

*The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph*  
*December 31, 2017*

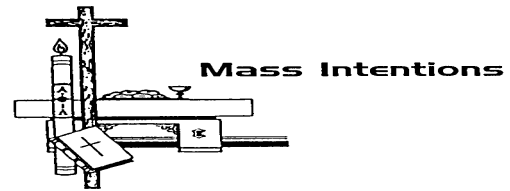
*The differing treatment of men and women in scriptural passages often presents difficulties today. It helps to consider that society was quite different two thousand years ago. But Saint Paul's Letter to the Colossians has wonderful guidance, directed to women and men alike: be gentle and patient, compassionate and forgiving. Act out of love, the love the Lord has shown to us. Sirach's words as well are instructive to any age: revere and comfort your mother and father. One word that appears in both readings is kindness, truly a quality to show to our sisters and brothers in any era.*

*The alternative readings today emphasize the patience and obedience of Abraham and Sarah and God's faithfulness in fulfilling the promise made to Abraham. Sarah and Abraham continued to believe that they would have countless descendants, despite all evidence to the contrary. Moreover, after Sarah bore a child in her old age, Abraham was willing to sacrifice him in obedience to God, so strong was his faith that God would keep this promise. Abraham "reasoned that God was able to raise even the dead" (Hebrews 11:19). To Abraham the idea that Isaac would somehow be restored to life was more believable than that God would break a promise.*

*Patience and faithfulness also characterize the two elderly Jewish people we meet in the Gospel. Simeon and Anna are each portrayed as extremely devout, virtually in God's house. For years they patiently prayed in the temple in Jerusalem every day. When encountering the boy Jesus, they each immediately recognized the Savior of the world. Simeon, believing that he would not die until he has seen the Christ, pray to God, "Now, Master, you may let your servant go in peace" (Luke 2:29). Their patience and faithfulness have been rewarded. Just seeing Jesus was enough.*

**Question of the Week**

*Do I display the attributes described in today's readings when relating to my own family? As we all brothers and sisters in Christ, do I show these qualities in my relations with friends, coworkers, and strangers?*



**Saturday, December 30, 2018**

**Vigil of The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph**

**4:00p.m.** Darrell and Elodie Gabriel – Francis Hai Cao – Joseph Ngan Cao and Mary Pham – Ellsworth McKendall – Leonard Belton – Bruce Gabriel – Lorrie Truxcello – Jesse Hall & Parent

**Sunday, December 31, 2018**

**The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph**

**8:30a.m.** Darrell & Elodie Gabriel – Francis Hai Cao – Joseph Ngan Cao & Mary Pham – Earthy B. Lazard – Calvin Tate – Walter Banks, III – Lawrence Miller, Jr. – Leopold Schwarkhart, Sr. – Melvina Kepp – Bruce Gabriel – Nathaniel Wilson, Sr. – Joseph Nguyen – Lawrence Miller, Jr. - France Obioha

**10:30a.m.** Lamar and Shirley Smith – Lourdes Glapion Nix – Charles Breaud, Sr. – Frank Richard, Jr. – Albert Pierre – Alcina Sampson – Fred & Dorothy Johnson – Intentions of Carmen Hicks – Kinney Family

**12:00p.m.** Harold Broussard, Sr. – Intentions of Joseph Simms, Jr. – Parishioners of St. Maria Goretti Parish

**Monday, January 1, 2018**

**8:30a.m.** Mr. & Mrs. Charles Winchell, Sr. – Joseph Ngan Cao & Mary Pham – Francis Hai Cao – Joseph Nguyen – James St. Charles – Dorothy Maney – Fred & Rita Badie Ellsworth McKendall

**10:30a.m.** Intentions of Stacy Martin - Francis Obioha

**12:00p.m.** Alcina & Peter Sampson – Glenn Gilyot

**Tuesday, December 2, 2018**

**8:30a.m.** Joseph Ngan Cao & Mary Pham – Francis Hai Cao – Joseph Nguyen – Leon Toledano - Intentions of Joseph Simms, Jr.

**Wednesday, December 3, 2018**

**8:30a.m.** Joseph Cong Cao – Peter and Mary Kham Nguyen – Joseph Ngan Cao and Mary Pham – Francis Hai Cao – Joseph Nguyen

**Thursday, December 4, 2018**

**8:30a.m.** Joseph Ngan Cao & Mary Pham – Francis Hai Cao – Joseph Nguyen

**Friday, December 5, 2018**

**8:30a.m.** Joseph Ngan Cao & Mary Pham – Francis Hai Cao – Joseph Nguyen – Intentions of Joseph Simms, Jr.

**Saturday, January 6, 2018**

**8:30a.m.** Joseph Nguyen – The Living and Deceased Benefactor of the Catholic Negro American Mission.



### Announcements

“To be near God is my happiness, to place my hope in God the Lord.” Eucharistic Adoration Monday - Friday, 9:00a.m. – 12:00 Noon and Saturdays, 12:00 noon – 3:00pm. Eucharistic Adoration will resume January 2, 2018.

#### Bible Study

The Bible Study theme for the Season of Advent is: “**What are you looking for?**” For each week in Advent a weekly theme, based on the Gospel for that Sunday, will be the focus of our meditation for that week. The theme for the Fourth Sunday in Advent is: “**Are you looking for Grace?**” The focus for this week is on undeserved benefits. What do the words “full of grace” mean in the Hail Mary? What is the meaning of the Birth of Jesus Christ? Are the Sacraments vehicles for God’s Grace? This Bible Study is based on the readings for the Fourth Sunday in Advent. Reading I: 2 Samuel 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16; Reading II: Romans 16:25-27; Gospel: Luke 1:26-38. AND Christmas Mass at dawn Gospel Lk 2:15-20. This Bible Study can be found on the parish. Join us on Monday January 8, 2018 in the Center at 7p.m.

### New Year’s Day

**Monday, January 1, 2018**  
**Masses: 8:30a.m., 10:30a.m. and 12 noon**

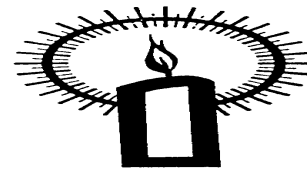


Thursdays, 8:00p.m. in the Center where you might win and have some fun with friends & family.

#### RCIA

The St. Maria Goretti (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) has begun. Registration forms can be found in the rear of the Church or by contacting a RCIA team member. This week’s Session is a continuation of a discussion of how God reveals Himself to us entitled: **All things Mary: What do the words “full of grace” mean in the hail Mary? Why is Mary mentioned in the creeds of the Catholic Church? Where did the rosary come from? What does the birth of Jesus mean to you?** For more information contact the RCIA Team: Deacon Terrel J. Broussard, Sheila Thompson, Byron Martin, Harold Broussard, or any member of the RCIA Team or by email at [tbroussard@sngnola.com](mailto:tbroussard@sngnola.com), or visit the website at [www.sngnola.com](http://www.sngnola.com). There will be no Sessions on December 26, 2017. Sessions will resume on January 2, 2018.

We welcome everyone into our parish. If you have not filled out a census card, the cards can be found on the table at the entrance of the church



*Sanctuary Lamp*

The Sanctuary Lamp in the Church for this week will burn in memory of Wilbert F. Billinger. The Sanctuary Lamps in the chapel this week will burn in memory of Alcina Sampson & Marisa Demasiliere.

## *This Week in our Parish*

#### Monday, January 1, 2017

6:00p.m. Exercise Class – Center

#### Tuesday, January 2, 2017

7:00p.m. First Place Class – Rm. 10

#### Wednesday, January 3, 2017

9:00a.m. UNTO – Center & Kitchen

6:00p.m. Exercise Class – Center

7:00p.m. Catholic Men’s Fellowship - Library

#### Thursday, January 4, 2017

6:00p.m. Bingo - Center

#### Friday, January 5, 2017

6:00p.m. Men’s Rosary for Peace - Chapel

#### Saturday, January 5, 2017

2:00p. m. Altar Society Meeting – Rms 3 & 4

7:00p.m. Filipino Ministry - Rms. 3 & 4

