



Dear Parishioners,

I came across a beautiful prayer to the Infant of Prague by Pope Benedict XVI that I think is a fitting prayer for contemplating and summing up the mystery of Christ's birth:

O my Lord Jesus,  
we gaze on you as a baby  
and believe that you are the Son of God,  
who became man  
in the womb of the Virgin Mary,  
through the working of the Holy Spirit.

Just as at Bethlehem,  
we too, with Mary, Joseph,  
the angels and the shepherds,  
adore you and acknowledge you  
as our only Savior.

You became poor  
to enrich us with your poverty.  
Grant that we may never forget the poor  
and all those who suffer.

Protect our families,  
bless all the children of the world,  
and grant that the love you brought us  
may always reign amongst us  
and lead us to a happier life.

Grant, O Jesus, that all  
may recognize the truth of your birth,  
so that they may know  
that you came to bring  
to the whole human family  
light, joy and peace. You who live and reign  
with God the Father  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, forever and ever. Amen.

Thus, as we celebrate Christmas, we rejoice  
in the greatest gift of all: Jesus our Savior

who brings us happiness, light, joy, and  
peace.

Our Lord continues to shower down  
gifts upon our parish. This Christmas we get  
to rejoice in some more gifts that our parish  
has received and we are grateful to the  
donors:

- Thank you to the Ladies Guild for providing another set of linens for the altar, which are being used for the first time for Christmas Masses.
- Thank you to the family of Theresa Brazda, one of our deceased parishioners, for donating in her memory a gold and silver Gospel book cover that we are using for the first time at the Christmas Masses.
- Thank you to Mike and Karen Liebentritt who have donated the new painting of St. Joseph, the Child Jesus, and Children that was painted by an artist in Lincoln and will be placed in the chapel this week. The artist painted a depiction of the face of Mike and Karen's deceased daughter Emily on the girl who offers Jesus a flower. The chapel has been dedicated in Emily's memory ever since the church building was built and continues to be so.

I wish all of you a blessed Christmas  
and a grace-filled New Year.

God bless, Fr. Gutowski



## **MASS INTENTIONS**

### **DECEMBER 26 THRU JAN. 1**

Wednesday		Alex Hrabek
Thursday		Alex Hrabek
Friday		Dr. Richard Smith
Saturday		Bud Burchard
Sunday		People of St. Joseph
Monday	8 a.m.	Kenneth Munsinger
Monday	6 p.m.	Rolf Foged
Tuesday	9 a.m.	People of St. Joseph

### **HOLY FAMILY SHRINE EVENTS**

The Holy Family Shrine is honored to have Archbishop Lucas celebrate Mass for the Feast of the Holy Family on December 30th at 2pm. Please come early to get the best parking and seating.

Later the same day at 4pm Jim Nailon will be in concert, at the Shrine, with the St. Thomas More Youth Choir and Soprano Carmen Schweiger. This concert promises to delight all who attend. A reception will follow the concert. All free will donations go to support the Shrine.

### **YEAR END TAX BENEFIT**

Just a reminder to consider making year end contributions to the St Joseph building fund by 12/31/12 to assure a tax write-off in 2012. Since we don't know yet what the tax rules will be for charitable donations in 2013, you may have an opportunity to receive a tax benefit yet in 2012 and donate to a worthy cause – the future of our St Joseph youth. To further maximize the tax benefit, you could consider donating appreciated stock. That way, you could get a charitable contribution deduction for the full value of the stock and avoid paying capital gains tax on the appreciation. Of course, we appreciate contributions to the building fund at any time but by making them yet in 2012, you may be able to maximize the tax benefit.

### **SEMINARY COLLECTION APPEAL**

National Vocations Awareness Week is planned for January 13 - 19, 2013. Please pray for and support vocations to the priesthood and religious life during this week. In conjunction with this observance, the annual Seminary Collection Appeal will be taken up at Masses on the weekend of January 13 (not on January 6 as dated on collection envelopes). Please watch your mailboxes for more information about this important appeal and support your archdiocesan seminarians who are currently studying for the priesthood. Thank you in advance for your support.

### **LECTOR, EMHC, & SERVER**

#### **SCHEDULES**

If you did not receive one please e-mail or call Sharon VanTassell. Please print and keep your schedule handy. Remember it is your responsibility to find a substitute if you cannot keep your scheduled time.

### **CARS FOR HELP**

#### **DONATE YOUR OLD CAR - HELP LOW-INCOME STUDENTS- RECEIVE TAX DEDUCTION OF \$500+**

Call 603-595-9172 or visit [www.CarsForHelp.com](http://www.CarsForHelp.com) and learn how to donate your vehicle. It is fast and easy to donate even if your vehicle is severely broken or crashed. Your action will be greatly appreciated.

### **ST. VINCENT DE PAUL**

#### **COMMITTEE**

We are planning to organize a St. Vincent de Paul committee. The committee would be responsible for defining how to address charitable requests. A "to be determined" amount of money would be earmarked to help people out when they are in a temporary financial bind. Although there are guidelines for a St. Vincent de Paul Society, the specific organization of ours would be determined by Father and the committee members. Please contact Father if you would like to be a part of this worthwhile endeavor.