

INTRODUCTION TO THE LITURGY OF THE DAY

Today is the Church's oldest celebration of the Blessed Virgin Mary. It is also designated as the World Day of Prayer for Peace. There can be no better way to start the New Year than to honor our Blessed Mother and pray with her for peace in our world. As we pray together today at God's invitation, let us be mindful of how the Holy Mother of God cares for the Church and the world that her Son died to save.

INTRODUCTION TO THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

Nm 6:22-27 *"The Lord bless you and keep you!"*
Ps 67 *"May God bless us in his mery."*
Gal 4:4-7 *We, too, are the sons and daughters of God.*
Lk 2:16-21 *Mary reflected on all these things in her heart.*

Today's readings are about signs: God's sign to Ahaz, the angel's appearance to Joseph. As we hear God's holy word proclaimed today, what signs in your life point to God about to do wonderful new things? How can you respond like Joseph?

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Saturday, December 31, Vigil: Mary, the Holy Mother of God
 4:00 PM Parishioners of Rosary
Sunday, January 1, Mary, the Holy Mother of God
 8:30 AM Parishioners of Rosary
 10:30 AM Parishioners of Peace
Monday, January 2, Sts. Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzen (opt. mem.)
 8:30 AM W. A. Brown (RIP)
Tuesday, January 3, Most Holy Name of Jesus (opt. mem.)
 8:30 AM M. C. Brown (RIP)
Wednesday January 4, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton
 8:30AM Special Intention
Thursday, January 5, St. John Neumann
 8:30 AM Holy Souls in Purgatory
Friday, January 6, St. Andre' Bessette
 9:00 AM Parishioners of Peace

Please see Fr. Brown for Mass Intention requests. The Celebrant is not obligated to publicly announce the Mass intentions; this is a courtesy. If the Celebrant omits announcing the intention, the Mass is still offered for the donor's intention. If you would like to make a donation for the Sanctuary Lamp for a special intention, please see Father Brown. December intention is for David and Janet Meyers (RIP).

QUESTION OF THE WEEK

To whom do I need to bring a special greeting of Christ's peace, with the assurance of supportive friendship this New Year's Day?

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR SICK AND SHUT-INS

Cathy Wood, Ruthie Kress, Mary Sharenberger-Riggins, Curtis Jackson, Danny Somers, Joseph Thomas Buxton, Greg Warner, Bill Sultan, Kelly Lightsey, Margi Bockweg, Cathy Banks, John Loria, Hguyen Dau, Hai Van Heller and family, Nathan Collins, Barbara Northrop, Susan Tanney and Peyton Meyers. Please see Father Brown to update the list or to arrange for a visit to a homebound or hospitalized.

REGISTER NOW—CELEBRATE FAITH 2017

Sponsored by the Diocese of Pensacola-Tallahassee

Every two years we come together as a diocese to celebrate the joy and beauty of our Catholic faith. Join us as we dive deeper into what it means to live out our vocations, whether to religious life, married life or single life.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 18—8AM to 5:15PM CT

Emerald Coast Convention Center

1250 Miracle Strip Pkwy SE

Fort Walton Beach, Florida

Contact Erica Johnson at (850) 435-3528 or at

johnsone@ptdiocese.org

HOMILY HELPS:

And so the human family begins another New Year. Remember New Year 2016? While the past year knew happy moments of life unfolding with beauty and promise, like every other year—and for some, more than many other years—2016 brought not only triumph but tragedy. Indeed, all we can affirm with certainty about this New Year is that, as the old Marriage Exhortation wisely promised young newlyweds: The future is hidden now from our eyes, with its hopes and disappointments, successes, failures, pleasures, pains, joys and sorrows. How to prepare, then, for all that lies ahead, shrouded in the mystery of God's silence?

The Church responds by hearing God's Word and looking to Mary. For today, as on every New Year's Day, Mother Church sets Mother Mary in this momentous threshold. Faithful daughter of Israel, Mary bids us keep faith, as did she, come what may, with God, whose holy Name holy scripture invokes upon us to "bless [us] and keep [us]; let his face shine upon us and be gracious to us...Look upon us kindly and give us peace" (Nm 6:24-26)—though never peace apart from Jesus' cross. ******(Cont. in Col 3)

OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY

OFFERTORY/CHRISTMAS	\$7,908.00
BUILDING FUND	\$90.00
OTHER, Retirement Fund for Religious Ironman Help	\$140.00 \$500.00
Designated contribution: Crucifix	<u>\$4,900.00</u>
TOTAL	\$13,538.00

BUILDING FUND MONTHLY

	\$5,641.72
Month to date	<u>\$4,719.00</u>
NEEDED	\$922.72

OUR LADY QUEEN OF PEACE MISSION

OFFERTORY	\$819.00
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HOMILY HELPS (Con. from Col. 2)

But Jesus' cross, whatever shape it takes I this New Year, will bear fruit in us. For we are not slaves of fate, but sons and daughters of God. Our hearts are filled with the Spirit, who reveals God as an Abba whose loving care, which never failed Mary, will carry us safely, if not always serenely, through 2017.

**LET THE HEAVENS
RESOUND WITH JOY**



OUR SAVIOR IS BORN!

“Angel of God Protect Me”



**FEAST OF THE MOST HOLY FAMILY OF
JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH**

The devotion to the Holy Family was born in Bethlehem, together with the Baby Jesus. The shepherds went to adore the Child and, at the same time, they gave honor to His family. Later, in a similar way, the three wise men came from the East to adore and give honor to the newborn King with gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh that would be safeguarded by His family.

We can go further to affirm that in a certain sense Christ, Himself, was the first devotee of His family. He showed His devotion to His mother and foster father by submitting Himself, with infinite humility, to the duty of filial obedience towards them.

Looking at the Holy Family, we see the love, the protection, and the diligent care that they gave to the Redeemer. We cannot fail to feel uneasiness, perhaps a shameful thought, for the times in which we have not rendered the appropriate care and attention to the Blessed Eucharist. We can only ask for forgiveness and do penance for all the sacrilegious acts and the lack of respect that are committed in front of the Blessed Eucharist. We can only ask the Lord, through the intercession of the Holy Family of Nazareth, for a greater love for their Son Incarnate, who has decided to remain here on earth with us every day until the end of time.

From the [Congregation for the Clergy](#)

Let us imitate the Holy Family in our Christian families, and our family will be a cell and a prefiguration of the heavenly family. Say a prayer dedicating your family to the Holy Family. Also pray for all families and for our country to uphold the sanctity of the marriage bond which is under attack.

This is what St Bernard of Clairvaux said in this regard, ‘God, to whom angels submit themselves and who principalities and powers obey, was subject to Mary; and not only to Mary but Joseph also for Mary’s sake [...]. God obeyed a human creature; this is humility without precedent. A human creature commands God; it is sublime beyond measure.’ (First Homily on the ‘Missus Est’).

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