Our Parish COMMUNITY

December 29, 2019

Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph (A)
Sir 3:2–6, 12–14
Col 3:12–21 or Col 3:12–17
Mt 2:13–15, 19–23

Practicing Family Values

"Do we have to go to Grandma's!" Children aren't the only ones who sometimes dread the family Christmas gathering. Adults might, too. Why is that? Our family is the cradle that embraced us at birth, nourished us, and helped us grow. At least that's what it was supposed to be. Perhaps we didn't come from such a family. Still, when our time comes, it is within our power to form such a family. How are we to do it?

In today's readings we have two quite different descriptions of family dynamics. The first, from Sirach, focuses on children's respect for and support of parents. The Gospel passage recounts parents' protection of a vulnerable child. Together these readings tell us that every family member, regardless of age or position within the family, owes all the other members concern and care. Paul provides a short list of what I like to think of as genuine family values: "heartfelt compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience, bearing with one another and forgiving one another" (Colossians 3:12–13). Are such values asking too much of us?

It's not by accident that we celebrate the feast of the Holy Family during Christmastime. Some think that this is a season for children. It's actually a season for family, a time when generations—three, sometimes four or five—at least contact each other.

It's a time for us to decide whether or not Paul's list of virtues reflects our own family portrait. How authentic are our smiles? How deep are our family values?

—Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA

FOR *Reflection*

- *Try reaching out in a special way to a family member in the generation before you and one that follows you.*

Those who respect their father will live a long life; those who obey the Lord honor their mother.

SIRACH 3:6

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SACRED HEART PARISH

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Rev. Richard D. Tero, Pastor
Rev. William P. Hanrahan
Rev. Mr. Walter Corrigan, Deacon

SACRAMENTS

Baptism: Call church for appointment
Marriage: 5-6 Months preparations are required. Call for an appointment.
Reconciliation: Saturday at 5:00 p.m. or by appointment.

MASSES THIS WEEK

12/31Tues: 5:30 p.m. Mass
01/01 Wed: 9:30 a.m. Mass
01/02 Thurs: 12 p.m. Mass
01/03 Fri: 12 p.m. Mass
01/04 Sat: 5 p.m. Confessions 5:30 p.m. Mass
01/05 Sun: 9 a.m. Rosary 9:30 a.m. Mass, 12:30 p.m. Mass in Cooper Landing

THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH

First Reading: Sirach 3:2-6, 12-14
"God sets a father in honor over his children; a mother's authority he confirms over her sons."
Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 128:1-5
"BLESSED ARE THOSE WHO FEAR THE LORD AND WALK IN HIS WAYS."
Second Reading: Colossians 3:12-21
"And whatever you do, in word or in deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him."
GOSPEL: Matthew 2:13-15, 19-23
"He shall be called a Nazorean."

Ministers for the Week of January 4/5
Saturday
Lector - Diane Owens
E.M. - Lee Corrigan
Sunday
Lector - Sharon Mair
E.M. - Rock Elhard & Celeste Lemme

SUNDAY COLLECTION – Last week, the people of Sacred Heart shared $22,109.00 with the parish. The people of Sacred Heart Parish also donated $4,795 for the Christmas Offering.

FACEBOOK - On Facebook? Join our group at "Friends of Sacred Heart" We currently have 25 members, and it's a good way to keep up with what is going on at the Parish, prayer requests and general discussions\

January 24-26 | Engaged Encounter Week-End. Holy Spirit Center. Contact Deacon Mick Fornelli: mfornelli@caa-ak.org or 297-7770 for more information.

January 29 Saint Patrick's Parish Community cordially invites you to come celebrate Father Leo Walsh on the 25th Anniversary of his Ordination to the Priesthood! 6:00PM Mass at Saint Patrick's Parish Church followed by reception in Deacon's Hall.

February 28-March 1 |Retrouvaille is a lifeline of hope and healing for struggling marriages. It is a three-phase program that begins with a weekend experience, followed by post-weekend presentations, and monthly small group support meetings. Retrouvaille is a Christian peer ministry of couples helping couples with the support of caring clergy members. Though the program is Catholic in origin, and has a Christian-orientation, couples of all faiths or no faith background are welcomed. The primary focus is on improving communication and building a stronger marriage, so couples may rediscover the love they have for each other. The non-profit program is available in communities worldwide. For confidential information or to register for the Retrouvaille of Alaska program beginning with a weekend retreat on Feb. 28 to Mar. 1, 2020 call 907-863-8000 or

email: anchorage@helpourmarriage.org or visit the web site at www.HelpOurMarriage.org.

May 29-31, Engaged Encounter Week-End. Contact Deacon Mick Fornelli: mfornelli@caa-ak.org or 297-7770 for more information.

ST. PAUL'S CORNER - Looking for Catholic books, gifts, and items of faith? Come see what's new at St. Paul's Corner at the Holy Family Cathedral. Saturdays 10am-2pm; Sundays 8:30am to 5:30pm; Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Fridays; 11am–2pm. 646-3070

BrotherFrancisShelter needs **blankets** and **socks** for the cold weather coming soon! Please drop off donation to Brother Francis Shelter, at 1021 E 3rd Avenue. Thank you!

Clare House needs the following items: wipes, Vaseline, baby rash ointment, baby lotion, baby wash, pacifiers, baby wash cloth, baby socks, and diapers in size 5/6. Please drop off donations to Clare House, at 4110 Spenard Road. Thank you!

BISHOP'S ATTIC has free pickup service on Tuesday and Thursday for donated items. Please call 279-6328 to schedule. Proceeds of all sales support Catholic Social Services and programs at the Archdioceses.

Baby and Toddler Food and Supplies Catholic Social Services is running low on supplies for our younger clients at the St. Francis House Food Pantry. Items needed include baby & toddler food, infant formula and baby wipes. Donations can be dropped off at CSS at 3710 East 20th Avenue between the hours of 9am – 5:00pm. Your help is deeply appreciated and allows us to serve approximately 400 families each week. Thank you!!

MISSION DONATION ADDRESSES

Magadan Missions
C/o Russian Desk
Archdiocese of Anchorage
225 Cordova Street
Anchorage, AK 99501

Thai Missions
Friends of Sarnelli House UA
P.O. Box 88234
Milwaukee, WI 53288
E-mail: sheamick@gmail.com

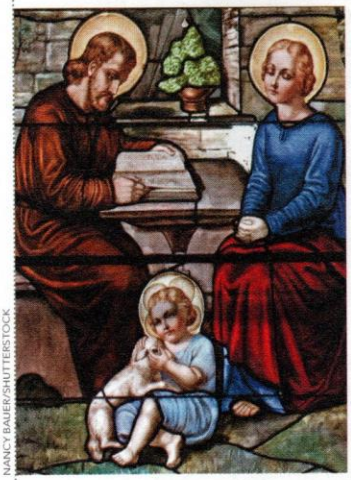
REGISTRATION – In order to provide needed data for the Archdiocese, to provide sacramental service for our parishioners and so that we may give special recommendations for ministries, programs and sponsors, it is necessary for all parishioners to be registered in the parish. Forms are available on the bulletin board in the vestibule. All information provided is kept confidential.

Dear Padre,

I've heard priests tell stories about Jesus' childhood, the Blessed Virgin, St. Joseph, and St. Anne that aren't in the Bible. Where do these stories come from?

The Bible as we know it—a definitive collection of sacred texts as the word of God—came together in the fourth and fifth centuries. The same God that inspired authors to record his divine word also inspired the books of the Bible to be collected during the first centuries of Christianity. As such, the Bible itself is formed by tradition.

Ancient texts, other than those officially accepted as fulfilling revelation (like Scripture), existed in the Church's early centuries. These are known as noncanonical sources. Many of the stories you hear, especially about the people you mention, come from those sources.



NANCY BAUER/SHUTTERSTOCK

In the Church's infancy, people were eager to hear as much as they could about Jesus and his family. In response, many stories about Jesus' childhood and family members were collected in a variety of written accounts—including the *Protoevangelium*, or gospel of James from the year 145 (not to be confused with the New Testament's Letter of James). Although they weren't included in the canon of the Bible, they became sources for stories passed from generation to generation that were accepted as a part of our tradition. For example, information about Mary's parents, including their names, Joachim and Anne, were derived from noncanonical texts. These sources may add color and flavor to our faith and devotion. But ultimately, everything we need for salvation is revealed in the Scriptures.

—The Redemptorists | Sundaybulletin@Liguori.org

A WORD FROM *Pope Francis*

Every family should look to the icon of the Holy Family of Nazareth. Its daily life had its share of burdens and even nightmares, as when they met with Herod's implacable violence. This last was an experience that, sad to say, continues to afflict the many refugee families who in our day feel rejected and helpless.

—ON LOVE IN THE FAMILY (*AMORIS LAETITIA*), MARCH 19, 2016

Calendar

Monday
DECEMBER 30
Sixth Day in the Octave of Christmas
1 Jn 2:12–17
Lk 2:36–40

Tuesday
DECEMBER 31
Seventh Day in the Octave of Christmas
1 Jn 2:18–21
Jn 1:1–18

Wednesday
JANUARY 1
Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God
Nm 6:22–27
Gal 4:4–7
Lk 2:16–21

Thursday
JANUARY 2
Sts. Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzen, Bishops and Doctors of the Church
1 Jn 2:22–28
Jn 1:19–28

Friday
JANUARY 3
Christmas Weekday
1 Jn 2:29—3:6
Jn 1:29–34

Saturday
JANUARY 4
St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, Religious
1 Jn 3:7–10
Jn 1:35–42

Sunday
JANUARY 5
Epiphany of the Lord
Is 60:1–6
Eph 3:2–3a, 5–6
Mt 2:1–12

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