

St. Joseph Catholic Church (Maysville)

1703 Dublin Street • Mobile, AL 36605

Staffed by the Josephites and Dedicated Lay People of St. Joseph Parish

OCTAVE OF CHRISTMAS FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY, AND JOSEPH DECEMBER 29, 2013

REFLECTIONS

STRENGTHEN YOUR HOLY FAMILY WITH LOVE, HONOR, AND RESPECT

BY SHAWN BIVENS

Love and honor within a family means to embrace a spiritual reverence that only comes from a heart that loves God; as exhibited by the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph. While on earth, Joseph allowed the Holy Spirit to guide him, while offering love for his Holy Family through honor and obedience to God.

God often tested Joseph, who endured trying moments. In Matthew 2:13-15, 19-23, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream, warning the family of grave danger as Herod sought to kill Jesus. Joseph was obedient and fled with his family into Egypt. Joseph obeyed God again when he left Egypt and thus safely arrived in Nazareth with his Family. One can only imagine the results had Mary, for whatever reason, decided not to listen to Joseph, opting instead to remain within the comforts of her home, rather than journeying with him to Egypt or to Nazareth. But because of her love, honor, trust, and respect for her husband's role within the Holy Family, they left together.

Paul suggests that a wife adhere to her husband. However, a husband must also love and honor his wife, as he loves himself. He offers teachings of a "revolutionary" nature. To be sure, many of the first Christians who were women, actually desired these new teachings, resulting in a transformation of their lives. During any family issue, the husband, as head of household, must honor God's Word when making decisions, even those of a life or death nature. In Colossians 3:12-21, Paul instructs families. A Christian home must not be a "breeding ground" for arguments and conflicts. Instead, it must contain a spiritual quality and healthy environment filled with love: honor, patience, respect, and forgiveness.

Finally, parents must determine the significance of a parent/child relationship. Many are quick to say, "I love my children." "I feed and clothe them, help with homework, and accompany them to church." However, most fail to honor and respect their children's presence by ignoring their role within the family. Some parents argue, yell, curse, and even gossip in the presence of their children, thinking that the children are not observing (or even patterning) those negative behaviors. The behaviors show up in the classrooms, the schoolyard, while with friends, or on the school bus. Sirach 3:2-6, 12-14 cites that fathers should honor and respect, and never provoke, their children; so too must mothers honor their sons. Likewise, children who honor their parents will live full lives: and, future generations will return love and honor.



*Providing a Beacon of Hope
in the Maysville Community.*

PASTORAL STAFF

Rev. Stephen Remilekun Sohe, S.S.J. Pastor

Rev. Mr. Ronnie A. Hathorne..... Deacon

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FACEBOOK StJoseph's

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MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday Vigil 4:30 PM

Sunday Mass 9:30 AM

Tuesday 5:30 PM

Wednesday – Friday 7:45 AM

Holy Days Of Obligation6:00 PM

SACRAMENT OF PENANCE

Sunday 8:45 – 9:15 AM

(or by appointment)

THIS WEEK'S MASS INTENTIONS

Sunday..... For the People of the Parish

New Year's Eve... For the People of the Parish

New Year's Day... For the People of the Parish

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

CCD Classes After Sunday Mass

Bible Study Monday, 6:00–7:00 PM

RCIA Classes Thursday, 6:00–7:00 PM

CHOIR REHEARSAL

Friday:6:00 PM



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Merry Christmas and Happy New Year

May God's blessings be upon you and your family
and May His face shed It's light upon you and be
gracious to you throughout the New Year.

Amen



MINISTRIES

Altar Servers Brandon Barnes
 Altar Society Patricia Reed
 Bereavement Pamela Barnes
 Bible Study..... Ruth McKittrick
 Bldg. & Grounds Mgr. Walter Battles
 Choir Director Lillie Key
 Finance Chair Robert Pettaway
 Hospitality & Ushers Sharon Malone
 Legion of Mary..... Hilda Carroway
 Liturgical Ruth Pettaway
 Liturgical Dancers Yvette Smith
 Male Choir William Frazier
 Media & Public Relations..... Greg Cyprian
 Parish Council Thomas Whittaker
 RCIA Deacon Ronnie Hathorne
 Religious Education Dir. Tiffany J. Barnes
 St Joseph School Alumni Shawn Bivens
 Stewardship Keith Brewer
 Technology/IT Michael Smith
 Youth Activities & Family Life Tara Evans

MINISTRY OF WORSHIP

•TODAY - DECEMBER 29

Lectors.....Windola Thompson & Pavia Dewberry
 Extraordinary Ministers of the EucharistKeith & Claudia Brewer
 Altar Servers.....Kia, Matthew, Pat
 Family Gift Bearers..... The Hayes/Lott/Mackie Family

• NEW YEAR'S EVE

LectorsJoyce Williams
 Sheila Mosley

• January 5

Lectors.....Henry Smith
 Kai Lott
 Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist.....
Diona & Leona Rudolph
 Altar Servers.....Jessica, Ashley, Azure

DECEMBER CELEBRATIONS

•ANNIVERSERIES

15Allen & Gwen Hickman
 23.....Noel & Marilyn Moseby
 (35th Wedding Anniversary)
 30.....Herman & Teresa Alexander

•BIRTHDAYS

01 Malachi Pratt
 06 Courtney Simpson
 07 Marshae Blackmon
 09 Herman Alexander III
 09 Rafael Donaldson
 09 Robert Pettaway
 13 Thomas Smith and Henry Smith
 19 Johnny Thompson
 20 Lisa Dewberry
 21 Caleb Roberson
 23 Genevieve Carter
 23 Tiffany Davis
 26 William Lofton Jr.
 26 Michael Steele
 28 Kendrick Mackie
 28 Bro. Joseph Kikanda

Weekly Collection – \$2,440.71

(DECEMBER 22)

Christmas \$2050.00

Attendance - 85

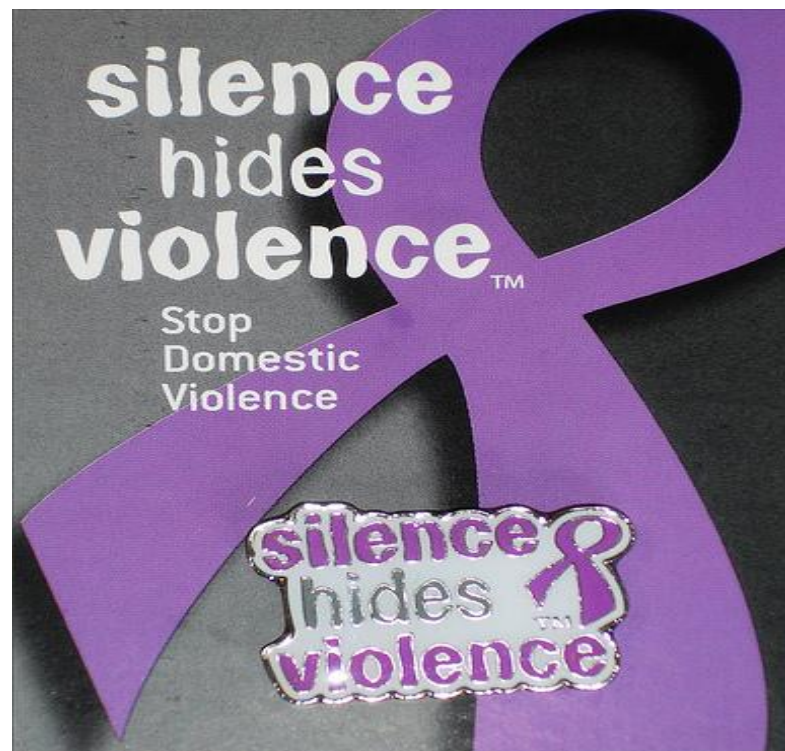
Know Your Faith

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AND MARITAL VOWS

“I can’t take this abuse any more but I don’t know if leaving will compromise my promise to take my spouse for better or for worse?”

This question is often not the common question parishioners take to their pastors. Even within the family, this question and the issues surrounding it is often ‘swept under the rug’ and tagged “family secret.” As a result, pastors often do not touch on it. In some other cases, pastors deny such issues ever exist within the families of their church community.

Through the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, in *When I Call for Help: A Pastoral Response to Domestic Violence against Women*, once again acknowledges the existence of the evil of domestic violence against women in our communities, and within our individual parish families in particular. The bishops continue to stress the fact that violence, in any form, against women is unjust and sinful. This does not downplay violence against men, but, women and children are more at risk of domestic violence than men. As such they advised, “The person being assaulted needs to know that acting to end the abuse does not violate the marriage promises”. They strongly recommend, “no person is expected to stay in an abusive marriage”. “Violence and abuse, not divorce, break up a marriage,” they added. The bishops encouraged victims not to be ashamed of seeking pastoral help from their pastors. They also charged pastors with the responsibility of paying utmost attention to cases of domestic violence brought to their attention and provide pastoral help as needed.



THOUGHTS & REMINDERS

Keep In Prayer Our...

Ill & Homebound Parishioners

Mrs. Delores Battle Mrs. Delores Isom
 Mr. William Lucas Mrs. Reola Juzang
 Mrs. Theresa Gulley Mr. James Thomas
 Mr. & Mrs. Allen Hickman Little Christen Roberson

(Please sign the Healing Prayer Book to list ill and/or homebound parishioners)

Sacrament of Matrimony

Any parishioner seeking marriage must contact the Pastor at least six (6) months prior to the desired wedding date.

Baptism

Parents desiring baptism for their children are encouraged to contact the pastor at least two weeks in advance to arrange for the required preparation class for parents and godparents.

Mass of Christian Burial

When a funeral is to be celebrated, please contact the Pastor before contacting the funeral home. Funerals are not permitted on Sundays or Holy Days of Obligation.

READINGS FOR MASS

Third Week of Advent



December 23-29, 2013

MON 30	First Reading: 1 John 2:12-17 Gospel: Luke 2:36-40
TUE 31	First Reading: 1 John 2:18-21 Gospel: John 1:1-18
WED 01	First Reading: Numbers 6:22-27 Second Reading: Galatians 4:4-7 Gospel: Luke 2:16-21
THU 02	First Reading: 1 John 2:22-28 Gospel: John 1:19-28
FRI 03	First Reading: 1 John: 2:29 -3:6 Gospel: John 1:29-34
SAT 04	First Reading: 1 John 3:7-10 Gospel: John 1:35-42
SUN 05	Solemnity Of the Epiphany of the Lord First Reading: Isaiah 60:1-6 Second Reading: Ephesians 3:2-3A, 5-6 Gospel: Matthew 2:1 -12

ARCHDIOCESAN NEWS

NEW LAW PROVIDES SCHOLARSHIPS FOR CHILDREN AND TAX CREDITS FOR SUPPORTERS:

Individuals and corporations can receive dollar for dollar tax credits for contributions to approved Scholarship Granting Organizations, effectively directing their tax dollars to fund scholarships for low income K-12 students who want to transfer out of failing public schools in Alabama. Through this program the financial barriers of tuition can be lowered or erased, allowing these families the freedom to choose the education that they feel works best for their children. For more info, see the December 6th issue of the *Catholic Week*. Help a needy child attend a Catholic School.

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHRISTMAS SEASON MASS SCHEDULE

NEW YEAR'S EVE – 6: 30 p.m.
 NEW YEAR'S DAY – 9:30 a.m.

ALABAMA GOT SISTERS/NUN RUN – January 24-25, 2014. A point to point excursion for single women ages 18-40 to visit Sisters’ homes/convents throughout Mobile. At each stop enjoy the Sisters’ cooking as you learn first-hand how each Community is making a difference for the people in the Mobile area and beyond. The event begins on Friday at 5:45 p.m. and concludes at 8:30 p.m. on Saturday. Contact Sr. Theresa Sullivan, DC at 812-963-7563 or email SisterTheresa.Sullivan@doc.org

BROTHER JOSEPH will be leaving us this Saturday, January 4. Please pray for him as he journeys back to DC and continues his seminarian formation.

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING – Tuesday, January 7, 2014 at 6:00 p.m. in the parish hall.

RAFFLE – The Media/Public Relations Ministry will raffle a “Basket of Cheer” today after Mass at the Carroll Coffee Café, tickets are \$1.00.

MOST PURE HEART OF MARY – BINGO, every Friday night. Doors open at 6:00 pm., games begin at 7:00 pm. Help save our school!

PRAYER INTENTION CARDS are now located in the Vestibule of the Church.

Our Community Life Committee is asking for clothing donations for the **WINTER CLOTHING & BLANKET DRIVE** for Catholic Social Service.

