

THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH

December 27, 2020

FAMILY PERSPECTIVE. We come to know Jesus through both Word and Sacrament. The words of the Scripture illuminate our minds and lift our spirits to consider things, not only from a human perspective, but from the divine perspective of our God: God the Father, who creates, God the Son the Redeemer, and the Holy Spirit, the Sanctifier. In considering the life of the Holy Family of Nazareth, we might ponder: How can we also look at the events of our days as a constant living with the word of God? How do we make room and space for this divine Word to richly dwell within us? How do we experience Jesus as our consolation and comfort?

A VERY BLESSED, HAPPY, HEALTHY NEW YEAR OF OUR LORD, 2021! I think most of us are relieved that we can leave behind 2020, with the sad effects of the Corona virus, all of its rancor, and political adversity, and the seeds of deceit and divisiveness sown by the media, and enter into this New Year with a sense of greater reason, trust, renewed hope and the promise of health and peace. Perhaps the words of Thomas a Kempis in his book "The Imitation of Christ" would be a good reflection for all of us as we begin this New Year 2021: "Do not care much who is with you and who is against you; but make it your greatest care that God is with you in everything you do. Have a good conscience, and God will defend you securely. God reveals his secrets to a humble man and draws that man to himself. God protects and frees a humble man; he loves and consoles a humble man; he showers him with favor and grace, and after suffering raises him to glory. Above all things, keep peace within yourself, then you will be able to create peace among others. If you wish others to put up with you, first put up with them."

What a truly blessed new year we could all enjoy if we would all strive to imitate Christ more fervently and walk humbly with our God in the spirit of Mary the Mother of God.

WITH APPRECIATION AND GRATITUDE. It takes a lot of hours and hard work to prepare and decorate the church for our Christmas holidays. We extend our gratitude to our faithful volunteers who once again gave of their time and talents to make Christmas so beautiful for us and for the glory of God. We extend our thanks to Jovo Mejak, Feruccio Klimic, Dennis Kozak, Joshua Kozak, Jim Pulver, Denise Pulver, Bob Frederico, and Jeanne Matuch for setting up and decorating the Christmas trees, as well as decorating the rest of the church. We also extend our thanks to Maria Sedmak for her expertise in setting up the Nativity scene, along with the help of her grandsons Simon and Sebastian Sedmak. We can only thank God for these volunteers who year after year are always ready and willing to help make St. Mary's so beautiful for the holidays.

JANUARY 1st, THE SOLEMNITY OF MARY, THE MOTHER OF GOD, AND WORLD DAY OF PEACE. Even though the Mass obligation has been dispensed because of the Corona virus, we will still have Vigil Mass on Thursday, December 31st, St. Sylvester's Day at 5:00 p.m. and Masses on Friday, January 1st at 9:30 a.m. and 11:30 a.m.

Church Needs: \$100 in memory of Tim Petric from Veronica Petric; \$50 in memory of Dr. Edi Gobetz from Veronica Petric; \$20 in memory of Dr. Edi Gobetz from Jeanne Matuch; \$20 in memory of Dr. Edi Gobetz from Sophie Matuch.

The following in memory of Marica Lavrishka: \$20 from Jeanne Matuch, \$10 from Sophie Matuch, \$20 from Marija & Kristjan Sedmak, \$50 from Kozina & Cupar families.

Blessed Mother Teresa Society: \$125 in memory of Tim Petric from Dr. Corine A. Yee & Kathleen Wyosky

Your generosity to the Parish is appreciated!

THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH. Family has always been central to our Judeo-Christian understanding of God's relationship to us. God created the human family, different and diverse, but all members created in his image and likeness, all of us descendants of our first parents, Adam and Eve. God assured Abram that his descendants would be as numerous as the stars in the sky. God chose to be born into this world and to share family life with Mary and Joseph. It was in family that Jesus learned to pray, to value virtue and hard work, to be kind and charitable to others, to live with others and for others. In his book "Overcoming Spiritual Discouragement", Fr. Timothy Gallagher OMV, reflects on the wisdom of Venerable Bruno Lanteri. Venerable Bruno wrote, "I will plan the activities of my day so that I may more surely do the will of God and give Him glory in all that I do: not different things, but the same things done differently; not doing things simply out of habit, but out of love." That is the key to holiness of family life: doing our routine tasks, with all of the ebb and flow of our energy, our moods, the strains in our relationships, but not doing things simply out of habit, but out of love. It is in this that family life mirrors the life of God, the life of the Holy Trinity. There are strident voices today in our society calling for the end of family life as we know it, but even with all its flaws and shortcomings, there is nothing better than family life that exemplifies God's relationship to us as a Father and Protector, as a caring brother in Jesus Christ and the bonds that hold us together in Spirit. May the Holy Family of Nazareth be our model of personal support, prayer, work, discipline and holiness, as we do our routine tasks, not only out of habit, but out of love.

SPLIT THE POT 50/50 WINTER RAFFLE. As of December 15th, the pot has \$535. Please pick up as many tickets as you wish to either buy or sell. They are by the parking lot entrance to the church and also in the rectory office. The more tickets sold, the bigger the pot.

CHILDREN'S CONTRIBUTION ENVELOPES. Children from 1st grade to 12th grade should all have their own contribution envelopes so that they can learn the importance of supporting their parish. Boxes of envelopes may be picked up in the entrance way by the priest's sacristy.

ALTAR SOCIETY will have its Corporate Communion, next Sunday, the Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord, January 3rd at the 10:00 a.m. Mass.

Today's Psalm Response

The Lord remembers his covenant forever.

Gospod se spominja svoje zaveze.

Masses for the Week of December 28, 2020 to January 3, 2021

Monday:	(12/28) THE HOLY INNOCENTS, (Martyrs)
7:45 a.m.	Iva Zajec (Family)
Tuesday:	(12/29) ST. THOMAS BECKET (Bishop and Martyr)
7:45 a.m.	Ivan Berkopec (Tillie Spehar)
Wednesday:	(12/30) SIXTH DAY within the OCTIVE of the NATIVITY of the LORD
7:45 a.m.	Katerina Jereb (Stan Krevh)
Thursday:	(12/31) ST. SYLVESTER I (Pope)
7:45 a.m.	Danica (Ujcic) Mitevski (Daughter Sandy Zrelc)
5:00 p.m.	Ani Zajec (Bernie Jakomin)
Friday:	(1/1) SOLEMNITY OF MARY, MOTHER OF GOD
9:30 a.m.	Parishioners
11:30 a.m.	Matt Dolenc (Shirely Ivancic Stall)
Saturday:	(1/2) STS. BASIL THE GREAT & GREGORY NAZIANZEN (Bishops and Doctors the Church)
7:45 a.m.	Alice Poremba (Deborah Karn)
5:00 p.m.	Pavle Boršnik & Paula Adamič (Wife & daughter Mira)
Sunday:	(1/3) EPIPHANY OF THE LORD
8:00 a.m.	Parishioners
10:00 a.m.	Altar Society
12:00 noon	Robert E. & Marie Quinn (Son, Bob Quinn)

Please Pray for Our Sick: Rev. William Jerse, Tom McNulty, Tom Adamich, Brenda Prebevsek, Mladen & Dušanka Lengel, Zdravko Novak, George Rozman.

May He Rest In God's Peace:

+Walter Majer



ISKRENA HVALA IN HVALEŽNOST. Vzame veliko ur in pridnega dela, pripraviti in okrasiti cerkev za Božične praznike. Hvaležni smo našim zvestim prostovoljcem, ki so spet dali svoj čas in talente ter naredili Božič tako lepo za nas in za slavo Boga. Zahvalo zaslužijo: Jovo Mejak, Feruccio Klimič, Dennis Kozak, Joshua Kozak, Jim in Denise Pulver, Bob Frederico in Jeanne Matuch za okrasitev božičnih dreves in tudi za ostalo okrasitev cerkve. Zahvala tudi Mariji Sedmak za njeno spretnost postaviti jaslice s pomočjo njenih vnukov Simona in Sebastiana Sedmak. Zahvaliti se moramo Bogu za te prostovoljce, ki leto za letom so vedno pripravljene z veseljem okrasiti našo cerkev za Božič.

1. JANUAR, PRAZNIK MARIJE, Matere Boga in Svetovni dan miru. Tudi če je maša neobvezna zaradi Corona virusa, mi bomo še vedno imeli mašo vigilio v četrtek 31. decembra ob 5:00 zvečer in maše v petek 1. januarja ob 9:30 in 11:30 dopoldan. **OLTARNO DRUŠTVO** ima skupno sv. obhajilo naslednjo nedeljo, 3. januarja, na praznik Gospodovega Razglašenja pri maši ob desetih.

PRAZNIK SV. DRUŽINE IZ NAZARETA.

SV. DRUŽINA, JEZUS, MARIJA, JOŽEF. Družina je bila vedno center našemu Judovsko-Krščanskem razumevanju o Božjem odnosu za nas. Bog je ustvaril človeško družino, različno in raznoliko, toda vsi člani ustvarjeni v njegovi podobi in podobnosti in vsi smo potomci naših prvih staršev, Adama in Eve. Bog je jamčil Abrammu da njegovi potomci bodo številni, kot je zvezd na nebu. Bog je izbral, biti rojen na ta svet in deliti družinsko življenje z Marijo in Jožefom. Bilo je v družini, ki se Jezus nauči moliti, vrednotiti čednost in delavnost, biti prijazen in doberdelen do drugih, živeti z drug drugim in za druge. V njegovi knjigi "Premagati duhovno odvratanje." Fr. Timothy Gallagher, OMV, razmišlja modrost častivrednega Bruna Lanteri. Častivredni Bruno je napisal, "Jaz bom planiral aktivnost mojega dneva tako, da bom zagotovo vršil voljo Boga in mu dal slavo v vsem kar jaz naredim: ne različne stvari, ampak iste stvari izvršene drugače; ne narediti stvari preprosto iz navade, ampak iz ljubezni." To je ključ k svetosti družinskega življenja: vršiti naše običajno delo z vsem upadanjem in tekom naše energije, našega razpoloženja, napetosti v naših odnosih, toda ne vršiti stvari samo iz navade, ampak iz ljubezni. V tem družinsko življenje zrcali življenje Boga, življenje Sv. Trojice. Imamo vreščice glasove danes v naši družbi, ki vreščijo za konec družinskega življenja, kot ga mi poznamo, toda z vsemi razpokami in pomanjkanjem, še vedno ni boljšega kot družinsko življenje, ki ponazori Božji odnos nam, kot Oče in Zaščitnik, kot skrben brat Jezus Kristus in vez, ki drži nas skupaj v Duhu. Naj Sv. Družina iz Nazareta bo naša osebna opora molitve, dela, discipline in svetosti, ko mi vršimo naše delo ne iz navade, ampak iz ljubezni.

DRUŽINSKA PERSPEKTIVA. Spoznamo Jezusa po Besedi in Zakramentu. Besede v Sv. Pismu razsvetlijo naš razum in vzdignejo naš pogum, da smatramo stvari ne samo od človeškega vidika, ampak od božanskega vidika našega Boga: Bog Oče, ki ustvarja, Bog Sin, Odrešenik in Sv. Duh, Posvetitelj. V upoštevanju življenja Svete Družine iz Nazareta, mi moremo premišljavati: Kako lahko tudi mi gledamo na dogodke naših dni in stanovitno živeti z Božjo besedo? Kako moremo narediti prostor za to božansko Besedo, da bogato biva v nas? Kako mi doživljamo Jezusa kot našo tolažbo?

BLAGOSLOVLJENO, VESELO, ZDRAVO NOVO LETO, NAŠEGA GOSPODA, 2021! Mislim, da večina nas smo olajšani da pustimo za nami leto 2020, z žalostnimi posledicami Corona virusa, vsega tega jezo in politično priskutnost in seme prevare in razporov zasejano od medijev. Stopimo v Novo leto z občutkom za večji razlog, zaupanje prenovljeno upanje in obljubo zdravja in miru. Morda besede Tomaža a Kempis v njegovi knjigi "Posnemanje Kristusa" bi bilo dobro premišljevanje za vse nas, ko začenjamo to Novo leto 2021: "Ne skrbi preveč, kdo je s teboj in kdo je proti tebi; toda naredi tvojo največjo skrb, da je Bog s teboj in v vsem kar delaš. Imej čisto vest in Bog te bo branil in zavaroval. Bog razodene njegove skrivnosti ponižnemu človeku in njega pritegne k sebi. Bog zaščiti in osvobodi ponižnega človeka, njega ljubi in tolaži njega obdaruje s podporo in milostjo, po trpljenju njega dvigne v slavo. Predvsem drži mir v sebi, potem boš mogel ustvariti mir med drugimi. Če želiš, da drugi prenašajo tebe, prvo ti prenašaj druge. Kakšno resnično blagoslovljeno Novo leto lahko vsi uživamo če bi se vsi prizadevali posnemati Kristusa bolj goreče in ponižno hodili z Bogom v duhu Marije, Matere Boga.