

December 27, 2020

*The Holy Family of
Jesus, Mary and Joseph*

*Schedule of Masses
For New Year's
Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God*



*Thursday, December 31st at 5:00pm
Friday, January 1, 2021 at
9:00am and 11:00am*

What better way to end a year and begin a new one, than to be with the Lord? Thank the Lord for His blessings in the past and to ask Him to bless you and your loved ones in the New Year!

Each of the Gospels given to us by the church to celebrate the Feast of the Holy Family is a gospel story of some crisis in their lives. This year we hear the Gospel of the Presentation of Jesus in the Temple of Jerusalem. According to the Law of Moses, Jewish parents were to bring the first born son to the Temple to be dedicated to the Lord God. Aged Simeon had been promised to God he would not die until he had seen the long-awaited Messiah. When Joseph and Mary brought Jesus into the Temple Simeon recognized their child was to be the Messiah. But Simeon went on to say to young Mary and to Joseph that this child was destined for the rise and fall of many in Israel, He would "be a sign that will be contradicted- and you yourself a sword will pierce..." Imagine a young mother being told her heart would be broken because of her child!



*May God look after our families
throughout 2021 and give them the
peace that only He can bring!*

PLEASE SEE OUR WEBSITE

<https://www.sainthelenas.org>

Coronavirus News Important Update!

Friday Reflections with Msgr. Russell

Friday Reflections is a weekly check-in video with Msgr. Russell. Please visit our YouTube Channel to watch this week's video, and be sure to SUBSCRIBE to our channel. You can even arrange for YouTube to let you know every time we add a new video!

Reminder! We'll be broadcasting Mass on YouTube afterward for you to watch.



2021 PARISH CALENDARS
*will be available THIS weekend
at all the exits of church.*

ANNUAL ELECTION OF LAY TRUSTEES

NEXT SUNDAY, JANUARY 3, 2021 there will be the annual election of Lay Trustees after the 9:00am Mass in the Church. This election is required by the laws of the State of Delaware. All adult members of the parish are eligible to participate.

Thank You to all who made our Christmas Bazaar possible. With all the bills paid. It is clear that in spite of all the difficulties this year, our Bazaar realized a profit of \$22,871.70. That is fantastic! Thanks to Nancy Cobb, Barbara Brodaway, The Knights of Columbus and all the volunteers and patrons.



WEEKLY CALENDAR



Sunday, December 27 The Holy Family

Thursday, December 31 New Year's Eve

Mass Times: 5pm

Holiday-Rectory Closed

Friday, January 1, 2021 Happy New Year

Mass Times: 9am and 11am

Holiday- Rectory Closed

Sunday, January 3 The Epiphany of the Lord

The 2nd Collection: Maintenance and Repair

Election of Trustees

Please Pray For Our Sick Parishioners

Ruth Bower, Jayne Davenport, Bob Davis, Julia Davis, Gerri Episcopo, Sara Garrison, Sarah Hess, Ella Kirksey, Fr. Roy Pollard, Terri Reed, Dorothy Rich, Helen Rupnicki, Kathleen Schaubert, Irma Shock, Caitlin Soper, Frank Sullivan, Catherine Thomson, Vaughn Whisker, Ann Wilson, Cindy Zych, Anita Tyrawski, Mary Gabel, Alline Da Grossa, Toni Di Lezio, Sister Dorothy Prettyman, Janet Szubieolski, Catalina Weddle, Ray Altamuro, Marie Spinden, Jane Parsons, Francis Medeiros, Friends at the Kutz Home Nicolas Childs, Alfred Palmer, Bridget Robinson, Fr. Charles Dillingham, Sande Richardson, Geri Crockett, Jim Fedena, Sr, Carly Fedena, Susan Watkins, Judy Wilbank, Joan Morgan, Anna Mae Shewbrooks, Aliyah Miller



PLEASE NOTE

Because we need to follow procedures to help maintain a safe situation for all:

- No one can enter the Church if you are sick or have been exposed to someone with the virus within the last 14 days.
Or if you will not wear a mask.
- Every other pew will be roped off to help social distancing.
- All **MUST WEAR A MASK** except children under 2.
- Please use hand sanitizer.

WEEKLY MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, Dec 26

5:00pm (SR) Francis Owsiany

Sunday, Dec 27

7:00am (SR) People of the Parish

9:00am (EF) James Kelleher

11:00am (SR) Lisa Waterfield

Monday, Dec 28

9:00am (SR) Betty O'Connor

Tuesday, Dec 29

7:00am (EF) Mary Kate Geaghan

9:00am (SR) Mike Moore

Wednesday, Dec 30

9:00am (SR) Betty O'Connor

Thursday, Dec 31

7:00am (EF) Helen Mulhall Cadman

9:00am (SR) Arlene Santillo

5:00pm (SR) Edward Rich, Sr. (Anniversary)

Friday, Jan, 1

9:00am (EF) Mary Ann & Leonard Kelleher

11:00am (SR) Prayers of Thanksgiving

Saturday, Jan 2

9:00am (SR) Jim Fedena, Sr. (Living)

5:00pm (SR) Betty O'Connor

Sunday, Jan 3

7:00am (EF)

9:00am (SR) Dora Amoroso

11:00am (SR) People of the Parish



Why are church windows open in December?

Because the experts tell us the more fresh air we can have in church, the better it is for us in this time of the pandemic. Please be patient! If you do not want to be near a window, we suggest moving in the pews toward the center of the church. Thank You!

The Offertory Collection for the weekend of 12/6 was \$5,656.00 and the on-line collection was \$2,547.00 for a total of \$8,203.00. Thank You!

PARISH SOCIAL MINISTRY

CALL TO FAMILY, COMMUNITY, AND PARTICIPATION

The person is not only scared but also social. How we organize our society--in economics and politics, in law and policy -- directly affects human dignity and capacity of individuals to grow in community.

The family is the central social institution that must be supported and strengthened, not undermined. We believe people have a right and a duty to participate in society, seeking together the common good and well-being of all, especially the poor and vulnerable.

In addition to expressing our heartfelt "Thank You" to all of Saint Helena's parishioners who have been very generous with their contributions, we are very grateful to the following churches and organizations who have contributed during the last two months: Saint Mary Magdalen Parish, Aldersgate United Methodist Church, *Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish*, Trinity Presbyterian church, Knights of Columbus-Christopher Council, Cub Scouts.



Support Knights of Columbus - Christopher Council charitable good works by purchasing homemade soup.

Soups are frozen and can be delivered or picked up. Because of COVID restrictions, orders must be placed in advance using <https://2020soup-christopher-council-3182.cheddarup.com>

You may pay by credit card when you place your order or by check/cash at pickup/delivery.

Available flavors are listed on ordering website. Thank you for all you do to support Christopher Council fundraising; it helps us, Holy Rosary, and our community.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION classes do NOT meet tomorrow (Monday). Next Monday, January 4, ALL 3rd and 4th GRADERS will come in for class in Masci Hall where we can safely distance. First Graders will also be meeting on January 4, in the Religious Education Office.

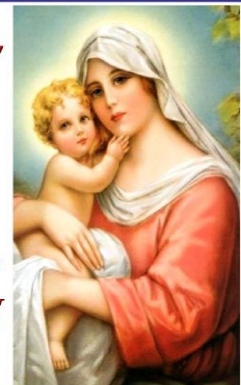
New Religious Education schedules for January and February were emailed to parents at the end of this week. Please check when your children are coming in for their Monday class. Until further notice, children will be working in their workbooks each week. One Monday each month a class comes into Masci Hall for in class instruction. Any questions please call or email Ms Hummy.

*To All St. Helena's Parishioners,
I wish you all a joyous and much-awaited HAPPY NEW YEARS! We should all be proud that we have weathered this past year of the virus and hopefully, our house confinements and semi-isolation will be coming to an end come Spring! Looking forward to a brand new YEAR!!!*



From Hummy and Sue!

**Holy Mary,
Mother
of God,
and
our Mother,
please pray
for us!**



The Dominican Sisters of Peace are hosting a free three-day virtual, interactive "Mission for Peace" program, via Zoom, for single, Catholic women, ages 18-45 from **January 8 through January 10, 2021**. If you have ever pondered whether God is calling you to become a Sister, we encourage you to join us for this faith-filled, service-oriented experience. Set aside time to PRAY with our Sisters, to share with other women of FAITH, to discover God's PURPOSE for your life, to enjoy a behind the scenes glimpse of COMMUNITY LIFE, and to explore RELIGIOUS LIFE lived out as a Dominican Sister of Peace.

The retreat begins at 4:00pm ET Friday, January 8 and concludes at 1pm ET, Sunday, January 10. For more information, call or text Sister June Fitzgerald at 570-336-3991 or email jfitzgerald@oppeace.org.



Stained Glass Window, Cathedral of St. Peter
Wilmington, Delaware

Christmas Fact

THE 12 DAYS OF CHRISTMAS (ALSO KNOWN AS CHRISTMASTIDE) IS THE PERIOD THAT IN CHRISTIAN THEOLOGY MARKS THE SPACE BETWEEN THE BIRTH OF CHRIST AND THE COMING OF THE MAGI, THE THREE WISE MEN. IT BEGINS ON DECEMBER 25 (CHRISTMAS) AND RUNS THROUGH JANUARY 6 (THE EPIPHANY, SOMETIMES ALSO CALLED THREE KINGS' DAY)



Merry Christmas from the
Office of Communication, Diocese of Wilmington
www.cdow.org



IN THIS HOLY SEASON

Lord, in this holy season of prayer and song and laughter, we praise you for the great wonders you have sent us: for shining star and angel's song, for infant's cry in lowly manger. We praise you for the Word made flesh in a little Child. We behold his glory, and are bathed in its radiance.

Be with us as we sing the ironies of Christmas, the incomprehensible comprehended, the poetry made hard fact, the helpless Babe who cracks the world asunder. We kneel before you shepherds, innkeepers, wise men. Help us to rise bigger than we are. Amen.

- Author Unknown

Hail, Most Venerable Queen of Peace

Hail,
most venerable Queen of Peace,
most holy Mother of God,
through the Sacred Heart of Jesus,
thy Son,
the Prince of Peace,
procure for us
the cessation of His anger,
that so He may reign over us in peace.
Remember, O most gracious Virgin Mary,
that never was it known
that anyone who sought thy intercession
was left forsaken.
Inspired with this confidence,
I come unto thee.
Despise not my petitions,
O Mother of the Word,
but graciously hear
and grant my prayer.
O merciful, O kind,
O sweet Virgin Mary. Amen.

COUNT YOUR BLESSINGS.
NAME THEM ONE BY ONE.
COUNT YOUR
MANY BLESSINGS
SEE WHAT **GOD** HAS DONE.