

Feast of the Holy Family

December 30, 2012

From the Pastor's Desk

This weekend as we celebrate the feast of the Holy Family it's a good time to remember that all of us are part of a larger family: the People of God.

Here is a brief commentary on the readings for this feast. In the First Reading we hear about Samuel who was a very special child. Hannah saw him as a gift from God, a sign of God's favor to her. It's not surprising then that she dedicated him to the Lord. In due time, Samuel made his own dedication and went on to play a major role in the history of Israel.

In the Gospel we hear how the twelve-year-old Jesus got lost in Jerusalem. The reading shows us that misunderstandings can occur even in the best of families. We are inclined to say that Jesus got lost in the Temple, but in reality he was at home there. For it was in the Temple that Jesus began to discover his true identity; he was not just the son of Mary, but the unique Son of God.

The Second Reading tells us that like Jesus, we have a double identity; we are not just children of our parents, but more importantly, children of God. The very fact that we are alive is a sign of God's love for us and the way we respond to this love is by obeying God's commandments, especially the commandments to love and forgive.

In the incident of the losing and finding in the Temple, we see the love that Mary and Joseph had for Jesus. Afterwards he went down to Nazareth with his parents and obeyed them. Home is a place where we are accepted as we are, with all our strengths and weaknesses. This kind of acceptance enables us to grow as human beings and children of God. In Luke's infancy narrative, Mary is the only adult who will last into the public ministry of Jesus and even into the beginnings of the Church. Mary is presented to us as a model Christian believer.

A reminder to everyone, **Tuesday, January 1st is a Holy Day of Obligation, the Octave Day of the Nativity of the Lord: Mary, the Holy Mother of God. We will have one Mass at 10:00 AM.** Happy and Blessed New Year and see you all at Mass!

Father Michael Tang

LEADERSHIP TRAINING

The next Ministry Leadership Training class is
SATURDAY, JANUARY 5, 2013
in Transfiguration hall.

THE CLASS STARTS PROMPTLY AT 9:30AM.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

PARISH & SCHOOL

TOWN HALL MEETING

Transfiguration Church Hall
WITH BISHOP EDWARD CLARK

MONDAY NIGHT

FEBRUARY 4, 2013

AT 7:00 PM.

EVERYONE IS INVITED!

THE MEETING WILL DISCUSS THE ARCHDIOCESE
VISION FOR THE SCHOOL.

NEW YEARS MASS SCHEDULE

Holy Day of Obligation

The Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God
Tuesday, January 1, 2013 at 10:00 AM

CHRISTMAS FLOWER OFFERING

We are asking that you be as generous as possible with your giving. Envelopes are in the pew. We will place the envelopes on the altar for prayer in Memory of, or in Honor of, your love ones.

RECTORY OFFICE HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

New Year's Week

Mon 12/31	Tues 1/1	Wed 1/2	Thurs 1/3	Fri 1/4
9am-12pm	CLOSED	CLOSED	9am-5pm	9am-5pm

PETITION FOR THE SICK

Virgie Aguilar, LaVern Agnew, Veronica Bearce, Stephanie Bell, Sr. Juliet Berber, Glenda Brown, Mary Brown, Andrei Briggs, Manual Brule, Barbara Butler, Joyce Burnett, Brownie Cain, Dorothy Campbell, Alberto Casanova, Katherine Clark, Beverly Colvin-Dorsey, John Crear, Nigel Dunn, Angela Dupré, Ethel Earley, Robert Evans, Connie Farlice, Dwight Fauria, Anita Finie, Edith Foster, Teresa Franklin, Stacy Franklin, Marian Fussey, Mavis Gibbs, Mattie Hilburn, Janie Jackson, Lauretta Jackson, Robert Jordan, Maggie Lacour, Irwin Lagarde, Jeanne LeBlanc, Connie Louie, Joe McZeal, Sr. Marianna, Vydred Manor, Yvonne Morgan, Muriel Meyers, Dorothy Okoye, Paula Osborn, Dale Payne, Daisy Pratt, Gerald Pratt, Wiley R. Pugh, Michelle Raines, Emma Rausch, Barbara Samuels, Reanna Semien, Lionel Smith, Sr., Darnell Stang, Barbara Starks, Michele Starks, Wilbur Starks, Alice Tenette, Stephanie Thompson, Emma Thornton, David Tureaud, Iris Turner, Lubertha Weathers, Doris Whyne, and Lilla Williams.

HAPPY NEW YEAR

School News

Celebrating 75 Years
A Legacy of Making a Difference
Serving the Community Since 1937

There will be NO BINGO January 6, 2013. Bingo resumes in February 2013. Wishing you Happy Holidays from Transfiguration School family!

NEW STUDENTS TESTING & GUIDED TOUR

Sunday, January 27th at 2:00 PM

We offer guided tours and new student testing monthly. Please feel free to contact Mrs. Crockett in the main office for assistance at 323.292.3011.

PAPER DONATION

Please continue to assist us throughout our school year by donating copy paper. Contact the office at 323.292.3011.

SAVE THE DATES

TRANSFIGURATION USHERS MEETING

Saturday, January 12, 2013 at 10:00 AM in the hall.
ALL USHERS ARE ASKED TO ATTEND.

KING DAY PARADE

will take place Saturday, January 19, 2013.

MEN'S RETREAT

The weekend of January 18, 19, and 20, 2013 the Retreat for the men of our parish will be held at Mater Dolorosa Passionist Retreat Center in Sierra Madre. The Passionist retreat team offer inspirational talks on the theme, as well as time for quiet prayers, Mass, Confession and Stations of the Cross. This year's Retreat theme: *The Gift of Mater Dolorosa, the Memoria Passionis*. There will be someone in the patio area to give you more information or contact Greg Warner, your parish retreat Captain or Maurice Simon, Co-Captain.

PRAYER BREAKFAST

The AACCFE's Annual MLK Prayer Breakfast will be held on Monday, January 21, 2013, at St. Mary's Academy - 7:30 AM - 10:30 AM. Our dynamic Keynote Speaker is Dr. C. Vanessa White who will speak on the theme: *"Reconciling Wisdom, Justice and Love."* Dr. White is an Assistant Professor at Chicago Theological Union in Chicago and Director of the Augustus Tolton Pastoral Ministry Program. Stay tuned for further details!

VIRTUS RE-CERTIFICATION CLASS

at Transfiguration

Thursday, January 24, 2013

from 7:00 to 8:30 PM in the hall.

ZYDECO DANCE AT TRANSFIGURATION

Saturday, February 9, 2013

featuring T-Lou and His Super Hot Zydeco Band.

Tickets on sale soon...

Mass Intentions

Saturday
5:15 p.m.

December 29
Soul of Jeroline Richards

Sunday
8:00 a.m.
10:00 a.m.
12:15 p.m.

December 30
Soul of Yula Wilkes
Intention of all Parishioners
Soul of James Martin, Sr.

Monday
8:00 a.m.

December 31
Intention of the Levi Family

Tuesday
10:00 a.m.

January 1
Intention of Transfiguration Rectory Staff

Readings for the week

Sunday	Sir 3:2-14, Ps 128:1-5, Col 3:12-21
Monday	1Jn 2:18-21, Jn 1:1-18
Tuesday	Nm 6:22-27, Lk 2:16-21
Wednesday	1Jn 2:22-28, Jn 1:19-28
Thursday	1Jn 2:29-3:6, Jn 1:29-34
Friday	1Jn 3:7-10, Jn 1:35-42
Saturday	1Jn 3:11-21, Jn 1:43-51
Sunday	Is 60:1-6, Ps 72:2-13, Mt 2:1-12

Sacrificial Gifts

Sunday, December 25, 2011	Sunday, December 23, 2012
\$7,137.68 Sacrificial Gift	\$6,217.49 Sacrificial Gift
385.62 Building Fund	520.55 Building Fund
295.15 "We Care"	297.46 "We Care"

Christmas ~ December 25, 2012
\$5, 232.99

DID YOU KNOW?

Tips for choosing safe toys for kids

Millions of toys are out there, and hundreds of new ones hit the stores each year. Toys are supposed to be fun and are an important part of any child's development. But each year, scores of kids are treated in hospital emergency departments for toy-related injuries. Here are some general guidelines to keep in mind when toy-shopping: Toys made of fabric should be labeled as flame resistant or flame retardant. Stuffed toys should be washable. Painted toys should be covered with lead-free paint. Art materials should say nontoxic. Crayons and paints should say ASTM D-4236 on the package, which means that they've been evaluated by the American Society for Testing and Materials. For more information, please visit: www.kidshealth.org. For particular help, you may call Assistance Ministry at 213.637.7650.

A CHRISTMAS WISH

The RECTORY OFFICE is in need of a COMPUTER! If you would like to be a blessing by purchasing a new computer, please call Jo Ann Levi at 323.291.1136. Your donation is tax deductible.