St. Michael Catholic Church

201 North 4th Street, Fernandina Beach, FL 32034

www.stmichaelscatholic.com

Formed in the Spirit. A year of equipping our families for the work of ministry to build up the body of Christ

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph
December 26, 2021

Clergy
Rev. Jose Kallukalam
Pastor

Parish Office

Mon – Fri 9.00am–4.00pm

Phone (904) 261-3472
Emergency (904) 277-6566
Emergency calls must be made by patient, family, or care facility.

Mass Times

Saturday Vigil	5.00pm
Sunday	8.00am
Sunday	10.00am
Sunday	12.00pm

Daily Mass

M W Th F	8.30am
Tues	6.00pm

Confession

Sat 4.00pm –4.45pm
or by appointment.

Adoration

Thur 9.00am –9.30am

Saint Michael Academy
www.smacad.org
(904) 321-2102

Ms. Susan Dorner
Principal

Our Mission
We are called to gather for worship, celebrate the paschal mysteries, preach the Gospel, minister to others, and be witnesses to the world.

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph

FAMILY LIFE

Christmas celebrates the Incarnation, the "en-flesh-ment" of God as a human person. In Jesus, God is bodily present in the human story. Today we honor the Holy Family, helping us to see that God is active in daily family life. God is near at hand, amidst the tensions, joys, and uncertainties of family life. As our Gospel passage describes, even with family miscommunications and with limited understanding of Jesus' mission, the Holy Family persevered in their life together. Like many family conflicts, there was no immediate or clear resolution of the issues raised by Jesus and by Mary. God's intentions for the family, and for Jesus, were still unfolding. They continued to stay connected with each other and with God. Within the turbulence of family life, they trusted God to actively sustain and guide them into an uncertain future. We are invited to follow their example.

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!

SAINT MICHAEL CATHOLIC CHURCH
Parish Office • (904) 261-3472
www.stmichaelscatholic.com

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Patty O'Neill, *Bookkeeper*
Jake Gosa, *Pastoral Council Chairman*
Mike Mayer, *Finance Council Chairman*

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph

It wasn't at all what Mary and Joseph expected their life to be like. Almost from the beginning, there were indications that something extraordinary was at work: Mary's angelic annunciation; Joseph's strange dream; the puzzling words of Simeon and Anna in the Temple. And now this: during Mary and Joseph's annual Passover journey to Jerusalem, the discovery that their son Jesus was lost—and even when he was found, they didn't totally recognize their twelve-year-old boy. Today's feast of the Holy Family reminds us of the perplexities and promise of family life. The mystery of "the Word made flesh" becomes very tangible indeed in the routines and foibles of family life—our Christmas gatherings were likely unmistakable reminders of that! From the pure flesh of a newborn child to the wizened flesh of a beloved grandmother, families are ground zero for glimpsing the wondrous mystery of the Incarnation.

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph
December 26, 2021
Beloved, we are God's children now;
what we shall be
has not yet been revealed.
— 1 John 3:2a

SAVE THE DATE

ST. MICHAEL'S

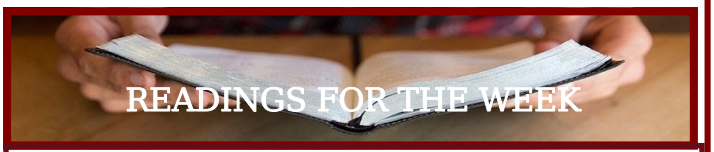
150TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

FEBRUARY 18th, 19th & 20th - 2022

Be sure to mark your calendars TODAY and save the dates...February 18, 19 & 20, 2022.

Watch your email and parish bulletin for additional updates and information coming soon.

LITURGY AND MINISTRY



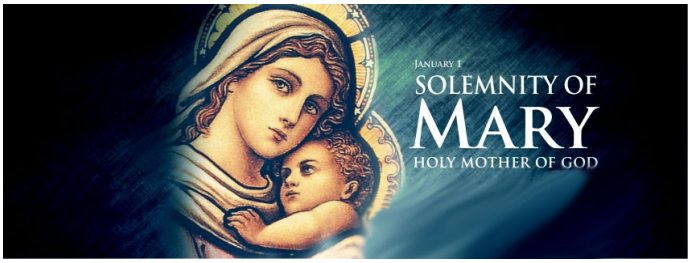
TODAY'S READINGS
First Reading — Hannah gives her son Samuel back to the LORD, leaving him in the temple at Shiloh: "As long as he lives, he shall be dedicated to the LORD" (1 Samuel 1:20-22, 24-28) *or Sirach 3:2-6, 12-14.*
Psalm — Blessed are they who dwell in your house, O Lord (Psalm 84) *or Psalm 128.*
Second Reading — We are children of God when we believe in the name of God's Son, Jesus Christ, and love one another just as he commanded us (1 Jn 3:1-2, 21-24) *or Colossians 3:12-21 [12-17].*
Gospel — Joseph and Mary find the lost Jesus in the temple in the midst of the teachers, listening to them and asking questions (Luke 2:41-52).

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: 1 Jn 1:1-4; Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12; Jn 20:1a, 2-8
Tuesday: 1 Jn 1:5 — 2:2; Ps 124:2-5, 7b-8; Mt 2:13-18
Wednesday: 1 Jn 2:3-11; Ps 96:1-3, 5b-6; Lk 2:22-35
Thursday: 1 Jn 2:12-17; Ps 96:7-10; Lk 2:36-40
Friday: 1 Jn 2:18-21; Ps 96:1-2, 11-13; 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, 10-13; Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6; Mt 2:1-12

FROM THE DIOCESE
HOW TO REPORT ABUSE

The Diocese of St. Augustine treats all allegations of sexual misconduct seriously and deals with all allegations in a prompt, confidential, and thorough manner. To Report Abuse, call the police or the Department of Children and Families at (800) 962-2873. Or call the Diocesan Victim Assistance Coordinator at (904) 208-6979 or email inquiries@dosafl.com. To report abuse by a bishop(800) 276-1562 or visit www.reportbishopabuse.org



The solemnity of the Mother of God, which now coincides with the octave-day of Christmas and the beginning of the new year, was probably assigned this day because of the influence of the Byzantine Church, which celebrates the synapsis of the most holy Theotokos on December 26. This is in accordance with the Eastern practice of honoring secondary persons on the day after the feast of the principal personage (in this case, the birth of Christ). The Coptic Church celebrates this feast on January 16, but in the West, as early as the fifth century, the feast was celebrated on the Sunday before Christmas, although in France it was celebrated on January 18 and in Spain on December 18. Even before Pope Sergius introduced four Marian feasts in the seventh century (the Birth of Mary, the Annunciation, the Purification and the Assumption), the octave day of Christmas was celebrated in Rome in honor of the Maternity of Mary. Later, in the thirteenth and fourteenth centuries, the feast of the Circumcision was added, although it had been introduced into Spain and France at the end of the sixth century and was later included in the Missal of Pope St. Pius V. The recent liturgical reform has restored the original Roman practice, which replaced the pagan feast of the New Year, dedicated to the god Janus, with this feast honoring the Mother of God.

A popular movement began in Portugal in the eighteenth century for a feast honoring Mary's maternity, and in 1914 the date of the feast was fixed on October 11. It was extended to the entire Latin Church in 1931, the fifteenth centenary of the Council of Ephesus. The restoration of the feast to January 1, which falls in the Christmas season and has an ecumenical significance, coincides with other anniversaries; for example, the octave day of Christmas, the circumcision of the Infant Jesus (assigned to the first Sunday of January); the feast of the Holy Name of Jesus (which dates back to 1721); and the day for peace, introduced by Pope Paul VI.

Pope Paul VI states: "This celebration, assigned to January 1 in conformity with the ancient liturgy of the city of Rome, is meant to commemorate the part played by Mary in this mystery of salvation. It is meant also to exalt the singular dignity which this mystery brings to the 'holy Mother . . . through whom we were found worthy . . . to receive the Author of life.' It is likewise a fitting occasion for renewed adoration of the newborn Prince of Peace, for listening once more to the glad tidings of the angels, and for imploring from God, through the Queen of Peace, the supreme gift of peace. For this reason . . . we have instituted the World Day of Peace, an observance that is gaining increasing support and is already bringing forth fruits of peace in the hearts of many".

PRAYER OF THE WEEK
The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph

O God, who were pleased to give us
the shining example of the Holy Family,
graciously grant that we may imitate them
in practicing the virtues of family life
and in the bonds of charity,
and so, in the joy of your house,
delight one day in eternal rewards.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
God, for ever and ever. Amen

THE NAME FOR GOD

Mother is the name for God on the lips and in the hearts of little children.
—William Makepeace Thackeray

DID YOU NOT KNOW?

A child's first words are usually a source of excitement and joy for family members. Today we hear the first words of Jesus in the Gospel according to Luke. And they are challenging ones. "Why were you looking for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?" The words *astounded, astonished,* and *great anxiety* are used to describe Jesus' extended visit to the Temple. How familiar those emotions are to most parents! Had Jesus' parents forgotten the angel Gabriel's words or the prophecy of Simeon? In Luke's Gospel this passage foreshadows Jesus' final journey to Jerusalem where he will experience his own Passover and again be "lost" for three days. The story of Hannah in the first reading confirms the need and nature of trusting in God's activity in our lives. It seems clear that faithful attention to a family's spiritual life is no guarantee that life will be free from hardship.

EMMANUEL: GOD IS WITH US

Could Tolstoy have gotten it wrong when he wrote that all happy families are alike and that unhappy families are each unhappy in their own way? It seems that the opposite is equally true. Because happy families foster the unique talents and interests of each member, each person shines according to their own lights. A happy family's faith, goals, and challenges will be uniquely their own. Unhappy families, on the other hand, might look very similar in their woundedness, their fears and confrontations, and their tendency to give negative interpretations to another's actions.

It is tempting to conclude that family life today is more problematic than ever. It might be reassuring to learn that the feast of the Holy Family was added to the Church's universal calendar because of Pope Leo XIII's concern for the state of family life—one hundred years ago! During this season of Christmas when families are everywhere, we welcome Emmanuel—the God who has pitched his tent among us.

REQUEST FOR THE HOLY EUCHARIST AND VISIITATION

You may know a parishioner who is a relative or friend who due to illness, accident, or recovering from a medical procedure, is unable to attend Mass. Whether short or long term, these faithful need not to be deprived of their place of prayer and reception of Holy Communion. St. Michael's Extraordinary Eucharistic Ministers to the Homebound represent our Parish in visitation to Baptist Nassau Hospital, the local nursing/assisted living facilities, and private homes. Visitation requests should be directed to the Parish Office at 261-3472.

Show your St. Michael pride and support the 150th Anniversary events.

Merchandise is available for purchase by clicking on the "**150 MERCHANDISE**" button on the home page of the parish website. Navigate to www.stmichaelscatholic.com day or night to check out the goodies and make your purchase.

The Parish Office will be closed on December 27th .

Prayer Request

Please pray for all requests in our Prayer Request Book in the church. Please pray for the sick and those who have died especially our Parishioners. May the souls of the faithful departed through the mercy of God rest in peace.

BAPTISM CLASS

If you have a child/children to be baptized, it is mandatory that at least one parent attend a baptism class. It is held on the last Thursday of the month, If you plan to attend, please call the parish office to register, 904 -261-3472.

OFFERTORY
December 12

Registered Parishioners		3866
Offertory	$	18,705.50
Online Giving	$	7,046.50
Children's Collection	$	108.80
Debt Reduction	$	1,580.00
Online Debt Reduction	$	578.50
TOTAL	**$**	**28,019.30**

NEEDED AMOUNT

$ 24,152.00 per week

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WWW.STMICHAELSCATHOLIC.COM

Already a parishioner? Have you moved, changed phone numbers or email? Contact the parish office so we can stay up-to-date!

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MINISTRY SCHEDULE

Christmas Day
Saturday December 25 8.00am. 10.00am, 12.00pm
Please see your schedules

Sunday December 26	**8.00 am**
Lectors	John Barada, Tom Oden
Ushers	Larry Moore, Dawn Lunt
EMs	Pam Stumpp, Sue Riegler
Altar Servers	Ed Velazquez, Tim Gowins
Sunday December 26	**10.00am**
Lectors	Bart Kreger, Sally Fulford
Ushers	John Martin, Kathy Clarke
EMs	Marcia Kreger, Peggy Fuller, Andy Godek
Altar Servers	Maddison Sellers, Zander Sellers, Emma Godek
Sunday December 26	**12.00 pm**
Lectors	Frank Gallo, JoAnne Gallo
Ushers	Kathy Clarke, Scott Kerbert
EMs	Donna Riess, Pat Avakian, Kim Varane
Altar Servers	Liam Heyden, Rory Heyden, Sydney Wagnstrom
Saturday January 1	**5.00 pm**
Lectors	
Ushers	Pam Vieser, Kathy Clarke
EMs	Pam Stumpp, Ed & Anne Velazquez
Altar Servers	
Sunday January 2	**8.00 am**
Lectors	
Ushers	Larry Moore, Dawn Lunt
EMs	Helen Tufaro, Valerie Gosnell
Altar Servers	
Sunday January 2	**10.00am**
Lectors	
Ushers	John Martin, Kathy Clarke
EMs	Peggy Fuller, Sr. Rose, Sr. Josephine
Altar Servers	
Sunday January 2	**12.00 pm**
Lectors	
Ushers	Kathy Clarke, Scott Kerbert
EMs	Pat Avakian, Elizabeth Stoner, Pat Gosa
Altar Servers	

PARISH CALENDAR

		MASS INTENTIONS	PARISH EVENTS
Saturday December 25	8.00am	*Jane Kayser* *By Paul Kayser*	Christmas Day
	10.00am	*Gary Lee Watson* *By Charles M. & Rochelle J. Watson*	
	12.00pm	*Bader Family* *By Linda Bader*	
Sunday December 26	8am	*Linda McCall* *By Elizabeth Stoner*	RCIA Class , SMA Library 8.00AM
	10am	*John Thekkumthala* *By Sr. Josephine's Family*	
	12.00pm	*St. Michael's Parishioners*	
Monday December 27	8.30am	*Geraldine Youngross* *By Patricia Underhill*	Beatitude Catholic Bible Study 1.00pm Parish Hall
Tuesday December 28	6.00pm	*Rosemary Robinson* *By Mary Atkinson*	
Wednesday December 29	8.30am	*Shirley A. Murphy* *By Sally & Dave Coyles Family*	Maureen Choir Practice, 5:30 – 7:30pm, Church
Thursday December 30	8.30am	*Madeline Pasquale* *By Donna Walters*	
Friday December 31	8.30am	*Todd Washechek* *By Sally & Dave Coyles Family*	New year Eve, Office is Closed
Saturday January 1	5.00pm	*Mary Faith Callahan* *By Tony & Barbara Conticelli*	
Sunday January 2	8.00am	*St. Michael Parishioners*	
	10am	*Joseph Youngross* *By Patricia Underhill*	
	12.00pm	*Tom Sessman* *By Marie & Rose-Ann*	

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