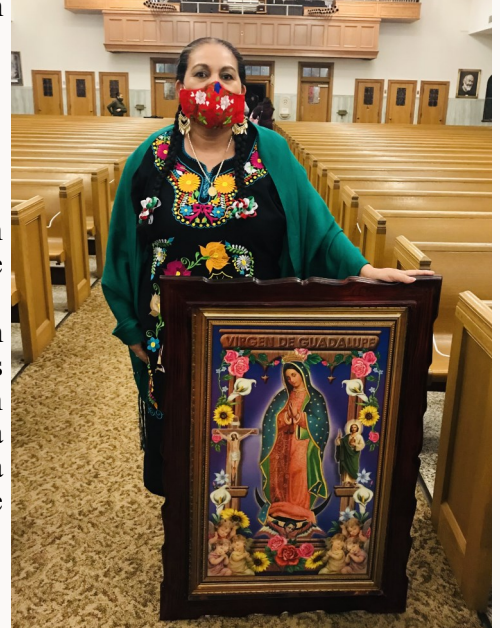
On December 11, many parishioners gathered together at St. Mark's to celebrate our Lady of Guadalupe; on the eve of her feast day.

Many who attended the celebration with their families, said it's an important piece of culture that their parents brought with them from Mexico, a tradition that has been passed down from generation to generation. It's really special to our community to celebrate "Día de la Virgen" as a community; despite the current situation. Our Lady of Guadalupe holds a special place in the religious life of all of us.

### Virgen de Guadalupe 2020

En la noche 11 de diciembre, muchos feligreses se reunieron en San Marcos para celebrar a Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe; en la víspera de su fiesta.

Muchos de los que asistieron a la celebración con sus familias dijeron que es una parte importante de la cultura que trajeron sus padres ellos de México, una tradición que se ha transmitido de generación en generación. Es realmente especial para nosotros celebrar el "Día de la Virgen" como comunidad; a pesar de la situación actual. Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe ocupa un lugar especial en el vida religiosa de todos nosotros.





**Iglesia de "San Marcos" Apostolado Hispano**

**Misa Dominical: Domingo 5:00 p.m.**

**Misa de Semana: Martes 6:00 p.m.**

**Msgr. Sean P. Flynn, Pastor**  
**Rev. José Fernández-Banguesses,**  
**Sacerdote Residente**  
[josefernandez@stmarkseagirt.com](mailto:josefernandez@stmarkseagirt.com)  
Teléfono: (732) 449-6364 ext. 122.

Horario de oficina en Español:  
Lunes, Miércoles y Viernes 9:00 AM-3:00 PM  
**Andrea Martínez, Apostolado Hispano**  
[liz@stmarkseagirt.com](mailto:liz@stmarkseagirt.com)  
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Directora del Ministerio de Religión  
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## **Domingo de Navidad de la Sagrada Familia**

### **Diciembre 27, 2020**

#### **Primera lectura: Génesis 15, 1-6; 21, 1-3**

En aquel tiempo, el Señor se le apareció a Abram y le dijo: "No temas, Abram. Yo soy tu protector y tu recompensa será muy grande". Abram le respondió: "Señor, Señor mío, ¿qué me vas a poder dar, puesto que voy a morir sin hijos? Ya que no me has dado descendientes, un criado de mi casa será mi heredero". Pero el Señor le dijo: "Ése no será tu heredero, sino uno que saldrá de tus entrañas". Y haciéndolo salir de la casa, le dijo: "Mira el cielo y cuenta las estrellas, si puedes". Luego añadió: "Así será tu descendencia". Abram creyó lo que el Señor le decía y, por esa fe, el Señor lo tuvo por justo. Poco tiempo después, el Señor tuvo compasión de Sara, como lo había dicho y le cumplió lo que le había prometido. Ella concibió y le dio a Abraham un hijo en su vejez, en el tiempo que Dios había predicho. Abraham le puso por nombre Isaac al hijo que le había nacido de Sara.

#### **Salmo Responsorial: Salmo 127, 1-2. 3. 4-5.**

##### **Dichoso el que teme al Señor.**

Dichoso el que teme al Señor y sigue sus caminos:  
comerá del fruto de su trabajo, será dichoso, le irá bien.

##### **Dichoso el que teme al Señor.**

Su mujer, como vid fecunda, en medio de su casa;  
sus hijos, como renuevos de olivo, alrededor de su mesa.

##### **Dichoso el que teme al Señor.**

Esta es la bendición del hombre que teme al Señor:  
"Que el Señor te bendiga desde Sión, que veas la prosperidad de Jerusalén todos los días de tu vida."

##### **Dichoso el que teme al Señor.**

#### **Segunda lectura: Colosenses 3, 12-21.**

Hermanos: Puesto que Dios los ha elegido a ustedes, los ha consagrado a él y les ha dado su amor, sean compasivos, magnánimos, humildes, afables y pacientes. Sopórtense mutuamente y perdónense cuando tengan quejas contra otro, como el Señor los ha perdonado a ustedes. Y sobre todas estas virtudes, tengan amor, que es el vínculo de la perfecta unión. Que en sus corazones reine la paz de Cristo, esa paz a la que han sido llamados, como miembros de un solo cuerpo. Finalmente, sean agradecidos. Que la palabra de Cristo habite en ustedes con toda su riqueza. Enséñense y aconséjense unos a otros lo mejor que sepan. Con el corazón lleno de gratitud, alaben a Dios con salmos, himnos y cánticos espirituales; y todo lo que digan y todo lo que hagan, háganlo en el nombre del Señor Jesús, dándole gracias a Dios Padre, por medio de Cristo. Mujeres, respeten la autoridad de sus maridos, como lo quiere el Señor. Maridos, amen a sus esposas y no sean rudos con ellas. Hijos, obedezcan en todo a sus padres, porque eso es agradable al Señor. Padres, no exijan demasiado a sus hijos, para que no se depriman.





**Aclamación antes del Evangelio: Colosenses 3, 15. 16.**

R. Aleluya, aleluya.

Que en sus corazones reine la paz de Cristo;

que la palabra de Cristo habite en ustedes con toda su riqueza.

R. Aleluya.

**Evangelio: Lucas 2, 22-40.**

Transcurrido el tiempo de la purificación de María, según la ley de Moisés, ella y José llevaron al niño a Jerusalén para presentarlo al Señor, de acuerdo con lo escrito en la ley: Todo primogénito varón será consagrado al Señor, y también para ofrecer, como dice la ley, un par de tórtolas o dos pichones. Vivía en Jerusalén un hombre llamado Simeón, varón justo y temeroso de Dios, que aguardaba el consuelo de Israel; en él moraba el Espíritu Santo, el cual le había revelado que no moriría sin haber visto antes al Mesías del Señor. Movid por el Espíritu, fue al templo, y cuando José y María entraban con el niño Jesús para cumplir con lo prescrito por la ley, Simeón lo tomó en brazos y bendijo a Dios, diciendo: “Señor, ya puedes dejar morir en paz a tu siervo, según lo que me habías prometido, porque mis ojos han visto a tu Salvador, al que has preparado para bien de todos los pueblos; luz que alumbra a las naciones y gloria de tu pueblo, Israel”. El padre y la madre del niño estaban admirados de semejantes palabras. Simeón los bendijo, y a María, la madre de Jesús, le anunció: “Este niño ha sido puesto para ruina y resurgimiento de muchos en Israel, como signo que provocará contradicción, para que queden al descubierto los pensamientos de todos los corazones. Y a ti, una espada te atravesará el alma”.

Había también una profetisa, Ana, hija de Fanuel, de la tribu de Aser. Era una mujer muy anciana. De joven, había vivido siete años casada y tenía ya ochenta y cuatro años de edad. No se apartaba del templo ni de día ni de noche, sirviendo a Dios con ayunos y oraciones. Ana se acercó en aquel momento, dando gracias a Dios y hablando del niño a todos los que aguardaban la liberación de Israel. Y cuando cumplieron todo lo que prescribía la ley del Señor, se volvieron a Galilea, a su ciudad de Nazaret. El niño iba creciendo y fortaleciéndose, se llenaba de sabiduría y la gracia de Dios estaba con él.

