



AND THE

Word

BECAME FLESH AND
MADE HIS DWELLING
AMONG US, AND
WE SAW
HIS GLORY,

JOHN 1:14

Christmas 2023

**The Roman Catholic Parish
of St. Joseph Cathedral
& Holy Cross Church**

St. Joseph Cathedral
212 East Broad Street,
Columbus, OH 43215
614-224-1295

Holy Cross Church
204 S. Fifth Street,
Columbus, OH 43215
614-224-3416

www.sjchcc.org

SAINT JOSEPH CATHEDRAL & HOLY CROSS CHURCH

- + Most Reverend Earl K. Fernandes
Bishop of Columbus
- + Most Reverend Frederick F. Campbell
Bishop Emeritus of Columbus
- + Most Reverend James A. Griffin
Bishop Emeritus of Columbus

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Cathedral Rector

Reverend Michael Hinterschied

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SCHEDULING MASS INTENTIONS

One of the greatest acts of charity is to pray for the living and the dead, and the greatest and most powerful prayer we have is the Mass since the fruits of the Mass are the very fruits of Jesus' redemption. Mass stipends (offerings) are \$10.00 each; only one offering per Mass. All Masses are scheduled by calling the Parish Office. Contact the Cathedral Office at 614-224-1295.

MONTHLY PRAYER INTENTION OF POPE FRANCIS: DECEMBER

For persons with disabilities

We pray that people living with disabilities may be at the center of attention in society, and that institutions may offer inclusive programs which value their active participation.

MASS INTENTIONS

Holy Cross:

Sunday, December 31

9:00 a.m. The Living & Deceased of the Cullinan Family

Cathedral:

Sunday, December 31

10:30 a.m. For the Family of Carter Jack

12:30 p.m. The People of St. Joseph Cathedral and
Holy Cross Church

5:15 p.m. Sr. Carol Hassey

Cathedral:

Monday, January 1

10:00 a.m. The Intention of the Priest

Tuesday, January 2

12:05 p.m. The Intention of the Priest

Wednesday, January 3

12:05 p.m. Soul of Victoria A. Scaffi

Thursday, January 4

12:05 p.m. Living & Deceased of the Cullinan Family

Friday, January 5

12:05 p.m. Soul of Barbara Waring

Holy Cross:

Saturday, January 6

11:30 a.m. The Living & Deceased of the Cullinan Family

WEEKLY READINGS

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 31 ~

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

Gen 15:1-6, 21:1-3; Heb 11:8, 11-12, 17-19; Lk 2:22-40

MONDAY, JANUARY 1 ~

Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God

Numbers 6:22-27; Galatians 4:4-7; Luke 2:16-21

TUESDAY, JANUARY 2 ~

Ss Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzen

1 John 2:22-28; John 1:19-28

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 3 ~ Holy Name of Jesus

1 John 2:29-3:6; John 1:29-34

THURSDAY, JANUARY 4 ~ Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton

1 John 3:7-10; John 1:35-42

FRIDAY, JANUARY 5 ~ Saint John Neumann

1 John 3:11-21; John 1:43-51

SATURDAY JANUARY 6 ~ Saint André Bessette

1 John 5:5-13; Mark 1:7-11

THIS SUNDAY'S MINISTRY SCHEDULE				
THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH ~ December 31				
	9:00 am HCC	10:30 am SJC	12:30 p.m. SJC	5:15 pm SJC
Altar Servers	John Feher	Lisa Emrich	Trevor Foley	Nate Foley
		Jason Yax	Laura Battocletti	Ed Hueckel
		Bonnie Maupin		
Lector – One	Kelly Wagoner	Donna Lent	JP Pacis	Linda Ruth
Lector – Two		Fritz Harding	Thom Gall	Josie Gonot
Eucharistic Minister	Pat Kern Davis Claire Miller	Fritz Harding	Bobbie Meyers	
Hospitality/Ushers	Ann Seren	Steve Horner	Kathleen Tourgeman	Robert Schoenfeld
		Evelina Horner		Gordian Igwilo
		Pam Jurgens		
		Sandy Stover		

OUTREACH TO HELPING THE HOMELESS AND NEEDY IN DOWNTOWN COLUMBUS

Twice-Daily Food Distribution at Saint Joseph Cathedral ~ 614-224-1295
 Saint Lawrence Haven, on the grounds of Holy Cross Church ~ Heather Swiger at hswiger@columbuscatholic.org
 Joint Office for Inner-city Needs (J.O.I.N.) ~ 614-241-2530

SAINT JOSEPH CATHEDRAL MUSIC

Cathedral Concert Series ~ UCELLI: THE COLUMBUS CELLO QUARTET, January 14, 2024 at 3:00 p.m.
Office of Compline ~ 9:00 p.m. on the first Sunday of the Month. The next one is January 7, 2024

OFFICES, PROGRAMS AND SERVICES OF THE DIOCESE OF COLUMBUS

For Diocesan offices, please call 614-228-2457 during regular business hours or visit www.columbuscatholic.org.

LOW-GLUTEN* HOSTS will be served at **All Masses**. Worshipers can receive low-gluten Holy Communion from the center aisle (please identify yourself to the Celebrant.) *Contains less than 0.01% gluten content and meets the standard set by the Holy See and the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops.

ST. JOSEPH CATHEDRAL

Please Keep These Parishioners in Your Prayers

Tim Acton, John Ankrom, Ed Chong, Barbara Cicua, Christopher Clark, Dorothy Deems, Sherri Dembinski, Larry Edwards, Edith Ingram, Dr. Lianna Goetz, Brittany Grinder, Kim Haring, Ruth Harper, Chris and Anna Katanyuta, Denise Lager, Arthur Maupin, Mary McNellis, Teresa Mallon, Colleen Olson, Kathy Perkins, Marie Naseman, Maria Paras, Linda Pauley, The Pemberton Family, Maribeth Riepenhoff, John Ryan, Susan Bateman Severs, David Simmons, Sarah Stollenwerk, Sandra Valencia, and Dora Zweydorff

HOLY CROSS CHURCH

+ **PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS** our homebound parishioners, and those who are ill: Theresa Elliott, Peter Garrett's Mother, and James Worley.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

(Holy Cross & Cathedral)

Please contact Carol at the Cathedral, 614-224-1295

SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY

(Holy Cross & Cathedral)

Please email Mandy at weddings@saintjosephcathedral.org

NEW PARISHIONER REGISTRATION

For Holy Cross & The Cathedral

Welcome to Saint Joseph Cathedral, the Mother Church of the Diocese of Columbus! We are glad that you are here and invite you to become part of our parish family to be nourished by both Word and Sacrament, and also to become involved in one or more of our parish ministries. To become a registered member you can pick up a form by the main entrance of our historic church, visit our web site, or contact us through the Parish Office. Welcome!

FUNERAL MINISTRY

(Holy Cross & Cathedral)

For parishioners who have died, the family should contact the rector at St. Joseph Cathedral at 614-224-1295 before meeting with the funeral director.

SACRAMENT OF THE SICK

(Holy Cross & Cathedral)

Those wishing Holy Communion in the Home due to illness, confinement or visits to the hospital or nursing center, please call 614-224-1295.

The Holy Family Shows Us How to Create a Healthy Home

FR. LAWRENCE G. LOVASIK



The life of the Holy Family at Nazareth was a hidden life of prayer and work. Their whole day's work was done for God alone, because prayer, simple and sublime, filled it completely. A charming simplicity dominated each of their domestic duties. Their disposition was always serene, because the thought of God absorbed them. Their hearts were in their home, and hence they could not be carried away on the stream of the world.

They lived in retirement and poverty, being satisfied with only the necessities of life. Sanctity was so carefully concealed beneath the quiet simplicity of their daily life that people did not realize the Son of God and His Virgin Mother dwelt among them.

How reverently did Mary and Joseph admire the beautiful example of Jesus! What food for thought was His obedience! His practice of this difficult virtue gave to the hidden life of Nazareth its sweetness, peace, and majesty. Although He was the Son of God, He was subject to His parents — His creatures — for thirty years.

The example of His loving obedience should be an inspiration to children. They can expect the blessing of God — as He promised in the Fourth Commandment — if they respect and honor their parents.

We cannot measure the growth of Mary and Joseph in holiness. Grace poured constantly from Christ — its source — into their souls. While their hands were busy, Jesus absorbed their thoughts and affections and thrilled their hearts with the purest love for Him. Divine love united them all in a holy, happy family.

The example of Our Lady

Our Lady is an attractive example for every wife and mother. Not only was she perfectly devoted to Joseph, her husband, but she was always an inspiration to him, especially in her love for her Son. It thrilled her with the purest joy to have so perfect a Model ever before her; to talk freely and often with Him; and to be so close an observer of His conduct. She filled her mind unceasingly with thoughts of His virtues. She pondered all His words and recorded them in her heart, as the Evangelist remarks. She was absorbed in acquiring His spirit. She spent herself and was spent in learning the practical knowledge of Jesus Christ, and in so doing, she became the holiest creature who ever walked this earth.

Try to imitate this perfect dedication to God, and, like Mary, you will be most pleasing to Him and a source of inspiration and help to your family. Endeavor to burn with the same desire to imitate your Savior. The practical imitation of Christ is your highest duty. Mary can best teach you to imitate Him, because she is the Mirror of Justice, who reflects the spirit of Jesus most powerfully and most faithfully. Thus you will gain the knowledge that will aid you in bringing your family to eternal life.

As Mary, beautiful and perfect, is the sublime model for every Catholic wife, so Joseph, “the just man,” gentle, kind, and chaste, is a model for every Catholic husband.

When God blesses your home with human life, the fruit of love, your family becomes like the Holy Family. In the family life of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph are exemplified the proper relations that should exist between husband and wife, parents and children. By practicing the domestic virtues of charity, obedience, and mutual help, Jesus, Mary, and Joseph sanctified family life.

Model your home life on the holy house of Nazareth

The Holy Family lived in a plain cottage among other working people, in a village perched on a hillside. Although they did not enjoy modern conveniences, the three persons who lived there made it the happiest home that ever was. You cannot imagine any of them at any time thinking first of himself. This is the kind of home a husband likes to return to and to remain in. Mary saw to it that such was their home. She took it as her career to be a successful homemaker and mother.

In establishing your home, adopt the characteristics of the holy house of Nazareth. In proportion as you do so, you will have fashioned for yourselves a replica of the happiest home that ever was on earth.

The thought of the Holy Family suggests the love of simplicity. Domestic and marital happiness are closely bound up with the simple but good things of your state of life. Seek your happiness within the range of your income and your social, domestic, and family circles, and you will spare yourself many heartaches. Husband, be fair to your wife and family in trying to provide the necessities and ordinary comforts of life. Wife, strive to live within the income that is provided.

Be loyal to each other in periods of trial, and confidently seek the blessing of God at Mass, Holy Communion, and prayer. Pray often to the Holy Family to sanctify your family by their example and intercession, so that you may reach the ultimate goal of your marriage: the eternal possession of God.

In all your family needs and problems, confide in the intercession and help of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph. They will protect, guard, and keep you in holy fear, in peace, and in the harmony of Christian charity. By conforming yourselves to the divine model of this Holy Family, you will attain eternal happiness. Above all, through their prayers, you and your children will be enabled to honor God by a virtuous life so as to be worthy of a heavenly reward.

Every other consideration should yield to the thought of aiding each other to attain that goal. Only when religion permeates your daily life does your marriage fulfill its purpose. You and your children will find real happiness in direct proportion to your efforts to make God the very center of your married life. In this, the Holy Family should be your inspiration.

As a truly Catholic parent, try to copy the example of the Holy Family and to see in a hidden life of prayer, work, and daily fidelity to the commonplace, the surest steppingstone to sainthood.

As a family, try to lead a hidden life with Jesus in the Holy Eucharist. Through holy Mass, offer yourselves through Mary’s hands as a sacrifice with Jesus; at Holy Communion, you will be changed into Jesus by divine grace so that you may live His life; by your visits to the tabernacle, you will enjoy His friendship in the midst of the many problems of life. If you have faith, you will discover His presence and see His veiled glory.

If you love Him in the Holy Eucharist to the extent of making the Eucharist the center of your life, He will pour out His grace into your hearts and breathe the peace of God into your souls and make your burdens light. If you speak to Him, your God, with reverent familiarity, He will enlighten you about His Providence in your regard and strengthen you to bear the crosses He sends you. Devotion to the Holy Eucharist is the surest and easiest way of making your family resemble the Holy Family of Nazareth.

Joseph, the honest workman, is still the guardian of families. Mary, the Mother of God, is the blessed mother of every Catholic home. Jesus, subject to them — His creatures — is the model of every child. Through their intercession, may you and your family find your joy in God in this life, and may you be reunited to enjoy Him for all eternity in Heaven — as a family!

Spirituality “Hacks” for Your New Year

DEREK ROTTY



Disclaimer: the author makes no claim to having perfected the ideas and habits proposed herein. These are simply true principles that can help any of us grow, if only we will practice them diligently.

Surely all of us, as we have scrolled through social media, have noticed quite a few posts with videos or images proposing “life hacks.” These little tricks supposedly make life less frustrating, more productive, and more enjoyable. Some of them are extremely clever and intriguing. I only wish I had the time in my busy schedule to experiment with them. But, I guess that’s the ironic point of these hacks: to give me a little more free time.

And, right now, lots of people are posting and talking about their new year’s resolutions. People want to be less frustrated, more productive, healthier, and wealthier. So, people begin new jobs, join fitness clubs, take up new diets, begin using new daily planners, and so on. In short, they begin looking for and employing life hacks for some of the most important things in life.

In the midst of this deluge of recommendations and flurry of activity, we need some advice on how to develop a spiritual life that is sustained, robust, and effective; and which brings joy and peace. After all, we are embodied souls, and we need to take care of the spiritual part of us as much or more than the physical and emotional part of us. That’s why I would like to recommend four really simple spirituality “hacks” for your new year. These are practical, helpful habits and tools that lay persons can use, developed and employed by four religious orders from the Church’s rich history.

The first hack is to create a schedule and stick to it. This Benedictine principle (Cistercian and Trappist, too, as Benedictine offshoots) serves to cultivate stability. Every person, whether married or ordained or consecrated religious, feels the importance of stability for themselves and the sake of their families and communities. While Benedictines strictly adhere to their schedule and rule of life, there are ways that laity can do a similar thing. Give up the snooze button on the alarm clock. Get up and pray at the same time each morning. Schedule family dinner for the same time each weekday evening. Set inviolable boundaries for the end of a workday.

The second hack is to practice the presence of God. This Carmelite principle, presented most simply by Brother Lawrence in the seventeenth century, helps people to recognize and encounter God in the average moments of their daily lives. The simple reality is that God is present to each of us in every moment of our days, and He wants to deepen our connection with Him. It is possible for any one of us to encounter the Lord in a profound way while taking a morning walk, studying math or physics, listening to a priest’s homily, gardening, washing dishes for a family of seven, and so much more. All we have to do is ask the ever-present God to be present to us in those moments.

The third hack is to discover the way(s) that God desires to work through each of us to impact others; the way that He sends each of us as missionaries to aid in the mission of the Church. This is the Dominican principle of giving away the fruit of contemplation. God always intends for us to be in human relationship after we have been in relationship with Him. Specifically, each of us is given talents, strengths, and gifts that can help make God’s presence real to other people. To make this effective, we can begin by learning our individual temperament. Then we can move to discovering our natural strengths areas. Finally, we begin to soar in the spiritual life by discovering the charisms that God has given to us to, the tools He intends for us to use in building up the Kingdom on earth.

The fourth and final spirituality hack is the daily examen prayer. This staple of Ignatian spirituality allows a person to assess his or her status before God, each and every day. If employed daily, this fifteen-minute exercise will tie together each of the previous three hacks. Many people prefer to undertake the examen in the evening or at night, but it is possible to complete a daily examen in the morning for the previous day. Sometimes, people will do an examen at lunchtime, simply reviewing the first part of the day. No matter when it is completed, this exercise will foster a thriving spiritual life, which will certainly have positive impacts in family, community, and professional settings.

These four practical and spiritual habits are pillars of the spiritual life that will bring someone toward joy and peace. Certainly, other devotions and practices can and should be added, such as the sacraments (Mass and Confession, specifically), the Rosary, spiritual reading, novenas, and litanies. Still, having these pillars in place will allow each of those other devotions to be more lively and fruitful. Now, we should have a better idea of how to “hack” 2023 for God’s greatest glory and for the good of the world.

THIS ARTICLE IS MADE AVAILABLE COURTESY OF THE CATHOLIC EXCHANGE

Spiritual Insights from New Year's Resolutions

FR. EDWARD LOONEY



The new year is upon us and many have already made their annual resolutions. Many will want to get healthier by shedding some pounds and exercising more frequently. Many articles come across my Facebook and Twitter feed from running companies like Runner's World, RunHaven, and Active. As a person who enjoys a good run, I read the literature those websites produce. Recent articles I have read have addressed issues about overtraining, making the most from your long run, and eating healthier. I have read these secular articles with the eyes of faith, and personally discovered spiritual insights they offer. As many people begin to make their resolutions to become a slimmer and fitter version of themselves, the newly acquired habit of exercise, can offer lessons for the spiritual life.

The Desire

Sometimes when I look in the mirror, I say to myself, I need to shed a few more pounds or I need to take better care of myself. I have the desire to be healthier and this is the first step in the process of becoming healthier physically. So too, in the spiritual life. Maybe we have looked in the spiritual mirror. We have seen how much God loves us, and our response to that love, is "why have I not loved God more." I'm willing to bet, that some who read this have thought at some point in their spiritual life, "I wish I prayed more" or "I want to know Jesus better." This speaks to the desire placed on our heart for God, as St. Augustine said, our hearts are restless until they rest in God. In the spiritual life, it is good to discover our desire to advance in holiness. That's the first step, recognizing, and then acting.

Don't Overdo It

As a runner, a lot of the literature warns about over-training. Many advise a ten percent rule, meaning that one shouldn't increase their mileage more than ten percent each week. Imagine a person who has not exercised all that much, and then on New Year's they decide to run a marathon. Their body is not ready for that and the possibility of injury can occur. In the spiritual life, we can have an eagerness to do many devotions, and take on more than we can handle. If renewing your spiritual life is a New Year's resolution, it's important not to overdo it. Just like running, we can do too much in the beginning. Trying to pray a rosary, do *lectio divina*, a holy hour, spiritual reading, and the 15 Prayers of St. Bridget, might be more than a novice should take on. If we set out to do too much, and we are

faithful for the first few days, we might become discouraged when we do not accomplish our entire “prayer to-do list” in the future. One thing will go, then the next, and before we know it, our entire New Year’s prayer regiment has gone by the wayside and we are back where we started. Instead, commit yourself to one spiritual practice in the New Year. Incorporate it into your life, and gradually add something else if you feel called to do so.

Becoming Bored

An avid runner might become bored from time to time with their running routine. In the running world, a lot of articles recently are talking about reinvigorating the long run, that is, how to spice it up and make it more enjoyable. In the spiritual life, God gives us many graces when begin to pray regularly. But at some point, (all the spiritual masters experienced this), the well of prayer we drink from might dry up. This is called spiritual dryness, or the spiritual desert. In running, it is important to keep running even when the motivation might not be there. If one quits, the fitness gained will be lost. So too in the spiritual life. When we don’t feel, God is speaking to us, or we don’t think we are getting anything out of prayer, it is precisely at those moments that we need to keep praying. God wants us to keep praying in the midst of that as a sign of our fidelity. The dryness will soon be replaced with abundant fruit one again.

“Lead us not into temptation”

Each week I look at my calendar and assess when I’ll be able to go to the gym. I schedule that time in, because otherwise, it will never happen. Sometimes when the notification comes up on my cell phone it is very easy for me to say, “I really need to keep working on this project.” Or, “I’m too tired.” These are worldly temptations against the idea of exercising. Now think about the spiritual life. The same is true. It’s easy for us to dismiss personal prayer time. If the best time for prayer is in the morning, it might be the temptation to hit the snooze button. “I need those extra few minutes.” If we pray in the evening, our other tasks might overtake that time for personal prayer, or if we pray before bed, the temptation of “I’m too tired” will be there. In the spiritual life we must resist these temptations. Not praying is precisely what the Evil One wants. When we pray, we become closer to God. When we do not, we become more distant from God. Avoid the temptation to dismiss prayer. Make it a priority.

The Spiritual Diet

Achieving a slimmer and fitter self involves a proper diet—eating healthy and avoiding snacks and sugar. We cannot expect to lose weight if we are not putting healthy stuff in. The same is true spiritually. We must be careful what we put in our souls. What am I watching on television? Who are the people I surround myself with? What type of conversation do I have? We cannot expect to advance in the spiritual life if we continue to put junk into our soul. The spiritual life is about discipline and asceticism. If something does not lead me closer to God, then I must abandon it. If it is hurting my relationship with God, if I am being led to sin by word or action, it’s time to run far away from it! Our spiritual diet should nourish us. As the evangelists tell us, it is from the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks (Mt. 12:34, Lk. 6:45). As St. Paul exhorts us, say only the good things people need to hear, things that will really build them up (Eph. 4:29). To advance in the spiritual life, we need that which is good, true, and beautiful. This will form our heart, and from this goodness, we will speak and act.

Concluding Thoughts

A number of years ago when I caught the running bug, I realized the connection between the spiritual life and our physical life. After all, St. Paul refers to the spiritual life as running the race and winning a crown (1 Cor 9:23-35, 2 Tim 4:7). A lot of articles I have read lately about how to become a better runner, have offered me insights into the spiritual life. These are a few of those lessons I’ve learned. If you are ready to take your spiritual life to a new level in 2016, these are some lessons we can learn from our New Year’s resolutions to become slim and fit. Run your race with perseverance (Hebrews 12:1).

Returning Love for Love: A Pilgrimage to the Heart of Jesus

MAY 31 – JUNE 9, 2024



To commemorate the 350th anniversary of the revelations of the Sacred Heart of Jesus at Paray-le-Monial, a Jubilee Year has been declared, beginning on 27 December 2023 and continuing through 27 June 2025, the Solemnity of the Sacred Heart.

Please consider joining the Diocese of Columbus and Bishop Fernandes on this extraordinary pilgrimage to France during the Jubilee Year.



PILGRIMAGES
BY CORPORATE TRAVEL

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P: 866.468.1420 | CTSCENTRAL.NET

Happy New Year!
From the staff of the
Community of St. Joseph Cathedral and Holy Cross Church

A New Year's Prayer

Lord, You make all things new
You bring hope alive in our hearts
And cause our Spirits to be born again
Thank you for this new year
For all the potential it holds.
Come and kindle in us
A mighty flame
So that in our time, many will see the wonders of God
And live forever to praise Your glorious name.

- Author Unknown

Lectio Divina

SCRIPTURE READING + MEDITATION + PRAYER + CONTEMPLATION

“What page, what passage of the inspired books of the Old and New Testaments is not the truest of guides for human life?” ~Saint Benedict, from the *Rule of Saint Benedict* (73:3)

The month of January is dedicated to the Holy Name of Jesus.

"In dangers, in doubts, in difficulties, think of Mary, call upon Mary. Let not her name depart from your lips, never suffer it to leave your heart. And that you may obtain the assistance of her prayer, neglect not to walk in her footsteps. With her for guide, you shall never go astray; while invoking her, you shall never lose heart; so long as she is in your mind, you are safe from deception; while she holds your hand, you cannot fall; under her protection you have nothing to fear; if she walks before you, you shall not grow weary; if she shows you favor, you shall reach the goal." +SAINT BERNARD OF CLAIRVAUX

Monday, January 1 ~ Solemnity of Holy Mary, Mother of God

Holy Gospel: Luke 2:16-21 The shepherds went in haste to Bethlehem and found Mary and Joseph, and the infant lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known the message that had been told them about this child. All who heard it were amazed by what had been told them by the shepherds. And Mary kept all these things, reflecting on them in her heart. Then the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, just as it had been told to them. When eight days were completed for his circumcision, he was named Jesus, the name given him by the angel before he was conceived in the womb.

Meditation: In fulfillment of this precept, Mary's newborn child is given the name *Jesus* on the eighth day according to the Jewish custom. Joseph and Mary gave the name *Jesus* because that is the name given by God's messenger before *Jesus* was conceived in Mary's womb. This name signifies *Jesus'* identity and his mission. The literal Hebrew means *the Lord saves*. Since God alone can forgive sins, it is God who, in *Jesus* his eternal Son made man, will save his people from their sins (Matthew 1:21). In the birth and naming of this child we see the wondrous design and plan of God in giving us a Savior who would bring us grace, mercy, and freedom from the power of sin and the fear of death. The name *Jesus* signifies that the very name of God is present in the person of his Son who became man for our salvation. Peter the Apostle exclaimed that there is no other name under heaven given among mortals by which we must be saved (Acts 2:12). In the name of *Jesus* demons flee, cripples walk, the blind see, the deaf hear, and the dead are raised. At the name of *Jesus* every knee shall bow; His name is exalted far above every other name. The name *Jesus* is at the heart of all Christian prayer. It is through *Jesus*, with *Jesus* and in *Jesus* that we pray to God the Father in the power of the Holy Spirit.

Prayer: O God, who through the fruitful virginity of Blessed Mary bestowed on the human race the grace of eternal salvation, grant, we pray, that we may experience the intercession of her, through whom we were found worthy to receive the author of life, our Lord *Jesus Christ*, your Son. Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Contemplation: Mary was “full of grace” not only for being chosen to be God’s mother but in her total openness to be filled with that love of God. We too are constantly “graced” and we too can be full of grace not because we were baptized into the Catholic community, but by our own total, active identification with the way of *Jesus* by our opening up to the call of God as it unfolds in the unique circumstances of our own lives. We do this through total and unconditional service of those around us. It is a formidable challenge at times, but it also brings countless joys. To be a true Christian – a true disciple and follower of *Christ* is demanding but not insurmountable; it is not for the hypocrite or faint of heart. To be a true Christian is to first go beyond mere lip service calling *Jesus* “Lord, Lord” but not living according to *Christ’s* way – it is for those who truly believe in *Jesus Christ* as their Lord, Savior and Redeemer; those who see *Jesus Christ* as the Good Shepherd who allow them to be lovingly led by *Christ*; those who want to be “doers of the Word and not hearers only” (James 1:22). Prove to *Christ*, to the world, and to yourself that you are Christian.

Tuesday, January 2 ~ Season of Christmas**Sts. Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzen, Bishops and Doctors of the Church**

Holy Gospel: John 1:19-28 This is the testimony of John. When the Jews from Jerusalem sent priests and Levites to him to ask him, "Who are you?" He admitted and did not deny it, but admitted, "I am not the Christ." So they asked him, "What are you then? Are you Elijah?" And he said, "I am not." "Are you the Prophet?" He answered, "No." So they said to him, "Who are you, so we can give an answer to those who sent us? What do you have to say for yourself?" He said: "I am the voice of one crying out in the desert, 'Make straight the way of the Lord,' as Isaiah the prophet said." Some Pharisees were also sent. They asked him, "Why then do you baptize if you are not the Christ or Elijah or the Prophet?" John answered them, "I baptize with water; but there is one among you whom you do not recognize, the one who is coming after me, whose sandal strap I am not worthy to untie." This happened in Bethany across the Jordan, where John was baptizing.

Meditation: John the Baptist bridges the Old and New Testaments. He is the last of the Old Testament Prophets who points the way to the Messiah. He is the first of the New Testament witnesses and martyrs. He is the herald who prepares the way for Jesus and who announces his mission to the people: Behold the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world! John saw from a distance what the Messiah came to accomplish – our redemption from slavery to sin and our adoption as sons and daughters of God, our heavenly Father.

Prayer: O God, who were pleased to give light to your Church by the example and teaching of the Bishops, Saints Basil and Gregory, grant, we pray, that in humility we may learn your truth and practice it faithfully in charity. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Contemplation: John was the greatest of the prophets, yet he lived as a humble and faithful servant of God. He pointed others to Jesus, Messiah and Savior of the world. The Catholic Church from the earliest of times has given John many titles which signify his mission: *Witness of the Lord, Trumpet of Heaven, Herald of Christ, Voice of the Word, Precursor of Truth, Friend of the Bridegroom, Crown of the Prophets, Forerunner of the Redeemer, Preparer of Salvation, Light of the Martyrs, and Servant of the Word.* By your life, by your faith, do you point others to Christ by your witness and example as John the Baptist did?

Wednesday, January 3 ~ Season of Christmas**The Most Holy Name of Jesus**

Holy Gospel: John 1:29-34 John the Baptist saw Jesus coming toward him and said, "Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world. He is the one of whom I said, 'A man is coming after me who ranks ahead of me because he existed before me.' I did not know him, but the reason why I came baptizing with water was that he might be made known to Israel." John testified further, saying, "I saw the Spirit come down like a dove from the sky and remain upon him. I did not know him, but the one who sent me to baptize with water told me, 'On whomever you see the Spirit come down and remain, he is the one who will baptize with the Holy Spirit.' Now I have seen and testified that he is the Son of God."

Meditation: John calls Jesus the *Lamb of God* and thus signifies Jesus' mission as the One who redeems us from our sins. The blood of the Passover Lamb (Exodus 12) delivered the Israelites in Egypt from death. The blood of Jesus, the true Passover Lamb who offered his life up for us on the cross as an atoning sacrifice for our sins (1 Corinthians 5:7), delivers us from everlasting death and destruction. It is significant that John was the son of a priest, Zachariah, who participated in the daily sacrifice of a lamb in the temple for the sins of the people (Exodus 29). In Jesus he saw the true and only sacrifice which delivers us from sin.

Prayer: O God, who founded the salvation of the human race on the Incarnation of your Word, give your peoples the mercy they implore, so that all may know there is no other name to be invoked but the Name of your Only Begotten Son. Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Contemplation: Saint Alphonsus Liguori once wrote: "God hath given Him a Name which is above all names. And He commands that this name should be adored by the Angels, by men, and by devils: That in the Name of Jesus every knee should bow of those that are in Heaven, on earth, and under the earth. If, then, all creatures are to adore this great name, still more ought we sinners to adore it, since it was in our behalf that this name of Jesus; which signifies Savior, was given to Him; and for this end also He came down from Heaven, namely, to save sinners: 'For us men and for our salvation He came down from

Heaven, and was made Man.' We ought to adore Him, and at the same time to thank God Who has given Him this name for our good; it is this name that consoles us, defends us, and makes us burn with love."

Thursday, January 4 ~ Season of Christmas Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton, Religious

Holy Gospel: John 1:35-42 John was standing with two of his disciples, and as he watched Jesus walk by, he said, "Behold, the Lamb of God." The two disciples heard what he said and followed Jesus. Jesus turned and saw them following him and said to them, "What are you looking for?" They said to him, "Rabbi" (which translated means Teacher), "where are you staying?" He said to them, "Come, and you will see." So they went and saw where he was staying, and they stayed with him that day. It was about four in the afternoon. Andrew, the brother of Simon Peter, was one of the two who heard John and followed Jesus. He first found his own brother Simon and told him, "We have found the *Messiah*," which is translated *Christ*. Then he brought him to Jesus. Jesus looked at him and said, "You are Simon the son of John; you will be called *Cephas*," which is translated *Peter*.

Meditation: Jesus invites each of us to "come and see" for ourselves that his word is true, life-giving and everlasting. "Come and see" is God's invitation for fellowship and communion with the One who made us in love for love. Saint Augustine tells us something very important about God and how he relates to us: "If you hadn't been called by God, what could you have done to turn back? Didn't the very One who called you when you were opposed to Him make it possible for you to turn back?" It is God who initiates and who draws us to himself. Without his grace, mercy, and help we could not find him.

Prayer: O God, who crowned with the gift of true faith Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton's burning zeal to find you, grant by her intercession and example that we may always seek you with diligent love and find you in daily service with sincere faith. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Contemplation: When two of John's disciples began to seek out Jesus, Jesus took the initiative to invite them into his company. He did not wait for them to get his attention. Instead he met them halfway. He asked them one of the most fundamental questions of life: "What are you looking for?" In other words, what were they looking for in Jesus, and what were they aiming to get out of life? Jesus asks each of us this very same question: "What's the goal of your life? What are you aiming for and trying to get out of life?" So, what is your response? Think about it, pray about it, then take up Jesus' invitation.

Friday, January 5 ~ Season of Christmas Saint John Neumann, Bishop

Holy Gospel: John 1:43-51 Jesus decided to go to Galilee, and he found Philip. And Jesus said to him, "Follow me." Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the town of Andrew and Peter. Philip found Nathanael and told him, "We have found the one about whom Moses wrote in the law, and also the prophets, Jesus, son of Joseph, from Nazareth." But Nathanael said to him, "Can anything good come from Nazareth?" Philip said to him, "Come and see." Jesus saw Nathanael coming toward him and said of him, "Here is a true child of Israel. There is no duplicity in him." Nathanael said to him, "How do you know me?" Jesus answered and said to him, "Before Philip called you, I saw you under the fig tree." Nathanael answered him, "Rabbi, you are the Son of God; you are the King of Israel." Jesus answered and said to him, "Do you believe because I told you that I saw you under the fig tree? You will see greater things than this." And he said to him, "Amen, amen, I say to you, you will see the sky opened and the angels of God ascending and descending on the Son of Man."

Meditation: The fig tree was a symbol of God's blessing and peace. It provided shade from the midday sun and a cool place to retreat and pray. It is very likely that Nathaniel had meditated "under the fig tree" on the Messianic prophecies and prayed for their fulfillment in his time. Perhaps he dozed off for a midday nap and dreamed of God's kingdom like Jacob did when he saw a vision of the ladder which united earth with heaven (ref. Genesis 28:12-17). Nathaniel accepted Jesus as Messiah and Lord because Jesus spoke to the need of his innermost being – the desire to know God personally and to be united with him in his glory. Jesus' response to Nathaniel's new faith is the promise that he himself will be the "ladder which unites earth with heaven". God had opened a door for Jacob that brought him and his people into a new relationship with the living God. In Jacob's dream God revealed his angelic host and showed him the throne of heaven and promised Jacob that he and descendants would dwell with the living God.

Prayer: O God, who called the Bishop Saint John Neumann, renowned for his charity and pastoral service, to shepherd your people in America, grant by his intercession that, as we foster the Christian education of youth and are strengthened by the witness of brotherly love, we may constantly increase the family of

your Church. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Contemplation: Nathaniel was very skeptical. He didn't like Nazareth (noted by his cynical quip) and didn't want to have anything to do with people who came from such a place. How could the Messiah come from a town at the crossroads with gentiles and people of other religions? Perhaps we are like Nathaniel at times. We reject others out of rivalry or prejudice, or we keep them at a distance because we find fault with something about them – the schools they went to, the street they live on or neighborhood they grew up in, the kind of car they drive, or on a more global scale their manner of speech, the way they dress, their customs, or whatever we dislike about them and "their kind." Rather than argue with his friend, Philip took the wiser strategy of inviting Nathaniel to "come and see" for himself who this Jesus claimed to be. Clever arguments rarely win people to the gospel, but a genuine encounter with the person of Jesus Christ can transform one's life forever. Remember the words of Saint Augustine: "You have made us for yourself, O Lord, and our hearts are restless until they rest in You."

Saturday, January 6 ~ Season of Christmas Saint André Bessette, Religious

Holy Gospel: Luke 3:23-38 When Jesus began his ministry he was about thirty years of age. He was the son, as was thought, of Joseph, the son of Heli, the son of Matthat, the son of Levi, the son of Melchi, the son of Jannai, the son of Joseph, the son of Mattathias, the son of Amos, the son of Nahum, the son of Esli, the son of Naggai, the son of Maath, the son of Mattathias, the son of Semein, the son of Josech, the son of Joda, the son of Joanan, the son of Rhesa, the son of Zerubbabel, the son of Shealtiel, the son of Neri, the son of Melchi, the son of Addi, the son of Cosam, the son of Elmadam, the son of Er, the son of Joshua, the son of Eliezer, the son of Jorim, the son of Matthat, the son of Levi, the son of Simeon, the son of Judah, the son of Joseph, the son of Jonam, the son of Eliakim, the son of Melea, the son of Menna, the son of Mattatha, the son of Nathan, the son of David, the son of Jesse, the son of Obed, the son of Boaz, the son of Sala, the son of Nahshon, the son of Amminadab, the son of Admin, the son of Arni, the son of Hezron, the son of Perez, the son of Judah, the son of Jacob, the son of Isaac, the son of Abraham, the son of Terah, the son of Nahor, the son of Serug, the son of Reu, the son of Peleg, the son of Eber, the son of Shelah, the son of Cainan, the son of Arphaxad, the son of Shem, the son of Noah, the son of Lamech, the son of Methuselah, the son of Enoch, the son of Jared, the son of Mahalaleel, the son of Cainan, the son of Enos, the son of Seth, the son of Adam, the son of God.

Meditation: Luke states that Jesus was thirty years old when he began his public ministry. Why did Jesus spend thirty years in obscurity in the village of Nazareth when his purpose for coming to earth was to save us the world from destruction? This is significant for at least a couple of reasons. First, it shows that Jesus was responsible and faithful in the mundane duties of family life. Before he embraced public duties, he showed his fidelity and concern for domestic duties. Tradition has it that Joseph died when Jesus was young. Jesus assumed the responsibility for caring for his mother. Jesus taught his disciples the precept that "he who is faithful in little, will be faithful in much" by his personal example. He we want to be fit to carry on the Lord's mission today, we must learn faithfulness in great matters by first being faithful in little matters of home and workday life.

Prayer: Lord our God, friend of the lowly, who gave your servant, Saint André Bessette, a great devotion to Saint Joseph and a special commitment to the poor and afflicted, help us through his intercession to follow his example of prayer and love and so come to share with him in your glory. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Contemplation: Genealogies are very important. They give us our roots, and help us to understand our heritage – where and whom we come from. Matthew's genealogy (Matthew 1:1-17) traces Jesus' lineage back to Abraham, the father of the chosen people. Luke's genealogy in today's gospel traces Jesus' lineage all the way back to Adam, father of the human race. In doing so Luke stresses the real humanity of Jesus. Jesus came not just to save the chosen people but all humankind as well. Jesus is the fulfillment of all God's promises. He is the hope not only for the people of the Old Covenant but for all nations as well. He is the Savior of the world. In him we receive adaption as sons and daughters of the living God.

Scripture passages (NAB translation) courtesy of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops;
prayers are from *The Roman Missal*, Catholic Book Publishing, 2011;
information about saints, solemnities, feasts and memorials courtesy of the Catholic Culture web site.

frlumpe:2024

~ TAKING PLACE IN THE CATHEDRAL PARISH ~

NEXT SUNDAY IS FELLOWSHIP SUNDAY IN THE UNDERCROFT AT 11:30 A.M.: Refreshments will be served between the 10:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. Masses in the Undercroft. New Parishioners are cordially invited to attend and meet other parishioners, Priests, Liturgical Ministers, Pastoral Council and visitors. Everyone is encouraged to come enjoy the refreshments and fellowship. Sandwiches will be made during this time that will benefit the homeless and needy through the Cathedral's "back door ministry." All are invited to help make sandwiches.

BANNS OF MARRIAGE: St. Joseph Cathedral happily announces the coming nuptials of Sunny Cox and Kyle Appel on February 3, 2024. Please keep them in prayer as they prepare for their wedding.

CATHEDRAL CONCERT SERIES: January 14, 2024 at 3:00 p.m. Described by WOSU Classical 101 as, "breathing new life into music," UCelli is a quartet of virtuoso cellists whose individual artistry and combined chemistry result in a unique and vibrant concert experience. Each artist is a soloist and chamber musician in her own right, bringing strong musical philosophies and relationships to cello repertoire and pedagogy. Also members of the Columbus Symphony and ProMusica Chamber Orchestra, the experiences and collaborations held among these four cellists allow for exciting explorations of new and unconventional intersections between music and life.

CATHEDRAL BIBLE STUDY: Cathedral Bible Study meets every Monday evening at 7:00 p.m. There is interest in having a daytime Bible Study as well. If you are interested in joining either session, please contact Carol at 614-224-1295 or at cathedral@sjchcc.org.

IN, AROUND AND NEAR THE DIOCESE OF COLUMBUS

FATAL FIRE GOFUNDME: A few weeks ago, a young student from St. Pius X and his grandmother were killed in a housefire in Blacklick. His two sisters (also students) survived. A GoFundMe account has been set up by the parish/school for those who would like to help the family. Here is the link: <https://www.gofundme.com/f/support-for-the-berry-samba-family>.

ST. CHARLES HOSTING WOMEN'S AUDITIONS FOR 'THE LIGHTNING THIEF: THE PERCY JACKSON MUSICAL' PRODUCTION

The St. Charles Preparatory School Drama Department will hold women's auditions for *The Lightning Thief: The Percy Jackson Musical* on Wednesday & Thursday, January 3 & 4, 2024 at 4:00 p.m. at the St. Charles Campus Theater, 2010 East Broad Street (You need only attend one of the two days.) Auditions are open to all area high school women in Central Ohio. Production Dates: February 29-March 3, 2024. If you would like additional information, please email Doug Montgomery, at dmontgomery@scprep.org.

REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN FOR THE COLUMBUS CATHOLIC WOMEN'S CONFERENCE,



which will be held Saturday, February 17, 2024. Get registered TODAY at www.columbuscatholicwomen.com/ to take advantage of early bird pricing of \$45.00. Prices will increase on January 1st.

St. Padre Pio Relic at The Columbus Catholic Women's Conference: Just announced – The glove of St. Padre Pio will be displayed for veneration at the upcoming Columbus Catholic Women's Conference in February. Early registration for the Conference extends through January 1, 2024. Scan the QR code to register for the Conference.



ODU TO HOST ST. THOMAS AQUINAS LECTURE ON JAN. 25: Ohio Dominican University will host its Annual St. Thomas Aquinas Lecture on Thursday, January 25 as theologian and scholar Fr. Justin Brophy, OP, Ph.D. presents, "Thomas Aquinas: What is Truth in the Modern World." The free lecture will take place at 11:00 a.m. in the Matesich Theatre, located inside Erskine Hall on ODU's main campus, 1216 Sunbury Road, Columbus, 43219. Fr. Brophy currently serves as an Assistant Professor of Political Science at Providence College in Providence, Rhode Island. More information is available at ohiodominican.edu.

JOIN NEEDS YOUR HELP! JOIN (Joint Organization for Inner-City Needs) is often a "stop-gap" for our brothers and sisters who are doing their best to provide and succeed in life. We all come upon unexpected obstacles. For our neighbors who live paycheck to paycheck that can be something as simple as missing work due to illness or something bigger, like a car repair. Basic supplies like toilet paper, soap, shampoo, conditioner, multi-purpose cleaning solutions, dish soap and laundry soap are items that people request at JOIN daily. "Kelsey" is a mom who came to JOIN to get assistance with bus passes for a new job. When she learned that we had cleaning supplies and personal care items, especially toilet paper, she was overwhelmed that she could get those items as well. Meeting these most basic needs, when you don't have them, is a relief that is not measurable to a parent. Try to imagine running out of something, with no hope of getting it yourself for another week or so.

If you would like to organize a collection or even donate an item or two on your own, it would be a gift to the neighbors we serve at JOIN. Feel free to call, 614-241-2530, or email Lisa Keita at lkeita@columbuscatholic.org for further information, or to discuss what else JOIN provides.



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SAINT JOSEPH CATHEDRAL
Updated December 18, 2023
2023 Appeal Report


Goal established by the Diocese	\$ 42,645.24
TOTAL PLEDGES TO DATE	\$ 55,622.00
Exceeds Diocesan Goal by	\$ 12,976.76

Thank you all for your Generosity and may God bless you.
Percent of Parishioner Participation – 16%

Offertory for Saint Joseph Cathedral – December 17

Credit Card/EFT	\$ 2,154.00
Mail-in	\$ 300.00
Collection	\$ 2,197.75
8% Diocese	(372.14)
TOTAL	\$ 4,279.61
Poor Box	\$ 297.00

Due to an early Deadline for the December 24th bulletin,
the financials will be in the next available Bulletin

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HOLY CROSS CHURCH
Updated December 18, 2023
2023 Appeal Report

Goal established by the Diocese	\$ 21,018.43
Enhanced Goal	\$ 26,018.43
TOTAL PLEDGES TO DATE	\$ 20,900.00
Diocesan AMOUNT STILL NEEDED	\$ 118.43

Thank you all for your Generosity and may God bless you.
Percent of Parishioner Participation – 18.7%

Offertory for Holy Cross – December 17

Offertory	\$ 2,277.00
Mail-in	\$ 343.00
Credit Card	\$ 5.00
Repair	\$ 20.00
8% Diocese	(211.60)
Net to Parish	\$ 2,433.40

Due to an early Deadline for the December 24th bulletin,
the financials will be in the next available Bulletin

Start giving online today!

1. Visit our parish website at www.saintjosephcathedral.org and click the online giving link.
2. Create a secure account.
3. Schedule your recurring Sunday Offertory gifts.
4. Scroll down the alphabetical listing to **The Appeal** and make your recurring gift.



Your contribution supports the work and operations of Saint Joseph Cathedral, our music and education programs. Please be generous in your support of these important endeavors. Your contribution can be made by sending a text message to 614-721-4184, or by scanning the QR code to the left with your smartphone QR Scanner Application.

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