



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

Luke 2:40

THE HOLY FAMILY OF
Jesus, Mary & Joseph

Sunday, December 31, 2023 - Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph



Masses For The Week

Monday, January 1 (Church) - SOLEMNITY OF MARY

10:00am - ALL PARISHIONERS

Tuesday, January 2 (Chapel)

9:00am - Connie Pijor - Dale & Linda Wolfe

Wednesday, January 3 - (Church)

6:30pm - Leo & Mildred DeChant

Thursday, January 4 - (Chapel)

9:00am - For the homebound - Ernie Walker

Friday, January 5 (Chapel)

9:00am - Dorothy Morley Kantosky - Bill Kantosky

Saturday, January 6

4:30pm - Marissa Kovach - Family

Sunday, January 7

8:30am - Catherine Buckland - Daryl Buckland

11:00am - Timothy Grealis - Family

Parish Council

Kim Wilfong

(Chair)

Beth Adams

Andrew Carden

Michelle Denham

Sarah Hoover

Chris Martin

Rosemarie Pierson

(Vice-Chair)

Christian Roig

Margie Toombs

Jean Witt

Kathy Yourkiewicz

Vincent Zemanek

Finance Council

Brad Neumann

Joan Radzynski

Jim Ries

Bryan Scheetz

Dennis Wilfong

Chris Yacobozzi

Building Committee

Lewis Behlke

Joanna Blaz

Jim Ries

Greg Rowe

Mike Ruebensaal

Mike Serdinak

Ken Shifferly

Darlene Stutz

Patrick Weir

Rick Wiedenmannott

Sandy Yovanovich

Prayer Intentions: Tina Abshire, Kristen Barney, Kathy Borowy, Lou Burrows, Deborah Cormier, Cathy Cornish, Jennifer DuPont, Ethel Faber, Karen Faulkner, Walter Fowler, Dennis Frabotta, Alyassa Frost, Don Gates, Marcie Grealis, Marilyn Hamm, Dorothy Hannes, Richard Heath, Joan Henschel-Blake, Gloria Janosko, James Kwiatak, Bob & Joyce Lark, Debbie Listwak, Ron Listwak, Toni Long, R. Lottman, Jose' Magiste, Neil Maier, Elise Martin, Hannah Haas Martin, Christopher Miller & Family, Michele Miller, Becca Mullins, George & Margaret Murray, Philip Myers, Rhonda Norman, John O'Connor, Ron O'Hearn, Maggie Oros, Mark Petricevic, Jane Peyton, Donald Plas, Adam Postelwait, Colleen Ray, Gladys Rising, Adam Rone, Mary Ross, Cristina Safille, George Schaefer, Monica Schaefer, Paul Smith, Rhonna Smith, Thomas Southam, Megan Thrasher & Family, Al Traxler, Ted Turner, Rick Tylicki, Roger VON Seggern, Melody Wallace, Dick & Nancy Webber, Ezra Weller, Daniel White, Pat Wittine, Amy Woodburn, Pat Wracker & Bernadette Zielinski.

Please call the Parish Office on (440) 926-2364 or email us at info@olqpgrafton.org to have a name of a friend or relative included in this list.

BULLETIN DEADLINES:

For inclusion in a weekly bulletin, please submit all announcements to Joanna at jblaz@olqpgrafton.org by the following dates:

Sunday January 7 by 5:00pm Monday January 1

Sunday January 14 by 5:00pm Monday January 8



READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Sunday

Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

Sir 3:2-6, 12-14 or Gn 15:1-6, 21:1-3; Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5 or Ps 105:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9; Col 3:12-21 or 3:12-17 or Heb 11:8, 11-12, 17-19; Lk 2:22-40

Monday

Solemnity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Mother of God

Nm 6:22-27; Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8; Gal 4:4-7; Lk 2:16-21

Tuesday

1 Jn 2:22-28; Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4; Jn 1:19-28

Wednesday

1 Jn 2:29-3:6; Ps 98:1, 3cd-4, 5-6; Jn 1:29-34

Thursday

1 Jn 3:7-10; Ps 98:1, 7-8, 9; Jn 1:35-42

Friday

1 Jn 3:11-21; Ps 100; 1b-2, 3, 4, 5; Jn 1:43-51

Saturday

1 Jn 5:5-13; Ps 147:12-13, 14-15, 19-20; Mk 1:7-11 or Lk 3:23-38 or Lk 3:23, 31-34, 36, 38

Sunday

The Epiphany of the Lord

Is 60:1-6; Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13; Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6; Mt 2:1-12

WELCOME! If you are interested in joining OLQP, please call the parish office at 440.926.2364 or go to our website at www.olqpgrafton.org. Registration forms are on our website and by the bulletin board in the Gathering Area.

FATHER JOHN'S CORNER:

In looking back at previous bulletins, I found that I wrote the following in 2017:

"Yes, it was a confusing and hectic schedule this year with Christmas falling on a Monday. It will not fall on Monday again until 2023. I agree, it sounds like a long time, but five years go by very quickly! Just think of what the parish will look like in 5 years. Who will be here and who will not? Will we continue to grow? Will we be more vibrant, and faith filled? I believe who we will be will depend on whether we are open to God's will or our own plans and agendas. God has amazing things in store for us, so in five years we will be an amazing parish. But only if we are open to responding to the will of God in our lives."

One of the biggest things that happened in the past 5 years is of course the COVID-19 pandemic. In addition to the restrictions and precautions, there was an increase in deaths and decrease in Mass attendance. We are just now starting to return to normal. There has also been an increase in housing construction which has added new parishioners to our community. And preparations were made to finally start the second phase of the parish building project that was planned when the church building was built 14 years ago. I invite you to reflect on your experiences of the past five years. What are the liturgical celebrations that stand out for you? Weddings? Funerals? First Communions?

And of course, we look forward. In the years ahead we will explore God's amazing plan for us in our families and in our parish family. The challenge is to be open to God's will for us, which will always assure us that whatever happens in our life, God will be there for us. This weekend we celebrate the Solemnity of the Holy Family. As we step off into a new year, may we do so as a family of God, confident that the Holy Spirit is leading us in the Father's plan.

--Fr. John

CHRISTMAS GRATITUDE

THANK YOU to all the Liturgical Ministers who served the Masses of the 4th Sunday of Advent and Christmas all in 3 days! You took the time out of your own schedule to plan, prepare and serve the parish community. Thank you to the Art and Environment, Altar Servers, Cantors, Choir, Eucharist Ministers, Greeters, Lectors, Mass Coordinators, Musicians, and Ushers. Together, with all who were assembled for the Masses, you made our worship a great praise to God.

GOSPEL REFLECTION

Sunday Gospel Reflection will meet on **Saturday, January 13th at 10am in the parish hall** to reflect upon the gospels for the Sundays of Ordinary Time leading up to Ash Wednesday (2-4th Sundays of Ordinary Time). At each session the gospel is read and time to share what each person heard from the passage. There is no right, or wrong interpretation and this process begins the preparation to hear the message God has for each of us through his Word at Mass.



SCRIPTURE STUDY

Thursday, January 11th is the First lesson of "Peter" (Cornerstone of Catholicism) from the **FORMED LECTIO series**. Please meet with us at **7:00pm in the Parish Hall**. Session 1 will cover "Put out into the Deep- The Making of an Apostle" on page 1 of the study guide. Study guides are free, and available at the Church Office or at the Study. You do not need a computer to attend the sessions and you can join us at any time. Please contact Rick Gallaher at (440) 458-6335 for comments or assistance.

January 2024's Prayer Intention

For The Gift Of Diversity In The Church

Let us pray that the Holy Spirit helps us recognize the gift of different charisms within the Christian community, and to discover the richness of different ritual traditions in the heart of the Catholic Church.

--Pope Francis

Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God
"Remember, Reflect, Respond"

This feast has had several names through history. Most recently, it was called the Feast of the Circumcision and then the Feast of the Holy Name of Jesus. The Church finally settled on a more ancient title, Mary, the Holy Mother of God. It also has a secondary title of the Octave of Christmas, the secular title of New Years Day, and an honorary title of World Day of Prayer for Peace. Strangely, the title that is most confusing to non-Catholics is the official one.

When we call Mary the Mother of God, we are not saying that she somehow preceded God or is equal to God. We are simply recognizing that her human son Jesus is also the divine Son of God. We honor Mary because God honored her by choosing her to be the mother of Jesus. In her humble response of "let it be done to me," she agreed to be part of God's plan for our salvation. And so today's Gospel records one simple action of Mary: to keep these things in her heart.

Even in this simple sentence we are given a good example of being a disciple. Like Mary, we need to both keep, or remember, what God has done, and to reflect on what we remember. First, how much do we remember about what God has done for us? How well do we know the stories of salvation found in the scriptures? How well do we know God's actions in Church history? And how much do we remember of the personal graces given us by God? Do we recall the prayers God has answered, the guidance given, the love of God that others have shown us, the times God has forgiven us?

Second, how much do we reflect on what God has done? Even if we have many memories of God's goodness to us, we also need to pray over them and ask ourselves how we have changed because of what God has done. Am I more generous to others? Do I forgive hurts more readily? Do I share my faith with my family or friends? Do I support my parish with my time or offerings? Let us ask God's help to imitate Mary by remembering and reflecting.

--Tom Schmidt

LADY'S GUILD - CONGRATULATIONS!

Our Lady's Guild would like to thank everyone who purchased a ticket for the beautiful quilt that was raffled off the last two weekends. Congratulations to the winner: **Jean Luehring**

LADY'S GUILD - SUPER BOWL SQUARES

The Super Bowl is approaching and the Lady's Guild is selling \$25.00 squares for the Big Game on February 11. Squares will be available beginning January 6-7 after all masses until they are sold out. We will accept cash, check or Venmo.





HOLY FAMILY

Today is the Feast of the Holy Family. This liturgical feast has been on the Church calendar for about 100 years, often on different dates. It is a 'devotional' or 'ideal' feast that was inaugurated by the Holy Family associations. Everything we know about the Holy Family, which is not much, comes from the Gospel we hear today at Mass. It celebrates the unity and love so evident in the family of Joseph, Mary and Jesus.

The following prayer could be used in the home as the family gathers together. It can be prayed by one or by all members in which you could substitute 'family' with 'us', i.e. "to protect and watch over us."

BLESSING OF FAMILY

We bless your name O Lord
for sending your incarnate Son
to become part of a family,
so that, as he lived its life,
he would experience its worries and its joys

We ask you, Lord,
to protect and watch over this family,
so that in the strength of your grace
its members may enjoy prosperity,
possess the priceless gift of your peace,
and, as the Church alive in the home,
bear witness in this world to your glory.

We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen

HOLY MOTHER OF GOD (January 1)

One of the most outstanding characteristics of Mary is her willingness to know and do God's will. While we would like to follow her example, we wonder how she was so sure of it. The Gospel gives us a clue. She reflected on the events that happened and were happening. She meditated. In our busy lives today, we often overlook meditation as prayer.

BLESSING OF THE NEW YEAR

God of time and of eternity,
God of every generation,
with Christmas joy we praise you
for the year gone by
and for the year we have begun.

Your Son comes among us,
to bring glad tidings to the poor,
to proclaim a year acceptable in your sight.

Knit us in harmony and love,
we who are flesh of his flesh.
Fill the year with good gifts
for all the world
as we join the angels in proclaiming our praise:
Glory in heaven
and peace on earth
now and forever.
Amen



SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Monday	Solemnity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Mother of God
Tuesday	Saints Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzen, Bishops & Doctors
Wednesday	Most Holy Name of Jesus
Thursday	Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton, Religious
Friday	Saint John Neumann, Bishop
Saturday	Saint Andre Bessette, Religious
Sunday	Epiphany of the Lord.

PRAYER FOR THE CHURCH IN TRANSITION

O faithful God, as your people, we cherish our memories and our history as a sacred gift. We also ask you to guide us in our time of transition. We need your wisdom that we might be receptive to change, conversion and growth. We need your grace to redirect our hearts that we may be willing to offer ourselves in joyful service.

Do not allow fear, ignorance or pride to limit the work of your spirit, nor custom to prevent the creativity within us from bearing fruit. Open our hearts to the call of the Gospel. Give us courage and renewed hope that we may meet the challenge of being the Church in our time. Amen

TOGETHER 
LET US PRAY ...

BUILDING CAMPAIGN UPDATE

As of Friday, Dec. 8th we have received \$36,127 in new or additional contributions to the campaign. The matching gift is for \$50,000 so we are almost there! Thank you to everyone who has contributed or made a pledge to the campaign over the past year! If you have not made a pledge, you may still do so. If all goes well, we may be able to begin construction this coming year. This is an exciting time in the parish as we move forward in maintaining and growing our parish into a stronger, more vibrant community where we rejoice in God's blessing. And where, having been formed in our relationship with God, we go out to transform the world around us.

HOMEBOUND?

If you or someone you know would like to receive communion please contact the parish office 440-926-2364. Also, if you are a Eucharistic Minister and would like to take communion to the homebound and those in local facilities and/or the hospital, please contact the office as well.

SYMPATHY to the family of **Salvatore Gentile** who passed away recently.

May he rest in the peace of Christ.

JUST TO LET YOU KNOW

\$50,000 CHALLENGE

The need for space, increased parish activities and community outreach are some of the reasons we've shared regarding our capital campaign. Would you like another reason? How about 50,000 of them? A generous parishioner will match any new donation to the *Continuing Our Journey* campaign up to \$50,000. This is a great opportunity to double your donation without doubling the amount you are giving! Currently the campaign is at \$2,106,909 and growing. By joining those who have already given, we can reach our goal of \$2.5M through your generous support and prayers.



UNCONDITIONALLY
"FINDING JESUS IN THE EUCHARIST"

LENT PRESENTATION
PRESENTED BY GREG WASINSKI
CATHOLIC, SPEAKER, AUTHOR & HOST OF THE
"FAITH & REAL LIFE PODCAST"

SAVE THE DATE
FEBRUARY 29, 2024
6:30PM
OUR LADY QUEEN OF PEACE

UNCONDITIONALLY: is a 1 night presentation, offering practical & down to earth examination that calls us to look beyond the appearance of the communion host, and draw our attention to the attributes & fruits of Jesus we receive in the Sacrament of the Eucharist.



FAITH FORMATION / UPDATES

Blessings on this Feast of the Holy Family!

Every first Sunday after Christmas is set aside to honor the family life of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph! Truly fitting and a nod to the importance of family. As we embark on the completion of one calendar year and begin another... how can we encourage a lifestyle that honors the family?

It is a true blessing to be a part of our parish, diocesan, and global Catholic community. We do not know where God is calling us this upcoming year in 2024. Through prayer, relationship with the Eucharist and a dedication to the greater good, may we all strive to support each other to hear the voice of God, be guided by the Holy Spirit and develop a solid relationship with Jesus.

FLOCKNOTE

Digitally connect with Our Lady Queen of Peace with Flocknote! Scan this QR code to check your settings and make sure you are registered!



SENIORS' ACTIVITIES

SENIOR MINISTRY UPDATE

There will not be a Potluck Luncheon in January. Have a Happy New Year, and we'll plan to see you in February! For questions, call Ray & Margie 330-418-7722



THANK-YOU for your generous support of OLQP and your help with the needs of the community through your ongoing participation in our various ministries.

	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Goal</u>	<u>Difference</u>
Sunday, Dec 16/17	\$9,016.50		
E-Giving:	\$4,402.65		
Total:	\$13,419.15	\$12,551.00	\$868.15
YTD:	\$305,634.10	\$313,775.00	(\$8,140.90)

Dec 23/24, Christmas and Dec 31 collections will be reported in the January 7 bulletin.



The Week Ahead

Sunday, December 31

Monday, January 1 - Solemnity of Mary

PARISH OFFICE CLOSED

10:00am - Mass in the Church

Tuesday, January 2

Wednesday, January 3

Thursday, January 4

9:30am - Divine Mercy Chaplet

7:00pm - Parish Council Mtg.

Friday, January 5

Saturday, January 6

Parish Nurses BP clinic

10:00am - Food pantry

Sunday, January 7

Parish Nurses BP Clinic

9:35am-10:50am - PSR

Coming Events

- ♦ January 10 - Adoration
- ♦ January 11 - Scripture Study
- ♦ January 13 - Gospel Reflection
- ♦ January 15 - MLK Day - Office Closed
- ♦ January 27 & 28 - Welcome Weekend.

QUALIFIED CHARITABLE DISTRIBUTIONS

If you are 70 ½ or older, you may be able to make a gift of a Qualified Charitable Distribution from your IRA that will help us in our ministry and reduce your taxable income. Talk to your advisors and IRA administrator for more information and to be sure that your IRA Qualified Charitable Distribution gift is made directly from an IRA to a qualified charity such as our parish. Questions? Contact Joanna Blaz in our parish office at 440.926.2364 or visit: www.catholiccommunity.org/ira.

Diocesan is proud to now be printing
Our Lady Queen of Peace's
Sunday Bulletin

You are invited to help support our Parish!
For opportunities to advertise,
please call 800-997-4986

<p>Michelle's CAFÉ Open Daily @ 6:30 A. 548A North Center St. Cheryll & Tim Miller - Parishioners LaGrange (440)355-6102</p> <p>Like us on </p>	<p>Beriswill INSURANCE AGENCY, INC. home • farm • auto • health life • business Grafton 440-926-3312</p>	<p>IN LOVING MEMORY OF Richard Gutknecht</p>	<p>Consider Remembering Your Parish in Your Will For further information, please call the parish office.</p>
<p>Laubenthal-Mercado Funeral Home 38475 Chestnut Ridge, Elyria (at Rt. 57 bypass) R. Thomas Laubenthal, Richard C. Laubenthal, Philip C. Mercado 322-4626 Pre Need Funeral Counseling is Available</p>	<p>PIAZZA & COOKE-SZCZEPANSKI CO., LPA Amanda Cooke-Szczepanski ATTORNEY AT LAW 5320 HOAG DRIVE, STE. C SHEFFIELD VILLAGE, OH 44035 Estate Planning, Wills, Trusts, Probate and Real Estate Law PHONE: 440-365-8388 FAX: 440-366-5265 www.pcsoliolaw.com</p>	<p>Compliments of... CENTERRA shop.centerracoop.com 440-926-2281 Like us on Right Across the Street from OLQOP</p>	
<p>440-355-4616 KEYSTONE POINTE-EXCELLENCE IN POST HOSPITAL AND REHABILITATION CARE - HIGHLY RATED BY MEDICARE - LARGE PRIVATE ROOMS - WEEKLY CATHOLIC COMMUNION SERVICE 383 Opportunity Drive, Lagrange, Ohio Near the intersection of 301 and 303</p>	<p>catholicmatch® Ohio CatholicMatch.com/goOH</p>	<p>Since 1946 Stewart's TV & APPLIANCE 468 Cleveland St Elyria, Ohio 44035 440.365.7321 Toll Free 800.589.6532 www.stewartappliance.com</p>	<p>BOGNER FAMILY FUNERAL HOME AND CREMATION SERVICES 36625 Center Ridge Road North Ridgeville Ken Lutke Licensed Funeral Director Parishioner 440-327-2955 www.bognerfamilyfuneralhome.com</p>
<p>TURNING 65 OR NEED A MEDICARE PLAN? As an experienced local agent, I can help answer all your questions. Call today for a NO COST, personalized review! CHRISTY PITTS Licensed Insurance Broker 440-221-8143 By contacting this number, you will be connected with a licensed insurance agent. Christy Pitts and TLC Insurance Group are not connected with the Federal Medicare program. We do not offer every plan available in your area. Any information we provide is limited to those plans we do offer in your area. Please contact Medicare.gov or 1-800-MEDICARE to get information on all your options.</p>	<p>EWTN.COM/RADIO EWTN Global Catholic Radio TUNE IN</p>	<p>Dr. Andy Deak Parishioner NOW OFFERING • Dental Implants • Same Day Crowns • Dentures 440-406-8181 10247 Dewhurst Rd. Emergencies Welcome! </p>	
<p> Mark's Lawn Maintenance, LLC Mark Sommers, Owner/Parishioner Call or Text for Free Estimate 440-258-8843 marks_lawn_llc@yahoo.com</p>	<p>LIBERTY Ford VERMILION Christopher M. Vacobozzi New Car Sales Manager 440.967.6191x2202 cyacobozzi@libertyford.com libertyfordvermilion.com 4215 E. Liberty Ave. Vermilion, Ohio 44089 A Parishioner of Our Lady Queen of Peace</p>	<p>ADVERTISE HERE Promote your Business AND Support your Parish. Give us a call! 800-997-4986</p>	
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