

# THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH

## 28 DECEMBER 2025

**Readings for Sunday, December 28:** Sirach 3:2-6, 12-14; Colossians 3:12-21; Matthew 2:13-15, 19-23.

Family life is rooted in the unconditional love of God as witnessed by the Holy Family.

**Readings for Sunday, January 4:** Isaiah 60:1-6; Ephesians 3:2-3a, 5-6; Matthew 2:1-12.



**St. Gabriel of the Sorrowful Mother Parish Special Day of Prayer is Wednesday. Adoration of the Most Blessed Sacrament: Wednesday after 9:00 A.M. Mass to 5:00 PM in the Church. Benediction at 5:00 PM.**



<u>Date</u>		<u>Intention</u>	<u>Requested By</u>
29 Dec.	MON. 9:00 AM	Kayla Schwenk-Fox	Aunt Kathy
30 Dec.	TUE. 9:00 AM	Larry Curtin	Jamelle Foster
31 Dec.	WED. 9:00 AM	Elizabeth Skokowski	Jack & Lori Carr
31 Dec.	WED. 4:00 PM	Parishioners of St. Gabriel of the Sorrowful Mother Parish	
1 Jan.	THU. 9:00 AM	Parishioners of St. Gabriel of the Sorrowful Mother Parish	
3 Jan.	SAT. 4:00 PM	Parishioners of St. Gabriel of the Sorrowful Mother Parish	
4 Jan.	SUN. 9:00 AM	Those Enrolled in St. Gabriel of the Sorrowful Parish Memorial Fund	



**ETERNAL REST** grant unto them, O Lord. May the souls of the faithful departed rest in peace.  
**PRAY FOR THE SICK AND SUFFERING** of the parish especially those in homes and hospitals.  
**REMEMBER OUR TROOPS:** Pray that God will bless and protect our young men and women in the military.



**NOVENA IN HONOR OF OUR LADY OF THE MIRACULOUS MEDAL** on Mondays after the 9:00 AM Mass. All are welcome to join in this special Marian Devotions.

**THE PARISH OFFICE** will be closed Monday, December 29 from 12:00 PM to 3:00 PM; Tuesday, December 30; Wednesday, December 31; Thursday, January 1.



**THE ROSARY PRAYER GROUP** leads the recitation of the Rosary every Sunday before the 9:00 AM Mass. They also pray the Rosary before the 9:00 AM weekday Masses. All are welcome to join in these Marian Devotions.



**2026 MASS BOOK** - Requests for Mass Intentions to be offered in 2026 can be made at the Parish Office. There is a limit of one weekend Mass per person requesting the Mass Intention. This is necessary due to the limited number of weekend Masses available.

LOST WEEK

# Collections at PPC thank you

**DEPOSIT FOR DECEMBER 14, 2025.** . . . . . \$5,091  
2025-2026 Year to Date Collections. . . . . \$99,454  
Figures from the December 21 collection will be printed  
in the January 4 bulletin.

### “ADVERTISER OF THE WEEK”

**DR. DIANE FRIES, OPTOMETRIST**  
610-323-0450

**CONSIDER REMEMBERING YOUR PARISH IN YOUR WILL.**  
Call the Parish Office for more details.

### MASS ATTENDANCE for December 13/14:

4:00 PM Mass 171  
9:00 AM Mass - 54  
Total Attendance - 225



**APPAREL ALERT!** Orders are being accepted for our parish apparel. Items available are: T-Shirt - \$10; Sweatshirt with hood - \$25; Men’s and Women’s Polo Shirts - \$25. Colors available are Kelly Green and Sunburst Yellow. 1/4 Zip - \$35; Full Zip hoodies - \$30 -

color is Forest Green. Logo on all apparel is in the upper left corner. Sizes: S to XL - larger sizes are available (just add \$2) and we have youth sizes too! **PROMOTE YOUR PARISH!!!** Complete the order form in the vestibule of Church and return to the parish office along with payment or contact Maria Boyer ([mboyer@sgsm62.org](mailto:mboyer@sgsm62.org)).



**CHURCH MAGNETS** are available at the Parish Office. They can be placed on your car or refrigerator. Cost is \$5.00 each.



### PARISH LOTTERY RAFFLE TICKET

based on the PA Pick 3 Evening Number. Winning ticket number must be the exact number drawn for the PA Pick 3 Evening Number.

Tickets are \$5.00 each and are sold on a monthly basis. The prize for the winning ticket is \$50.00 on weekdays and \$100.00 on Sundays and one specially-designated weekday. **This is our major fund raiser for the parish. We encourage each family to purchase at least one ticket each month. Your support is greatly appreciated.**

### LOTTERY RAFFLE TICKET WINNERS

- December 8 - #527 - unsold
- December 9 - #345 - unsold
- December 10 - #942 - unsold
- December 11 - #505 - unsold
- December 12 - #690 - Rose Grenewald - \$50.00
- December 13 - #536 - unsold
- December 14 - #469 - unsold



**American Red Cross**

### AMERICAN RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE

on January 5 and 19 from 2:00 PM to 7:00 PM in the social hall. Consider donating blood for those in need. Call 1-800-RED CROSS or visit [www.RedCrossBlood.org](http://www.RedCrossBlood.org).

## Because of *You*— They are Ready to Lead.



### Support the formation of our future priests.

Your gift to the St. Charles Borromeo Seminary Appeal prepares them to lead the Church with wisdom, compassion, and the heart of Christ.



Donate Today at [scs.edu/appeal](http://scs.edu/appeal) or Scan Here

If you prefer to give by check, mail your gift to St. Charles Borromeo Seminary  
CL# 5315, P.O. BOX 95000-5315, Philadelphia, PA 19195-0001



## MINISTRY SCHEDULE - DECEMBER 31/JANUARY 1

### 4:00 PM Mass

Lector - Warzeski

Ministers of Holy Communion - Front, Deacon; Break, Tammaro & Tammaro; Choir - Nester

Altar Server - Wasylkowski

Greeter - DiMarco

### 9:00 AM Mass

Lector - Vitacco

Ministers of Holy Communion - Front, Deacon; Break, Bernhard & George

Altar Servers - Morris & Griffin

Greeter - Neiman

## MINISTRY SCHEDULE - JANUARY 3/4

### 4:00 PM Mass

Lector - Willemsen

Ministers of Holy Communion - Front, Deacon; Break, Vitacco & Nester; Choir, Bracaglia

Altar Server - Pomponio

Greeter - Wade

### 9:00 AM Mass

Lector - Boyer

Ministers of Holy Communion - Front, Deacon; Break, Gerasimowicz & Carr

Altar Servers - Miller & Tran

Greeter - Hildebrand

## SOLEMNITY OF MARY, MOTHER OF GOD MASSES

Wednesday, December 31 at 4:00 PM

Thursday, January 1 at 9:00 AM

## NO ADORATION OF BLESSED SACRAMENT ON WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 31.

## The Corner



Today is the **Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph**. Thank God for His marvelous plan for our salvation, and celebrate with your own holy family!



## OUR ADVENT GIVING TREE

will be in the vestibule of Church beginning Saturday, November 29 until Sunday, January 4. We are collecting items for Birthright of Pottstown. Items needed are: size 3 diapers, hooded bath towels, crib sheets, onesies size 0-3 month and 3-6 month,

and baby bottles. Decorate our Giving Tree by placing an ornament on the tree for each gift you give. Ornaments are in the box next to the Giving Tree.

## ST. GABRIEL OF THE SORROWFUL MOTHER PARISH MEMORIAL FUND DONATIONS received in memory of:

MARY KARVOSKI from Bonnie Stankunas;

ANNA M. GEORGE from Pete & Lori LaRosa.



**LOW GLUTEN HOSTS** - We have low gluten hosts for those who need gluten free. Please see Father before Mass to let him know you require the low gluten host.



## SUNDAY MORNING

**BREAKFAST** on January 4 at the Knights of Columbus Hall, Stowe. Come and enjoy a breakfast of your choice. We serve pancakes, French toast, sausage, bacon, scrapple, eggs

your way, a variety of omelets, and different types of breakfast bowls. Breakfast is served from 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM.

## POPE JOHN PAUL II HIGH SCHOOL PAWS PROGRAM - The

PAWS (Panthers Achieving Worthwhile Success) Program at Pope John Paul II High School in Royersford supports the individual needs of students with learning differences through instruction and academic accommodations within the Panthers' Learning Center, our hub of academic support. An Information Sessions about the program will be held on Thursday, January 8 at 6:00 PM in the Panthers' Learning Center at PJP to outline the program objectives and support structure, enrollment process, fee and financial aid opportunities. To register or for more information, contact Mr. Joseph Rogers, Director of Academic Support at [jrogers@pjphs.org](mailto:jrogers@pjphs.org).

## DECEMBER 28, 2025 - FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY

*Reflection by Rev. Leonard N. Peterson*

I suppose it's something that comes naturally when today's Feast of the Holy Family rolls around. Many people start making a "Compare and Contrast List" of their own clan with that of the Holy Trio and conclude with an obvious difference or two...that, in fact, is precisely what our Church does *not* want us to do.

It brings to mind a clever joke the late wise and witty Fr. Benedict Groeschel once told a group of priests on retreat, as he was praising the humility of St. Joseph. He said, "Imagine the strain on good St. Joseph coming to the breakfast table with the Divine Redeemer and the Mediatrix of all Graces!!"

It is true that at this time of the year, beginning with Thanksgiving and continuing with Christmas, we see more of our families and perhaps interact with them more than during another time of the year. So, we see them "close up and personal." We might just see flaws not noted before. But this feast points to the profound reality of God's choice to love all of us just as we are and not as we should be.

What that decision implies for me is no less than God's astounding humility. He could have said, "I'll only love you if you're perfect." Furthermore, the Gospel tells us that for the first three decades of His time on earth, our Lord subjected Himself to two imperfect creatures as parents in a dusty backwater named Nazareth. That last was no badge of honor when He came to preach to His chosen people. Yet the name of that very town was acknowledged on the sign Pilate had made to hang above our Savior's sacred Head on the cross.

It became quite natural for the Church Jesus founded to be a family of families, but that immediately meant there would be problems and disagreements from time to time. So, it is for each of our parishes. So, it is for the universal Church. A union of hearts and souls, saints and sinners, under the successor of Peter whom we call "Papa," the "Holy Father," the pope.

This feast urges us to renew our love of family, with forgiveness of past hurts, and to celebrate present joys, and to support each other on the path to heaven. And to find humor. On that score, it seems that hubby came home from work, tired and bedraggled. As he entered the door, he moaned: "Honey, I've had a tough day. If you have any bad news, please keep it until later this evening." "O.K." she chirped. "No bad news. But I have some good news. At last count, we had three kids, remember? Well, two of them did not break their arm today."

God love you and enjoy your family.

### **Reading I: Sirach 3:2-6, 12-14**

The author teaches a filial respect for one's parents, and then the text shifts to the concrete help that children should extend to them "in old age and in times of illness, loneliness, or distress."

### **Reading II: Colossians 3:12-21, or 3:12-17**

Paul gives his pastoral instruction on family life. He challenges every household to be transformed with "the peace of Christ." This peace is far more than the absence of hostility. It is a deep-rooted sense of connection to Christ through love and obedience to His way of understanding each other.

### **The Gospel: Matthew 2:13-15, 19-23**

God works within the family structures. For example, St. Joseph is instructed by the angel because he is the head of the Holy Family, and the one most responsible for their well-being. We should also note his obedience in a very difficult time for the Family.