

Saint John Gualbert
Cathedral
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Most Rev Bishop
Mark L. Bartchak, JDC

Rector & Pastor
Very Rev James F. Crookston

SUNDAY LITURGIES

Saturday Evening
5:00 pm

Sundays
8:00 am
11:00 am
5:00 pm

OUTDOOR COMMUNION

Sundays
12:30-1:00 pm
St John Activities Center

DAILY MASS

Monday through Friday
7:00 am
12:05 pm

Saturday
8:00 am

CONFESSION

Thursday before 1st Friday 3:00 pm
Saturday 3:00 pm @ the Cathedral

Saint John Gualbert Cathedral Parish

ALL MASSES ARE NOW OPEN TO THE PUBLIC
CALL THE RECTORY TO SECURE A WEEKEND SEATING LOCATION

In the past God spoke to our
ancestors through the prophets;
in these last days, he has spoken
to us through the Son.



- Sunday** **December 27 *The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, & Joseph***
Readings: Sirach 3:2-6, 12-14 / Colossians 3:12-21 / Luke 2:22-40
8:00 am Leo Concannon (*Barry & Mary Spangler*)
11:00 am Eugene F. Ritter (*Joe & Janet Ritter*)
5:00 pm People of the Parish
- Monday** **December 28 *Feast of the Holy Innocents***
Readings: 1 John 1:5—2:2 / Matthew 2:13-18
7:00 am Cheryl Eckenrod (*Husband-Tom*)
12:05 pm Evelyn Mikas *Birthday Remembrance (Family)*
- Tuesday** **December 29 *5th Day in the Octave of Christmas***
Readings: 1 John 2:3-11 / Luke 2:22-35
7:00 am Eva Scaletta (*Cha Cha & John Bair*)
12:05 pm Dr Michael Tatarko (*Peter T. & Sharon Yanko*)
- Wednesday** **December 30 *6th Day in the Octave of Christmas***
Readings: 1 John 2:12-17 / Luke 2:36-40
7:00 am St Anne Society
12:05 pm John Sherlock (*Lou & Louise Aust*)
- Thursday** **December 31 *7th Day in the Octave of Christmas***
Readings: 1 John 2:18-21 / John 1:1-18
7:00 am Butch Huffman (*Catholic War Veterans Post 1103*)
12:05 pm Maria de Jesus C. Litman *Birthday Remembrance*
(*Sister-Juanita C. Burkhart*)
Vigil Mass *Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God*
Readings: Numbers 6:22-27 / Galatians 4:4-7 / Luke 2:16-21
6:00 pm Robert F. Crookston (*Family*)
- Friday** **January 1 *Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God***
Readings: Numbers 6:22-27 / Galatians 4:4-7 / Luke 2:16-21
9:00 am Florence Eckenrod *Birthday Rmbr (Pat & Denny Heptner)*
- Saturday** **January 2 *St Basil the Great & St Gregory Nazianzen***
Readings: 1 John 2:22-28 / John 1:19-28
8:00 am Owen Joseph Burkhart *Birthday Remembrance*
(*Gee Gee-Juanita C. Burkhart*)
5:00 pm Virginia Ocipa (*Mary Mauro*)
- Sunday** **January 3 *The Epiphany of the Lord***
Readings: Isaiah 60:1-6 / Ephesians 3:2-3a, 5-6 / Matthew 2:1-12
8:00 am Elizabeth Merx (*Irene & Rich Ott*)
11:00 am John Kucenski (*Wife-Maryann*)
5:00 pm People of the Parish

Fourth Holy Family

“Behold, this child is destined for the fall and rise of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be contradicted.” Luke 2: 22-40



Pierced hearts

He was the light of their lives — but that light darkened for a time. His addiction “pierced” the lives of his entire family. Nevertheless, with patience and sacrifice, they got their son help and managed to heal the wound that deeply cut their family. Today his mom and dad are part of a group of other parents who have gone through the same nightmare and offer support and counsel to families living through it now. Because of them, many hearts are “revealed.”

Some “piercings” are harder to heal: For three summers, she volunteered for two weeks to serve as a counselor for a camp for city children at risk. Then came the phone call that “pierced” their hearts. The night before she was to come home, she and a group went out for pizza. Two in the group were hurt but survived the crash, but their daughter lost too much blood. Now her mom and dad, and brother have formed a foundation for the camp program in her name. Their daughter and sister’s light continues to shine.



Other harder to heal “piercings” given to God in prayer – sometimes daily at Mass – are for an adult son or daughter whose unintended overdose ended repeated attempts at recovery. The prayers of these older parents (at least six families whom I have known and prayed with) join St. Stephen’s intercession: “Lord, do not hold this action against them; they were unable to understand.”

Every parent’s heart is “pierced” as they suffer with and for their children: illnesses, disappointments, break-ups, and stumbles. The roads our daughters and sons travel from infancy to childhood, from teen to adulthood, can be had to negotiate and treacherous — and Mom and Dad’s hearts are “pierced” every step of the way. Parenthood requires patience, wisdom, and generosity that many first-time mothers and fathers especially do not believe they possess — but they discover over time that their love makes them better moms and dads than they

imagined. They come to realize God’s grace in their Nazareth.

Today’s Feast of the Holy Family reminds us that being a family is a journey of changes and challenges — what Simeon calls “piercings” in today’s Gospel — and that it is the love of our spouses and children and brothers and sisters that enables us to negotiate and survive those “piercings,” to learn from those challenges, to move on from those problematic situations wiser and more loving. Our belonging to a family means that every one of us – parent and child — reflects for one another the selfless, limitless, and unconditional love of Christ, both in good times and bad. The Holy Family is a model for our own families as we struggle to adapt and change and cope with the many tensions and crises that challenge the stability, peace, and unity that are the joys of being a family.



Ministries Make Yuletide Glorious. The musical splendor of a quieter Christmas provides spiritual joy as Evonne Yanzetich-Homway directs choral and instrumental excellence and enlivens our celebration of Christ dwelling on earth. Adult and youth voices bring warm, brilliant coloring to beloved Christmas hymns and inspiration echoing the heavenly angelic chorus.

The artistic efforts of Patricia Loughlin, Elizabeth Gramlich, and many helpers magnificently embellish our cathedral windows, sanctuary, and creche. Church custodian, John Molnar, gives sanitized sparkle to pews and floor. Ushers and altar ministers also help create an uplifting atmosphere for our worship of the Christ who has come to dwell among us. Dave Micik, Joe Delso, and the Proclaim! TV crew bring our Cathedral Christmas to viewers across the western half of Pennsylvania and panhandle of Maryland. Becky Wicks sees that the Mass on Facebook and our page circles the earth with Christ’s peace and favor.

Holy Day of Obligation This week, we observe the Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God. Masses celebrating Mary’s Blessed Motherhood are Thursday evening, December 31 at **6:00 PM**, and Friday morning, January 1, at **9:00 AM**.

Pope Francis' Christmas Blessing of the City of Rome and the World

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Merry Christmas!

I would like to bring to everyone the message that the Church proclaims on this feast with the words of the prophet Isaiah: "To us a child is born, to us a son is given" (*Is 9:6*)

A child is born. A birth is always a source of hope; it is life that blossoms, a promise of the future. Moreover, this Child, Jesus, was born "to us": an "us" without any borders, privileges or exclusions. The Child born of the Virgin Mary in Bethlehem was born for everyone: he is the "son" that God has given to the entire human family. Thanks to this Child, all of us can speak to God and call him "Father". Jesus is the only-begotten Son; no one but he knows the Father. Yet he came into the world for this very reason: to show us the face of the Father. Thanks to this Child, we can all call one another brothers and sisters, for so we truly are. We come from every continent, from every language and culture, with our own identities and differences, yet we are all brothers and sisters.

At this moment in history, marked by the ecological crisis and grave economic and social imbalances only worsened by the coronavirus pandemic, it is even more important for us to acknowledge one another as brothers and sisters. God has made this fraternal unity possible, by giving us his Son Jesus. The fraternity he offers us has nothing to do with fine words, abstract ideals, or vague sentiments. It is a fraternity grounded in genuine love, making it possible for me to encounter others different from myself, feeling compassion for their sufferings, drawing near to them, and caring for them even though they do not belong to my family, my ethnic group, or my religion. For all their differences, they are still my brothers and sisters. The same thing is true of relationships between peoples and nations: brothers and sisters all!

At Christmas we celebrate the light of Christ who comes into the world; he comes for everyone, not just for some. Today, in this time of darkness and uncertainty regarding the pandemic, various lights of hope appear, such as the discovery of

vaccines. But for these lights to illuminate and bring hope to all, they need to be available to all. We cannot allow the various forms of nationalism closed in on themselves to prevent us from living as the truly human family that we are. Nor can we allow the virus of radical individualism to get the better of us and make us indifferent to the suffering of other brothers and sisters. I cannot place myself ahead of others, letting the law of the marketplace and patents take precedence over the law of love and the health of humanity. I ask everyone – government leaders, businesses, international organizations – to foster cooperation and not competition, and to seek a solution for everyone: vaccines for all, especially for the most vulnerable and needy of all regions of the planet. Before all others: the most vulnerable and needy! May the Child of Bethlehem help us, then, to be generous, supportive, and helpful, especially towards those who are vulnerable, the sick, those unemployed or experiencing hardship due to the economic effects of the pandemic, and women who have suffered domestic violence during these months of lockdown.

Dear brothers and sisters, "To us a child is born" (*Is 9:6*). He came to save us! He tells us that pain and evil are not the final word. To become resigned to violence and injustice would be to reject the joy and hope of Christmas.

On this festive day, I think in a special way of all those who refuse to let themselves be overcome by adversity, but instead work to bring hope, comfort, and help to those who suffer and those who are alone.

Jesus was born in a stable and was embraced by the love of the Virgin Mary and Saint Joseph. By his birth in the flesh, the Son of God consecrated familial love. My thoughts at this moment turn to families: to those who cannot come together today and to those forced to remain at home. May Christmas be an opportunity for all of us to rediscover the family as a cradle of life and faith, a place of acceptance and love, dialogue, forgiveness, fraternal solidarity and shared joy, a source of peace for all humanity.

Merry Christmas to everyone!

Pope Francis

Readers, Eucharistic Ministers, Servers, and Audio Operators January 2nd & 3rd

Saturday January 2 5:00 pm

Readers: Karen Pavlosky
Elizabeth Rhoades
Eucharistic Minister: Elizabeth Gramlich
Server: Keara Brandon
Audio Operator: Michael Stoskey

Sunday January 3 8:00 am

Readers: Carrie Weaver
Dave Harteis
Eucharistic Minister: David Wilson
Server: Nate Gates
Audio Operator: Patrick McClain

Sunday January 3 11:00 am

Readers: Geoffrey Stumpo
Beth Stem
Eucharistic Minister: James Hollis
Server: Levi Giffin
Audio Operator: Russ Smith

Sunday January 3 5:00 pm

Readers: Charlotte Amenti
Pat Loughlin
Eucharistic Minister: Pat Roth
Server: James Sandoval
Audio Operator: Matthew Updyke

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COLLECTIONS: 12/20/2020

Cash	\$ 507.40
Envelopes	3,745.50
Maintenance	45.00
Christmas	1,221.00
Christmas Flowers	60.00
Retirement Fund for Religious	40.00
Immaculate Conception	67.00
St. Croix	5.00
Total	\$ 5,690.90

LAW OFFICES of

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Resurrection Religious Education New

2021 Religious Calendars

Ushers will distribute calendars, one per family, after all Masses while supplies last.



* Safe Environment Lessons – please review the lessons and return acknowledgement forms as soon as possible.

* Our next parent and Confirmation student meeting will be January 10, 2021.