

## December 27<sup>th</sup> The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph

### The Parish Financial Reports

The Parish Finance Council is pleased to present to you the **Parish Finance Report** for the 12-month period ended June 30, 2020. The Parish is grateful to God and for the incredible resilience and dedication of our parishioners, staff, and volunteers. Our Church finances and the Parish community remain strong. We thank you for your continued financial support and prayers. Please visit the Parish website at: [www.saintjohnevangelist.org](http://www.saintjohnevangelist.org)

### MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

**Saturday, December 26**

9:00am † *Juanita Aguilera*  
4:30pm † *Juanita Aguilera*

**Sunday, December 27**

8:00am  
10:00am † *Reynaldo R. Alejandro*  
12:00pm

**Monday, December 28**

9:00am *The Holy Innocents*

**Tuesday, December 29**

9:00am † *Maurice Brennan*

**Wednesday, December 30**

9:00am † *Ananias, Primitiva, Benito M. & Soledad Falcon*

**Thursday, December 31**

9:00am

**Friday, January 1**

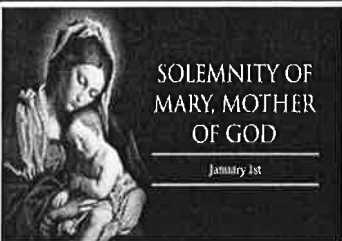
9:00am *Solemnity of Mary Mother God*

**Saturday, January 2**

9:00am *YMI Brothers*  
4:30pm † *Oliver Moyrong*



Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee: blessed art thou among women, and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus. Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death. Amen



### From the Desk of the Pastor ....

The Holy Scriptures today seek to teach behaviors that manifest tenderness, concern, self-giving, sincerity, patience, forgiveness, mercy, kindness, humility, meekness, responsibility and generosity. The first two readings counsel us into cultivating good habits in order to live a virtuous life, grow incrementally holy and faithful.

However, very little is written about the family life of Jesus. Joseph speaks no words, asks no questions, and gives no sage advice. The New Testament identifies St. Joseph as a carpenter. St. Matthew presents him as one attentive to God's will for him. St. Luke tells us that Mary sought and followed God's Will for her. Both of them are dependent on God's providence and protection. The Simple house of Jesus and Mary and Joseph was certainly a household of living, and radiant faith.

Mary and Joseph live out their marriage vows in fidelity to God's will. They travel far into Egypt at the angel's direction; they go to the temple to present Jesus according to the custom of their ancestors in obedience to the Law of Moses. They make the long pilgrimage to Jerusalem for Passover, where they lose and then find the young Jesus discussing with the learned teachers of the law in the Temple.

A faith filled family filled with awe and wonder, ponders at the marvels God has done. The dawning of our salvation has come through Jesus, our God incarnate. This wondrous Hope of Israel's salvation fulfilled in Jesus is entrusted to the loving and tender care of Mary and Joseph for our redemption. He is raised in the household of Joseph and Mary to learn the propensities of human nature and recognize human frailties. He would experience human vulnerabilities and temptations to disobedience and sin. However, at the same time, He would be inspired watching Mary's and Joseph's commitment to their vows and fidelity to God.

### St. John the Evangelist Church is Open for personal Prayer on weekends and Christmas Day

Our Church is "open on Sundays", for private and personal prayer from 8am to 1pm. In compliance with the City and County of San Francisco 'Covid-19' safety protocols the Parish will not celebrate indoor Masses in the Church until further notice. The Parish will continue to post the celebration of the Holy Eucharist on weekends on the Parish website. It is our hope that we shall soon be able to return to celebrate the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass with our regular schedule of Masses.

The Archdiocese of San Francisco has [Safety Protocols for Re-opening for Public Masses](#).

On this, the Sunday within the Octave of Christmas, we honor the **Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph**. In honoring them, we also honor all families, big or small. And in honoring all families, we honor the family of God, the Church. But most especially, we focus in on the hidden, day-to-day life of the Holy Family of Nazareth.

Of course, the virtues of Jesus and Mary were perfect, and St. Joseph was a truly "just man." Therefore, the overriding characteristic of their home would have been love.

But with that said, their family would not have been exempt from daily toil, hurt and challenges that face most families. They would have lived normal family life in every way.

This is significant because it reveals God's love for family life. The Father allowed His Divine Son to live this life and, as a result, elevated family life to a place within the Trinity. The holiness of the Holy Family reveals to us that every family is invited to share in God's divine life and to encounter ordinary daily life with grace and virtue.

Reflect, today, upon your own family life. Some families are strong in virtue, some struggle with basic communication. Some are faithful day in and day out, some are broken and deeply wounded. No matter the case, know that God wants to enter more deeply into your family life just as it is right now. He desires to give you strength and virtue to live as the Holy Family. Surrender yourself and your family, this day, and invite the Triune God to make your family a holy family.

In the context of today's Solemnity, Mary the Mother of our savior Jesus Christ. Mary certainly should be given due honor in the Church, but her role is really much deeper. Mary became the Mother of God because she humbly consented to participate in the salvation God chose to bring about. Christ is still here with us today; in the teaching of the Church, in the praying community, and most especially, in the sacramental life of the Church.

Mary's faithfulness to God is evident; because of Her faithfulness to God, she was able to receive the gift of God's Son and accept her role in God's plan for salvation. By doing so, she models for us the path of discipleship and is also called Mother of the Church.

Our call to discipleship includes three aspects. First, discipleship means prayer and reflection on the events of our lives that we might see God's presence and work in our lives. Second, discipleship means obedience to God and God's will. Third, discipleship includes fidelity to a community of faith.

The words of Mary, when she accepted Her role in salvation history, are a prayer, a prayer that you and I should say every day, "let it be done to me according to your word."