

*May the Peace
of the
Holy Family
be with you
always.*

**Saturday, December 26:**

5:00 p.m. Mass

Sunday, December 27:

9:00 a.m. Mass

11:00 a.m. Mass

Monday, December 28: Holy Innocents, martyrs

1 Jn 1:5-22, Mt 2:13-18

No Mass today

Tuesday, December 29: Fifth Day in the Octave of Christmas, Thomas Becket, bishop & martyr

1 Jn 2:3-11, Lk 2:29-35

Wednesday, December 30: Sixth Day in the Octave of Christmas

1 Jn 2:10-17, Lk 2:36-40

No Mass Today

Thursday, December 31: Seventh Day in the Octave of Christmas, Sylvester 1, pope

1 Jn 2:18-21, Jn 1:1-18

No Mass today

Friday, January 1: Octave Day of Christmas: Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of God

Nm 6:22-27; Gal 4: 4-7, Lk 2: 16-21

10:00 a.m. Mass (Holy Day of Obligation)

EPHIPHANY OF THE LORD

Is 60: 1-6, Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6, Mt 2: 1-12

Saturday, January 2:

5:00 p.m. Mass

Sunday, January 3:

9:00 a.m. Mass

11:00 a.m. Mass

TAX CONTRIBUTIONS

Your Church contributions may be tax deductible. If you wish to have a copy of your contributions mailed to you, to be used in preparing your income tax returns for 2009, please call the office @ 673-2346. Please make your request known by January 27, so we can have your tax information by the end of January.

HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL

As we begin the New Year I would like to wish everyone a very Happy New Year! May God bless us as a people, nation, community and parish as we greet the new year of 2010! I would like to take this opportunity to give thanks for all the wonderful things that happened in our parish this past year. I am proud of the parish and people here, and I look forward to the new year as we turn to God and the Holy Spirit to guide us to where He wants us to be in the year 2010. May God bless our journey.

SATURDAY AND SUNDAY, JANUARY 2 & 3**LECTORS:**

5:00 p.m. Ginny DeRoche

9:00 a.m. Eva Rodriguez

11:00 a.m. Mary Ann Szpunar

MINISTERS OF THE EUCHARIST:

5:00 p.m. Mary Knoll*

Art Rollend, Chris Taylor

J.R. & Mary Ann Vandemark

9:00 a.m. Pete Sayers*

Norma Sayers, Joanne Richardson

Dick Bertrand, Joan Smith

11:00 a.m. Carol Starling*

Lee Starling, Bridget Smith

Sharon Vandenbossche, Vic Guzman

ALTAR SERVERS:

5:00 p.m. Theresa Burkey, Delia Kolanowski

9:00 a.m. Daniella Babcock, Aradia Bristol

11:00 a.m. Brittney Quick, Nicole Quick

GREETERS:

5:00 p.m. Theresa, Marissa Connell, Brad Hartel Family, Marilyn Gludovatz, Art Rollend Family

9:00 a.m. Thomas, Bonnie Braun, Joyce Anderson, Vincent Albin, Karen Adams

11:00 a.m. Christine Harbec, Jerry, Sandy Noeker, Pat Gettel, Irene Aymer

USHERS FOR JANUARY:

5:00 p.m. Dave Kolacz*, Doug Lagos Mark McKervey, Dave Luebbert

9:00 a.m. Dave Klebba*, Jason Kappen Dale Romain, Jim Will

11:00 a.m. Bill Blaylock*, Paul Ellsworth Jack Generous, Doug Prosser

Friday, January 1-Mary Mother of God-(Holy Day of Obligation) 10:00 am Mass-Please volunteers to serve.

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Showing Children the Path to Life

FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY

Why were you looking for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house? (Luke 2:49)

How many twelve-year-olds today can be trusted when left to their own devices? There are, of course those who having developed a sense of purpose early in life, show amazing maturity. Jesus fell into this category. Wise beyond his years, he astounded his elders with his knowledge. While his parents must have been frantic over his disappearance, it is unlikely they were concerned with what he was "up to". Rather, they probably feared he had been harmed in some way. Jesus, however, was safely in his "Father's house," conversing with religious leaders as an equal. Raised with firm guidelines in a religious household, he demonstrated discipline and spiritual insight.

Would the children in our lives do likewise? If not, now is the time to reach out to nieces and nephews, neighbors' children, our own children and grandchildren, the children in our care, and give them the spiritual keys they need for their development. This is the gift we owe the next generation.

O God, save our children from destructive ways and show them the path of life. (Elizabeth Ann Stewart)

PARISH SUPPORT

Collection amount not available because of an early bulletin deadline.



A BIG THANK YOU—It takes many people “working behind the scenes” to make the Church look beautiful for Advent & Christmas. Therefore, we must thank and are most appreciative, to those who spent hours in church-decorating, putting up trees, lights, climbing ladders, changing panels on the altar. It all culminated with our church looking very beautiful for the celebrations of Advent and Christmas. For those who helped decorate—a BIG THANK YOU for your time and efforts!

MORE THANKS—also go to the many people who provided music for our Advent and Christmas celebrations. Many hours of practice were done to shape the children and their voices into a musical that praised God for Christmas. Their singing praised God in their unique ways. Thanks to Mary Gettel and the volunteers who helped in making all this possible.

WE MUST ALSO THANK the fine members of our musical choirs who provided **beautiful music** for Christmas. All of them did an excellent job and we are most appreciative of their hard work. Their music certainly enhanced our liturgies.

MORE THANKS also to our faithful Altar Servers, Lectors, Eucharistic Ministers, Ushers and Greeters who helped make our celebrations so meaningful.

May God bless all of you!
In Christ's Peace, Fr. Dennis

**BEWARE THE HERODS OF THIS WORLD**

Joseph rose and took the child and his mother by night and departed for Egypt. (Matthew 2:14)

The flight of the holy family into Egypt reminds us that we always have to be vigilant when it comes to our faith. There are “wicked kings” everywhere, it seems—in business, in politics, in education, in religion. Fearful of having their power usurped, these “Herods” seek to undermine all who threaten their control. Sometimes their hatred is overt; sometimes their intentions are hidden behind amiable conversation and feigned good will. Herod, in his dealings with the magi, presents himself as well-intentioned and caring; shortly afterwards, he shows a very different face—that of the enraged destroyer who orders the massacre of all the baby boys in Bethlehem.

For a period of time, we may be able to coexist with Herod; sooner or later, envious of our relationship with God, Herod will strike. Like Joseph, we must be alert, ready to leave when that moment comes, trusting that the Holy Spirit will lead us to where we are meant to be.

Teach us to be on guard, O Lord, that we may outwit the Herods of this world.

Lord, Jesus, help us to not take the gift of faith for granted.

(From Living Faith)

†FAITH FORMATION NEWS†

Jan. 3—No Faith Formation activities

Jan. 4—Faith Formation classes resume

Jan. 10—Inscription Service @ 9:00 Mass

Jan. 10—No 7/8 grade class today

Jan. 13—Sacramental meeting @ 6:30

Jan. 20—After school social 3:30-5:00

Jan. 21-23—March For Life—Washington D.C.

SUNDAY-BY-SUNDAY meets each Monday, 6:15-7:30 pm in the Parish Center. Join us as we meet to read and discuss the upcoming Sunday readings in an informal way!

**IT'S TIME FOR HOCKEY!**

Once again our parish is offering tickets for a Saginaw Spirit/Barrie Colts hockey game. It's fun for people of all ages. **When:** Saturday, January 17, 2010. **Time:** 4:00 pm. **Where:** Dow Event Center, Saginaw. **Why:** To gather as a community of faith. **How:** We order the tickets, and you provide transportation. **Cost:** \$8.50 per ticket. Checks payable to Sacred Heart. For tickets call Karen @ 673-2276. **Note:** It's a faith day, and Bishop Cistone is the guest speaker!

REMINDER

Please note that during the winter season when Caro schools are closed due to inclement weather, all Parish Center activities and Faith Formation classes will also be cancelled for the day, as well as weekday Mass.

**THE LAWS OF LIFE**

God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law to ransom those under the law, so that we might receive adoption. (Galations 4:4-5)

Jesus was born under the bittersweet laws that govern life on earth, laws that say all living things must die, laws that say there will be suffering and illness and earthquakes and volcanoes and flood; laws that seem to decree that, if things *can* go wrong they *will*, that our most earnest decisions may be wrong or that those we love the most may break our hearts. Jesus knew these laws of life. He knew betrayal of friends, he knew failure, he knew death.

Jesus became subject to those laws to be with us in our suffering. He came to deliver us from thinking that this life of difficulty and grief is all there is. He came to teach us that we can be more than slaves to the things that bind us, to our mistakes and failures, to our needs and fears. He came to lead us into a spiritual life in which we can be free to love and to grow. He came to show us that beyond daily work and worry there is the infinite love of God, beyond the life that ends at death there is a life of eternal joy.

Jesus, during this new year, help me always to be mindful of my status as an adopted child of God.

FOR REFLECTION:

Jesus, Mary, and Joseph's first recorded family outing had a religious purpose. How often does your family pray and attend church services together?

The feast of “Mary, Mother of God” used to be on October 11. In 1969 it was transferred to January 1, which is now called “Octave of Christmas: The Blessed Virgin Mary.