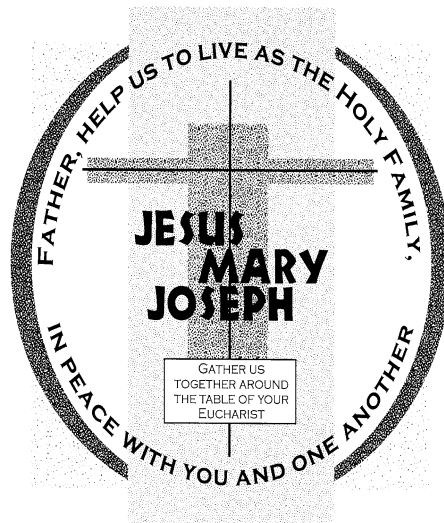


## A Family Affair



Today's feast of the Holy Family seems to make some people a bit nervous. One hard-working mother said, "What is this about? They used to tell us to model our families after Jesus, Mary, and Joseph. Talk about pressure! I'm not the Blessed Mother! And have you seen what it's like out there?" We can't compare times and cultures, point for point, to use their family as an identical blueprint for ours. Most Catholics have a pretty inflated idea of how ideal Jesus' family must have been. If we don't look closely at the readings today, we'll come away like this mom, with the idea that Jesus' family was all about perfection. Of course, Jesus was divine, but his birth and his family was all about being deeply human. For example, Jesus terrorized his parents by disappearing on the family trip for Passover, and then said, "Why were you looking for me?" The gospel speaks for parents everywhere when it says, "But they did not understand what he said to them." That's a normal family. Catholic theology teaches that every family is a "holy family" when its members try to live the virtues that St. Paul sets out in the second reading: be patient--forgive each other--show heartfelt mercy with kindness and humility. And, of course, love heals all. Jesus, Mary, and Joseph were not chess pieces God moved around on a divine game board. They, too, had to listen to God's call, and try every day to choose virtuous actions. Whole-hearted effort--not a perfect result--is what it means to be a "Holy Family." And the real Holy Family is the Church. Enjoy each other, because we are among friends—we are the extended family of Jesus Christ. **Go rejoicing to serve our God! Holy Family December 27, 2009**

### MASSES FOR THIS WEEK

Tues. Dec. 29	9:00 am	Derek, Elliott & Jennifer Currie	Ken, Karen & Steven
	9:00 am	RIP Ethel Sharein	Fr. Dominic
Wed. Dec. 30	7:30 am	Carol & Carl Hartman	Issigonis Family
	9:00 am	RIP Anthony Fillion	Fillion Family
Thurs. Dec. 31	7:30 pm	Ginger	Mom & Dad
Fri. Jan. 01	10:30 am	Shawn Baraniuk	Mom, Dad & Family
Sat. Jan. 02	10:00 am	RIP Wilma Kichak	Bill & Family
	7:30 pm	For All Parishioners	Fr. Dominic & Fr. James
Sun. Jan. 03	9:00 am	Louis Roy	St. Vincent de Paul
	10:30 am	RIP Carol Amason	Deacon John & Carol MacKenzie
	12:30 pm	Delbert & Annette Schapf	Delannoy Family
Sun. Jan 03	11:00 am	Rita Forest	St. Mary's Parish

**PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK:** Ann Babiak, Marguerite Bicknell, Noreen Bicknell, Jean Boutellier, Irene Copet, Jules Declercq, Ann Delgaty, Diane Dougall, Ron Ediger, Justin Enns, Rosaline Fedorkie, Mervin Fleury, Nora Fleury, Megan Gardham, Matthew Hrankowski, Brett Lawrence, Tess McLaren, Kathleen MacDougall, Paul Malabar, Alisa Moran, Tony Petrucci, Hazel Philipott, Minnie Plaseski, Emily Potvin, Linda Seitz, Monica Seitz, Coralie Serle, Gary Sproule, Jean Tarnowski, Doreen Thompson, Irene Toma, Ashely KostECKI Truax, Marian Vorspel, Rosa Weiss, Debbie Williams and all our shut-ins.

### Donation Envelopes 2010

This year we have reassigned the envelope numbers for our collection envelopes. Therefore, you should not use any old envelopes that you have from previous years after December 31, 2009. If you should use old envelopes your collection could possibly be recorded in someone else's account which would make them very happy.

**CHARITABLE DONATION RECEIPT UPDATE:** As per Revenue Canada information please be informed that donations received after DECEMBER 31, 2009 CANNOT be added to the year 2008 receipts. Therefore it is advisable to make sure your 2008 donations are given in the current year. This information was received from Revenue Canada.

### Holy Family

#### Catechism of the Catholic Church

**2234-2243: Living in the earthly city: the role of authority**

**1655-1658: The family as the domestic church**  
**2232-2233: The family and the kingdom**

Mon. **Holy Innocents**

(1 John 1.5-2.2)  
(Matthew 2.13-18)

Tues. **St. Thomas Becket**

(1 John 2.3-11)  
(Luke 2.22-35)

Wed. (1 John 2.12-17)  
(Luke 2.36-40)

Thurs. **St. Sylvester I**  
(1 John 2.18-21)  
(John 1.1-18)

Fri. **Mary, Mother of God**  
(Numbers 6.22-27)  
(Galatians 4.4-7)  
(Luke 2.16-21)

Sat. **Sts. Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzen**  
(1 John 2.22-28)  
(John 1.19-28)

Sun. **Epiphany**  
(Isaiah 60.1-6)  
(Ephesians 3.2-3, 5-6)  
(Matthew 2.1-12)

**VOCATION VIEW:** Unless your family loves you, nothing else makes sense. In your family your vocation can grow in wisdom, age and grace.



**THE WEEK AHEAD.....**

Mon.	28	Charismatic Prayer Group(Life in the Spirit Seminar)	7:00 pm
Tues.	29	St. Vincent de Paul	9:30 am
	29	Legion of Mary	4:30 pm
Wed.	30	RCIA	7:00 pm
Thurs.	31	Mass Time	7:30 pm
Fri.	01	Mass Time	10:30 am
	01	Office Closed	
Sun.	03	K of C Pancake Breakfast after 9:00 & 10:30 masses	
	03	Youth Band Practice	4:00-6:00 pm
	03	St. Augustine's Community Choir Practice	7:00-8:00 pm

**FINANCES:****RECEIPTS:**

Collection for the Weekend for Sunday Dec. 20, 2009 ( n/a )  
 Offertory Collection (Brandon) \$  
 School Fund Collection \$  
 Restoration Collection Dec. 20, 2009 - \$

**NEW TO OUR PARISH? CHANGING YOUR ADDRESS?**  
 PLEASE FILL OUT THIS FORM AND PLACE IT IN THE SUNDAY  
 COLLECTION BASKET

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

POSTAL CODE: \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_NEW PARISHIONER      \_\_\_\_REQUESTS ENVELOPE  
 \_\_\_\_MOVING OUT OF PARISH      \_\_\_\_CHANGE OF ADDRESS

**Vigil Lamp**

The light burns in memory of

**Ignazio Scaletta**

week of Dec. 28, 2009

**Stewardship Reflection**

Mary and Joseph went searching for their son 'in great anxiety'. They were understandably worried. There are times when we worry about the young people in our lives. There are also times when they amaze us! Let us pray that in the coming year our faith community will continue to respond to the needs of families, and encourage and enable our young people to share their unique gifts. Amen. Stewardship Office, The Archdiocese of Winnipeg, [www.archwinnipeg.ca](http://www.archwinnipeg.ca)

**Knights of Columbus** are sponsoring a **Coloring Contest** for Children please check all bulletin boards for details and entry deadline.

**Parish Face to Face Retreat with Ken Yasinski & Roadside Cry**

at St. Joseph the Worker Parish in Russell, Manitoba Date: Saturday, January 16th and Sunday, January 17th, 2010 . For ages 5 and up! Registration forms available - one for families or one for individuals, Fee is \$25/person or \$60/family . Contact person: Glenda Stasiuk @ 204-773-2652

**From Father Dominic's Desk:**

**Mary, Mother of God** is a holy day of obligation in Canada. Masses at St. Augustine's will be on Thursday, December 31 at 7:30 pm. Mass on January 1, 2010 will be at 10:30 am. Mass in Souris will be at 11:00 am on January 1, 2010.

**Bereavement Support Group**, beginning on Thursday, February 25, 2010, running for eight weeks, with the exception of Holy Week. For more information, call the parish office and leave your name and phone number.

**Thank you** - We would like to take this opportunity to say thank you for all of your prayers and enquiries you all made about my mother, when she was so ill. Thank you to Fr. Dominic and Parish staff for their visits. She is much better and very grateful for having so much support for herself and her family. God Bless you all! *Pam & Terry Szmon*

Welcome to Our Christian Community: Lane Irwin Hargreaves, Kathrine Crystal Brooke Lobster, Summer Ciera Layne McKay, Austin Micheal Reed Nepinak, Brady Eric Nepinak, Jayden Javier Padilla

**New Year And Our Use of Time:** Queen Elizabeth I of England, was the richest person in the world. She had all kinds of things that the rest of us spend our entire live trying to gain. She was world famous and had tremendous power. Yet, as the end of her life approached, her last words from her deathbed were, "All my possessions for a moment of time." Elizabeth I then saw time as her most priceless possession. Unfortunately, all the wealth in the world cannot buy time.

Another woman by the name of Mary, knew that she was to do something with the gift of time God gave her. Her mission was to bear Jesus, the Savior of the world. Mary's time was well spent for she did God's will graciously and generously because of her love of God and others.

Saint Paul speaks of the "fullness of time." The mystery of the Incarnation meant that eternity had crossed the boundaries of time and plunged headlong into history. God's love took on flesh. Now, in time and space, the glory of God would be revealed for all who had eyes of faith.

Through the fullness of time we are all offered the gift of adoption. Through Jesus a new relationship is possible between the divine and the human. We are no longer strangers and aliens. Rather, through the coming of Christ, we are invited into the family of God wherein we know the intimacy of God in the Person of Jesus.

Time is a gift. No matter how much time we have, we are to use it well. Saint Augustine says in one of his spiritual exercises: "I must appoint set times, set aside certain hours for the health of my soul." In this new year 2010, may we each set aside time with and for Him. Happy New Year ! Fr. Dominic

