

December 20, 2009

My friends, Christmas is less than a week away. Let us calm our minds and take this time to listen to God's word. Today we will hear the ancient story of meeting two holy women, Mary and Elizabeth, and their two babies: John and Jesus. Let us pray to be like these women, ready to embrace God's will for us.



 **Eucharistic Celebrations**

- Sun. 8:00 a.m. Phil Chetta
Chase Shaw
- 10:00 a.m. Jason Harvey
People of the Parish
- Tues. 5:30 p.m. Bailey-Howe Families
- Wed. 7:00 a.m. Mary O'Donnell
- Thurs. 5:00 p.m. People of the Parish
7:30 p.m. Alvin Hagan & Blickhan/Creech Families
Midnight Ambrose Quinn, Fr. Pat Quinn
- Fri. 9:00 a.m. Lloyd Lampton
Special Intention (SD)
- Sat. 5:30 p.m. Janice Garner, Ann.
Sam Astorino
- Sun. 8:00 a.m. Dan Murphy, Ann.
People of the Parish
- 10:00 a.m. Brent Beard

ALTAR MINISTERS - DECEMBER

5:30 p.m. Ministers of Eucharist:

Kim Johnston, Tabitha Houser, Bill & Joni Albright, Janet Alexander, Sean Meyer, Chuck Spratt - alt.

Minister of the Word: Pat Yount

8:00 a.m. Ministers of Eucharist:

Belinda Failor, Lori Dowil, Joe & Julie Gwinner, Dick & Janice Rupp, Geri Graves - alt.

Minister of the Word: Sharon Welch

10:00 a.m. Ministers of Eucharist:

Rayburn & Pat Cook, Karen & Richard Zerbonia, Frank Janes, Karan Noonan, Cecelia Pierceall - alt.

Minister of the Word: Michaele Palmer

Greeters - December

- 5:30 p.m. Terry & Margaret Miller, Debbie Coleman
- 8:00 a.m. Evelyn & Harley Hirner, Gail Terrill
- 10:00 a.m. Jenny McConnell, Elaine Edge, Doris Nichols

Servers - December 26-27

- 5:30 p.m. Lucas Cline, Alec Ogden, Zakery Ogden
- 8:00 a.m. William Failor, Daniel Fohey, Eric Hugenberg
- 10:00 a.m. Katie Beilsmith, Megan Beilsmith, David Webb

Dear Parish Family,

Later on this week we will open the holy season of Christmas. What a great God we serve - a God who loved us so much and cared enough to become one with us in the birth of the Child Jesus in Bethlehem. Our God desires that you and I give life too, in the ways we share His love in every facet of our daily lives.

Many of you have reached out to others in loving and caring ways. You have given food for the hungry. Through our "MITTEN TREE" you have gifted many poor children. In the "SENIOR SNOWMAN" program you have given gifts to our elderly in the nursing homes and our homebound. Your support for our "FAMILIES IN NEED" has resulted in a number of families being cared for with food and gifts. Several of you have adopted families for Christmas. I thank God for you in all the ways you respond to those in need.

On behalf of our parish staff, I am grateful to you for your prayers, cards and gifts during this holy season. Your love and affirmation means a lot to each one of us who love to serve you. May the peace and love of Jesus, the Christ, reign in your hearts this Christmas season and always. *In the love of Christ, Fr. Mike*

Our Christmas Mass Schedule is as follows:
Christmas Eve:

Thurs., 12/24 - Masses are:

5:00 p.m., 7:30 p.m. and Midnight

Christmas Day - Fri., 12/25 - 9:00 a.m. Mass

All Eucharistic Ministers, Lectors, Servers, Greeters, are asked to call the parish office to volunteer to serve at our Christmas Masses. Thanks to all who have volunteered to serve at our Masses this year!

HELP DECORATE THE CHURCH FOR CHRISTMAS

Hands are needed to decorate the church on Wed., December 23rd at 9:00 a.m. Anyone can help...Confirmation class - good opportunity for service hours!!!



We Ask Eternal Rest O Lord for the Souls of:

Betty Peters, of our parish
Tom Hagan, father of Tina Barbee, of our parish

From Death to New Life 



**THIS WEEK 
IN OUR PARISH**

Sun. 12/20

8 & 10 a.m. Masses - all welcome!
11 a.m. Children's Christmas Choir Practice-church
2-4 p.m. Cursillo Meeting - St. Michael's Hall

Tues. 12/22

5:30 p.m. Mass in the chapel - all welcome!
7 p.m. Perpetual Help Devotions - Holy Cross Chapel

Wed. 12/23

7:00 a.m. Mass in the chapel - all are welcome!

Christmas Eve 12/24

5:00 p.m. Mass
7:30 p.m. Mass
Midnight Mass
Vocation Office and Priests Retirement Collection



Glory to God in the highest

Christmas Day 12/25

9:00 a.m. Mass
Holy Family Staff and Faculty
wish each of you a joyous
Christmas Season!
Vocation Office and Priests Retirement Collection



Christmas

Sat. 12/26

5:30 p.m. Mass - all welcome!

Sun. 12/27

FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY

8:00 a.m. Mass - all welcome!
10:00 a.m. Mass - all welcome!

**Your Gifts To God
And Parish...**

Offertory Budget	52 wks.	\$ 1,041,248.00
Needed to Date	24 wks.	492,360.00
Received to Date		475,037.50
Over (Under) for Year		(17,322.50)
Needed Each Week		20,515.00
Received Dec. 12-13		20,235.46

The total for Dec. 12-13 is comprised of:

Regular Envelopes & Loose	14,531.09
Youth Envelopes	43.28
Stole Fees	175.00
Memorials	1,205.00
Masses	5.00
Votive	30.00
School Support	1,177.00
Tuition	1,147.00
Arts & Environment (C'mas flowers)	360.00
Christmas	470.00
Holy Days (I.C.)	1,092.09

Building Fund	665.00
Families In Need	1,100.00
Human Development	210.00

Can You Help?

Two of our parishioners in nursing homes would appreciate receiving a card or a note for the holidays. **Note:** We made a correction to Earl Woodson's address, please use the address below when sending a card to him.

Earl Woodson, Room 206
Lewis County Nursing Home
P.O. Box 266
Canton, MO 63435

Ilene Megown
Maple Lawn Nursing Home
1410 West Line St.
Palmyra, MO 63461

So if you know Earl and Ilene, please take time out of your busy schedule to send a Christmas card or note or both. Thanks for your care for your fellow parishioners.

HAVE YOU ASKED SOMEONE TO BE A PRIEST OR RELIGIOUS TODAY?

CHRIST RENEWS HIS PARISH

Registration for the upcoming Men's and Women's Christ Renews His Parish weekend in March will be held January 16 and 17, 2010 after all Masses. Registration will be held in the St. Elizabeth Room. There are only 25 spots available for each weekend, so get your registration in as soon as you can!

70's DISCO FEVER PARTY - THE 9TH ANNUAL HOLY FAMILY SCHOOL AUCTION

The School Auction will take place Saturday, February 13th at the Admiral Coontz Armory with doors opening at 5:30 PM. TICKETS GO ON SALE THE FIRST WEEK OF JANUARY. Save the date!!! Donations happily accepted NOW. **Please contact Mary Novara, 248-8004 to make your donation today!** We greatly appreciate the generous donations received to date for the upcoming Holy Family School Auction. Watch the bulletin for more auction info.!

HE SHALL BE PEACE (Micah 5:4)

For centuries Jews well versed in Scripture pondered Micah's mysterious promise that someone would come from Bethlehem to "shepherd his flock by the strength of the Lord" (Micah 5:3). Over time, Bethlehem, the City of David, became a place of hope, the place from which one who would "be peace" (Micah 5:4) would come.

How unlike the Bethlehem of today! The city that once witnessed the birth of Jesus, the Prince of Peace, is now a frequent witness to violence. Most recently, Arab-Israeli tensions escalated there in 2002 when Israeli soldiers entered Arab homes and houses of worship searching for Palestinian militants. This incursion prompted a group of militants to entrench themselves in the Church of the Nativity. Weeks of bloodshed and anxious negotiation followed until the situation reduced to its previous level of manageable tension.

In this holy season, as we look once more to Bethlehem, let's pray for peace in that city. Imagine the effect it could have on the world if Bethlehem were to become a place of reconciliation and healing! Imagine the effect it could have on the centuries-long animosity between Jews and Christians and Muslims. Imagine the grace that could flow from there to the whole Middle East and beyond. As Pope Benedict XVI has often urged, we should "pray in a special way for the birthplace of our Redeemer and for the men and women who live and suffer there. Look, O Lord, upon this corner of the earth, your homeland, which is so very dear to you! Let your light shine upon it! Let it know peace!"

Let's also pray for peace within our own homes - the little "domestic Bethlehems" scattered throughout world. For if we can foster peace and unity at home, we can become powerful witnesses to the gospel. And Christ can be born in the hearts of all who are touched by our example.

Taken from ...Five Minutes With the Word Advent, 2009

READINGS FOR THE WEEK - Dec. 20-27

Sunday: Mi 5:1-4a Ps 80:2-3,15-16,18-19
Heb 10:5-10 Lk 1:39-45
Monday: Zeph. 3:14-18a Ps 33:2-3, 11-12,
20-21 Luke 1:39-45
Tuesday: 1Sm.1:24-28 Ps 23:7 Lk 1:46-56
Wednesday: Mal. 3:1-4, 23-24 Ps 25:4-5ab, 8-9,
10 & 14
Thursday: Is 62:1-5 (13abc) Ps 89:4-5,16-17,
27, 29 Acts 13:16-,22-25 Mt. 1:1-25
or 1:18-25 (Vigil)
(Midnight) Is 9:1-6 (14 abc) Ps 96:1-2, 2-3, 11-
12,13 Titus 2:11-14 Lk 2:1-14
Friday Is 62:11-12 (15abc) Ps 97:1, 6, 11-12
Titus 3:4-7 Lk 2:15-29 (dawn)
Is 52:7-10 Ps 98:1, 2-3, 3-4, 5-6
Hb 1:1-6 Jn:1-18 or 1:1-5, 9-14 (day)
Saturday Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59 Ps 31:3cd-4,
6&8ab, 16bc & 17 Mt 10:17-22
Sunday 1 Sm 1:20-22, 24-28 Ps 84:2-3, 5-6,
9-10 1 Jn. 3:1-2, 21-24 Lk 2:41-52

QUESTION OF THE WEEK

"Elizabeth filled with the Holy Spirit cried out in a loud voice and said, 'Most blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb.'"
Lk 1:41b,42

Adults How has the Holy Spirit stirred me to recognize God's presence?

Children What can I learn from Mary's visit to Elizabeth?

Christmas & Year End Giving

Christmas and year's end is a special time to give extra support to the parish while positively impacting your federal and state income taxes. All gifts made on or before December 31st are tax deductible for this year. **Your gifts must be in the parish office by December 31, 2009 to appear on your statement.**

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

PLEASE NOTE: WE WILL NOT HAVE EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION DECEMBER 25-26 AND JANUARY 1-2. If you have any questions, please call Joan Varadin at 221-0501.

 Please Pray For All The Sick 

December 20, 2009

YEAR FOR PRIESTS In this "Year For Priests" please pray for these priests of our diocese:
Fr. Lou Dorn, Fr. Pat Dowling, Fr. Brendan Doyle, Fr. Bob Duesdieker, Fr. Fred Elskamp,
Fr. Rob Fields, Fr. James Finder, Msgr. Michael Flanagan, Fr. Rich Frank, Most Rev. John R. Gaydos,
Fr. Kevin Gormley, Fr. Brendan Griffey, Fr. John Groner, Fr. Paul Hartley, Fr. John Henderson

SEND YOUR GREETINGS

Sister M. Clementia Toalson, FSGM
St. Francis Convent
P.O. Box 9020
Alton, IL 62002

Deacon Dylan Schrader
Kenrick Glennon Seminary
5200 Glennon Dr.
St. Louis, MO 63119

After January 6th, please send Sister M. Clementia Toalson's mail to:

Sister M. Clementia Toalson, FSGM
St. Clare Convent
349 Belleview Blvd.
Steubenville, OH 43952

WHY CATHOLIC? Faith Enrichment Sessions 2010 Scripture and Tradition: The Braid of Revelation

Please mark you calendars for attending the **Monroe City faith enrichment session on Thursday, January 14, 2010 at 7:00 p.m. at Holy Rosary Church in Monroe City, MO.** Sr. Kathleen Collins from Renew International will be presenting the session. The two hour sessions are open to anyone who would like to attend but especially for all small group participants and leaders.

SPECIAL THANKS TO...



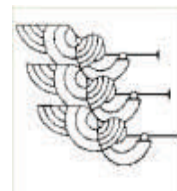
FOR PROVIDING INTERNET SERVICE TO HOLY FAMILY SCHOOL!

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS IN MEMORY... *The flowers decorating our church during the Christmas Season are in Memory of our loved ones. Please pray for them and their families throughout the year.*

Deceased Members of
Harold & Rita Lentz
Hamill & Allen Families
Norma J. Branham
Emmett & Mary Pierceall
Clarence & Margaret Mudd
Mark Welch
Carrollyn Miller
Tim Murphy Family
Darwin & Berneil Thornton
David McIntyre
Deceased Members of the
Bill & Hilda Eusterbrock Family
Deceased Members of the
Elmo & Elsie Leake Family
Alice Dempsey
Mike & Ethel Dindia
Ed & Helen Keim
Deceased Members of the Ehrhardt &
Wiewel Families
Fitzgerald & Branham Families



Louis Stephens
Edwina Zinn
Deceased Members of the Hess Family
Clifford W. Cramlett
Woodrow (Mac) Hammock
Deceased Members of the
Howarth & Stolte Families
Harold F. McCrudden
Marion Wasinger
Bernard J. Chambers
Mary Ann Allen
Tony Viorel
Charles Link
Lee & Angie Viorel
Ronnie Thomas
Ruth & Wilson Freeman
Anthony Wojcik
Michael J. & Helen E. O'Hearn
Richard J. O'Hearn
David L. O'Hearn
Tom & Mary O'Hearn Mudd
(Christmas Flowers cont. next page)



Holy Family Church

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS IN MEMORY... The flowers decorating our church during the Christmas Season are in Memory of our loved ones. Please pray for them and their families throughout the year.

Ambrose Quinn
Fr. Pat Quinn
P.A. Turnbull III
Bess & Sid Williams
Sr. Bertha Franco
George Wood
Bill & LaVergne Miller
Joanne F. Menke
Charles, Mike & Colin Miller
Sharon Sankpill
Charles Pollitt
Arthur & Thelma Hirner
Trevor & Ruth Pilcher
Paul, Sr. & Elsie Sula
Pavlovic Family
Alleen Sebers
Florence & Joseph Frese
Lloyd Lampton
Sam Astorino
Warren Smoot
William & Anna Koehler
Don & Barbara Smith
Terry Gaines
Earl J. Yount
Raymond Penoyer
Roy, Bernice & Jerry Hagan
Dr. Francis Torrey, MD
Deceased Members of the
Kenneth Kendrick Family
Elizabeth Huechteman
Clinton D. Johnston
Rose Catherine Pfaff
Bob Foster
Deacon Harold Orscheln
Larry Arthaud
Virginia Arthaud
Arla Patrick
Jerry McAvoy
Bill & Madeline Rule
John Rule
Jay White Family
Wilmoth & Cook Families
Deceased Members of the
Richmond Family
Ronnie Rupp
Glenn & Glenwyn Hubbard
Herb & Gen Rupp
Deceased Members of the
Vessell Family
Erin Elsner
Carl & Marie Rupp
Jon & Jeff Rupp
Deceased of the Nemes Family



Mary Jane Rothweiler
Lemuel, Elizabeth & Hugh Stearns
Anton & Julia Bolletta
Wilbur Whitley
Fred & Vera Hollis
Asa & Georgia Mosley
White & Kelly Families
Brent L. Jacobson, Sr.
Adrienne Eustic
James L. Stout
Stafford Gavin & Ned Trenhaile
Welch-Church Family
Alvin Hagan & Howard Creech
Families
Jim, Sr. & Gregory Patterson
Bill A. Schanbacher
Denkler & Paschal Families
Deceased Members of the
Brummer & Lewis Families
Howard Wilkerson
Janice Garner
Margaret Hamilton
Earl & Augustine Garner
Bill Verrant
David Behl
Thomas Hardy
Lon & Rosalie Buckman
Ellis & Steven Wiesemann
Jason Harvey
Jack Brothers
Dorothy Wilson
Reutenauer Family
Huseman Family
Daniel W. Murphy
Paul & Louise Hagerbaumer
Joseph & Margaret Murphy
Pat Scheu
Bob Beckner
The Riley Mudd Family
Constable & Lidgard Families
Lloyd Engle
Melissa (Missy Smith) McCutcheon
Larry Collins
Lewis & Mary Epperson
Norman Adkins
Lois, Louis & Carl Strothoff
Oenning, Hartley & Dudgeon Families
Judy Kuhn
Cy Kuhn
David Bodie
Hubert & Ruth McClintic
Jack & Steven McClintic
The Morris Family



Colin Krigbaum
Kenneth Quinlan
Hart & Edna Walker
John Walker, Kyle Walker
Maria Beroiza
Fred Miller
Richard Davis
Mike & Jerry Long
Steve Buckman
Riesenbeck & Wetton Families
Billy & Frances Zeiger
John & Mary Lou Lehr
Howard Clay
Melody Craven Redmond
Marion & Mary Craven
Dan & Lillian Damron
Cooper & Pearl Janes
Violet & Otto Bailey
Jerry & Caroline Janes
Walter J. Filipek
Stanley V. Knutelski
Donald Miller
Jason Vineyard
Brent Esicar
Bernie Glueck
Maggie Nelson
Henry Nelson
Scott Whitmore
Charlie Whitmore
JoAnn Latta
Dudgeon, Oenning, Hirner &
Hartley Family
Richard Kennedy (Shammy) Hays
Robison & Lidgard Families
Steve & Mary Oslica
Cloyd & Alice Coleman
Cornelius Treat
John, Nick & Katie Kitsock
Roy & Katherine Lutz
Harry A. Davidson
Andrew & Angelina Golian & Sons
Dr. John H. Walterscheid
McWilliams & Jarus Family Members
Florence & Redmond Raleigh
Feeney Family
Riedel Family
Joseph B. Murphy, Jr.
Don Williamson
Ella Grace McChristy
Grace Fischer
Arthur & Nellie Hudson
Bill Billings
The Brenner Family

