

We have great reasons to celebrate in these days of Christmas!

At Duvall, this Sunday we observe the patronal Feast of the Holy Innocents

This Sunday is December 28, the patronal Feast of the Holy Innocents in Duvall. It will take the place of the Feast of the Holy Family at Duvall. The feast recalls the children who died at the hands of King Herod, because of his fear and jealousy of Christ, the infant King of the Jews, king of kings, and prince of peace. The Holy Innocents are also called the proto-martyrs, because they died for Christ before He suffered, died, and rose for us. We rejoice that today, by God's grace, they share in His victory over death and the new life Christ won for us. Let us ask these Holy Martyrs to continue to intercede for us and let us thank God for their watchful care over Holy Innocents Church.

The Feast of Holy Family is Sunday for St. Jude and St. Anthony

For the universal Church and the rest of our family, Sunday is the Feast of the Holy Family and Thursday is the Octave Day of Christmas (the eighth day of Christmas), and on it we celebrate the Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God. This celebration reminds us that Jesus, Mary and Joseph give us an example of what is to be a 'holy family.' Pope Francis reflected on the mystery of the Holy Family some years ago:

The message that comes from the Holy Family is first of all a message of faith. In the family life of Mary and Joseph, God is truly at the center, and He is so in the Person of Jesus. This is why the Family of Nazareth is holy. Why? Because it is centered on Jesus.

When parents and children together breathe in this climate of faith, they have an energy that allows them to face even difficult trials, as the experience of the Holy Family shows, for example, in the dramatic event of their flight to Egypt: a difficult ordeal.

The Baby Jesus with his Mother Mary and with St. Joseph are a simple but so luminous icon of the family. The light it casts is the light of mercy and salvation for all the world, the light of truth for every man, for the human family and for individual families. This light which comes from the Holy Family encourages us to offer human warmth in those family situations in which, for various reasons, peace is lacking, harmony is lacking, and forgiveness is lacking. May our concrete solidarity not diminish especially with regard to the families who are

experiencing more difficult situations due to illness, unemployment, discrimination, the need to emigrate.... Let us pause here for a moment and pray in silence for all these families in difficulty, whether due to problems of illness, unemployment, discrimination, need to emigrate, due to difficulty in understanding each other and also to disunion. Let us pray in silence for all these families.

-POPE FRANCIS

THURSDAY, JANUARY 1 IS THE SOLEMNITY OF MARY MOTHER OF GOD.

On Thursday, we celebrate the Holy Day of Mary Mother of God. Let us gather to give thanks to God for the blessing of the New Year and ask the Mother of God to help us grow in discipleship. It is also the World Day of Prayer for Peace. How urgently and fervently do we need to pray for peace in these days!

THANK YOU!

Thank you to all who made our Christmas celebrations especially joyful this year. I want to take this opportunity to thank the many, many people who worked so hard to prepare our liturgies. Many thanks to all who decorated, cleaned, prepared, helped, and did a marvelous job making the Church look so beautiful for Christmas. Thank you to all the musicians who sang and played on Christmas. What wonderful praise of God was given! Thank you! Finally, I am grateful to Fr. Raphael, the wonderful staff of our parishes, our lectors, extraordinary ministers of Holy Communion, servers, ushers, and especially all of our great music ministers. I so appreciate your selfless dedication and willingness to serve. I know many changed their plans to help out at particular Masses. Thank you for your generous service. That is what life is all about: giving of our selves in service to one another in gratitude to the One who gives his life for us, in love, and in service.

Finally, Fr. Raphael and I want to thank all of you who were so kind over the holidays. We cannot thank you enough for the cards, delicious treats, and generous gifts you sent us. We will certainly remember you in our prayers. We are so grateful for your thoughtfulness.

May God bless all of you for your generosity and love of the Lord!

Fr. Johnson

WEEKLY CALENDAR

The Parish Office is Closed Dec. 31—Jan. 2, and will be next open on Monday, Jan. 5. Wishing you a very Happy New Year!

Monday, December 29

9:00 AM Daily Mass
10:00 AM Women of Faith

Tuesday, December 30

No Daily Mass

Wednesday, December 31

8:30 AM Confessions
9:00 AM Daily Mass
5:00 PM Vigil Mass for the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God
7:00 PM Syro Malabar:
Year End Adoration & Mass

Thursday, January 1

SOLEMNITY OF MARY, MOTHER OF GOD
9:00 AM Mass for Mary, Mother of God
1:00 PM Rosary Cenacle**

Friday, January 2

9:00 AM Daily Mass
9:30 AM Adoration until 9PM
7:00 PM Holy Hour

Saturday, January 3

3:30 PM Confessions
5:00 PM Saturday Vigil Mass

Sunday, January 4

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

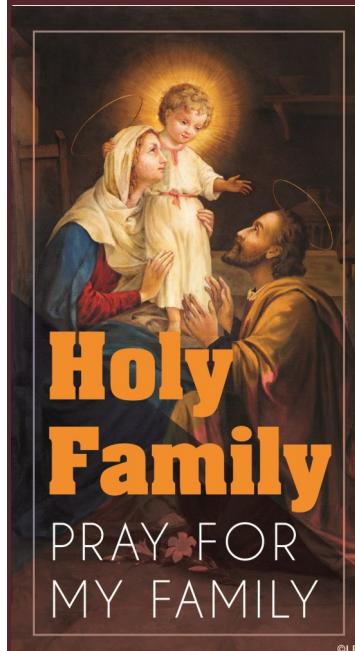
9:00 AM Sunday Mass
11:00 AM Sunday Mass
12:00 PM Nativities Display Take-Down
6:30 PM Teen Group

**Please check with your ministry leaders for any holiday schedule changes.

HOLIDAY OFFICE HOURS

The Parish Office will be closed or have altered hours on the following dates:

December 31-January 2: Closed
January 7: Parish Office closing early at 12PM
January 19: Parish Office Closed for Martin Luther King Jr.



Dec 28, 2025
Feast of the Holy Family

Prayer to the Holy Family

"Jesus, Mary and Joseph, in you we contemplate the splendour of true love, to you we turn with trust. Holy Family of Nazareth, grant that our families too may be places of communion and prayer, authentic schools of the Gospel and small domestic Churches. Holy Family of Nazareth, may

families never again experience violence, rejection and division: may all who have been hurt or scandalized find ready comfort and healing. Holy Family of Nazareth, may the Synod of Bishops make us once more mindful of the sacredness and inviolability of the family, and its beauty in God's plan. Jesus, Mary and Joseph, graciously hear our prayer."

-POPE FRANCIS

Beware of Scams this Season

With it being Advent and Christmas time, we are seeing an increase in phishing emails and other scams aimed at targeting those with the giving hearts of the season. This is a reminder that **Fr. Johnson, Fr. Raphael, or any parish staff will not individually email or text with gift or donation requests.**

Be vigilant and double check any suspicious communications before responding to them.



WELCOME TO OUR PARISH FAMILY!

St Jude | Holy Innocents

Mission Church of St. Anthony