



Behold,
the virgin
shall be
with child
and bear a son,
and they shall
name him

Emmanuel

MATTHEW 1:23 | CHRISTMAS 2022

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THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD DECEMBER 25, 2022

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 24 – VIGIL OF CHRISTMAS

3:00 p.m. (HT) Living & Deceased Members of
Holy Trinity Parish

LECTOR Mitch Altier

EUCH. MINIST. Teresa Stevenson

5:00 p.m. (SJ) Living & Deceased Members of
St. Joseph Parish

LECTOR Tim Kirby

EUCH. MINIST. John Yinger

7:00 p.m. (HT) Intentions of the Celebrant

LECTOR Sister Nancy

EUCH. MINIST. Jane Campbell

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 25 –

THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD

8:00 a.m. (SJ) Repose of the Souls of People Listed
on the Christmas Flower List

LECTOR Tim Russell

EUCH. MINIST. Nancy Shumaker

10:00 a.m. (HT) Christmas Novena

LECTOR Trinidad Cano

EUCH. MINIST. Rose Rath

MONDAY, DECEMBER 26 –

ST. STEPHEN, THE FIRST MARTYR

7:00 p.m. (SJ) For the Christmas Novena Intentions

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 27 –

ST. JOHN, APOSTLE & EVANGELIST

8:00 a.m. (SJ) For the Christmas Novena Intentions

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 28 –

THE HOLY INNOCENTS, MARTYRS

8:00 a.m. (SJ) For the Christmas Novena Intentions

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 29 – FIFTH DAY WITHIN THE OCTAVE OF THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD

8:00 a.m. (SJ) For the Christmas Novena Intentions

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 30 –

THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY & JOSEPH

8:00 a.m. (SJ) For the Christmas Novena Intentions

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 31 – SEVENTH DAY WITHIN THE OCTAVE OF THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD

8:00 a.m. (SJ) For the Christmas Novena Intentions

4:00-4:45 p.m. Confession at Holy Trinity Church

VIGIL: SOLEMNITY OF MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD

5:00 p.m. (HT) L/D Members of Holy Trinity Parish

LECTOR Mike Clouse

EUCH. MINIST. Julie Nash

SUNDAY, JANUARY 1 – SOLEMNITY OF MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD

8:00 a.m. (SJ) L/D Members of St. Joseph Parish

LECTOR Tim Russell

EUCH. MINIST. Lucinda/John Yinger

10:00 a.m. (HT) For the Christmas Novena Intentions

LECTOR Tim Carpenter

EUCH. MINIST. Leah Woneymaker

Please remember in your prayers the sick, and the shut-ins of our parishes and community: Rick Loughman, Doug Decot, Bella Decot, Dina (Williams) Glende, Erin Ours, Bill Johnson, Anita Berkhiemer, Karen Swinderman, Sara Wells, Juanita Hitchens, Mabel & Mary Wagner, Hannah Wilson, Pat Sterner, Francie Baughman, Martha Sagan, Dave Schrider, Susan Boyle, Bennett & Rhett Skinner, and our loved ones who have died.



Thank you to all who respond weekly to our parish's financial needs. Your generosity is greatly appreciated. We encourage you to consider Online giving, which is safe, secure, and convenient. Holy Trinity is set up for online giving. Simply hover your smartphone camera over this code and it will take you to a safe and secure way to set up online donations to Holy Trinity. You can also make your pledge payment for the Beacon on the Hill Campaign through online giving. If you have any problems, please contact Kimberly Bissell at the parish office, 743-1317. We are working on setting up online giving for St. Joseph Church as well. Please consider Fr. LaCasse's request to increase your weekly offering by \$5.00 to help us pay our bills and payroll.

Reasons to give online: REASON 1: Online giving makes you more efficient. When you are sick, you are still able to give to the Church that week. When you are on vacation, you won't forget to support the Church. When you are out of checks at home, you still give. If your goal is to support your parish, you can do so better by giving online.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

CHRISTMAS NOVENA – This year, we will have a nine-day Christmas Novena starting on Christmas Day through January 2. All Christmas Novena Masses will be celebrated for all the intentions of both Holy Trinity and St. Joseph Parishioners.



CHURCH CLEANING ST. JOSEPH'S

Week of December 25 – Patty Frame & Mary White

Week of January 1 and 8 – Pat Kirby & Wanda Miller

CHURCH CLEANING HOLY TRINITY

Month of December – Katrina Heath & Kathleen Shonk

Month of January – Rita Crossan & Rita Schmeltzer

If you are interested in being added to the church cleaning schedule for either parish, please call the office. We are in need of someone to clean at Holy Trinity the month of February.

ATTENTION, EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS AND LECTORS –

Schedules are now available in the back of both churches. At Holy Trinity they are on the white table on the ramp side and at St. Joseph they are on the tables behind the last pew. Please be sure to pick up your schedule.

EMMAUS ROAD SCHOLARSHIP FUND – Consider donating to the Emmaus Road Scholarship Fund before the end of this year to receive a dollar-for-dollar state tax credit of up to \$1,500. What a great opportunity to direct your tax dollars to be used directly for the benefit of our school's tuition scholarships! Contact Kimberly Bissell in the parish office at 743-1317 with any questions.

CATHOLIC MEN'S MEETING: 2nd and 4th Saturday of the month, 7:30 a.m.-9:00 a.m. at St. Rose of Lima PCC lower level. Next meeting is Saturday, December 24th; breakfast will be served. For more information, contact John Gable at 614-270-6694.

GIVE YOURSELF THE GIFT OF TIME WITH JESUS AND YOUR SISTERS IN CHRIST AT THE COLUMBUS CATHOLIC WOMEN'S CONFERENCE ON SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 18TH.

WOMEN'S CONFERENCE: Inviting All Women... please mark your calendar now for the **Columbus Catholic Women's Conference** on Saturday, February 18th, 2023, from 8:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m. at the Ohio Expo Center. Our theme is "Light Shines in the Darkness" (John 1:5). Register now at www.columbuscatholicwomen.com. Come ready to rest, refresh and renew with the Lord and with sisters in Christ from around the diocese and beyond. You don't want to miss this uplifting, annual event for women to grow in faith, hope and love.

MEN'S CONFERENCE: The 26th annual Catholic Men's Conference will be Saturday, February 25, 2023 at the Ohio Expo Center. For more information or to register, visit www.catholicmensministry.com.



DECEMBER 25, 2022: SOLEMNITY OF THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD.

A blessed Solemnity of the Nativity of the Lord, and a Very Merry Christmas to all! I wish to express my grateful thanks for your generosity to the Christmas Collection, which we depend upon for the financial stability of our beloved parish. And a special thank-you to all who have been generous in the Christmas flowers collection.



As we come to worship the new born King of Kings, Jesus Christ, we come in thanksgiving to God for His many blessings in our lives, especially the blessing of faith and family. In a very special way, please remember those who are alone this Christmas and those who have lost loved ones since last Christmas. This Christmas, please take some time to make a phone call or visit someone you know is alone or mourning the loss of loved ones. Christmas is a joyful celebration, but for many it is also a challenge. Let us not forget them and let us pray for them.

Let us also remember one another and our parish this Christmas, we have so much to be grateful for, especially the Lord Jesus in the Eucharist at Mass. We welcome all coming here to worship, and family members coming home for reunions. As I remind the children of the school every time I celebrate Mass for them, our parish and school is a School of Love. Love for God and love for one another. This Christmas, let us pray that every day we will grow in our desire to become "Intentional Missionary Disciples of Jesus Christ," telling others of the love that we have discovered in the Christ Child born for the salvation of the entire world.

The Christmas Season begins the eve of Christmas and continues all the way to January 9, the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord. Please remember that before Christmas we observe the Advent season, now we are in the Christmas Season. Now is the time to celebrate with Christmas parties and reunions. Let's make sure we keep in mind this wonderful liturgical season of Christmas right up until its end on January 9th, the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord.

This Christmas, I have selected a sermon by St. Augustine, Bishop of Hippo, Africa, for you to take a few minutes of prayer and reflection:

"Awake, mankind! For your sake God has become man. *Awake, you who sleep, rise up from the dead, and Christ will enlighten you.* I tell you again: for your sake, God became man.

You would have suffered eternal death, had he not been born in time. Never would you have been freed from sinful flesh, had he not taken on himself the likeness of sinful flesh. You would have suffered everlasting unhappiness, had it not been for his mercy. You would never have returned to life, had he not shared your death. You would have been lost if he had not hastened to your aid. You would have perished, had he not come.

Let us then joyfully celebrate the coming of our salvation and redemption. Let us celebrate the festive day on which he who is the great and eternal day came from the great and endless day of eternity into our own short day of time."

He has become our justice, our sanctification, our redemption, so that, as it is written: Let him who glories glory in the Lord.

Truth, then, has arisen from the earth: Christ who said, *I am the Truth*, was born of a virgin. *And justice looked down from heaven:* because believing in this new born child, man is justified not by himself but by God.

Truth has arisen from the earth: because *the Word was made flesh.* *And justice looked down from heaven:* because believing in this new-born child, man is justified not by himself but by God.

Truth has arisen from the earth: flesh from Mary. *And justice looked down from heaven:* for *man can receive nothing unless it has been given him from heaven.*

Justified by faith, let us be at peace with God: for *Truth has arisen from the earth.* *Through whom we have access to that grace in which we stand, and our boast is in our hope of God's glory.* He does not say: "of our glory," but *of God's glory:* for *justice* has not proceeded from us but has *looked down from heaven.* Therefore *he who glories, let him glory, not in himself, but in the Lord.*

For this reason, when our Lord was born of the Virgin, the message of the angelic voices was: *Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth.*

For how could there be peace on earth unless *Truth has arisen from the earth*, that is, unless Christ were born of our flesh? And *he is our peace who made the two into one:* That we might be men of good will, sweetly linked by the bond of unity.

Let us then rejoice in this grace, so that our glorying may bear witness to our good conscience by which we glory, not in ourselves, but in the Lord. That is why Scripture says: *He is my glory, the one who lifts up my head.* For what greater grace could God have made to dawn on us than to make his only Son become the son of man, so that a son of man might in his turn become son of God?

Ask if this were merited; ask for its reason, for its justification, and see whether you will find any other answer but sheer grace."

God bless you, and a blessed Christmas Octave to all,

Rev. Arthur Joseph LaCasse, S.J.

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