

FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY -DECEMBER 28, 2025

"Arise, take the Child and His Mother, and flee to Egypt" (Mt 2:14)

In the Gospel according to St. Matthew, we read how the Angel calls Joseph: “Arise, take the Child and His Mother, and flee to Egypt” (Mt 2:14). This command shows us that the life of the Holy Family was not without difficulties and dangers. Joseph, the righteous man, makes decisions according to God’s will, protecting Jesus and Mary. Mary, the mother and caregiver, quietly and humbly takes care of the daily needs of her Son. This passage teaches us that faithfulness to God requires courage, trust, and readiness to act even against our own plans. The Holy Family shows that Divine Providence guides us through every fear and challenge, and that our daily duties and concerns can become places of God’s presence. Following their example, let us learn how to protect life, and to love, support our loved ones in the spirit of obedience and love.



In accordance with the Semitic spirit of the Matthew’s Gospel, God communicates with Joseph to reveal His will, rather than with Mary, as in Luke. Joseph is the recipient of the announcement, and it always occurs in a dream, following the ancient prophetic practice. The evangelist Matthew emphasizes Joseph’s complete obedience to the will of God who reveals Himself: first, he saves his family from Herod’s wrath by fleeing with them from their hometown of Bethlehem to Egypt - a place of refuge for many generations of Jews - and then, after Herod’s death, which occurred in 4 B.C., he returns with them to their homeland. However, when he learns that Archelaus, Herod’s son, who is as cruel as his father, now rules in Judea, he decides to move outside his administrative influence, to the region of Galilee, and settles in the first town across the border, which happened to be Nazareth. In this way - somewhat convoluted and complicated, like human life - the prophets’ predictions are nevertheless fulfilled, that Jesus would be called a Nazarene.

On the occasion of the Christmas holidays, we wish all Parishioners and Guests a joyful and blessed time, filled with God’s grace, peace, and hope, as well as a fruitful year in 2026.

Parish News

***Today’s Feast of the Holy Family** was introduced into the liturgical calendar in the 20th century. Initially celebrated locally in some dioceses, it gained universal recognition thanks to Pope Benedict XV in 1921. It is now observed on the first Sunday after Christmas and reminds us of the value of the family as a place of love, faith, and mutual support. On that day, married couples renew their marriage vows.

***What is the renewal of marriage vows?** The renewal of marriage vows is a moment in which spouses consciously express their love and fidelity to God and to one another, and renew the commitments made on their wedding day. This act reminds us that marriage is not only a human bond, but above all a sacrament in which God is present and strengthens the love of the spouses. The renewal of vows strengthens family bonds, allows couples to ask God for the strength to remain faithful, and teaches that true love requires daily commitment and sacrifice.

***On Wednesday, Dec. 31,** Holy Mass will be celebrated **only at 5:00 pm**, with thanksgiving to God for the graces of the past year.

***Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God** and the World Day of Peace on Thursday, Jan. 1. Masses at 9, 10:30 am, and 12:30 pm. It is the first Thursday of the month. Due to the New Year’s Day, there will be no adoration at 6 pm and no 7pm Mass.

***First Friday, Jan. 2.** After Holy Mass at 7 pm, there will be all-night Eucharistic adoration of reparation concluding on Saturday with Holy Mass at 8 am. Please sign up on the adoration list at the back of the church..

***First Saturday, Jan. 3.** At 7:15 am, meditation on a Rosary mystery and a Rosary of reparation to the Immaculate Heart of Mary. Holy Mass at 8 am.

***Solemnity of the Epiphany** - Sunday, Jan. 4.

***Meeting of the Living Rosary** will be held on Sunday, Jan. 4, after the 10:30 am Mass.

***The Conclusion of the Jubilee Year** will take place on Jan. 6 in Rome. Pope Francis reminded us that the Jubilee is a time of grace, conversion, and renewal of heart, inviting the faithful to live in hope that flows from faith in Christ. As the Holy Father emphasizes: “Christian hope does not disappoint, because it is rooted in God’s love.” May the fruits of this sacred time remain alive in our daily lives, strengthening faith, love, and

responsibility for one another.

***The Parish Christmas Lunch** will take place on Sunday, Jan. 11 after 12:30 pm Mass. Tickets: \$30 (children \$15), available starting Sunday, Dec. 28, in the parish hall and at the Sisters’ convent. Everyone is welcome. Organized by the CLW and the Parish Council.

***Christmas Carol Concert: “Glory to God in the Highest, and on Earth Peace...”** will take place on Saturday, Jan 17. Holy Mass at 5 pm, followed immediately by the concert. Registration deadline: Jan.11. Information and registration forms are available from Fr. Stanislaw.

***The last day to make donations** for 2025 is today, Sunday, Dec. 28. Donations made after this date will be recorded for the following year.

***The 2026 offering envelopes** are available for pick-up in the parish hall, along with the Christmas letter and program.

***We kindly ask parishioners to write their name and address** on their envelopes in January and February. This will help ensure that the envelopes number is correctly assigned to the appropriate person.

***Bulletin Advertisements:** We are accepting paid business ads for 2026. Contact: Mirka: 519-253-5863, htcwindor@dol.ca

***Donations Dec 14:** W-D \$5,145; B-F \$6,755; Christmas \$230; Flowers \$110; Thanksgiving \$90; Retreat \$1,915; Donation Polonia Park \$3,000. Thank you!

Home Blessing

Dear Parishioners, to request a home blessing, please fill out the invitation form and place it in the basket. Forms are available at the back of the church. Home blessings will begin after Christmas.

Thanksgiving

***We would like to extend our heartfelt thanks for the preparation of the Nativity play.** In a special way, we thank the priest for allowing rehearsals to take place at the church. We thank the children and youth - the actors - for their beautiful performances and singing; the parents for their time and for transporting the children; the Polish Hall for the free use of the venue; and those responsible for the sound and audio setup. We also thank European Market for sponsoring the gift packages, St. Nicholas for his visit, and all kind-hearted individuals for their help and generosity. Finally, we extend our sincere gratitude to the Sisters for preparing the entire performance. May God reward everyone involved.

***We sincerely thank** everyone involved for their help in organizing the Advent



breakfasts, decorating the church and the outdoor Christmas tree, and for their donations for flowers.

***A heartfelt thank you** for the donated food, gift cards, and monetary contributions. From the received donations, 12 care packages were prepared. *Parish Charity Group*

Other Announcements

***The Scouts’ Christmas caroling** will take place on Jan 3. The youth will visit families who have previously expressed their willingness to receive them with carols. You may contact us at: kph.windsor@zhp.ca Czuwaj!

From the Diary of St. Faustina

St. Faustina, in her Diary, reminds us that family life can be a school of holiness, just as the life of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph was. She writes: “In daily life, the soul should fulfill God’s will, even in the most ordinary duties” (Diary 742). “Whatever I do, I do not rely on my own strength, but on the grace of God. With God’s grace, a soul can pass victoriously through the greatest difficulties” (Diary, 287). The Holy Family serves as a model, showing that holiness is born in ordinary days - in caring for loved ones, in prayer, and in simple acts of love. Trust in God, obedience to His will, and responsibility for one another allow our families to become places of God’s true presence.

Prayer to the Holy Family

Holy Family of Nazareth, teach us love, humility, and mutual respect. Help us to live each day guided by faith, hope, and patience. May our families be places of peace, joy, and closeness to God. Holy Family, intercede for us and lead us to Jesus. Amen.

Prayer for the New Year 2026

God, Creator and Father of all goodness, we thank You for the past year and all the graces received. We ask for Your blessing in the New Year 2026: may each day be filled with peace, joy, and health. Grant us the strength to do good, love our neighbors, and have faith in Your care. May Your presence guide our families, homes, and communities. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

*

Happy New Year 2026
Szczęśliwego Nowego Roku 2026

*

Mass Schedule

Holy Family Sunday, Dec. 28	- Masses at 9 & 10:30 am, 12:30 pm
Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God, Jan. 1	- Masses at 9 & 10:30 am, 12:30 pm
Epiphany, Jan. 4	- Masses at 9 & 10:30 am, 12:30 pm