

Our Lady of Perpetual Help

Catholic Community

Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph, December 28, 2008

Served by the Missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate

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Fr. Tony Dummer	Priest Moderator	262-4749, Option 3	tonyomi@ptialaska.net
Fr. Andrew	Pastor	262-4749, Option 3	andyomi@gmail.com
Fr. Joe	Pastor	262-4749, Option 3	joejdowling@yahoo.com
Bro. Craig	Pastoral Associate	262-4749, Option 3	cbonham081@gmail.com

SUNDAY LITURGY: Saturday 5pm, Sunday 9am and 11:30am
First Sunday of month, Youth Ministry 5pm

WEEKDAY LITURGY: Monday through Friday, 12:05pm

Sacrament of Reconciliation: Thursday 11:00 – 11:45am
Saturday 4:00 – 4:45pm

Sacrament of Anointing of Sick: Available during the Sunday masses, or as needed.

Sacrament of Baptism: for children – Parents Prep class required. Call Marlys for reservations.
Best done prior to birth.
for adults – Contact the office about RCIA

Sacrament of Marriage: 6 month process (several classes and FOCUS Test and/or Engaged Encounter, or Couple to Couple...contact a priest.

Pastoral Council: meets the 3rd Thursday of each month (usually)

Prayer Chain: pjham@att.net, Pat Hamilton 262-5250

Sexual Abuse Victim Assistance Coordinator: Marlys Verba

Please Note: Submissions/articles for the weekly bulletin via email must be in by Thursdays at noon to Marlys: marlys.verba@pci.net and you may send a copy to: cspinsel@acsalaska.net

A Christmas Prayer for loved ones

FOR THOSE who have abundance of love, a bounty in heart and home, keep them mindful of the world's poor, lift their voices often to you in gratitude, loving God.

FOR THOSE who carry hurts and angers and other heartaches, help them to feel the peace which only you can give and the grace to let go of long burdening memories.

FOR THOSE who struggle with the lack of this world's riches; those who know what unemployment and empty pockets feel like, gift them with a counting of blessings which are often hidden and far more valuable than earthly treasure.

FOR THOSE whose faith has grown dim and whose sense of you seems far away, raise in their hearts a great yearning for you that will not cease and a desire for the truth that cannot be ignored.

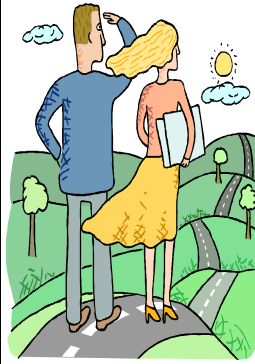
FOR THOSE who are tired, weary, worn from a constant generous giving of their lives in love, be their energy and enthusiasm, be a great and deep spark of light and happiness for them.

FOR THOSE who grieve the goodbye of a loved one and whose hearts are very lonely this time of year, touch them with dear memories and transform the inner missing and heartache into a vision of what lies far beyond this time and space.

FOR THOSE whose lives speak of growing old, bless again and again with peace and serenity, let them know what gentle witnesses they are to all of us who still ponder the meaning of life and growth.

And finally, savior God, **FOR THOSE** with young eyes, keep their hearts full of wonder, and thank you for slipping some of their delight and simplicity into our own hearts each time we celebrate the Christmas moment. AMEN!

fr.tony,omi



A LOOK AHEAD:

Please remember to pray for the loved ones who have poinsettias in the sanctuary for this season: Rita Trombley; Keith Bradrick; George/Ceceilia Heirer; Nick/Rose Zerbinos, Hal Alsip, Truesdell Grandparents; Bill Joyce; Mary Stevens, John Bonk, Jr.; John W. Smith; Bob Antila; Laurette Antila; Jessie Ross; John/Barbara/Mike Hoke; Whitney/Nex/Pat Fellman; Dick Rumpfelt; Warren Larson; Eugene Popp; Regina Popp; Ettie McGregor; Bill/Joe/ Gene Burger; Irton Slone; Corinne Heider; Helen Sherman; Mick Hayes; M/M Frederick Gustafson. Thank you to all who have participated in this Poinsettia Remembrance, Small Poinsettia Flowers may be picked up after Epiphany liturgies.

Generations of Faith Planning/Implementation meeting on Tuesday, December 30th at 1pm.

Next Sunday, January 4, after both Masses we will have in the O'Neill Hall various activities to be completed for the Kairos retreat at Wildwood scheduled to begin on January 8th. These are easy activities for both children/parents and anyone else who desires to put into action our Advent awareness and challenge: that of becoming Christ-like to one another and showing Christ's Light to the world. In this case, to show that Light of compassion and caring to those imprisoned. Please join us in the hall at 10:15am and 12:45pm next Sunday.

RETROUVAILLE OF ALASKA

A Lifeline for Marriage – Retrouvaille (pronounced retro-vi with a long i) helps couples through difficult times in their marriages. It is designed to provide the tools to help get your marriage back on track. It will give you the opportunity to rediscover each other and examine your lives together in a new and positive way. This program has helped 10's of 1000's of couples experiencing marital difficulty at all levels including disillusionment and deep misery. For confidential information about the program or to register for the Spring program beginning with a weekend February 6-8, 2009, call 1-907-360-2227 or visit our web site at www.HelpOurMarriage.com

Building Family

You are called to holiness precisely as a family. It is often in the working out of the various things that happen to you as a family that your holiness resides. The one ingredient that has to go into any family is work. Good, strong families don't just happen on their own. It takes a great deal of work to build, nurture and help your family to grow in love, freedom, respect and kindness. And, in the end, nothing is guaranteed. We can't control how children are going to turn out. But that doesn't mean you must not put your heart and soul into your family.

At the heart of it all, there has to be an awareness of what is going on in the family. Awareness means paying attention to your other family members, listening to their stories, taking an interest in what is important to them. If you're always busy with other things, there's a good

chance that you are missing a lot of what is going on with the members of your family.

In our Gospel reading today, we see that Mary and Joseph had to give up their own country for a few years and escape to Egypt. They knew that Jesus would have been in danger if they had stayed in their own native land. We shouldn't underestimate how much this cost Mary and Joseph. But they did it, because they knew it was the best decision for their family.

Family life is not just the responsibility of the parents. As children grow and become more aware of the needs of their family, they too should learn to take their part in helping in whatever small or large ways they are capable of. It is normally within the family that we learn the meaning of responsibility and respect.

Fr. Tony, OMI

Calendar for December 29, 2008 – January 4, 2009, with Daily Readings

December 29, Monday: Noon Mass Morning prayer, 7:30am Choir	December 30, Tuesday: Noon Mass Morning prayer, 7:30am RCIA, 7pm GOF Planning meeting 1pm	December 31, Wednesday: 5pm Mass (no noon Mass) Morning prayer, 7:30am	January 1, Thursday: 10am Mass Morning prayer, 7:30am No Eucharistic Adoration	January 2, Friday: Noon Mass Morning prayer, 7:30am	January 3, Saturday: 5pm Mass Reconciliation 4:00pm	January 4, Sunday: 9:00am, 11:30am Masses
1 John 2:3-11 Psalm 96:1-2a, 2b-3, 5b-6 Luke 2:22-35	1 John 2:12-17 Psalm 96:7-8a, 8b-9, 10 Luke 2:36-40	1 John 2:18-21 Psalm 96:1-2, 11- 12, 13 John 1:1-18	Numbers 6:22-27 (18ABC) Galatians 4:4-7 Psalm 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8 Luke 2:16-21	1 John 2:22-28 Psalm 98:1, 2- 3ab, 3cd-4 John 1:19-28	1 John 2:29-3:6 Psalm 98:1, 3cd- 4, 5-6 John 1:29-34	Isaiah 60:1-6 (20ABC) Ephesians 3:2-3a, 5-6 Psalm 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13 Matthew 2:1-12

Saturday, January 3, 2009, 5:00pm

Eucharistic Ministers: Cathy Atkinson, Cheryl Hammarstrom, Steve Hammarstrom, Bill Sadler, Ruthann Truesdell

Lectors: 1st. Reading: Dave Nelson; 2nd reading: Tamara Slone

Altar Server: Grey Hansen

Sunday, January 4, 2009, 9:00pm

Eucharistic Ministers: Rose Henry, Joan Jones, Tonilyn Spring, Remy Spring, Kevin Woodvine

Lectors: 1st. Reading: Laurie Kapp; 2nd reading: Eli Woodvine

Altar Server: Mark West

Sunday, January 4, 2009, 11:30pm

Eucharistic Ministers: Shirley Aleckson, Thelma Antila, Lucy Katzenberger, Marguerite McIntosh, Lynn Senette

Lectors: 1st. Reading: Scott Earsley; 2nd reading: Jackie Swanson

Altar Server: Edward Johnson
Jack Navarro

Mop & Bucket 12/28—1/3: Jay Rohloff Family **Collection Counters: 1/4:** Terri Davis

FAMILY BLESSING

My Dear Friends,

From the Sacrament of Marriage the family has received newness of life and the grace of Christ. The family is especially important to the Church and to the civil society, for it is the primary life-giving community.

In your celebrations this weekend, I ask you to call down the Lord's blessing upon your family, so that you may continually be instruments of God's grace to one another and witnesses to faith in all the circumstances of life. With God as your help you will fulfill your mission by conforming your entire life to the Gospel and so witness to Christ before the world.

Blessing:

**O God, you have created us in love
and saved us in mercy,
and through the bond of marriage
you have established the family
and willed that it should become a sign
of Christ's love for his Church.**

**Shower your blessings on our family
gathered here in your name.
Enable those who are joined by one love
to support one another
by their fervor of spirit and devotion to prayer.
Make them responsive to the needs of others
and witnesses to the faith in all they say and do.**

**We ask this through Christ our Lord.
AMEN!**

Norma Daniels, one of our parishioners remains in critical condition at Providence after an accident this week. Please pray for her and her family. You may check her status @ www.thestatus.com; Daniels patient, name and password: early-tumble.

Cards may be sent to Room 228, Providence Alaska Medical Center, 3200 Providence Drive, P.O. Box 196604, Anchorage, Alaska 99508-6604.



Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph

Blessing for a Family or Household

Holy God,
source of all blessings,
you sent your Son to be born into a family
where he was loved and cared for.
Bless and protect our family;
make us strong in faith,
hopeful, and compassionate.
Bless us with understanding
and help us to be good listeners.
Keep us from anger and hasty judgments.
Free us from harsh words and impatience.
Do not let resentments cloud our minds
nor arrogance harden our hearts.
Make us willing to serve and quick to forgive.
Strengthen our commitment to one another,
that by our love, others may know we
are Christians.

We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.