

GREETINGS FROM FR. SCOTT Dec. 29, 2013 The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph

Have you ever heard of a genogram? Building a genogram helps us understand our internal dynamics. It is built by first making a family tree that stretches back at least three generations. Next to each name in the family tree, write things such as the career that person had, education, occupation, illnesses, social behaviors, relationships, or disorders such as alcoholism, depression, and diseases.

Studying selected data in a genogram can be helpful to all families. One can especially help when families are trying to understand why a child is an early victim of alcoholism, has a gambling addiction, or is violent.

Knowing all the good and bad in our family backgrounds helps us build on our strengths while breaking the cycle of our families' negative careers. The Holy Family, Mary, Joseph, and Jesus, had a career in Holiness. Guess what? Holiness is handed down from generation to generation.

Saint Therese Lisieux tells us "Holiness consists simply in doing God's will, and being just what God wants us to be."

Holy means that one is set aside for God's use. Saint Paul would agree that holy people are people of faith, kindness, and seriousness of purpose. Holy people manage their children and their households well. Holy people are those who don't sit on their hands or stare out into space. Holy people give their very best every day to build and hold together God's kingdom.

Here is how we become like the Holy Family. Pray to gain energy to become holy. Struggle together to understand the best way to serve God. Persevere through sickness and in health. Work through problems and difficulties.

Saint Benedict tells us that we have to work and pray to become holy. Holiness is wholeness and it comes about only through that balance of the inner and the outer. That means that the inner strength and guidance we get from prayer should be used to engage the outside world in a moral and productive manner.

The Holy Family is a model for holiness. They model for us the things we want in our own homes like love, justice, fidelity, and kindness. They teach us about mutual respect. Mutual respect allows each family member to find his or her own path to revealing God's creative and saving love for our world.

Saint Ursula Julia Ledochowska of Sweden (1865-1939) said, "Holiness does not demand anything great, beyond the ability of the person. It depends on God's Love; an every day act can be transformed into an act of love."

I believe holiness is passed on from generation to generation. When making a family tree, put the Holy Family right at the top of your tree. And do not forget to add holiness to each person on your genogram.

STEWARDSHIP

Dec. 22, 2013 \$5,792.50 Online \$670.00

Last Year \$6,810.85 Online \$480.00

Sign up for Online Giving on our website.

Daily Mass Readings

Monday Dec. 30

1 Jn 2:12-17 Ps 96:7-10 Lk 2:36-40

Tuesday Dec. 31

1 Jn 2:18-21 Ps 96:1-2 Jn 1:1-18

Wednesday Jan.1

Nm 6:22-27 Ps 67:2-3 Lk 2:16-21

Thursday Jan.2

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

Friday Jan.3

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

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday Dec. 28

5:00pm + Mrs. Helen Bogan

Sunday Dec. 29

9:00am For the People of the Parish

11:30am +Sarkis Atamian

Monday Dec. 30

9:00am

Tuesday Dec. 31

9:00am

Wednesday Jan.1

9:00am

Thursday Jan.2

9:00am

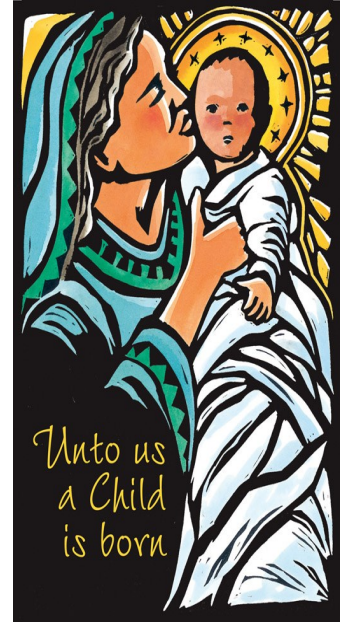
Friday Jan.3

9:00am



CHRISTMAS MEMORIAL FLOWERS

LaVonne Boyd	Ed Stelmacher	Beana Stelmacher
Alex Crapps	Cindy Crapps	Diana Crapps
Earl Hopp	Helen Jadack	Emery Jadack
Terry Meader	Earnest Cayer	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	Maree Watts	George Watts
Olga Dekreon	Martin C. Betts	Bill Felenchak
Doris Sturdevant	Alex Victor	Florenc Felenchak
Clyde Sturdevant	Leo Briskey	Eleanor Victor
John William Garrett	Theresa Jean Garrett	Nettie Briskey
Natalia Westfall	Bertren Curry III	Anna & John Kelly
Jeong Shin Lee	Jae Lee	Lona Lyons
Princess Marsh	Jim Marsh	Shun Rye Park



COMING EVENTS

DECEMBER

- 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 Catholic Social Services' Baby Boutique in honor of the Christ child. Babies and toddlers need gently used hooded sweatshirts, hats, mittens, sweatpants, coats, snowsuits, and jackets. One piece t-shirts and diapers in all sizes are always in demand. A collection basket is 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 Food4Kids in November with over 500 pounds of food.

FOOD PANTRY

Items needed at the pantry:
 All kinds of pasta
 tomato sauce, cereal, oatmeal
 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 wish you a blessed Christmas and a Happy New Year.

