

FAMILIA

NEWSLETTER

Weekend Masses

Weekend Masses are offered on Saturday afternoon at 4:00 pm and on Sunday morning at 9:00 am in the main church.

Weekday Masses

Weekday Masses are offered in the sacristy chapel on Wednesdays at 4:00 pm and Fridays at 12:00 noon.

Rosary

The Rosary is prayed every Sunday before 9:00 am Mass.

Confession

Every Saturday at 3:00 pm.

First Saturdays

First Saturday Mass is offered in the main church at 12 noon. Confessions at 11:00 am with Rosary at 11:30 am.

From the Desk of Father David Jenuwine

Dear Parish Family,

Merry Christmas! Even though Christmas was last Wednesday, we are still in the Octave of Christmas. This weekend we celebrate our parish Feast Day - the Feast of the Holy Family. Let us pray for each other, that our families may share in the graces and joys of the Holy Family - Jesus, Mary, and Joseph.

I've tried to keep up with Christmas Cards to those of you who included me in your list this year. Thank you! Special thanks to those of you who baked cookies and treats (which I re-gifted to my very grateful Dad!), and for the gift cards and other generous gifts.

January 22nd is the 41st Annual March for Life. Our diocese sends a couple of busloads of youth and adults to Washington D.C. for this event. Please pray for their safe journey, and pray that we might build a culture where life is respected from conception to natural death.

Coming up, we will host Dr. John Bergsma, a noted speaker, Bible scholar, and father of eight. He will give two talks on February 4th and 5th on the subject of "Bible Basics." John taught me

Hebrew and New Testament in graduate school. The event is free of charge. Please mark your calendars and spread the word.

God bless you, and Happy New Year!

Fr. DAVID



The Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God is a liturgical feast of the Blessed Virgin Mary honoring her divine motherhood to Jesus Christ. It is celebrated by the Catholic Church on January 1st, the Octave day of Christmas. This day is a Holy Day of Obligation. We will have Mass at Holy Family at noon on Wednesday, January 1st.



The Octave of Christmas

The word is derived from Latin *octava* (eighth), with *dies* (day) understood. The term is applied to the whole period of eight days after certain major feasts.

The Church celebrates two octaves during the Liturgical Year. These are the eight days after Christmas and Easter.

The first eight days of the Easter Season make up the octave of Easter and are celebrated as solemnities of the Lord, with proper readings and prayers. Since 30 April 2000, the "Second Sunday of Easter," which concludes the Easter Octave, is called Divine Mercy Sunday.

The Christmas Octave is arranged as follows:

26 December: feast of Saint Stephen

27 December: feast of John the Apostle

28 December: feast of the Holy Innocents

29 Sunday within the octave: feast of the Holy Family;

30-31 December: days within the octave

1 January, octave day of the Nativity; Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God with assigned readings and prayers. When Christmas is a Sunday, the feast of the Holy Family is celebrated on December 30.

The term "octave" is applied to some church observances that are not strictly liturgical. For example, many churches observe an annual "Octave of Prayer for Christian Unity", which runs from 18 January to 25 January. This title has tended to be replaced by "Week of Prayer for Christian Unity", but it is still often referred to as an octave



Bible Basics for Catholics

Dr. John Bergsma - February 4th, 5th

Dr. John Bergsma holds M.Div. and Th.M. degrees from Calvin Seminary, Grand Rapids, Michigan, and served as a Protestant pastor for four years before entering the Catholic Church in 2001 while pursuing a Ph.D. in Theology from the University of Notre Dame.

*Dr. Bergsma presents a fresh, fun, and authentically Catholic introduction to the "big picture" of Salvation History. He has appeared as a guest on EWTN's *The Journey Home*, *Franciscan University Presents*, and *Relevant Radio's Drew Mariani Show*.*



Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity began in 1908 as the Octave of Christian Unity, and focused on prayer for church unity. The dates of the week were proposed by Father Paul Wattson, cofounder of the Graymoor Franciscan Friars. The week begins on the Feast of the Confession of Peter, the Protestant variant of the ancient Feast of the Chair of Saint Peter, on 18 January, and concludes with the Feast of the Conversion of Saint Paul on 25 January.

Pope Pius X officially blessed the concept, and Benedict XV "encouraged its observance throughout the entire Roman Catholic Church." For a time, the observance was renamed the "Chair of Unity Octave" to emphasize the relationship between Christian unity and the Chair of Peter, that is, the Pope.