

PARISH MASS INTENTIONS

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 28TH, 2024

5:00 PM For the people of the Parish

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 29TH, 2024

7:30 AM LOWER CHURCH – MESSE CRÉOLE
Action de grace a Dieu pour la famille José
-par Martha José

10:00 AM UPPER CHURCH– ENGLISH MASS
In loving memory of Ruby Graham
-by Dennese Reddie-Fraser

11:00 AM LOWER CHURCH – MISA ESPANOL
For the people of the Parish

1:00 PM UPPER CHURCH – MESSE CRÉOLE
Repos de l'ame de Hugo Saint Victor
-par Jacqueline Saint Victor

MONDAY, DECEMBER 30TH, 2024

7:30 AM No Mass Intentions

9:00 AM No Mass Intentions

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 31ST, 2024

9:00 PM For the people of the Parish

12:00PM For the people of the Parish

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 1ST, 2024

10:00 AM For the people of the Parish

12:00 PM For the people of the Parish

THURSDAY, JANUARY 2ND 2024

7:30 AM No Mass Intentions

9:00 AM No Mass Intentions

FRIDAY, JANUARY 3RD, 2024

7:30 AM No Mass Intentions

9:00 AM No Mass Intentions

SATURDAY, JANUARY 4TH, 2024

8:00 AM No Mass Intentions

9:00 AM No Mass Intentions

MASS INTENTIONS 2025



We invite all parishioners to consider requesting a daily Mass for their intentions. The Mass is the highest form of thanksgiving, whether you're celebrating an anniversary, expressing gratitude for healing

or blessings, or praying for loved ones who have passed. It is always a meaningful way to honor these intentions within the Mass. **The Mass book for 2025 is now open.** Please visit the rectory to request a Mass intention. Kindly note that, as per Bishop's Brennan directive, we can only accept Mass requests up until June 30, 2025. After that date, you may request Masses for the remainder of the year.

FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH

My Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph was not your typical nuclear family. It consisted of a child, his birth mother, and an adoptive father. And yet they lived as faith-filled families of their day were expected to live. They went to the temple to present Jesus to God. They heard words of praise and thanksgiving about their son and a prediction of possible hardship from Simeon and Anna. Returning home, Jesus grew in wisdom and strength, as most children do. Abram, Sarah and Isaac were not typical, either. Sarah, became pregnant well beyond childbearing years. And yet their lives are prototypes for living one's faith. They trusted God even when God seemed to ask for the impossible.

Whether our family is described as "typical" or it would be defined in ways other than "typical," we are all children of a God who promises to be with us throughout our lives. Sometimes we feel God present in clear and concrete ways, as did Mary and Joseph and Abraham and Sarah. Sometimes God seems absent or life is challenging, as it was for them as well. Sarah doubted God and laughed at being told she would bear a child in her old age. Mary's heart was pierced watching her son ridiculed, rejected, and crucified. Yet they knew God's presence and that God promises to be with us, in good times and in bad. Look for God in your life as it is. Be who you are and be that well, for the same God who was with Abraham, Sarah, and Isaac, and Jesus, Mary, and Joseph has promised to care for us today, tomorrow, and every day. Look to find God's favor, to grow and become strong, filled with wisdom and grace.

God our Father, it is so easy to feel your presence when things go well that we can take you for granted. Thank you for your blessings in our lives. Give us courage to look for you in the midst of our hurts. May we find ways to become whole, and thus be holy families, whoever you send into our lives.

The Pope's Monthly Intentions for 2024

December: For pilgrims of hope

We pray that this Jubilee Year strengthen our faith, helping us to recognize the Risen Christ in our daily lives, and that it may transform us into pilgrims of Christian hope.

COLLECTION FOR THE DIOCESAN MISSION

Next weekend, we will take up the Collection for the Diocesan Mission. Your gift to the Collection will be used by Bishop Brennan to support appeals from various missions throughout the world. The support you give today will fund formation programs and provide opportunities for years to come. Please support the Diocesan Mission and be generous in today's second Collection.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK ESPECIALLY

Yvrose Auguste, Giselle Beausoleil, Agatha Bristow, Georgette Charles, Umatile Pierre, George Farid Puzo, Herma Farrell, Jean Harbin, Ghenane Herbert, Andre Innocent, Amina Joseph, Mr. and Mrs. Nayel Birotte, Fleurisca Lexius, Dennese Reddie-Fraser, T Perard, and Rosalind Wahab



Please be aware that the rectory office will be closed on **Wednesday, January 1st**

Readings for the Week –December 29TH, 2024

Monday 1 Jn 2:12-17 Ps 96:7-8a, 8b-9, 10 Lk 2:36-40
Tuesday 1 Jn 2:18-21 Ps 96:1-2, 11-12, 13 Jn 1:1-18
Wednesday Nm 6:22-27 Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8 Gal 4:4-7 Lk 2:16-21
Thursday 1 Jn 2:22-28 Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4 Jn 1:19-28
Friday 1 Jn 2:29-3:6 Ps 98:1, 3cd-4, 5-6 Jn 1:29-34
Saturday 1 Jn 3:7-10 Ps 98:1, 7-8, 9 Jn 1:35-42
Sunday Is 60:1-6 Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13 Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6 Mt 2:1-12

VOCATION

“Let the peace of Christ control your hearts.” How are you being called to build the kingdom of God as His coworkers? Consider the generous service of priesthood or consecrated life. Contact the Vocation Office at 718-827-2454 or email: vocations@diobrook.org

PRAYER FOR THE NEW YEAR

“Remember us, O God; from age to age be our comforter. You have given us the wonder of time, blessings in days and nights, seasons and years. Bless your children at the turning of the year and fill the months ahead with the bright hope that is ours in the coming of Christ. You are our God, living and reigning, forever and ever.” R/ Amen

Happy New Year!

Feliz Año Nuevo

Bonne et Heureuse Année!

ALTAR SERVER MINISTRY

“Let the Children come to me,” says the Lord. Altar Servers are needed: Parents with children who have already received First Communion are invited to volunteer their children for the ministry of Altar Server. Training will be provided. If interested, call the rectory at 718-462-0223 and leave names and phone number.

FAITH FORMATION REGISTRATION

Registration for Religious Education is ongoing. All Children from 1st grade to 8th grade attending public School are to be registered in our parish religious education program to be educated in the faith. 1st communion will be celebrated in 2nd grade after the child receives 2 years of formation. The sacrament of Confirmation receives in 8th grade. Please contact Mrs. Rosey, the **Faith Formation Director at 718-462-0223** or at faithformation@stjeromercchurch.org You can also register online at: www.givecentral.org/stjib-ff

THANK YOU!



We would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to all who contributed to the Giving Tree this year. Your generosity and kindness in providing gifts for the children in our Diocese have truly made a difference. Thanks to your support, we were able to bring joy to many children. May God bless you for your selflessness and generosity.

ARE YOU A REGISTERED PARISHIONER?

To better serve you as a parishioner, we kindly ask that you register your family with the parish. Attendance at Mass does not automatically imply registration. Registration is necessary for fulfilling Baptism requests, arranging weddings, Mass, or obtaining a Sacramental sponsor certificate. To register, please visit the rectory during office hours and complete a registration form.

**SOLEMNITY OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY,
MOTHER OF GOD**

Wednesday, January 1ST, 2025

My Brothers and Sisters in Christ,



In today's Gospel people were amazed by what the shepherds shared with Mary, and she "kept all these things, reflecting on them in her heart" (Luke 2:19). Another translation says that Mary treasured and pondered these things. Mary offers an example for how to maintain spiritual heart health: Take time to listen to God's voice, ponder what you hear, and treasure God's nearness, even when challenged to change your ways. Remember, even Mary's heart was pierced at times.

Mary listened to God's voice and honestly spoke from her heart. Because of this she was free to say yes to God, who dwells with us through Jesus Christ. Their Spirit was "sent into our hearts, crying out, 'Abba, Father!'" (Galatians 4:6). The Spirit cries out for us when we know not what to say, The Spirit opens our hearts, clearing them of any blockage that would keep us from knowing God's blessing, shining face, graciousness, and peace. New Year's Day is a good time to ponder the previous calendar year and the year ahead. What do we keep in our heart from both exercises? What do we treasure? What needs to be released? Pray the first reading to feel God's blessing in your life. Cry out in gratitude for God's keeping you. Ask for God's peace. Be heart-healthy in all ways.

Abba, Father, I often focus on your absence more than your presence. Let Mary be my guide so that I take time to reflect on life in ways that treasure what is good and release what gets in the way of experiencing your blessing.

NEW YEARS DAY MASS SCHEDULE



New Year's Eve – Tuesday, December 31st

8pm-Adoration in Eng & Span

9pm – Mass -Eng & Spanish

11pm- Heure Sainte

Suivie par la Messe de Minuit

Upper church

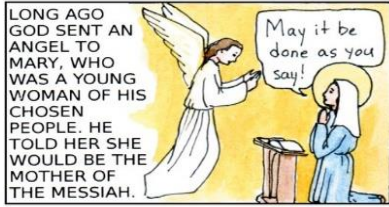
New Year's Day- Wednesday, January 1st

10:00am –Mass - English & Spanish:

12:00pm (Midi) Messe an Creole:

Upper Church

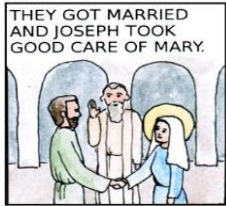
The Christmas Story



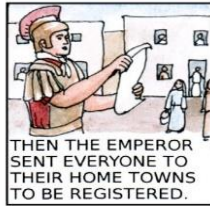
LONG AGO GOD SENT AN ANGEL TO MARY, WHO WAS A YOUNG WOMAN OF HIS CHOSEN PEOPLE. HE TOLD HER SHE WOULD BE THE MOTHER OF THE MESSIAH.



MARY WAS ENGAGED TO A HOLY MAN CALLED JOSEPH. AN ANGEL APPEARED TO HIM TO TELL HIM WHO MARY REALLY WAS.



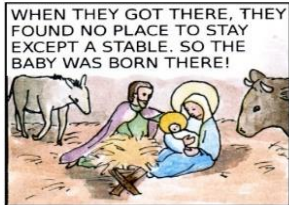
THEY GOT MARRIED AND JOSEPH TOOK GOOD CARE OF MARY.



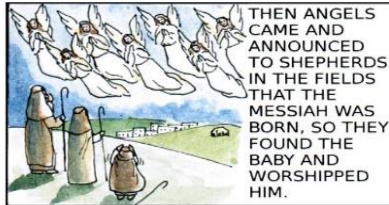
THEN THE EMPEROR SENT EVERYONE TO THEIR HOME TOWNS TO BE REGISTERED.



SO JOSEPH AND MARY HAD TO TRAVEL ALL THE WAY TO BETHLEHEM.



WHEN THEY GOT THERE, THEY FOUND NO PLACE TO STAY EXCEPT A STABLE, SO THE BABY WAS BORN THERE!



THEN ANGELS CAME AND ANNOUNCED TO SHEPHERDS IN THE FIELDS THAT THE MESSIAH WAS BORN, SO THEY FOUND THE BABY AND WORSHIPPED HIM.

FOR HUNDREDS OF YEARS THE PEOPLE HAD BEEN WAITING FOR GOD TO SEND THEM A MESSIAH WHO WOULD SAVE THEM FROM THEIR SINS. FINALLY HE CAME, A POOR BABY BORN ON A COLD NIGHT. SEE HOW MUCH GOD LOVES US, THAT HE WOULD COME TO US AS A TINY, INNOCENT BABY! HAPPY BIRTHDAY, JESUS!

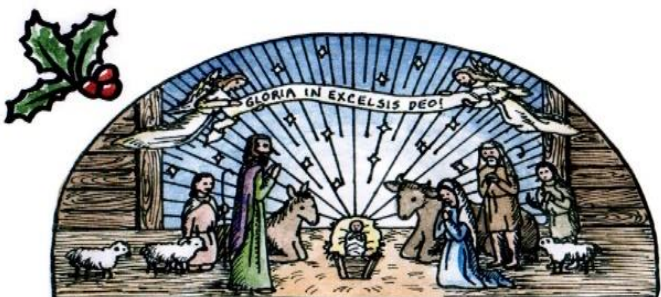
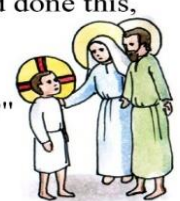
thekidsbulletin@gmail.com

The Holy Family Puzzle

Unscramble the letters to fill in the blanks. Use the letters in boxes to fill in the blanks with numbers part-way down.

Every year Jesus and His _____¹² (NTSPRAE) went to Jerusalem for the _____² (SVOPSARE) festival. When _____¹⁰ (SUJES) was twelve, they went to the _____³ (LFSETVIA) as usual, but Jesus stayed in the _____⁵ (MPELET) afterwards. _____⁶ (RMYA) and Joseph thought He was with their relatives in the caravan, but when they couldn't _____¹ (DNIF) Him they went back and _____⁷ (CHDEASRE) for Him. On the _____⁸ (HDRIT) day they found him. When they asked Jesus why He had done this, He replied, "Did you not _____⁹ (WNKO) that I must be in my _____¹¹ _____¹ _____² _____³ _____⁴ _____⁵ _____⁶ _____⁷ _____⁸ _____⁹ _____¹⁰ _____¹¹ _____¹²?"

Then he went home with them to _____⁴ (ZRNATHEA) and was obedient to them, and grew up in _____¹¹ (DSIWMO) and age and grace.



Happy Birthday, Jesus!

Today we celebrate Jesus' Birthday!

For many years people had been waiting for God to send them a Messiah who would save them from their sins. When the time was right God Himself became a Baby and was born of the beautiful and holy virgin Mary. His name was Jesus, and today is His birthday!

What do you do on Christmas? Is it a big celebration? Do you think about whose birthday it is? Jesus gave Himself to us because He loved us. What can you do to show your family that you love them?

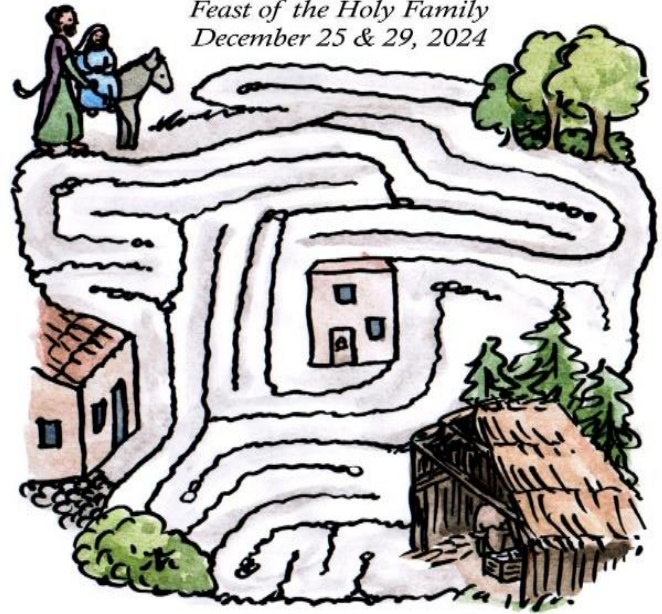
Answers to Holy Family puzzle: parents, Passover, Jesus, Nazareth, Temple, Mary, find, searched, third, know, FATHER'S HOUSE, Nazareth, wisdom

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The Kids' Bulletin

Christmas Day and Feast of the Holy Family December 25 & 29, 2024



There wasn't any room for Mary and Joseph to stay in Bethlehem, so they had to go to a stable outside the town. Can you help them find their way?