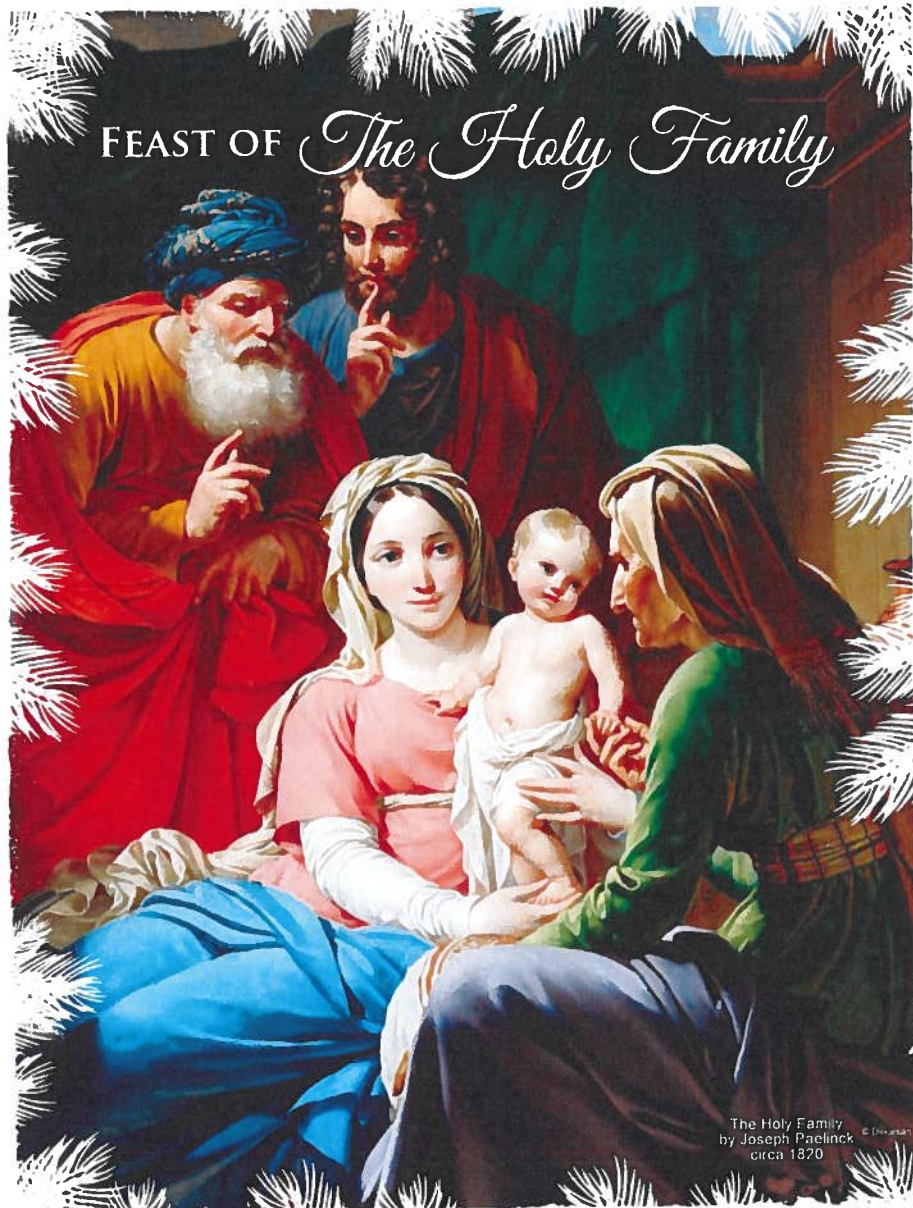


**The Roman Catholic Parishes of
St. Margaret Mary, Herscher
St. James the Apostle, Irwin
Sacred Heart, Goodrich**

THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESSUS, MARY, AND JOSEPH DECEMBER 28-29, 2024



The Holy Family
by Joseph Paolinck
circa 1820

Weekend Masses:

St. Margaret Mary	Sat. 5:00 pm	Sun. 10:30 am
Sacred Heart	Sun. 7:30 am	
St. James	Sun 9:00 am	

Confessions:

St. Margaret Mary	Sat. 4:15 pm
Sacred Heart	Sun. 7:05-7:20 am
St. James	Sun 8:35-8:50 am

Church Mailing Address: 207 E. 5th Street Herscher, IL 60941 Phone: 815-426-2550

Quotable: "A happy family is but an earlier heaven. "

—George Bernard Shaw

The Epiphany of the Lord

January 4-5, 2025

Liturgical Schedule	St. Margaret Mary Saturday, Jan. 4 5:00 pm	Sacred Heart Sunday, Jan. 5 7:30 am	St. James Sunday, Jan. 5 9:00 am	St. Margaret Mary Sunday, Jan. 5 10:30 am
Celebrant	Fr. Ron	Fr. Ron	Fr. Ron Deacon Ron	Fr. Ron
Ushers	Dave Emling Bob Schultz Todd Datweiler Dan Hoffman	James Mallaney David Kirkpatrick	Cathy Jensen Jeff Steinke Dallas Ferris Dave Ladehoff	Larry Wolles Jeremy Wolles Kim Smicker Joe Smolkovich
Lector	Bobbi Buza	Mike Hertz	Andy Hansen	Julie Splear
Eucharistic Minister				Hollie Lovell
Servers				Caroline Fulton
Greeters			Greeter—Karen Miller R. Leader—Reatta Gohlke	Brent Fulton

Mass Intentions for the Week

Monday, Dec. 30 (SMM)

8:00 am + Marie Duval (Paula Riordan)

Tuesday, Dec. 31

5:00 pm SH +Inez Crawford (Bouchard Family)

Wednesday, Jan. 1

10:00 am SJ +Joan Smith (Cathy/Bruce Jensen)

Friday, Jan. 3 First Friday at SJ

+Duane Ferris (Dallas/Joyce Ferris)

Saturday, Jan. 4 (SMM)

5:00 pm +Jim Jepsen (Richard/Rebecca Morgan)

+Cindy Frerichs (Julie Austin)

Sunday, Jan. 5

7:30 am (SH) +Genevieve Gruber, Alfred Denault, Vicki Hensley, Madeline Sullivan, Norma Denault, Elizabeth Fitch (The Family)

9:00am (SJ) +Bill Miller (The Family)

+Fred Gohlke (Dallas/Joyce Ferris)

10:30 am SMM For All the Parish Family

Question of the Day Jan 1

Mary reflected on the things the shepherds told her in her heart. What do I reflect on in my heart on this first day of a new year?

A Look Ahead

Friday, Jan. 17—Herscher Legion Fish Fry 5-7 pm

Monday, Jan.27—Knights of Columbus meeting 7pm SJ

Question of the week

How can I apply the lessons from scripture to the various families I belong to: my immediate family, my extended family, my parish family, my family at school or work, the entire human family?

Pastor— Fr. Ron Neitzke- 815-426-2550

Deacon – Ron Gagnon— rjgckg@aol.com

Home—815-933-4077

Parish Email – smm_sja_sh@yahoo.com

TriParish web page – www.triparishcatholics.org

Like us on Facebook triparishcatholic communities

Tri Parish Church office –Barb Riker 426-2550

Julie Bisailon 426-2550

Bulletin – Debbie Jensen - 426-2550

debjen04@gmail.com

Religious Education –

St. MM – Jill Fulton jfulton.stmm@gmail.com

Sacred Heart – Rhonda Berns – 426-5015

St. James—Tanhya Osenga tosenga81@gmail.com

Parish Nurse – Jackie Eberle – 815-421-4048

Prayer Line—

SMM -Janice 815-426-2574 Jdstreefarms@aol.com

St. James— Mary Offerman—602-670-8888 (call or text)

Sacred Heart-Marilyn Pfeiffer 815-955-8246 (call or text)

Terri Weakley— 815-514-8171

Collections Weekend of Dec. 21-22, 2024

St. Margaret Mary—\$ 3,280

St. James—\$2,076

Sacred Heart—\$7,523

Thank you for your generosity!

2025 NEW YEAR'S MASS SCHEDULE

NEW YEAR'S EVE

5:00 PM AT SACRED HEART FR. RON

NEW YEAR'S DAY

10:00 AM AT ST. JAMES FR. RON



Please pray for the repose of the soul of

+Robert Eich

Father of Corey (Loretta) Eich

Grandfather of Bella Eich

May Bob and all the faithful departed rest in eternal peace.

Our sincere sympathy to his family and friends.

Beginning January 6, there will be no weekday masses at any of the Tripuris churches until further notice. Below is the weekday mass schedules for parishes surrounding us.

St. Patrick Dwight-

Tuesday: 6:00 pm

Thursday: 8:00 am (Coffee Shop follows)

.St. Peter, Clifton-

Tuesday and Wednesday 8:00 am

Assumption BVM, Ashkum

Thursday and Friday 8:00 am

St. John Paul II

Monday-Friday 7:30 am

Sacred Heart	St. James
New Year's Eve 5:00 pm	New Year's Day 10:00 am
Ushers: D. Pankey, D. Ferris	Ushers: D. Ferris, J. Ogrentz, C. Jensen, B. Buente
Lector: Alicia Kirkpatrick	Lector: Mary Peerbolte

Parish News:

St. Margaret Mary—

St. James—

- ◆ We are collecting winter wear accessories (mittens, hats, etc) in the hallway of St. James for the Salvation Army. Thanks to all who participate!

Sacred Heart—

- ◆ The week of December 29th, the Blessed Virgin Mary candle burns in prayer for Barb St. Germaine and the St. Joseph candle burns in prayer for JoEllen Riley.
- ◆ *Sacred Heart Church is planning another free breakfast following the 7:30 AM Mass today. All are invited to join in fellowship and welcome in a new year.*

All Parishes—

- ◆ **The next Adult Religious Ed Class will be announced.**
- ◆ **Tri-Parish Office Hours— Our office hours are Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday 9am—12 pm.**
- ◆ There will be no Knights of Columbus meeting on December 23, 2024. The next meeting will be January 27, 2025 .

Reflections Children Holiday Tension

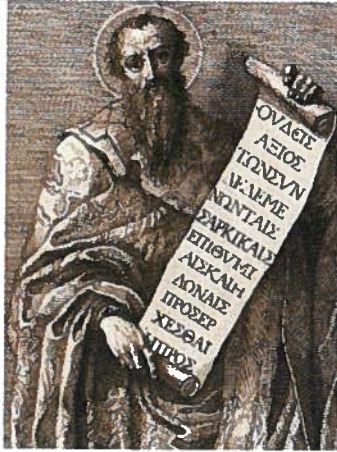
From Thanksgiving through New Year's Eve, we are bombarded with one holiday — and one party — after another. With everyone scurrying about, it's easy to see why children get stressed out, too. You can make your children's holiday season less frantic, and more meaningful, by looking at the midwinter crunch through their eyes.

Who are all these people? Parties swarming with adults, visits with seldom-seen relatives and friends, pictures of unknown faces, callers with strange voices. No wonder children are confused! Try to prepare them for the onslaught of guests by talking about how wonderful it is to stay in touch with old friends and far-flung relatives during the holiday season. Explain the cast of characters. Go through family albums to help children match faces with voices.

What is the rush? The hectic pace can upset children, who may react by clinging to you, refusing to eat or to go to bed, or not getting along with each other, all of which take even more of your attention. Plan and work ahead so you don't ignore your family for a month and end up beside yourself during the last week of holiday preparations. Refuse to let the season control you.

Gospel Shorts— Home But Not Alone

Families, whatever their structure, are the places where we are called to make holiness happen by becoming what God has made us to be. The tasks in bringing this about are not always easy, and in the process, we can be lost from each other. How we learn from these moments together can make our families what they are meant to be, holy families.



Saint of the week: St. Basil the Great (Jan. 2) was born to the nobility. His was a pious family – his mother, father, and four of his nine siblings were canonized, including Saint Gregory of Nyssa. He was the grandson of Saint Macrina the Elder. As a youth Basil was noted for organizing famine relief and for working in the kitchens himself, quite unusual for a young noble.

He studied in Constantinople and Athens with his friend Saint Gregory Nazianus. Basil ran a school of oratory and law in Caesarea. Basil was so successful, so sought after as a speaker, that he was tempted by pride. Fearful that it would overtake his piety, he sold all that he had, gave away the money, and became a priest and monk.

He founded monasteries and drew up rules for monks living in the desert; he is considered as key to the founding of eastern monasticism as Saint Benedict of Nursia was to the west. He became a bishop and later the archbishop of Caesarea. Basil conducted Mass and preached to the crowds twice each day. He fought Arianism. Basil was a Greek Doctor of the Church, and a Father of the Church.

Obscure saint of the week. St. Adelard of Corbie was the grandson of Charles Martel, nephew of King Pepin the Short, first cousin of Charlemagne, and half-brother of Saint Walla of Corbie. He grew up in the royal court and was an advisor to Louis le Debonnaire. Adelard gave up court life in 773 to become a Benedictine monk at Corbie Abbey. He was a gardener in the monastery. Adelard studied under Blessed Alcuin. Later he became the abbot. He was an advisor to Charlemagne, chaplain and tutor to prince Bernard who later became king of Naples, Italy. Adelard was exiled to the island of Héri (modern Noirmoutier-en-l'Île, France) in 817 after being accused of supporting Bernard's revolt against Emperor Louis the Debonair, Charlemagne's successor. He enjoyed the peace that came with the isolation but was later recalled. With his brother, Abbot Walla, he founded Corvey Abbey in Saxony. His relics have been reported to have healed the deaf, the mute, and the paralyzed.



The Sunday gospel in everyday English

Every year Jesus' parents traveled to Jerusalem for the Feast of Passover. When he was 12 years old, they went up as they always did for the feast. When it was over and they left for home, the child Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem, but his parents didn't know it. Thinking he was somewhere in the company of pilgrims; they journeyed for a whole day and then began looking for him among relatives and neighbors. When they didn't find him, they went back to Jerusalem looking for him.

The next day they found him in the Temple seated among the teachers, listening to them and asking questions. The teachers were all quite taken with him, impressed with the sharpness of his answers. But his parents were not impressed; they were upset and hurt.

His mother said, "Young man, why have you done this to us? Your father and I have been half out of our minds looking for you."

He said, "Why were you looking for me? Didn't you know that I had to be here, dealing with the things of my Father?" But they had no idea what he was talking about.

So he went back to Nazareth with them, and lived obediently with them. His mother held these things dearly, deep within herself. And Jesus matured, growing up in both body and spirit, blessed by both God and people (*from Luke 2*).



JESUS
MARY
JOSEPH

Catholic Snacks, Get Fed

What is the “dark night of the soul”?
God often uses interior darkness to bring souls to the Light.



Do you remember the allegorical story of the soul who looked back on its life, seeing it like footprints in the sand? Through most of its life, the soul could see God’s footprints beside its own, but at the times of greatest suffering, only one pair of footprints were visible.

Troubled, the soul asked God why He abandoned it during its trials—and God answered that at those times, He carried the soul in His arms, and that is why only one set of footprints marked the sand.

The “dark night of the soul” is a bit like this story: the soul experiences isolation from every source of comfort, whether in the world or at prayer. Even spiritual practices—once so beloved to it—bring no comfort or consolation and no sense of God’s presence. The soul feels as though it is cut off from God and yet, all the while, God is carrying it even closer to His Heart.

The spiritual writers—Carmelite mystic St. John of the Cross, for example—distinguish two kinds of “night”: the active and the passive. In the “active night,” the soul is prompted to purge the senses with God’s help. Fixing its focus on God alone, the soul actively works to remove itself from all worldly and physical distractions. This purgation is more complete and intense than the daily battle to overcome various failings and temptations—the “active night” entails a soul’s total abandonment to cleansing every faulty area at once.

Sometimes, however, God steps in and plunges a soul into the “passive night”: the night that takes a soul entirely by surprise and which it has no control over. This trial is usually reserved for those who are most advanced in closeness to God. It is the final break-ing-off of all that is not God, both spiritual and physical.

The dark night of the soul is such a great trial that God only permits the experience to souls who are greatly advanced in holiness. Many Catholics experience great crosses or dryness in prayer and feel far from God and *think* they are experiencing the dark night of the soul, but most of the time, they are simply experiencing a *purification* that is crucial for the **earlier stages** of the spiritual life. It’s not the dark night itself.

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George Washington’s Eggnog Recipe

This recipe is purported to be from our first president himself, and speaks to the longevity of this merry holiday cocktail.

This recipe was halved and reworded for clarity. Double for a larger crowd.

Prep time	Chilling	Servings
15 min.	1 day	18

Ingredients:

1 cup brandy
1/2 cup Jamaican rum
6 large eggs separated
2 cups heavy cream

1/2 cup rye whiskey
1/4 cup sherry
6 T. granulated sugar
2 cups whole milk

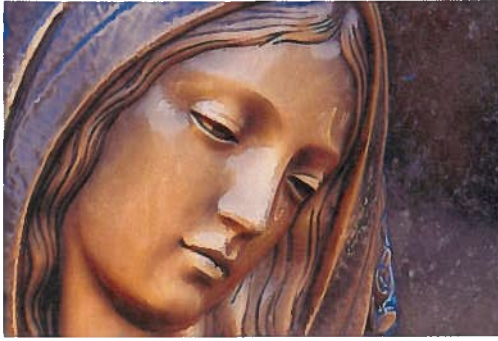
Optional garnishes
sweetened whipped cream
fresh grated nutmeg
cinnamon sticks

Instructions:

1. Mix the alcohols together.
2. Beat the egg yolks with the sugar.
3. Slowly beat in milk and cream.
4. Stir in the alcohol.
5. Beat the egg whites until stiff. Gently fold the whites into the eggnog mixture.
6. Cover the eggnog tightly with plastic wrap and refrigerate overnight or up to several days to allow the flavors to develop.
7. Ladle into glasses and serve with whipped cream and a dusting of freshly grated nutmeg.

Be sure to use pasteurized eggs because the eggs are not cooked. Pregnant women, children, the elderly or anyone with a weakened immune system are especially at risk.

Questions Catholics Ask
How many feast days does Mary have?



Why so much attention on Mary?

We view Mary as mother of the Church as well as Mother of God. Good observation! Mary feasts have been with us a long time, and they accumulate through the centuries. They began showing up in the East and the West after the Council of Ephesus (431) formally bestowed the title "God-bearer" (*Theotokos*) on the mother of Jesus. Not long after, near Bethlehem, the feast of "Mary, Mother of God" was celebrated on August 15—the day we now honor her Assumption. The first day of the year became a Marian feast in sixth-century Rome, while December 26 was Mary's day in Byzantine circles. Churches of Spain remembered Mary on December 18, a week before the Nativity. By the seventh century, Mary's birthday (September 8—not a historical date but a remembrance), her childhood presentation in the temple (November 21), and the Annunciation (March 25—nine months before Christmas) spread from local Jerusalem observances to the Byzantine church and Rome. At present we commemorate

15 Mary days on the universal Roman calendar.

Four of these celebrations are solemnities, the highest rank of any day in the liturgical year: Mary, Mother of God (Jan. 1), Annunciation (Mar. 25), Assumption (Aug. 15), and Immaculate Conception (Dec. 8). **Three are feasts:** Presentation of the Lord (Feb. 2), Visitation (May 31), and Birth of Mary (Sept. 8). **Four are memorials, a simpler form of remembrance:** Queenship of Mary (Aug. 22), Our Lady of Sorrows (Sept. 15), Our Lady of the Rosary (Oct. 7), and Presentation of Mary (Nov. 21). **And four are optional memorials:** Our Lady of Lourdes (Feb. 11), Immaculate Heart of Mary (a movable feast falling on the second Saturday after Pentecost), Our Lady of Mt. Carmel (July 16), and Dedication of St. Mary Major Basilica (Aug. 5). The U.S. bishops added a memorial for Our Lady of Guadalupe on December 12, bringing the national total to 16 Marian days.

Why so much attention on Mary? We view Mary as mother of the Church as well as Mother of God. She demonstrates how a disciple of Jesus is to act. (Not all disciples were a good act to follow.) Also, Mary has a unique access ("mediation") to her son that believers make good use of.

In my home I display Marian images from all over the world, traditional and modern, reverential and whimsical. Even folks who don't know who Mary is are captivated by at least one of them. So it is with Mary days. There's one that resonates with everyone.

Scriptures: Luke 1:26-56; 2:1-52; John 2:1-12; 19:25-27; Acts 1:13-14



**LOOKING FOR A FUN, NEW WAY
 TO BE MORE ACTIVE?**



Bingo + Exercise = Bingocize®

BINGOCIZE® is a 20-week health promotion program that combines the game of bingo with fall prevention exercise. Play bingo with us and meet new people while learning about techniques to reduce falls.

**Dates: Monday afternoons,
 January 6th through June 9th, 2025**

Time: 1:00 pm - 2:00 pm

(No class on 1/20, 2/17, or 5/26)

**Location: St. Margaret Mary Catholic Church, 207 E. 5th
 St., Herscher IL, 60941**

**TO REGISTER,
 CALL NATALIA
 (815) 933-7791 EXT 9954**



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Catholic Charities, Diocese of Joliet is a faith-based organization providing service to people in need and calling others of good will to do the same.



"You didn't say 'Open the darn gate.' I heard what you said."



December 29, 2024

Written by
THE
FAITHFUL
DISCIPLE

Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

Sir 3:2-6, 12-14 | Col 3:12-21 | Lk 2:41-52

GROW AS A DISCIPLE | PRAY, STUDY, ENGAGE, SERVE

Compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience. These are the attributes Paul instructs the Colossians in today's reading to "put on" or to "clothe" themselves with. It's quite a list, isn't it? Paul goes on to talk about the virtues of the Christian family, which is fitting for today's Feast of the Holy Family. It is reasonable to expect, then, that the Gospel passage would follow through by expounding on the virtues of *the perfect family*: Jesus, Mary, and Joseph. Instead, in Luke's Gospel, we have the only story in all of Scripture of Jesus' childhood. The only one that shows the specific interactions of them as a family – it tells the story of Jesus at age 12 who stays in Jerusalem without Mary and Joseph knowing and who are unable to find him for days. Prayerfully reflecting on this unique glimpse of the Holy Family working through misunderstandings, fear, and hurt helps us relate even more to the true humanness of Jesus and the Holy Family.

GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

In the Holy Family, we see a model of relationship in human form. We are part of a holy family as well: we are children of God. And like Mary and Joseph, our family is enriched and strengthened when we are attentive to the presence of Jesus in our lives. Luke writes: "[Mary] kept all these things in her heart." Like Mary, let us strive to hold Jesus' words and commandments in our hearts so we can focus on God's divine plan for our lives. In the next line of Paul's letter offering us the "tools" for loving relationships (compassion ... patience) he adds, "bearing with one another and forgiving one another." In other words: love. We must put Jesus, who is love, at the center of our relationships and do everything in his name. Then our family, and our lives, will be holy indeed.

SING

*Mary, mother of faithful love;
Joseph, gentle and humble man of God;
Jesus, Son of Mary,
Bless, guide and protect the families you created.*

Feast of the Holy Family

December 29, 2024: 1 Sm 1:20-22,24-28 or Sir 3:2-6,12-14 | Ps 84:2-3,5-6,9-10 | 1 Jn 3:1-2,21-24 or Col 3:12-21 | Lk 2:41-52

Saint John Paul II wrote about today's Gospel story in his encyclical on the Rosary, *Rosarium Virginis* (paragraph #20). This scripture, he pointed out, reveals that Jesus was already wholly dedicated to his Father's affairs. And it shows "the radical nature of the Gospel, in which even the closest of human relationships are challenged by the absolute demands of the Kingdom." Which relationships? Family relationships!

Today, we are like Mary and Joseph in their moment of failing to understand the words of Jesus. His teachings challenge us to accept a more difficult life, a life of doing good to our enemies, taking a stand against injustices, standing up for Christian values, getting persecuted for it, turning the cheek and going the extra mile, a life of courageously adhering to the ways of God.

Our preference, when it's inconvenient or unpleasant to be so holy, is to rationalize and make excuses for any behavior that the world says is good and right but which contradicts the Church's scripture-based teachings. However, if we are sincere about following Christ, we are willing to do what is difficult. And it's usually in the doing that we begin to understand the benefits of becoming more like Christ.

Without this understanding, however, we have to trust that the words of Jesus are truth. Like Mary and Joseph, we need to ponder in our hearts what we do not understand and at the same time move forward in holy living. Then we discover the joy that comes from a life that's lived wholly in Christ.



On this Feast of the Holy Family, let us pray that Mary and Joseph will help us hear Jesus whenever our troubles or temptations get so distracting that we lose sight of him. Let us learn to recognize that Jesus is always present with us in his Holy Spirit, helping us, guiding us, and mercifully loving us, especially in the challenges we face.

Reflect & Discuss:

- † What teaching of the Church have you rationalized away so that you don't have to obey it? Or what teaching in scripture?
- † Assume your disobedience is due to not understanding what is really being taught. What will you do to learn more about it?
- † What is it about the relationships between Jesus, Mary and Joseph that appeals to you?
- † What has this taught you about God's Kingdom?

Jubilee 2025

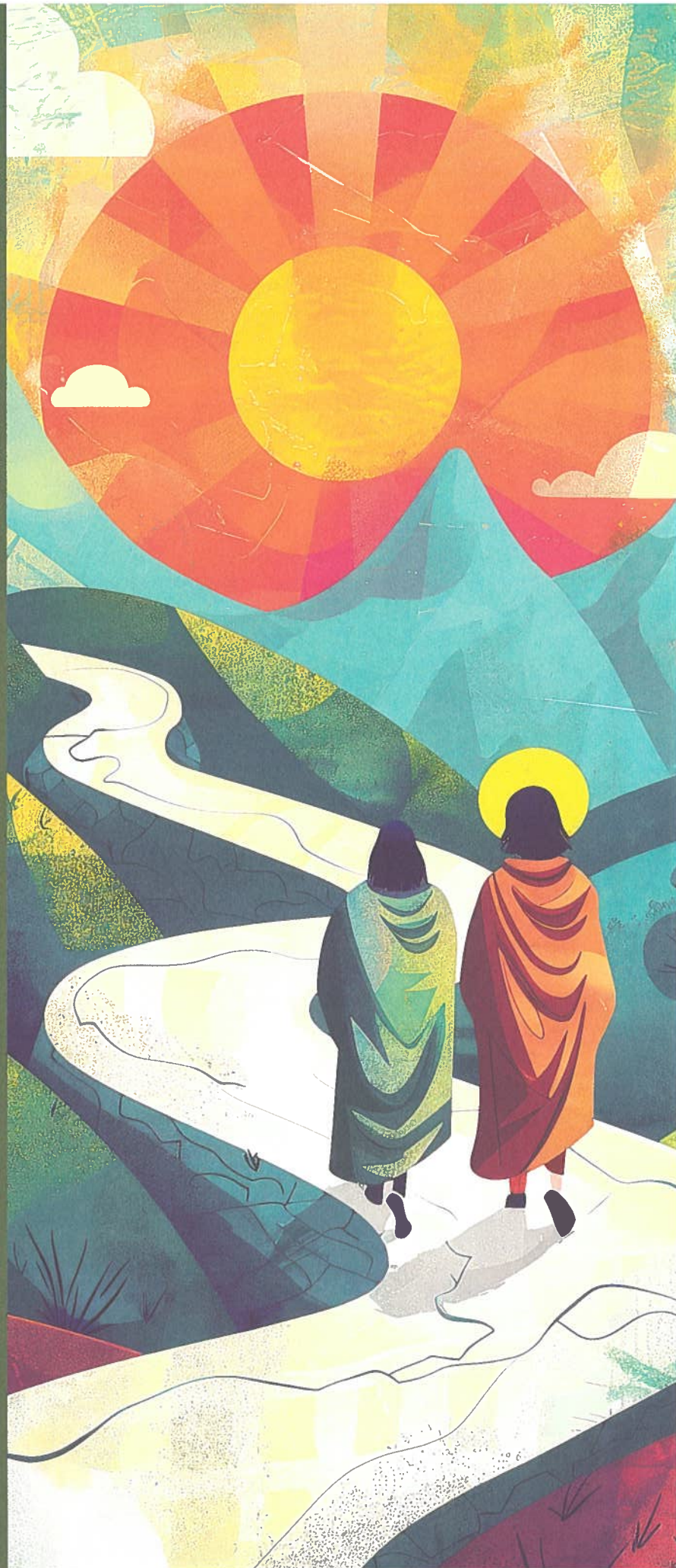
We Are Pilgrims of Hope

On May 9, 2024 Pope Francis solemnly announced that the Church's Jubilee year 2025 "will be a Holy Year marked by a lively experience of grace and an opportunity to be renewed in the hope that does not fade, our hope in God. May it help us to recover the confident trust that we require, in the Church and in society, in our interpersonal relationships, in international relations, and in our task of promoting the dignity of all persons and respect for God's gift of creation. May the witness of believers be for our world a leaven of authentic hope, a harbinger of new heavens and a new earth, where men and women will dwell in justice and harmony, in joyful expectation of the fulfilment of the Lord's promises."

"Hope is the virtue that gives inward direction and purpose to the life of believers so that we may bear credible and attractive witness to the faith and love that dwell in our hearts; that our faith may be joyful and our charity enthusiastic; and that each of us may be able to offer a smile, a small gesture of friendship, a kind look, a ready ear, a good deed, in the knowledge that, in the Spirit of Jesus, these can become, for those who receive them, rich seeds of hope."

Our Pilgrimage Journey to and with Jesus

A pilgrimage is both an outer journey to a sacred place, and an inner journey to meet Christ and deepen our relationship with him. Thus Pope Francis desires that this Jubilee Year be a time "to encourage and sustain the hope that guides our steps towards the goal of a genuine, personal encounter with the risen Lord Jesus, who is not only the destination of our earthly pilgrimage but also a constant presence in our lives. I invite everyone to place their trust in the Lord who not only guides us, but is God-with-us, who loves us and walks with us in every circumstance of life. He shows us the path of love, lifts us up when we fall and supports us in our labors, opens our eyes to see our wretchedness and that of the world, but at the same time fills us with hope."



THE MEANING OF THE JUBILEE LOGO: PILGRIMS OF HOPE

The official logo of the 2025 Jubilee Year shows four colorful pilgrims, who symbolize all of humanity coming from all directions on their common journey to Christ. As they embrace each other in unity, the figure in front grasps the cross, which is the sign of our hope that united with Jesus we will also move through our death to new life. The elongated cross also changes at its base into an anchor, which was an ancient sign of hope because sailors used the anchor to stabilize ships during storms. So during the challenges of our daily lives and the events of the wider world symbolized by the rough waves beneath the pilgrims, hope keeps us focused on the goal of our pilgrimage to draw ever closer to encounter the Risen Christ.



WHAT IS A JUBILEE YEAR?

The jubilee year (from the Hebrew word *yobel*, meaning horn, which was blown to proclaim the year's beginning) is an ancient Jewish tradition (see Leviticus 25:8-17, 29-31) of pardon and reconciliation celebrated every 50 years (after a "sabbath of sabbaths," 7 x 7 years) when the community imitated God's mercy and forgiveness by forgiving debts and by each family returning to its own land and not cultivating it that year.

This jubilee tradition was first adapted for Catholics in 1300 by Pope Boniface VIII as a universal "year of forgiveness of all sins." Since that time the "ordinary" jubilee years have usually been at 50 or now 25 year intervals (the last was in 2000), with other "extraordinary" jubilee years declared for special reasons like that of Mercy in 2015. Jubilee years are characterized especially by prayer, good works, pilgrimages to sacred sites (especially Rome), cultural events and special indulgences for those who participate.

THE HOLY DOOR OF ST. PETER'S

Since the 1500's, the ceremonial opening at St. Peter's Basilica of the usually locked massive bronze Holy Door (also called the "Door of the Great Pardon" since its 16 panels portray various biblical scenes of sin and redemption) begins each Jubilee Year. After reciting specific prayers and invoking the Holy Spirit, the Pope pushes open the door and enters the Church, inviting pilgrims likewise to renew their spiritual journey and cross the threshold.



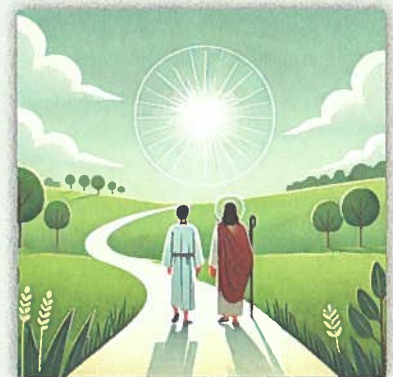
The opening of the Holy Door invites the faithful to embark on a journey of even deeper faith. Crossing the threshold of the door is a powerful act, inspired by Jesus' words in John 10:9, "I am the door. If anyone enters by me, he will be saved and will go in and out and find pasture." This passage highlights the transformative experience of entering through the Holy Door, symbolizing the decision to follow Jesus, the Good Shepherd. The door serves as a physical and spiritual gateway, leading pilgrims into the sacred space of the church and inviting them to renew their commitment to their faith.

2025 JUBILEE PRAYER PILGRIMS OF HOPE

Father in heaven,
may the faith you have given us
in your son, Jesus Christ, our brother,
and the flame of charity enkindled
in our hearts by the Holy Spirit,
reawaken in us the blessed hope
for the coming of your Kingdom.

May your grace transform us
into tireless cultivators
of the seeds of the Gospel.
May those seeds transform from within
both humanity and the whole cosmos
in the sure expectation of a
new heaven and a new earth, when,
with the powers of Evil vanquished,
your glory will shine eternally.

May the grace of the Jubilee
reawaken in us, Pilgrims of Hope,
a yearning for the treasures of heaven.
May that same grace spread
the joy and peace of our Redeemer
throughout the earth.
To you our God, eternally blessed,
be glory and praise for ever. *Amen.*



For more information on the 2025
Jubilee Year of Hope and how you may
participate more fully see the Vatican's
official website at
www.iubilaeum2025.va/en.html