

GREETINGS FROM FR. SCOTT Dec. 22, 2013 Fourth Sunday

The Gospel talks about names. Names are very important in our world. There are nick names, hyphenated sir names, maiden names, middle names, and alias names. There are names that sound the same but are spelled differently, like Teresa and Theresa. Parents name their children after movie stars, grandparents, and Presidents.

Generations have trends for naming children. In the 1950's the most common name was James, my name, Scott, was number 36. In the United States the most common female names are Mary, Linda, and Elizabeth. The most common male names are James, John, and Robert, Scott is Number 32.

We can get our names legally changed. Our names might change when we get married. Many names are changed to acronyms such as RCIA, meaning Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults.

Genesis tells us that God created you and me in his own image and likeness. We are not merely another species of God's creation, like lions, insects, or fish. We are created special so each of us has a name.

My favorite names are the biblical names. Here is the process one might go through when giving a child a biblical name.

First, find a biblical character you like, for example my middle name Joseph. Second, figure out the general qualities and characteristics of that particular biblical figure and what his or her name means. Joseph means to increase or add another son. He is steadfast, true, a man of work, a man who protects his family, and a man who obeys God. Once you give your child that name, you desire and pray that he or she will come to possess those characteristics.

I have a book of 10,000 names on my I-Pad Mini. Every name that you can think of is listed in this book and it also says what the name means. I picked some names out of the Bible to see what they meant.

David means beloved; Ruth means companion; Philip means a lover of horses; Peter means rock; Martha is another way of saying lady; Malachi was named to mean 'my messenger'; Sarah means princess; Elizabeth means oath of God or I am God's daughter.

An angel of God came and spoke to Joseph, and told him that Mary, the woman he loved, was going to have a baby boy. The angel also told Joseph that God wanted Joseph and Mary to name their baby Jesus.

The name Jesus means "to save God's people from their sins." That's what Jesus did. That is why the name of Jesus is so important and why God did not name him Pat or Henry or Bill or any other name. God wanted people to know Jesus and also to know what Jesus was going to do. Now you know why names are so very important and why Jesus' name is the most important of all. When I ponder the name Jesus, I feel hope for eternal life .

STEWARDSHIP

Dec. 15,2013	\$5,576.85	Online \$3,810.00
Last Year	\$6,761.00	Online \$1,115.00
Gift Box	\$2,115.00	

Daily Mass Readings

Monday Dec. 23

Mal 3:1-4.23-24 Ps 25:4bc Lk 1:57-66

Tuesday Dec. 24

2 Sm 7:1-5 Ps 89:2-5 Lk 1:67-79

Wednesday Dec. 25

IS 52:7-10 ps 98:1-6 Heb 1:1-6

Thursday Dec. 26

Acts 6:8-10 Ps 31:3cd-4 Mt 10:17-22

Friday Dec. 27

1 Jn 1:1-4 Ps 97:1-2,5-6 Jn 20:1a,2-8

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday

Dec. 21

5:00pm

+ Michael & Margaret Lajcsak

Sunday

Dec. 22

9:00am

For the People of the Parish

11:30am

+Mathew Stokes

Monday

Dec. 23

9:00am

Tuesday

Dec. 24

9:00am

Wednesday

Dec. 25

9:00am

Thursday

Dec. 26

9:00am

Friday

Dec. 27

9:00am



CHRISTMAS MEMORIAL FLOWERS

LaVonne Boyd	Ed Stelmacher	Beana Stelmacher
Alex Crapps	Cindy Crapps	Diana Crapps
Earl Hopp	Helen Jadack	Emery Jadack
Ken Kucharzak	Sung Kicharzak	Mrs. Leo Kucharzak
Mr. Leo Kucharzak	Florence	Irene
Diana	Remy Williams	Anna Elworth
Lloyd Cole	Mary Cole	Brennen Fleener
Bea Johnson	Gina Dyjak	Emmanuel Lampl
Norma Lampl	Merlin DeWalt	Dorothy DeWalt
Sarkis Atamian	Aaron Grinnell	Adam Patton
Margaret Lajcsak	Michael Lajcsak	Dolores Sullivan
Mike DeKreon	Marie Watts	George Watts
Olga Dekreon	Martin C. Betts	Bill Felenchak
Doris Sturdevant	Alex Victor	Eleanor Victor
Clyde Sturdevant	Leo Briskey	Nettie Briskey
John William Garrett	Theresa Jean Garrett	Anna & John Kelly
Natalia Westfall	Bertren Curry III	Lona Lyons
Jeong Shin Lee	Jae Lee	Shun Rye Park



COMING EVENTS

DECEMBER

22	No Faith Formation—Christmas Break
24	Christmas Eve Mass 4pm Christmas Eve Mass 9 pm
25	Midnight Mass
25	Christmas Day Mass 10 am
28	Youth Mass 5pm
29	No Faith Formation—Christmas Break
31	Vigil for the Blessed Virgin Mary 5:30pm

JANUARY

1	Blessed Virgin Mary 10:00am
5	Faith Formation Classes Resume
10-12	Confirmation Retreat—1st Year
17-19	Confirmation Retreat—2nd Year

BABY BOUTIQUE

This Christmas, remember the Catholic Social Services Baby Boutique in honor of the Christ child. Babies and toddlers need warm, gently used hooded sweatshirts, hats, mittens, sweatpants, coats, snowsuits, and jackets. One piece t-shirts and diapers in all sizes are always in demand. Collection basket in the social hall.

GIFT BOX PROJECT

Thank you for your generous support of our annual Gift Boxes to Valley residents. Your kindness and Christmas Spirit joyfully affected over 175 of our neighbors.

FOOD PANTRY OF WASILLA

Thank you for supporting the Mat-Su Food Bank and

FOOD PANTRY

Items needed at the pantry:
All kinds of pasta
Beans—canned (not green)
rice, flour, sugar,
grocery bags

357-3769

OUR LADY OF THE VALLEY CATHOLIC SCHOOL

The students, staff, and volunteers of OLV with all their friends, families, and supporters a blessed Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Faith. Academics. Service.
Catholic Schools