

✠ ANNOUNCEMENTS

§ JANUARY 10, 2010 •

• **THE HOLY FAMILY • SUNDAY WITHIN THE OCTAVE OF THE EPIPHANY •**

Catechism classes resume at **10:40** this morning. You are welcome to visit our gift shop (right off the vestibule) and to come down to Helfta Hall (down the long, cold hallway) for a donut and a hot cup of coffee before you go home.

Pick up an Epiphany Home Blessing kit and use it today.

Vespers, with the solemn chanting of the **Magnificat**, and **Benediction** are at **4:45 PM**.

§ **THIS WEEK:**

All of this week we pause in wondrous adoration at the crib of the King, the God Man, Jesus Christ, as we continue Epiphany. **The Knights of the Sacred Heart** meet on **Monday afternoon**, the **choir** on **Wednesday evening**. Hilary term started last week, and **Thursday** we honor the patron of the second semester, **St. Hilary**, a great defender of the faith. **Friday** we honor the American historical feast of **Our Lady of Prompt Succor**. Come promptly to **Mass**, and to the Novenas. **Saturday** there is only the 7:30 Mass, due to the 11:00 AM Nuptials.

§ **SOCIAL GATHERING**

There will be an initial meeting for the formation of a widows and widowers group on Sunday, January 17, 2010 after the 11:30 Mass. The purpose of the meeting is to gather input as to what the group would like to see accomplished in addition to a social gathering.

§ **BANNS OF MARRIAGE**

Joshua Gunsher and Elizabeth Randell.

NEXT SUNDAY:

Catechism classes at **10:40 AM**. Vespers and Benediction are at **4:45 PM**.

SET YOUR MISSAL:

Epiphany II, commemoration of St. Anthony the Abbot, Preface of the Trinity.

§ **UPCOMING EVENTS:**

FRIDAY JANUARY 22nd, Our annual day of prayer for America's Conversion and Reparation for the sin of Abortion. Special Masses are offered at **11:20 A.M.** and **6:00 P.M.** Childrens' Holy Hour from **2:15-3:15 P.M.** Afternoon Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament from 2:15 until closing Benediction at 5:45 P.M.

SATURDAY JANUARY 30th, Our monthly Rosary of Reparation at the Auburn Avenue Abortion Clinic at **10:00 A.M.**

FEBRUARY 2nd – Candlemas; Blessing of Candles, Procession and Mass at 5:30 P.M., followed by our Winter Soup Supper.

FEBRUARY 17th, Ash Wednesday, and a day of ashes and Holy Masses to start Lent.

FEBRUARY 19th, The first of our weekly **Friday Evenings of Recollection**, with 5:45 Mass followed by Supper and Stations.

MARCH 19th, St. Joseph's Feast Day and St. Joseph's Table for the poor.

MARCH 25th, The Annunciation of the B.V.M. Pontifical Mass and Ordination to the diaconate of the Rev. Mr. Guillaume Hecquard.

Love the Good Shepherd, the Bridegroom so fair, who deceives no one, who wants no one to be lost. Pray also for the dispersed sheep, that they, too, may come to him, that they, too, may acknowledge him, that they, too, may love him, that so there may be one fold and one Shepherd.

—St. Augustine



Collection Report

Friday January 1st.....\$1,694.00
Sunday January 3rd.....\$3,695.00

*Thank you for your generosity!
Remember St. Gertrude's in your will!*

✠ POETRY CORNER



OUR OUTDOOR CHRISTMAS TREE

Our long-fingered pine has handfuls of snow

In clutches that gathered and clung.

The ice-creamy cones have icicle fringe

That yesterday's sunshine hung.

Above all else is a large silver star,

And ropes of tinsel are strung

From tip to lowermost boughs and they sway

When wheezy Wind clears each lung.

The long bright chains of colored light-globes

By merry-foot breezes are swung.

Each silvery bell and each golden bell

Tink-tinkles its musical tongue.

So all day long a true Christmas song,

For all passing by, is sung

By icicles clinking and jingle-bells jinking,

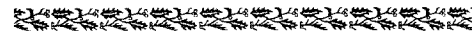
All days the birds, among

The needles, find suet to eat, but the snow

Confetti is carelessly flung.

—Harriette Wilbur

Yours may be down, but Mother Nature has decorated all of our outdoor trees to continue Christmas as we now keep Epiphany.



PRAYER FOR FAMILIES

May Thy presence, most Sacred Heart of Jesus, ever bless our homes and fill them with the virtues so perfectly practiced in Thine own Holy Family in Nazareth. Protect us from all dangers, bless our endeavors, and keep always in our family the spirit of love, of peace and happiness. Amen.

Servers

JANUARY 17, 2010

•SUN 1/17 7:30 AM Low: A. & S. Brueggemann
9:00 AM High: MC's: R. VandeRy, R. Hill
TH: B. Lotarski
AC'S: N. McClorey, T. Simpson
TORCH: J. Simpson, J. Lacy, S. & L. Arlinghaus
11:30 AM Low: A. D. Kinett
4:45 PM Holy Hour, Vespers & Benediction: G. Miller
5:45 PM Low: A. Beaver

Ushers

JANUARY 17, 2010

7:30 AM Kent Maki, Scott Peppier, Volunteer, Volunteer
9:00 AM Mike Briggs, Mark Lotarski, Paul Pugjelli, Steve Weigand
11:30 AM Bob Uhlenbrock, Dennis Hille, Kirby Bischel, Volunteer
5:45 PM John Seyfried

✠ THE CALENDAR

- MON 1/11/10 RESUMED MASS OF SUNDAY
WITHIN THE OCTAVE ST HYGINUS, PM**
11:20 AM Low Mass Becky Mattingly & Children
(Tom & Connie Kamphaus)
4:00 PM Knights of the Sacred Heart
5:00 PM Low Mass Poor souls - Special Intention *(MAW)*
- TUE 1/12/10 WITHIN THE OCTAVE ST BENET BISCOP, AB**
8:00 AM Low Mass Poor souls - Special Intention *(MAW)*
11:20 AM Low Mass †Charles & Elinor Richardson
(M/M Mark Lotarski)
5:00 PM Low Mass Poor souls for Mattingly family conversions
- WED 1/13/10 OCTAVE DAY OF THE EPIPHANY**
8:00 AM Low Mass In Thanksgiving to the Child Jesus for all of the graces of our Christmas *(Bishop Dolan)*
11:20 AM Low Mass In Thanksgiving for Mary and the Green Scapular *(Margaret Sutton)*
5:00 PM Low Mass Poor souls - St. Gertrude's needs
6:30 PM Choir Practice
- THUR 1/14/10 ST HILARY, BPCD ST FELIX, PRM**
8:00 AM Low Mass Our godchildren: Theresa, Will, Antonio, Andrew, Cecelia *(Dan & Carolyn McClorey)*
11:20 AM High Mass †Ralph Patton *(M/M Mark Lotarski)*
5:00 PM Low Mass †Charles Jolliffe *(Sue Bastaja)*
- FRI 1/15/10 ST PAUL, FIRST HERMIT
ST MAURUS, AB OUR LADY OF PROMPT SUCCOR**
11:00 AM Confessions
11:20 AM Low Mass In honor of the B.V.M.
(Tom & Stella Simpson)
5:15 PM Confessions and Rosary
5:30 PM Infant of Prague Novena III
5:45 PM Low Mass John Wellman *(C. Simpson Family)*
Novena, Benediction, and Confessions
- SAT 1/16/10 ST MARCELLUS I, PM**
7:15 AM Confessions
7:30 AM Low Mass In honor of St. Joseph *(Tom & Stella Simpson)*
Confessions
11:00 AM Nuptial Mass
Joshua Gunsher and Elizabeth Randell
- SUN 1/17/10 EPIPHANY II
ST ANTHONY, AB
OUR LADY OF PONTMAIN**
7:30 AM Low Mass Ralph Patton Family *(Mr. & Mrs. Victor Ritze)*
9:00 AM High Mass †George Wissing *(The Lacy Family)*
10:40 AM Catechism Classes
11:30 AM Low Mass Dennis Hille *(M/M Victor Ritze)*
4:45 PM Vespers and Benediction
5:45 PM Low Mass For the people of St. Gertrude's

✠ BISHOP'S CORNER

I'm writing to you on Epiphany afternoon, as we prepare for the last and the greatest of our Christmas celebrations, and a well deserved dinner for all of our generous and good workers, volunteers, and faithful. May God reward them, and you, with every grace for a peaceful and holy new year.



Among our guests this Christmas was Fr. Gabriel Lavery CMRI, who was in town to visit family, and kindly visited us, too. It's always a pleasure to greet another priest, especially at this happy season.

It is now a very snowy and school-less Epiphany Octave afternoon, and I reflect with gratitude on the beautiful, quiet coming of the Kings last night, and the wonderful Appreciation Dinner, warm and joyful, in Helfta Hall. Thank you to all who "worked the feast," clergy and lay, and to all who work for all of the feasts, and Masses and classes at our church and school.

Our guests, Fr. Ercoli and Mr. Lehtoranta, have flown back to Florida, and Fr. Cekada joins them for a few days as he resumes his "travelling professor" role at our seminary. Fr. McGuire will be with us during most weeks now, helping in the school and our missions and sick calls. Fr. Larrabee had a nice Christmas assisting Fr. Zapp in California, and is here again for the school and parish of St. Gertrude the Great. God reward our zealous young priests, and grant them perseverance.

Our January cold struck earlier this year, and things certainly are looking "Christmassy" for its continuation this month. As usual, we pray for good weather for Sunday Mass, and safe travels for all.

May this Epiphanytide be an epiphany to us all of the goodness of God, answered prayers, joy in the heart and happiness in our homes.

Happy Holy Family Day!

Yours in Jesus, Mary and Joseph, (may they be, as Gerry Keaveney used to say, your best friends!) —Bishop Dolan



PRAYER IN HONOR OF THE HOLY FAMILY

Grant us, O Lord Jesus, faithfully to imitate the examples of Thy Holy Family, so that in the hour of our death, in the company of Thy glorious Virgin Mother and St. Joseph, we may deserve to be received by Thee into eternal tabernacles.

Indulgence of 200 days, once a day.

—Leo XIII. Feb. 6, 1893

✠ THE HOLY FAMILY

THE HOLY FAMILY

Why does the devotion to the Holy Family receive decreased emphasis and attention during our so-called modern times? In this day and time when the evil of "divorce" is so widespread shouldn't this devotion be revived?

If this commendable devotion is not practiced as much as formerly, this regrettable fact can hardly be ascribed to the Church, for this feast continues to have a prominent place in the liturgy of the Church. Each year, the feast of the Holy Family is observed on the Sunday following the Epiphany, which is annually observed on January 6. Besides, both of the feasts, that of the Nativity of Our Lord and that of the Epiphany, present to all who are blessed with the gift of Faith the sacredness of the union of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph.

It's possible that those who can remember what was the practice of forty and fifty years ago will recall that in those days few Catholic homes were without an appropriate picture of the Holy Family. As a rule such a picture or statue group occupied a prominent place among the wedding gifts of a newly married couple. Perhaps, married couples then did not have the opportunity of visiting and inspecting "model houses," an opportunity that is quite highly advertised in our present times. However, it's quite likely that formerly husbands and wives united by the sacred bond of matrimony at God's holy altars frequently in spirit visited prayerfully the "model homes" in Bethlehem and Nazareth in which the Holy Family resided.

If I may be pardoned a personal reflection, I venture to state that I recall the last three words spoken by my own dying mother almost fifty years ago. She uttered them with a final breath, the sweet and meaningful words of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph. Other children undoubtedly have similar sacred recollections!

Don't you think that much more should be done to make people understand and appreciate the sacredness and joyousness of genuine Christian married life? What would you recommend?

First of all, let it be remembered that much has been done to achieve this holy purpose. The Catholic Church all through history has preached that marriage is a Divine Institution, the oldest or most venerable institution on earth. Little children from their earliest ages are made familiar with the towns of Bethlehem and Nazareth, little towns that have become world famous just because they were sanctified in being the dwelling places of Jesus, Mary and Joseph. During the very Christmas season, there will be found in most Catholic churches devout replicas of the Home of the Holy Family in Bethlehem.

Thoughtful and successful parents receive inspiration from family prayer. Families that pray together stay together. The home becomes just a little less sacred than the Church itself. The Christmas season is truly a spiritual Spring time for sanctifying anew every Christian Home.

*St. Anthony Messenger
December, 1952*



I give you, Lord, the thanks I owe, for more of good than I can know, that I have of you received, from the time I was conceived.

CONSECRATION TO THE HOLY FAMILY

O Jesus, our most loving Redeemer, who having come to enlighten the world with Thy teachings and example, didst will to pass the greater part of Thy life in humility and subjection to Mary and Joseph in the poor home of Nazareth, thus sanctifying the Family that was to be an example for all Christian families, graciously receive our family as it dedicates and consecrates itself to Thee this day. Do Thou defend us, guard us and establish amongst us Thy holy fear, true peace and concord in Christian love: in order that by conforming ourselves to the divine pattern of Thy family we may be able, all of us without exception, to attain to eternal happiness.

Mary, dear Mother of Jesus and Mother of us, by thy kindly intercession make this our humble offering acceptable in the sight of Jesus and obtain for us His graces and blessing.

Saint Joseph, most holy Guardian of Jesus and Mary, assist us by thy prayers in all our spiritual and temporal necessities; so that we may be enabled to praise our Divine Saviour Jesus, together with Mary and Thee, for all eternity. Amen.

clip & save

PRAYER TO THE INFANT OF PRAGUE FOR PEACE IN OUR FAMILIES

O Divine Infant, who at Thine entrance into the world didst proclaim peace, and who art pleased to be called the Prince of Peace, to Thee is known the strife and discord in our homes, how much discord, enmity and strife rule in the midst of us, how many sins we commit against the love of our neighbor. A truly sad sight! Where shall we turn, if not to Thee, O peaceful Infant Jesus! Thou hast reunited those divided against one another, hast reconciled enemies and given peace to troubled souls. Give to us the precious gift of peace! Come to our aid, that all passions may be stilled, and that peace and harmony may return to our homes, that we may deserve to be called children of God. Amen.

HEARTHSTONE

Christmas Song

REVENGE IS MINE!

*Come to the Hearth, where the fire is warm,
Away from the wind and chill of alarm.
Worried the world with forboding of harm,
Far from the Hearth of the Lord.*

*Come to the Hearth, where flame is food,
And fuel is thorn and crackling rood.
Out of His Heart was the great log hewed,
Heat for the Hearth of the Lord.*

*Come to the Hearth, where flame is wine;
Where love is oak and pain is pine.
Heaped on the stone is Fire Divine,
High on the Hearth of the Lord.*

*Come to the Hearth of His wounded side,
Where rest is sweet and warmth is wide.
Shackle your sin and fetter your pride,
Here at the Hearth of the Lord.*

—Louis J. Sanker

A Holy Hour

'Tis wonderful, my Dearest Lord,
To sit with Thee this night
Amongst adoring spirits, giving
Homage to the Eternal Light
In Tabernacle all aglow, Thou
Reignest o'er our hearts
With love that warms, and light
that
Guides, 'til this world we depart
And we thank Thee for Thy
presence,
From the bottom of our hearts.

—John Seyfried
1-2-10

**I was not even a star that night;
No one saw me at all.
I was the little wind that swept
The dust from the waiting stall.**

**I was the tide that bore the song
Of angels to those who slept.
I was the cooling breeze that dried
Her tears when Mary wept.**

**I was the angry gale that closed
The door of the Inn; the flame
Of every candle wavered, died;
And then, aware and tame,**

**I caressed the hair of the Child who lay
Asleep on his mother's breast.
I was the faint, low tune that brought
Peace to that place, and rest.**

**I was not even a star that night,
But I was a little part
Of the glory that filled the world, and
brought
Hope to its waiting heart.**

—Eleanor Alletta Chaffee

Kitty In Winter

*Where is Puccini?
Where can he be?
He went out at noontime,
And now it is three.
He will come walking
In boots of new snow,
His ears flattened down
When the winter winds blow.*

*He will sit down
In front of the grate,
Washing his whiskers
While he waits for his plate.
He purrs for his supper,
And he'll never tell
Where he went walking
In winter's white spell.
(With apologies to Eleanor Chaffee)*



I have seen people suffer unduly because they had offended a person whose whole life seems to be bound up in paying off old scores. Can you offer some considerations that may enable me to overcome the spiritual depression that I am in on this account?— A Mother.

Certainly, any genuine Christian, particularly a Christian mother, shudders when the pagan monster, Revenge, threatens or ravages those who may be guilty of human errors. However, exceptional instances of such inhumanity serve to remind us of the general benefits of Christianity.

The message of Christianity is truly an appeal for pardon in human relations. St. Paul, in his letter to the Romans, emphasized the New Law. He pleaded with them, in fact, with all men: "To no man render evil for evil, but provide good things not only in the sight of God, but also in the sight of all men. If it be possible, as far as in you lies, be at peace with all men. Do not avenge yourselves, beloved, but give place to the wrath, for it is written, 'Vengeance is Mine; I will repay, says the Lord.' But if thy enemy is hungry, give him food; if he is thirsty, give him drink. For by so doing thou wilt heap coals of fire upon his head."

"An eye for an eye" and "A tooth for a tooth"— that despicable talion of the Old Law has been thoroughly rejected by Christ. Any revival of the Old Law by any modern avenger should challenge Christian witnesses to a better observance of the Christian principle: "Forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us!" Returning frequently in spirit to both Bethlehem and Calvary, one can learn to forgive even the avengers.

St. Anthony Messenger
December, 1952

I love Thee, O my God, who hast become an Infant for me.