

DECEMBER 27, 2020
THE HOLY FAMILY OF
JESUS, MARY, AND JOSEPH

Reflection from Fr. Bernard Doré

Today we celebrate The Feast of The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph. The Holy Family is the Holiest of Families that ever lived on earth.

Each of our readings today gives us a glimpse into the complications of family life – and those glimpses let us know we are not alone in our trials and tribulations. From the earliest days of Israel's history, God was interceding in the difficulties of relationships: commanding honor and respect of parents by children, and of children by parents; relieving childlessness and promising faithfulness to those who abided in faithfulness to him; instructing us in what it means to love as Christ loves; and ordering the family to raising of children and the placing of God at the center of their lives.

We are also reminded today of the importance of the fact that Jesus Christ was born into a human family, and that offers us hope for making Christ the center of our own families. God could have chosen any number of ways to enter into human history, and the way he chose was to have Jesus be incarnate of a woman – the Blessed Virgin Mary – and be raised by her and Joseph in a household common to that time. In other words, God did not just take on human form in the person of Jesus, but entered into every aspect of human life, engaging with the authentic human experience of family life. Family life is sanctifying, and as Jesus sanctified his family, he will sanctify ours when we welcome him in.

Today let us pray very specially, for all our Christian Families that They all follow the great example of The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph and live in true love, understanding, forgiveness, patience, joy and peace as children of God.

**Blessed are those who fear the
Lord and walk in his ways.**
Psalm 128



REV. M. J. BERNARD DORÉ, PASTOR
DEACON FERNANDO BOTELHO, DEACON ASSISTANT
116A DANIELSON PIKE · FOSTER, RHODE ISLAND 02825
PHONE (401) 647-3664
EMAIL: CHURCH@STPAULSFOSTER.ORG
STPAULSFOSTER.ORG

OFFICE HOURS	9:00 AM – 2:00 PM (MON, WED, THU, FRI)
WEEKDAY MASSES	9:00 AM (MON, WED, FRI)
SATURDAY VIGIL MASS	5:00 PM
SUNDAY MASSES	8:00 AM 10:00 AM

ST. PAUL'S UPCOMING SCHEDULE

Saturday	December 26
9:30—11 AM	Food Closet Open
5:00 PM	Mass: Living & Deceased Members of the Toohey & Murray Family
Sunday	December 27
8:00 AM	Mass: Intentions of Fr. Doré & Deacon Fernando
9:15 AM	Rosary
10:00 AM	Mass: Kerry Tortolani (RIP)
Monday	December 28
8:35 AM	Rosary
9:00 AM	Mass: Dennis Layfield (RIP)
Wednesday	December 30
8:35 AM	Rosary
9:00 AM	Mass: Dennis Layfield (RIP)
Thursday	December 31 New Year's Eve
5:00 PM	Mass: People of the Parish
Friday	January 1 New Year's Day
9:00 AM	Mass: Souls in Purgatory
—10:30 AM	Adoration of Blessed Sacrament

NEXT WEEKEND'S MASS INTENTIONS

5:00 PM	Open for your Intentions
8:00 AM	Mass: Living & Deceased Members of the Parrillo & Paesano Families
10:00 AM	Mass: Anthony Kachanis (RIP)

PLEASE CONSIDER COMMEMORATING
A LOVED ONE AT THE EUCHARIST

NEW YEAR'S MASS SCHEDULE

Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of God
Friday, January 1, is the Solemnity of Mary, Holy Mother of God
Masses are:

Vigil Mass of the Blessed Virgin Mary
New Year's Eve, Thursday, December 31 at 5:00PM or

Mass of the Blessed Virgin Mary
New Year's Day, Friday, Jan 1 at 9AM

Solemnity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Mother of God

We just celebrated Christmas— which we observed by worshiping and celebrating the Eucharist together. And now, we will commemorate the person who, when all is said and done, made Christmas possible by cooperating with God's grace: Mary, the Mother of Christ our God.

What better way to begin the New Year than to give thanks to God (which is what "Eucharist" means) and to seek God's blessing and peace for us, our families, & our world for the coming year?

Christmas Gift Cards

Thank you to all who donated gift cards to help families in our parish.

January Birthdays

Happy Birthday to all parishioners with a birthday in the month of January. May your birthday be touched with His presence, and your heart be filled with His love and joy!

Act of Spiritual Communion

My Jesus, I believe that you are present in the Blessed Sacrament. I love you above all things and I desire to receive you into my life. Since I cannot receive you sacramentally, come then spiritually into my heart. So that I may embrace you and unite myself completely to you. And never let me be separated from you.

Let's Stay Connected

We've been emailing a weekly parish update to help us stay informed and to share resources. Please add your name and email to the list via our website:

www.stpaulsfoster.org

Your information is never shared with anyone else and is only used to communicate with you about the parish.

I Heard God Laugh

A book by Matthew Kelly

Is your life Working? Most of us are trying to put together the JIGSAW puzzle we call life without a very important piece. Over time this becomes frustrating. In this book, Matthew Kelly powerfully demonstrates that we cannot live the life we have imagined, or experience the joy we yearn for, unless we learn to tend the soul. Most people have never really been taught how to tend their souls. I Heard God Laugh will help you to do just that, and so much more.

Copies are available to all parishioners who would like one! Merry Christmas!

Commitment to Sunday Offertory

To help the parish meet its financial obligations, we ask that you remain committed to the weekly offertory.

Please consider using the parish envelopes and mailing your weekly/monthly offertory contribution. Or consider the convenient option of setting up an automatic contribution online. Details below.

Support St. Paul's

Set up a reoccurring donation (or make a gift at anytime) using our secure, online giving tool by ParishSOFT.

Visit our website at stpaulsfoster.org, and click the "Donate Now" button.

Thank you!

Second Collection—January 2/3

Next weekend's second collection will be used to help with cost of utilities.

End of Year Gift

This year, the Finance Council has asked Fr. Dore to allocate the End of Year Gift for the Food Closet Ministry and needed Tree Removal. Please consider making a gift toward this fund. All donations dated December 31, 2020 are deductible from 2020 taxes.

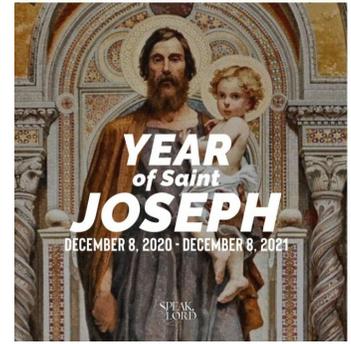
GIFTS RECEIVED

Offertory Collection - Dec 19/20
\$2,001.00

Christmas Flowers - Dec 19/20
\$ 449.00

End of Year Gift - To Date
\$ 3,710.00

Thank you for your support!



Year of Saint Joseph

My Dear Parishioners,

Pope Francis recalls the 150th anniversary of the declaration of St. Joseph as the patron of the universal church by Blessed Pope Pius IX on 8 December 1870. To mark the occasion, the Holy Father has proclaimed a "Year of Saint Joseph" from December 8, 2020 to December 8, 2021.

This year is to increase our love and devotion to this great Saint, to encourage us to implore his intercession and to imitate his virtues and his zeal. After our Blessed Mother Mary, St. Joseph is the most powerful intercessor. The world of today more than ever has to recognize the holiness, greatness and power of St. Joseph.

May St. Joseph bless and protect you and your families.

Fr. Doré

A PRAYER TO ST. JOSEPH

*Hail, Guardian of the Redeemer,
Spouse of the
Blessed Virgin Mary.
To you God entrusted
his only Son;
in you Mary placed her trust;
with you Christ became man.
Blessed Joseph, to us too,
show yourself a father
and guide us in the path of life.
Obtain for us grace,
mercy, and courage,
and defend us from every evil. Amen.*

Food Closet Ministry

This month we are in need of **Canned Tomatoes & Vegetables, Dried Pasta, and Spaghetti-O's. And also Plastic Bags.** The Food Closet is open every other Saturday morning 9:30– 11 AM