

# Mass Intentions

Saturday, December 29th, 2018, 5:00PM

†Leona Panganiban By Maureen Redrino

Sunday, December 30th, 2018, 10:30AM

Blessings for David Briffett..

†Wendy Walker by Betty Luyten-Friedman

Thanksgiving and Birthday Blessings for Jory Trabajada by the Trabajada Family

Monday, December 31st, 2018, 7:00PM

† Necita Nunez on the anniversary of her death by Nunez family..

Tuesday, January 1st, 2019, 10:30AM

Thanksgiving mass on New Year by Cora Apan Garlando,& Family

Wednesday, January 2nd, 2019, 7:00PM

Blessings for Jason John Quiocho by Melina Quiocho and family..

Thursday, January 3rd, 2019, 9:00AM

†Julia Oviedo, our beloved sister and aunt by Mary Oviedo and family..

Friday, January 4th, 2019, 9:00AM

Blessing for Jane Roach by the Roach Family..

Saturday, January 5th, 2019, 5:00PM

†Mary Lea Jordan by her boy Jack

Sunday, January 6th, 2019, 10:30AM

For Healing and Speedy Recovery of Janis Carlin

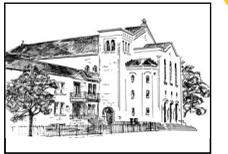
St. Willibrord Roman Catholic Church

351 Willibrord Ave., Verdun, QQ. H4G 2T7

Tel: 514-769-9678 Fax: 514-761-1717

Email: stwillibrordparish@videotron.ca Website: www.stwillibrordparish.org

Facebook: Find us under "Willibrord Parish"



## **December 30, 2018—Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph**

### REFLECTION

Sirach has many good things to say about living properly according to Torah. Relating with any thing or any body reverently is relating thereby with God.

We hear today his advice to sons and how, by obeying, revering, being compassionate to his father, will preserve him ( the son) from sin and his ( the son's) prayers will be heard.

The verbs "honor", "revere", and "obey" are words of action. These actions are ways by which God blesses the doer by prayers being heard and children being sources of gladness. Family fertility is so central to the Covenant, but the family must stay in reverent relationships to experience the blessings.

Next Sunday the Magi will arrive as the Church celebrates the Epiphany. Today's Gospel begins with the Magi leaving. Don't worry, many things in families get turned around; it will all work out okay.

Matthew alone recounts the Magi' comings and goings as well as this dream-sequence of Joseph. Matthew depicts Joseph's being dealt with directly by God through angelic visions. He takes Mary as his pregnant wife. He takes Mary and Jesus in haste to Egypt and then takes them both to Nazareth where Jesus will mature. Matthew is quite concerned with his readers' becoming alerted early that Jesus is the Messiah and is fulfilling various prophetic texts to prove this. Jesus will be called out of Egypt and will be called a Nazarene.

No phrase supports "Holy does not mean perfect" more than "Holy Family". Christmas means so many things such as good memories, warm feelings, smiley-children, and surprising gifts. Christ's becoming human and entering into relationships with humans is the blessed event of history. We are thereby more than biological phenomenon's, but embraced as belonging forever to God's family. Jesus brought holiness to the family of Joseph and Mary as Jesus does bring us holiness by embracing us into His family.

This "holiness" has much to do with trusting dreams and graces. It has much to do with doing the responsive things. Holiness has much to do with "rising" and "re-rising" whether geographically or attitudinally. Catholic families become one of the chief places and experiences where conversions take place and that is holiness.

Joseph and Mary were converted in many ways with the entering of Jesus into their lives. Joseph was converted by Mary's entering his life and likewise was Mary converted through being related to Joseph. So they turned towards each other, then towards the crib, then towards Egypt and finally towards Nazareth. Grace was holding this functional family together all through these conversions.

Christmas Day may be over, but not the birthing of Jesus in our lives. Perhaps through the Christmas-Day-experience you discovered more flaws in your family and more need for conversions in the lives of others. Just perhaps you found a call to turn in yourself and not because of a dream. Jesus' entering our lives asks us to make room for him in our stables, our lives, and our doings.

<http://onlineministries.creighton.edu/CollaborativeMinistry/Archive/2010/122610.html>

ST. WILLIBRORD ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH



*Thank you*

to all who helped to decorate the Church for Christmas and all who donated plants



**Holy Days of Obligation**

The Canadian **Conference** of Catholic Bishops has decreed that the Holy Days of obligation to be observed in Canada are: all Sundays of the year, **Christmas Day** and the **Feast of Mary, Mother of God**.

**Collection Envelopes for 2019**

Collection Envelopes are available at the back of the Church. If you are interested in receiving envelopes, please contact the rectory, or place your name, address and telephone number in the collection basket.

**Office Hours**

**Please note that the office will be closed from December 26, 2018 to January 2, 2019. We will be checking the voicemail, as well as, the emails.**

**Christmas and New Year's Mass Schedule *\*\*Revised\*\****

Christmas Eve: Monday, December 24, 2018 Mass: 7:00PM  
 Christmas Day: Tuesday, December 25, 2018 Mass: 10:30AM  
 New Year's Eve, Monday, December 31, 2018 Mass: 7:00PM  
 New Year's Day: Tuesday, January 1, 2019 Mass: 10:30AM



**DATES FOR FAITH FORMATION AND FORMATION FOR LAY PEOPLE**

**Thursday Bible Study:**

Will be held on Thursday, January 3, 2019 and will be held on Thursday, Bible Study at 6:30PM, in Rectory

**Meeting for Lectors, Lay Ministers and Choir Members:**

will be held on Sunday, January 13, 2019, following the 10:30AM Mass

**Choir Practice**

will be held on Sunday, January 13, 2019, following the 10:30AM Mass

**Acolytes:**

Meeting will be held in the rectory, on January 12, 2019, at 9:00AM.

**Faith in the family:**

The next faith in the family will be on January 13, 2019

**DATE(S) TO REMEMBER**

**Flea Market:**

Saturday, January 5, 2019, 9:00AM to 3:00PM

**Mass in Cameron Hall**

Saturday, January 12, 2019, 5:00PM, followed by a light meal

**CONFESSIONS** will be heard 15 minutes before each Mass weekdays and on weekends.

**BAPTISM** Parents wishing to have their child baptized are asked to contact the Parish Office at 514-769-9678. A meeting with Parents and Godparents is a pre-requisite. Godparents must be baptized and confirmed in the Catholic Church.

**MARRIAGE** Please contact the Parish Office or Father Gregory well in advance, as it is important to reserve the church before the Hall.

The Holy Family – A Model for All Families

Today we celebrate the Feast of the Holy Family. The Family of Nazareth is a model for us as to what marriage, family, and home life are meant to be. Some people struggle with this, but when we look at the Holy Family we see how this can be.

Our first reading today stresses the gift that Isaac is to Abraham and Sarah. Being childless in Old Testament times was seen as a curse. Fortunately we no longer look at it this way. Granted, childlessness is a cause of great sadness but it must never be seen as a punishment from God.

Abraham was sad and worried as he had no heir. God promised him one and that through his heir numerous descendants would come to be. It was through him and his descendants that the Christ eventually came from.

Children are a blessing from God and the best gift parents can give their children is not money or possessions, but the experience of being loved. Nothing whatsoever can make up for this gift.

Our second reading today stresses that husbands and wives need to have great faith to live out their marital vows. To be faithful to such a commitment is not always easy and takes hard work. When children become a part of the picture, parents are called to hand on that gift of faith which is best nourished by family prayer. As the saying goes, "The family that prays together stays together!"

The Gospel reading speaks of the events that surrounded the conception and birth of Jesus. Jesus would be the hope and comfort of Israel, and a light for all nations. But the Gospel also speaks of Jesus being rejected, a rejection that would cause a sword of sorrow to pierce Mary's heart.

There is no reason to believe that Mary and Joseph had a clear understanding of either the full identity or destiny of the Child. However, they played a crucial role in bringing him up in faith and love so as to help him understand his destiny. The home at Nazareth provided the kind of atmosphere in which Jesus was able to grow in age, wisdom, and maturity before God and others.

Every child is a gift from God and has a unique destiny. That destiny is hidden from the parents as they wonder what their child will become. Having given them life, they must allow them the freedom to live that life. Above all, they must be careful not to stand in the way of God's plan for their child's life.

Parents have a responsibility to pray that God will guide their children in the choices they make. Mistakes will be made, but growth comes from our mistakes.

The family is a community of love and the home is the domestic church where that love is experienced. The atmosphere in the home is determined by the quality of the relationships. Parents and children contribute to the making of a holy atmosphere.

Family life can be very challenging. It involves both giving and receiving and the Family of Nazareth is the model for this.

Jesus, Mary, and Joseph, pray that our families may be holy as was yours.

— Father Dennis, December 31, 2017—<http://www.stjoetosa.com/blog/from-the-pastor/the-holy-family-a-model-for-all-families>

Pastor

Fr. Gregory Nunez

Office Staff

Anastasia Wargachuk

Administration

Dec 1-2, 2018—\$1,375.15

December Flea Market—  
\$2,634.00

Dec 8-9, 2018—\$1,124.40

Dec 15-16, 2018—\$1,465.15

Dec 22-23, 2018—\$792.90

Dec 24-25, 2018 —  
\$4,243.05

Mass Schedule

Saturday @ 5:00 pm

Sunday @ 10:30 am

(incl. Children's  
Liturgy)

Tues @ 7:00 pm (Rectory)

Wed @ 7:00 pm

Thursday & Friday  
(Rectory)

@ 9:00 am

Adoration Fridays

9:30am to 11:30am  
(Rectory)

**Please note the Mass, on  
Tuesday, Thursday and  
Friday will be held  
in the Rectory**

**Anniversary and  
Birthday Blessings to**

◇All who are celebrating  
this week.

Happy Birthday to  
Aaron Dabucol,  
Gilles Charlebois  
and Rex Alexander Ansagay

**Thank you to**

◇Mike, Ann, Ruth, Merly, and  
all the volunteers who work  
at the Church, in the Rectory,  
in the Soup Kitchen and at  
the Flea Market