



## December 31, 2017 • The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph

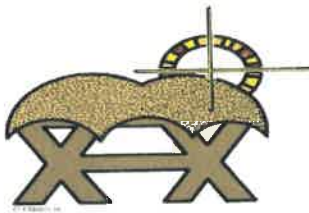
"[H]e thought the one who had made the promise was trustworthy." Abraham trusted in God, although what God had promised seemed impossible. And yet, God fulfilled his promise to Abraham and Sarah and gave them a much-longed-for son, through whom the people would be as numerous as the stars of the sky.

Mary and Joseph fulfilled the law of God by bringing Jesus to the temple

for the customary rites. They obeyed the law of the Lord, even though it could be argued that Jesus, being God, was exempt from the law.

We see in their example how faith in God is considered "an act of righteousness." We can follow in their footsteps and believe that the Lord is one whose promises are trustworthy.

SAINT PATRICK  
CHURCH  
14936 W. PEOTONE RD.  
MANHATTAN, ILLINOIS 60442



THE HOLY FAMILY OF  
JESUS, MARY, & JOSEPH  
DECEMBER 31, 2017

FR. SEBASTIAN GARGOL PASTOR  
Rev. Mr. Milt Leppert, Permanent Deacon  
Website: [www.stpatrickwiltoncenter.org](http://www.stpatrickwiltoncenter.org)

PHONE: RECTORY 478-3440  
FAX 478-4186  
Facebook: St. Patrick Church of Wilton Center

**MASS INTENTIONS**

**Saturday, December 30, 2017**

5:00 pm †Dorothy McGrath req. by Ed & Judy Phelan

**Sunday, December 31, 2017**

9:00 am †Margaret Seals req. by Steve Hoehn Family/ also Parish Family of St Patrick

**Monday, January 1, 2018 - Solemnity of Mary-Holy Day of Obligation**

9:00 am †Stanley & Helen Niemiec req. by Steve Niemiec Family

**Tuesday, January 2, 2018—NO MASS**

6:00 pm NO ADORATION

**Wednesday, January 3, 2018 - NO MASS**

**Thursday, January 4, 2018**

9:00 am †Ed Crossin req. by Steve & Grace Niemiec

**Friday, January 5, 2018 - FIRST FRIDAY**

9:00 am Intention of the Celebrant

**Saturday, January 6, 2018-FIRST SATURDAY**

9:00 am World Peace

5:00 pm †Judy Toepper req. by Kathy & Bruce Clover

**Sunday, January 7, 2018**

9:00 am †Rose Smith req. by Don Smith /also Parish Family of St. Patrick

**Altar Servers:**

Monday, January 1— 9:00 am  
Emily & Andy Horath, Sarah Hoehn

Saturday, January 6,- 5:00 pm  
Matthew Jasinski, Brent Bieschke

Sunday, January 7, - 9:00 am  
Matthew & Gabriel Barta

**Extraordinary Minister:**

Monday, January 1—9:00 am  
Linda Cakora

Saturday, January 6, - 5:00 pm  
Don & Cynthia Raymond

Sunday, January 7, - 9:00 am  
Paul Engler

**Lector**

Monday, January 1—9:00 am  
Steve Hoehn

Saturday, January 6- 5:00 pm  
Sue Nugent

Sunday, January 7 - 9:00 am  
Lisa Price

**Usher:**

Monday, January 1—9:00 am  
Eddie Horath, Bruce Boyle

Saturday, January 6- 5:00 pm  
Howard Bieschke, Mark Tillitson

Sunday, January 7- 9:00 am  
Dennis Skolasinski, volunteer

**Music:** Cathy Engler

**Collection Counters :** Bell, Mooi, Musson

**STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE**

For the new fiscal year beginning July 1, 2017, the weekly Sunday collection goal is \$2,463.93

**Sunday, December 24 .....\$2,279.00**  
**Christmas .....\$8,294.00**

**Thank you for your support of our Parish**

**ON LINE GIVING  
 NOW ACCEPTS  
 CREDIT CARDS**

Our Online Giving system provides you the opportunity to give to our special collections in addition to regular offerings. You can choose to do a One Time Gift or a special remembrance, or you can set up regularly scheduled contributions that are withdrawn on the date you specify in the system. Even if you typically use your offering envelopes, you may wish to contribute online to a particular collection. It's easy and it's convenient! Go to our parish website at [stpatrickwilton-center.org](http://stpatrickwilton-center.org). to sign up.



Our Two Week Candle is burning for  
 Marion, Zigmund, & Matthew Skolasinski  
 Requested by  
 Dennis Skolasinski Family

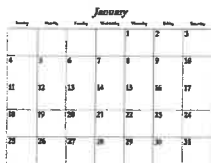
***Please Participate!***  
***Your Gift Makes a Difference!***

Parish Goal: \$ 9,635.00  
 Amount Pledged: \$12,615.00  
 Amount Paid: \$12,030.00  
 2017 Rebate \$ 1,677.00



Thank you for your generous response.

**WITH THE WINTER WEATHER UPON US 24 HOUR EUCHARISTIC  
 ADORATION WILL BE CANCELLED FOR  
 JANUARY, FEBURARY AND MARCH  
 FIRST FRIDAY MASS WILL BE CELEBRATED  
 JANUARY 5, 2018 AT 9:00 AM  
 FIRST SATURDAY MASS WILL BE CELEBRATED  
 JANUARY 6 AT 9:00 AM**



**2018 CALENDARS ARE AVAILABLE IN THE VESTIBULE  
 THANK YOU FORSYTHE FUNERAL HOME  
 FOR THE DONATIONS OF THESE  
 LOVELY CALENDARS.**

**2018 Collection Envelope Boxed Sets** will be available next weekend. If there are any changes in your address or phone number, please contact the parish office. If you are new to the parish and would like envelopes please call the office; also if you have decided to use on-line giving and do not wish the boxed sets let us know. With some families using on-line giving we have had to change a few envelope ID numbers.

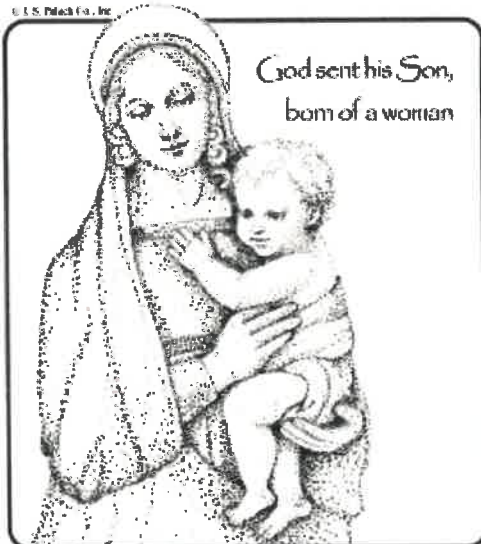


RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASSES BEGIIIN AGAIN

NEXT SUNDAY, JANUARY 7, 2018

AFTER THE 9:00 AM MASS

Joseph and Mary loved God and did their best to be obedient to all God asked them to do. They lovingly cared for the child Jesus, brought him up to walk in the ways of the Lord, and lived in love and unity with God and one another. Their life together as a family was marked by holiness and love, signs of our call to Stewardship; and it is the example of which all Christian families are to pattern their lives.



Prayer for the Feast of Mary,  
Mother of God

Father, Source of Light in every age, the Virgin Conceived and bore Your Son who is called Wonderful God, Price of Peace. May her prayer, the gift of a mother's love, be Your people's joy through all ages. May her response, born of a humble heart, draw Your Spirit to rest on Your People. Grant this through Christ, Our Lord. Amen



The U.S. bishops annual novena 9 Days for Life takes place Thursday, January 18 – Friday, January 26. Pray for the respect and protection of all human life with new intentions, brief reflections, and more each day. Download the novena online, or participate through Facebook, email, text message or an app. Join at [www.9daysforlife.com](http://www.9daysforlife.com)!

Copies of the 9 days for life novena are on the table in the vestibule

## TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

There's no more unusual setting to celebrate today's Feast of the Holy Family than Barcelona, Spain and the towering unfinished sandcastle known officially as the Temple Expiatori de la Sagrada Familia. In 1882, the plan was hatched to build a vast place of worship in reparation for the revolutionary and liberal leanings of the city. The modern artist Antoni Gaudi dedicated his life to the project, living in the building, attending Mass daily, and giving up his personal wealth. When people pressed him to pick up the pace, he responded, "My client is not in a hurry." (Gaudi's cause for beatification is moving along, and he could be the first professional artist and architect to be beatified.) The Spanish Civil War, a disaster for the Catholic Church in which thousands of priests, brothers, and nuns were murdered, halted work in 1935. In the 1950s work began anew, speeded up by computers in the 1980s. Still, the final stage of construction is not due to end until 2026. If the original methods had stayed in place, it would take several hundred more years to complete the plan. So far there are eight towers, with four to go. The highest steeple is three feet shorter than the nearest hill, since the architect didn't want his work to surpass God's artistry. The three faces of the basilica each have three doors, with the faces named Passion, Nativity, and Grace. The interior is crammed with geometric figures that almost seem to spin, crazy-quilt windows, spiral staircases, and jumbles of statues and figures. Although inspired by ancient Gothic cathedrals, the style is called Expressionist, and very little is left unexpressed by the masonry. If you can't afford a visit, Sagrada Familia maintains a web site, and virtual visits are free.



### **Retreat/ workshop for widowed men/women**

The Joyful Again! program brings understanding and hope to help you on your new life's journey.

"I felt welcome." "Found hope." "Am more at peace."

Upcoming Dates: **March 3 & 4, 2018** and **April 21 & 22, 2018**

For more information contact us at Joyful Again! Widowed Ministry

**Ph: 1-708-354-7211**

**Email: [joyfulagain7211@gmail.com](mailto:joyfulagain7211@gmail.com)**

**Website: [www.joyfulagain.org](http://www.joyfulagain.org)** (Short video on website.)

**IMPORTANT:** Register early, space is limited.

### **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.

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#### **TIME**

Do not squander time, for that is the stuff life is made of.

--Benjamin Franklin



### PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Preston Wilcox; James Drozd; Nancee Long; Brett Burkhalter; Joyce Albers; Jeanne Kuzmitz; Steve Gallagher; Shay Phelan; Michelle Schneider; Barb Flatt; Naomi Theresa; Mary Cole; Torie Jasinski; Loretta Long; Nancy Lawrence; Megan & Lucy Skolasinski; Allison Grskovic; Mike Irlie; Kurt Dobbertin; Grace Niemiec; Cathy Engler; Joe Zeman; Bonnie Hack; Kristin McBee; Marge Flint

**Anyone wishing to be on the prayer list should contact the office.**

### READINGS FOR THE WEEK December 31, 2017



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

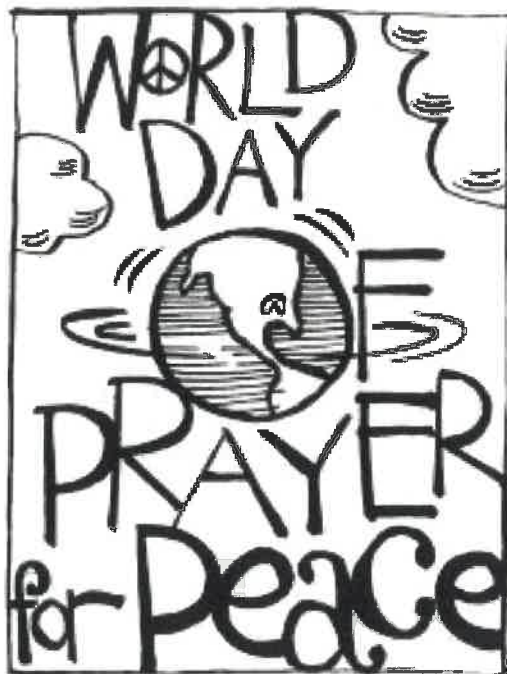
Friday: 1 Jn 3:11-21; Ps 100:1b-5; Jn 1:43-51

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

### Intention of the Holy Father MONTH OF JANUARY

- That Christians, and other religious minorities in Asian countries, may be able to practice their faith in full freedom.





## GOD'S WORD HAS BEEN FULFILLED

In this joyous Christmas time, it is fitting that we turn our attention from all the angels and shepherds and kings to take a look at the more intimate picture of the Holy Family in their ordinary life. They come with Jesus to consecrate him to the Lord, as is written in the law, and they come upon Simeon and Anna, prophets of the Lord, who have amazing things to say about this child and Mary, his mother. One can wonder what Mary must have thought when Simeon told her that “you yourself a sword will pierce.” We interpret that in hindsight she would suffer greatly at the crucifixion of her beloved son. But what must she have thought at the possible literal interpretation of this prophecy? And yet she was, as always, obedient to God and accepting of God’s word for her.

## TWO PROPHETS

Simeon and Anna recognized in this infant the Messiah of God. Both were “righteous and devout” and prayed in the temple constantly. Simeon spoke at length to Mary and Joseph about this child, and Anna proclaimed to all the salvation of Israel in Jesus. Throughout the centuries, God had made use of many prophets to proclaim the coming of Jesus, as Jesus explained to the two disciples on the road to Emmaus after his death and resurrection. But people, being hard-hearted and somewhat clueless, did not recognize these prophecies as referring to the Messiah and later, to Jesus. Many in his time heeded the words of the prophets and believed, but many walked away. To those who believed, he gave the words of eternal life. They believed that “the one who had made the promise was trustworthy.” These loving parents would protect and raise this miraculous child, and he “grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favor of God was upon him.”

Today's Readings: Gn 15:1–6; 21:1–3; Ps 105:1–2, 3–4, 5–6, 8–9; Heb 11:8, 11–12, 17–19; Lk 2:22–40

12/31/2017