

Church OF THE Holy Family

A Catholic Church

1279 North Great Neck Road
Virginia Beach, Virginia 23454

757-481-5702 • Fax 757-481-3989
www.holyfamilyvb.org

Welcome – If you are new to our church or just visiting, we are pleased to have you share in this celebration of the Eucharist. If you would like to join our parish, registration is held in the Welcome Office after all Masses.

Wedding Policy – At least nine months before the wedding, the couple should meet with the pastor, before the wedding dates are selected. At least one member of the family should be a member of our parish.

Baptism Policy – The Church encourages the baptizing of infants in their first few weeks. Expectant parents should contact the Baptism Coordinator around the sixth month of pregnancy. See Bulletin pages for more details.

Funeral Policy – Funerals are scheduled Tuesday-Saturday. We discourage funerals Sundays and Mondays. Participation by other priests and deacons must have prior approval of current pastor.

Church of the Holy Family Pastoral Vision

The Church of the Holy Family is dedicated to manifesting the joy of the Gospel and enriching every individual's Spiritual relationship with our Lord Jesus Christ. The Church of the Holy Family Ministries dedicate themselves in service to our Parish Community, building a just society, and outreach to those in need.

Weekend Masses

Saturday 5:30 p.m.
Sunday 8:15 and 11:00 a.m.
(11:00 a.m. is also live-streamed on website.)

Holy Family Day School
757-481-1180

Morning Prayer & Daily Mass

Tuesday-Friday 9:30 a.m.;
Tuesday 6:30 p.m.

Reconciliation Saturday
4:00-5:00 p.m.

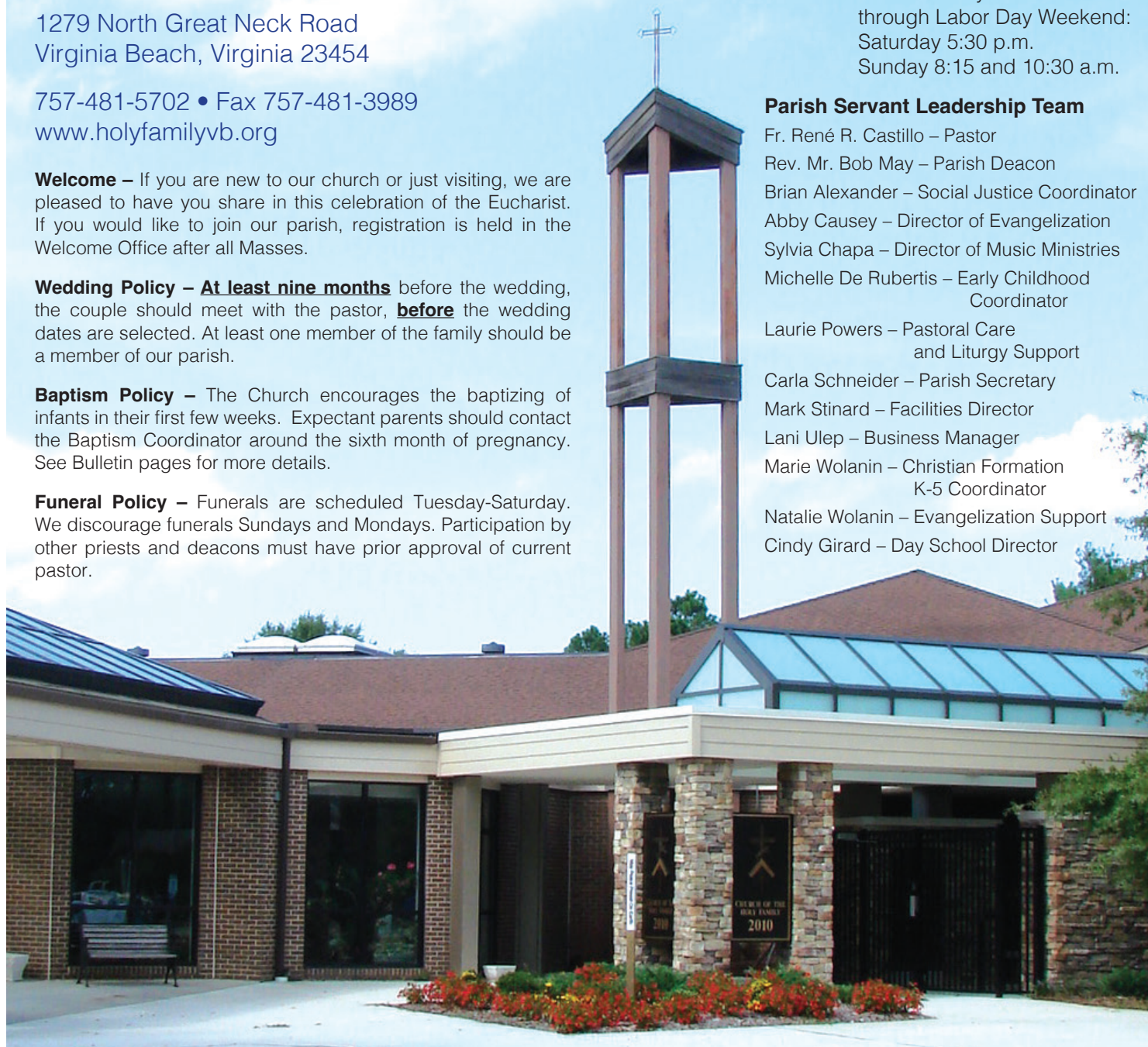
The Room Inside the Chapel

Summer Masses

Memorial Day Weekend
through Labor Day Weekend:
Saturday 5:30 p.m.
Sunday 8:15 and 10:30 a.m.

Parish Servant Leadership Team

Fr. René R. Castillo – Pastor
Rev. Mr. Bob May – Parish Deacon
Brian Alexander – Social Justice Coordinator
Abby Causey – Director of Evangelization
Sylvia Chapa – Director of Music Ministries
Michelle De Rubertis – Early Childhood
Coordinator
Laurie Powers – Pastoral Care
and Liturgy Support
Carla Schneider – Parish Secretary
Mark Stinard – Facilities Director
Lani Ulep – Business Manager
Marie Wolanin – Christian Formation
K-5 Coordinator
Natalie Wolanin – Evangelization Support
Cindy Girard – Day School Director



A Parish of The Catholic Diocese of Richmond
Please remember in your prayers our sister parish, St. Jude in Baptiste, Haiti

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

December 16 & 17, 2023

Breviary – Week III – p. 187

REMEMBER THE DEAD: Ralph Flohre

PRAY FOR: Roberta Affelt, Michael Allewa, Emma Allshouse, Theresa Andrew, Susana Asercion, Lennie Bano, Maria Basmas, Ron Batdorf, Gerard Beres, Richard Bourdon, John Buford, Freddie Cahoon, Quinn Carpenter, Patrick Causey, Heather Cervantes, Carolyn Collings, Carol Collins, Donald Cortois, Mary Crell, Maureen Cullen, Linda Davis, Tucker Davis, Bill Dempsey, Joanne Deyo and Family, Michael Eaton, Barbara Evans, Brendan Feeley, Patricia Fogarty, Aretha Francois, Connie Gallacher, Tony Gargano, The Ginley Family, Daniel Girard, Rita Giuffre, Mary Ann Golas, Gail Grabowski, Charlene Gregory, Donna Gottshall, Sister Nancy Healy, George Heath, Russell Heath, Mary Hood, Elston Howard, Theresa Hughes, Billy Jankosky, Jeremy Johnson, Julia Johnson, The Joseph Family, Kristin Judge, Susan Kayota, Emily Kerr, Marianne Krop, Tess and Tony Liene, Jeremy Lopez, Connie Loschi, Susan Neal Matousek, Eila Grace McAlpin, Cheryl McLeskey, Thomas McQuay, Debbie Merritt, Isabel Mickle, L. P. Mickle, Steven Molesky, Shaun Maschue, Sandy Nuzum, Julie Oates, Marilyn O'Donnell, Collin O'Rourke, Cecilia O'Toole, Doug Palczewski, Elenia Pantelidis, Beth Park, Ryan Piotti, Margaret Pisone, Pete Popeck, Margaret Rafferty and Family, Irma Reagan, Daniel Reed, Paul Rehpeiz, Kathy Rivet, Kelly Robinson, John Robishaw, Jr., Bob Rodgers, Lou Romano, Mary Romano, Cindy Anna Russo, Dan Ryan, Jr., Jeff Ryan, Frances Sandusky, Marlene Sayers, Sherry Schieno, Valerie Seiberlich, Christian Sleigh, Grace Smith, Carole Solliday, Carol St. Cyr, Mark Staff, Roy and Sue Starrin, Arlene Stepnick, Ann Stern, Gwen Stinard, Mark C. and Catherine Stinard, Dan Stinson, Diane Taylor, Jim Trimble, Tonya Trimble, Suzanne Wassel, Stella Watson, Kai Wescoat, Nancy Wiggins, Emma & Frank Williams, Brianna Willis, Dee Whitley, Emilie Yoder

BULLETIN PRAYER REQUESTS:

Please call the Parish Office at 481-5702.

DAILY SCRIPTURE READINGS**Sunday, December 17:** *Third Sunday of Advent:* Is 61:1-2a, 10-11;

(Ps) Lk 1:46-50, 53-54; 1 Thes 5:16-24; Jn 1:6-8, 19-28

Monday, December 18: Jer 23:5-8; Ps 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19;

Mt 1:18-25

Tuesday, December 19: Jg 13:2-7, 24-25a; Ps 71:3-6, 16-17;

Lk 1:5-25

Wednesday, December 20: Is 7:10-14; Ps 24:1-6; Lk 1:26-38**Thursday, December 21:** *Saint Peter Canisius, Priest,**Doctor of the Church:* Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a; Ps 33:2-3, 11-12, 20-21; Lk 1:39-45**Friday, December 22:** 1 Sm 1:24-28; (Ps) 1 Sm 2:1, 4-7, 8abcd;

Lk 1:46-56

Saturday, December 23: *Saint John of Kanty, Priest:* Mal 3:1-4,

23-24; Ps 25:4bc-5ab, 8-10, 14; Lk 1:57-66

Sunday, December 24: *Fourth Sunday of Advent:*

2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16; Ps 89:2-5, 27-29; Rom 16:25-27;

Lk 1:26-38

Sunday, December 24: *Vigil of the Nativity of the Lord**(Christmas Eve):* Is 62:1-5; Ps 89:4-5, 16-17, 27, 29;

Acts 13:16-17, 22-25; Mt 1:1-25 or 1:18-25

EMERGENCY PHONE NUMBERS: If you have an emergency and call the Church Office at 757-481-5702, please follow the directions on the phone as to what number to call for what emergency. Do not call the number listed for the Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick if you need Financial Assistance. There is separate number for Financial Assistance.

PARISH OFFICE HOURS**Monday-Thursday from 9:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.****Friday from 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.****MASS SCHEDULE**

Saturday – 5:30 p.m.

Sunday – 8:15 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.

Saturday Reconciliation 4:00-5:00 p.m.

Tuesday Evening – 6:30 p.m.

Morning Weekday – 9:30 a.m.

Tuesday through Friday

(11:00 a.m. Mass also livestreamed)

See Church of the Holy Family Facebook for more information.

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK:

Note: Some Mass Intentions may have had to be moved or changed after the Bulletin was published. We apologize for this inconvenience and appreciate your patience and understanding.

Saturday, December 16: 5:30 p.m.: Kathleen Horey + by George Horey

Sunday, December 17: 8:15 a.m.: Holy Family Parishioners; 11:00 a.m.: Irene Albert + by Gaye Vachris

Monday, December 18: No Mass

Tuesday, December 19: 9:30 a.m.: Tyler Piotti by The Benedetto Family; 6:30 p.m.: Daniel P. Rafferty + by Margaret Rafferty and Family

Wednesday, December 20: No Intention**Thursday, December 21:** 9:30 a.m.: Tam Bryant + by Lan Ballard

Friday, December 22: 9:30 a.m.: Ernesto Tanguilig + by Betty Tanguilig

Saturday, December 23: 5:30 p.m.: Anna Shugarts + by Theresa Huges

Sunday, December 24 (Fourth Sunday of Advent):

10:00 a.m.: William and Jayne Campbell + by Debbie DiNardo

Sunday, December 24 (Christmas Eve): 4:00 p.m.

(Worship Space): Mary Lenahan and Nancy Kelly +

by Emily Kerr & Family; 4:00 p.m. (Family Room):

Mary Lou McClelland + by The McClelland Children;

9:00 p.m. (Worship Space): The DiNardo and Domenico Families + by Debbie DiNardo

ONLINE GIVING:

SERVANT LEADERSHIP TEAM EMAILS:

Fr. René R. Castillo, Pastor – pastor@hollyfamilyvb.org or Father.Rene

Rev. Mr. Bob May, Deacon – deacon@hollyfamilyvb.org

Brian Alexander, Social Justice Coordinator – socialjustice@hollyfamilyvb.org

Abby Causey, Director of Evangelization – doe@hollyfamilyvb.org

Sylvia Chapa, Music Director – music@hollyfamilyvb.org

Michelle De Rubertis, Early Childhood Coordinator – michelle@hollyfamilyvb.org

Laurie Powers, Pastoral Care and Liturgy Support – pal@hollyfamilyvb.org

Carla Schneider, Parish Secretary – secretary@hollyfamilyvb.org

Mark Stinard, Facilities Director –

facilitiesdirector@hollyfamilyvb.org

Lani Ulep, Business Manager – businessmanager@hollyfamilyvb.org

Marie Wolanin, Christian Formation K-5 Coordinator – k5cf@hollyfamilyvb.org

Natalie Wolanin, Evangelization Support – natalie@hollyfamilyvb.org

Cindy Girard, Day School Director –

dayschoolprincipal@hollyfamilyvb.org

Rev. Mr. Bob Durel, Retired Deacon – robertdurel@gmail.com

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL: Fr. René Castillo, Pastor; Michelle Rack, Chair; Adam Stephens, Secretary; Bob Breault; Mariann Gannon; Dave Hicks; Connie Loschi; Dorothy Lyons; Lauren McDonough; Christina Neveau-Zepf; Amy Walton; Bella Mlodzinski, Youth Representative. ppc@hollyfamilyvb.org.

FINANCE COUNCIL: Fr. René Castillo, Pastor; Steve Winter, Chairperson – swinter@edgewaterasset.com; Rob Wright, Vice-Chairperson – robwright@thalhimer.com; Jay Ly; Ray Michelini; Lani Ulep, Bonnie Volker; Mike Zeiders and Pat Zogg.



50/50 RAFFLE: The winning number is 110468.

If this is the number on your ticket and you haven't already done so, please contact Lani, our Business Manager, in the Parish Office at 757-481-5702.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS NEWS – COUNCIL 10804
COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP MEETING



The Knights of Columbus Council 10804 monthly membership meeting is held on the first Thursday of each month. The Rosary will be held at 6:30 p.m. in the Chapel and all parishioners are invited. The members-only business meeting begins at 7:00 p.m. in the Family Room.

“You are born a man, YOU BECOME A KNIGHT!”

We invite all Catholic men 18+ years old to join today.

Visit www.kofc.org/join

and use the promo code **BlessedMcGivney** for **FREE 12 months of online membership.**

(Please list Council #10804 as your preferred council.)

For more information regarding our Council or how to join us, contact an officer below:

Grand Knight ~ Charles Clarkson (757-416-2707)

Deputy Grand Knight ~ Joe Murray (757-355-2108)

Chaplain ~ Fr. René Castillo

Knight of the Month: John Costas

Family of the Month: “Mike” Jakubec Family

WINTER CLOTHING DRIVE TO START IN JANUARY

Your Knights of Columbus at the Church of the Holy Family will conduct a **Winter Clothing Drive** again starting January 2, 2024, and continuing through January 31, 2024.

Please consider donating clothing for men, women, and children (such as coats, hats, gloves, sweatshirts, shirts, scarves, shoes, work boots, socks, blankets, towels, and toiletries) to the Church of the Holy Family, and your Knights of Columbus will see to it that they get distributed to help the needy or abused in Virginia Beach, Chesapeake, Norfolk, and Portsmouth.

But PLEASE do not bring any items to the church until after New Year's.

MEN OF FAITH/COR:

Men of Faith – Who Are We? Just a group of guys coming together to share our thoughts and feelings about how we can be true to our Faith in this sometimes confusing world.

We meet here at Holy Family on the second Tuesday of each month, at 7:00 p.m., and the third Saturday of each month at 7:30 p.m.

For more information, contact Bob Breault at bobbro1938@gmail.com or call 610-360-6070 or Ron Batdorf at ron.batdorf@gmail.com or call 757-739-4414.



ROSARY: Please join us every Wednesday evening at 4:00 p.m. to pray the Rosary in the Chapel. This is a wonderful opportunity to pray as a family. We promise to start on time and have you out by 4:30 p.m. **NOTE:** There will only be one Rosary Service at 4:00 p.m. The 6:00 p.m. Rosary has been cancelled.

WEEKLY OFFERTORY

Budget 2023/2024 is \$1,044,400.00

October, 2023

Monthly Total Collection	\$ 90,121.22
Monthly Budget	\$ 87,033.33
Month over Budget	\$ 3,087.89
Year-to-Date Collection	\$ 330,542.63
Budget for 18 weeks	\$ 365,112.00
Year under Budget	<\$ 34,569.37>
Social Ministry:	\$ 4,777.00
Haiti Fund:	\$ 9,542.96
Capital Reserve:	\$ 2,464.90

Make your stewardship easy with e-giving. Have your contribution taken from your bank account or charged to your credit card. See “Online Donation” on the Parish website: <https://hollyfamilyvb.org/>. Contact Lani Ulep in the Parish Office if you have questions.



SECOND COLLECTION
CHRISTMAS EVE AND
CHRISTMAS DAY:

There will be a second collection on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day for Catholic Charities of Eastern Virginia (CCEVA). Please be generous and please make checks payable to “Church of the Holy Family” with “CCEVA” in the memo.

HOLY FAMILY DAY SCHOOL

757-481-1180

Celebrating 20 Years!



Enrolling children from 2 years old-Prekindergarten

Half-day and Full-day Programs from 7:30 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

Music – Spanish – Outdoor Classroom

Educating

Mind  Heart  Spirit

Please call 757-481-1180
to schedule a tour!



CHRISTMAS FLOWERS: If you would like to make a Christmas floral contribution in memory of a loved one, there are envelopes available in the Commons.

CREATION CARE CORNER:

Delegates gathering in Dubai for the opening of COP28 on November 30 approved a framework for a fund to help developing countries deal with the harm caused by global warming. The wealthier nations pledged to contribute at least \$260 million to the fund. This was a momentous achievement! Nations like the United Arab Emirates, COP28's host, and Germany each pledged \$100 million. The Biden administration agreed to provide \$17.5 million along with the other countries which made a pledge.

The World Bank was selected to be the fund's host on a 4-year interim basis, making the funds accessible to sub-national and local organizations. The framework agreed upon by the delegates from nearly 200 countries was approved in early November by the 24-member Transitional Committee, a board set up after COP27 and tasked with the operationalization of the fund. It contains recommendations on how the fund would operate, including who would receive the money and who would pay.

The delegates at Dubai also approved the agenda for the next two weeks, marking a smooth start to the summit. COP28 will also mark a historic milestone by conducting the first Global Stocktake, a comprehensive assessment that will evaluate the progress made by nations towards their climate goals.

Despite an optimistic first day for climate finance, attendees noted that key issues such as nature and biodiversity loss received little attention in the opening plenaries. Lucy Almond, Chair of Nature 4 Climate and Nature Positive Pavilion lead, said "Our natural ecosystems, which underpin our economies, are not just in trouble – they are in a state of crisis. Nature can provide one-third of the solution to climate change. It's a priority for the parties to reduce global carbon emissions, but it is equally as important to halt and reverse nature loss by 2030." The outcome of this COP looks promising!

This article is a draft from "Rich Nations Pledge \$260 million for Climate Loss and Damage Fund on COP28 Opening Day," published by Martina Igini on December 1, 2023, on Earth.Org

Ed Marroni – Holy Family Environmental Ministry

CHURCH OF THE HOLY FAMILY BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP

"Too often we underestimate the power of a touch, a smile, a kind word, a listening ear; an honest compliment, or the smallest act of caring, all of which have the potential to turn a life around."

~ Leo Buscaglia

Grief is the conflicting feelings caused by a change or an end in a familiar pattern or behavior; it is the normal and natural reaction to loss. Our Bereavement Support Group meets Tuesdays at 2:00 p.m. in the Parish Library. If you, or someone you know is grieving, please join us. These meetings will be confidential and held in a safe environment.

RCIA

RCIA is short for the "Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults." RCIA is the normative process where those who are interested in the Catholic Church have a time of discernment about a possible call to full participation in the Catholic faith.

RCIA is open to:

- Those adults who have not been Baptized and are spiritually looking
- Those adults who have been Baptized in a recognized non-Catholic Christian tradition
- Those adults who were Baptized Catholic but have not celebrated Eucharist and Communion

Participating in RCIA does not mean that you **have** to become Catholic, but it does help you discern as to whether God is calling you to join the Catholic Church.

Please contact the Parish Office at 757-481-5702 if you are interested in learning more.

WE INVITE YOU TO JOIN THE TEAM OF EXTRAORDINARY COMMUNION MINISTERS IN THE CELEBRATION OF THE LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST!



Each week as we come forward to receive the Eucharist, we say, "Amen!" to the person who offers us the Consecrated Body and Blood of Jesus Christ! "The Body of Christ, The Blood of Christ!" is what we hear, and what we believe, we receive.

You can join the team of Communion Ministers who help bring this important Sacrament to our "Holy Family" family! Please email Laurie Powers at PAL@holymfamilyvb.org to express your interest in this essential ministry.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS SCHOLARSHIPS



Knights of Columbus will be awarding \$1,000.00 scholarships to the Outstanding Young Man of the Year, and to the Outstanding Young Woman of the Year. All high school seniors whose families are registered members of the Church of the Holy Family are eligible. To get a copy of the application, email chuckkenison17@hotmail.com or stop by the Parish Office to pick up an application. The deadline for submission is January 4, 2024.



SPIRITUAL COMMUNION PRAYER:

My Jesus, I believe that You are truly present in the Most Blessed Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You within my soul. Since I am unable at this moment to receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there, and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.

UPCOMING BAPTISM DATES

Baptisms are normally scheduled during weekend Masses on set dates.

January 13/14, 2024

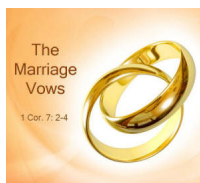
April 27/28, 2024

June 1/2, 2024

Sacramental preparation consists of meeting with the Baptism Coordinator, completing an online Baptism program, and attending an in-person session.

To request Baptism, please go to the parish website. Under the "Our Faith" tab, click "The Sacraments" and then click "Baptism." There, you will find information about Baptism, as well as the Baptism Request Form: <https://www.holyfamilyvb.org/baptism-request-form>.

Once your Baptism Request Form is received, the Baptism Coordinator will contact you to schedule an appointment to meet with her and plan the Baptism! Expectant parents are encouraged to reach out around the sixth month of pregnancy, but the unbaptized of all ages are welcome! Feel free to contact Michelle De Rubertis directly with any questions at 757-937-6712 or michelle@holyfamilyvb.org.

**MARRIAGE RETREAT**

Date: Saturday, February 3, 2024

Time: 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

Place: Church of the Holy Family

Don't miss this special Retreat!

Child care provided! Register on Flocknote!

**THE HOLY FAMILY GIFT SHOP**

Our gift to you. 20% off all holiday for the whole month. Nativity Sets, Ornaments, Advent Wreaths and Candles, Stocking Stuffers. Great gifts for everything you need to celebrate your faith this Advent and Christmas season! **The Gift Shop is open before and after each Mass.**

STEWARDSHIP PRAYER

My parish is composed of people like me. I help make it what it is.

It will be friendly – if I am. It will be holy – if I am.

Its pews will be filled – if I help fill them. It will do great work – if I work. It will be prayerful – if I pray. It will make generous gifts to many causes – if I am a generous giver. It will bring others to worship – if I invite and bring them. It will be a parish of loyalty and love, Of fearlessness and faith, of compassion, charity, and mercy, if I, who make it what it is, am filled with these same things. Therefore, with the help of God,

I now dedicate myself to the task of being all the things that I want my parish to be.

Amen.

Music Notes**A Festival of Carols**

Thursday, December 21, at 7:00 p.m.

Family, Friends, Neighbors...

DO YOU HEAR WHAT I HEAR?

YES! It is Church of the Holy Family's

Annual FESTIVAL OF CAROLS

back for your listening and singing along pleasure!



Let's gather together with joy and anticipation on Thursday, December 21, at 7:00 p.m., as our Cantors, Parish Choir, Teen Singers, Children's Choir, Holy Family Handbell Ringers, and Teen Instrumentalists (guided by our fearless leader, Sylvia Chapa) will "raise the roof" along with your voices as we sing, and also

hear our Lectors tell of the prophecies leading to the fulfillment in the birth of the Christ Child!

Can't wait to see you then!

ALL ARE WELCOME!

Free and open to the public.

This is the Music Ministry's gift to you and to the Lord for our many blessings, including the gift of music and fellowship in Christ.

DEANERY 2 SCHEDULE OF PARISH ADVENT RECONCILIATION SERVICES:

- Wednesday, December 20 – Holy Spirit
- Thursday, December 21 – St. John the Apostle

Note: You are invited to any of the above scheduled Reconciliation Services. All services are at 7:00 p.m.

There will not be Saturday afternoon Reconciliation on December 16, 23, or 30.

**CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR'S MASS SCHEDULE**

December 23/24 (4th Sunday of Advent):

Saturday – 5:30 p.m.

Sunday – 10:00 a.m.

Sunday, December 24 (Christmas Eve):

4:00 p.m. – Worship Space

4:00 p.m. – Family Room

9:00 p.m. – Worship Space

Monday, December 25 (Christmas Day) – 10:30 a.m.

December 30/31 (Feast of the Holy Family):

Saturday – 5:30 p.m.

Sunday – 8:15 and 11:00 a.m.

Monday, January 1 (New Year's Day) – 10:30 a.m.

FUN-TASTIC AUCTION:

Save the date – **Saturday, April 27, 2024!** Watch the bulletin for more information.

There will be an Auction Committee Meeting on Wednesday, January 3, 2024, at Holy Family. If you are interested in helping with our 7th Annual Fun-Tastic Auction, please join us for that meeting.



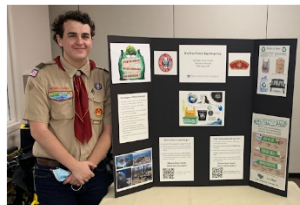
Church of the Holy Family Social Justice & Outreach

TO LOVE IS TO TAKE ACTION.
TO LOVE IS TO TAKE ACTION.

Volume 124

December 16-17, 2023

NexTrex is making some changes



Holy Family and plastic bag recycling

In May of 2021, Josh Darrow initiated the NexTrex recycling program at Holy Family as his Eagle Scout Project. The Holy Family Environmental Ministry and the parishioners of Holy Family have kept it going. Close to 50 pounds of plastic bags are collected and repurposed

each week. Plastic bags are taken to Harris Teeter and then sent to the Trex Company. Last year 1 ¼ tons of plastic bags were collected at Holy Family. Since the start of the program, Holy Family collected enough plastic to receive four Trex benches, while keeping a lot of plastic out of the landfill and waterways.



WHAT HAS AND HAS NOT CHANGED?

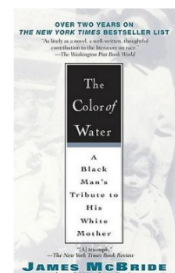
- **Holy Family is still collecting plastic bags.** Keep bringing the bags to the bins at Holy Family.
- **We are still only collecting plastic bags.** This includes store bags, produce bags, ice bags, Ziploc and other storage bags, cereal box liners, bread bags, newspaper sleeves, bubble wrap and plastic table clothes. If you can stretch the plastic, it can be recycled at Trex. Do NOT place hard plastic objects in the plastic bag recycling bins.
- **As always, reduce your use of plastic bags.** Use reusable shopping bags, use cloth table cloths and avoid items over packaged in plastic.
- **1,000 pounds of plastic bags is needed to receive a bench.** NexTrex now requires 1,000 pounds of plastic bags instead of 500 pounds. This has allowed NexTrex to open the program up to more schools and organizations
- **You can only receive one bench per year.** NexTrex is only awarding each organization one bench a year instead of two.
- **Groups are now required to take a picture of plastic bags and include that picture when the group submits their plastic bag totals.** This is done weekly at Holy Family.

The Holy Family Environmental Ministry could use your help.
If you are interested in helping to bundle the bags, weigh, record and/or drop off bags at Harris Teeter, contact Brian Alexander brian@hollyfamilyvb.org.
This could be done after any Mass or during the week.



Thank You Montego Island Grill

Holy Family's Racial Justice and Unity Ministry held their meeting last week at Montego Island Grill. The Grill is home to amazing traditional Caribbean comfort food since 1997. The restaurant is owned by a father and daughter to create an escape to the islands by combining food, family, and fun under one roof. During the meeting, they discussed their book study "The Color of Water: A Black Man's Tribute to His White Mother." Contact Joe Panchik to learn more about the Racial Justice and Unity Ministry at Holy Family.



Visit Holy Family Website to read Pope Francis' remarks to COP28 in Dubai.

(Conference of Parties)
Cardinal Parolin delivers Pope Francis' speech to delegates at the UN Climate Change Summit, urging world leaders not to postpone action.



DO YOU HEAR WHAT I HEAR?

Festival THE ANNUAL of Carols

THURSDAY,
DECEMBER 21
7 PM

O come, O come, everyone!

Join us as we gather in
celebration to sing carols
with the uplifting voices of
our talented Holy Family
Music Ministry as they share
their gift of music with us.

OUR MINISTRY

CANTORS, PARISH CHOIR, TEEN SINGERS,
CHILDREN'S CHOIR, HANDBELL RINGERS, and
TEEN INSTRUMENTALISTS (guided by Sylvia Chapa)



FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC



Christmas Mass Schedule

4th Sunday of Advent: Saturday, Dec 23 at 5:30 pm & at 10 a.m. on Sunday, Dec. 24

This year, the 4th Sunday of Advent falls on Christmas Eve – it happens every 6-7 years!

Christmas Eve, Sunday, Dec. 24 at 4 pm & 9 pm

4 pm in the Church, Fr. René presiding, music led by Teen Singers & Instruments,
Children's Choir, & Holy Family Ringers

4 pm in the Family Room – overflow mass with Msgr. Fred Elkin presiding – Caroling at 3:45 pm

9 pm in the Church with Fr. René presiding, music led by the Parish Christmas Choir

♪ *Caroling Concerts begin 30 minutes before each mass in the church!* ♪

Christmas Day, Monday, Dec. 25 at 10:30 a.m.

Feast of the Holy Family, Dec. 30/31

Regular mass times of 5:30 Saturday, 8:15 & 11 a.m. Sunday

Mary, Mother of God, Monday, January 1, 2024 at 10:30 a.m.

The Epiphany of the Lord, January 6/7

Regular mass times of 5:30 Saturday, 8:15 & 11 a.m. Sunday

*A Merry and Blessed Christmas to all
from Fr. René, Deacon Bob May, Deacon Bob Durel,
and your Holy Family Servant Leadership Team*



Pew Art

Please feel free to let your child draw on this card and put it in the green collection box by the crayons as their gift to God!



Name:

Age:





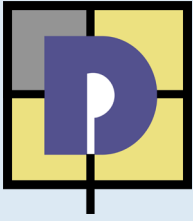
Pew Art

Please feel free to let your child draw on this
card and put it in the green collection box
by the crayons as their gift to God!



Name: Lucienne

Age: 4



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Call Dee Printing at 1-800-292-9020.

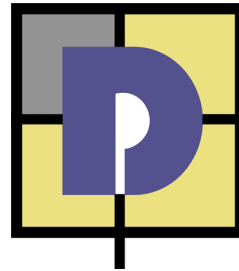


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