

Welcome

A warm welcome to you from our Lord, Jesus Christ, and the People of God at St. Joan of Arc. Newcomers and visitors are invited to make this parish family your own. Registration forms are available in the parish Commons or contact the Parish Office with your desire to belong.

<u>Diocesan Safe</u> <u>Environment Policy</u>

The Catholic Diocese of Richmond is committed to the idea that diocesan institutions and ministries provide a safe and nurturing environment for children, young people and vulnerable individuals. The mission of the Diocese's Safe Environment Program is to create a safe environment, incorporating the standards as outlined in the Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People. For more information, visit http://richmonddiocese.org/ child protection virtus/.

In a commitment to support and facilitate healing, individuals who have been sexually abused by a cleric, religious, employee, or volunteer of the Diocese of Richmond are encouraged to contact the Civil Authorities and the confidential Victim's Assistance Reporting 24-Hour Number at (877) 887-9603 or by writing to the Office of the Bishop.

The Holy Sacrifice of the Mass

"A man who fails to love the Mass fails to love Christ." (J. M. Escriva, Christ is Passing By, no. 92) To love the Mass is a guarantee for salvation. But to love the Mass does not mean just being present and no more. It means to be present with faith and devotion. It means to take part in the Mass, realizing what it is: the Sacrifice of the Cross renewed on the altar; and realizing that when we go to Mass, we go, as it were, to Calvary. And that we should be present there, like our Blessed Lady beside the Cross, in loving contemplation of Christ who offers himself lovingly for each one of us. (The Mass Explained CORMAC BURKE) (Sacrosanctum Concilium, nn. 7-8. 106)

Ministry of Healing

Please let the Parish Office know if you or a family member is sick, in the hospital, or suffering. We have resources available for you. We would like to help arrange for Communion visits, phone calls, meals, etc. Please know your parish cares and wants to help. Please contact the Parish Office at (757) 898-5570. Your call is confidential; we will only put names for prayers in the bulletin if you specifically request it. Please be sure to call when it is time to remove a name from the prayer list. Thank you.

Prayers for Recovery

Karen Abi-Saab, Marcella Buckley, Joe Chambers,
Abbey Chesley, Carl & Mary Chesley,
Paul Chesley, Blake Duggan, Eileen Gryn, Anne Holup,
Paur Elizabeth Johnson, Matthew Martin, Ron Morrison,
Wayer Linda O'Dell, Euong Pham, Carol Romeo, David Seko, Jr.,
Stephen Strother, Jeffrey Cudjik, Walter Sandberg

Mass Intentions for the Week

Sunday, December 29 8:30 am † Dan Burton 11:00 am People of SJA

Wednesday, January 1
10:00 am † Pat Sappenfield

Thursday, January 2 9:00 am † Suzanne Osborne Friday, January 3 9:00 am Nicole Fox

Saturday, January 4 5:00 pm † Adam Strash

Sunday, January 5 8:30 am † Jerry R. Ward 11:00 am Chloe Gaffney

Meetings for the Week

Monday, December 30 6:30 pm Legion of Mary Tuesday, December 31 6:00 pm Youth Group Thursday, January 2 5:00 pm Children's Choir



Who Will You Remember? Your Personal Legacy Makes a Difference for Christ!

And this is legacy giving: It's who and what will be remembered and strengthened because of us when we journey home to the Lord at the end of this short earthly life. Our legacy is our potential to make a Kingdom difference for Christ, using our earthly resources, which we dedicate to our beloved parish or ministry.

We know that if something is very important to us, we will do everything possible to support its increase and beauty. Our legacy refers to the portion of all we have from God, which we thankfully give back once He calls us to glory. The goal of a legacy is to leave a gift that will make an impact for future generations.

Bulletin Announcements

Please e-mail any approved bulletin announcements to the parish office **two** Wednesdays prior to the weekend you would like to see your announcement published to aa@stjoanofarcva.org.

Holy Day of Obligation

HOLY DAY OF OPPORTUNITY
(ALL THE FAITHFUL RESPOND):
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 1,
SOLEMNITY OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY,
THE MOTHER OF GOD:

Mass will be celebrated at 10 AM.

First Friday Adoration

Come join us for Adoration after morning Mass on Friday, January 3rd. A sign-up sheet is available in the Commons. We need at least 2 people/hour to keep the Lord company throughout the day!

Join us at 3:00 pm when we will recite the Chaplet of Divine Mercy. Benediction is at 4:00 pm.

Baptism Preparation

The next Baptism Preparation for Parents will take place on **Sunday, January 5th,** after the 11:30 am Mass. The session will be conducted in Rooms F & H. Please contact Jennifer Strash for more information at (757) 898-5570.

Parish Ministries

Finance Council, Jack Christie **Parish Advisory Volunteer Group,**Randy Vis

Pastoral Ministry

Baptism Coordinator,
Jennifer Strash
Bereavement, John Bryant III
Sick & Homebound, Denis Morhiser

Liturgical Ministries

Altar Servers, Randy Vis
EMHCs, Denis Morhiser & Rachel Vis
Hospitality, Mary Ann Vogelbein &
James Tucker III
Liturgy Committee, Deacon Don Fox
MC, Tom O'Reilly
Music, Heekyung Lee
Music Coordinator, Donna Prantl
Readers, Michael Syptak &
Patti Komornik

Non-Liturgical Ministries

Altar Linens, Pat Sappenfield
Building Committee, Steve Romeo
Building Maintenance,
Dave Payton & Hank Rose
Coffee & Cookies, Florita Galvez
Divine Mercy,
Donna Prantl & Cathy Fowler
Iron Men, John Musser
Kitchen, Jerry Ladnier & Lisa Emerick
Liturgical Environment, Tom &
Rowena Fauber & Lynda Fairman
Landscape, Jim Orband
Lazarus, Cathy Fowler
Legion of Mary, David Cienski

Library, Laura Quellhorst &
Federico Colagrande
Magnificat Women, Tracy Leota &
Kelley Rutter

OCI, Deacon Don Fox Social Ministries, Chris Ladnier Vocations Chalice,

Ferdinand & Donna Prantl Web Master

Organizations

KoC & Ladies Auxiliary, Randy Vis & Julia Allaman Women's Book Club, Arlene Bradley

FAMILY LIFE

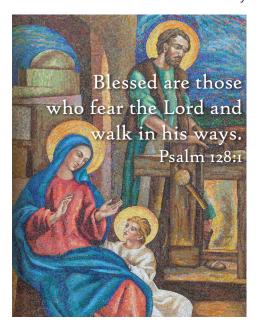
Reflection on Luke 2:41-52

The Scripture readings in this Christmas/Epiphany season offer a series of windows into the mystery of the birth of Jesus, and we see some spectacular sights through these windows! Mary, found to be pregnant before her marriage to Jospeh. Joseph, struggling through his confusion to deal with the situation. A birth in an unusual place after a long journey with strange visitors attending. The Holy Family fleeing to Egypt to escape Herod's lethal jealousy. And today, a 12-yearold Jesus found in His Father's house, about His Father's business. Or, as a priest friend of mine once put it, the story of how Joe and Mary lost the second person of the Trinity.

The story offers so much insight, but two clues in particular can help us shape our family life after the pattern of the Holy Family. The first is recounted in the beginning of the story: "Each year Jesus' parents went to Jerusalem for the feast of Passover..." The Holy Family, in other words, are faithful and observant Jews; their life of faith is not a matter of occasional observance. Is this true for us?

The second clue is at the end of the story, when we are told that Mary "kept all these things in her heart." Contemplation on the mysteries of God's presence and call in our lives is essential to the spiritual life, the way of holiness. Is this true for us?

- Fr. Jay



WEEKLY SCRIPTURE

Sunday, December 29, 2024

Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph Sir 3:2-6, 12-14 Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5 Col 3:12-21 or 3:12-17

Monday, December 30, 2024

lk 2:41-52

Sixth Day in the Octave of Christmas
1 Jn 2:12-17
Ps 96:7-8a, 8b-9, 10
Lk 2:36-40

Tuesday, December 31, 2024

Seventh Day in the Octave of Christmas
1 Jn 2:18-21
Ps 96:1-2, 11-12, 13
Jn 1:1-18

Wednesday, January 1, 2025

The Blessed Virgin Mary, the Mother of God Nm 6:22-27 Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8 Gal 4:4-7 Lk 2:16-21

Thursday, January 2, 2025

Saints Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzen, Bishops and Doctors of the Church 1 Jn 2:22-28 Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4 Jn 1:19-28

Friday, January 3, 2025

Christmas Weekday 1 Jn 2:29–3:6 Ps 98:1, 3cd-4, 5-6 Jn 1:29-34

Saturday, January 4, 2025

Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton, Religious 1 Jn 3:7-10 Ps 98:1, 7-8, 9 Jn 1:35-42

> Access Daily Readings from the New American Bible, Revised Edition (NABRE) online at https://bible.usccb.org

SAINT BASIL THE GREAT

Saint of the Day: January 2 Patron Saint of Russia

Basil was on his way to becoming a famous teacher when he decided to begin a religious life of Gospel poverty. After studying various modes of religious life, he founded what was probably the first monastery in Asia Minor.

He was ordained a priest, assisted the archbishop of Caesarea—now southeastern Turkey—and ultimately became archbishop himself, in spite of opposition from some of the bishops under him.

Arianism, one of the most damaging heresies in the history of the Church which denied the divinity of Christ, was at its height. Emperor Valens persecuted orthodox believers, and put great pressure on Basil to remain silent and admit the heretics to Communion. Basil remained firm, and Valens backed down. But trouble remained. When the great Saint Athanasius died, the mantle of defender of the faith against Arianism fell upon Basil. He strove mightily to unite and rally his fellow Catholics who were crushed by tyranny and torn by internal dissension.

Basil was tireless in pastoral care. He preached twice a day to huge crowds, built a hospital that was called a wonder of the world and fought the prostitution business. Basil was best known as an orator. Though not recognized greatly in his lifetime, his writings rightly place him among the great teachers of the Church. Seventy-two years after his death, the Council of Chalcedon described him as "the great Basil, minister of grace who has expounded the truth to the whole earth."

Read the full article: "Saint Basil the Great" Franciscan Media, Franciscan Friars, franciscanmedia.org/saint-of-the-day/saint-basil-the-great/ (Accessed December 16, 2024).

Retreat Opportunity

SAVE THE DATE!! RESERVE YOUR SPOT FOR THE 2025 SJA MEN'S ACTS RETREAT

ACTS is an acronym for Adoration-Community-Theology-Service. What is an ACTS Retreat? An ACTS Retreat is a parish-based event which offers parishioners an opportunity to experience the love of Jesus Christ. This in turn fosters a desire for intentional discipleship. ACTS Retreats are given by parishioners for parishioners, and in this way, serve to build Christian community at the parish. The ACTS Retreat experience is rooted in the Paschal Mystery in that retreatants are invited to reflect on the Passion, Death, and Resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. We are limited to 25 Retreatants and cost is \$150.00 per person. All meals, snacks, and blessings are included.

When: Men's ACTS Retreat is March 27-30, 2025 Where: St. Clare of Assisi Retreat Center in Hampton, VA POC: Pete Romeo, 757-503-3533, pnpromeo@cox.net

Adult Faith Formation

Jesus gave us the greatest Bible Study of all time!

The Gospel of Luke study will take us on a journey that begins with the foretelling of John the Baptist's birth and culminates in Jesus' ascension into heaven. There are parables found only in Luke, including the Prodigal Son, the Good Samaritan, and the rich man and Lazarus, which will show us the mercy and compassion that Jesus has for each one of His children. Come join us for an 8-session study that will strengthen our prayer life by encountering the biblical roots for Mary, the Rosary, and the Mass found only in Luke. We meet every Monday evening, starting January 13: 6:30pm social, 7-8:30pm study session. See the poster in the Commons for more information and to sign up; or visit the Parish Office or contact Deacon Don at deacondonfox@gmail.com. The cost is \$28 per workbook.

Diocesan Information



Do you feel lost and alone in your marriage? Do you feel hurt or betrayed by your spouse? Are you constantly fighting? Are you thinking about separation or divorce? Retrouvaille is a lifeline for troubled marriages. For more information, visit www.retrouvaille.org.

Vocations Awareness

"Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?" (Luke 2:49)

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph serves as a model of love, faith, and obedience. Just as Jesus was guided by His Father's will, so too can we be guided in our marriages by God's love. Reflect on how your family life mirrors the faith and devotion of the Holy Family. Strengthen your commitment to each other by nurturing a deeper relationship with God.



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