

# The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph

December 29, 2024

**Our Lady of Fatima Parish**  
2010 12<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
[www.ourladyoffatimaaltoona.org](http://www.ourladyoffatimaaltoona.org)  
**Rectory Office Hours:**  
Tuesdays and Thursdays  
11:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M.  
**Parish Office:** 814-942-0371  
or call the Cathedral Office at 944-4603.

**Our Lady of Fatima Parish**  
Rev. Msgr. Stanley B. Carson, Administrator

**Parish Secretary**  
Paula Hall

**Director of Music Ministry**  
Cathy McFee

**Eucharist: Sunday: 11:30 AM**  
**Holy Days: 5:30 PM**  
Holy Communion for the home bound - weekly:  
Patty Flanagan 942-0371 for arrangements.

Our Lady of Fatima Church is open  
Sunday through Saturday: 7:30 AM - 5PM  
for visits before the Blessed Sacrament.

Baptisms, Weddings and Funerals will be  
held at Our Lady of Fatima.

Preparation for Baptism, and Weddings  
will be held at the Cathedral. 944-4603

Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick  
Parishioners wishing to receive the sacrament of healing may call the Cathedral Parish Office to make arrangements. 814-944-4603

**Cathedral Church Office: 814-944-4603**  
**One Cathedral Square**

**Most Reverend Mark L. Bartchak, Bishop**  
**Rev. Msgr. Stanley B. Carson, Administrator**  
**Paula Clemens, Secretary**  
**PH: 814-944-4603**

**Christian Initiation Team: 944-4603**  
**Catholics returning Home: 944-4603**  
**Mail Ministry to Elderly, Homebound, Seriously Sick and Grieving - 944-4603**

**Director of Religious Education:**  
**Chris Laraia – Pre-K thru 8 - 312-7317**

**Religious Education Office: Sundays – 943-7424**  
**Director of Music Ministry**

**Leslie C. Thayer, MM, CAGO**  
**Music Ministry Office - 944-2044**  
**E-Mail: [ltayer@dioceseaj.org](mailto:ltayer@dioceseaj.org)**

**Reconciliation @ Cathedral: 7:00 PM Wednesday**  
**12:30 PM Saturday**

**Religious Education @ Cathedral: Pre-K through 11**  
**Sacramental Formation @ Cathedral: First Reconciliation**  
**First Communion**  
**Confirmation**

**Sacramental Formation @ the Cathedral: Baptismal Prep**  
**Marriage Prep**  
**Christian Initiation**

**Hospital Visitation: Call the Cathedral: 944-4603**

**Cathedral Eucharist:**

<b>Sunday: 5:00 PM (Vigil)</b>	<b>Holy Days: 5:30 PM (Vigil)</b>	<b>Weekdays: 12:00 PM</b>
<b>8:00 AM</b>	<b>8:00 AM</b>	<b>Saturday: 12:00 PM</b>
<b>10:00 AM</b>	<b>12:00 Noon</b>	
<b>5:00 PM</b>		

THE FATIMA TOWERS

## **OUR LADY OF FATIMA MASS INTENTIONS**

**11:30 A.M.**

**Today, December 29, 2024, The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph**

Paul & Geraldine Rose (Family)

**Wednesday, January 1, 2025, Mary the Mother of God**

For the People

**Next Sunday, January 5, 2025, The Epiphany of the Lord**

Sara Quinlan (Karen Query)

### **Cathedral Mass Intentions**

***December 29, The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph***

8:00 AM +Geraldine Petrunak, Birth. (Family)

10:00 AM +Barry Krug (Bob & Tammy Datis)

5:00 PM Pro Popolo/For the People

There is Mass at 11:30 A.M. at Our Lady of Fatima Church.

***December 30, Monday, Sixth Day Within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord***

12:00 PM +Ann Rhodes, Birth. (Family)

***December 31, Tuesday, Seventh Day Within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord***

12:00 PM Special Intention, 60th Wedding Anniv. (Wife, Suzanne)

***Vigil: Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God-A Holy Day of Obligation***

5:00 PM +Jean Fornwalt (Kat & Ed Zeak)

***January 1, Wednesday, Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God-A Holy Day of Obligation***

8:00 AM Peace on Earth

10:00 AM Pro Popolo/For the People

(There is an 11:30 AM Mass at Our Lady of Fatima Church.)

***January 2, Thursday, Sts. Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzen, Bps. & Drs.***

12:00 PM +Ray Kelly (Family)

***January 3, Friday, Christmas Weekday***

12:00 PM +Paul & Edith Weible (Sandra J. Hankinson)

***January 4, Saturday, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, Rel.***

12:00 PM +David Seidel (Wife)

***Vigil: Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord***

5:00 PM +James Kenawell, Sr., Birth. (Son, James, Jr.)

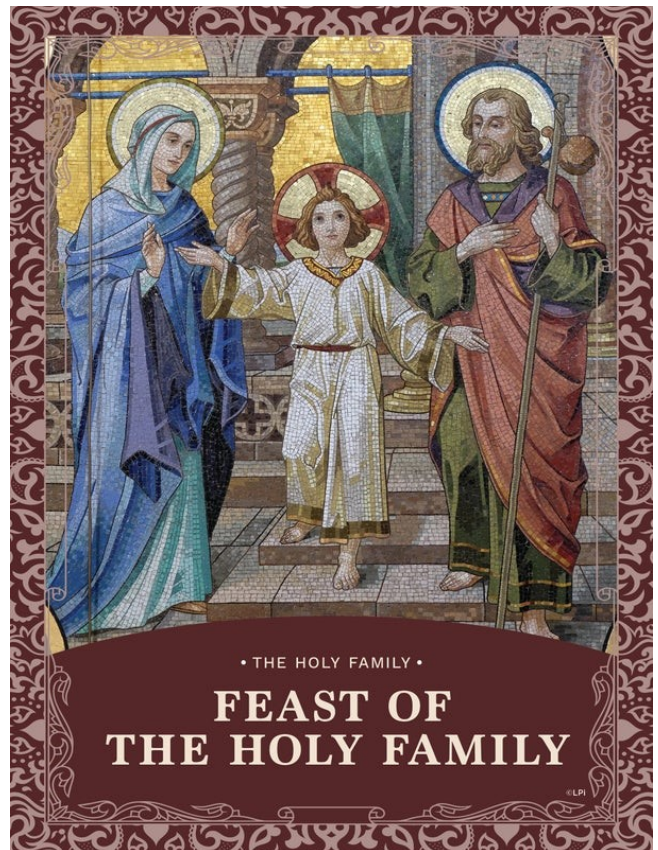
***January 5, Sunday, The Epiphany of the Lord***

8:00 AM +Regis McCloskey (Barbara Caracces & Family)

10:00 AM +Alberta Weaver, Anniv. (Weaver Family)

5:00 PM Pro Popolo/For the People

There is Mass at 11:30 A.M. at Our Lady of Fatima Church



Every parish is a family of families, made up with all kinds of different personalities, strengths, weakness, gifts, challenges, and wounds. There are moments of grief and gladness. There are experiences that enrich and disappoint. There are memories of the past and dreams for the future.

As the Church continues to celebrate the Christmas season, I want to thank you for your participation in the life of the Cathedral parish. I also want to encourage you to grow in holiness and become more involved. The Church needs the talents of all her members.

You and your family are remembered in my prayer. The intercession of the Holy Family is a powerful source of encouragement for all of us.

Blessings to you and your family during the New Year.

Msgr. Stan Carson, Administrator

### **Thank You Very Much**

Your prayers, volunteerism, and financial support are deeply appreciated.

The contributions for Sunday, December 22, were \$3,449.

Thank you.







Every 25 years the Church celebrates a special Holy Year called the Jubilee Year. The next Jubilee Year has begun with the opening of the Holy Door of St. Peter's Basilica in Rome on Christmas Eve 2024.

This Sunday, December 29, Bishop Mark will open the Jubilee in our diocese with a special Mass at 2:00 P.M. in the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament. All parishes are to have representatives present.

The upcoming Holy Year offers opportunities for pilgrimage, the gaining of indulgences, special events, and communal liturgies. Parishioners are to be "ambassadors of hope" through loving service.

There are prayer cards, Jubilee 2025 prayer leaflets/brochures, and Pilgrims' Passports available in the back of the church.



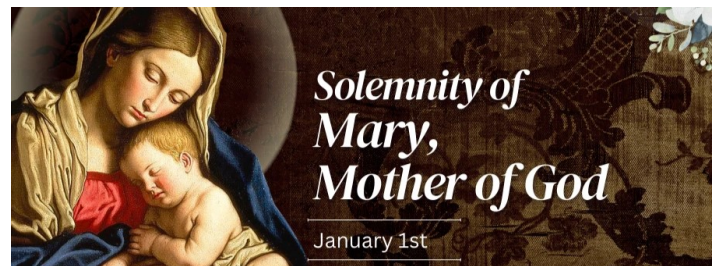
Gratitude is extended to those who donated their time and talent to decorate our church so beautifully.  
Thanks is also extended to those who contributed towards the Christmas Flower Collection.



The following Christmas Flower donations were also made: Anthony (Bill) Conrad by Freida Conray; Kerr, Wertz & Weaver Families by Kevin Kerr; William & Maria Wesley, Helen Frederick by Paul & Emma Kowalski; and David Stein. Thank you.



The Sanctuary Candle during the month of January is being lit in memory of Denise Keagy by the Keagy Family. Thank you.



Since Wednesday, January 1, is the Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God, and a holy day of obligation, Masses are scheduled at the Cathedral on Tuesday, December 31, at 5:30 P.M. and on Wednesday, January 1, at 8:00 A.M. and 10:00 A.M. There is a Mass at Our Lady of Fatima Church at 11:30 A.M.

In addition to honoring Mary as the Mother of God, participation at the Eucharist is a fine way to begin a New Year.

## GOSPEL MEDITATION - ENCOURAGE DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE

December 29, 2024

### The Holy Family

As a first-time pastor in a parish, I received a phone call one afternoon from a young married couple, “Father, our 2-year-old son drowned in our pool this morning. We are at the hospital. Please help us.” I sped over. The little boy was gone, his body cold, slightly blue, laid out on a bed. His parents were distraught and in shock. For the next few years, I walked with the couple along their difficult and painful road. They openly shared with me how they were often tempted to blame and accuse each other for the loss. And yet, by God’s grace, their love for each grew stronger and deeper as the years went by.

The Holy Family was not without its pain and loss, either. Luke tells us, after losing their twelve-year-old son, Joseph and Mary “after three days found him in the temple area, sitting among the teachers...” (Luke 2:46). We don’t know specifically what those three days were like for them except for what Mary says: “Your father and I have been looking for you anxiously.” The three days of his absence foreshadow his death and burial. His finding in the temple is a kind of resurrection for his family. They had to learn, again and again, that their family was becoming a place where death and resurrection was not only accepted but welcomed and celebrated. But surely they deeply felt the dangerous agony of their loss — just like every couple who has lost a child.

What losses in your experience of family still cause you anxiety? In what ways has God’s presence seemingly vanished in your family? Will you keep searching for Jesus? Remember, he will rise and be found. Your family may be suffering, but when he is found, it will be stronger than ever before.

— Father John Muir

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## EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP - RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

### All in the Family

At first glance, we can often find the image of the Blessed Mother, St. Joseph and the Christ Child intimidating — who are we to aspire to that level of discipleship? How could we ever hope to conform ourselves to that mold? Sometimes, it can even be painful — perhaps we hail from a broken family or struggle with a broken relationship within our family, or perhaps we long to be a mother or a father ourselves and that state in life has eluded us.

But the image of the Holy Family is, in reality, a beautiful invitation to us all, no matter our vocation or our state in life, and the example of Mary, Joseph and Jesus is rich with the symbolism of stewardship.

You need not be a biological mother who has carried a child in her womb to be a mother in spirit. Who in your world needs you to love them with the heart of a mother?

The same goes for fatherhood. The Church and the world are crying out for the courageous witness of Christian men like St. Joseph. Who can you love with the steadfast, selfless protection of a father?

Who in your life needs you to love them with the faithful, unconditional love of a son? Who needs your gentle and constant love as a daughter?

We are the Body of Christ, friends. Those of us rejoicing in heaven, those of us suffering in purgatory, and those of us struggling here on earth. We are the great family. Let us love each other well.

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

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