

St. Agnes Catholic Church

Terrier & Cherry Rd. Intersection, Sarcoxie, MO
Dec. 29 Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

1870

St. Agnes Catholic Church
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MASSES FOR DEC 29 – JAN 5

Saint Agnes

Sunday	10:30 a.m.	+Loretta Bartkoski
Wednesday	10:00 a.m.	Justice & Peace
Thursday	8:30 a.m.	+Poor Souls in Purgatory
Sunday	10:30 a.m.	+Kenneth Elbert

St. Mary's

Monday	8:15 a.m.	Rosary & Communion
Tues.	6:00 p.m.	Mass
Fri.	8:15 a.m.	Mass
Sat	4:00 p.m.	
Sun.	8:30 a.m.	

EVENTS OF THE WEEK:

Sunday, December 29	Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph
Tuesday, December 31	New Year's Eve Vigil Mass at St Mary's at 6:00 p.m.
Wednesday, January 1	New Year's Day Mass St. Agnes at 10:00 a.m.
Thursday, January 2	Memorial of Saints Basil the Great, & Gregory Nazianzen, Bishops and Doctors
Saturday, January 4	Memorial of Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton, Religious

UPCOMING EVENTS:

January 12	Feast of the Baptism of the Lord
January 17	Memorial of Saint Anthony, Abbot
January 19	St. Agnes Feast Day

YOUR GIFT TO THE CHURCH: \$1502.00

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

	<u>Readers</u>	<u>Servers</u>	<u>Extra Ordinary Min.</u>	<u>Gift Bearers & Ushers</u>
<u>Dec. 29</u>	Kimberly Prince	Sterling Elbert	Dennis Heidlage Leah Heidlage Maria Wagner	Cheryl (K) Elbert & Jane Kutz
<u>Jan. 5</u>	Cheryl (K) Elbert	Sarah Elbert	Kimberly Prince Eric Prince Jane Kutz	Mark Adamson & Jared Campbell

PLEASE KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS: Margie Mettlach, Marie Jasumback, Jim and Veda Perrin, Marion Tomlinson Williams, Monta Heidlage, Rosemary Boes, Father Peter Morciniec, Brenda (Wroblewski) Buchannon, Maura Sparks, Bernadine Adamson and all the sick and shut-ins of our parish.

ROSARY: weekly before the Sunday mass. Please come early and join in

DECEMBER BIRTHDAY'S: Father Matt Rehrauer, Rosemary Boes, Margaret Calentine, Pamela Campbell, Rosella Curtis, Cheryl (K) Elbert, Zoe Hedge, Chris Feather & Dale Wolf.

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. By writing a check to St. Agnes Church by Dec. 31, you can reduce the sting of income taxes if you itemize. Your gifts provide the necessary support for all our parish does. Thank you!

HOLY FAMILY PARISH COUNCIL OF CATHOLIC WOMEN invite the ladies of St. Agnes to the Annual Valentine's Tea, Thursday, February 13, 2025 at Holy Family Church at 11:30 a.m. More information is on the bulletin board in the back of church.

Good News Reflection

Feast of the Holy Family

December 29, 2024

Pray: Beloved Jesus, grant me the grace to be alert when I stray from You and the firm resolve to return to the path that leads me back to You. Amen.

Year C

1 Sm 1:20-22,24-28 or Sir 3:2-6,12-14

Ps 84:2-3,5-6,9-10

1 Jn 3:1-2,21-24 or Col 3:12-21

Lk 2:41-52

Trusting in Truths Beyond Our Understanding

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.