



Flight Into Egypt
Fra Angelico (c. 1400-1455)

A NOTE FROM THE PASTOR

The Church gives us the Holy Family not as a sentimental picture to admire from a distance, but as a revealed pattern of holiness lived in real human conditions. Mary is sinless, full of grace from the first moment of her existence. Joseph is a just man, righteous before God, obedient to the Law, attentive to the voice of the Lord. And yet the holiness of the Holy Family does not remove difficulty, confusion, poverty, or suffering. Instead, it shows us what holiness looks like when grace is lived faithfully inside ordinary life.

Mary's sinlessness does not spare her uncertainty. She believes before she understands. She consents to God's will without being given a full explanation of how that will unfold. Her fiat does not lead to comfort, but to a journey, to labor, to exile, to silence, and eventually to the Cross. Grace does not anesthetize her humanity; it perfects it. She teaches us that holiness is not control, but availability—being wholly open to God in whatever circumstances He permits.

Joseph's justice does not give him clarity in advance. He is told just enough to obey, never enough to feel secure. He bears responsibility without recognition, authority without power, and protection without assurance. His righteousness is revealed not in words, but in action: he rises, he takes the Child and His Mother, he goes where God sends him. Joseph shows us that holiness often consists in doing the next right thing quietly, faithfully, and without applause.

And Jesus, the Son of God, does not redeem the world by bypassing family life. He sanctifies it from within. He grows in obedience. He learns. He works. He submits Himself to human authority. God Himself chooses to be formed in the slow, hidden rhythms of a household. In doing so, He tells us something decisive: ordinary life is not an obstacle to holiness; it is the place where holiness is worked out.

This is why the Holy Family speaks so powerfully to the average Christian. Not because we are sinless like Mary or righteous like Joseph, but because we live in the same kinds of circumstances: uncertainty, fatigue, responsibility, imperfect understanding, and the steady demands of daily life. The Holy

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Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph 28 December 2025

Sacred Heart, Ronan
Immaculate Conception, Polson
St. Joseph Mission, Charlo

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This week's office hours: Tuesday 2-5 pm

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday at 6:00 pm

Confessions are available at 5:00 pm

Rosary is prayed at 5:30 pm

Sunday at 11:00 am

Rosary is prayed at 10:30 am

Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God † New Year's Day

Thursday, January 1st at 10:00 am

Holiday of obligation

SACRED HEART MASS SCHEDULE

Sunday at 9:00 am

Vigil Mass of Mary, Mother of God † New Year's Eve
Wednesday, December 31st at 6:00 pm

No Mass this Friday

Mass is offered at St. Joseph Mission in Charlo the **third**
Saturday of each month at 4:00 pm.



Burial service for Jan Schmitz

Tuesday, December 30th at 11:00
Ronan Cemetery
Luncheon to follow at the Sacred Heart
Parish Hall.

Coffee and Donuts

Served in the Ronan Parish Hall
following 9:00 Mass on January 4.
All are welcome!



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Family shows us that grace does not require ideal conditions. It requires faithfulness.

For husbands and wives, parents and children, workers and caretakers, the message is simple and demanding: holiness is found in fidelity to your vocation, patience with one another, obedience to God when His will disrupts your plans, and trust when the future is unclear. The home becomes holy not because it is peaceful or impressive, but because God is welcomed and served there.

The Holy Family reminds us that God does not wait for our lives to become tidy before He enters them. He comes into what is real. He sanctifies what is ordinary. And He asks of us what He asked of Mary and Joseph: not perfection of circumstance, but fidelity of heart.

That is not an unreachable ideal. It is the Gospel lived at home.

Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph

Entrance Antiphon:

*The shepherds went in haste,
and found Mary and Joseph and the Infant lying in a manger.*

Collect:

*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*

Readings:

FIRST READING: Sirach 3:2-6,12-14
RESPONSORIAL PSALM: 128:1-2, 3, 4-5
SECOND READING: Colossians 3:12-21 Or: Colossians 3:12-17
GOSPEL: Matthew 2:13-15,19-23

Liturgy Calendar & Mass Intentions

Sacred Heart & St. Joseph Mission

Sunday, December 28th *Holy Family*
Repose of the Soul of Richard Call
Wednesday, December 31st *Vigil of Mary, the Holy Mother of God*
Intentions of the Parish Faithful

Immaculate Conception

Saturday, December 27th *Vigil of Holy Family*
Intentions of Cole Learned, rb J.C. & Katie Biagi
Sunday, December 28th *Holy Family*
Intentions of the Parish Faithful
Thursday, January 1st *Mary, the Holy Mother of God*
Intentions of the Parish Faithful



Polson Knights of Columbus

Next meeting: Sunday, January 4th

Next breakfast served January 18th
after the 11:00 Mass

The Knights of the Columbus would like to offer transportation services to Sunday Mass for parishioners who need assistance. Please call the parish office or John Winegart at (406) 270-6655, if you need help or know of anyone needing help getting to Mass.



The Christian family is a communion of persons, a sign and image of the communion of the Father and the Son in the Holy Spirit. In the procreation and education of children it reflects the Father's work of creation. It is called to partake of the prayer and sacrifice of Christ. Daily prayer and the reading of the Word of God strengthen it in charity. The Christian family has an evangelizing and missionary task. (Catechism of the Catholic Church # 2205)

Parish Offertory Progress Report

Fiscal Year beginning July 1st

Immaculate Conception

\$91,918 of \$183,150 (50%)

Sacred Heart/St. Joseph

\$21,862 of \$48,393 (45%)

I.C. Building Fund Progress:

\$1,350 of \$12,000 (11%)

S.H. Building Fund Progress:

\$1,920 of \$1,349 (142%)



Thank you for your generosity!

PRAYER CORNER

Humbly asking for your prayers...

Maryalice Rouselle, The Clay Family, Virginia Rubel, Michael Conrad, Kaylee Martin, Dave Evertz, Steve Ducharme, Bill Nash, Donna Jacobs, Derrie Edge, Heather Stocki, Betty Bjork, Jason Avison, Nash Niemeyer, Bud Cheff, Jr, Bill Rueth, Monte Jenkins, Chris Skinner, Ryan Johnson, Vicki Whalen, Laurel Cheff, Zane Kelly, Rod Clairmont, David Jenkins, Bruce Simpson, Debbie Tschida, Carolyn Fyant, Diana Cote, Shawna Lehner, Bill Efinger, Bruce Basler.



Please help to keep the list current by contacting the Parish Office. Also, out of respect for a person's privacy, please make sure that all individuals wish to be publicly identified.

The Holy Father's prayer intention for December

For Christians in areas of conflict:

Let us pray that Christians living in areas of war or conflict, especially in the Middle East, might be seeds of peace, reconciliation, and hope.

Please pray for our seminarians!

Dcn. Kaleb Mitchell, Riley Helgoe, Brett Rotz, Anthony Olmes, James Semling, Jamie Severson, Carter Anderson, Shae Bills, Matt Keck, Carson Gorton, Jake Smith, Ryan Frampton, Liam Aippersbach, Mason Yochum.