

### THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY & JOSEPH

As faithful followers of God, Joseph, Mary, and Jesus, went up to Jerusalem for the feast of Passover. For that specific year Jesus was 12 years old. But on the way back from their pilgrimage, there was a drama. Where is Jesus? Was He kidnapped? Was He lost? Was He in an accident? They have to leave the caravan to go to the search of Jesus. Parents today know something of that kind of worry, but also the total destruction of families. After they had found Him, they witnessed an immense contrast: His stillness and the revelation He made: He is in His house whenever He is in the temple or synagogue or church or basilica: "I am in my Father's house." Pope Benedict XV instituted this Feast in 1921. When Luke wrote this gospel, he wanted to present Jesus in the temple, he wanted to let The Blessed Virgin Mary talk, he wanted to let us know the state of her mind, she "kept all these things in her heart." In her spiritual journey, the Blessed Virgin Mary did not understand immediately the depth of Jesus' words in today's gospel, "I must be in my Father's house." One understands God better when one keeps everything in the heart and meditate on it.

---

#### MESSAGE OF CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR

**Dear Parishioners,  
People of God in Dalton,  
Lake Winola,  
Nicholson and beyond,  
The Parish staff and I wish you Merry  
Christmas and a Happy New Year.**

**May we pass to our children, grandchildren,  
nieces, and nephews our spiritual values.  
May His birth bring us true life and love.  
May our family live in peace, joy, happiness,  
health, prosperity, and harmony.  
May our prayers be answered.  
May every Parishioner and every family, rich,  
poor, old, young, sick, lonely receive God's  
mercy and love.  
May we have an increase in our faith.  
May everything work well for us this upcoming  
year and beyond.  
May our loved ones be protected.  
May God precede us here and everywhere  
that we intend to go and be there with us.  
May good health and success be ours.  
May He remove our hearts of stone and give us  
a heart of flesh.  
And May His blessings be upon us.  
Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.**

**Fr. Arbo**

#### **A VERY SPECIAL THANK YOU**

A sincere thank you to all parishioners of our 3 churches who came together to decorate our churches for the Christmas celebrations. In its unique way, each church is wonderfully decorated. If you can't visit each church, you can check the parish Website or our Facebook page to see all Christmas pictures.

---

#### SP/OLA FAMILY FAITH FORMATION NEWS

Upcoming Events:

Jan 5 - Class

Jan 12 - Class

Jan 19 - 5<sup>th</sup> grade Mass at SP

Jan 26 - Class

#### SML FAMILY FAITH FORMATION NEWS

Upcoming Events:

Jan 5 - Class

Jan 12 - Class

Jan 19 - Class

#### CAPUCHIN SISTERS

We, the Capuchin sisters of Nazareth, would like to thank the parishioners of Our Lady of the Abingtons who recently donated non-perishable canned foods to our Community. They're used especially during our times of hermitage retreat, so we'll remember you in a special way with each can of soup we eat! We're so grateful for your friendship and generosity over the years and pray for you all daily, asking the Lord to bless you abundantly now and always. Thank you!

#### SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT FOR SML ONLY

SML Shed, Attic, and Boiler Room are in terrible, undesirable and messy conditions. A pure fire hazard. We started the project of cleaning up these spaces and are putting in the hall (by the windows on the parking side) all materials of mostly Christmas and Halloween (some have not been used for over 30 years). Please stop by and take what you can use. What is leftover will be thrown away. For this project, we have until Wednesday March 5, 2025, the beginning of Lent to stop by the hall and pick up whatever we find there.

## LITURGICAL MINISTERS / LECTORS SCHEDULE

**January 4 & 5**

### Eucharistic Ministers

4 pm (OLA) Barbara Williamson  
9:00am (SML) Bob Andrew  
11 am (SP) Susan Stutzman

### Musicians

4 pm (OLA) Maria Fay  
9:00am (SML) Danny Williams  
11 am (SP) Maria Fay

### Lectors

4 pm (OLA) Judy Zipay  
9:00am (SML) Nick Migliori  
11 am (SP) Mary Ann Mulfino

### Altar Servers

11am (SP) Corinne Flynn  
Shadow – Emma Evans

### **HOLIDAY OFFICE INFORMATION**

Dec 31 & Jan 1 – Church offices are closed

### **2024 MAKE-UP ENVELOPES**

Anyone wishing to add to their 2024 contributions may do so on or before January 5, 2024. Before the end of January 2025 Contribution Statements will be available for all registered parishioners. These statements may be used for tax purposes. Contact the office at 570-563-1622 if you need a statement.

### **SP POTATO PANCAKE FUNDRAISER**

The sale will take place on Friday January 3 with pick-up from 4:30 to 6:30pm. Orders can be placed starting Sunday December 29 to Thursday January 2 at noon. One order is 3 pancakes for \$6. To place and order call 570-563-1622. You can also follow our Parish's NEPA CATHOLIC Facebook's Francine's Famous Potato Pancakes Event page for more info. You can come pick up some pancakes even if you haven't placed an order, but it's better, safer, and surer to place the order.

### **PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL NEWS**

The PPC and Coordinating Teams will meet on Tuesday January 7th at 6:30pm in the OLA hall. Ann Marie Cawley from the Diocesan Office for Parish Life will share information regarding membership in a Coordinating Team and how we can proceed in planning action steps to bring the Pastoral Plan to life. Please contact Nikki Weisenfluh at 570-335-8135 or we4fluhs@aol.com to confirm your attendance. (All PPC members are encouraged to come and welcome our 16 guests of the day.)

## MASS INTENTIONS

### **Tuesday (December 31) Vigil of the Solemnity of Mary the Holy Mother of God**

6:00 pm (SML) Bill Stead

*By Carl, Marie, & Katie Packer*

### **Wednesday (January 1) Solemnity of Mary the Holy Mother of God**

8:00 am (OLA) Jeff Fleming

*By Jim & Marian Booth*

9:30 am (SP) Deceased Members of the Mulfino & Dalton Families

*By Mary Ann Mulfino*

### **Saturday (January 4) The Vigil of The Epiphany of the Lord**

4:00 pm (OLA) Paul Nocella Sr.

*By Tony & Rita Sandy*

### **Sunday (January 5) The Epiphany of the Lord**

9:00 am (SML) Ellen Wengen

*By Julie & Art Williams*

11:00 am (SP) Deceased Members of the Marrazzo & Riccardo Families

*By John & Pat Marrazzo*

### **The Sanctuary Candle at SP**

Burning this week for Patricia Abbiate

*By Pat & John Marrazzo*

### **The Sanctuary Candle at SML**

Burning this week for Blessings for Joey Shook

*By Pat Stead*

### **TWO WEEKLY OFFERINGS (COLLECTIONS)**

**SP Weekly \$ 4,246.00 Loose \$ 152.00**

**OLA Weekly \$ 3,858.00 Loose \$ 99.00**

**SML Weekly \$ 3,075.00 Loose \$ 298.00**

*May the Lord reward your generosity.*

### **POWER OF THE HOLY SACRIFICE OF THE MASS**

“The Eucharist is the full realization of the worship which humanity owes God and it cannot be compared to any other religious experience.” St John Paul II

### **SML PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY NEWS**

The Prayer Shawl Ministry will not meet now through early March. Meetings will resume on Thursday March 13, 2025.

### **MAY SHE REST IN PEACE**

St. Patrick lost one of our parishioners, Mary Ann Sabuacak. Please pray for the repose of her soul and for the consolation of her loved ones.