

Pulpit Announcements for the Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph December 31, 2023

**Welcome to all who are here today on this
Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph.
Whoever you are, or wherever you find yourself on the
journey. Know that here at St. Matthias, ALL ARE WELCOME!**

- The Christmas season will conclude next Sunday with the Feast of the Epiphany of the Lord. Our tradition is to have the noon Mass as bilingual, with the three Kings as part of the entrance procession.
- Immediately following the noon Mass next Sunday, the Franklin High School Madrigals will perform a 1/2 hour program of Christmas music in the church. Please come and enjoy.
- Our Spread the Light Campaign has been a wonderful success—thanks to all of our generous parishioners. As all good things must come to an end, we will need many volunteers to take down the trees on Saturday, January 13th at 9 AM. Last year the 40 volunteers were finished in less than three hours, so please consider helping! Bring scissors. Also, all decoration on the trees must be taken off by Monday, January 8th. Thank you in advance.
- The second collection next Sunday is to benefit the Catholic Charities' Parish Emergency Assistance Fund.
- There will be a special New Year Mass on Monday, January 1st at 10 am, and the weekly adoration will be from 6-8 pm. And Mass on Tuesday will be at the regular time of 8 am

What do I appreciate in the Holy Family that I wish to see in my own birth family? What can I do to model my family after the Holy Family? How close am I to my spiritual family of the parish? May the Holy Family help us to follow them...

Music for Our Assembly

December 31, 2023

Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph

The shepherds went in haste and found Mary and Joseph and the infant lying in a manger... Luke 2:16

Gathering Hymn – Angels We Have Heard on High

1. Angels we have heard on high
Sweetly singing o'er the plains,
And the mountains in reply
Echo back their joyous strains.

Gloria in excelsis Deo!
Gloria in excelsis Deo!

2. Shepherds, why this jubilee?
Why your joyous strains prolong?
Say what may the tidings be
Which inspire your heav'nly song?

3. Come to Bethlehem and see
Him whose birth the angels sing;
Come, adore on bended knee
Christ, the Lord, the newborn King.

4. See him in a manger laid
Whom the angels praise above;
Mary, Joseph, lend your aid,
While we raise our hearts in love. (Refrain)

Text: 77 77 with refrain; trad. French carol, ca. 18th cent.; tr. fr. Crown of Jesus Music, II, London, 1862; tr. by James Chadwick, 1813–1882, and others, alt. Music: Trad. French carol; arr. © 2013, Spirit & Song®, a division of OCP. All rights reserved.

Prayer of the Faithful

Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph
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Our response is: “Lord of Life, hear our prayer.”

1. For the family of our Church and its leaders, especially Pope Francis...That by our unity and love we will always bear witness to the love of You, our God, we pray. . .
2. For all those who govern over the human family of our world... Lead them in helping us learn to live in peace, striving to break down barriers of hatred, prejudice, racism, and intolerance, we pray...
3. For the Church, especially its members here at St. Matthias ...Bless all families in all forms here within our parish and fill our homes with joy, peace, and Your holy presence, we pray. . .
4. For all who are sick, sad, and suffering, especially for broken families...Help them find healing and common ground so that all may flourish in love and relationship, we pray . . .
5. For the souls of all who have died, especially **Mal Shanley**... May families and friends left behind be blessed with the gifts they shared with us here on earth ... we pray. . .
6. For those prayers we hold in the silence of our hearts (LONG PAUSE) we pray. . .

The presider announces the Mass intention and concludes.

Preparation Hymn – Once in Royal David's City

1. Once in royal David's city
Stood a lowly cattle shed,
Where a mother laid her baby
In a manger for his bed.
Mary was that mother mild,
Jesus Christ her little Child.

2. He came down to earth from heaven
Who is God and Lord of all,
And his shelter was a stable,
And his cradle was a stall.
With the poor and mean and lowly
Lived on earth our Savior holy.

3. And through all his wondrous childhood
He would honor and obey,
Love and watch the lowly maiden
In whose gentle arms he lay.
Christian children all should be
Kind, obedient, good as he.

4. For he is our childhood's pattern,
Day by day like us he grew;
He was little, weak, and helpless,
Tears and smiles like us he knew:
And he feels for all our sadness,
And he shares in all our gladness.

5. And our eyes at last shall see him,
Through his own redeeming love;
For that child so dear and gentle
Is our Lord in heav'n above:
And he leads his children on
To the place where he has gone.

Text: 87 87 77; Cecil Frances Alexander, 1818–1895, alt. Music: Henry J. Gauntlett, 1805–1876.

Communion Hymn – Child of the Poor/What Child Is This

Helpless and hungry, lowly he lies,
Wrapped in the chill of midwinter;
Comes now among us
Born into poverty's embrace
New life for the world.

Who is this who lives with the
lowly,
Sharing their sorrows, knowing
their hunger?
This is Christ, revealed to the world
in the eyes of a child
A child of the poor.

What child is this who laid to rest,
On Mary's lap is sleeping?
Whom angels greet with anthems
sweet,
While shepherds watch are
keeping?

This, this is Christ the King
Whom shepherds guard and
angels sing;
Haste, haste to bring him laud,
The babe the son of Mary.

Who is the stranger here in our
midst
Looking for shelter among us?
Who is the outcast?
Who do we see amid the poor,
The children of God?

Who is this who lives with the lowly
Sharing their sorrows, knowing
their hunger?
This is Christ, revealed to the world
In the eyes of a child, a child of the
poor.

Why lies he in such mean estate
Where ox and ass are feeding
Good Christians fear for sinners
here
A silent word is pleading

This, this is Christ the King
Whom shepherds guard and
angels sing;
Haste, haste to bring him laud,
The babe the son of Mary.

So bring him incense gold and
myrrh,
Come peasant King to own him
The king of Kings salvation brings
Let loving hearts enthrone him.

This, this is Christ the King
Whom shepherds guard and
angels sing;
Haste, haste to bring him laud,
The babe the son of Mary.

Closing Hymn – Go Tell It on the Mountain

**Go, tell it on the mountain,
Over the hills and ev'rywhere;
Go, tell it on the mountain
That Jesus Christ is born.**

1. While shepherds kept their watching
O'er silent flocks by night,
Behold, throughout the heavens
There shone a holy light.

2. The shepherds feared and trembled
When high above the earth
Rang out the angel chorus
That hailed our Savior's birth.

3. And lo, when they had heard it,
They all bowed down and prayed;
They traveled on together
To where the Babe was laid.

4. Down in a lowly manger
The humble Christ was born,
And God sent us salvation
That blessed Christmas morn.

*Text: 76 76 with refrain; from American Negro Songs and Spirituals, 1940; John W. Work, Jr., 1872–1925, alt.
Music: Spiritual.*

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Responsorial Psalm – Psalm 105:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9

The Lord remembers his covenant forever.

Give thanks to the LORD, invoke his name;
make known among the nations his deeds.

Sing to him, sing his praise,
proclaim all his wondrous deeds.

Glory in his holy name;
rejoice, O hearts that seek the LORD!
Look to the LORD in his strength;
constantly seek his face.

You descendants of Abraham, his servants,
sons of Jacob, his chosen ones!
He, the LORD, is our God;
throughout the earth his judgments prevail.

He remembers forever his covenant
which he made binding for a thousand generations
which he entered into with Abraham
and by his oath to Isaac.

The Lord remembers his covenant forever.