

St. Joseph Church

Rev. Bernard Starman, Pastor
Rev. Ross Burkhalter, Senior Associate Pastor
Rev. Joseph Sund, Associate
Deacon MJ Kersenbrock
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December 26, 2021

The Most Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph

Mass Intentions for the Week

Mon NO MASS
Tue 10:00 AM + Ray & Eleanor Slaymaker @ G Sam
Wed 8:15 AM + Fr James Murphy
Thu NO MASS
Fri 5:00 PM **IN STUART**
Sat 10:00 AM + Dick, Evelyn, Jess Wolf **Solemnity of Mary**
Sun 8:30 AM **IN STUART** **Epiphany**
10:30 AM + Mike Tasler **of the Lord**

PARISH MISSION STATEMENT

"WE ARE A COMMUNITY WITH A CALLING TO BUILD AND STRENGTHEN OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH CHRIST SO THAT WE MAY LEAD OTHERS FORWARD IN FAITH."

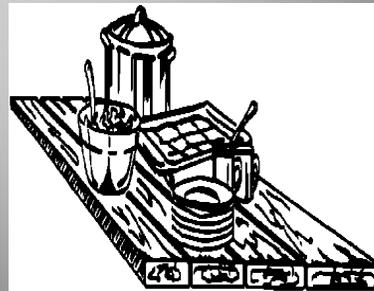
The Harvest Is Great, Laborers Are Few
Vocation crucifix this week—Miguel Monasterio. The week of Jan. 2—Brendan Borer Family.

Many thanks to all who helped make our Christmas Liturgies very meaningful!!!

We have a very beautiful, sacred space to worship in & it's made possible because of YOU!



Wed., Dec. 29—Adoration from 9am—3:00pm
Sun., Jan. 2—KC Free Throw Contest @ West Holt
Wed., Jan. 5—CCD Classes resume
Wed., Jan. 5—School Board Meeting, 7:30pm
Jan. 8/9—Seminary Collection
Tue., Jan. 11—Altar Society Meeting, 6pm, KC Hall
Thu., Jan. 27—Ministerial Soup Supper @ West Holt
Fri., Jan. 28—Parish Carnival @ Community Center



Thanks To Those...who have offered to bring Fr Ross & Fr Sund a meal on Wednesday. If

you'd like to take part in this, you can go to Facebook, St. Joseph Church...click on Meal Train & sign up or contact Andrea Borer, 402.340.3145.

MEN—Through prayer, keynotes, fellowship & challenge, the Rooted conference aims to help men establish a firm foundation rooted in Christ. We are excited to offer it on Feb. 12 in Norfolk @ Faltys Barn. Check out ROOTEDNebraska.com for more info.



...those in need of restoration of health: Emma Lou Gunther, John Gilg, Garrett Scholz, Barb McTavish, Judy Steimle, Adalynn Bouska, Nancy Krysl, Sally Manzer, Marian Cook, Lois Tunender.



We'd like to begin the ministry of greeters at the main doors of church before Mass. If you'd like to be a part of this, please call Diane Rentschler, 402.925.2237.

SJ Home & School...is planning the Parish Carnival for Fri., Jan. 28. They are seeking monetary donations to purchase raffle prizes. To donate call/text Lindsey Nemetz, 402.925.2457 or Kylie Troidl, 402.340.1576.



KC Free Throw Contest...is scheduled for Sun., Jan. 2 @ West Holt Gym. Doors open at noon. The event will begin at 1:00. All boys & girls ages 9-14 are eligible.

Dear Parishioners and Friends of the Catholic Parishes of Western Holt and Boyd Counties,



I hope that everyone had and continues to enjoy a wonderful celebration of Christmas! This year is liturgically a little challenging because we move right from Christmas to the Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph this Sunday, and next weekend right from the Solemnity of Mary the Mother of God to Epiphany.

“Family” today has many cultural and moral connotations and challenges for Christians. The “Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph” may seem to exist on another planet or, at least, be light-years away from twenty-first-century relevance. Yet the gospel truth that the word of God for this feast affirms is that family life is “a kind of school of deeper humanity” that is penetrated by the spirit of Christ. It is a challenge to live in mutual respect and love: for parents to honor the dignity of their children, and children to respect the dignity of their parents, each one bound to the other in the love that God has lavished upon us, as John writes in today’s second reading. Our understanding of what we usually call “the finding in the temple” has often been sabotaged by artistic depictions of a precocious child Jesus, haloed and white-clad, lecturing (and even berating!) the religious teachers. Yet if we are attentive to the text, Jesus is described as first listening to the temple teachers before asking questions at what was a customary festival and Sabbath question and-answer session (as opposed to a judicial one). “Searching” and “finding” are important gospel themes in Luke. They reflect the human experience that our questing so often involves questioning in the hope of finding that something more: more love, more wisdom, more truth.

Any parent can appreciate Mary and Joseph’s desperate search for and relief at finding Jesus, but there is another search, another finding that is of central importance. It hangs painfully on Jesus’s response to his mother’s question, “Son, why have you done this to us?” The first words of Jesus in Luke’s gospel are his response: “Why were you looking for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father’s house?”—the affairs that will take Jesus through a life of obedience, through another Passover of pain, another three-day loss in the tomb and into his new and risen life. The most significant developmental task of adolescence is the search for and gradual finding of one’s identity, and as R. Alan Culpepper comments in the introduction to *The New Interpreter’s Bible*: “What defines one’s identity—family ties, religious experience, a sense of vocation, a personal creed, or one’s dreams and ideals? Jesus found his identity by affirming his relationship with God.”

For Mary and Joseph, as for all parents, there is the pain of allowing this child his independence, his identity, loving him, not possessing him or punishing him, but not fully understanding him. Surely a sword passes also through Joseph’s heart as, in response to Mary’s words about “your father and I,” and as if gently contradicting her, Jesus refers to “my Father.” For us, as for Joseph, commitment to gospel priorities will always cause some pain. Parents know this in a special and poignant way. For now, this “passover” of the adolescent Jesus is a theological sign of what is to come. After this, Jesus returns to Nazareth with Mary and Joseph and is obedient to them. In the verse preceding this gospel (Luke 2:40), Luke had written of Jesus’s growth in human and divine wisdom after his presentation in the temple. The last verse of this temple incident with which Luke ends his narrative of Jesus’s childhood is again a comment that it was in this human family that such growth continued. An aspect of doing his Father’s will was his openness to being graced by the precious relationships of his family at Nazareth. Children and parents in every age and culture are meant to be grace for one another.

Ad multos annos!

Fr. Bernard Starman, Pastor

NO SATURDAY EVENING (JAN. 1) MASSES IN OUR PARISHES

THE LORD’S PORTION—12.19.21

Adult Env. (25)	1,222.00
Loose Checks (6)	5,135.00
Loose Cash	216.00
Immac. Concep. (2)	60.00
Relig. Retire. (2)	60.00
Midweek Donations	4,263.65
Online Giving (7)	875.27
TOTAL	11,831.92

LITURGICAL MINISTERS – Jan 1/2

MASS TIMES	SATURDAY– 10am	SUNDAY—10:30am
EMHCs	Chris Nemetz	Joe Skrdla
LECTORS	Dan Kramer	Patti Skrdla
GIFTS	J & L Wolf	Diane Tasler
ORGANISTS	Diane Osborne	Jayne Fetherston
SERVERS	Skrdla Children Isabella Schaaf	Mason Troidl Noah Sholes Brody Borer
USHERS	Jim Vrooman Pat Kennedy Bernard Ziska Ethan Welborn	Tim Laible Jerry Laible Greg Dostal Richard Kilmurry



Our Congratulations to the Sholes Family with the baptism of Carson Kirk Sholes, on 12.19.21. Carson is the son of Michael & Samantha Sholes. Welcome to the Catholic Faith Community of St. Joseph’s, Carson!