



St. Francis de Sales Catholic Church

Traditional Latin Mass Parish of Southern Maryland

Rev. Kevin M. Cusick

Pastor

mcitl.blogspot.com@gmail.com

7185 Benedict Avenue
Post Office Box 306
Benedict, MD 20612-0306
Office: 301.274.3416
Fax: 301.274.0689
www.stfrancisbenedict.org

XXVI.XII.MMXXI

S. Stephani Protomartyris

26 December A.D. 2021

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



From the Pastor

A Merry Christmas to all members of our parish family, young and old, new and well-known. May the Lord bless you abundantly with His peace and joy, which truly became our gift for the first time on the holy night upon which He was born. May He give you the same gifts every time you receive Him in the Holy Eucharist, our "Peace on Earth" Thank you for your generous support of prayer, time, talent and treasure all year through. May the Lord reward you now and eternally.

We welcome Fr Nichols, SJ on Wednesday as I take some time away. God love you,

Oration for Christmas

V. O Lord, hear my prayer.

R. And let my cry come unto thee.

Let us pray.

*G*rant, we beseech thee, almighty God, that the new birth of thy Only-begotten Son as man may set us free, who are held by the old bondage under the yoke of sin.

*T*hrough the same Jesus Christ, thy Son, Our Lord, Who liveth and reigneth with thee in the unity of the Holy Ghost, God, world without end.

R. Amen.

The Twelve Days of Christmas

Here in the United States, when we hear the phrase "The Twelve Days of Christmas" we usually think of the famous English Christmas Carol by that name.



But the song itself is actually referring to the 12 days of joyful celebration observed by Catholics in honor of the holy Nativity of Our Redeemer, the Christ Child.

To help restore the Christian spirit of celebrating the season of Christmas—which begins with the Midnight Mass, not Thanksgiving Day—continue the activities of feasting, inviting guests to visit, gift-giving and greeting others with the joy of Christmas through the Solemnity of the Epiphany.

Sanctuary Lamp

In Memory of Perrie Bassford

The Holy Gospel for Christmas

From the Holy Gospel according to Luke

Luke 2:1-14

At that time, it came to pass that there went out a decree from Caesar Augustus, that the whole world should be enrolled. And so on.

Homily by Pope St. Gregory (the Great)

8th on the Gospels

By God's mercy we are to say three Masses today, so that there is not much time left for preaching; but at the same time the occasion of the Lord's Birthday itself obliges me to speak a few words. I will first ask why, when the Lord was to be born, the world was enrolled? Was it not to herald the appearing of Him by Whom the elect are enrolled in the book of life? Whereas the Prophet saith of the reprobate: Let them be blotted out of the book of the living, and not be written with the righteous. *Ps. lxxviii. 29.* Then, the Lord is born in Bethlehem. Now the name Bethlehem signifieth the House of Bread, and thus it is the birth-place of Him Who hath said: I am the Living Bread, Which came down from heaven. *John vi. 51.* We see then that this name of Bethlehem was prophetically given to the place where Christ was born, because it was there that He was to appear in the flesh by Whom the souls of the faithful are fed unto life eternal. He was born, not in His Mother's house, but away from home. And this is a mystery, showing that this our mortality into which He was born was not the home of Him Who is begotten of the Father before the worlds.

Unto us a Child is born, unto us a Son is given

"It is the Son of God, God begotten of the Father in the one day of eternity (*Ego hodie genui te—* This day have I begotten thee), who is now born into the world. As it was at midnight that our Lady brought her first-born Son into the world and laid Him in a cradle, so the first of the three Christmas Masses is celebrated in the stillness of midnight.

"With great devotion," says St. Leo, "has the Incarnate Word given Himself to win for us the fight against Satan, for not in His divine Majesty but in the weakness of our flesh He waged war against this cruel enemy". "The victory which He has gained, in spite of His weakness, shows Him to be God. It is God of God, Light of Light," (Credo) who disperses the darkness of sin. "Christ is the true Light who comes to enlighten the world, plunged in darkness" (Collect). "By the mystery of the Word made Flesh," says the Preface, "the light of Thy glory hath shone anew ... " *Dom Gaspar Lefebvre*

"Saint Francis de Sales Catholic Church" is now on Facebook. "Like" us today!

Stewardship Last Sunday:

Offertory: \$1569.00
 Parish use/restricted:
 \$905.00
 Christmas \$1324.00
 Website Paypal portal wkly
 avg: \$200
 Maintenance labor/supplies:
 \$300.00
 Fuel \$210.00
 Christmas Flowers \$220.00

-Thank you for your generosity

Pray for our ill, hospitalized, those undergoing medical care and homebound: Irving Chappellear, Dorothy Hume, Ray Stublarec, Neal Sullivan, Miles and Elizabeth Torreyson, Eleanor Vaughn, Daniel Rodriguez, Paul Custer, and Jerome and Jean Malsack.

Please call the rectory at 301-274-3416 or contact Father Cusick at cusickk@adw.org to arrange for him to visit any homebound, ill or hospitalized parishioners or family members.

Rite of Christian Initiation - Adult Faith Formation Classes

Classes for adults seeking to enter the Church are scheduled by our faith formation director Aaron Percich. Email him to start formation: aaron.percich@comcast.net. Pick up a copy of the weekly Wanderer Newspaper available in church and see the "B" section for a basic adult catechetical resource.

Children's Faith Formation

Our Church teaches that parents are the first teachers in the ways of Faith for all of our young people. No one has more power or responsibility before God for witnessing to our children of the fact of the Lord's Resurrection and His presence in our lives through the Church. Those parents who wish to augment home school with parish faith formation are asked to contact the parish office.

Families must be attending Sunday Mass throughout the year before children can receive first sacraments.

Holy Sweepers for the weeks of December 19 and 26

Scarлата Family

Holy Sweepers are the families and individuals who graciously keep our church clean and tidy. They clean once a week, for a two week period, on a rotating basis. If you would like to be a Holy Sweeper, please contact the parish office.

Service on the Altar

Training for all current and prospective members of the Society of Saints Aloysius and Alphonsus (SSAA) altar boy society will be held on the first Saturday of each month after the 9:00 am Mass.

All interested boys and men are invited to please contact Jamieson Scarлата at 1619surfer@gmail.com

UPCOMING:

- ProLife prayers every second Saturday of the month from 10-11 am at Waldorf Planned Parenthood, 3975 St. Charles Parkway, Gateway Plaza, 20602

Mass Schedule and Intentions this Week

Sunday	26 Dec	8:00 am	†Bishop Eugene Marino	S. Stephani Protomartyris
		9:00 am*	<i>Pro pópulo</i>	Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, & Joseph
		11:00 am	†A Lois Joyce	
Monday	27 Dec	9:00 am	†Kevin Tettimer	S John, Apostle & Evangelist
Tuesday	28 Dec	**	†Marian Goldsmith	The Holy Innocents
Wednesday	29 Dec	6:00 pm	†Morris Goldsmith	<i>Adoration/Confessions</i>
		7:00 pm	†Touhey/Kuhn Family	S Thomas Becket
Thursday	30 Dec	**	†Margaret Welch	Sunday within the Octave (transferred)
Friday	31 Dec	**	William Radosevich	S Sylvester
Saturday	1 Jan	9:00 am	†Anna Maria Radosevich	The Circumcision of Our Lord
Sunday	2 Jan	8:00 am	Mickey Morelli	The Most Holy Name of Jesus
		9:00 am*	<i>Pro pópulo</i>	The Epiphany of Our Lord
		11:00 am	†Hurley Family	

* Mass in English **Father away - no public Mass

If you would like to have a Mass offered, you may email meitl.blogspot.com@gmail.com, stop by the parish office during regular business hours, drop a note in the collection basket or see Father after Mass. The customary offering for a Mass, per Archdiocesan guidelines, is \$10.00.

Staff

Bookkeeper: Mr. Dennis Haspert

Choir: Miss Jenni Scarлата

Director of Liturgy/Secretary/Bulletin: Mr. Stephen Krautle

Hall and Grounds: Mrs. Donna and Mr. Mark Long

Parish Council President: Mr. Sid Marcus

Physical Plant/Maintenance: Mr. Jamie Scarлата

dennishaspert@yahoo.com

rockyphoenix13@gmail.com

sjkrautle@gmail.com

markboat55@yahoo.com

somarcus1@verizon.net

1619surfer@gmail.com

Mass and Sacrament Schedule

Traditional Latin Mass: Sundays 8 am & 11 am

Weekdays: Mon 9 am, Wed 7 pm, Thurs-Sat 9 am

Holy Days: 8 am, 7 pm

English: Sundays 9 am, **Holy Days** 6 pm

Confessions offered prior to all weekend Masses

Baptisms and Marriages: By appointment 6 months in advance. **Bulletin Deadline:** Two Thursdays prior to the date of publication. Send to sjkrautle@gmail.com or call the rectory at 301-274-3416.

New Parishioners: Welcome! Please complete a registration form, available in the back of the church and also at <https://www.stfrancisbenedict.org/registration-form/>. You may email it, return it to Father, or drop it in the collection basket.