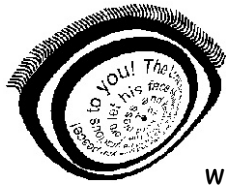


# DECEMBER 29<sup>th</sup>, 2024 ~ FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY



## JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH THE HOLY FAMILY

Marriage is too often conceived as the sacrament which unites a man and a woman to form a couple. In reality, marriage establishes a family, and its purpose is to increase the number of the elect, through the bodily and spiritual fecundity of the Christian spouses.

Every marriage intends children. Although Mary and Joseph were not united in a carnal way, their marriage is a true marriage: an indissoluble, exclusive union, wholly subordinated to the child. Mary and Joseph are united only in order to bring Jesus into the world, to protect and raise him. They have only one child, but he contains the whole of mankind, even as Isaac, an only child, fulfilled the promise made to Abraham of a countless progeny.

The purpose of every marriage is to establish a Christian family. The Holy Family observed the religious laws of Israel; it went in pilgrimage to Jerusalem every year with other Jewish families. Jesus saddens and amazes his father and his mother because to their will and company he prefers "to be in his Father's house". Thus it may happen that God's will obliges the family to make disconcerting sacrifices. Yet every Christian family must live in harmony and in prayer, which are the pledges of joy and union. "He remained obedient to them." Jesus was God. And through the fullness of grace Mary stood above Joseph. Nevertheless, if we except the event in the Temple, Joseph remained the head of the family; he took the initiative as when the Holy Family fled to Egypt, and in Nazareth Jesus obeyed his parents. ~ A.M. Roguet

## FEAST OF MARY, MOTHER OF GOD

On the first day of each year, the Church consecrates a special solemnity to celebrate Mary, the Mother of God. This solemnity is a holy day of obligation. **January 1, 2025**, is also a day dedicated to peace. The universal Church invites the world to pray so that peace and harmony will reign among nations.

## PRAYER OF SAINT FRANCIS OF ASSISI

*Lord, make me an instrument of your peace.*

*Where there is hatred, let me sow love;*

*where there is injury, pardon;*

*where there is doubt, faith;*

*where there is despair, hope;*

*where there is darkness, light;*

*and where there is sadness, joy.*

*O Divine Master,*

*grant that I may not so much seek  
to be consoled as to console;*

*to be understood as to understand;*

*to be loved as to love.*

*For it is in giving that we receive;*

*it is in pardoning that we are pardoned;*

*and it is in dying that we are born to*

*Eternal Life.*



## CHRISTMAS FLOWERS

During the Christmas Season we have remembered in a special way the deceased for whom you made a donation to buy flowers to decorate the Sanctuary. Their names will appear in the bulletin of **January 5, 2025**. We thank all the families who have contributed, the Sanctuary looks so beautiful.

## CHRISTMAS OFFICE HOURS

The parish office will remain closed for the Christmas Feasts and holidays. It will reopen **Thursday January 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2025** If there is any emergency, please call the rectory @ 905-934-9703

# Happy New Year!

## DAILY MASS INTENTIONS

**Monday Dec 30-Sunday January 5<sup>th</sup>**

Mon Dec 30 ~ 8:00 a.m. .... Teresa Gizzo/ Maria Grubic/  
Antonio Ferretti  
Tue Dec 31 8:00 a.m. .... DeYoung Family/ Roy Nicholas/  
Bonsignore Family  
Wed Jan 01 ~9:00 a.m. .... Francesco DiPietro/  
Deceased Members of the Mandarino Family  
~11:00 a.m. .... Missa Pro Popolo  
Thur Jan 02~ 8:00 a.m. .... Adele Cappelletti/  
Dora Formica  
Fri Jan 03 ~ 8:00 a.m. .... Peter Duke Nguyen/  
Paolo Palombo  
Sat Jan 04 ~ 8:30 a.m. .... Anna Annete Tran/  
Vincenzo Coppola  
~ 5:00 p.m. .... Dolly Gonsalves/  
Deceased Member of the Urquhart/Doyle Families  
Sun Jan 05 ~ 7:30 a.m. .... Thanksgiving  
~9:30 a.m. .... Nicola Zeppetella/  
Pietro Caldarelli & Family  
~ 11:30 a.m. .... Missa Pro Popolo

**Please note there will be no Eucharistic Adoration from December 24<sup>th</sup> until January 1<sup>st</sup>. We will continue again on Tuesday January 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2025.**

### A HEARTFELT THANK YOU

To the Ministers of the Eucharist, Ministers of the Word, Ministers of Music, Altar Servers, Ushers for helping during the Christmas and New Year's celebrations. Special thanks to those who decorated the sanctuary so beautifully. Thank you all, as always, for your loving service

### AS I CLOSE THE DOOR

Dear Lord,  
as I close the door on the old year,  
I ponder the things I've done...  
the things I've said and the joys I've had.  
I wonder, have I lost or won?  
I've thought of new friends I have made, and  
the old ones, staunch and true... the paths  
of the old year made easier.  
Lord, I think of all the many times, when  
my burdens were so heavy to bear, and how  
my faith slipped away from me. But somehow  
you were always there.  
Now, as I open the door to this New Year, and  
carefully peep inside,  
I wonder what it holds for me... but  
I'll throw the door open wide. Whatever  
it brings to me and mine,  
I'll meet it with a heart so true...  
I know that, Lord, whatever it may be, you'll  
be there to carry me through.

~MERREL THOMPSON

## FESTA DELLA SANTA FAMIGLIA

**29 DICEMBRE 2024**

*Oggi e` la Festa della Sacra Famiglia di Gesù, Maria e Giuseppe. La nostra famiglia e` un riflesso della comunione trinitaria che trova il suo modello nella famiglia di Nazareth dove ebbe inizio la storia della nostra redenzione.*



### FESTA DI MARIA SS. MADRE DI DIO

**lunedì 1 gennaio 2025**, la Chiesa celebra la Festa di Maria, Madre di Dio. Inoltre in questo giorno in tutto il mondo si prega per la pace tra le nazioni. Invitiamo ognuno di voi a pregare perché la pace regni nei nostri cuori, nelle famiglie, nelle comunità e in tutti i popoli. **Mercoledì 1 gennaio è festa di precetto.**

### PRENDITI IL TEMPO...

*Prenditi tempo per pensare  
Perché è questa la vera forza dell'uomo.  
Prenditi tempo per leggere,  
Perché è questa la base della  
saggezza.  
Prenditi tempo per pregare,  
Perché è questo il maggior potere sulla  
terra.  
Prenditi tempo per amare ed essere amato,  
Perché è questo il privilegio dato da Dio.  
Prenditi tempo per essere amabile,  
Perché è questo il cammino della felicità.  
Prenditi tempo per ridere,  
Perché il riso è la musica dell'anima.  
Prenditi tempo per dare,  
Perché il giorno è troppo corto  
Per essere egoista. ~ Pablo Neruda*

### GRAZIE DI CUORE

I vostri sacerdoti a S. Alfredo ringraziano di cuore tutti coloro che hanno inviato loro doni, auguri e dolci durante le feste natalizie. Il Signore benedica voi e le vostre famiglie per la gentilezza dimostratoci.

### PER FAVORE NOTATE...

che l'ufficio parrocchiale rimarrà chiuso fino a **giovedì 2 gennaio 2025**. In caso di emergenza per favore telefonate in canonica al (905) 934-9703.

### FIORI DI NATALE

Durante il periodo natalizio abbiamo ricordato in modo particolare per il nome del defunto nella pagina successiva per la quale le famiglie fanno donazioni. Ringraziamo tutte le famiglie che hanno contribuito per decorare il Santuario con tanti bei fiori.