

Holy Spirit Parish Family



The Visitation
Albrecht Dürer
(German, 1471-1528)
c. 1504
Cleveland Museum of Art

Elizabeth,
filled with the
Holy Spirit,
cried out in
a loud voice
and said,
“Blessed are
you among
women, and
blessed is the
fruit of your
womb.” *Luke 1:41-42*

Fourth
Sunday of *Advent*

December 19, 2021

HOLY SPIRIT PARISH
3130 Parkwood Lane
Maryland Heights, MO 63043
Phone: 314-739-0230
Fax: 314-739-0237
Website: www.holyspiritstl.org
E-mail: parish@holyspiritstl.org

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Monday to Friday
8:30am to 4:30pm

PARISH STAFF

Fr. Bob Evans, Pastor.....	Ext. 103
revans@holyspiritstl.org	
Fr. Jerry Meier, In Residence.....	Ext. 112
jmeier@holyspiritstl.org	
Deacon Jim DeNatale	
deaconjim@holyspiritstl.org	
Deacon Scott Kaufman	
deaconscoth@holyspiritstl.org	
Mary Saputo, Parish Secretary	Ext. 102
msaputo@holyspiritstl.org	
Julie Spinner, Parish & PSR Secretary	Ext. 101
jspinner@holyspiritstl.org	
deisenbath@holyspiritstl.org	
Jim Essner, Business Mgr.....Ext. 104	
jessner@holyspiritstl.org	
Linda Farhat, CRE/Pastoral Assoc.	Ext. 108
lfarhat@holyspiritstl.org	
Marilyn O'Neill, Director of Music.	Ext. 107
moneill@holyspiritstl.org	
Donna Eisenbath, Youth Minister	314-954-1326

John Honey, Maintenance

Faith in Action—(Call the Parish Office)

Prayer Chain: prayerchain@holyspiritstl.org

HandS 314-739-9796

Stephen Ministry 314-739-0230 ext. 130

SCHOOL

(K-8 & PRESCHOOL & PREK INFORMATION)

3120 Parkwood Lane
Maryland Heights, MO 63043
Phone: 314-739-1934
Fax: 314-739-7703

Katie Koberlein, Principal
kkoberlein@holyspiritstl.org
Kate Ayres, School Secretary,
kayres@holyspiritstl.org

PARISH ANNEX

3111 Parkwood Lane,
Maryland Heights, MO 63043,
Pre-School, Pre-K 314-739-5020

MASS SCHEDULE

*MASSSES ARE LIVE-STREAMED AT 6:30 AM MON/TUES/WED;
8:00 AM THUR/FRI; AND 9:00 AM ON SUNDAYS
(YOU TUBE HOLY SPIRIT CHURCH MARYLAND HEIGHTS)*

Monday thru Wednesday.....6:30am
Thursday and Friday.....8:00am
Saturday:8:00am and 5:00pm (Vigil)
Sunday: 7:30am, 9:00am, and 11:00am
Holy Days: Please consult the bulletin.

Eucharistic Chapel Hours

Weekdays: 12am to 6am and 9am to 12 midnight.

Saturdays: 12am to 7am

Chapel will close at 7am Saturday until 9am Monday.

Eucharistic Exposition

Suspended until Further Notice

SPECIAL REQUESTS

COMMUNION CALLS

Please call the Parish Office to request Communion if someone is unable to attend Church.

HOSPITAL VISITS

Please notify the Parish Office concerning hospitalization.

SACRAMENTS

CONFESSION

Saturday 4:00 to 4:45pm or by appointment

BAPTISMS & CLASSES:

Baptism Class for parents/godparents is normally held on the first Monday of the month at 7 PM in the Church. To register for the meeting and/or to arrange for a baptism, call the Parish Office.

MARRIAGE

Couples planning marriage contact the pastor at least six months in advance.

Registration

New parishioners may register at Parish Office or download a registration form, www.holyspiritstl.org.

New information, such as change of address, phone numbers or moving from the parish, please call Parish Office at 314-739-0230

BULLETIN INFORMATION

Please submit information for the bulletin by Noon TWO Fridays before publication. Include name, daytime phone number of person submitting information, and group name.

Items can be e-mailed to msaputo@holyspiritstl.org.

A Note From Fr. Bob



Dear Friends,

Grace and peace to you!

A Blessed and Merry Christmas to all! May the Lord's love surround you this Christmas season. May the New Year bring many blessings to you and your family. May his peace reign forever!

As we celebrate the birth of our Lord, we celebrate it in gratitude for the community of faith of Holy Spirit Parish. We are blessed to be a people filled with the gifts of the Holy Spirit. We are blessed to be a community that Lives the Spirit of God. We are blessed to be a community that Follows the Spirit of God. As we are blessed today, may we look forward to all the blessings that he has in store for us in the coming year. May we continue to be a beacon of his love for all we meet.

In whatever way you celebrate Christmas this year and wherever you might be, may God bless you and keep you safe! Merry Christmas!

Peace,

Father Bob



MASS INTENTIONS THIS WEEK

Sunday, December 19

7:30am Luke Boenker
9:00am Gerry Dye
11:00am People of the Parish

Monday, December 20

6:30 am Paula Davidson

Tuesday, December 21

6:30am Dottie Travis

Wednesday, December 22

6:30am Corinne Dallavalle

Thursday, December 23

8:00am Jim Callahan

Friday, December 24

4:00 pm Donna Magparangalan
6:00pm O'Connor Family
10:00pm Ninfa Serra

Saturday, December 25

7:30am John Roberson
9:00pm Rich Jennings

Sunday, December 26

7:30am Darlene Block
9:00am People of the Parish
11:00am Bud Fillman

PRO-LIFE NEWS

The top 10 things that caring people say after miscarriage/pregnancy loss:

#10 I know it's been weeks/months/years/ decades since we talked about it. I just wanted to check that you're OK.

#9 Would you like to grab lunch/dinner?

#8 Would you like to have a memorial service or do something to remember?

#7 Can I run any errands for you? Make any calls? Let anyone know?

#6 Here is some food that I made for you.

#5 My heart breaks for you. I am sorry for your loss. Is there anything that I can do to help?

#4 This is not your fault. You have nothing to be ashamed of. You have done nothing wrong.

#3 For real – how are you?

#2 Would it help to talk about it? I don't know what to say, but I am here to listen.

#1 You are not alone. I am here for you.

And I am praying for you.

From: www.lifeperspectives.com/what-to-say/

Enkindle Monthly Rosary: Wed., Jan. 5 @ 7:30 pm. Join us on Facebook (www.facebook.com/stlnfp) to pray for all those who are carrying the cross of infertility.

HOLY SPIRIT ACTS

Help kick off 2022 and the 20th anniversary celebration of ACTS here at Holy Spirit Parish with our next women's retreat:

*"Returning in the Power
of the Holy Spirit"*
January 6-9, 2022

Anne Kinealy, Director
314-330-7752 or anne.kinealy@gmail.com

Donations – of all sorts! – from the community are welcome and appreciated as we begin preparations for the return reception on January 9th.

Questions? Want to help?

Please contact Alli Kleitz, Core Team Communications, at 314-344-9034 (home), 314-239-3015 (cell), or kleitzfamily@gmail.com.



FROM DEATH TO NEW LIFE

We express our deep sympathy and assurance of our prayers to the family of

♦ **James Powers, Parishioner**
♦ **Evelyn Mareschal, wife of Robert**

May their souls rest in the Peace of Christ.

OFFERTORY COLLECTIONS

Stewardship for Nov. 29 - Dec. 5, 2021

Sunday Envelopes	\$11,652.00
Loose Collection	\$ 369.00
Online Donations	\$ 4,351.00
Total	\$ 16,372.00
Weekly Budget	\$ 20,190.38
Weekly Surplus (shortfall)	\$ (3,818.38)

HandS	Parish Improvements
\$ 655.00	\$2,345.00

OUR MISSION:

We, the community of Holy Spirit Parish, centered in the Eucharist, and guided by the Holy Spirit, will use our shared wisdom to be a joyful, accepting and forgiving community. We encourage all to grow in the Catholic faith by teaching and proclaiming the Gospel, serving others and praising God.

**Please remember in your prayers our
Sick and Home-Bound Parishioners
and those who care for them.**

Don Abramovitz	Jim Gerdes	John Rizzello
Janet Allan	Eric Hill	Pat Romano
Renee Armon	Betty Hirschmugl	Mike Sampson
Kathryn Arnold	Suzanne Holzum	Jean Schepers
Jane Audrain	Bill Hughes	Anita Schiermeyer
Sonny & Donna Bolm	Brenda Jaeger	Norma Schwaninger
Carol Bonner	Diane Javaux	Jimmy Smith
Becky Bonner	Kenneth Jordan	Jan Telthorst
Nancy Brand	Sharon Knoppe	Rebecca Tobar
Jim Brockmeyer	Mike Lemp	Rudy/Brenda
Connie Buenemann	Jerry McGuire	Toricelli
Linda Buttry	Susie Meyer	Ron Unterreiner
Maisy Grace Casey	Karen Newcomb	Nanci Van Amburgh
Nicole Chapman	Matt Niedringhaus	Joe & Jean Wangler
Margaret Cima	Jacob Null	Angeline Weber
Ed Cody	Jeff Painter	Gene Weckherlin
Matthew Cody	Bob/Donna Pedrotti	Bill & Joan
Peggy Cody	Maisy Grace Pina	Weinzirl
Leon Deimeke	Karen Piskulic	Tom Zemblidge
Charles Dent	Bob & Tootie	
Tom DuBois	Ponder	
Martha Elmore	Carolyn Putnam	
Till Fehrenbacher	John Rath	
Ray & Betty Garvels		

**Please remember in your prayers our
Sick Relatives and Friends:**

Judy Bauman	Kim Fortier	Sheryl Sanfilippo
Kendell & Tina	Michael Gill	Albert Schiermeyer
Bedell	Chris Gooch	Robert Schneider
Jack Beine	Richard Hahl	Ken Schutz
Kim Boxdorfer	Diane Hermann	Ruby Smith
Jeri Burch	Suzanne Johnson	Alford Snowden
Chris Burns	David Kasprzyk	Grace Solimando
Violete Casarus	Jenny Lemkemann	Jerry Sutterer
Debra Cates	Leann McCarty	Judy Taylor &
Wayne Cates	Shawn McCarty	Family
Nancy Chik	Trish Merklin	Msgr. Jim Telthorst
Diane Chorzel	Betty Merritt	Caroline Van Scoyk
Tom Dalton	Lou Merritt	Jim Wamhoff
Beau Dempewolf	Mary Mudd	John Wamhoff
Margaret Dickinson	Melinda Oeth	Chris Wells
Debbie Ditch	Shirley Pankey	Paul Williams
Jack Dowd	Shirley Petrosky	Michelle Wilson
Fran Ebers	Liz Prange	Bonnie Wittman
Kayla Emerson	Mike/Cindy Prinzi	
Chris Essner	Paul Provost	
Sandi Essner	Dianne Rellergert	
Colleen Evans	Sr. Pat Rodemann	
Harold Feltmann	Nancy Rofkahr	

Please Note:

**NAMES ON THE PRAYER LISTS WILL BE REMOVED BY JAN. 1st IF WE DO NOT HEAR FROM YOU BEFORE THEN.
PLEASE CALL THE PARISH OFFICE TO LET US KNOW
IF YOU WOULD LIKE YOUR LOVED ONE'S NAME TO REMAIN OR BE REMOVED.
Thank you so much!**

ST. PATRICK CENTER CASSEROLES—DEC. 22

We will be collecting casseroles for St. Patrick Center this **Wed., Dec. 22** in the white bin at the curb outside the entrance to church, from 6:30 until 9:00 AM. (In case of inclement weather, the bin will be in the small vestibule of the Parish Hall)

Pans and lids will also be available for you to pick up.

As always, thank you to our current volunteers for your generosity. If you are not currently making a casserole, but would like to join us, please call or email Mary Beth Schulte, 314-229-8067 or SpecRelEdu@aol.com.

ST. PATRICK CENTER SALAD—DEC. 26

Holy Spirit volunteers provide salads and/or components to help feed the homeless of St. Patrick Center, the 4th Sunday of each month.

Salad and/or components will be collected between

8 & 10 am, Sun., Dec. 26

The container will be in the Gathering Area.
For more information contact
Ellen Staples, 422-2381.



***SAVE THE DATE!
FEBRUARY 13, 2022 AT 2:30 PM***

**Join Archbishop Mitchell Rozanski at the Cathedral Basilica to celebrate
the Sacrament of Matrimony on World Marriage Day!**

WHAT'S HAPPENING

Sunday, December 19

7:00 pm—Al Anon, by Zoom

Monday, December 20

6:00 pm—Quilting, Annex

7:00 pm—Evening Prayer & Reconciliation

Tuesday, December 21

9:00 am—Quilting, Annex

Wednesday, December 22

6:30 am—St. Patrick's Casseroles, Parish Hall

9:00 am—Senior Exercise, Rigali Rm

7:00 pm—Prayer Shawl, Resource Ctr.

Thursday, December 23

9:00 am—Senior Exercise, Rigali Rm.

6:00 pm—Bells Rehearsal

7:00 pm—Choir Rehearsal

Friday, December 24

4:00 pm—Christmas Eve Mass

6:00 pm—Christmas Eve Mass

10:00 pm—Christmas Vigil Mass

Saturday, December 25

7:30 am—Christmas Day Mass

9:00 am—Christmas Day Mass

PRAYER OF THE WEEK ~

Fourth Sunday of Advent

Pour forth, we beseech you, O Lord,
your grace into our hearts,
that we, to whom the Incarnation of Christ your Son
was made known by the message of an Angel,
may by his Passion and Cross
be brought to the glory of his Resurrection.
Who lives and reigns with you
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
God, for ever and ever.

LIGHT

All the darkness of the world
cannot put out the light
of one small candle.

—Anonymous



The Prayer Shawl Ministry

Jesus' clothing had miraculous healing powers. The woman who suffered from hemorrhage for 12 years, was healed when she simply touched Jesus' garment (Matthew 5:28). People begged to touch the fringe of Jesus' cloak and were cured of illness when they did. (Matthew 14:36)

Our prayer shawls are crafted with prayers for the person who will receive it. They provide comfort and warmth to the recipient, but they are also a reminder of the love with which they were made and the love God has for us.

We have Prayer Shawls available for women, men and children. We have all shapes and colors and can find an item that will work for anyone. They were all hand made by parishioners and are available upon request at no cost - see my contact information below.

Our evening meeting will be **Wednesday December 22 at 7pm** in the Resource Center upstairs meeting room. You are welcome to come and craft with us or just stop by to chat.

If you have any questions, or want a shawl, don't hesitate to call or text Mary Dale-Bannister at 314-497-5048. Email: dalebannister@sbcglobal.net.



As the liturgical year ends and a new one begins, tune in to Covenant Network for the best in Catholic radio programming to help you prepare your heart to receive the Christ Child this Christmas season. Tune in to **KHOJ 1460 AM** on the radio or listen live on our free Covenant Network app or at OurCatholicRadio.org

GLUTEN FREE HOSTS AVAILABLE

Gluten allergy? Would you like a gluten-free host? Please contact the Parish Office, 739-0230.

SCHOOL NEWS

Congratulations to our Dec. 13 Red & Blue winner of \$25; Bill Peroutka ~
Thank you for supporting our school!

Tues., Dec. 21: NOON DISMISSAL: **CHRISTMAS BREAK** ~ Spirit Zone Aftercare Not Available
Tues., Jan. 4: SCHOOL RESUMES 7:50a am-3:00 pm
Friday, Jan. 7: All School Mass, led by Gr. 6

YOUTH MINISTRY

FIND HOLY SPIRIT YOUTH MINISTRY

ON FACEBOOK & INSTAGRAM www.facebook.com/hsyouth AND as [hs_youth_stl](#) (HS Youth STL) on Instagram

GOT COLLEGE STUDENTS?

Don't forget: if you are or have child who has graduated high school, is away at college, in the military, in a trade school, or staying at home and working, I'd like to send some mail from time to time.

Email deisenbath@holyspiritstl.org with their address, and I'll add them to the list.

CONFIRMATION

7TH GRADE FAMILIES: Monday, January 10, 2022 – 7:00 p.m. in the Parish Hall is a meeting for **parents and candidates**. Session day and time choices are due at this time. We'll go over the program in depth.

Watch your email for information coming this week.

HIGH SCHOOL EAT.PRAY.DISCUSS.

We are taking a poll on what day and time you would like to meet:

Options are Thursday evenings, Sunday afternoons, or Monday late afternoon/early evening.

Contact Donna Eisenbath with your suggestions and preferences.

Are you in high school? Want to make new friends, deepen old friendships, and grow in faith?

Join us for Eat. Pray. Discuss. as we talk the issues you are facing,
and find ways to see how God is active in your life.

Advent discussion starters for parents and teens:

Read Isaiah 40:3-8

Talk about what it means if a path or road is level, straight and smooth vs. hilly, curvy and bumpy. How fast could you go on either? Could you do either in the dark or with your eyes closed?

Ask "What do you think it means for us to make a pathway for Jesus in the world?"

Say a prayer together asking Jesus to be born in your hearts,

and for the Holy Spirit to help you make a path for Jesus to be born in our world.

PSR NEWS

PSR Catechists—IMPORTANT DATES

Tues., Dec. 21—No Class. Catechist dinner and in-service.

Tues., Dec. 28—No Class. Rest and
Enjoy the days of Christmas!

IMPORTANT DATES For Families & Students

Tues., Dec. 21: No Class. Catechist dinner and in-service

Tues., Dec. 28: No Class.
Enjoy the days of Christmas!

*Please Support our Collection for the two "100 Neediest Cases" families that we have adopted.
Thank You!*

C.L.O.W. NEWS

Sun., Dec. 26: No Children's Liturgy of the Word



"YOU can make a Difference!"

Once in a while, we all have a unique opportunity to have an impact on society in a very real way. On **January 1st and 2nd**, the parishioners of Holy Spirit will be asked to join together in a campaign to benefit Thrive St. Louis.

Thrive St. Louis is a 38 year-old Pregnancy Resource Center based in St. Louis. They are on the front-lines in the battle against abortion and helping pregnant mothers before and after their baby is born. They are very successful in their mission. Thrive operates a Mobile Medical Center which will be available for you to see on the Holy Spirit campus on Sunday, January 2nd after all Masses.

Our objective at Holy Spirit is to purchase a state-of-the-art Laptop Ultrasound Machine to be used on the Mobile Medical Center. They are also in need of updating some of their computers at their main center on Lindell Blvd. – just east of the Cathedral Basilica St. Louis.



On **January 1st and 2nd**, we will initiate our 8-week long Baby Bottle Campaign. We will be distributing baby bottles to every family as they leave Mass on that week-end. We will ask that you take these bottles home and fill them with your loose change, currency or generous check over the next weeks. Please make checks payable to **Holy Spirit Council #3977**. You can return the bottles ANYTIME. If needed, we will be happy to give you another one.

Remember, Holy Spirit will have a major impact in St. Louis.
Over 80% of pregnant mothers, anticipating abortion, who see their ultrasound, **CHOOSE LIFE.!**
This is the effect we can achieve.

***The Holy Spirit Knights of Columbus
are the driving force behind this ULTRASOUND INITIATIVE
Thank you and we are looking forward to your participation.***



A Great Christmas Gift for 'those that have everything'!

The World Health Organization attributes two million deaths annually to unsafe water, sanitation, and hygiene.

**A solution to the water crisis in underprivileged countries is simple ~
an inexpensive, home-based filtration system, an empowered community, and YOU!**

Please visit
WATERWITHBLESSINGS.ORG to learn more.





REVERSE ADVENT CALENDAR 2021

Each day, add an item to a box and
say a prayer for those in need.
Thank God for all your blessings!

When you have completed this, donate your box to
HandS in the Resource Center or in the HandS
bins in the Gathering Area. Thank you so much!

**You can begin on the first day of Advent
(Nov. 28—Dec. 23 or Dec. 1—24)**

- Day 1 box of cereal
- Day 2 body lotion or deodorant
- Day 3 canned chicken
- Day 4 cookies or snack bars
- Day 5 box of pudding
- Day 6 canned pineapple, pears, or oranges
- Day 7 canned green beans or corn
- Day 8 canned tuna
- Day 9 dessert mix
- Day 10 jar of applesauce (no glass please)
- Day 11 shampoo
- Day 12 conditioner
- Day 13 canned beans
- Day 14 box of crackers
- Day 15 toothpaste
- Day 16 mouthwash
- Day 17 toothbrushes
- Day 18 canned chili beans
- Day 19 can of chicken or tomato soup
- Day 20 canned stew or another canned meat
- Day 21 can of beef or vegetarian soup
- Day 22 paper towels or toilet paper
- Day 23 canned potatoes or peas
- Day 24 a special treat - your choice

Dynamic Catholic, Alive!

Fourth Sunday of Advent- Surrender to God

Ecce ancilla Domini. Fiat mihi secundum verbum tu-um. “Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord. May it be done to me according to your word” (Luke 1:38). This is one of the most beautiful lines in Scripture. It conveys to us the total surrender and power of obedience to God’s will in our lives. Because of Mary’s *fiat*, the Savior entered the world to save us from our sins and to bring us back to God.

As we celebrate Christmas, let us do so in the spirit of joy, welcoming the humble Christ-child into our hearts once more and asking Him to conform our hearts to His most sacred heart.

In this joyful time, let us show love, kindness, and mercy to our loved ones who have fallen away and never lose hope in their return home. The angel Gabriel tells us, “For nothing will be impossible for God” (Luke 1:37).

May God bless you and your family this Christmas!
Venite adoremus Dominum!

archstl.org/dynamic

Are You Experiencing the Christmas Blues?

The joy of Christmas can turn into a time of painful loneliness and emptiness for those who have suffered a loss or who are going through a difficult time. But help is available. Holy Spirit’s Stephen Ministers are ready to provide confidential, one-to-one Christian care. They will listen, care, encourage, pray with AND for you, and support you through the holidays or as long as your need persists. If you or someone you know is hurting, find out more about Stephen Ministry by calling the Stephen Ministry confidential Hotline today:

(314) 739-0230 ext.130.

Our Stephen Ministers are there to care.



Feast Day Tip—Christmas Eve

It is the last week of Advent. Christmas Eve is on Friday. You probably have a handful of Christmas traditions to help you celebrate. However, if you don’t have anything particular that you do on Christmas Eve, consider the tradition of going meatless. The Italian tradition of the Feast of the Seven Fishes is the most recognizable observance of this tradition. However, this is a common practice in many countries. In Poland, red borscht soup might be on the menu.

Whatever you decide, have a MERRY CHRISTMAS!



4th Sunday of Advent, Cycle C

Micah 5:1-4
Ps 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19
Hebrews 10:5-10
Luke 1:39-45

Monday December 20
Isaiah 7:10-14
Ps 24:1-6
Luke 1:26-38

Tuesday December 21
Song of Songs 2:8-14 or
Zephaniah 3:14-18a
Ps 33:2-3, 11-12, 20-21
Luke 1:39-45

Wednesday December 22
1 Samuel 1:24-28
1 Sm 2:1, 4-8
Luke 1:46-56

Thursday December 23
Malachi 3:1-4, 23-24
Ps 25:4-5ab, 8-10, 14
Luke 1:57-66

Friday December 24
2 Samuel 7:1-5,
8b-12, 14a, 16
Ps 89:2-5, 27, 29
Luke 1:67-79

Saturday December 25
Christmas Day
Isaiah 52:7-10
Ps 98:1-6
Hebrews 1:1-6
John 1:1-18

The final Sunday of Advent shows Elizabeth and her unborn son, John, reacting to the nearness of the unborn Christ. We know that Elizabeth immediately understood that Mary was pregnant with the Lord, because the Gospel says she was filled with the Holy Spirit. But how could the fetal John understand? How could he leap for joy while still in the womb?

If it's true that an unborn baby is not a person with a soul until it takes its first breath, as is claimed by many who believe that abortion is okay, how could the unborn John recognize the presence of the unborn Savior?

The faith to recognize the presence of Christ -- in the womb of people's lives, in the Eucharist, in the humanity of unborn children, etc. -- comes from being fully alive in the Holy Spirit, who was given to us fully during our baptisms. However, it takes a humble willingness to let God change our minds about what we think is true in order to be open to God's Spirit teaching

us what is indeed true.

John as a fetus was incapable of understanding anything, especially when it happened outside the womb, yet he leapt for joy. This teaches us that we don't need to see God working in the world or solving our personal problems before we can leap for joy. We don't have to understand what God is doing, and we don't even have to know his plans.

The Holy Spirit enlivened the faith of Elizabeth and John through an act of grace that depended on Christ's future activity. For us, our faith is enlivened by the grace God provides in the Sacraments.

The joy that comes from recognizing the presence of Christ is God's Christmas gift to us. It's a joy that's meant to last all year. It's a lifestyle, not a holiday. It comes from a faith that appreciates God for working mercifully in ways that we can see and ways that we cannot see, because we trust in his goodness. Even when we suffer or feel sorrow, we can learn to recognize the presence of Christ.

And then what? Like John, we are called to be heralds of Christ's presence. How? First by sharing our joy with others.

Reflect & Discuss:

1. How much is the joy of Christ's Spirit within you affecting your outward life?
2. What will you do this Christmas to become more aware of the Holy Spirit increasing your faith?
3. Give examples of how the Spirit of Christmas is really the Holy Spirit.
4. What activities have helped you get into the Spirit of Christmas? How has this affected your preparations for celebrating Christmas as a holy day?

THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH — (DECEMBER 26 2021)
Sir 3:2-6, 12-14 or 1 Sm 1:20-22, 24-28; Ps 128:1-5 or Ps 84:2-3, 5-6, 9-10;
Col 3:12-21 [12-17] or 1 Jn 3:1-2, 21-24; Lk 2:41-52



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Life Matters

For more information go to
www.usccb.org/respectlife



Say Good-bye to Clogged Gutters!



End of the Year Sale!
75% OFF LABOR!

Offer does not include cost of material. Discount applied by representative at time of contract execution. Offer ends 12/31/2012.

Call during this program & receive a \$50 restaurant gift card with in-home estimate & free gutter inspection!

Consumer Discount: From all participants who attend an estimated 60-90 minute in-home presentation. Consultation will require a \$50 gift card. No purchase necessary. Retail value is \$50. Offer sponsored by LeafGuard. Excludes: 1. LeafGuard gutter and/or LeafGuard gutter system, sale, and include services gutter protection. This offer is valid for homeowners over 18 years of age. If married or have a life partner, both participating persons must attend and complete presentation together. Participants must have a valid photo ID. Unemployed, disabled, or legally able to enter into a contract. The following persons are not eligible for this offer: employees of LeafGuard, affiliated companies or affiliates, their immediate family members, previous participants in a LeafGuard in-home consultation within the past 12 months and all current and former LeafGuard customers. Presentation may not be rescheduled, transferred, or substituted except that LeafGuard may substitute a gift card of equal or greater value if it is necessary. Gift card and terms and conditions: <http://www.leafguard.com/gift-card-terms-and-conditions>. If each gift card will be mailed to the participant via first class US Mail within 21 days of receipt of presentation from LeafGuard. LeafGuard reserves the right to modify or terminate this offer without notice prior to expiration. Offer ends 12/31/2012. *Must have the gift card present to enter.



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