

# SAINT JULIE BILLIART

ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

CHURCH-CATECHETICAL CENTER • 440-327-1978

5500 Lear Nagle Road • N. Ridgeville, OH 44039

CHAPEL-ADMINISTRATION BUILDING

5545 Opal Drive • N. Ridgeville, OH 44039

Hours: (Monday-Friday) 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

Phone: 440-327-1978 • Fax: 440-327-1994

Email: stjbc@stjuliebilliart.org

Fr. George: frgv@stjuliebilliart.org

Website: www.stjuliebilliart.org

December 5, 2021



**PASTOR:** Rev. George A. Vrabel

**Deacons:** Rev. Mr. John Rivera

Rev. Dr. Ken DeLuca, retired

**PSR Principal:** Kelly Reed

**Music Director:** Danny O'Brien

## LITURGY SCHEDULE

Saturday.....5:00 p.m.

(This Mass is Live Streamed & Recorded)

Sunday..... 9:00 & 11:00 a.m.

*Weekday Masses at the Church*

Monday-Friday.....8:30 a.m.

(Excluding Thursdays)

Holydays.....Consult the Bulletin

*For updates check St. Julie's Website*

## CONFESSIONS

Saturdays.....4:00 - 4:30 p.m.

*In the Church*

## PSR - PARISH SCHOOL OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASSES

Grades K - 8: 9:30 - 10:45 a.m.

**RCIA & RCIC** (Rite of Christian Initiation of  
Adults and Children)

## BAPTISMS

Call or email the office.

## MARRIAGE

Arrangements must be made 6 months in  
advance

## NEW PARISHIONERS

You are welcome to call the office  
or register on line.

## PARISH MISSION STATEMENT

*St. Julie Billiart is a welcoming Roman Catholic  
community that deepens our personal  
relationship with Jesus Christ by worshipping  
together, reaching out to others and building up  
the Kingdom of God.*



## From the Desk of Father George

Greetings parishioners and friends of St. Julie's,

As we continue to approach the great feast of Christmas, our Advent journey is a reminder of our preparedness to meet the Lord - at the end of time when he will come again in majesty, and before the crib when we remember His having come into the world in the timeline of history. Today however, we find ourselves sandwiched between these two great events that define the Christian life. So how do any of us meet the Jesus that desires to be part of our lives today? The mystery of Christ present to us here and now is the 'stuff' of our journey.

With the hectic schedules and demands to prepare for Christmas, it is important to take time to pray and ask: "What does Jesus want of me today?" "How does my work, my activity, my business bring the Good News into the lives of those we meet?" "Is my gift giving rooted in the same spirit of a generous and loving God, or am I stuck in the mode of obligation?"

John the Baptist offers us the direction we need. "Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths." What does that mean to us today? Where do we need to change our course of direction?

Fr. George

**The Communal Penance Service is Tonight - December 5<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm at St. Peter's. A number of priests will be available to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation.**

"Every valley shall be filled and every mountain and hill shall be made low. The winding roads shall be made straight, and the rough ways made smooth, and all flesh shall see the salvation of God."

- Lk 3:5-6



## Give in Gratitude

A donor to the Retirement Fund for Religious writes, "I still remember the lessons the sisters gave us and how they instilled in us the love of our faith." Show your thanks for the prayerful service of elderly Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests. Your gift to next week's collection helps provide care, medicine, and more. Please be generous. There are envelopes in your packet or you can



## Parish News and Updates

### • Planning Ahead...

#### ◇ The Christmas Schedule

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| * Sunday - December 5 <sup>th</sup>    | Communal Penance Service at St. Peter's                                  |
| * Tuesday - December 7 <sup>th</sup>   | 7:00pm Vigil - The Immaculate Conception                                 |
| * Wednesday - December 8 <sup>th</sup> | 9:00am & 7:00pm Immaculate Conception                                    |
| * Saturday - December 11 <sup>th</sup> | STJBC Confessions 3:30 - 4:30  |
| * Saturday - December 18 <sup>th</sup> | STJBC Confessions 3:00 - 4:30  |
| * Monday - December 20 <sup>th</sup>   | STJBC Confessions 6:00 - 8:00  |
| * Friday - December 24 <sup>th</sup>   | 5:00pm Christmas Eve Vigil Mass<br>10:00pm Christmas Eve 'Midnight' Mass |
| * Saturday - December 25 <sup>th</sup> | 9:00 and 11:00 Christmas Day Mass  |
| *                                      | NO SUNDAY VIGIL MASS   |
| * Sunday - December 26 <sup>th</sup>   | 9:00 & 11:00 Sunday Mass   |

***The Obligation to attend Mass for Mary, Mother of God is dispensed.***

- |                                      |                                      |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| * Friday - December 31 <sup>st</sup> | NO 5:00 Vigil - Mary, Mother of God  |
| * Saturday - January 1 <sup>st</sup> | 9:00am Holyday - Mary, Mother of God |
| * Saturday - January 1 <sup>st</sup> | 5:00 Sunday Vigil Mass               |
| * Sunday - January 2 <sup>nd</sup>   | 9:00 & 11:00 Sunday Mass             |

## Religious Education

**PSR-Parish School of Religion, Pre K - 8<sup>th</sup> grades, 9:30-10:45 a.m.**

## Mass Intentions for the Week

Dec. 4	Saturday	5:00 p.m.	Charles Smick, Sr. (Chuck Smick)
Dec. 5	Sunday	9:00 a.m.	Frank & Mary Minnich (Mark & Judy Selee)
		11:00 a.m.	St. Julie Billiart Parishioners
Dec. 6	Monday		No Mass
Dec. 7	Tuesday	7:00 p.m.	Pat Liccardi (Cheryl Muetzel)
Dec. 8	Wednesday	9:00 a.m.	Jim Frameli (Tony Frameli)
		7:00 p.m.	St. Julie Billiart Parishioners
Dec. 9	Thursday		No Mass
Dec. 10	Friday	8:30 a.m.	All Souls
Dec. 11	Saturday	5:00 p.m.	Irma Yandura (Ed & Toni Yandura)
Dec. 12	Sunday	9:00 a.m.	St. Julie Billiart Parishioners
		11:00 a.m.	Frank Jr. & Jim Valenta (Agnes Valenta)

## The Week Ahead

Sat.	St. Julie's Craft Show, 9-4:00 <b>Fr. George's Birthday</b>
Sun.	PSR Mass, 9:00 Communal Penance Service, St. Peter's, 7:00 p.m.
Mon.	Last Day to Return Gifts from Tree, bring to Office Today.
Tues.	<b>No 8:30 a.m. Mass</b> Immaculate Conception Vigil Mass, 7:00 p.m.
Wed.	<b>Immaculate Conception</b> 9:00 a.m. & 7:00 p.m. Mass Rosary, 1:00 p.m., Church
Thurs.	PrimeTimers Christmas Luncheon
Sat.	Donuts with Santa, 10:00 Confessions, 3:30-4:30

## Coming Events

**December 14**  
L.E.A.F.

**December 18**  
Men's Fellowship Breakfast,  
St. Julie's  
Confessions, 3-4:40

**December 20**  
Confessions, 6-8:30

## The Meaning of Christmas Symbols

Wreath: The bow reminds us of the bond of perfection which is love. Its' shape is symbolic. It is a circle without beginning and without end which represents eternity and the eternal nature of Jesus' love for us.



the health of, and caregivers of:  
Ed & Marian Matuszak, Agnes Valenta, Bill Cusick, Ken DeLuca, Terry Flanagan, Carol Polak, Melissa Snyder, Barb Vrtachnik, Jean Rasmussen, Kathleen Sobczak, Dolores Rivera, Marian Juskiewicz, JoAnne Bellomo, Irene Kollin, Regula Family, Sondra Jirousek, Carol Straub; for the repose of the soul of Rev. Edward Leonard, Parochial Vicar at St. Columbkille Parish in Parma, for our men & women in uniform; for our police, firefighters, doctors & nurses; and for vocations to the priesthood, diaconate and religious life.

## Giving Tree

Please join us in supporting local families during the holidays. Please take an ornament from the tree and **return** the gift item, unwrapped this year, by **December 6.**

The gifts will be delivered by December 8. Cash can be donated at the rectory or on the tree in a marked envelope. It will be used to buy items on the wish lists that remain on the tree. Thanks for your generosity as always!!



## Parish Stewardship

Nov. 21:.....	\$3366
Online Giving:.....	\$50
School Subsidy:.....	\$116
Capital Improvement:.....	\$650
<b>Net Offertory:.....</b>	<b>\$4182</b>
Online Mass including 6 livestream:.....	30
In Person Mass Attendance:.....	358

*Thank you for sharing your blessings.*

## Parish Stewardship

Nov. 28:.....	\$3911
Online Giving:.....	\$265
School Subsidy:.....	\$20
Capital Improvement:.....	\$246
<b>Net Offertory:.....</b>	<b>\$4442</b>
Online Mass including 7 livestream:.....	50
In Person Mass Attendance:.....	344
Special Donation.....	\$1000

## Minister Schedule

Date	Time	Sacristan	Lector	Eucharistic Ministers	
Dec. 4 <i>rec</i>	5:00 p.m.	Suzanne Snyder	Sharon Debevec	Deacon John	Ted <i>TM</i> Lapponi
Dec. 5 PSR	9:00 a.m.	Suzanne Snyder	Amy Shealy	Laura Eland	Suzanne Snyder
				Barb Arguello	Donnie <i>TM</i> Schiffbauer
	11:00 a.m.	Mike Yarosh	Gloria Hearn	Joanne Carter	Jim <i>TM</i> Carter
Dec. 7 <i>rec</i>	7:00 p.m.	Suzanne Snyder	Linda Vasiloff	Deacon John	Jim <i>TM</i> Nolan
Dec. 8	9:00 a.m.	Fr. George	Gloria Hearn	Nick Modock	No <i>TM</i>
	7:00 p.m.	Suzanne Snyder	Mark LaLonde	Deacon John	Greg <i>TM</i> Dubecky
Dec. 11 <i>rec</i>	5:00 p.m.	Chris Vacca	Terry Flanagan	Deacon John	Eileen <i>TM</i> McBriarty
Dec. 12	9:00 a.m.	Suzanne Snyder	Ken Allen	Gene Morrison	Ed <i>TM</i> Knoblauch
	11:00 a.m.	Suzanne Snyder	Jim Cassidy	Leslie Rozman	Ceil <i>TM</i> Morrison

### Gifts for Baby Jesus

In support of Birthright of Lorain County Please see the Flyer in the bulletin for gift suggestions you bring to church Christmas weekend.

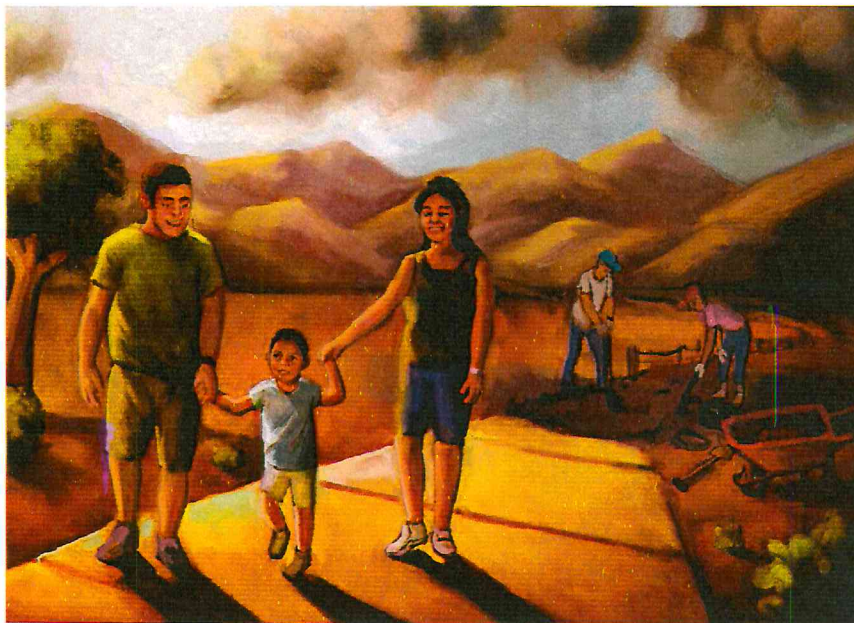
**NEW** You can also purchase items for Birthright through Amazon for delivery directly to Birthright. You must Email a request to Birthright for the "LINK" to their wish list. Be sure to tell them you were referred by St Julie's Respect Life Group. Email your request for the link: [birthrightloraincounty@gmail.com](mailto:birthrightloraincounty@gmail.com)

### 20,000 Lives Saved! 40 Days for Life Fall Campaign

**Final Results:** Praise God! The results of the recently completed 2021 Fall Campaign are truly awe-inspiring! First, 612 cities held fall campaigns bringing the cumulative totals to 1000 cities in 65 countries! Eight more abortion workers were converted and quit the abortion industry! Two more abortion facilities closed! Finally, and most important, 850 babies' lives were spared from abortion including 5 here in Cleveland! The cumulative results since 40 Days for Life started in 2007 are: 20,368 babies spared from abortion; 229 workers converted; 114 abortion facilities closed; and over 1 million people have participated! 40 Days for Life produced a video to celebrate the 20,000<sup>th</sup> baby saved. You can watch the video here: <https://youtu.be/9EqKHfv0cVU>. Thank you and God bless you for your prayers for His littlest children!



# SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT



## A Highway for Our God

Father,  
from the beginning,  
you have revealed yourself.  
You have called us to walk in your ways.  
We wait for you to bring to fulfillment  
the work you are doing

from the creation of the earth  
to today.  
We wait in hope.  
Help us to do our small part  
to make a path for you,  
a highway for our God.  
Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

**Sunday, December 5, 2021**

## All Flesh Shall See the Salvation of God



*Today's readings: Baruch 5:1–9; Psalm 126:1–2, 2–3, 4–5, 6; Philemon 1:4–6, 8–11; Luke 3:1–6.* John the Baptist and Mary, the mother of our Lord, are our examples for how to live during Advent. Both waited, watched, and prepared. They did then what we hope to do now.

Today, we hear John proclaim that “all flesh shall see the salvation of God.” As John preaches, teaches, and baptizes in the wilderness, he focuses on what God is doing: God is saving. John performs his task. He makes straight a path. He clears the way.

John is called by God within the prophetic tradition of the people of Israel. We hear it when he quotes Isaiah and in the echo of those words in the prophet Baruch. Rooted in the

people of Israel and in Scripture, John has practice listening to God's voice. In the wilderness, he hears that God is doing something new. God is bringing all flesh into the plan of salvation, as foretold in the prophets of old.

God was inaugurating the promised kingdom of justice and peace, creating a new heaven and a new earth. John called the people to turn away from the ways that had fallen short of God's vision for them, and people flocked to him because they saw the world's brokenness and knew that God had promised something different. Something new.

We wait in hope for the fullness of this same kingdom. Like John, we are called to prepare its way. How has God invited you to make straight his paths?





## THIS WEEK AT HOME

### Monday, December 6

#### St. Nicholas

St. Nicholas was a bishop in the fourth century who was known for his generosity, one sign of which was leaving coins in the shoes of people who left them out for him. He is also said to have secretly given money to a family to provide funds so the daughters could marry. Nicholas suffered under persecution and defended the Church teaching about the Trinity at a time when it was disputed. St. Nicholas is the patron saint of children. To honor him today, you might choose to do an act of kindness secretly, just as he did. *Today's readings: Isaiah 35:1–10; Psalm 85:9ab, 10, 11–12, 13–14; Luke 5:17–26.*

### Tuesday, December 7

#### St. Ambrose

St. Ambrose was the bishop of Milan in the fourth century and a doctor of the Church. He wrote music that is used in the Liturgy of the Hours during Advent even today. Regarding care for the poor, St. Ambrose said it was not charity but a debt to those who were in need. Celebrate St. Ambrose's feast day by contributing to an agency that serves the poor in your community. *Today's readings: Isaiah 40:1–11; Psalm 96:1–2, 3, 10ac, 11–12, 13; Matthew 18:12–14.*

### Wednesday, December 8

#### Immaculate Conception

God prepared Mary for her unique role in salvation history from the moment she was conceived. The special grace she received even before she was born helped give her the courage to say, "May it be done to me according to your word." Mary's *yes* changed the world. Each one of us has the opportunity to participate in what God is doing in the world every single day. How can you respond with the same whole-hearted *yes* as the Mother of God? *Today's readings: Genesis 3:9–15, 20; Psalm 98:1, 2–3ab, 3cd–4; Ephesians 1:3–6, 11–12; Luke 1:26–38.*

### Thursday, December 9

#### St. Juan Diego

Today the Church celebrates St. Juan Diego, the patron saint of indigenous peoples. The Virgin Mary appeared to Juan Diego near Mexico City in the sixteenth century, a time when people of his culture were treated as less than those who had come from Europe. Mary's apparition and its miraculous image on Juan Diego's tilma embodied many elements of indigenous culture. This event was the beginning of something new for the peoples of the Americas. God is imaged in all people and all cultures. By listening to the stories of people who are different from us, we can participate in what God is doing in the world. *Today's readings: Isaiah 41:13–20; Psalm 145:1, 9, 10–11, 12–13ab; Matthew 11:11–15.*

### Friday, December 10

#### Peace

In Isaiah we hear about the possibility of peace flowing like a river. Life is full of conflict and misunderstanding. Relationships that seemed unbreakable can be torn apart by simple difficulties. When we consider the kingdom of God, of participating in God's peace forever, it fills us with hope. While at Mass, focus on what it must mean for Christ's peace to be with you. *Today's readings: Isaiah 48:17–19; Psalm 1:1–2, 3, 4, 6; Matthew 11:16–19.*

### Saturday, December 11

#### Our Only Hope

In today's Gospel passage, Jesus predicts his passion. It is an interesting thing to consider the cross during the season of Advent, when we await the Lord's coming. Yet the shadow of the cross is always present in the life of Jesus. In this season of hope, we look at the cross, our only hope, and see in it the resurrection and the possibility it contains: God filling the earth as water covers the sea. *Today's readings: Sirach 48:1–4, 9–11; Psalm 80:2ac and 3b, 15–16, 18–19; Matthew 17:9a, 10–13.*





## Gifts for Baby Jesus in Support of Birthright of Lorain County

In our continuing support of Birthright of Lorain County, St. Julie's Respect Life and Rosary groups will sponsor our annual "Gifts for Baby Jesus" at all masses Christmas Eve and Christmas Day. Birthright uses these items to make up layette sets that are given to mothers to take their babies home from the hospital. These mothers have decided to give their babies the greatest gift of all, Life! We like these items to be new.

**\*\* Gifts may be brought to the alter during the offertory.**

### Requested items include:

Diapers ( All Sizes)

Wipes / Ointment

Outfits (Boy/Girl 3-18 Mth)

Sleepers (Boy/Girl 3-18 Mth)

Onsies (3-18 Mth)

Receiving Blankets

Baby Wash/Shampoo

Hooded Towels / Wash Cloths

Bottles (4 - 8 oz)

Crib Sheets / Blankets



**\*\* December 24 & December 25**

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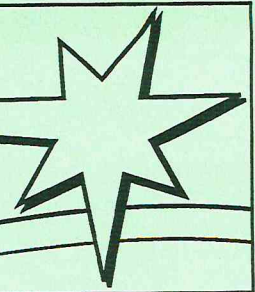
Crib Sheets / Blankets



**\*\* December 24 & December 25**



# Partners in FAITH™



Helping our children grow in their Catholic faith.

December 2021

St. Julie Billiart Parish  
Fr. George Vrabel



## Thoughtful Moments

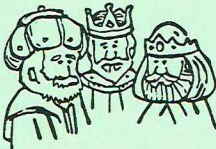
### Immaculate Conception

On December 8th, we celebrate the conception of Mary in St. Anne's womb without Original Sin. This is the patronal feast of the United States. In addition to attending Mass (it's a Holy Day of Obligation), pray a joyful Rosary to celebrate.

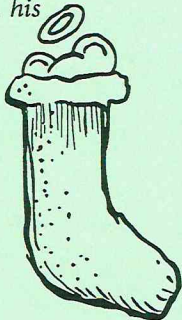
### The Magi's Gifts

To help combat consumerism at Christmas, some families limit the number of gifts to three in honor of the gifts of the Magi.

Consider giving children one gift that is their heart's desire, a piece of clothing that is not just sensible, and one gift that will help them grow (a book or sports accessory, for example).



*"Have you not known? Have you not heard? The LORD is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He does not faint or grow weary, his understanding is unsearchable. He gives power to the faint, and to him who has no might he increases strength" (Isaiah 40:28-29).*



## Is Heaven worth the wait?

To many children, a day off from school or a family vacation is like heaven in itself. Sacrificing and doing penance to work toward Heaven after death is too abstract a concept to motivate them toward holiness. Yet, the season of Advent is designed to turn our eyes to Heaven so we can be ready when Jesus comes to bring us there. So how can we help youngsters understand how great Heaven really is?

All good things start there. "Every good endowment and every perfect gift is from above" (James 1:17). If all good things on Earth come from Heaven, imagine how great it is at the source.

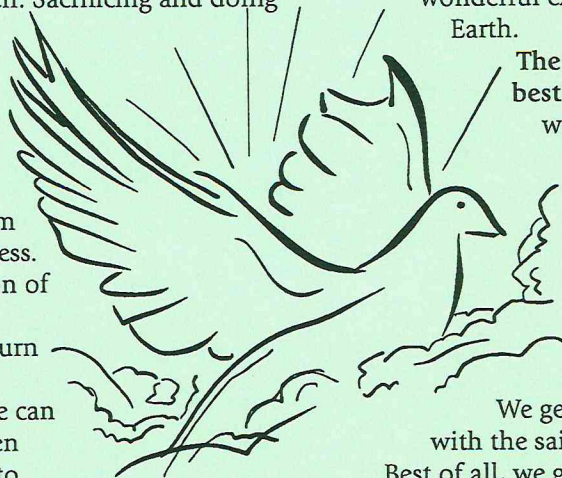
Our life in Heaven will be more wonderful than the most wonderful experience on Earth.

The company is best there. When we get there, we will have joyful reunions with beloved grandparents, aunts, uncles, and friends who have died before us.

We get to mingle with the saints and angels.

Best of all, we get to be with Jesus and His Father forever.

The one who loves us best is there. As much as earthly parents love their children, it's nothing compared to the love God has for each of us. He is the perfect parent – our true Father – and He is waiting for us in Heaven.



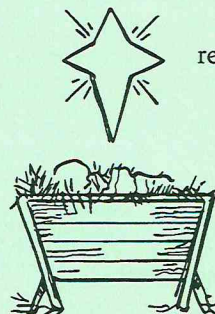
## Why Do Catholics Do That?

Advent is a season of waiting and preparation for the Savior who comes on Christmas. It is a reminder that there is a greater purpose to our lives. So, the Church encourages us to make our hearts

## Why do Catholics celebrate Advent?

ready during Advent.

We know that Jesus will come at our death and he will come at the end of time. The season of Advent encourages us to make the necessary preparations so we can joyfully greet Jesus whenever we meet Him next.

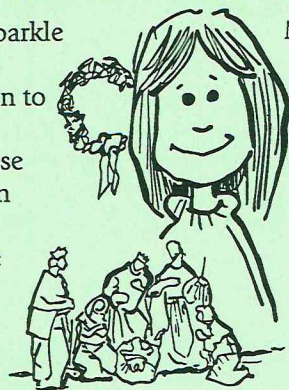




# Make your family Christmas sparkle with Jesus

What mother or father doesn't cherish the sparkle of excitement in a child's eye at Christmas? As Catholic parents, though, we want our children to have real joy, not just the anticipation of receiving gifts or getting out of school. Try these tips to help children turn their eyes to Jesus on this special day:

**Focus on Jesus:** On Christmas Eve, read the story of Jesus' birth from Luke 1:5 - 2:39 or Matthew 1:18 - 2:23. Sing your favorite religious Christmas carols. After attending



Mass on Christmas Day (a Holy Day of Obligation), light a candle and sing, "Happy Birthday" to remember the meaning of the day.

**Make it come alive.** The true joy of the holiday comes from knowing that God really came. Gather around your family nativity scene and act out the story of Jesus' birth by moving the figures. Imagine what a legion (army) of angels looks like and how the shepherds felt when they saw that God was born. Help children experience the wonder of the miraculous birth.

## Scripture LESSON

### Luke 2:41-52, Jesus led the way

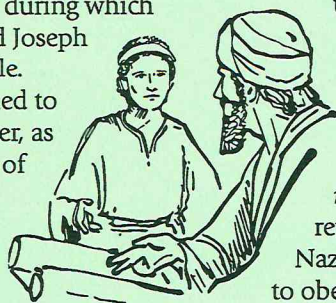
On December 26th, we celebrate the Feast of the Holy Family during which we recall when Mary and Joseph found Jesus in the Temple.

The Holy Family traveled to Jerusalem for the Passover, as was the custom for Jews of that time. When they started the return trip in their large group, each parent thought Jesus was with the other one and traveled for a day before realizing that He had stayed behind. Upon finding Him missing, they hurried back to Jerusalem.

They found Jesus in the Temple talking with the priests who were

amazed by the boy's wisdom and understanding. But to Mary's stunned query about why He remained behind without permission, Jesus' mystifying reply was, "*Did you not know I must be in my Father's house?*" The boy returned with his parents to Nazareth where He continued to obey them.

**What can a parent do?** Explain to children that Jesus himself had a mission He was eager to begin but was obedient to his parents. He wants us all to respect our parents and those in authority over us.



## Feasts & Celebrations

**December 6 - St. Nicholas of Myra (4th century).** St. Nicholas had a very generous heart and always gave to the poor. He is credited with saving three girls from being sold to pay their father's debt. St. Nicholas is also the patron saint of children.

**December 12 - Our Lady of Guadalupe (1531).** The Blessed Mother appeared as a Native American maiden to St. Juan Diego. She had St. Juan carry roses to the bishop as proof. When the roses were emptied from his tilma it retained the

image of the Blessed Mother.

**December 13 - St. Lucy (304).** Amidst pagan Sicily, St. Lucy vowed to remain chaste for Jesus. A disappointed suitor turned her in for being a Christian and she was executed for her faith.

**December 27 - St. John the Apostle (1st Century).** An apostle and friend of Jesus, St. John was known for his fiery temper. Scholars believe he is the "beloved disciple" who sat by Jesus at the Last Supper in John's Gospel.



## Parent TALK

In early Fall one year, I got laid off and subsequently started my own business. That meant money was super tight. I wasn't sure how we would buy

Christmas gifts for the children, so we turned to St. Nicholas for help.

We learned that St. Nicholas was born in the third century in Asia Minor. His

wealthy parents died while he was a child and he subsequently used his fortune to help the needy. When he became a bishop, he was a vigorous defender of the truth and was persecuted for his faith.

Immediately, we started a family novena to St. Nicholas. During the first week of December, I received a check for unused vacation pay from a former employer - more than enough to buy some gifts and make a nice Christmas dinner. There is no doubt in our minds that St. Nicholas brought our Christmas gifts that year.




## Our Mission

To help parents raise faithful Catholic children  
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(Unless noted Bible quotes and references are from the Revised Standard Version and the New American Bible.)

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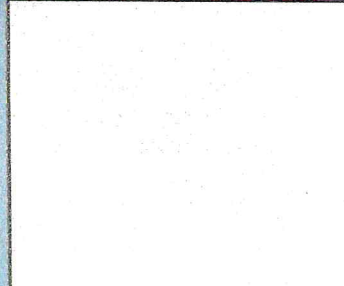
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## PUZZLE

Circle these words from today's Gospel:

BAPTIZED  
FORGIVEN  
ISAIAH

JOHN  
DESERT  
STRAIGHT

CROOKED  
SMOOTH  
ROUGH

C	I	F	O	R	G	I	V	E	N
R	O	U	G	H	L	O	Y	U	L
O	N	B	D	I	F	T	S	M	V
O	I	A	S	M	O	O	T	H	E
K	C	P	T	W	S	H	R	I	J
E	Y	T	O	U	M	Y	A	S	O
D	U	I	L	I	S	A	I	A	H
R	J	Z	O	C	E	T	G	K	N
O	Y	E	M	K	Y	I	H	I	W
H	A	D	E	S	E	R	T	O	U

## MISSION

When you catch yourself being selfish, not following directions, or using hurtful words, stop. Say you're sorry, ask for forgiveness, and then try again.

# GROWING WITH THE *Gospel* CYCLE C

## COLOR

Read the Gospel of the week and color the image.







## GOSPEL

Have you ever played a game where you asked for a “do-over” so you could try again? When John told his neighbors to be baptized, he wanted them to have a second chance, A “do-over.” He wanted to give them a fresh, clean start with God.

## PRAYER

Dear God, when I find myself doing or saying things that you would not like, help me to stop and start over.



## DRAW

Draw John washing someone in a river.



## PUZZLE

Circle the picture that is the **same** as the **first** one. Then color in all the pictures.



## MISSION

If I hurt others, I will say, "I am sorry. Please forgive me."

# GROWING Gospel

WITH THE

CYCLE C

## COLOR

Read the Gospel of the week and color the image.







## GOSPEL

At a river close to your church, John the Baptist says, “Turn back to God and be baptized.” After your baptism, he gives you a backpack that says, “I Am a Forgiven Child of God.” Inside it are wisdom, love, and forgiveness. Wisdom shows the difference between good and evil roads. Love makes you strong enough to say, “Yes” to good, and “No” to evil ways. Be happy. God’s love and forgiveness will welcome you into heaven.



## PRAYER

Father, thank you for wisdom, love, and forgiveness of baptism.



## DRAW

Draw yourself with John the Baptist at your church wearing a backpack of baptism.