



HOLY INFANT
Catholic Church **LIVE + JESUS**

FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY
DECEMBER 31ST, 2023

INSPIRED BY THE SPIRIT

MASS SCHEDULE

Daily: Monday–Saturday, 9 a.m.*, Chapel
Saturday Vigil: 5:30 p.m., Church
Sunday: 8:30 a.m. & 11:30 a.m.*, Church
* In-person & virtual

CONFESSION

Saturday, 4 p.m. to 4:45 p.m., Chapel
or by appointment

ADORATION

Thursday, 12 p.m. to 1 p.m., Chapel

PARISH CENTER OFFICE

5000 Southpark Drive
Durham, NC 27713

OFFICE HOURS

Monday–Thursday,
9 a.m. to 4 p.m.;
closed Friday

CONTACT US

Office: 919-544-7135
info@holyinfantchurch.org

VISIT US ONLINE

Go to holyinfantchurch.org
or scan the QR code below



OPEN HEARTS · OPEN HANDS · OPEN MINDS

TOGETHER, THROUGH THE GRACE OF THE HOLY SPIRIT, WE "LIVE JESUS," REACHING OUT, EMBRACING ALL WITH COMPASSION, HUMILITY & GENTLENESS.

THOUGHTS FROM SALESIAN SPIRITUALITY

"Do not lose your inner peace for anything whatsoever, even if your whole world seems upset. Have patience with all things, But, first of all with yourself." - St. Francis de Sales



PARISH STAFF

<u>Title</u>	<u>Staff Member</u>	<u>Direct Line</u>	<u>Email</u>
Pastor	Rev. Robert M. Rutledge, OSFS	919-973-0006	RRutledge@holysinanthurch.org
Priest in Residence	Father Jack Kelly	919-544-7135	Jjkelly@holysinanthurch.org
Director of Operations and Finance	John Martin	919-973-0017	JohnM@holysinanthurch.org
Directors of Catechetical Leadership			
Families & Children	Michalene Sutton	919-973-0013	Msutton@holysinanthurch.org
Youth & Adults	Amber Shastri	919-973-0012	AmberS@holysinanthurch.org
Director of Liturgy & Music	Jeff Rice	919-925-3714	JeffR@holysinanthurch.org
Liturgical Ministries Assistant	Leah Breindel	909-925-3714	LeahB@holysinanthurch.org
Communications Coordinator	Stacy Paper	919-973-0010	StacyP@holysinanthurch.org
Financial Services Administrator	Lea Chiquito	919-973-0009	LeaC@holysinanthurch.org
Parish Services Assistant	Debbie Heuser	919-544-7135	DebbieH@holysinanthurch.org
Pastor's Assistant	Karina Miranda	919-973-0008	KarinaM@holysinanthurch.org
Pastoral Associate	Lynn Sale	919-973-0018	LynnS@holysinanthurch.org
Deacon	Tom Hill	919-544-7135	Tomh@holysinanthurch.org

PARISH FINANCE COUNCIL

Rev. Robert M. Rutledge, OSFS, Pastor

Laura Terpack, Peter Barrett, Co-Chairmen,
holysinanthpfcchair@gmail.com

John Martin, Director of Operations and Finance

Kathy Auten, Bob Dieter, Mike Pearl, Bob Radcliffe

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

Rev. Robert M. Rutledge, OSFS, Pastor

Kim McAllister
Bob Dieter
Lindsay Glenn
Matt Luedke

Collin McKinney
Carol Owen
Julio Revueltas
Mark Szczesiul

Laura Terpack
ex-Officio
Lynn Sale,
ex-Officio

Midge Bowers, Chair, midge2031@gmail.com

FIND IT ON THE WEB

Our parish website is your **primary** source for the most complete and up-to-date information about the parish. Visit holysinanthurch.org for details on many topics, including:

- ✦ **Mass and Liturgy Times**
- ✦ **Office Hours and Contact Information**
- ✦ **Calendar of Events**, including event details
- ✦ **News** within the parish and around the diocese
- ✦ **Worship & Sacraments**, including sacramental prep information for Baptism, Reconciliation (Confession), Eucharist, Confirmation, Marriage, Anointing of the Sick, and Holy Orders; **Vocations** for men and women; and **Funerals**
- ✦ **Faith & Learning** for adults, teens, and children; becoming Catholic; Catholic schools
- ✦ **Salesian spirituality and the Oblates of St. Francis de Sales**
- ✦ **Joining the parish**
- ✦ **Getting Involved**
- ✦ **Ministries & Groups**

Safe Environment Victim Assistance Hotline

Call 866-535-SAFE

PRAY FOR OUR SICK AND HOMEBOUND

During the General Intercessions at our weekend Masses, we remember all members of our parish and community who are homebound or suffering any illness. Please remember the following in your prayers this week:

Jean Arlotta; Mary Anthony; Jo Augusta; Nancy Balding; Jeff Baker; Colette & Clayton Bean; Jerry DeBenedetto; Jennifer Bland; Margaret Burnett; Marcia Brown; Joanne Callahan; Maria Capone; Alice & Christos Chamis; Albina & Chin Chua; Lillian Davids; Bea Davis; Jerry DeBenedetto; Rosemary Donohue; Eileen Dowling; Christine Drap; Irene Dunbar; Jason Ferrigan; Susan Fleming; Zosima Flores; Adela Florey; Dot & Jack Gregory; Marjorie Goode; Fran Hamacher; Mary Jane Haga; Mary Jane Harvey; Jane Helmer; Denise Herron; Ruth & Kenneth Jones; Dave Jognia; Bernadette Kilroy; Aileen Koch; Bill & Donna LaMountain; Alice Lefebvre; Walter Lupa; Peggy McIntyre; Maria Mitch; Monique Mueller; Nelida Muniz; Kathleen O'Donnell; Chris Ogonowski; Johnathan Palermo; Louise Peloquin; Bill Perkins; Rosalind Riggio; Nancy Rizzo; Shelia Rogers; Julia Schmidt; Tom Shreve; Betty Short; Kathy Smith; Bob Smith; Hugo Sotolongo; Corrine Stavelly; Marisa Suarez; Maria Tadipa; Richard Thomas

If you or a loved one are hospitalized or homebound, contact the Parish Center.

MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS**January 1st to January 7th***Masses are livestreamed & in person unless otherwise stated.*

Monday, 10 am	<i>Parishioners of Holy Infant</i>
Tuesday, 9:00 am	<i>Renee Whitmore †</i>
Wednesday, 9:00 am	<i>Phelan Family (honor)</i>
Thursday, 9:00 am	<i>Kenneth Kaffen †</i>
Friday, 9:00 am	<i>Vocations</i>
Saturday, 9:00 am	<i>Dr. Phuong Doan †</i>
*Saturday, 5:30 pm	<i>Prela Selca †</i>
*Sunday, 8:30 am	<i>Bernadette P. Kilroy †</i>
Sunday, 11:30 am	<i>Maureen Gambino †</i>

To honor a loved one, living or deceased,
with a mass intention, visit

holysinphantchurch.org/mass-intentions.

For more information on memorials for altar wine,
lamp or altar flowers, visit

holysinphantchurch.org/memorial-donations.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday, Nm 6:22-27 Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8 Gal 4:4-7

Lk 2:16-21

Tuesday, 1 Jn 2:22-28 Ps 98:1, 2-3AB, 3CD-4

Jn 1:19-28

Wednesday, 1 Jn 2:29-3:6 Ps 98:1, 3CD-4, 5-6

Jn 1:29-34

Thursday, 1 Jn 3:7-10 Ps 98:1, 7-8, 9 Jn 1:35-42

Friday, 1 Jn 3:11-21 Ps 100:1b-2, 3, 4, 5 Jn 1:43-51

Saturday, 1 Jn 5:5-13 Ps 147:12-13, 14-15, 19-20

Mk 1:7-11

Sunday, Is 60:1-6 Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13

Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6 Mt 2:1-12

The Parish office will be closed
until **January 2nd** for the holidays.

Stewardship of Treasure | July 1 - November 30

	Budgeted	Received	Difference
First Offertory	\$427,930	\$390,372	(\$37,558)
Christmas Offertory		\$150	\$150
Easter Offertory		\$323	\$323
Holy Day Collections	\$3,000	\$4,461	\$1,461
Maintenance Offertory	\$17,900	\$15,882	(\$2,018)
	\$448,830	\$411,188	(\$37,642)

UPCOMING EVENTS

All events are in person unless otherwise stated.

Go to **[HolyInfantChurch.org/calendar](https://holysinphantchurch.org/calendar)**
for details on the following events:

Jan 2 Virtual Centering Prayer, 8 am
Jan 2 Justice Garden Workday, 9 am
Jan 3 FYM Cards & Games, 2 pm
Jan 3 Choir Rehearsal, 7 pm
Jan 3 RCIA Inquiry Session, 7:30 pm
Jan 4 Marian Prayer, 9:30 am
Jan 4 Eucharistic Adoration, 12 pm
Jan 4 Stephen Minister Training, 6:30 pm
Jan 4 Yarn Ministry, 7 pm
Jan 6 Justice Garden Workday, 9 am
Jan 6 Servants of God Prayer Group, 3 pm
Jan 6 Rosary-Making, 3:30 pm
Jan 6 Reconciliation, 4 pm
Jan 7 Baptism of Lucille Colleen Langhenry, 8:30 am
Jan 7 Family Formation, 9:45 am
Jan 7 Catechesis of the Good Shepherd, 9:45 am
Jan 7 Becoming a Community of Salt & Light, 9:45 am
Jan 7 TYM, 6:30 pm
Jan 7 JYM, 6:30 pm

The parish library is open on Sundays from 8 am-4 pm

WE'RE CREATING A Parish Directory

REGISTER TODAY



Photography Dates set for
February 20th, 21st, 22nd, 23rd & 24th

*All participating families receive
a free 8x10 photo and directory!*

Re:MEMBER Church Directories

Faith Development

Families & Children

Michalene Sutton

919-973-0013

Msutton@holyninfantchurch.org

Youth & Adults

Amber Shastri

919-973-0012

AmberS@holyninfantchurch.org

SEEKING CATECHISTS

As you reflect on 2023, please consider if you have the desire to share God's love with our high school-aged teens in 2024.

Please contact **Amber** at the email address above for more information about TYM and joining our team of catechists.

JANUARY BOOK STUDY

Many of us struggle to understand and receive food as a natural gift from God. Join us as we journey through the book, The Catholic Table, together over 6 weeks, reflecting on our relationships with food and how it impacts our spiritual lives.



The study will begin on **January 6th** and run until Mardi Gras on February 13th. Use the QR code to register.



WEEKLY PODCAST

We're on break this week, but stay tuned for our special two-part oral history of Holy Infant which will be released shortly after the new year!

Use the QR to browse all of our recordings over the past year. We are so excited for 2024 and the future of our parish podcast.

BUILDING OF THE MARIAN GROTTO

In December of 2022, Father Robert approached our then Grand Knight, Chris Woodward, to see if the Knights of Columbus would be interested in and willing to take on a project to build a Marian Grotto in the alcove area on the side of the church near the columbarium. The knights agreed to take on the project and used the time during Lent to fundraise for the construction of the grotto.

The team, chaired by Michael Beben, discussed concepts of statues, various ways to construct the support structure for the statue, and the environment surrounding the statue. After several meetings, a statue was selected. Once a final design concept was selected, the team then chose September 16th as the day to break ground.



Once the basic foundation and statue base were completed, the final construction was begun. In this phase, a stone veneer was placed around the statue base. This particular veneer was chosen because it is the same stone veneer that was used in the construction of the church and chapel buildings.



When the construction of the Grotto was complete, we worked with our Pastor to schedule the dedication and blessing of the grotto. December 8th, the Feast of the Immaculate Conception, was chosen as the date for the dedication and blessing.

Following the evening Mass, the congregation processed to the grotto area for the blessing. Father Robert and Deacon Tom Hill performed the dedication ceremony.



Our Council couldn't be prouder of our contribution of creating a new prayer space for the faith community of Holy Infant.

-Jeff Spears



Ministries

Pastoral Associate

Lynn Sale
lynns@holysinftchurch.org

WELCOMING BACK FIRESIDE CHATS

One of the hallmarks of Holy Infant is the closeness of our community. To deepen this spirit, **beginning in January 2024**, Holy Infant will resume the Fireside Chats in which Father Robert visits with as many parishioners as possible in their neighborhoods and homes through informal "fireside chats". These fireside chats will accomplish the following:

- Foster trust and solidarity between parishioners and Father Robert
- Provide a place where parishioners can connect with one another in their own neighborhoods
- Identify ways for all of us to better proclaim and live the Good News in our neighborhoods and parish community.

If you would be willing to open your home to about 30 people and host a fireside chat in your neighborhood, please get in touch with Stacy at StacyP@holysinftchurch.org for more information and to select an available date. Initial dates are listed below.

An invitation will be sent to parishioners as the Fireside Chats come to your neighborhood during the coming year.

Available Upcoming Dates:

January 9
January 23
February 6
February 20
March 5



HELP IS AVAILABLE

OUR STEPHEN MINISTERS ARE THERE TO CARE! The joy of the holidays can turn into one of painful loneliness and emptiness for those who have suffered a loss or who are going through a difficult time. But help is available.

Our Stephen Ministers are ready to provide confidential, one-on-one Christian care. They will listen, care, encourage, pray with and for you, and support you through the holidays as long as your need persists.

If you or someone you know is hurting, learn more about Stephen Ministry. Contact Lynn Sale at the email above or call 919-973-0018.

NEW GROUP STARTING SOON

Learn more about what some refer to as the best-kept secret of the Catholic Church - the seven principles of Catholic Social Teaching.

The group will meet one Sunday a month between the Masses in the Parish Office Living Room to explore becoming a community of salt and light. The first meeting is on **January 7th** from 9:45-11:00 AM.

For more information contact Julio Revueltas (jrevueltas@hotmail.com) or Elizabeth Tolman (eely@email.unc.edu).



**CHECK OUT OUR PARISH CALENDAR FOR MORE
UPCOMING EVENTS AT HOLY INFANT**



Liturgy & Music

Director of Liturgy & Music
Jeff Rice
JeffR@holyninfantchurch.org

GATHERING IN GOD'S HOUSE

On the Sunday after Christmas, the Catholic community gathers at church to celebrate the Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph. If Christmas falls on a Sunday, the feast is transferred to Friday, December 30, because the following Sunday is January 1, the Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God.

Prior to the Second Vatican Council, the feast of the Holy Family fell on Sunday during the week after January 6. The revised calendar has moved the observance closer to the commemoration of the birth of Christ and therefore to the "birth" of his family. The Scripture readings may change from year to year, but the Gospels tell episodes from the early days of Jesus' family life: the flight into Egypt to escape the forces of Herod, the Presentation of the infant Jesus in the Temple, and the finding of the twelve-year-old Jesus in the Temple.

All these events are human and hopeful. The other readings provide stories, psalms, and reflections on the beauty of family life. For families reunited to celebrate Christmas, this feast provides a fitting opportunity to gather again in God's house.

The Book of Blessings and the Catholic Household Book of Blessings and Prayers both contain blessings for families. These can be offered by a priest or a deacon, or by any layperson at home. This feast would be an appropriate day for any family to seek the blessings that come from God, who became like us by living with human parents.

The Collect for the Mass prays that we may imitate the Holy Family by practicing the virtues of family life and by the bonds of charity. In this way, we who share a house on earth may enter the household of God in heaven.

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REFLECTING ON THIS WEEK'S SCRIPTURE

Sirach 3:2-6, 12-14 Those who fear the Lord honor their parents.

Psalms 128 "Blessed are those who fear the Lord and walk in his ways."

Colossians 3:12-21 or 3:12-17 Clothe yourself with heartfelt mercy.

Luke 2:22-40 or 2:22, 39-40

The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom. Today we hear practical guidance and wonderful inspiration regarding treating those close to us, particularly family members. Sirach, which has provided moral teachings since the second century BCE, speaks of the honor we owe our parents, especially as they age. Saint Paul counsels the early Christians in the virtues that should direct how we treat others. Luke relates the profound responses the child Jesus elicited in the temple when Mary and Joseph presented him to the Lord.

How does my faith affect the way that I treat the members of my family? How can my faith help me grow to be a better parent/sibling/daughter/son?



SING IT AGAIN, SAM

This weekend we sang "Once in Royal David's City". Use the QR code above to listen and sing it again.

Next weekend we celebrate the Epiphany of the Lord when we consider the gifts that we bring to our newborn savior, Jesus Christ, as the magi finish their journey and meet Christ for the first time.

Oblates of St. Francis de Sales

STANDING, WAITING, LOVING

If you read these reflections, you know I love using stories! I share this quality with my older brother, Fr. Michael Newman, OSFS. Like many Oblates, we use stories in all of our homilies. Today, I'm going to tell another story; it is a hard story. However, I believe we have a spirituality that gives insight into the whole human story. Therefore, I do not need to hide from hard stories.

In August of 2020 my middle brother, John, died very suddenly of a pulmonary embolism. He was 38 years old. His funeral was the hardest thing I've done as a priest. I remember his burial very well. His grave is adjacent to the Oblate plot at Resurrection Cemetery in Toledo, Ohio. Six of my students served as my brother's pallbearers. They carried him to his grave; then Michael and I prayed over his tomb using the ancient prayers for Christian burial. Those prayers have been recited over countless brothers, sisters, mothers, fathers, sons, daughters, wives, and husbands.

Following the prayers, we stood there at his tomb for 10 minutes as people began to leave. At that moment, a fellow teacher and friend from St. Francis, Brenda, came up to me and said, "Joe, your students are not going to leave you until you tell them it's okay." There, next to us were my six students, standing, waiting, and loving.

I didn't want to go over there. These were my students, and I was their teacher. I'm supposed to be smart, strong, and invincible, but I was just weak, heartbroken, with red eyes from tears. I went to them, thanked them, and told them how much it meant to me that they were there. One looked at me and said, "Father, we wouldn't be anywhere else. We want to be here."

The message for Advent is quite clear, "Ready or not, here I come!" I fight this message and often say to the Lord, "Don't come yet, give me time to become perfect. You don't want to be near me now! I'm weak, heartbroken, with red eyes." We hear from the Lord, "I don't want to be anywhere else. I want to be here. I am next to you, standing, waiting, and loving." We respond back with the Responsorial Psalm from our first Sunday of Advent, "Lord, make us turn to you, make us turn to you, make us turn to you."

May God be Praised!

Fr. Joe Newman, OSFS
Provincial
Toledo- Detroit Province

