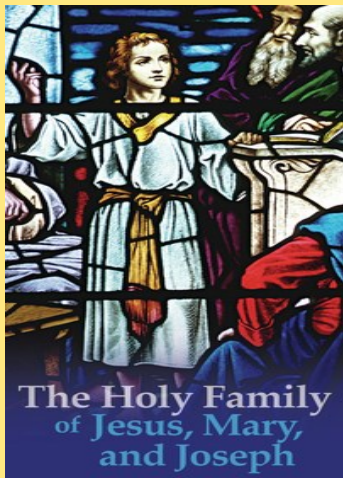




Welcome to The Church of the Sacred Heart

The Mother Church of East Central Minnesota

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph 12/29/19

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Rush City, MN 55069**

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Fr. Chuck Brambilla

Fr. Thomas Fitzgerald

Liturgy of the Eucharist:

Saturday @ 4:00 pm

Sunday @ 9:00 am

Weekdays:

Wednesday@ 9:00 am

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament:

Every Wednesday after 9:00 am Mass

Sacrament of Reconciliation:

First Saturday of each month@ 3:15 pm –3:45 pm

Or by appointment

Office Hours:

Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday @

8:00 am. - 1:00 pm.

sacredheartrcmn.org

RISE



“Rise, take the child and his mother and go to the land of Israel, for those who sought the child’s life are dead.”

MATTHEW 2:20

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

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God is with us!

Gospel Meditation—The Holy Family

“Rise, take the child and his mother, flee to Egypt, and stay there until I tell you.” 725 kilometers. That’s the distance on modern roads from Bethlehem to Cairo. Assuming one covered 40km a day on foot — ambitious for two young parents and their infant son — the journey would take well over two weeks. Of course, the Holy Family didn’t have modern roads. They would travel through wilderness, fear bandits, run low on water, and cross the vast Sinai Peninsula in a reverse of their forefathers in Exodus. Here, in struggle and sacrifice, are the beginnings of the forging of the Holy Family.

“Joseph rose and took the child and his mother by night and departed for Egypt. He stayed there until the death of Herod.” Large Jewish communities existed in most major cities of the ancient Mediterranean world, after the collapse of their kingdoms chronicled in the Old Testament, and Joseph could likely find work as a carpenter. All the same, today’s Gospel reminds us that the first formational years of Jesus as a babe-in-arms were spent in a strange land. The members of the Holy Family were foreigners, outsiders, immigrants.

The Word became flesh and dwelt among us. God took on our humanity. He is in solidarity with our own trials and difficulties. On the feast of the Holy Family, we honor the special place of the family within society. We are invited, too, to recall those families who share in the struggles of the Holy Family in a particular way. We pray for immigrants, asylum seekers, and refugees. We pray for all parents who sacrifice their own well-being and comfort so their children may have a better life.



Daily Prayer This Week

This second week of the Christmas Season can be a great help for our daily connections with our Lord. On Wednesday we have the full and wonderful Solemnity in honor of Mary, in her role as "Mother of God." We can ask her to be our guide all week as we desire to grow closer to her Son. We can read Pope Benedict's words for the World Day of Prayer for Peace (<https://www.catholicbishops.ie/2018/12/31/pope-francis-message-for-world-day-of-prayer-for-peace-on-1-january-2019/>) and ponder them from time to time this week.

As we go through our daily, and often very busy lives in these days after Christmas, we can continue a sense of this brief season by continuing to ask that our Lord come to us in the ways we still need light and healing and peace. For some of us, this will be an easy prayer this week. Waiting faithfully can continue into the Christmas Season.

A special grace to ask for this week would be the gift of celebrating our Lord's presence with us. We can ask for it every morning, as we get going and we can enter into brief conversations with our Lord, in the background, as we encounter some of the places in our life in which we can see more hope, more of an opportunity for peace. This week, we might hold up each member of our family, close friends and neighbors, and those we might work with, seeing and celebrating how our Lord is manifest in them. For some of us, there may be real epiphany moments, when we see what we haven't been seeing, feel what we haven't been feeling or experience a call we haven't felt before. Being watchful for and open to these special post-Christmas moments of grace is very important.

For those of us in the Northern Hemisphere, these days are short and darkness comes early. Perhaps we can light a candle every evening this week at dinner just to celebrate the Light of Jesus that comes into the darkness of our lives.



Celebrants

Mary, Mother of God, Wednesday, January 1st

Fr. Chuck	Sacred Heart	9:00 AM
Fr. Nygaard	St. Gregory's	10:00 AM

Saturday, January 4th

Fr. Chuck	Sacred Heart	4:00 PM
Fr. Shane	St. Gregory's	5:00 PM

Sunday, January 5th

Fr. Chuck	Sacred Heart	9:00 AM
Fr. Shane	St. Gregory's	9:30 AM



Thank you
to all who helped pre-
pare the church for
Christmas.

Liturgical Roles

Wednesday, Jan. 1st at 9:00 am

Lectors: Al Walz, Sue Roth
Communion: Beth Churchsmith*, Clarence & Audrey Larson

Gifts: C. Larson Family

Ushers: Craig Peterson, Don Belland

Servers: Broderick Larson, Maggie Roth

Saturday, Jan. 4th at 4:00 pm

Lectors: Jeremy Albright
Communion: Ginny Thorn, Melanie Wendorff

Gifts: Wendorff Family

Ushers: Paul Wendorff, Dick Ordner

Servers: Ava Wendorff

Sunday, Jan. 5th at 9:00 am

Lectors: Wayne Herberg, Broderick Larson
Communion: Liz Herberg*, David Prickett, Scott Tryon

Gifts: Herberg Family

Ushers: Don Belland, Dennis Kaufmann, Rodney Swanson

Servers: Don Kirchberg, Zoe Wendorff



Mass Intentions



Jan. 4th

Douglas DuWayne Hanson

Jan. 5th

Parishioners

Jan. 8th

Andrew & Sarah Sylvester

Needing our Prayers



PRAYERS
Needed For...

Jim Thorn
Gerald Mollberg
Danielle Peter
Judy Strandmark
Matt Yurick
Jean Isackson
Ann Roth

Sue Roth
Jim Kirchberg
Elaine Schneider
Margarette Brooker
John Hatcher
Savannah Yurick

Due to early submission the Financial update will be posted in the following bulletin.

NEW ENVELOPES FOR CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

Envelopes are now in the back of church for use in remitting installment donations for the Capital Campaign.

They are green in color and should be used as follows:

1. Be sure to put your name (s) where indicated.
2. Write in the amount for a check or cash placed in it.
3. Write in your envelope number if you have one. If not, circle the N/A.
4. On the left, mark the type of donation, monthly, quarterly, etc.
5. When complete, drop in the collection basket.

If you have already made a one-time donation, these envelopes need not be used (unless you would like to add to your previous one, in which case check the "Special Donation" category).

"Capital Campaign Corner"

Financial Update:

Project Goal	\$ 100,000.00
Pledges Received (50)	\$ 56,679.00
Paid to Date	\$ 35,860.00

If you have not returned your pledge card please do so soon.

Thank you for supporting Capital Campaign— A Call to Restore and Preserve.



The Holy Family



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. Luke 2:51-52 (Year C)

On this, the Sunday within the Octave of Christmas, we honor the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph. In honoring them, we also honor all

families, big or small. And in honoring all families, we honor the family of God, the Church. But most especially, we focus in on the hidden, day-to-day life of the Holy Family of Nazareth.

What was it like to live day in and day out in the household of St. Joseph? What was it like to have Jesus for a son, Mary as a wife and

mother, and Joseph as a father and husband? Their home would have certainly been a sacred place and a dwelling of true peace and unity. But it would have also been so much more.

The family home of Jesus, Mary and Joseph would have been, in numerous ways, just like any other home. They would have related together, talked, had fun, disagreed, worked, eaten, dealt with problems, and encountered everything else that makes up daily family life.

Of course, the virtues of Jesus and Mary were perfect, and St. Joseph was a truly "just man." Therefore, the overriding characteristic of their home would have been love.

But with that said, their family would not have been exempt from daily toil, hurt and challenges that face most families. For example, they would have encountered the death of loved ones, St. Joseph most likely passed away prior to Jesus' public ministry. They would have encountered misunderstanding and gossip from others. Our Blessed Mother, for example, was found with child out of wedlock. This would have been a topic of discussion among many acquaintances for sure. They would have had to fulfill all daily chores, earn a living, put food on the table, attend gatherings of family and friends and the like. They would have lived normal family life in every way.

This is significant because it reveals God's love for family life. The Father allowed His Divine Son to live this life and, as a result, elevated family life to a place within the Trinity. The holiness of the Holy Family reveals to us that every family is invited to share in God's divine life and to encounter ordinary daily life with grace and virtue. Reflect, today, upon your own family life. Some families are strong in virtue, some struggle with basic communication. Some are faithful day in and day out, some are broken and deeply wounded. No matter the case, know that God wants to enter more deeply into your family life just as it is right now. He desires to give you strength and virtue to live as the Holy Family. Surrender yourself and your family, this day, and invite the Triune God to make your family a holy family.

Lord, I do offer myself to You this day and in doing so I offer You my family. I offer every relationship, be it good or difficult, and I offer every challenge we face. Please come and sanctify my family, making it holy in imitation of your family in Nazareth. Jesus, I trust in You.