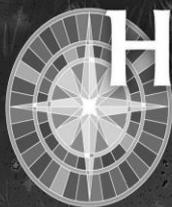


THE CHILD GREW  
AND BECAME STRONG,  
FILLED WITH WISDOM;  
AND THE FAVOR OF GOD  
WAS UPON HIM.

LUKE 2:40



# THE HOLY FAMILY

OF JESUS, MARY, AND JOSEPH

DECEMBER 27, 2020

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## FAMILY

On this feast of the Holy Family, we want to offer all families blessings. “Family” may have a lot of different connotations these days. In the United States, the “father, mother, child” family is less common now, and large Catholic families are not as common as they once were. The concept of family is more fluid with many forms of blended families due to second marriages, multigenerational households, and other living arrangements. In a recent survey by the Pew research center, four in ten babies are born to single mothers. Other children are being raised by grandparents or foster parents. In today’s Genesis story, Abraham was ready to concede to another form of family, making the child of one of his servants his heir. The reading from Hebrews reiterates the story of Genesis, and “your descendants will be more numerous than the stars.” The Gospel relates the story of the presentation in the temple.

## POWER IN PRESCRIBED RITUALS

Joseph and Mary presented Jesus in the temple at eight days old, as was prescribed by Mosaic law. For many Catholic families, baptismal gowns were handed down through generations, and a baptism was a time of great celebration. Sadly, in our culture, baptisms continue to decline. There are many reasons for this: fewer practicing Catholics, more interfaith marriages, more secular weddings, fewer weddings by clergy, and problems or misunderstandings that turn people away. Many have left the church altogether because of the way they were treated. For some the parish is not a welcoming place. For others baptism has become just a ritual they go through for the sake of the grandparents.

## EXAMPLES IN OUR ELDERS

When someone does present a child for baptism, it can become too easy for others to pass judgment because the parents don’t know the rubrics well, or aren’t dressed better, or “why is that single mother having her baby baptized during Mass?” Notice that the Gospel says nothing about the priests of the temple and how they received Jesus. Rather it talks about Simeon and Anna. They are worth a study in themselves. Simeon is a devout man who is there waiting for a particular sign, and it is fulfilled when he see the Christ Child. Anna is just in the temple praying, as is her custom. After the presentation of Jesus, she does what she does best—she goes back to praying in the temple. Perhaps these readings teach us how we as a faith community can see the sacredness in those families presenting their children for baptism, and welcome them as did Anna and Simeon. May we all learn from their wisdom!

## TODAY’S READINGS

Genesis 15:1–6; 21:1–3  
Psalm 105:1–2, 3–4, 5–6, 8–9  
Hebrews 11:8, 11–12, 17–19  
Luke 2:22–40 [22, 39–40]



# ST. DOMINIC CATHOLIC CHURCH

REV. DAVID J. FARRELL, PASTOR

RICK FAGAN, DEACON

PHONE: (859)336-3569 EMAIL: [stdom@bellsouth.net](mailto:stdom@bellsouth.net) WEBSITE: [stdomparish.org](http://stdomparish.org)

## WEEKEND MASSES:

Saturday 4:30 p.m., Sunday 8:30 a.m. & 10:30 a.m., Spanish Mass 2:00 p.m.

**WEEKDAY MASSES:** See Mass Schedule & Intentions section of bulletin

**CONFESSIONS:** Tuesdays & Thursdays at 5:00 p.m.

## SUNDAY, DECEMBER 27, 2020

### HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY, AND JOSEPH

**WE ARE GOD'S HOLY FAMILY:** The scriptures of Israel are filled with many stories of barren couples who were miraculously granted the gift of children by God. Surely the best known among these is the first reading from today, from which Luke took inspiration when he recounted the miraculous birth of John the Baptist to Zechariah and Elizabeth, and the more miraculous birth of Jesus to Mary and Joseph. In each instance, we are given examples or role models of those who trusted in God. More than examples of those who trust, they are models of self-surrender. They abandoned their own presuppositions and prejudices about the workings of the world and turned their lives over to belief in a God who can make life grow where none ought to; a God who can turn death around into a new and unimagined life; a God who can, today, take a tiny child of humble parents in an insignificant town and make him into a light for all the world. This is what we, as God's holy family, are called to do each day: to trust not in ourselves and the way we think things should be, but to open ourselves and surrender ourselves in faith to a God of endless promise. Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

### TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READINGS

**First Reading:** Those who honor their parents will be greatly blessed and will atone for sins (Sirach 3:2-6,12-14) *or* *Genesis 15:1-6; 21:1-3.*

**Psalm:** Blessed are those who fear the Lord and walk in his ways (Psalm 128) *or* *Psalm 105.*

**Second Reading:** Be thankful; do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus (Colossians 3:12-21 [12-17]) *or* *Hebrews 11:8, 11-12, 17-19.*

**Gospel:** The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom (Luke 2:22-40 [22, 39-40]). The English translation of the Psalm Responses from the *Lectioary for Mass* © 1969, 1981, 1997, International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved.

## **SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR THE WEEK**

**Monday:** 1 Jn 1:5 – 2:2; Ps 124:2-5, 7b-8; Mt:13-18

**Tuesday:** 1 Jn 2:3-11; Ps 96:1-3, 5b-6; Lk 2:22-35

**Wednesday:** 1 Jn 2:12-17; Ps 96:7-10; Lk 2:36-40

**Thursday:** 1 Jn 2:18-21; Ps 96:1-2, 11-13; Jn 1:1-18

**Friday:** Nm 6:22-27; Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8; Gal 4:4-7; Lk 2:16-21

**Saturday:** 1 Jn 2:22-28; Ps 98:1-4; Jn 1:19-28

**Sunday:** Is 60:1-6; Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-13; Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6; Mt 2:1-12

## **MASS SCHEDULE & INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK (12/28-1/3)**

**Monday 8:30 AM:** Luckett Clements

**Tuesday 5:30 PM:** Wilburn Kelty

**Wednesday 11:00 AM:** Bob Noe Haydon

**Thursday 5:30 PM (Vigil Mass for Holy Day, Solemnity of Mary):** For the Parish

**Friday @ 9:00 AM (Holy Day, Solemnity of Mary):** Bob Goodlett

**Saturday 8:30 AM:** Bo Mattingly

**4:30 PM:** For the Parish

**Sunday 8:30 AM:** Eric Riley, Rita Riley

**10:30 AM:** Tom Monroe

**2:00 PM (Spanish Mass):** Presider's Intention

## **LITURGICAL ROLES**

**Weekday Lectors:** (**Mon.**) Hamilton Simms, (**Tues.**) Lisa Burkhead, (**Wed.**) Belle Sutton, (**Thurs.**) Betty Carol Barber, (**Fri. @ 9 a.m.**) Mary Ann Hale, (**Sat.**) Hamilton Simms

**Weekday Sacristans:** (**Mon.**) Katie Simms, (**Tues.**) Cheryl Mattingly, (**Wed.**) Wassie Parrott, (**Thurs.**) Lynn Foster, (**Fri. @ 9 a.m.**) Deacon Rick Fagan (**Sat.**) Jerry Mudd

**St. D Prayer List:** Coronavirus Pandemic, Healthcare Workers, U.S. Military, Perry Carrico, Fabian Cambron, Lauraetta Smith, Tommy Bartley, Johnathan Bradshaw, Kenny Peterson, Doris Purdom, Megan O'Bryan, Stephanie Bueschel Warner, Kim Pinkston Spalding, Ted McNeal, Edwin Thompson, Jim Smith, Steve Smith, Beth Hellman, Dennis Rust, Margaret Faye Martin, Corbin Noel, Cassie Robinson, Olivia Montgomery, Audrey Edelen, Marilyn Watkins, Sueanna Graves, Helen Parrot, Christy Caldwell & Nancy Hardin. *Our church always prays for and cares for our sick sisters and brothers at home, in hospitals, and in nursing homes. You are always in our hearts, minds and prayers as we celebrate the Eucharist at St. Dominic. If any who are sick want to ask in faith for the church's prayers, please do not hesitate to contact our parish office at 336-3569.*

**Have you ever wondered why?** Processions -Why does the liturgy begin with a procession? It is not just a practical matter of getting the ministers of the liturgy from the sacristy to the sanctuary. The procession is a powerful sign of who we are as Christian people. We are not static, staying in one place. We are going somewhere. Our procession leads us to the altar, sign of Christ's presence in our midst. We move, we process, because we recognize our need for what Christ is preparing for us at that table. We go forward eagerly, because we are hungry for that heavenly food. This procession is an orderly one: servers, deacon, priest presider. Each is set apart by distinctive vesture: albs for the altar servers, dalmatic for the deacon, chasuble for the priest. The procession is an image of the hierarchical structure of the Church. On a deeper level it is an image of unity in diversity. We are all on a journey to the heavenly city, but each of us is clothed with different gifts. We all receive the call to service, but not in the same way. Only by coming together in all our wonderful variety can we achieve the work of the kingdom. —Corinna Laughlin, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

## **MENTIONS, MEETINGS, EVENTS & REMINDERS**

**Holy Day of Obligation the Solemnity of Mary the Mother of God:** Two Masses will be offered up for the holy day, Thursday, Dec. 31 at 5:30 p.m. & on Friday, Jan. 1 at 9 a.m. Reservations will not be taken, please wear a mask, sit in the numbered pews, and practice social distancing.

**Wednesday Masses as of January:** Archbishop Kurtz has appointed Fr. Pepper as administrator pro-tempore of St. John the Apostle, in Brandenburg, KY. His assignment is expected to last about six months. Starting in January, there will be no weekday Mass offered up on Wednesdays, until further notice. Please continue to keep Fr. Pepper in your prayers as he continues to do the Lord's work in his retirement years.

**Masses:** Call ahead (**Monday through Thursday**) if you plan to attend Mass this coming weekend, space is limited due to social distancing requirements. Please contact us in one of two ways, by calling 859-336-3569 or by email at stdom@bellsouth.net. Seating charts are finalized at 2 p.m. on Thursdays.

**Parish Office** will be closed on Jan. 1 for New Year's Day.

**Possibly interested in joining the Catholic Church?** Contact Fr. David at 336-3569.

**2021 Collection for Opportunities for Life:** The four Kentucky dioceses will take up a collection on, **January 16-17**, the Sunday in the week of the anniversary of Roe vs. Wade (January 22), as part of the Kentucky bishops' unified message advocating for a pro-life culture in our Commonwealth. In the Archdiocese of Louisville, funds from this collection will provide resources to pregnant women and new families in crisis, including material assistance and grant support for programming at Catholic Charities and other organizations providing support to pregnant women and families.

**Tithing Contributions** for this past week (includes contributions during the week &/or ACH contributions, etc.): \$23,648.52

**Items yet to be posted or temporarily removed from the**

**St. D School Scrip Program:** Gift card fundraising is the best way to raise money for St. Dominic School. Buy gift cards from your favorite brands to earn money for St. D on your purchases. No extra money spent. No extra time wasted. How it works: Buy gift cards at face value, St. D can earn up to 20% on every gift card you buy, use gift cards at full value for your everyday purchases. Get started: **Create an account on the RaiseRight app or at ShopWithScrip.com using St. D's enrollment code: 6L353D8L3433L.** Seamlessly check out by securely paying online. Have questions? Contact: Theresa Mattingly by email @ [theresa.mattingly@yahoo.com](mailto:theresa.mattingly@yahoo.com).

**AmazonSmile** is now available in the Amazon Shopping app on iOS and Android mobile phones. AmazonSmile customers can now support St Dominic Church (proceeds benefit St. D School) in the Amazon shopping app on iOS and Android mobile phones! Simply follow these instructions to turn on AmazonSmile and start generating donations. Open the Amazon Shopping app on your device, go into the main menu of the Amazon Shopping app and tap into 'Settings', tap 'AmazonSmile' and follow the on-screen instructions to complete the process. If you do not have the latest version of the Amazon Shopping app, update your app & make sure that you still have St. D Church selected. It's a great & easy way to help support St. D School, without costing you any extra.

**The St. D Newspaper Recycling** drive is held the second Monday of the month, weather permitting. If you live within city limits & participate in our newspaper drive, please have your papers by the curb no later than 9 A.M. This will help accommodate the volunteers who need to do pick-up in the morning hours. Pick-up times vary from driver to driver. There is no pick-up during the months of July & December.

**IGA Receipts, BOXTOPS for Educations & Campbell's labels** are all fundraisers for our school. We ask that you continually save them and drop them in the wooden boxes in the back of church.

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