St. Augustine R. C. Parish The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph December 26, 2021



Santo Niño de Cebú

"Creating A Community Of Involvement And Evangelization"

Served by the Augustinian Friars since 1796

St. Augustine parish is an open, diverse, and active Roman Catholic community rooted in the Gospel of Jesus Christ and founded in the Augustinian Tradition. We invite all to participate in our worship, service to others, and our faith development. These endeavors allow us to grow in the knowledge of God present in ourselves and each other.

Our community joyfully welcomes all who are searching for a spiritual center to call home.

243 North Lawrence Street Philadelphia, PA 19106 (GPS Address: 250 N. 4th Street)

Phone: 215-627-1838 FAX: 215-627-3911

Website: www.st-augustinechurch.com

Office Hours: 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM Monday to Friday

Mass Schedule: Monday - Friday: 12:05 PM (LiveStreamed) (10:00 AM on Legal Holidays)

Saturday Vigil — Suspended Indefinitely

Sunday: 9:00 AM, 11:00 AM & 7:00 PM (All Masses are LiveStreamed on masslivestream.com)

Parish Staff:

Rev. William F. Waters, O.S.A. *Pastor (Ext. 110)* **pastorstaugustine@gmail.com**

Jacob A. Marquart, III, O.F.S. Parish Services Director (Ext. 115) staugustineparish09@gmail.com

Jean Mangini Wedding Coordinator (Ext. 118) staugweddings9@gmail.com

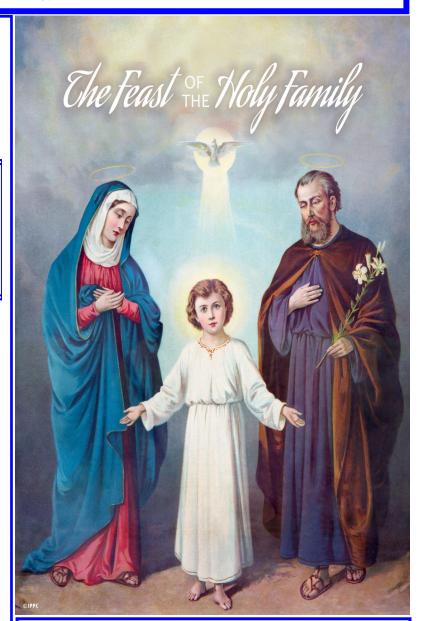
Kim Barroso Music Director kim.barroso@gmail.com

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Tim Babbage Accountant (Ext. 116) timbabbage@hotmail.com

In Residence:

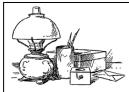
Rev. Paul Morrissey, O.S.A., spirhealth@aol.com Rev. James Keating, O.S.A. Rev. James Paradis, O.S.A., Prior



Weekly Parish Rosary via Zoom—8:00 PM on Tuesday Meeting ID: 854~1235~0301 PW: 150408

Weekly Scripture Study via Zoom—7:00 PM on Thursday Meeting ID: 832-4986-0935 PW: 025786





A word from Fr. Bíll...

Dear Parishioners:

I trust you had a wonderful celebration of Jesus' birth.

We celebrated his birth yesterday and today in the Gospel he is 12 years old. WOW, how time flies.

Actually, we know little of the life of Jesus between his birth and his being lost in the Temple. And then we know very little of his life between being found in the Temple and his baptism, the beginning of his public ministry at the age of 30. Sometimes this period is referred to as the hidden life of Jesus.

Today, we celebrate the Feast of the Holy Family, the family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph. Even though we know little explicitly of the Holy Family, we know a great deal about them.

We know Mary and Joseph were totally open to God's will for them, even though it didn't make sense. It was confusing. Mary asked the question, "How can this be?"

We know that they were very faithful to their Jewish faith. They went to the temple with their family and neighbors. We know Jesus knew a great deal about the Scriptures. Those in the temple were "astounded at his understanding and his answers."

We know they had their challenges as a family. After a three-day journey to go back to where they were, Mary and Joseph had to be frustrated (to say the least). Mary expresses that frustration very clearly: "Son, why have you done this to us? Your father and I have been looking for you with great anxiety."

Mary and Jesus must have experienced the death of Joseph. They had to have felt the pain of separation.

Jesus learned the trade of carpentry from his father. "Isn't this the carpenter's son?" They provided necessary items (tables and chairs, etc.) for others in the village.

Even though we know little about them as a family, we know a great deal about them. We know they were open to how God wanted to use them. We know they were faithful to their religion. We know they dealt with the human challenges of letting go and of the pain of death. We know they worked hard making an honest living and providing necessities for those in their community.

How does all of this apply to our own families? God is using all of us. We all have the challenges of letting go and of death. We all are called to make contributions to our society.

One of the things I would like to emphasize on this Feast of the Holy Family is that we are called upon to pray together as a family as the Holy Family did. As I work with couples preparing for Marriage, I ask them to do a "game plan" of what they are going to do to make their Marriage work. If they don't mention praying together in their plan, I ask them to include it. As I meet with couples preparing to baptize their children, I suggest, if they already are not, that they start now praying together. Most couples sincerely seem very open to this.

"The family that prays together stays together." Do we wonder why so many families do not stay together? It would be a very rare couple that prays together that would not stay together. That doesn't mean they won't have the challenges of the human condition as the Holy Family did. It does mean, however, they are better fortified to deal with those challenges.

As we celebrate the Feast of the Holy Family, may it motivate each of us in some shape or form to pray together with my family.

Have a "safe" and a great week.

Jr. Aile

Fr. Bill

Christmas Blessings



Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

Flim Huy C. Senior

Auxiliary Bishop of Philadelphia + Michael Fitzgeral

Auxiliary Bishop of Philadelphia

On the first Christmas, God gave us the most important gift of all. Through His only son, God the Father gave eternal light to humanity. That light fills us with hope and guides each of us on the lifelong journey to holiness.

Each of you were created in the likeness of God. You radiate His love in your daily lives when you recognize the face of Christ in those around you, especially those who are most in need. We are all called to build up the Kingdom of God here on Earth. The selfless love you show to fellow parishioners, neighbors, family, and friends is linked to the good deeds of others and forms the building blocks of that kingdom. As Pope Francis said, "The Church must be a place of mercy freely given, where everyone can feel welcomed, loved, forgiven and encouraged to live the good life of the Gospel."

During this joyful season, may God's love flow through you and inspire you to encounter one another with tenderness and mercy. Know that you and your families are in our thoughts and prayers.

In the name of the clergy, religious, and lay faithful of the Archdiocese of Philadelphia, we ask that God may bless you with a Merry Christmas as well as a Happy and Holy New Year!

+ Nebord - Pérez

Archbishop of Philadelphia

+ Jun Me Litye Auxiliary Bishop of Philadelphia + Edward M. Delimon

Auxiliary Bishop of Philadelphia



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