

St. Boniface Church

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Feast of the Holy Family



**DECEMBER 31ST, 2023
HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY
AND JOSEPH
CYCLE B (MARK)**

A Reflection from the writings of St. John Paul II. *A Catechesis on Mary, Mother of God: Theotokos: Woman, Mother, Disciple*

From the beginning, the Church has acknowledged the virginal motherhood of Mary. The title "Mother of God", already attested by St. Matthew in the equivalent expression "Mother of Emmanuel," God-with-us (Mt. 1:23), was expressly attributed to Mary only after a reflection that embraced about two centuries. Third century Christians in Egypt began to invoke Mary as *Theotokos*, Mother of God.

As the infancy Gospels enable us to grasp, the first Christian communities gathered together Mary's recollections about the mysterious circumstances of the Saviour's conception and birth. In particular, the annunciation account responds to the disciples' desire to have the deepest knowledge of the events connected with the beginnings of the risen Christ's earthly life. Mary is at the origin of the revelation about the mystery of the virginal conception by the work of the Holy Spirit.

The first Christians immediately grasped the important significance of this truth showing Jesus' Divine origins, and included it among the key affirmations of their faith. Son of Joseph according to the law, by an extraordinary intervention of the Holy Spirit Jesus was in his humanity only the son of Mary, since he was born without the intervention of man. Mary's virginity thus acquires a unique value and casts new light on the birth of Jesus and on the mystery of his sonship, since the virginal generation is the sign that Jesus has God himself as his Father.

Acknowledged and proclaimed by the faith of the Fathers, the virginal motherhood of Mary can never be separated from the identity of Jesus, true God and true man, and "born of the Virgin Mary," as we profess in the Nicene Creed. Mary is the only virgin who is also a mother. The virginity of Mary thus initiates in the Christian community the spread of the virginal life, embraced by all who are called to it by the Lord. This special vocation, which reaches its apex in Christ's example, represents immeasurable spiritual wealth for the Church in every age, which finds in Mary her inspiration and model. With the title, Mother of God, Mary is seen in the true dimension of her motherhood: she is the Mother of God's Son, whom she virginally begot according to his human nature and raised with her motherly love, thus contributing to the human growth of the divine person who came to transform the destiny of mankind.

In a highly significant way, the most ancient prayer to Mary (*Sub tuum praesidium... We fly to your protection*) contains the invocation *Theotokos*, Mother of God in a prayer that acknowledges Jesus as God and Mary as the Mother of God, from whom we hope and pray to obtain her powerful aid in the trials of life.

We fly to your patronage, O holy Mother of God; despise not our petitions in our necessities, but deliver us always from all dangers, O glorious and blessed Virgin. Amen.

Mary Mother of God, pray for us!
Blessings and prayers for peace to all,
Fr Peter

Mass Intentions 
FOR THE WEEK

DECEMBER 30TH 2023 TO JANUARY 6 2024

Sat Dec 30th	5:00pm -	Harry LaPlante †
Sun Dec 31st	7:30am -	Open
	9:00am -	For the Schut, Ramos and Gouveia Families
	10:30am -	Dionisia Barretto †
	12:00pm -	People of the Parish
Sun Dec 31st	5:00pm -	Thanksgiving for the Selvadurai Family
Mon Jan 1st	9:00am -	Thanksgiving for the Lugos Family
	10:30am -	Philomena Carriere †
	12:00pm -	People of the Parish
Tue Jan 2nd	8:30am -	Carolina Mabugat †
Wed Jan 3rd	7:30pm -	Healing for Kiera Pettypiece
Thu Jan 4th	8:30am -	James Farkas †
Fri Jan 5th	7:30pm -	Thanksgiving for the Lugos Family
Sat Jan 6th	8:30am -	Open



OUR SICK:

Anunciacion Chang, Derek Rosario, Maria Theresa, Maria Johanna Tizon, Bob & Linda Morgan, Sally Benadetto, Maverick Valle, Richard Stockman, Don O'Shaughnessy, Alana Maurica Gerardine, Bette McDermott, Josephine Lavecchia, Romeo Dimalanta, Mara Ezgeta, Fredrick Martyn, John Rodriguez, Sabrina Achaibar, Sharon Garisto, Elizabeth Singh, Richard Rodriguez, Kenny Gonsalves, Kris Gonsalves, Carlo Tomasi, Anna Tomasi, Evelyn Gatila, Judith Ritch, Rita Clemenz, Estela Pett, Steve McAuley, George Paramby Varghese, Edward Kaminski, Emmanuel Carpio, Ligaya Carpio, Holly MacInnis, Norma Diso, Jennifer Solomon, Bill Filipchuk, Kathleen Filipchuk, Colleen Baggobin, Dionne Hastings, Sonia Miranda, Kevin Andrey Morales, Rhaquel Elizabeth Jojan, Ramona Labo, Ruth Claire Alinas, Andre Baksh, Alicia Alvares, Anna Ardurini, Lolita Ramos, Rose Marie Sorbera, Alice Rego, John Jansen In De Wal, Mary Foulkes, Lorraine Fraser, Jean Griffin Davis, Stephanie Solomon, Shirley Ecclejton, Kathleen Copeland, Conchita Estolano Paran, Giacomina Genova, Frosa Karakolis, Rosa Lim, Vera Conway, Joe D'Souza, Claudio Borgono, Jennifer Young, Glenda McNeil, Naty Germain, Liam Matthews, Benigno Jose Jr., Irene Bituin, Leonisa G. Albaran, Innes Potgieter, Rebecca C. Baltazar, Dina Sorbera, Monica Bouchard, Harold Hunt, Adeline Noronha, Antonio Sorbera, Julia Genova, Christina Lochan, Ronaldo Maravilla, Lucas Sorbera, Sheryl Watson, Stanley de Freitas, Peter Pinto, Marina Sequeira, Ofelia Magat, Paul Swoffer, Minoli Paul, Offe Ayuson, Isabel Grosvenor, Marie Herrera, John Germain, Ms. Dalhoo, Carla Di Cecco, Virginia Johnson, Wynn Young, Mary Rocha, Eric Hudder, Marguerite Watson, Duverney Family, Mr. & Mrs. Cerami, Simon Fernandes, Arnold Uy Cruz, Charles Gill, Patrick Doty, Debra Fernandes, Marina Jose, Frances Schober, William Schober, Marie Dignum, Ahilla Kissoon.

NEW YEAR'S SCHEDULE MASSES

SUNDAY DECEMBER 31ST HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY & JOSEPH

Regular Sunday Masses
7:30am, 9am, 10:30am, & 12pm

NEW YEAR'S EVE MASSES MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD (A HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION) SUNDAY 5:00PM

NEW YEAR'S DAY MONDAY, JANUARY 1ST 9:00AM 10:30AM 12NOON (NO 7:30 MORNING MASS)

**EPIPHANY OF THE LORD
SUNDAY JANUARY 07**
SATURDAY VIGIL - 5:00 PM
SUNDAY - 7:30 AM 9:00 AM 10:30 AM
12 NOON

REMINDER TO CONFIRMATION CANDIDATES

Confirmation Candidates who have registered with the Parish for the Sacrament of Confirmation are reminded that the Enrollment Ceremony where you receive the cross will take place on the weekend of **January 6th and 7th 2024 at any one of the five (5) Masses.**



Please remember to bring you dove with you.

Catechesis Sessions:

SATURDAY JANUARY 13, 2024— 10:00 AM TO 12 NOON
SATURDAY FEBRUARY 3, 2024 — 10:00 AM TO 12 NOON
SATURDAY FEBRUARY 24, 2024 — 10:00 AM TO 12 NOON
SATURDAY MARCH 23, 2024 – 10:00AM TO 12:00 NOON
SATURDAY APRIL 20, 2024 — 10:00 AM TO 12 NOON

MANDATORY CONFIRMATION RETREAT MAY 11, 2024 – 10AM TO 4PM

CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE

It's that time again...MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL TIME !!
Renewal for 2024 has begun !



St. Boniface CWL members and other women in our parish interested in joining, can place the membership cost of \$40.00 in an envelope addressed to the "CWL ST. BONIFACE" in the collection basket at Mass. Cheques to be made out to the: *CWL St. Boniface Council.*

Thank you and a Happy New Year to you all.

HOLIDAY OFFICE HOURS

The Parish Office will be closed December 24 to December 26, inclusive; open December 27, 28 and 29. In the New Year, the Parish Office will be closed on January 01; reopens on Tuesday, January 02, 2024.

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul

Dear Parishioners,
We offer our sincere gratitude for your kind support and generous donations for our SSVP Christmas Collection this year. We thank you for including your name and address on your donation envelope. This information is needed for our SSVP conference to issue 2023 tax receipts to you.



Rejoice!
"For unto us a child is born" Isaiah 9:6



DID YOU KNOW?

Why is Mary our mother also?

Mary is our mother because Christ the Lord gave her to use as a mother. "Woman, behold, your son!...Behold, your mother!" (John 19:26b-27a). The second command, which Jesus spoke from the Cross to John, has always been understood by the Church as an act of entrusting the whole Church to Mary. Thus Mary is our mother, too. We may call upon her and ask her to intercede with God.



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