

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

December 31, 2017

December Stewardship

Underground Railroad
and
Holy Cross Children's Service

Budget amount
needed for each week:
\$7,100.00

December 23
Stewardship Back to the Lord
Envelopes: \$8,045.00
Youth: \$0.00
Total: \$8,045.00
EFT \$0.00
Total: \$8,045.00

Sunday Contributions YTD \$177,900.00
Actual YTD \$175,561.22

December 24 and 25
Stewardship Back to the Lord
Envelopes: \$8,740.00
Youth: \$0.00
Total: \$8,740.00

Sunday Contributions YTD \$185,000.00
Actual YTD \$184,301.22

Thank You

Stewardship: "Whatever you do," says St. Paul to the Colossians, "...do it in the name of the Lord Jesus. Give thanks to God the Father through Him." And so it is that we offer our gifts in the Eucharist "through Him, with Him, and in Him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit."

Rosary: The rosary is prayed every morning at 8:00 am in the church led by Bernie Coonrod.

This Week's Events

Sunday, December 31
8:00 am Rosary
Tuesday, January 2
10:00 am Prayer Group
Wednesday, January 3
9:30 am Adult Choir
Saturday, January 6
8:00 am Rosary
Sunday, January 7
8:00 am Rosary
11:30 am Individual Reconciliation (Bannister)
4:00 pm High School Youth Group
6:00 pm Faith Formation
6:00 pm Junior High Youth Group



Faith Formation

The next class will be Sunday, January 7th. Enjoy this time with your families and have a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year! Doris

Youth Ministry

Both Youth Groups will meet on Sunday, January 7th. High School Youth Group meet 4-5:30 pm and Junior High Youth Group meet 6:00-7:30 pm. Katie

Knights of Columbus: If there are any men who are interested in becoming a Knight please call Doug Bishop at 845-4310 or the K of C Hall at 845-7449. The new member meeting is January 7, 2018 at noon.

CAER Center: The CAER Center is looking for new or gently used blankets for our local families. The hours are: Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday 9:30-11:00 am. Thank you for your continued support.

Liturgy this Week

Sunday, December 31
Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph
8:30 am Mass
Monday, January 1
8:00 am Solemnity of Mary (Chesaning)
Wednesday, January 3
9:00 am Mass (Bannister)
Thursday, January 4
8:00 am Mass (Chesaning)
Friday, January 5
9:00 am First Friday Mass (Bannister)
Saturday, January 6
4:30 pm Mass
Lectors:
Pat Walser and Cassidy Bucholz
Eucharist Ministers:
Doris Mahoney, Sarah Mahoney, Pat Walser, Helena Czeiszperger and Angie Meder
Altar Servers:
Helena Czeiszperger
Sunday, January 7
Epiphany of the Lord
8:30 am Mass
Lectors:
Ray Gengler and Greg Mahoney
Eucharist Ministers:
Bernard Coonrod, Dan Stasa, Judie Giesken, Kathy Thompson and Michelle Vrable
Altar Servers:
Keegan Kalisek

Readings for the Week

Monday: Is 42:1-4, 6-7/Mk 1:7-11
Tuesday: 1 Sm 1:9-20/Mk 1:21-28
Wednesday: 1 Sm 3:1-10, 19-20/Mk 1:29-39
Thursday: 1 Sm 4:1-11/Mk 1:40-45
Friday: 1 Sm 8:4-7, 10-22a/Mk 2:1-12
Saturday: 1 Sm 9:1-4, 17-19; 10:1a/Mk 2:13-17
Sunday: 1 Sm 3:3b-10, 19/Jn 1:35-42

Sponsor of the Week



CSA Catholic Service Appeal (CSA): We have reached 78% of our CSA goal with \$54,600.00 that has been pledged. Envelopes are available in the gathering area of church if you haven't pledge yet.

Box Tops for Education: Remember to save your Box Tops for Education. There is a container in the back of church for your box tops. They are used for the Saginaw Area Catholic Schools.

School Closing due to Weather: Now that winter has arrived, just a reminder that when the Chesaning Union Schools are closed or delayed due to weather all activities at St. Peter will be canceled. This includes week day Masses. The parish offices will also be closed.

Knights of Columbus Council #4102 Breakfast: Knights of Columbus Council #4102 is sponsoring an "all you can eat breakfast" on Sunday, January 7th, from 8:00 am until 1:00 pm. Menu includes: eggs, sausage, ham, potatoes, pancakes, French toast, fruit and more. Adults are \$6.50; children under 12 are \$3.00. Proceeds to "Holy Cross Children Services". They are located at 360 S. River Rd., Bay City, MI 48708.

Newspapers Wanted: Bring your newspapers to the paper trailer located at 802 Lockwood St. (west side of school). The newspapers are used by a company that makes blown insulation and we receive a check based on the weight of the papers. Thanks!

THOSE ASKING FOR PRAYERS:

Betty Naessens, Ron Aldrich, Willburt Schneider, Clayton Meder, Mary Memmer, Thelma Schneider, Annie (Ebenhoeh) Dugalech, Jim Smith, Ray Meder, Alison Andres, Geri Sholtz, Madonna Bueche, Matt Barancik, Florence Coleman, Ed Foy, Florence Markiewicz, Linda Vincent, Stephanie Czeiszperger, Leo Henige, Deb Martin, Arnold Schultz, Mary Ann Devota, Ruth Toma, Jerry & Mary Tanner, Joyce Tithof, Jim Pitt, Benny Sims, Carol Moore, Robert Tufts, Charles Guziak, Helen Gasser, Margaret Bolinger, Matt Coughlin, Terry Kennelly, Bradley Blakeselle, Chantel Fondren, Brenda Lienau, Vickie Daniels, Mark Zvonek, Albert & Judy Storch, Sherry Storch, Joseph Klasek, Rose Bonkowski, Jim Fusina, Esther Lickman, Brady Carroll, Fred Lane, Rita Amman, Jay & Kay Glover, Susan Addington, Nancy Dennis, Barb Wenzlick, Diane DeVoe, Roxann Timm, Judy Wakeman, David and Marianne Sutter, Bessie McSwain, Judy (Willitts) Balderrama, Melanie Thiel, Brian Clark, Gloria Bates, Jeannette Somers, Kim Bruder, Gary Cech, Edward List Sr., Gary J. Tanner, Mel Gross, Nichole Horn, Henry Huntoon, Will Lucio, Al Hundt, Ruth Vrable, Jerry Hoover, Julia Mahoney, Jennie Hunt, Jacob Albers, and Joseph Sedlar Sr.

Zachary Reeves, Christopher Lickman, Garrett Mishler, and Bill Lickman Jr. (serving in the Armed Services)

Lector Formation Gathering: On Saturday, January 20, 2018 from 10:00 am until noon, we will have a Lector enrichment workshop at St. Peter Church. Put this date in your calendar immediately as you have a three month notice of the event. Joan Brausch from Blessed Sacrament Church in Midland will be our facilitator. She is very knowledgeable in the area of Liturgy and has obtained her degrees in Theology and Scripture from what was then St. John's Regional Seminary in Plymouth, Mich. She will talk us through the ministry of being a Lector and help us hone our skills in proclaiming the Word of God. I do expect all of us who proclaim the Word to the People of God to attend this workshop. Anyone who is interested in possibly being a lector is welcome to attend. Fr. Bill Gruden, Pastor

BeFriender Thoughts by Dallas Birchmeier: One of the best things about being Christian is Jesus' emphasis on forgiveness and understanding of each other. Anyone who has spend a few years on this earth recognizes that life has many pains. As the prayer says, we are often "moaning and weeping in this valley of tears." When people say and do things that are hurtful to us, it's very helpful to remember that they are only acting out of their pain. We all do it. We are all human, facing our frustrations in various ways. Forgiveness lubricates the wheels of the wagon of our life; makes them turn so much easier.

A Reflection of the Gospel from Living Liturgy 2017: Luke tells us a rather unique story, often referred to as "The Presentation of the Lord." While still an infant, Jesus is taken to the temple by his parents. There they meet two people about whom we know nothing other than what this story tells us: the righteous and devout Simeon, and the prophetess Anna. It is typical of Luke to pair his stories, one with a male character followed by one with a female character. In this way, and in many others, Luke shows a concern for women.

The promise to Simeon, that he would not see death until he had seen the Messiah of the Lord, was fulfilled. Simeon will exit but not before uttering a final prophecy to Mary. Immediately after Simeon exits the scene, the eighty-four year old widow prophetess Anna steps to the fore. She gives thanks to God and speaks about the child, foreshadowing again the lives of the early Christians.

Finally, the gospel reading concludes with some fairly innocuous sounding words: "The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; / and the favor of God was upon him." How many of us imagine Jesus as a toddler, or as a young boy? Would he have had to ask questions? To learn? Certainly so. Jesus was fully human. To be so meant he had to learn. He grew and became strong. He reached maturity. He was not a divine puppet on the human stage, but he was a real human being, born in to a family, and raised to maturity.

Family life is the heart of faith life for so many of us, including Jesus himself. It is the family where we first experience unconditional love. This experience then becomes one image or model upon which we imagine God's love. For this reason, but not only for this reason, the experience of family is sacred.

