



*Our Lady of Lourdes Church
Milltown, New Jersey*



Mass Intentions

FOR THE WEEK



MONDAY, DECEMBER 28

7:00 p.m. Mildred Burns Grecek
req Altar Rosary

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 29

7:00 a.m. John Olson
req Edna Ingold

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 30

7:00 a.m. Edward Ducku
req Silverman Family

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 31

7:00 a.m. Sheik O'Halloran
req Napolitano Family
7:00 p.m. Intention of Parishioners

FRIDAY, JANUARY 1

12:10 p.m. Thomas & Dorothy McCloskey
req Fam.
7:00 p.m. Antoinette Gallo
req M/M Steve Svonavec

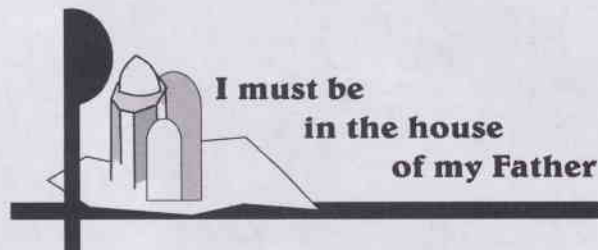
SATURDAY, JANUARY 2

8:00 a.m. Hannah Smyth
req Husband
5:00 p.m. Intention of Parishioners
7:00 p.m. Stephen Yetman
req M/M Bob Smith

SUNDAY, JANUARY 3- EPIPHANY

7:30 a.m. Cappella Family
req Shirley
9:00 a.m. Mildred Greczek
req M/M Edmund Gonch
10:30 a.m. Mildred Greczek
req Laudino Family
12 Noon Alice Krull
req Helen Marshall

(All weekday Masses will be said in church.)



HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH

First Reading: Sirach 3:2-7, 12-14

Sirach emphasizes the importance of honoring one's parents. He explains that spiritual riches will come to those who are kind to their mother and father.

Second Reading: Colossians 3:12-21

Paul advises us to treat each other with kindness and mercy and to forgive as God forgives us. His words remind families to always love and respect one another and let Christ's peace reign in their hearts and in their homes.

Gospel: Luke 2:41-52

When Jesus was twelve years old, the Holy Family traveled to Jerusalem to celebrate the feast. Jesus did not return with the company. Instead, he stayed in Jerusalem, sitting among the teachers while amazing them with his understanding and questions. When found by his concerned parents, Jesus reminded them that he must be in the house of his Father. Returning together, Mary kept these things in her heart.

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READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday

1 Jn 1:5-2:2; Mt 2:13-18

Tuesday

1 Jn 2:3-11; Lk 2:22-35

Wednesday

1 Jn 2:12-17; Lk 2:36-40

Thursday

1 Jn 2:18-21; Jn 1:1-18

First Friday

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

First Saturday

1 Jn 2:22-28; Jn 1:19-28

HOLY FAMILY

“He went down with them then, and came to Nazareth, and was obedient to them. His mother meanwhile kept all these things in memory. Jesus, for his part, progressed steadily in wisdom and age and grace before God and men.”

During these festive days, the scriptures move in several directions. In relatively few days we find the Holy Family en route to Bethlehem, in Egypt, visited by people from the orient, in Jerusalem and finally at home in Nazareth. As the stories unfold we travel with Mary and Joseph, silent spectators at important events.

We visit Jerusalem today, where the familiar story of lost and found is described. Consider the anxiety and fear which must have touched the hearts of the parents. Although he was twelve, think about a child lost in a crowded mall store prior to Christmas. The child cries, the parents check store security, the busy parking lots surely are a place of danger.

They meet and the adolescent simply states “Why did you search for me?” He asks that question of me today as well. My answer is because of my great need for Christ in my life. Imagine how Mary, once home, sat down after the journey and reflected, or pondered, weighed all the things that transpired. The normal religious pilgrimage certainly took on a new tone a new disaster and for the parents, a nightmare.

We too, as we relax on this last weekend of the year, in a quiet moment at home, or in church, pause to reflect on the celebration of these last days, or summarize the events of this entire year. The headlines have been harsh. Hopes have been dashed. Problems beyond our control persist. Yet the presence of Christ and His grace is able to effect a change.

Like the child who progressed in this threefold way, we too, seek His wisdom, His grace, as we close one year and begin another. His abiding presence with us will be the same source of strength which supported the Holy Family in their need.



HIS WORD TODAY

BY REV. WILLIAM J. REILLY

A FRESH PERSPECTIVE ON
THE SUNDAY READINGS