The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph

The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favor of God was upon him.

Luke 2:40
2018 New Year’s Schedule of Liturgies

SOLEMNITY OF MARY, MOTHER OF GOD
(not a holy day of obligation)

New Year’s Day – Monday, January 1st, 2018

6:30 AM – Vietnamese
8:15 AM – English
5:00 PM – Vietnamese
7:00 PM – Spanish

Words of Gratitude.....

As we conclude 2017 and begin 2018, let us first give thanks to our Lord for all the blessings He has bestowed on us; and secondly let us also give thanks to you: our parishioners, publishers, vendors, staff, and friends who have supported us recently and throughout the year. Without your generosity and dedication, our weekly bulletins would not have been received in good hands.

Due to the early submission of the bulletin for the holiday, we were not able to include the Sunday Collection for December 23 & 24 in this issue, but it will be reflected in the following one.

Our parish office will be closed on Monday, January 1st, 2018 in observance of the New Year and will resume our regular office hours on Tuesday, January 2nd, 2018.

Wishing you and your loved ones the spirit of JOY, PEACE, and HOPE, in this New Year, and forever. Have a safe and wonderful New Year!

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here! (2 Corinthians 5:17)

Anna Nguyen
Bulletin Editor
The “Holy” Family of Jesus

We all have holy cards and images of the saints, the Blessed Mother, the Sacred Heart of Jesus, the Holy Family, etc. While these images are helpful as they attempt to “visualize” certain aspects of the “invisible” faith, they can also be problematic because sometimes they tend to obscure the reality which they try to present. For example, in traditional Christian images of the Holy Family: Mary is usually portrayed as perfect woman, with Joseph as a somewhat lifeless old man, and the angelic baby Jesus. Perhaps this image of the Holy Family has been so idealized throughout the centuries in Christian artworks that it almost became an impossible model for families to follow. When we so idealize the Holy Family, we somehow deprive them of their “humanness.” In the Gospel reading today from St. Luke (2:22-40), there is the story of the anxious Joseph and Mary in search of their twelve-year-old son Jesus, who did not bother to tell them he had stayed behind in the Temple. This incident reminds us that their family shared many of the struggles and tensions that any typical family would. Holiness for them probably consisted not in all the wonderful privileges that traditional devotional artists and authors like to dwell upon, but in their daily struggles to make the best out of their life circumstances. In a word, the Holy Family was “holy,” but far from being a perfect family…

So that was the “family” of Jesus. But in another real sense, Jesus also belongs to “our” family—the human family. St. Matthew’s Gospel begins with the genealogy of Jesus (1:1-17), tracing the Savior’s family line all the way to Abraham. [It is interesting to note that St. Luke also presents a genealogy, which goes even further than Abraham—to Adam himself, the first human being. Luke’s genealogy is more “universal” in scope; while Matthew’s gets more down to earth and puts the family line of Jesus in a more “particular” context, the context of the history of the Israelites.] If we look at this genealogy in Matthew’s Gospel, we can see the messy human realities that our Savior’s ancestors were involved with. For example, Jacob—the son of Isaac, Abraham’s son—won his position (over his older brother Esau) in the line that leads to Christ by cheating his old blind father Isaac (Genesis 27). One more example: King David, the most famous King in Israel whose name has forever been linked to the Messiah, was a murderer and an adulterer. He had an affair with Bathsheba, his general Uriah’s wife; then to cover up his sin, he had Uriah killed in battle…These are just a few instances. The point here is that God’s plan is not always carried out in and through good—but rather, disreputable—people. And that was the family line of Jesus our Savior. That also seems like our human family in general.

Here we are reminded once again of the great mystery of the Incarnation, the mystery we hold dearly this Christmas season: namely that God became human in the person of Jesus Christ. Only in Christianity can we find this mystery: God does not hesitate to be born into the human family with all its messiness. In Islam, it is utterly inconceivable that Almighty God would lower himself to become human like one of us, given our dire conditions… In the end, the family of Jesus does not only refer to his family in Nazareth, but also to the broader human family that includes all of us. Being born to our human family with all its messiness and fragility, he is able to save us and give us hope.

Lord Jesus Christ, Redeemer of the world, you have shouldered the burden of our weakness and borne our sufferings in your own passion and death. Hear this prayer for our sick brothers and sister whom you have redeemed. Strengthen their hope of salvation and sustain them in body and soul, for you live and reign for ever and ever. Amen.

Pray for the Sick

Steve & Melinda, Walker Champion, Refugio Cardenas, Catherine Mendoza, Cristo Alfaro, Flora Saragosa, Jorge Martinez, Vera Leon, Rose Browning, Victor Sanchez.

Maria Nguyen Thai Hat, Phero Kieu Cong Tu, Gioan Baotixita To Trong Ai, Ba Cò Maria Nguyen Thi Tham, Vincente Nguyen Van Nhu, Phaolo Nguyen Duc Khoa, Giacobbe Ton Van Minh, Giuse Joseph Pham Dung, Benedicto Nguyen Duc Dien, B.O. Phero Nguyen Duc Tran, Rose M. Dorado.

Pray for the Deceased

God, our shelter and our strength, you listen in love to the cry of your people: hear the prayers we offer for our departed brothers and sisters. Cleanse them of their sins and grant them the fullness of redemption. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.
IMPORTANT NOTICE/CHANGE REGARDING INFANT BAPTISM:
Up until now, our parish has had infant baptism EVERY month on Sundays at 2:15 pm: first Sunday (Vietnamese), second Sunday (English), third Sunday (Spanish). However, due to the dwindling number of children, beginning with the New Year 2018, infant baptism will be held EVERY OTHER month: January, March, May, July, September, and November. This change will be reflected both on our weekly bulletin and on our parish website. May God bless you all!

TODAY'S READINGS
First Reading -- Those who honor their parents will be greatly blessed and will atone for sins (Sirach 3:2-6, 12-14) or Genesis 15:1-6; 21:1-3.
Psalm -- Blessed are those who fear the Lord and walk in his ways (Psalm 128) or Psalm 105.
Second Reading -- Be thankful; do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus (Colossians 3:12-21 [12-17]) or Hebrews 11:8, 11-12, 17-19.

BEARERS OF THE WORD
The Church has placed a number of notable feast days immediately after Christmas. The feasts of Stephen, John the Evangelist, and the Holy Innocents form a summary of the life lived in Christ, the Word made flesh. What do these have to do with the feast of the Holy Family, which crowns the Octave of Christmas? These feasts remind us that suffering will occur in fulfilling the mission of Christ, and that we are all called to be bearers of this Word whose birth we celebrate.

We also see this manifested in the lives of Joseph and Mary, both of whom took social and religious risks in obedience to the will of God, and both of whom were open to the word of God sent to them from on high. In these ways they prefigured the life of Jesus himself.

Most likely, few of us found ourselves at Mass this past Tuesday, Wednesday, or Thursday, but the essence of these feasts and the essence of the holiness of Joseph, Mary, and Jesus remain central, a holiness we celebrate today.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK
Monday: Nm 6:22-27; Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8; Gal 4:4-7; Lk 2:16-21
Tuesday: 1 Jn 2:22-28; Ps 98:1-4; Jn 1:19-28
Wednesday: 1 Jn 2:29 -- 3:6; Ps 98:1, 3cd-6; Jn 1:29-34
Thursday: 1 Jn 3:7-10; Ps 98:1, 7-9; Jn 1:35-42
Friday: 1 Jn 3:11-21; Ps 100:1b-5; Jn 1:43-51
Saturday: 1 Jn 5:5-13; Ps 147:12-15, 19-20; Mk 1:7-11 or Lk 3:23-28 [23, 31-34, 36, 38]
Sunday: Is 60:1-6; Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-13; Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6; Mt 2:1-12

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES
Sunday: The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph
Monday: Mary, the Holy Mother of God; The Octave Day of the Nativity of the Lord; World Day of Prayer for Peace;
New Year's Day
Tuesday: Ss. Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzen
Wednesday: The Most Holy Name of Jesus
Thursday: St. Elizabeth Ann Seton
Friday: St. John Neumann; First Friday
Saturday: St. André Bessette; First Saturday
Christmas Celebration at St. Barbara
La Iglesia ha puesto unos cuantos días de fiesta notables enseguida después de la Navidad. Las fiestas de Esteban, Juan el Bautista y los Santos Inocentes forman un sumario de la vida vivida en Cristo, la Palabra hecha carne. ¿Qué relación tienen estas fiestas con la fiesta de la Sagrada Familia, que corona la Octava de la Navidad? Estas fiestas nos recuerdan que habrá sufrimiento al tratar de cumplir la misión de Cristo, y que estamos todos llamados a ser portadores de esta Palabra cuyo nacimiento celebramos.

También vemos la manifestación de esta verdad en las vidas de José y María, quienes se exponen a riesgos sociales y religiosos para obedecer la voluntad de Dios, y estaban abiertos a la Palabra que Dios les enviaba del cielo. Así ambos fueron prefiguras de Jesús.

Es muy probable que muy pocos de nosotros fuimos a la misa del jueves, el viernes o el sábado pasado, pero la esencia de estas fiestas y la esencia de la santidad de José, María y Jesús es central, santidad que celebramos hoy.

**LECTURAS DE HOY**

**Primera lectura** -- Los que honran a sus padres recibirán bendiciones y pagarán sus pecados (Sirácide 3:3-7, 14-17) o Génesis 15:1-6; 21:1-3.

**Salmo** -- ¡Dichoso el que teme al Señor, y sigue sus caminos! (Salmo 128 [127]) o Salmo 105 (104).

**Segunda lectura** -- Vivan una vida de amor sincero, sean agradecidos, hagan todo en el nombre del Señor Jesús (Colosenses 3:12-21) o Hebreos 11:8, 11-12, 17-19.

**Evangelio** -- María y José llevan a Jesús al templo para consagrarlo al Señor (Lucas 2:22-40 [22, 39-40]).

**LOS SANTOS Y OTRAS CELEBRACIONES**

**Domingo:** La Sagrada Familia de Jesús, María y José

**Lunes:** Santa María, Madre de Dios; Octava de la Navidad; Año Nuevo Jornada Mundial de Oración por la Paz

**Martes:** San Basilio Magno y San Gregorio Nacianceno

**Miércoles:** El Santísimo Nombre de Jesús

**Jueves:** Santa Isabel Ana Seton

**Viernes:** San Juan Neumann; Primer viernes

**Sábado:** San André Bessette; Primer sábado
UPCOMING EVENTS:
MANDATORY MEETING
Confirmation 2
Parents Meeting
Sunday, Jan. 7, 2018
3:45-5:15pm in the Hall

CONFIRMATION 1 RETREAT
for students in Rooms
15, 16, 18, 26, 27, 28 & 18
Date: Saturday, Jan. 13, 2018
Time: 8am-6pm
Location: Cornelia Connelly HighSchool
2323 W Broadway, Anaheim, CA 92804

Conf. Year 1 Retreat—December 2017

FAITH FORMATION NEWS

Now until January 12
Give yourself the best gift of
knowledge and inspiration!
FREE ACCESS TO THE BEST DEVOTIONS/MOVIES/AUDIO/BOOKS &
MORE IN ENGLISH & SPANISH.
THE BEST CATHOLIC CONTENT.
ALL IN ONE PLACE.
Go to http://FORMED.ORG
ID: Orange@formed.org
Password: formed17

THANK YOU FOR GENEROUSLY
SHARING WITH THE LESS FORTUNATE THIS CHRISTMAS!
ST. BARBARA CATHOLIC SCHOOL
Open Arms. Open Minds. Open Hearts.

THE NEW YEAR IS THE TIME TO CONSIDER YOUR CHILD’S EDUCATION FOR 2018-2019 SCHOOL YEAR!
APPLICATIONS NOW BEING ACCEPTED!

THE BEST KIDS GO TO ST. BARBARA CATHOLIC SCHOOL!

We invite you to our Annual Open House on January 28, 2018 10:30 am to 12:00 pm
Admission Information www.stbarbara.com Prospective Parents section or
call 714 775-9477 for more information about St. Barbara Catholic School and how to apply!
OFFICE HOURS M,W,TH, F 7:30am-3:30pm TUES until 2:00pm. Office closed 12/21/17 - 1/7/18
And the Child grew and became strong; He was filled with wisdom, and the grace of God was on Him.

Simeon and Anna praised God when they saw Jesus.

What did Simeon say to God?

Use the code to fill in the missing letters.

- = A  - = E  - = I  - = O

"MY  ___Y___ S

H___V___  S_______N

Y____UR

S___LV___T___ ____N."
ADS
ADS
Liturgical Celebrations

†††

Weekend Eucharist

Saturday Vigil
- 4:00 PM Vietnamese
- 5:30 PM English
- 7:00 PM Vietnamese

Neocatechumenal Way
- 7:00 PM English (in the Hall)
- 8:30 PM Spanish (in the Church)
- 8:45 PM Spanish (in the Hall)

Sunday
- 6:30 AM Vietnamese
- 8:00 AM Vietnamese
- 9:30 AM English
- 11:00 AM Vietnamese
- 12:45 PM Spanish
- 4:00 PM Vietnamese
- 5:30 PM English
- 7:00 PM Spanish

Weekday Eucharist

Mon, Wed, Thu
- 6:30 AM Vietnamese
- 8:15 AM English

Tue, Fri
- 8:15 AM English
- 5:30 PM Vietnamese
- 7:00 PM Spanish

Saturday
- 8:00 AM English

Parish Office Hours : Mon-Fri : 8:30AM - 7:30PM, Sat & Sun : Closed
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SOFTWARE
MSPublisher 2010
Adobe Acrobat XI
Windows 7

TRANSMISSION TIME
Monday 7:00 PM

SUNDAY DATE OF PUBLICATION
Dec 31, 2017

NUMBER OF PAGES SENT
1 through 12

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS
