



"My eyes have seen your salvation, which you prepared in sight of all the peoples, a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and glory for your people Israel." - Lk 2:30-32

Readings for the Week of December 28, 2008
Sunday: Sir 3:2-6, 12-14 or Gn 15:1-6; 21:1-3/Col 3:12-21 or 3:12-17 or Heb 11:8, 11-12, 17-19/Lk 2:22-40 or 2:22, 39-40
Monday: 1 Jn 2:3-11/Lk 2:22-35
Tuesday: 1 Jn 2:12-17/Lk 2:36-40
Wednesday: 1 Jn 2:18-21/Jn 1:1-18
Thursday: Nm 6:22-27/Gal 4:4-7/Lk 2:16-21
Friday: 1 Jn 2:22-28/Jn 1:19-28
Saturday: 1 Jn 2:29---3:6/Jn 1:29-34
Next Sunday: Is 60:1-6/Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6/Mt 2:1-12

Questions Of The Week

Adults: Do I long for Christ to be part of my life with the intensity and fidelity of Simeon and Anna?

Children: Do I remember that I was born because God has a special plan for me, just as he did for the baby Jesus?



Our next gathering will be on Saturday, January 3rd in St. Ann Church to celebrate the Feast of the Epiphany. Whole Parish Religious Education will follow in the Parish Hall after Mass. This is for all grades.

Regular Sunday and small faith community classes will resume February 1st.

Confirmation Pictures

Confirmation pictures are in and can be picked up in the parish office Monday through Friday, 10am—4pm and Sundays 8am-12pm. The cost, for those who have not yet paid, is \$15.00.

Youth Group Happenings:

Laser Quest Trip: Monday night, December 29th the youth group will be heading to Laser Quest in Danvers. Cost for the trip is \$20.00 which includes bus transportation and two games of laser tag. Bus will leave St. Ann parking lot at 6pm and will return at 9pm. Call Mary Howard at 978-283-6510 or 978-281-4820 to sign up.

Epiphany Procession

We are seeking students in grades 4 through 12 for our annual Epiphany Procession, which will take place at the 4pm Mass on Sat., Jan. 3rd. Rehearsals will be on Tuesday Dec. 30th from 4:30 – 5:30pm. Please contact Sue Demetri at 978-283-5096 or the parish office at 978-281-4820 for more information.

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph

It may sound like a story line from a bad situation comedy, but how many of you parents out there have gone to one of those parent-teacher meetings, only to come away shaking your head in wonder. "Was that our kid she was talking about?" Little Junior who can't find the clothes hamper, talks with his mouth full, and slugs his sister at home is one of the most delightful young students in Mrs. Smith's class. Sometimes, are we standing too close to our children to really see them for who they are?

According to ancient Jewish laws, a woman who had given birth was not allowed into the temple for forty days, where she was then given "purification" as described in today's Gospel reading from Luke. Most new mothers would also offer a lamb and a dove for a sacrifice, or if the family was very poor, two doves or pigeons, as was the case for Joseph and Mary.

It was Simeon and Anna, two faith-filled individuals from outside the family, who recognized with joyful exclamations that the child Jesus was the Messiah. Luke tells us that Joseph and Mary "were amazed at what was said about him."

In today's seemingly secular world, where those of faith are greeted with disdain and even hostility, the faithful family stands even more importantly as a center of life itself (ccc1656). The Second Vatican Council even recognized that parents are "by word and example" the first heralds of the faith with regard to their children. They should encourage them in the vocation which is proper to each child. Today is the feast of the Holy Family; look at the children around you, perhaps for the first time, with amazement at these young gifts from God.

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The Arise Corner



A Group Member's Comment on Season One:

"After a few meetings, and reading how Jesus wants us to love one another, some members said that if everyone could live this way all the time we would have peace within ourselves and with others—and the world would be a better place."

Season Two *ARISE: Change our Hearts*, begins the week of February 22, 2009 and continues through Lent. If you were unable to participate in Season One, please join us for the next exciting 6 week Season. Sign-up cards are available in the back of the churches. Official Sign Up Weekend will be January 31-February 1.

THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY, AND JOSEPH



Mass Intentions
December 27th, 2008 –
January 4th, 2009

Saturday, December 27, 2008
 4 p.m. (St. Ann).....**Rose Testaverde**
 From Family

Sunday, December 28, 2008
 8 a.m. (St. Ann).....**Joseph & Frank Ciaramitro and**
Salvatore Loiacano
 From Sisters

9 a.m. (St. Joachim)
 10 a.m. (St. Ann).....**Angela A. Vitale**
 From Grandmother

11 a.m. (St. Joachim).....**Pro Populo**

Monday, December 29, 2008
 9 a.m. (St. Joachim).....**Rita Walsh**
 From Bob & Joan Low

Tuesday, December 30, 2008
 9 a.m. (St. Joachim).....**John Harold Beaton**
 From Wife

Wednesday, December 31, 2008
 9 a.m. (St. Joachim).....**Frances Ricci &**
Thomas Jenkins
 From Pat & Jack Jenkins

4 p.m. (St. Ann).....**New Year's Eve**
Thursday, January 1, 2009.....**New Year's Day**
 10 a.m.(St. Joachim)

Friday, January 2, 2009
 9 a.m. (St. Joachim).....**Mary Coppola**
 From Grace Hagstrom

Saturday, January 3, 2009
 4 p.m. (St. Ann).....**Capt. Salvatore & Mary Nicastro and**
James & Sara Nicastro
 From Family

Sunday January 4, 2009
 8 a.m. (St. Ann).....**Pro Populo**

9 a.m. (St. Joachim).....**Dr. Cameron Msumba**
 From Loving Daughter Victoria & Family

10 a.m. (St. Ann).....**Giacomo Favazza**
 From Caterina Puglisi

11 a.m. (St. Joachim).....**Salvatore Randazza, Jr.**
 From Karen & George Jonaitis

New Year's Schedule

Wednesday, December 31st New Year's Eve
 4pm—St. Ann Church

Thursday, January 1st New Years Day
 10am—St. Joachim Church

Attention Parish Volunteers

Without the assistance of volunteers, the parish pastoral staff would not be able to carry out the many ministries which enable the gospel to be preached and lived in Holy Family Parish. To give thanks for all of you, the parish staff is inviting all volunteers to a special Mass in your honor on Saturday January 10th, at 4pm, followed by light refreshments in the parish hall. Please join us!



Host & Wine

*The Host & Wine
 for December
 was donated in
 loving memory of*

Catherine Favazza

*From Joseph & Grace Brancaleone, Giuseppe
 & Audrey Brancaleone, Salvatore & Brenda
 Brancaleone, Lucia & Michael Toarmina,
 Anthony & Christina Brancaleone, and
 Mario & Joanna Brancaleone*

Rite of Acceptance

On Sunday January 4th we will celebrate the Rite of Acceptance for Catechumens and Welcoming of RCIA Candidates at the 10am Mass.

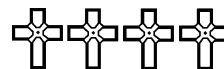
Charismatic Prayer Group

A Charismatic Prayer Group meets at St. Joachim Church on Thursday evenings from 7-8pm. The Rosary is said at 6:30. Join us!

In your prayers...

*We commend into God's care our
 deceased brothers and sisters
 who were buried from our Parish recently;*

John B. Curcuru and Linda Grace



Memorials & Donations

*Holy Family Parish gratefully acknowledges the
 following donations in memory of:*

John B. Curcuru

Felicia Aiello
 Mr & Mrs Sam Asaro
 Joe & Audrey Brancaleone
 Joe & Grace Brancaleone
 Joe & Debbie Catania
 Richard & Grace Davis
 Phil & Jane Demetri
 Grace & Vito Favalaro
 Jeanette (Catania) Fournier
 Vita & John LeFavour
 Mr & Mrs Thomas Linquata
 Dominic & Marie Loiacano
 Russell & Gertrude Silveira

John B. Curcuru, cont.

Allyn & Jeanne Smith
 Fena Souza
Grace (Aiello) Hall
 Gina Ciaramitaro
 Annie Curcuru
 Eleanor & Anthony Curcuru
Geraldine Mitchell
 Mr & Mrs Thomas Linquata
 Shirley Edmonds
Anthony P. Parco Sr.
 Marie Churchill

Nursing Home Mass Schedule

Golden Living Center: Monday, December 29th, 3pm

