



# THE PARISH OF SAINT MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL CLAYTON & FRANKLINVILLE

**REV. LAWRENCE E POLANSKY, PASTOR**

**PARISH MISSION STATEMENT:**

*“To bear witness to **God the Father**,  
to follow the teachings of **Jesus Christ**,  
and to be guided by the **Holy Spirit**.”*

**DAILY MASS SCHEDULE**

**Monday:** 9a at Nativity  
**Tuesday:** 9a at Nativity  
**Wednesday:** 9a at Nativity  
**Thursday:** 9a at Nativity

**WEEKEND MASS SCHEDULE**

**Saturday:** 4p at Nativity  
**Sunday:** 8a at Nativity  
10:45a at Nativity

**HOLY DAY MASS SCHEDULE**

**Vigil:** 7p at Nativity  
**Holy Day:** 9a & 7p at Nativity  
*(Please confirm with  
Mass Intention Schedule.)*

**RECONCILIATION**

*Due to COVID-19, by Appointment  
Please call the Parish Office.*

**OFFICE MANAGER**

Fran Carder  
PSMA. FranC@gmail.com

**PARISH E-MAIL ADDRESS**

PSMA.Rectory@gmail.com

**PREP E-MAIL**

religioussmap@gmail.com

**SAINT MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL  
REGIONAL SCHOOL**

Philip J. Gianfortune, Principal  
856-881-0067



**NATIVITY:** 2677 Delsea Dr, Franklinville **SAINT CATHERINE OF SIENA:** 700 N Delsea Dr, Clayton

**PARISH OFFICE:** 49 W North St, Clayton, NJ 08312-1114 **PHONE:** 856-881-9155 **FAX:** 856-881-9166

**OFFICE HOURS:**

**Monday, Tuesday, & Wednesday:** 10:00a-2:00p **Thursday:** 10:00a-12:30p *(or by appointment, please call the Office)*

**SACRAMENT PREPARATION OR LETTERS OF ELIGIBILITY:** *Please contact the Parish Office.*

**NEW PARISHIONERS: Welcome!** Please take a look at our website or call to register

*Please visit our website at <https://www.psmaj-nj.com>*

# Mass INTENTIONS

**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 26<sup>TH</sup>**

*STEPHEN, THE FIRST MARTYR*

**4:00p (N) The People of the Parish**

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 27<sup>TH</sup>**

*THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY, & JOSEPH*

**8:00a (N) Ginny Hoffman** by Sally & Ron Bonner

**10:45a (N) The Deceased Members of the Carder & Szumowski Families**  
by The Carder Family

**MONDAY, DECEMBER 28<sup>TH</sup>**

*THE HOLY INNOCENTS*

**9:00a (N) Brian Nocenti** by Ronnie Vanaman

**TUESDAY, DECEMBER 29<sup>TH</sup>**

**9:00a (N) Robert Porch** by Pat Pannullo

**WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 30<sup>TH</sup>**

**9:00a (N) Ginny Hoffman** by Her Loving Family

**THURSDAY, DECEMBER 31<sup>ST</sup>**

**9:00a (N) Ginny Hoffman** by Her Loving Family

**5:00p (N) John & Millie Polansky and Julia Kratson**  
by Grandchildren, Larry, Ed, & Kathy

**FRIDAY, JANUARY 1<sup>ST</sup>**

*SOLEMNITY OF MARY, MOTHER OF GOD*

**10:00a (N) The People of the Parish**

**SATURDAY, JANUARY 2<sup>ND</sup>**

*BASIL THE GREAT & GREGORY NAZIENZEN*

**4:00p (N) Deacon Adam S. Crowe**

**SUNDAY, JANUARY 3<sup>RD</sup>**

*THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD*

**8:00a (N) The People of the Parish**

**10:00a (N) The Seminarians of the Diocese of Camden**

## SANCTUARY CANDLE



If you've been thinking about having the Sanctuary Candles burn in the memory of your loved one, envelopes are available in the Gathering Spaces of both the Nativity and Saint Catherine of Siena for your intentions and offering of \$10. Please contact the Parish Office with any questions at 856-881-9155.

*The Sanctuary Candle in Saint Catherine of Siena*

*Burns in Memory of*

*Robert Sandelier*

*Requested by His Loving Family*



Brenda Adams, George Bromwell, Rob Christian, Margaret Cloak, Henry Cottelli, Jim Cesanek, Janice Donahower, Judy Dutton, Mary Alyce Hagelstein, Matt Healy, Ernest Henry, Sherry Jeffries, Lorraine Kreiner, Pauline LoCicero, Steven Lord, John Henry Mathiesen, Rosemary McBride, Gerry McCloskey, Eileen Mulholland, Dot Myers, Jack Nelson, Michele Resavage, Bob & Barbara Stroh, Kathryn Tanner, Karen J. Viola, & Susan Webster

*If you have a family member who you would like added to the Prayer List, please ask their permission (due to the HIPAA Privacy Act) and contact the Rectory by calling 856-881-9155 or e-mailing PSMA.Rectory@gmail.com. Thank you!*



## OUR MILITARY HERO PRAYER LIST

If you have a family member serving in one of the branches of the military, please send their name, rank, and branch of service to the Parish Office (PSMA.Rectory@gmail.com or 856-881-9155).

*Please keep our brave service people in your prayers, Especially those suffering from the effects of war.*

### US Army

Cpl Austin Arledge, Specialist Bryan Jenkins, 1<sup>st</sup> Sgt Shane W. McLaughlin, MAJ Eric Miller, & CPT Graham Miller

### US Navy

AWR Daniel Carr & EM2 William Little

### US Marine Corps

Gy Sgt Brad Davis, Cpl Nate McAllister, & CPT James V. Tumolo

LT JG Dominic J. Tumolo, US Navy; US Army Medic

DIOCESE OF CAMDEN

## Prayer for Spiritual Communion

BY SAINT ALPHONSUS LIGUORI

MY JESUS,

I BELIEVE YOU ARE PRESENT IN THE MOST BLESSED SACRAMENT.

I LOVE YOU ABOVE ALL THINGS AND I DESIRE TO RECEIVE YOU INTO MY SOUL.

SINCE I CANNOT NOW RECEIVE YOU SACRAMENTALLY,

COME AT LEAST SPIRITUALLY INTO MY HEART.

I EMBRACE YOU AS IF YOU WERE ALREADY THERE, AND UNITE MYSELF WHOLLY TO YOU.

NEVER PERMIT ME TO BE SEPARATED FROM YOU.

AMEN.







December 27, 2020 | The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

Sir 3:2-6, 12-14 or Gn 15:1-6; 21:1-3 | Col 3:12-21 or Col 3:12-17 or  
 Heb 11:8, 11-12, 17-19 | Lk 2:22-40 or Lk 2:22, 39-40

Written by  
 THE  
 FAITHFUL  
 DISCIPLE

**GROW AS A DISCIPLE | PRAY, STUDY, ENGAGE, SERVE**


Remember when COVID-19 first either forced us together or apart last spring? For most people, this meant a radical change in our family's usual circumstances. Perhaps we've had too much togetherness? Or we've been kept apart? Whatever our experience, the Feast of the Holy Family in the midst of the Christmas season is a poignant reminder that families are the bedrock of our faith; a domestic Church; the primary transmitter of the faith. Jesus, God's promise fulfilled for us, both fully human and fully divine, was born into a human family. We are to imitate the Holy Family through sacrificial love for one another. Sirach speaks of the honor and respect that children and parents must have for one another. And while we are not divine, we can celebrate the Divine presence in our midst, as Simeon did in today's Gospel, when he said: "Now, Master, you may let your servant go in peace, according to your word, for 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."

**GO EVANGELIZE**

**PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT**


I like to joke that at times, lately, it seems that our family is "apart together." My husband takes the family-room sectional, my teen sons hunker down in their rooms, and I grab the swivel chair in the living room. And so we instituted "Forced Family Fun" Sundays, albeit with mixed success. Yet, these activities make a difference. They remind us how to be family. Today, as we honor the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph, let us take a moment to remember that all families are called to be holy. Families are meant to be refuges of unity and peacefulness in an imperfect, sometimes harsh world. As members of a family, we are called to be patient and kind with one another. Let us pray for the grace to emulate the Holy Family. Like us, they certainly faced their challenges and disappointments, and yet they listened to God's voice in their lives and followed his will. Pray to Mary and St. Joseph for their intercession, and trust in the presence of God in your family.

**STUDY** Extra-credit opportunity! The Church gives us several options for the readings for the feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph. Quiet your mind and heart and read them all. See what insights the Holy Spirit may have in store for you and your family.



Beginning the weekend of  
**January 2 & 3, 2021,**  
 our Mass Schedule  
 will be changing.  
 Masses will be: 4:00p on Saturday  
 8:00a & **10:00a** on Sunday.

*Please take note of the coming changes!*



*"God loves a Cheerful Giver"*  
 ~ 2 Corinthians 9:7 ~

Would you like to donate to our parish food pantry during this holiday season? Nonperishable items may be placed in the shopping cart located in the Gathering Space of Nativity Church or, if you prefer, you may bring them directly to the pantry at the O'Meara Conference Center **from 10:15 to 11:30a on Wednesday mornings.** Since we cannot allow you inside the pantry at this time, there will be a bench outside the entrance on which you may leave your donations. We will periodically come outside and retrieve the items, but feel free to honk your horn before driving away if you wish to alert us of your presence.

Don't know what to give? The best idea is to give what you would like to receive! The only necessity is that the items be nonperishable. Here are some suggestions: **1 or 2 pound bags or boxes of rice, canned yams/sweet potatoes, gravy, stuffing (such as Stove Top), pasta, canned fruit, applesauce, ramen noodles, canned vegetables, tuna, canned chicken, pancake mix, cereal, and, especially, SOUPS OF ALL KINDS.**

*Prefer not to shop?  
 Monetary donations are always welcome.*

**STEWARDSHIP GIFTS**

*"... they fell down and worshipped Him.  
 Then they opened their treasures  
 and offered Him  
 gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh..."*  
 ~ Matthew 2:11 ~

Notice the order of events in the Magi's visit. First, they knelt before Jesus and prayed to Him. Then they presented Him with their gifts. We, too, as Stewards, must take time to pray before we present our gifts to the Lord. We never know what God may be asking us to share!

## Message of the Week



Dear Parishioners,

As I told you last week, the submission of bulletins for publication in anticipation of Christmas and New Year's was moved up this year and as I write this I've had to shift mental gears once again ... it's December 14<sup>th</sup>, but on the bulletin calendar, Christmas is passed and I'm preparing for the Feast of the Holy Family ...

How many of you remember the comedian, Rodney Dangerfield? I remember from my younger days movies like "*Caddyshack*" and "*Back to School*." He built his comedy career around the phrase "*I get no respect*." He would state the line and then proceed with a string of one-liners based on "no respect." Most of his jokes were pokes at himself and his family. His humor, unfortunately and sadly, could be rather dark.

Today we celebrate the Feast of the Holy Family. On the flipside, their one-liner could have been: "*Respect is a trademark of our family*." Think about it. **Without respect, there is no love ... and a hallmark of love is respect.**

Each member of the Holy Family showed respect. Joseph respected Mary even when he thought she was carrying another man's child. Scripture says he had decided to "*divorce her quietly*" (Matthew 1:19) to save her from shame ... until the angel spoke to him. Joseph married Mary and respected her unique calling. He protected her and loved her child as his own. Mary respected Joseph by traveling with him to Bethlehem, even though she was close to delivering her first child. She trusted him to keep her and her baby safe. Jesus respected his parents by coming under their authority. When Jesus was lost and when Mary and Joseph found him in the temple after three days, Saint Luke says that Jesus "*went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was obedient to them*" (Lk 2:51). On the cross, Jesus showed respect for his widowed mother by giving her to the care of the beloved disciple.

Respect is a virtue present in all holy families. Certainly, the Holy Family was not your typical family. There is no one "typical" family. There are many combinations of folks living together who call themselves family. Yet, all families, biological or chosen, are called to holiness. The reading from Sirach focuses on respect for the authority of parents: fathers and mothers. This respect does not depend on liking or not liking the parent. It does not depend on their character or their wisdom. This respect is due simply because they are parents. It is their position that merits respect. Parents, you will foster respect if you show respect to your children. I hear parents in the grocery store or in the mall talk to their children. Some scream and yell. Some call their children "stupid" or worse. Your children deserve respect because they are sons and daughters of God, made in His image and likeness ... even though they may not act very godly at times. Discipline in ways that address the action ... but do not shame the child. Sirach mentions the promises that come to folks who respect their fathers and mothers. "*Kindness will melt away your sins*" (Sir 3:15).

God is the source of all authority. **Respect goes beyond family members. It encompasses all those in authority:** police, firefighters, doctors, judges, teachers, and more. People may criticize the president, mayor, or even your pastor or the priest on the altar. We may not agree with their politics or decisions. However, we need to show the respect due their position. This respect seems to be lacking in our society. It is a sorry day when teachers feel the need to carry concealed weapons in the classroom for protection. Unfortunately, schools are a much different place than the place I remember as a child. Teachers have told me that, instead of support from parents, they are often criticized in front of the children. I can remember that when I came home from school, if I ever told my parents that I was reprimanded by my teacher, I was in twice as much trouble when I got home. I can't believe how little respect there is today for teachers. When the pope greets the leaders of other nations, he treats them with respect, even though they may disagree on many key issues.

Lack of respect for authority leads to anarchy ... in the family ... in the schools ... on the streets ... in the government. Make your family a haven of respect. We can reclaim our respect for authority one holy family at a time.

**Self-respect.** Even when we do not feel respected by anyone else, we can develop self-respect. Each of us has infinite worth because we are beloved children in the family of God. We can show respect for our bodies by our care for them. We show respect for our minds by what fills them. We show respect by our relationships to God and others. However, the core of our self-respect comes not by what we do, but whose we are.

Jesus invites us to be an intimate part of the holiest of families ... Father, Son and Holy Spirit. He invites us to be One with Him and therefore with God ... **in the Eucharist.**

May Saint Michael the Archangel defend, guide, protect, and intercede for us always! Have a great week! Stay safe and be well!

~ Fr. Larry

## *What does Saint Joseph and the Holy Family Teach Us?*

This past December 8<sup>th</sup>, Pope Francis declared a holy year dedicated to Saint Joseph. in commemoration of the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Pope Pius IX placing the Church under the protection of Saint Joseph.

On this Feast of the Holy Family, what does Saint Joseph and his holy family teach us?

### *They Follow God's Lead*

The Scriptures paint the early life of the Holy Family as God called them to a special mission. With the angel Gabriel, we greet Mary and learn of her calling to become the Mother of God. Our introduction to Saint Joseph consists of him deciding to divorce Mary quietly, believing she brought shame and dishonor upon him and his family. But an angel invites Joseph to change his mind and to take Mary into his home to become the guardian of Mary and Jesus, the husband of Mary, and the foster-father of Jesus.

In that home at Nazareth, we meet a couple who shows an openness to allowing God to lead their life together. Mary surely had other plans for her life ... as many believe she took a vow of virginity at an early age, so becoming a physical mother was something she did not anticipate. Yet, she heard God's invitation, and knew that His plans were better for her life. Therefore, she gives her fiat ... that is, her "yes" to God.

Saint Joseph opens his heart to the messenger sent by God and takes Mary into his home. This would not be the first or the last time that Saint Joseph followed God's lead in his life as he protected the Holy Family. After Jesus' birth in Bethlehem, they follow the prompting of an angel to flee into Egypt for safety and to wait there until another angelic message brings them back home. The Holy Family is a great example for families everywhere to always be open to whatever God's will might be and to always be listening for God to speak. He might speak His will in prayer or through another person. By our own prayer and discernment, we too can follow God's lead for our life.

### *A Teacher of Virtue*

The home should be the principal place of catechesis ... for learning about God. Unfortunately, many families today allow the Church to fill that role alone. The home of Nazareth, in addition to the local synagogue, would have been the place of instruction for the Christ Child. The Holy Family taught Jesus how to read and at the start of His public ministry, Jesus would read from the scroll and declare that the passage was fulfilled in their hearing (Lk 4:21). Mary and Joseph would have taught the Christ Child how to pray, especially the Shema ("Hear, O Israel, the Lord is God and God alone ..."). Years later, Jesus would teach His disciples to pray with the Our Father. Joseph would have handed on his trade to his Son, who would later die on the wood of a cross. Jesus had a great concern for the poor and the marginalized.

In the home of Nazareth, He learned generosity and kindness. The home of Nazareth reminds us that families have the responsibility of teaching their children the Faith and to model the virtues. Jesus had most excellent parents. Mary was without sin and Joseph is described as a just and prudent man. Parents today can learn from Joseph and Mary on how to teach their children.

### *The Call to Chastity*

The Catholic tradition upholds the belief that Mary remained ever-virgin. Saint Joseph is often referred to as Mary's most chaste spouse, and in the Litany of Saint Joseph is recognized as the chaste guardian of the Virgin. Perhaps this is another way the Holy Family provides an example to our modern world, often assaulted by sexual promiscuity and fleeting lustful thoughts. The chaste relationship of Joseph and Mary reminds all Christian faithful that, even in marriage, chastity is to be observed. The practice of Natural Family Planning (NFP) is one way a couple observes chastity in their marriage. The fidelity of Joseph and Mary to each other also gives great example and encourages couples in their fidelity to one another, even in difficult circumstances. The chaste relationship between Joseph and Mary means they experienced intimacy in different ways through their common life together. Their purity of mind and heart of mutual love for each other and the Son of God is indeed worthy of imitation by all families.

### *Devotion to the Holy Family*

Devotion to the Holy Family of Nazareth emerges when the family becomes weakened because of political and societal pressures. In the medieval period, Jean Gerson, theologian at the Council of Constance (1414-1418) encouraged devotion to the Holy Family and Pope Leo XIII said that imitation of the Holy Family would be a means to revitalize and strengthen family life. Today, the institution of the family once again suffers attacks politically and socially. Perhaps now is the time for us to knock on the Holy Family's door in Nazareth and move from being an onlooker peering in to becoming a guest in their home. From them we will learn many virtues for Christian family life. Through their inspiration, we will learn to practice them in our homes and among our own families.



**Monday:** 1 Jn 1:5—2:2; Ps 124:2-3, 4-5, 7cd-8; Mt 2:13-18

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

**Wednesday:** 1 Jn 2:12-17; Ps 96:7-8a, 8b-9, 10; Lk 2:36-40

**Thursday:** 1 Jn 2:18-21; Ps 96:1-2, 11-12, 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, 2-3ab, 3cd-4; Jn 1:19-28

**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



# Please Note.....

If you handle any bulletins, literature, prayer cards, etc., please take whatever you touched home with you.

Doing so will decrease the spread of germs through contact. ©JPPC

# .....Thank you

## WHAT THE CARES ACT MEANS FOR CHARITABLE GIVING

The Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act creates two temporary changes to the tax treatment of such donations. One is a universal deduction targeted primarily at the 90+% of standard deduction taxpayers, and the other is meant to incentivize the remaining high-income givers and corporations.

### \$300

Universal Deduction for Donations Up to \$300

For the 9 out of 10 people who no longer itemize their charitable giving, the CARES Act will allow these individual taxpayers to deduct donations to charity of up to \$300 on their 2020 federal tax return, even though they take the standard deduction.

### 60%

For those donors who are still able to itemize their deductions, and therefore directly write off gifts to charity, the current deduction cap is 60% of adjusted gross income. Corporations are able to deduct charitable donations up to 10% of taxable income.

\*The 60% of AGI limit is for giving to 501(c)(3) public charities. The deductibility of gifts to 501(c)(3) private foundations is capped at 30%, and was not included in this legislation.

## WHAT ABOUT THE IRA QUALIFIED CHARITABLE DISTRIBUTION (QCD)?

The CARES Act did not change the rules around the QCD, which allows individuals over 70½ years old to donate up to \$100,000 in IRA assets directly to charity annually, without taking the distribution into taxable income.

However, remember that under the CARES Act an individual can elect to deduct 100 percent of their AGI for cash charitable contributions. This effectively affords individuals over 59½ years old the benefits similar to a QCD; they can take a cash distribution from their IRA, contribute the cash to charity, and may completely offset tax attributable to the distribution by taking a charitable deduction in an amount up to 100 percent of their AGI for the tax year.

Source: Fidelity Charitable



DIOCESE OF CAMDEN

## Coronavirus Prayer

Lord Jesus, you heal the sick.

We pray that the coronavirus that has affected so many in our world can be contained, controlled, and cured.

We lift up to your mercy all those affected, all those working hard to study and cure this illness, and all health care professionals and emergency management teams that are working day and night to keep us safe.



Help us, Lord, to trust in your merciful care.

Lord Jesus, hear our prayer.

Amen.



Please check out <https://www.camdendiocese.org/live-stream-mass/> for Parishes in the Diocese and sites throughout the country that are live-streaming the Mass. If you are unable to attend Mass, but would like to continue watch it, this is for you!