

Holy Family — December 27, 2009

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph C (Opt.) 1 1 Samuel 1:20-22, 24-28

Offering What We Have Received

If you took a toddler to church and left the child there for the pastor to raise, you might be accused of negligence. But when we hear that Hannah performs a similar action in the First Book of Samuel, we are to emulate the holiness of her family.

Hannah had gone childless throughout her life, but Eli, the Old Testament priest at the temple in Shiloh, prophesied that she would conceive a son. Hannah promised she would give the son back to God. Eli's prophecy came true, and Hannah made good on her promise. She brought a bull, some flour, some wine—as well as her son—and gave them all to Eli. She later bore five more children. The first son, Samuel, eventually succeeded Eli as priest of the temple.

Although Hannah's specific actions would seem strange today, the general intent of her spiritual life remains an admirable model. Hannah asked God for a particular petition. When God granted her heart's desire, Hannah returned thanks to God by offering in sacrifice some of what she treasured.

All our families strive to be holy. Not every mother has a son. Not every son becomes a priest. But every family can learn the basics of a friendship with God. If you want something, ask. If you receive it, give thanks. When you give thanks, do it with a sacrifice of something you treasure.

Readings For Next Sunday

January 2 & 3

1st Reading...Is 60:1-6

2nd Reading...Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6

Gospel...Mt 2:1-12

ALTAR SERVERS

(Week of December 28)

Monday	Noon	Jim Gates
Tuesday	Noon	To Be Contacted
Wednesday	Noon	Bud Koshewa
Thursday	4:30pm	Steve Sternberg
Friday	10:00am	+J. Raque, A. Halvarson, E. Raque
Saturday	4:30pm	+A. McCormick, A. O'Shea, T. Clark
Sunday	10:00am	+N. Spoelker, A. Hood, M. Hamilton

+denotes Crossbearer

MASS INTENTIONS

(Week of December 28)

Monday	Noon	Phyllis Lippy
Tuesday	Noon	Dan Creed
Wednesday	Noon	Linne Holland
Thursday	4:30pm	St. Raphael Community
Friday	10:00am	St. Raphael Community
Saturday	4:30pm	St. Raphael Community
Sunday	10:00am	Barbara Dietz

HOSPITALITY MINISTERS

(January, 2010)

4:30pm....David Worland (cpt), Joe O'Toole, Church Armes, Pat Riggs, Need 2

10:00am... Peter & Dianna Pepe(cpts) & Mike Baron, Gene Brewer, Pete Thomas, Bob Kern, Beth & Vincent Pepe (subs)

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS

(January 2 & 3)

4:30pm...Team B...Carmel Davis, Cpt., Carol Davis, Bob Massey, Lloyd Vest, Cele Sauter, Jim Gates

10:00am...Team F...Scott Raque, Cpt., Maria Raque, Bonnie Dever, Don Hinkebein, Carol Miller, Steve Sternberg, Pat McCormick

LECTORS

(January 2 & 3)

4:30pm...Jacklyn Ochsner & Rachel Marcum
10:00am....Charles Shacklette & John Tichenor

GIFT BEARERS

(January 2 & 3)

4:30pm...Littell Family
10:00am....Jenny Martin

Stewardship Reflection

Tithing for December 20.....Not available

It's not just what we do that is important, but how we do it. A steward's way of life is dedicated to thankfulness. Gratitude, not money, is the bottom line.

YOUTH MINISTRY NEWS

7th and 8th Graders

Thanks to all the Junior High students who attended the planning session on Monday, December 14th. Please check the parish website for upcoming events.

High School

Thanks to all the High School youth that attended the planning session on Sunday, December 13th. Please check the parish website for upcoming events.

Family Bingo is Coming!

Family Bingo is coming in January. We will have family bingo after the 10am mass on January 17th. Plenty of markers and cards will be available along with food and refreshments. Prizes will be awarded to the winners. (This is a free event).



Please contact Nick Cummins at nkcummins@bellsouth.net or 458-2500 for more info on any of the above mentioned events.



MASS CANCELCATION DURING INCLEMENT WEATHER

As a reminder, when Catholic Elementary school classes are canceled due to inclement weather (Monday-Friday), masses for that particular day(s) are also canceled.

New Years Day Lector Schedule

Lisa Hartung & Tony Greenwell

***New Year's Eve Lectors will be contacted

Taste of St. Raphael

January 23, 2010



Parish Office Hours During the Holidays

The Parish Office will be closed on Thursday, December 24 at 11:30am and will reopen on Monday, January 4 at 8:30am. During this time, voicemails and the mail will be checked on a regular basis.

Mass Schedule

New Years Eve — 4:30pm

New Years Day — 10:00am

**Please note that we have added a New Years Eve Mass

***Eucharistic Ministers & Gift Bearers for these Masses will be contacted

END OF THE YEAR TAX STATEMENTS for contributions through 12/31/09 will be mailed to each registered parish family no later than 1/31/10. Tax statements will contain any donation made through your monthly contribution envelopes. These include: Sunday, building debt reduction, holyday, and Archdiocesan collections for which envelopes were provided in your packet. Gifts of stock to the parish will be listed separately on your statement listing the type and number of shares.

Bridal Announcement...The Record will publish the First Bridal Issue of 2010 on January 28, 2010. If you are planning your wedding between January 28, 2010 and July 28, 2010 and would like your announcement in The Record, fill out and send the form currently appearing in the paper. You may also go online at archlou.org/therecord/bridalannouncements and complete your form via the internet. For additional information or questions contact Rachell Rauh at 471-2125 or email: rrauh@archlou.org. **The deadline is Friday, January 8, 2010 at 10am.**

Spanish Class for Beginners

Saturdays, Jan.23 - Feb. 27, 2010
9:30-11:00 a.m. at Hand in Hand Ministries
2225 Steier Ln. Cost \$45 Call 459-9930
Or e-mail maryhelen@hhministries.com for more information.

Please remember in your prayers our parishioner Ervin Denham who was buried from St. Raphael on December 21.

Please offer your prayers for our sick family & friends in the St. Raphael Parish community:

Bernadine Allbritten, Mary Lee Anderson, Helen Bethards, Charles Bauer, Mary Rose Brizendine, Jo Ann Carroll, James Caudill, Richard Chandler, David Charmoli, Victoria Clark, Pat Conner, Robert Coury, Martha Creed, Connor Day, Mary Jeannette Durham, Sara Fante, Daniel Flynn, Frances Gibson, Sue Harris, Marcella Horney, Rosemary Johnson, Mary Kautzman, Damion Kline, George Koestel, Henry Krebs, A.C. Leonhardt, Cleo Leonhardt, Charles Lucas, Marilyn Malone, Andrew McKinley, Tom Meyer, Malinda O'Daniel Ron Parrino, Connie Peters, Dr. Richard Phelps, Angelo Rappa, Tina Ray, Jean Reinstedler, Joesph Sauter, Elfriede Smith, Elmer Smith, Scott Spalding, Jack Sweeney, Dorothy Thomas, John Tichenor, Anna Maria Verwest, Jane Wagner, Carol Walls, Mary Warken, Lillian Werkman, James Whelan, Marty Wiehebrink, Dorothy Wimsatt,

(In an effort to keep the prayer list up-to-date, please notify the Parish Office of any additions or deletions.)



2010 Calendars are available in the back of church and may be picked up after all Masses.

The Class of 2009 has donated a tree and a plaque to commemorate their graduation this past May. While the tree had to wait for appropriate weather to be planted, both can be seen in the yard near the Lancashire Avenue entrance to the school parking lot. We thank them for their gift!



Please patronize the sponsors of our bulletin. Their support makes this bulletin possible. This week's bulletin sponsor is **Physical Therapy Plus.**