

St. Agnes Catholic Church

Terrier & Cherry Rd. Intersection, Sarcoxie, MO
December 31, Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph 1870

St. Agnes Catholic Church
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MASSES FOR DEC 31 – JAN 7

Saint Agnes

Sunday 10:30 a.m. Parish Family
Tuesday 8:30 a.m. No Mass
Thursday 8:30 a.m. +Poor Souls in Purgatory
Sunday 10:30 a.m. +Terrance Campbell

St. Mary's

Monday 8:15 a.m. Rosary & Communion
Wed. 8:15 a.m. Mass
Fri. 8:15 a.m. Mass
Sat 4:00 p.m. Mass
Sun. 8:30 a.m. Mass

EVENTS OF THE WEEK

Monday, January 1

Solemnity of the Octave Day of the Nativity of the Lord Solemnity of Mary, The Holy Mother of God

Tuesday, January 2

New Year's Day Masses: St. Agnes at 8:30 and Mass at St. Mary's 10:30

Thursday, January 4

Memorial of Saints Basil the Great & Gregory Nazianzen, Bishops & Doctors

Friday, January 5

Memorial of Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton, Religious

Memorial of Saint John Neumann, Bishop

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Monday, January 8

Feast of The Baptism of the Lord

YOUR GIFT TO THE CHURCH: \$495.00 Seminary for Retired Priests \$725.00

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

	<u>Readers</u>	<u>Servers</u>	<u>Extra Ordinary Min.</u>	<u>Gift Bearers & Ushers</u>
<u>December 31</u>	Amber Wilson	Sarah Elbert	Maria Wagner Kimberly Prince Eric Prince	Mark Adamson & Jared Campbell
<u>January 7</u>	Sally Heidlage	Isaac Chorum	Jane Kutz Thomas Adamson Mark Adamson	James Campbell & Doug Pickering
<u>January 14</u>	Debbie Heidlage	Elsie Chorum	John Heidlage Charlotte Pickering Doug Pickering	Lee Kutz & Ray Elbert

PLEASE KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS: Margie Mettlach, Marie Jasumback, Jim and Veda Perrin, Marion Tomlinson Williams, Monta Heidlage, Rosemary Boes, Father Peter Morciniec and all the sick and shut-ins of our parish.

THANK YOU to everyone who set up, helped in the serving, and clean up for Father's birthday dinner. Thank you all for attending! The meal was scrumptious!

THANK YOU to all who helped in decorating the church for Christmas,

CHURCH CLEANERS FOR JAN: Kathy Heidlage, Tricia Heidlage, Sally Heidlage, Jamie Welters
Just as a reminder there is a cleaning list in the back of church.

JANUARY BIRTHDAY'S: Thomas Adamson, Brenda Campbell, Jared Campbell, John Campbell, Kathy Eck, John Jennett, Lawrence Katzfey, Deloris Nimsick, Michael Nimsick, & Bryan Wagner.

Feast of the Holy Family

Sunday, December 31

Genesis 15:1-6; 21:1-3 or
Sirach 3:2-6, 12-14
Ps 105:1-7a, 8-9 or
Pss 128:1-5
Heb 11:8, 11-12, 17-19 or
Colossians 3:12-21
Luke 2:22-40

Monday, January 1 Mary, Mother of God

Nm 6:22-27
Ps 67:2-3, 5-6, 8
Gal 4:4-7
Lk 2:16-21

Tuesday, January 2 Sts. Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzen

1 Jn 2:22-28
Ps 98:1-4
Jn 1:19-28

Wednesday, January 3

1 Jn 2:29 – 3:6
Ps 98:1, 3c-6
Jn 1:29-34

Thursday, January 4 St. Elizabeth Ann Seton

1 Jn 3:7-10
Ps 98:1, 7-9
Jn 1:35-42

Friday, January 5 St. John Neumann, Bp

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

Saturday, January 6

1 Jn 5:5-13
Ps 147:12-15, 19-20
Mk 1:7-11 or Lk 3:23-38

"Joy mixed with drama marks the fifth [joyful] mystery, the finding of the twelve-year-old Jesus in the Temple." Saint John Paul the Great wrote this in *Rosarium Virginis Mariae*, his interesting encyclical about the Rosary.

He continued: "Here he appears in his divine wisdom as he listens and raises questions, already in effect one who 'teaches'. The revelation of his mystery as the Son wholly dedicated to his Father's affairs proclaims the radical nature of the Gospel, in which even the closest of human relationships are challenged by the absolute demands of the Kingdom. Mary and Joseph, fearful and anxious, 'did not understand' his words."

We, too, often fail to understand the words of Jesus. His teachings challenge us to accept a more difficult life, a life of doing good to our enemies, turning the cheek and going the extra mile, a life of courageously standing up for the truth and adhering to high moral standards that are counter-cultural.

Our preference, when living this way is inconvenient or unpleasant, is to rationalize and make excuses for our worldly behavior. But once we truly

understand the demands of the Kingdom of God, we see

their benefits and we obey gladly.

Without this understanding, we have to simply trust that the words of Jesus are right and true. Like Mary and Joseph, we need to ponder in our hearts what we don't understand,

while moving forward and doing what Jesus wants us to do.

As challenging as this is, that's when we discover how amazing God is.

Reflect & Discuss:

† What teaching of the Church have you rationalized away so that you don't have to obey it? Or what teaching of Christ in the Sermon on the Mount (see Matt. 5,6,7) or elsewhere in the Gospels do you excuse yourself from?

† How much is your disobedience due to not understanding what is really being taught?

† What will you do to seek and gain a better understanding?

† How meaningful is the Holy Family to you? What is it about the relationships between Jesus, Mary and Joseph that appeals to you?

† What has this taught you about God's Kingdom?

