



**THE HOLY FAMILY OF
JESUS, MARY & JOSEPH**
December 27, 2009
**Beloved, we are God's
children now; what we shall
be has not yet been
revealed.**
— 1 John 3:2a

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: 1 Jn 1:5 -- 2:2; Mt 2:13-18
Tuesday: 1 Jn 2:3-11; Lk 2:22-35
Wednesday: 1 Jn 2:12-17; Lk 2:36-40
Thursday: 1 Jn 2:18-21; Jn 1:1-18
Friday: Nm 6:22-27; Ps 67; Gal 4:4-7; Lk 2:16-21
Saturday: 1 Jn 2:22-28; Jn 1:19-28
Sunday: Is 60:1-6; Ps 72; Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6; Mt 2:1-12

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK Dec. 28, 2009-Jan. 3, 2010



Monday
6:30 pm Tommy Najvar† - Ann Najvar

Tuesday
8:00 am Melvin Schanen† - William Causey

Wednesday
6:30 pm Carol Luckenbach† - Martha Mussett

Thursday
6:30 pm Aurora P. Cantu† - David & Diana Cantu

Friday
9:00 am (S.M.) Fernando Castro† - Steve & Judy Jaksik
10:00 am Ola Busenlehner - Keith & Wilma Emshoff
6:30 pm People of the Parish

Saturday
8:00 am Maria Tagle Trevino† - Louis & Aida Deases
6:00 pm 50th Wed. Anniv. - Tony & Yolanda Zuniga

Sunday
8:00 am Irma Ruiz† - Ladies Auxiliary
9:30 am Lucia Rios & Elario Leal† - Maria & Pedro
10:00 am Ottie Zieger† - Margaret Freeze
12:00 pm People of the Parish
6:00 pm Albert Ayarzagoitia† - Oralia Gamez & E.
Ayala

SACRIFICIAL GIVING

The totals for last weeks donations were not available at the time of printing. We sincerely thank all who gave sacrificial donations to our Church during 2009 and a special word of thanks, to our envelope users and the Youth & Children who use their contribution envelopes

**Happy New Year from Msgr. Morgan,
Msgr. McGowan and Parish Staff**

Dear Friends.



Today, just two days after Christmas, we celebrate the lovely feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph and the prayers and Scripture readings help us to focus on that unique community of life and love. Looking at the lives of St. Joseph, the Blessed Virgin Mary and Jesus the Son of God, we will surely be inspired to work harder during the coming year to imitate these three wonderful people and to have a holy family for ourselves and our children. Today, some of us will also remember growing up in a 'holy family' (not perfect) and we will give thanks to our "saintly" parents and siblings, who kept God's Commandments and helped us to have very happy memories of our formative years. Thank God, most of us had the blessing of living with parents who really loved each other, made many sacrifices for their children, and taught us by word and example, how to live happy, holy and healthy lives. We honor them on Father's Day and Mother's day but surely we must pray for them today, if they are still living, or through them to God the Father, if they are now in heaven.

An old Irish Song reminds us of the 'blessing' of good parents and how we should respect them and I print the Chorus to challenge young people to keep the Fourth Commandment, which tells us to "Honor your father and your mother". It goes like this: "A mother's (father's) love is a blessing, no matter where you go. Keep her while she's living, you will miss her when she's gone. Love her as in childhood, though feeble, old and gray. For you will never miss your mother's love until she is buried beneath the clay." Too many have left it too late, to honor, love, obey, assist and show appreciation to their parents and have had to shed many tears at their funerals, for their lack of gratitude and sins of omission. Please send the 'flowers' now and don't loose this wonderful opportunity.

We introduced the Opening Prayer at today Liturgy by saying; "Let us pray for peace in our families.' After a pause, we prayed; "Father, help us to live as the holy family, united in respect and love. Bring us to the joy and peace of your eternal home". The Good News is, we can have peace and joy and a little bit of heaven on earth, when we live in a holy Catholic family. The Bible is not short of advice and yes, Commandments, for husbands, wives and children and we will hear some of them in today's readings.

In summary, the First Reading from the book of Sirach tells us that God rewards those who honor their parents by giving them long lives and answers their prayers. St. Paul tells us that husbands and wives should love each other, avoid bitterness and do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus. Children are told to obey their parents and mothers and fathers are reminded not to provoke their children lest they become discouraged. Today's gospel is about Mary and Joseph bringing their son Jesus to Jerusalem, and how He was lost and found in the temple but then went to their home in Nazareth where he was obedient to them and grew in wisdom, age and favor before God and man. Our Prayer after Communion says: "Eternal Father, we want to live as Jesus, Mary and Joseph, in peace with you and one another. May this communion strengthen us to face the troubles of life. Husbands, Wives and Children should pray that prayer every Sunday after receiving Jesus in Holy Communion and I'm confident the Lord will answer their prayers.

Have a Happy and Holy New Year. - *Msgr.. Morgan.*

This Week at St. Peter Church

MONDAY: Mass 6:30 p.m.. Feast of the Holy Innocents

TUESDAY: Rosary 7:30 a.m. Mass 8:00 a.m. Feast of St. Thomas Becket

WEDNESDAY: Novena & Rosary 6:00 p.m. Mass 6:30 p.m.

THURSDAY: **New Years Eve. Mass** 6:30 p.m.

FRIDAY: New Years Day Mass 10 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. Mass at St. Mary - 9 a.m. **The Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of God.** World Day of Prayer for Peace. **First Friday.**

SATURDAY: First Saturday Mass 8 a.m. **Confessions** 7:30 a.m. & 4:30 p.m. **Vigil Mass** 6:00 p.m.

GOOD NEWS FOR YOUTH

CHOIR PRACTICE for H.S. is every Thursday evening at 7 p.m. and on Sundays at 4:00 p.m. in the church. Come join us in singing praise to the Lord.

CHILDREN'S CHOIR practice will resume on Wednesday, Jan. 6th from 6:30 to 7:15 p.m.

CCD HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

CLASSES RESUME - Sunday, January 3, 2010; Monday, January 4, 2010 and Wednesday, January 6, 2010.

SPECIAL THANKS TO ALL WHO GAVE TIME AND TALENT DURING THE CHRISTMAS SEASON AT OUR CHURCH. We are most grateful to the hundreds of parishioners of all ages, who despite their busy schedules, found time to give their gifts and talents to our Church during Advent and Christmas. May God reward all these talented & generous people and bless them during the coming year.

THIS YEAR'S KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS POSTER & ESSAY CONTEST was a big success. We had 75 CCD students in grades Kinder - 5th turn in posters and 40 essays were turned in by students in grades 6th thru 12th. Congratulations to all students who entered the contest, they were all excellent!

The following were chosen for 1st, 2nd & 3rd place:

Grades Kinder - 2nd - 1st Place - Alyssa Alaniz, 2nd Place - Julissa Alcalá, 3rd Place - Lauren Flores.

Grades 3rd - 5th - 1st Place - Paul Martinez, 2nd Place - Julianna Alcalá, 3rd Place - Matthew Rodriguez.

Grades 6th - 8th - 1st Place - Grace Ann Polasek, 2nd Place - Raelyn Curriel, 3rd Place - Catherine Martinez.

Grades 9th - 12th - 1st Place - Rebecca Flores, 2nd Place - Victoria Zuniga, 3rd Place - Alexandra Yanez.

Upcoming Events

TODAY WE CELEBRATE

THE FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH. Let us pray at this Mass that God will bless us and our families as we set out on a New Year. We should resolve to live and love like the Holy Family and allow them to be our models of holiness, peace and joy. See letter on previous page.

FRIDAY IS NEW YEAR'S DAY AND A HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION. Please attend one of the Masses listed below as we set out on the Year of 2010. Let us pray for peace in the world, God's blessing on America, our leaders and on each and every one of us. Holy Day Mass Schedule: **Thursday, Dec. 31 - 6:30 p.m. Friday, Jan. 1 - 10 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. St. Mary Mission 9 a.m.**

SATURDAY IS THE FIRST SATURDAY OF THE MONTH. A Mass in honor of the Blessed Virgin Mary will be celebrated on Saturday at 8 a.m. with the Rosary and Confessions at 7:30 a.m. Please bring the family to this special Mass and ask Our Lady to intercede for you and your loved ones as we set out on a New Year.

CALLING ALL PARISH MINISTERS!!! All women, men and youth who are involved in Ministry at our parish are urged to attend the upcoming 2010 Diocesan Ministry Day Conference at the American Bank Center on Saturday, January 16, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. The parish will pay the registration fee but **you must register today** if you have not done so earlier.

See sign-up sheets at all exits or call our office at 241-3249 or the CCD office at 241-3372. There are excellent workshops this year to help our Deacons, Rel. Ed. Teachers & Aides, Youth Sponsors, Hospitality Ministers, Lectors, Eucharistic Ministers, Sacristans etc. See flier on bulletin board.

"LONGING FOR THE HOLY" SMALL FAITH SHARING GROUPS TO BEGIN IN TWO WEEKS. You may still join one of the 20 groups already formed, to begin this exciting series of meetings in selected homes with trained leaders. We begin with four sessions, take a break, have four more during Lent and the final four after Easter. Call our office at 241-3249 or Paul Hickey at 241-8662.

A NEW "CATHOLICS RETURNING HOME" SERIES IS SET TO BEGIN ON THURSDAY FEBRUARY 18TH.

The once a week sessions of CRH are designed for Catholics who wish to return to the Church and the Sacraments and need some information or have questions. Deacon Al Cicora (a returned Catholic himself) is in charge and you may call him at 241-2784 or call our office at 241-3249 to register or for more information. Spread the word and invite a friend.

SINGER/SONGWRITER LORRAINE HARFTSOOK TO CONDUCT MINI RETREAT FOR ADULTS AND CONCERT FOR THE FAMILY HERE ON JANUARY 30-31.

Lorraine is a Canadian, award winning singer/musician, and internationally known speaker and is returning to our parish on the final weekend of Jan. 2010. The Retreat, for all adults, is on Saturday, Jan. 30 from 1-5 p.m and the Concert is on Sunday evening, Jan. 31 at 7 p.m.

FAITH COMES BY HEARING TO BEGIN HERE ON ASH WEDNESDAY, FEB. 17. Everyone will be given a MP3 disk which will enable them to listen to the Good News for 28 minutes a day in order to hear the whole New Testament during Lent of 2010. Please pray for the success of "Faith Comes By Hearing" in our parish and throughout the Diocese.