

# ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

200 Front Street, Pierce City, MO 65723

December 26, 2021 - Feast of The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

## **St. Mary's Catholic Church**

Pastor: Fr. Matthew Rehauer 476-2827ext. 102  
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## **St. Mary's Catholic School**

Principal: Jason Kramer 476-2824 ext. 106  
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## **SCHEDULE OF MASSES FOR DECEMBER 25- JANUARY 2**

### **ST. MARY'S**

Saturday	4:00 p.m.	Special Intentions RSD
Sunday	8:30 a.m.	+ Jim & Jo Ann Conley
Monday	8:15 a.m.	Rosary & Communion Service
Wednesday	8:15 a.m.	Justice and Peace
<b>Friday New Year's Eve</b>	<b>6:00 p.m.</b>	St. Mary's Parish Family
Saturday	4:00 p.m.	+Larry & Patty Parrigon
Sunday	8:30 a.m.	+Mary Szydlowski

### **ST. AGNES**

Tues.	8:30 a.m.
Thurs.	8:30 a.m.
<b>Sat.</b>	<b>10:00 a.m.</b>
Sun.	10:30 a.m.

## **EVENTS OF THE WEEK:**

Sunday December 26	<b>Feast of The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph</b>
Monday, December 27	<b>8:15 a.m. Rosary and Communion Service</b>
Tuesday, December 28	<b>Feast of The Holy Innocents, Martyrs</b>
Wednesday, December 29	<b>8:15 a.m. Mass</b>
Friday, December 31	<b>New Year's Eve Vigil at St. Mary's 6:00 p.m.</b>
Saturday, January 1	<b>New Year's Day Mass at St. Agnes 10:00 a.m.</b>
Sunday, January 2	<b>Solemnity of the Epiphany of The Lord</b>

## **UPCOMING EVENTS:**

Monday, January 3	<b>8:15 a.m. Rosary and Communion Service</b>
Tuesday, January 4	<b>Memorial of Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton, Religious</b>
Wednesday, January 5	<b>8:15 a.m. Mass</b>
Friday, January 7	<b>8:15 a.m. Mass</b>

## **OUR GIFT TO GOD LAST WEEK: Collection Counters in January:**

Our weekly budget is \$7,800.00      Last Week's Collection: \$ 4926.00

**TUCKPOINTING PROJECT:** To date our parish has \$43,138.00 toward our \$65,000.00 goal. Thank you! If you have not yet made your pledge, please add your gift, whatever the amount, in unity with those who have already given by mailing or putting your pledge in the collection marked tuckpointing. We are still short \$ 21,862.00 of meeting our goal.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

**PLEASE KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS** Dawnata Hopkins, Louise Bellm, Ester Miller, Charlotte Sloan, Andrea Kristek, and all the sick and shut-ins of our parish.

**ROSARY:** The Rosary is said Tuesday-Friday every day at **11:00 a.m.** Everyone is welcome to come. Also if you are within 1 mile of the church you can listen to it on the radio station 88.1FM. Please call the parish office and let us know if there is a better time of day for you to join us in praying the Rosary.

**END OF YEAR CONTRIBUTION TAX LETTER:** If you would like a copy of your contributions for the 2021 year, please print your name on the sign-up sheet in the back of church.

**CHURCH OFFICE:** The church secretary will be out of the office January 3 through January 17 due to having a knee replacement. Then after the 17 she will be at the office for short periods of time and working from home the rest of the time. She can be reached at anytime by calling the church phone number.

**2022 CALENDARS** are in the back of church.

## **APPOINTMENTS**

**If you are unable to make your appointment, please find a replacement**

### **Saturday, January 1 4:00 p.m. Mass**

Readers: Beverly Miller, Madeline Ceselski  
Ushers: Michael Abramovitz, Terrance Campbell

### **Sunday, January 2 8:30 a.m. Mass**

Readers: Barbara Glouse, Cody Washam  
Ushers: Dereck Washam, Rick Washam

### **Saturday, January 8 4:00 p.m. Mass**

Readers: Madeline Ceselski, Beverly Miller  
Ushers: Larry Carver, Leonard Fenske

### **Sunday, January 9 8:30 a.m. Mass**

Readers: Mary Abramovitz, Michael Myers  
Ushers: Ralph Abramovitz, Jim Barchak

### **Saturday, January 15 4:00 p.m. Mass**

Readers: Beverly Miller, Madeline Ceselski  
Ushers: Larry Gasser, Doug Witt

### **Sunday, January 16 8:30 a.m. Mass**

Readers: Rachelle Brown, Jennifer Eaton  
Ushers: Darren Brown, Dustin Avondet

### **Saturday, January 22 4:00 p.m. Mass**

Readers: Madeline Ceselski, Beverly Miller  
Ushers: Tom Cahalan, Tommy Cahalan

### **Sunday, January 23 8:30 a.m. Mass**

Readers: Joe & Denise Crowell  
Ushers: Ian Brottlund, Jim Conley

### **Saturday, January 29 4:00 p.m. Mass**

Readers: Beverly Miller, Madeline Ceselski  
Ushers: Bryan Stellwagen, Michael Abramovitz

### **Sunday, January 30 8:30 a.m. Mass**

Readers: Barbara Glouse, Cody Washam  
Ushers: Ellis Motley, Levi Cooper

**AFTER YOU COUNT YOUR BLESSINGS**, consider sharing them with the church. As the spirit of gratitude to God Permeates our lives at this time of year, please prayerfully consider including our parish in your giving. Your generosity helps to give others the most precious of gifts – the love of God, and the sacraments and ministries of the Church. Remember that the tax laws intentionally encourage charitable giving. By writing a check to St. Mary's by December 31, 2021, you can reduce the sting of income taxes if you itemize. Giving is, of course much more than a tax brackets and deductions. Your gifts provide the necessary support for all our parish does. Thank You!

## Solemnity of the Holy Family

Sirach 3:2-6,12-14 or  
1 Sam 1:20-22,24-28  
Ps 128:1-5 or  
Ps 84:2-3,5-6,9-10  
Colossians 3:12-21 or  
1 John 3:1-2,21-24  
Luke 2:41-52

**Monday December 27**  
**St. John the Apostle**  
1 John 1:1-4  
Ps 97:1-2,5-6,11-12  
John 20:1a,2-8

**Tuesday December 28**  
**Holy Innocents**  
1 John 1:5 – 2:2  
Ps 124:2-5,7b-8  
Matthew 2:13-18

**Wednesday December 29**  
1 John 2:3-11  
Ps 96:1-3,5b-6  
Luke 2:22-35

**Thursday December 30**  
1 John 2:12-17  
Ps 96:7-10  
Luke 2:36-40

**Friday December 31**  
1 John 2:18-21  
Ps 96:1-2,11-13  
John 1:1-18

**Saturday January 1**  
**Mary, Mother of God**  
Numbers 6:22-27  
Ps 67:2-3,5-6,8  
Galatians 4:4-7  
Luke 2:16-21

Saint John Paul II wrote about today's Gospel story in his encyclical on the Rosary, *Rosarium Virginis* (paragraph #20). This scripture, he pointed out, reveals that Jesus was already wholly dedicated to his Father's affairs. And it shows "the radical nature of the Gospel, in which even the closest of human relationships are challenged by the absolute demands of the Kingdom." Which relationships? Family relationships!

Today, we are like Mary and Joseph in their moment of failing to understand the words of Jesus. His teachings challenge us to accept a more difficult life, a life of doing good to our enemies, taking a stand against injustices, standing up for Christian values, getting persecuted for it, turning the cheek and going the extra mile, a life of courageously adhering to the ways of God.

Our preference, when it's inconvenient or unpleasant to be so holy, is to rationalize and make excuses for any behavior that the world says is good and right but which

contradicts the Church's scripture-based teachings. However, if we are sincere about following Christ, we are willing to do what is difficult. And it's usually in the doing that we begin to understand the benefits of becoming more like Christ.



Without this understanding, however, we have to trust that the words of Jesus are truth. Like Mary and Joseph, we need to ponder in our hearts what we do not understand and at the same time move forward in holy living. Then we discover the joy

that comes from a life that's lived wholly in Christ.

On this Feast of the Holy Family, let us pray that Mary and Joseph will help us hear Jesus whenever our troubles or temptations get so distracting that we lose sight of him. Let us learn to recognize that Jesus is always present with us in his Holy Spirit, helping us, guiding us, and mercifully loving us, especially in the challenges we face.

### Reflect & Discuss:

1. What teaching of the Church have you rationalized away so that you don't have to obey it? Or what teaching in scripture?
2. Assume your disobedience is due to not understanding what is really being taught. What will you do to learn more about it?
3. What is it about the relationships between Jesus, Mary and Joseph that appeals to you?
4. What has this taught you about God's Kingdom?