Dec. 30 & 31, 2023 The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

Mass Times and Intentions

Week of Dec 30 & 31

Saturday6:30 pmFor All SoulsSunday10:30 amFor the parishioners of St. Mary's and St. ThomasMonday6:30 pmSolemnity of Mary, Holy Mother of God at St. ThomasTuesday6:30 pmMass at St. ThomasWednesday8:00 amMass

Thursday ******

Friday 8:00 am Mass at St. Thomas

Week of Jan 6 & 7, 2024

Saturday 6:30 pm Mass **Sunday** 10:30 am Mass

> Join us as we recite the Holy Rosary every Saturday evening at 6 pm and Sunday morning at 10 am

† PRAYER CONCERNS †

For all our sick and shut-ins as well as our troops. For all who have died and all members of St. Mary's & St. Thomas. For Prayer Chain requests please call Cathy Kennedy.

†Eucharistic Adoration†

Wednesday mornings after 8:00 am Mass Reconciliation Wednesday's after Mass/Saturday's 6-6:20 pm

<u>2024 Envelope Sets:</u> Envelope sets for next year are now available in the back of church. Please contact the office if you would like to begin using envelopes.

Our restroom is now located in the Parish Hall-Office and will be available during all Masses

THANKS FOR SUPPORTING OUR SPONSORS WHO MAKE OUR BULLETIN POSSIBLE!

January 1: The Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God

(Not a holy day of obligation in 2024 because it falls on a Monday.)

Behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall name him Jesus. He will be great and will be called Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give him the throne of David his father, and he will rule over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end. ~Luke 1:31–33

Only one mother could begin to understand the unfathomable beauty of being the Mother of the Son of God. After the birth of Jesus, the shepherds came to adore her Child and recounted how a multitude of heavenly hosts appeared to them, revealing that Mary's Child was the Messiah. As Mary heard those words, she pondered them, and kept them in her heart. This was the first time we're told of Mary's pondering heart after the birth of her Son, but we can be certain that she pondered Him over and over, entering ever more deeply into the mystery of her motherhood of the Son of God. The bond she shared with her divine Son far surpassed a mere human bond. Jesus was not only her Son, He was also her Savior.

Our Blessed Mother is given the unique title of "Mother of God" to express our faith in the divinity of Jesus. Jesus was both human and divine, and that one Person was, at the same time, God and man.

"Called in the Gospels "the mother of Jesus," Mary is acclaimed by Elizabeth, at the prompting of the Spirit and even before the birth of her son, as "the mother of my Lord." In fact, the One whom she conceived as man by the Holy Spirit, who truly became her Son according to the flesh, was none other than the Father's eternal Son, the second person of the Holy Trinity. Hence the Church confesses that Mary is truly "Mother of God" (Theotokos)," (CCC 495).

<u>Christmas Flower Donations</u> given in Honor/Memory

Howie and Nancy McRae for Pricilla Brandon and Norma Bankenstein, Jeff and Paulette Lund, Barry and Linda Pollander in honor of Cathy Ferland and for the Pollander/Rainville families, Donna Buchanan, Zac and Laura Peatman for Raymond Denault, Doug and Sue Masson, Bob and Cathy Kennedy, Shelley Cahill, Sheri Buchanan for Jim and Katherine Buchanan, John Buchanan and Cecilia Cross, Denise McPeters, Brian and Dana Warren for Josef Mares

<u>Adult Confirmation begins February 20</u> Adult Catholics who have been baptized, received First Communion and are practicing their Catholic faith but have not celebrated the Sacrament of Confirmation are invited to participate in a formation program for the sacrament. Interested persons contact Laura Wells at St. Thomas Parish in Underhill Center by January 15 to prepare

for the sacrament. Email: stthomasrel.ed@vermontcatholic.org or call 802-899-4770 or text 802-777-8062.

Pray the Holy Rosary every day!

Offertory Receipts for 12/23
FY24 Weekly Goal: \$1,061
 Last Week = \$814.00
 YTD Actual = \$22978.83
 YTD Budget = \$27586.00
Over (Under) = \$(4607.17)