



Bulletin

Sacred Heart Parish

Fr. John Yake, I. V. Dei
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December 26, 2021

Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

**Mass on Sunday Dec 26th, -
 9:00 am**

**Mass on Friday Dec 31st, -
 3:30 pm**

**Mass on Sunday Jan 2, -
 9:00 am**

Previous Calendar: Sunday in the Octave of the Nativity ; Other Titles: Second Day in the Octave of Christmas

Scripture tells us practically nothing about the first years and the boyhood of the Child Jesus. All we know are the facts of the sojourn in Egypt, the return to Nazareth, and the incidents that occurred when the twelve-year-old boy accompanied his parents to Jerusalem. In her liturgy the Church hurries over this period of Christ's life with equal brevity. The general breakdown of the family, however, at the end of the past century and at the beginning of our own, prompted the popes, especially the far-sighted Leo XIII, to promote the observance of this feast with the hope that it might instill into Christian families something of the faithful love and the devoted attachment that characterize the family of Nazareth. The primary purpose of the Church in instituting and promoting this feast is to present the Holy Family as the model and exemplar of all Christian families.

— Excerpted from *With Christ Through the Year*, Rev. Bernard Strasser, O.S.B.

Feast of the Holy Family - Day Two

Today is the feast day of the Holy Family, but also every family's feast day, since the Holy Family is the patron and model of all Christian families. Today should be a huge family feast, since it is devoted entirely to the Holy Family as a model for the Christian family life. As Rev. Edward Sutfin states:

"The children must learn to see in their father the foster-father St. Joseph, and the Blessed Mother as the perfect model for their own mother. The lesson to be learned is both practical and theoretical, in that the children must learn how to obey and to love their parents in thought, word and action, just as Christ was obedient to Mary and Joseph. Helping mother in the kitchen and in the house work, and helping father in his odd jobs about the home thus take on a new significance by being performed in a Christ-like spirit." (True Christmas Spirit, ©1955, St. Meinrad Archabbey, Inc.) cover us with it.

"Unsearchable indeed are the judgements of God, and inscrutable his ways." But though we are unworthy of his infinite love, it nevertheless stands out as clear as the noonday sun in the Incarnation. We realize that we can never make ourselves worthy of this infinite love, but let us imitate Joseph and accept the honor which God is giving us, as we trust that he will continue to make us daily less unworthy.

--Excerpted from *The Sunday Readings* by Fr. Kevin O'Sullivan, O.F.M.

Christmas/New Year's Schedule

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

Sunday Dec. 26, 2021

Sacred Heart, Johnstown – 9:00am
 All three parishes at St. Peter the Apostle at 11:00am:

- St. John the Baptist
- St. Peter the Apostle
- Holy Guardian Angels

The Solemnity of Mary, The Holy Mother of God

Holy Day of Obligation

Friday, Dec. 31, 2021

Sacred Heart, Johnstown – 3:30 pm
 Holy Guardian Angels, L'Ardoise – 5:30pm

The Solemnity of Mary, The Holy Mother of God

Holy Day of Obligation

Saturday, January 1, 2022

St. John the Baptist, River Bourgeois – 9:00am
 St. Peter the Apostle, St. Peter's - 10:30am

The Epiphany of the Lord

Sunday, January 2, 2022

Sacred Heart, Johnstown – 9:00am
 All three parishes at St. Peter the Apostle at 11:00am:

- St. John the Baptist
- St. Peter the Apostle
- Holy Guardian Angels

Parishioners at these three parishes may choose to celebrate any of the feasts:

The Nativity of the Lord, the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God, and the Epiphany of the Lord at Sacred Heart Church in Johnstown or a parish of their choice.

Notices:

1: The blower motor in the church has been fixed, now we just need to stop the wind.

2: Envelopes for 2022 – The church envelopes for 2022 will be at mass today. I did not order as many boxes of envelopes as past years, so anyone who had an envelope number greater than 50 will have a new number for 2022.

3: Decorating for Christmas: Thank you to everyone who showed up to help decorate the Church, it was a little nippy, but we soldiered through, we are tough.

6: Office of the Bishop

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(Pastoral note 28 /2021)

December 21, 2021 (St. Peter Canisius, Doctor of the Church)

My dear Clergy and My dear People,

In providing a COVID -19 update today, Premier Tim Houston and Dr. Robert Strang, Chief Medical Officer of Health announced that the province will require further restrictive measures effective tomorrow, December 22, 2021.

We will need to continue wearing masks and maintain physical distancing and now faith gatherings indoor and outdoor are limited to 25 % capacity to a maximum of 50 people. No choirs or congregational singing will be permitted but there can be one person singing.

Wedding and funeral Masses may be celebrated following the same protocols of 25 % capacity to a maximum of 50 people but there can be no receptions. Please find attached the following link.

<https://novascotia.ca/news/release/?id=20211221004>

Such restrictions are a major disappointment for all of us especially as we prepare to celebrate Christmas, but as Bishop, I support these directives and I instruct that our churches follow these provincial protocols.

Fraternally in Christ,

+ Wayne Kirkpatrick

Bishop Wayne Kirkpatrick