

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

Rev. Michal Sajnog
Pastor

Rev. Dave Fitz-Patrick
Visiting Priest

Rev. Fred Nnebue
Visiting Priest

14 M Street, SE
Washington, DC 20003
Rectory/Office (202) 488-1354

**The Parish Office will be closed
December 24, 2021 until
January 3, 2022**

Reach us by email:
Fr. Michal Sajnog
pastor@svpdc.org

Malissa Freese, Secretary

SUNDAY MASS SCHEDULE

MORNING — 8:00 a.m.
NOON — 12:00 p.m.
EVENING — 6:30 p.m.

WEEKDAYS

Monday/Tuesday/Thursday / Friday
12:10 p.m.
Holy Days
12:10 p.m. & 7:00 p.m.

CONFESSION

30 minutes prior to all Masses
and by request. For request, please
call the pastor at (240) 466 -1339

EUCHARISTIC ADORATION*

Every Thursday
6:00 — 7:00 pm
Every Friday
after the 12:10PM Mass

*Confessions during adoration

Bulletin for

Friday, December 24, 2021—Vigil Mass

Saturday, December 25, 2021—Christmas Mass

Sunday, December 26, 2021—Mass for the Holy Family



DECEMBER 24—VIGIL MASS

Welcome to St. Vincent de Paul

No matter how long you plan on being in the neighborhood, please consider this your home parish. Registration forms are located in the back of the church and on our website (www.svdpc.org).

Readings for Today

FIRST READING: Isaiah 62:1-5

For Zion's sake I will not be silent,
for Jerusalem's sake I will not be quiet,
until her vindication shines forth like the dawn
and her victory like a burning torch.

PSALM: Psalm 89:4-5, 16-17, 27, 29

For ever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.

SECOND READING: Acts 13:16-17, 22-25

'I have found David, son of Jesse, a man after my own heart;
he will carry out my every wish.'
From this man's descendants God, according to his
promise, has brought to Israel a savior, Jesus.

GOSPEL: Matthew 1:1-25

All this took place to fulfill
what the Lord had said through the prophet:
*Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son,
and they shall name him Emmanuel,*
which means "God is with us."

The angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for behold, I proclaim to you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. For today in the city of David a savior has been born for you who is Christ and Lord. And this will be a sign for you: you will find an infant wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a manger." - Lk 2:10-12

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.



HOLIDAY Mass Schedule

Christmas Eve:

Friday, December 24—6:00pm

Christmas Day

Saturday, December 25—9:00am

New Year's Eve

Friday, December 31—7:00pm

New Year's Day

Saturday, January 1, 2022—10:00 am

The Epiphany of the Lord

Sunday, January 2, 2022—
8:00am, 12:00pm & 6:30pm

Pray For...

Melvin Nelson
Chris Falkenhagen
Mary Honable
Elaine Thomas
Mary Ingram
Evelina Jones
Joyce Fredricks

Rodney McCormick
Catherine Brawner
Rolando Blakeney
Jose Masini-Soler
Janelle Baliko
Ned Laskowski

and the sick of our parish. *(Please contact the office to have other parishioners in need of prayer added to the bulletin.)*

If you would like to have a Mass offered for a particular intention or individual (*living or deceased*), please contact the office **(202) 488-1354**. The Mass Stipend is \$10, and you will receive a card signed by the Celebrant indicating when the Mass is being offered.



DECEMBER 25—THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD

Readings for Today

FIRST READING:

All the ends of the earth will behold
the salvation of our God. (Is 52:10)

PSALM:

All the ends of the earth have seen the saving power of
God. (Ps 98)

SECOND READING:

In times past, God spoke in partial and various ways
to our ancestors through the prophets;
in these last days, he has spoken to us through the
Son. (Heb 1:1-2)

GOSPEL:

And the Word became flesh
and made his dwelling among us,
and we saw his glory,
the glory as of the Father's only Son,
full of grace and truth. (Jn 1:14)



GOSPEL MEDITATION

December 25, 2021 - The Nativity of the Lord

“He so loved us that for our sake He was made man in time, through Whom all times were made; was in the world less in years than His servants, though older than the world itself in His eternity; was made man, Who made man; was created of a mother, whom He created; was carried by hands which He formed; nursed at the breasts which He had filled; cried in the manger in wordless infancy, He the Word without Whom all human eloquence is mute (St. Augustine, Sermon 188).” The miracle of what happens at Christmas is truly an awesome mystery. Revealed in the silent ordinariness of life is God’s intimate love for humanity and all that he made. The Word, existing for all time, comes and dwells among us. God kisses us. We can seek and soar with playful delight as a joy never known before fills our heart.

Joy is best expressed through dance. There is just something truly wonderful about the self-abandon a beautiful melodic dance reveals. If we are able to let go and really be free, it celebrates life in a way few other experiences really can. With the birth of Jesus Christ, God takes the Divine Dance to a deeper and more tangible level. We can now not only see what we believe but believe what we see! This most perfect dance is a call to beauty, innocence, truth, purpose, hope, faith, and love. Today we know, beyond doubt, that we are a necessary part of God’s beautifully choreographed masterpiece of life and not just a random happening without real intent or purpose. We are loved, treasured, and blessed.

Accepting the truth of God’s birth in time we also accept an invitation to dance with God. We can let go of what tethers us to anxious concerns and superficial securities. Throw caution to the wind and go with God. We have been blessed with talents, gifts, and life eternal. Follow the rhythm of the dance with joy and listen to what the Word who became flesh tells us about what the next steps can be. Today, heaven remains the same, but earth has been profoundly changed.

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Over for December 26th Holy Family Mass →



QUESTIONS OF THE WEEK

FIRST READING:

The prophet Isaiah offered a song of praise in seeing the Lord’s return and the salvation of his people. How will you celebrate today the birth of the Messiah?

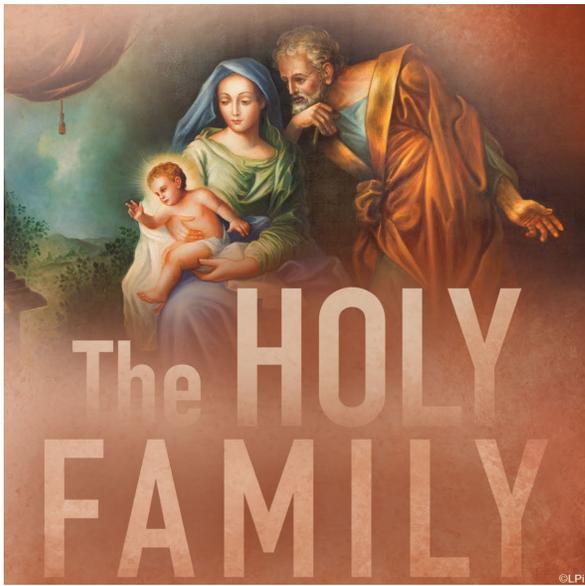
SECOND READING:

The opening prologue of the Letter to the Hebrews is similar in poetic structure and theology to the prologue of the Gospel of John (today’s Gospel reading). Both texts place heavy emphasis on the divinity of Jesus. In the birth of Jesus where do you see his divinity present?

GOSPEL:

The opening prologue to the Gospel of John offers a beautiful portrait of Jesus: “And the Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us.” How does the celebration of Christmas help you sense God’s presence in the world?

DECEMBER 26—THE HOLY FAMILY



Reflect and Respond : Questions of the Week

1st Reading — *1 Samuel* 1:20-22, 24-28: Hannah, the mother of Samuel, and Samuel's father are portrayed as parents of deep prayer and great faith. How would you describe the faith of your mother or father?

Responsorial Psalm — *Psalms* 84: 2-3, 5-6, 9-10: Blessed are they who dwell in your house, O Lord.

2nd Reading — *1 John* 3:1-2, 21-24: John teaches us that if we believe in Jesus and love one another, "we may be called children of God." How do you show gratitude for being part of this holy family?

Gospel — *Luke* 2:41-52: Luke is the only Evangelist to preserve a story about Jesus from his youth. In this account, Mary and Joseph are filled with "great anxiety" as they searched for Jesus who they thought was lost. How do you seek God's help for anxious moments in your family?

GOSPEL MEDITATION

December 26, 2021 - The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph

Families can be very difficult things to negotiate. This is true not only of our families of origin, the current family of which we are a part, the family of our Church, our society, and our global family as well. Everything human can be found in family stories. Those stories speak of wonderful life-giving successes as well as painful spirit-robbing abuses. Our greatest joys and our greatest wounds are usually connected with the experience of family. Our needs, experiences, and unresolved baggage often color what we bring to our familiar relationships. They contribute to our level of defensiveness, how guarded and protected we become, and what prejudices we believe.

In order to break the cycle of dysfunction we have to remember that it is not only by human effort that we negotiate the difficult and challenging events of our lives. There is a Divine Effort at work as well. For sure, the human effort can create quite a mess and easily destroy lives. This is true of any family with which we are associated. Today's Feast of the Holy Family serves to help us understand that there is a Divine Story being told as well. It is a story of perseverance in the face of hardship, determination in the face of despair, healing when we see nothing but wounds, and light where there is darkness.

Do we believe that God is always working, guiding, restoring, and leading? Unless we do, we will never be free from the imperfections and wounds that bind us and never be able to understand what it really means to forgive. Pope Francis tells us that the "light which comes from the Holy Family encourages us to offer human warmth to other families." While this is most certainly true, we can only really begin to do this when we realize that we are still works in progress, not anchored to the wounds and sins of our past, and still a leading star in God's continually unfolding story of love. The Holy Family persevered and radiated warmth because they knew they were not alone. We can too.

WEEKLY PRAYER

READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 26, 2021

- Sunday:** Sir 3:2-6, 12-14/Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5 [cf. 1]/Col 3:12-21 or 3:12-17/Lk 2:41-52 or 1 Sm 1:20-22, 24-28/Ps 84:2-3, 5-6, 9-10 [cf. 5a]/1 Jn 3:1-2, 21-24/Lk 2:41-52
- Monday:** 1 Jn 1:1-4/Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12 [12]/Jn 20:1a, 2-8
- Tuesday:** 1 Jn 1:5—2:2/Ps 124:2-3, 4-5, 7b-8 [7]/Mt 2:13-18
- Wednesday:** 1 Jn 2:3-11/Ps 96:1-2a, 2b-3, 5b-6 [11a]/Lk 2:22-35
- Thursday:** 1 Jn 2:12-17/Ps 96:7-8a, 8b-9, 10 [11a]/Lk 2:36-40
- Friday:** 1 Jn 2:18-21/Ps 96:1-2, 11-12, 13 [11a]/Jn 1:1-18
- Saturday:** Nm 6:22-27/Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8 [2a]/Gal 4:4-7/Lk 2:16-21
- Next Sunday:** Is 60:1-6/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13 [cf. 11]/Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6/Mt 2:1-12

OBSERVANCES FOR THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 26, 2021

- Sunday:** The Holy Family
- Monday:** St. John, Apostle and Evangelist
- Tuesday:** The Holy Innocents, Martyrs
- Wednesday:** St. Thomas Becket, Bishop and Martyr
- Friday:** St. Sylvester I, Pope; New Year's Eve
- Saturday:** New Year's Day; Mary, The Holy Mother of God; World Day of Peace
- Next Sunday:** The Epiphany of the Lord; Sts. Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzen, Bishops and Doctors of the Church

