

WELCOME TO ST. JOSEPH CATHOLIC CHURCH

December 27/28, 2008

Mass Intentions For The Week

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|-----------|---------|------------|--|
| Monday | Dec. 29 | 7:00 a.m. | Morning Prayer |
| Tuesday | Dec. 30 | 6:00 p.m. | Glenola Kuhn |
| Wednesday | Dec. 31 | 6:00 p.m. | Noel Loftin |
| Thursday | Jan. 1 | 11:00 a.m. | Millie Buckman |
| Friday | Jan. 2 | 7:00 a.m. | Walter & Lorine Nurrenbern |
| Saturday | Jan. 3 | 6:00 p.m. | JoAnn Jordan |
| Sunday | Jan. 4 | 7:00 a.m. | St. Joseph & Blessed Sacrament Parishes |
| | | 11:00 a.m. | Betty Kissel |



Sunday, December 28 – Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph

- RCIA from 9:30 – 12:00 in the PC Conference Rm.
 - Adult Volleyball 6-8 p.m. in the Gym. All adults welcome!
- Tuesday, December 30** –
- Men's Basketball 6-8 p.m. in the Gym. All men welcome!
- Thursday, January 1** – HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION
- Friday, January 2** –
- Church Cleaning Crew #2 – Clara Mae Welp, Susan Feutz, Sonya Streicher, Joyce Nonte.

Parish Offices closed for the Holidays Dec. 24-Jan. 5.

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Gifts for God

Last Week's Collection

Due to Holidays bulletin was printed before the weekend collection.

Liturgical Ministers for next week:

6:00 p.m. Wednesday, December 31 New Years Eve.

Lector: Logan Vickers
Hosts: J. D. Wildt, Jerry Marx
Presenters: Terry Theys Family
Servers: Avery Sokeland, Elizabeth Martin, Sarah Martin,
Head Usher: Gil Karcher
Greeters: Robin Young, Richard Paul, Sheila Austin

11:00 a.m. Thursday, January 1 New Years Day

Lector: Bob Gibson
Hosts: Mary Collins, Debbie Neufelder
Presenters: Jeff Huff Family
Servers: Heath Dame, D'Nell Greenwell, Alyssa Koberstein
Head Usher: Joseph Hurst
Greeters: Paul Turner, Glenn Fischer, Keith Muckerheide

6:00 p.m. Saturday, January 3

Lector: Brad Schmitt
Hosts: Ary Jennings, Lorene Koberstein
Cup: Terri Channell, Linda Jennings, Roxann Coleman
Presenters: Keith Wagner Family
Servers: Nathan Beasley, Haley Beasley, Brandt Kolb
Head Usher: Jeff Koberstein
Greeters: Eloise Reeves/Carl Bell, Jeff Binhack, Sharon Neufelder

7:00 a.m. Sunday, January 4

Lector: Dave Specht
Hosts: Bob Eckert, Geraldine Weber
Cup: Wanda Stephens, Ed Alldredge, Sue Alldredge
Presenters: William McConnell II Family
Servers: Dalton Halbig, Payton Halbig, Kale Christy
Head Usher: Gene Allen
Greeters: Randy Carie, Jim Elliott, Jim Wallace

11:00 a.m. Sunday, January 4

Lector: Melissa Shoultz
Hosts: Jennifer Schneider, Gail Riedford
Cup: Elaine Fortner, Larry Matthews, Debbie Batemen
Presenters: Phil Perry Family
Servers: Erin Fortner, Emily Fortner, Hunter Tuley
Head Usher: Irvin Spindler
Greeters: Anita Waldroup, Rob Dunn, Linda Yeryar
CLW: Vicki Dunn & Jennifer Riley

People of St. Joseph & Blessed Sacrament,

As we continue the Christmas Season, I want to thank you for the cards, candies, cookies, and other gifts and blessings that have come my way over the past couple of weeks. I am grateful for your kindness and remembrances.

*I would be remiss not to thank all those who worked so hard to make our Advent and Christmas celebrations so special and prayerful. For fear of forgetting someone, I won't name individuals here - but you know who you are! To all those who served in various ministries of Reading, Eucharistic Ministry, Choirs and Musicians, to the Greeters, Presenters, Ushers, Sacristans and Altar Servers, to those who decorated, to those who donated to the Giving Tree and other gifts for those in need, to those who worked with the Children's programs and to the children, and especially for all of you who participated in prayer ~ **thank you!***

As we celebrate the Feast of the Holy Family, I am honored to be a part of your faith families at St. Joseph and Blessed Sacrament. May that loving Jesus, who came to us so long ago, and who remains with us to this day, guide us to that Kingdom of the eternal Christmas.

Fr. Ron

DID YOU KNOW?

The “12 Days of Christmas” is a frequently played Christmas song. While many of us can quote the lyrics, some may be surprised at the real meaning behind the familiar words. The 12 days actually refer to the days between December 25 and Epiphany on January 6. Catholic parents in England used the song as a means to both celebrate and pass on their religious beliefs to their children. The “true love” refers to God Himself. The “me” who receives the presents refers to every baptized person. The verses can be interpreted as follows:

- A Partridge in a Pear Tree: Jesus Christ, Son of God
- Two Turtle Doves: the Old and New Testament
- Three French Hens: the theological virtues of Faith, Hope and Charity
- Four Calling Birds: the four Gospels
- Five Golden Rings: the Pentateuch, or the first five books of the Old Testament
- Six Geese A-Laying: the six days of Creation
- Seven Swans A-Swimming: the seven Sacraments
- Eight Maids A-Milking: the eight Beatitudes
- Nine Ladies Dancing: the nine Fruits of the Holy Spirit
- Ten Lords A-Leaping: the Ten Commandments
- Eleven Pipers Piping: the 11 faithful Apostles
- Twelve Drummers Drumming: the 12 points of doctrine in the Apostle’s Creed


DID YOU KNOW?

The birthplace of Jesus -Bethlehem- means “house of bread.” Many ancient commentators interpreted this as prefiguring the Eucharist. Jesus came to earth 2000 years ago in the “house of bread”. He comes to us today as *Living Bread* every time we receive Him in Holy Communion.

DID YOU KNOW?

Catholics have traditionally celebrated great feasts for an “octave” – a period of eight days afterward. The Octave of Christmas includes many important dates: St. Stephen (December 26), St. John the Evangelist (December 27), the Holy Family (Sunday after Christmas), and the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God (January 1). Attending Mass on these days or praying with the Scripture readings is a good way to focus on God’s love even after December 25th.

May your holiday season be bright with the light of the newborn Christ! Merry Christmas!


Dec. 22 - Jan. 2 - Christmas Vacation.
Jan. 5 - School Resumes.

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

There will be NO classes on December 28th or January 4th. Classes resume January 11th.

SCRIPS FOR EVERYDAY PURCHASES

Buy scrips for all your grocery needs, gas, restaurants, etc. We have Walmart, Menards, F & M. Almost any place you shop, we have a scrip card for you to use. It costs you nothing but the Church gets money back from each of your purchases.

Stop by the School Library before or after any of the weekend Masses to purchase your cards. They are also available during the week in the School Office.

Profits for November were:

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|----------|----------|
| Church= | \$887.44 |
| Tuition= | \$705.86 |

Thanks to all who bought their Christmas Scrips during the November contest. The Individual winner was Jacob Koberstein. He won a \$25.00 Scrip card. The class winner was Kindergarten. They won an ice cream party!

NEW YEAR’S EVE DINNER & DANCE

K of C Council 1131 is sponsoring a Dinner & Dance to celebrate the New Year December 31st at the Princeton K of C Hall. Dinner at 7:30 p.m. and Dance to follow at 9:00 p.m. Music provided by DJ Woody. Steak Dinner \$12.50 per person. Dance \$10.00 per person or \$22.50 for both dinner and dance. For tickets call Knights of Columbus at 385-5732.

JOSEPH’INES

The ladies study group will not meet on Monday, December 29th. The next gathering the *Joseph’ines* will be January 5th, 2009.

WELCOME TO BLESSED SACRAMENT CHURCH

December 28, 2008

Mass Intentions **For The Week**

Sunday December 28 9:00 a.m. Donna Meyer
Thursday January 1 9:00 a.m. Vincent Georges
Sunday January 4 9:00 a.m. Ellen Cox

BULLETIN DEADLINE

Friday before the following week.



Gifts for God

Weekly Budget Need: \$2061.00

Due to Holidays bulletin was printed before the weekend collection.

Liturgical Ministers:

9:00 a.m. Sunday, Jan. 04, 2008

Lector: Becky Wright
Euch. Mins.: Presider
Host: Lynn Will
Cup: Roberta Peter & Dot Blinzinger
Gift Bearers: Ken & Carla Beasley
Greeter: Sue Bottoms & Patsy Hoover
Ushers: **Mike Meece**, David Williams
Josh Stolz & Doug Meiring
Servers: Joe Schulten & Noah Elmore

Weekly Readings

Holy Family Feast

Sirach 3:2-6, 12-14, Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5

Colossians 3:12-21, Luke 2:22-40 or 2:22, 39-40

Monday: First John 2:3-11, Ps 96:1-2, 2-3, 5-6

Luke 2:22-35

Tuesday: First John 2:12-17, Ps 96:7-8, 8-9, 10

Luke 2:36-40

Wednesday: First John 2:18-21, Ps 96:1-2, 11-12, 13

John 1:1-18

Thursday: Mary, Mother of God – Solemnity

Numbers 6:22-27, Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8

Galatians 4:4-7, Luke 2:16-21

Friday: First John 2:22-28, Ps 98:1, 2-3, 3-4

John 1:19-28

Saturday: First John 2:29-3:6, Ps 98:1, 3-4, 5-6

John 1:29-34

THE REAL THING

"He came to the temple now, inspired by the Spirit, and when the parents brought in the Child Jesus to perform for Him the customary ritual of the law, he took Him in his arms and blessed God." —Luke 2:27-28

Some orthodox Jews have the custom of using the birth of a baby boy as an occasion to discourse on the coming of the Messiah. An older relative traditionally starts the conversation with the question: "Could this baby be the Messiah?" Then various relatives wax eloquently about the coming and the glories of the Messiah.

Some people may have thought that Simeon and Anna were only engaging in this traditional conversation when they were talking about the Child Jesus "to all who looked forward to the deliverance of Jerusalem" (Lk 2:38). Simeon and Anna may have then even more vehemently insisted that Jesus was "a revealing Light to the Gentiles, the Glory" of Israel (Lk 2:32). But people may have thought this was part of the game. Then Simeon and Anna would have tried to tell them this wasn't a game, but the real thing. This Baby was the Messiah!

We face a similar situation in our day. When we proclaim Jesus as Messiah and Lord, people think this is merely the religious game and the standard church-talk. Yet we, like Simeon and Anna, must be filled with the Holy Spirit and proclaim that this is the real thing. Jesus is the Messiah. Christmas is real. God has become a man. We are saved. Jesus is Lord and God.

Religious Education

There will be NO classes on Sunday, December 28th and January 4th due to Christmas Break. Classes will resume January 11.

**HAPPY
NEW YEAR**

What do you need to do?



1. Be registered in a Catholic Church.
If you're not registered at St. Joseph or Blessed Sacrament and want to baptize your child – you

must have a written letter of permission from the parish where you are registered (if you want to register at either parish simply call the parish office and it can be done over the phone.)

2. Register and attend a baptism class.
The dates are listed below. You only need to attend once. (not for each child)
The class is one hour-one time.

FUTURE BAPTISM CLASSES

February 2009, May 2009

Both parents must attend. Godparents are also encouraged to attend. **Please call the parish office at (812) 385-2617 in advance to register.** These classes are only scheduled quarterly so plan ahead.

COME AND SEE – NATIVITY DISPLAYS

And help us raise money for the Sisters at the Monastery of St. Clare on Epiphany Sunday, January 4th from 9:45 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. in the Holy Cross Cafeteria. Hear the history of the Nativity, enjoy guitar music and song, purchase bake sale items & more, make-it and take-it crafts, make donations and bring in any prayer requests (since the Sisters are a prayerful cloister order). Call Lisa Bittner 385-3570 if you can help in any way.

PART-TIME TEACHERS AID POSITION FOR PRESCHOOL

Holy Cross School is looking for someone energetic with Early Childhood experience for an aid position at our Crusader Academy. Please send your resume to Tracey Unfried c/o Holy Cross School, 202 S. Church Street, Fort Branch, IN 47648.

THANK YOU:

This bulletin is furnished to the Parish without charge. The advertisements that appear completely defray all publishing costs with which the church would otherwise be burdened. Please patronize these sponsors as a thank you for their kind generosity.

DEANERY MASS SCHEDULE

New Year's Eve Wednesday, Dec. 31

Holy Cross, Ft. Branch – 4:30 p.m.
St. Joseph's – 6:00 p.m.
Sts Peter & Paul, Haubstadt – 6:00 p.m.
St. Bernard's, Snake Run – 6:00 p.m.
St. James, Haubstadt – 6:00 p.m.

New Year's Day Thursday, Jan. 1

Sts Peter & Paul, Haubstadt – 8:00 a.m.
St. James, Haubstadt – 8:20 a.m.
Holy Cross, Ft. Branch – 8:45 a.m.
Blessed Sacrament, Oakland City – 9:00 a.m.
St. Joseph's – 11:00 a.m.



**St. Joseph's Valentine Dinner
Dance and Auction**

will be held on Saturday February 14th from 7 p.m. until midnight in the St. Joseph's Gym. Dinner will be catered by the Baurhaus and the menu consists of baked chicken breast in a sauce, roasted pork chops and all the trimmings. There will be a cash bar. We will have a DJ for the dance. Throughout the evening we'll have an exciting live auction, silent auction, desert auction, and other fun activities. All tickets must be purchased by February 1st. The tickets are \$25.00 per person and can be purchased at the Scrip table, in the school office or from Holly Patterson 784-2349 hspatterson@yahoo.com or Shellia Cochran 385-0023 or Jennifer Riley 385-4145. We are in need of donations. If you are able to donate an auction item or basket theme, please contact any of the committee members. Thank you for your support and we hope to see everyone there.