

FEAST OF THE

Holy Family

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

Luke 2:40



by Raphael
Holy Family with the lamb
1504



ST. PATRICK CATHOLIC CHURCH
14936 W. Wilmington - Peotone Rd.
Manhattan, Illinois 60442
The Holy Family of
Jesus, Mary and Joseph
December 28, 2025

Most Revered Bishop Dennis Spies
Administrator

Office Phone 815-478-3440
Facebook St. Patrick Church of Wilton Center
Website: www.stpatrickwiltoncenter.org

MASS INTENTIONS

Mass is celebrated on Saturday evening only

| | | |
|---------|--------|---|
| Dec. 27 | 5:45pm | +Dot McGrath req. by Ed & Judy Phelan +Harold Toepper req. by Ann Bishop & Family Parish Family of St. Patrick |
| Dec. 31 | 4:00pm | SOLEMNITY OF MARY - VIGIL +Gladys Meyer req. by The Family +Eleanor Price req. by The Cakora Family +Judy Kames req. by Marilyn Cieply |
| Jan. 3 | 5:45pm | +Gladys Meyer req. by The Family +Eleanor Price req. by St. Patrick C.C.W. Parish Family of S. Patrick |

LITURGICAL MINISTERS

| | <u>Lector</u> | <u>Minister</u> |
|------------------|----------------------|---|
| Dec. 24 - 4:30pm | Jim Kreske | P. Engler; R. Stauffenberg; C. Kinsella |
| Dec. 27 - 5:45pm | Jim Kreske | C. Smith |
| Dec. 31 - 4:00pm | Jerry Kinsella | C. Kinsella |

SERVERS & USHERS

Please volunteer at the Mass you are attending

**Scripture Readings
For the Week of December 28, 2025**

Sunday Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph Sirach 3:2-6, 12-14; Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5; Col 3:12-21 or 3:12-17; Mt 2:13-15, 19-23

Monday 1 Jn 2:3-11; Ps 96:1-2a, 2b-3, 5b-6; Lk 2:22-35

Tuesday 1 Jn 2:12-17; Ps 96:7-8a; 8b-9, 10; Lk 2:36-40

Wednesday 1 Jn 2:18-21; Ps 96:1-2, 11-12, 13; Jn 1:1-18

Thursday Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God Num 6:22-27; Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8; Gal 4:4-7; Lk 2:16-21

Friday Memorial of Saints Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzen, Bishops and Doctors of the Church 1 Jn 2:22-28; Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4; Jn 1:19-28

Saturday 1 Jn 2:29-3:6; Ps 98:1, 3cd-4, 5-6; Jn 1:29-34

Sunday The Epiphany of the Lord Is 60:1-6; Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13; Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6; Mt 2:1-12



**WEEKLY OFFERING FOR
12/21/2025**

Sunday - \$1,511.00

Maintenance - \$220.00

Immaculate Conception—\$10.00

Christmas \$115.00

Retired Religious—\$10.00

Our weekly budget goal is \$1,211.54

THANK YOU For your faith - filled support

**2026 CALANDARS
ARE AVAILABLE IN THE VESTIBULE
THANK YOU FORSYTHE
FUNERAL HOME FOR
DONATING THESE BECAUTIFUL
CALANDARS**

**THANK YOU TO OUR
FRIENDS AT
THE FIRST BANK OF
MANHATTAN
FOR THEIR
GENEROUS GIFT**

Please Remember our sick;

especially: Greg Harnois, Jim Kreske, Ann Marie & Tori Jasinski, Lisa Price, Marshall & Duncan Lorenzen, Barbara Schriver, Leslie Lund, Joe & Carol Price, Beth Oniel, Bernice & Dominick Marino, Tom Lane, Peggy Schiesow, Haley Donzella, Ken Smith, Laura 'Hanson, Steve Niemiec, Nancee Long, Shay Phelan, Lisa Bernard. Joe Hanson



**During the Month of
Our Blessed Mother Candle
Is burning for
THE PARISH FAMILY
OF ST. PATRICK**

St. Joseph's Obedience

Dreams are a thing in the Bible. Joseph in the Old Testament, famous for his coat of many colors, interpreted dreams and earned himself a place in Pharaoh's government. Daniel also interpreted dreams and worked for King Darius.

Joseph, Mary's husband and father to Jesus, was no stranger to divine communication via dreams. When Jesus' life was threatened by Herod, Joseph was told in a dream to rise and take the family to Egypt. He was obedient and he trusted. Despite having nowhere specific to go and no way of supporting himself or his family, he went in the dark of night. He did what any loving father would do, trusting that God would take care of them. And God did.

We see Joseph acting with complete trust in God. We imagine his fear for his family's safety, his worry about the necessities of life, his awe at the instructions and their urgency. We wonder if he wondered about it. But we know he acted. We know Joseph embraced God's perfect plan. In him we see a man who radically trusted God. We do not know if he initially struggled with what God asked of him; we only know he obeyed.

Whether we are man or woman, single or married, a parent or not, we can hold Joseph up as a model of trust and fidelity to God and his plan. When we struggle with what God asks of us, we can ask for intercession from St. Joseph. During this Christmas season, we can thank him for his obedience and docility. He played a quiet, yet important role in salvation history.

By Merridith Frediani

Holy Family

Let us imitate the Holy Family in our Christian families, and our family will be a cell and a prefiguration of the heavenly family. Say a prayer dedicating your family to the Holy Family. Also pray for all families and for our country to uphold the sanctity of the marriage bond which is under attack.

Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God

Remember, Reflect, Respond

This feast has had several names through history. Most recently, it was called the Feast of the Circumcision and then the Feast of the Holy Name of Jesus. The Church

finally settled on a more ancient title, Mary, the Holy Mother of God. It also has a secondary title of the Octave of Christmas, the secular title of New Years Day, and an honorary title of World Day of Prayer for Peace. Strangely, the title that is most confusing to non-Catholics is the official one.

When we call Mary the Mother of God, we are not saying that she somehow preceded God or is equal to God. We are simply recognizing that her human son Jesus is also the divine Son of God. We honor Mary because God honored her by choosing her to be the mother of Jesus. In her humble response of "let it be done to me," she agreed to be part of God's plan for our salvation. And so today's Gospel records one simple action of Mary: to keep these things in her heart.

Even in this simple sentence we are given a good example of being a disciple. Like Mary, we need to both keep, or remember, what God has done, and to reflect on what we remember. First, how much do we remember about what God has done for us? How well do we know the stories of salvation found in the scriptures? How well do we know God's actions in Church history? And how much do we remember of the personal graces given us by God? Do we recall the prayers God has answered, the guidance given, the love of God that others have shown us, the times God has forgiven us?

Second, how much do we reflect on what God has done? Even if we have many memories of God's goodness to us, we also need to pray over them and ask ourselves how we have changed because of what God has done. Am I more generous to others? Do I forgive hurts more readily? Do I share my faith with my family or friends? Do I support my parish with my time or offerings? Let us ask God's help to imitate Mary by remembering and reflecting.

Tom Schmidt

Feast of the Holy Family

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| E | H | A | Z | G | O | B | W | A | F |
| A | N | N | A | A | Y | L | Y | G | L |
| M | I | E | N | N | R | P | D | I | E |
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Magi
Behold
Angel
Dream
Rise
Flee
Egypt
Search
Night
Nazareth



SUNDAYKIDZ

©Diocesan

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph

Loving Obedience

One theme common to all three readings today is obedience. Sirach commends the son who obeys his father. St. Paul tells children to obey their parents "in everything." And the Gospel shows Joseph obedient to the warnings of the angel. Yet all three put obedience in terms of a larger relationship.

Sirach says that obedience is part of what makes a happy family. As we saw last Sunday, it shows trust in the one who is obeyed. Children trust that their parents have good reason for telling them to do something. Children also learn both discipline and how to contribute to family life. Spouses trust each other not to ask them to do something harmful. Obedience is also a sign of respect for an older family member. Americans tend to look at older people as if they were useless, but Sirach reminds us of the wisdom they can share with us.

St. Paul continues this theme in the second reading. He shows how love of Christ transforms a family. When he talks about wives being subordinate and husbands loving them, he means that husbands and wives should defer to each other and love each other. Children and parents have duties to each other: Children are to obey parents and parents are to be reasonable ("do not provoke") and loving.

Parents might look at the Gospel for support in encouraging obedience. Joseph obeyed the messages from the angel and saved the life of the infant Jesus. So families can learn that stressing obedience can protect the child as well as teach. Parents can also remind children that God asks for obedience for our good, not on a whim. When we obey God's law, we learn to trust God more deeply and to appreciate that God's law enables us to live more freely. As children we think that rules restrict us, but as we mature, we learn that we are more restricted by our misguided desires and beliefs. We learn to adjust those desires to be in line with God's plan for us. We grow by replacing misguided beliefs (i.e., that material things bring true happiness, that revenge is sweet, etc.) with faith in a loving God who wants the best for us and who doesn't magically take away our sufferings, but supports us through them.

Tom Schmidt