



**St. Monica  
Catholic Church  
(Est. 1858)**

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



***Happy Family Days!***



I pray your Christmas is still beautiful. This Sunday we celebrate the Holy Family and all families. We need these blessings in today's

environment.

If you are visiting St. Monica or St. John's this weekend, we hope that you are inspired and know that you are loved. Thank you for being with us. We only have one collection at our parish and we attempt to give away 10% to the needy and the poor. Thank you for your generous stewardship. Please keep us in your prayers and love.

Christmas comes from two words: *Christ & Mass*. So we get to celebrate "Christmass" all year long, the gift from God that keeps on giving.

Father Pablo and I wish you a most wonderful, spiritual, new and Blessed New Year.

*And over all these put on love, that is, the bond of perfection.*

*And let the peace of Christ control your hearts, the peace into which you were also called in one body.*

*And be thankful.*

Open the wonderful gifts that God has anointed you with.

Let us take time in prayer to be "present" to the gift of Jesus and each other. Love one another.

Love, joy, peace,  
Father Ron +



**BEARERS OF THE WORD**

The Church has placed a number of notable feast days immediately after Christmas. The feasts of Stephen, John the Evangelist, and the Holy Innocents form a summary of the life lived in Christ, the Word made flesh. What do these have to do with the feast of the Holy Family, which crowns the Octave of Christmas? These feasts remind us that suffering will occur in fulfilling the mission of Christ, and that we are all called to be bearers of this Word whose birth we celebrate.

We also see this manifested in the lives of Joseph and Mary, both of whom took social and religious risks in obedience to the will of God, and both of whom were open to the word of God sent to them from on high. In these ways they prefigured the life of Jesus himself. Most likely, few of us found ourselves at Mass this past Tuesday, Wednesday, or Thursday, but the essence of these feasts and the essence of the holiness of Joseph, Mary, and Jesus remain central, a holiness we celebrate today.

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**Website: stmonicacatholicchurch.com**  
**Facebook: St. Monica Church, Palatka**

**MASS SCHEDULE**

**Saturday Vigil** 4:30 p.m.  
**Sunday** 9:00 a.m.

**Weekday Masses - 8:30 a.m.**  
**First Friday Adoration/Sacred Heart Devotion**  
**and Other Fridays Holy Hour - 9:00 a.m.**  
**First Saturday Mass with the Anointing of the Sick 10:00 a.m.**  
**Holy Day Masses**  
8 a.m. and 7:00 p.m.

**Confessions - Saturday: 3:30 p.m. to 4:15 - Or by Appointment**

**Those needing "Anointing of the Sick" or in need of a Priest, please call these telephone numbers only:**

**During Business Hours: Parish Office - 325-9777  
After Business Hours : 904-994-6803**

**Please call the Parish Office to let us know if a parishioner is hospitalized, seriously ill or homebound so that a Priest can visit and anoint them.**

### Baptism Reminder!

Individuals or families must be registered Parishioners and attending Mass for six months before requesting the Baptism of a baby.

#### Next Week's Mass Intentions

Sat.	12/30	4:30 p.m.	+ Father Joseph Finley
<b>Sun.</b>	<b>12/31</b>	<b>9:00 a.m.</b>	<b>Parishioners</b>
<b>Mon.</b>	<b>01/01</b>	<b>9:00 a.m.</b>	<b>The Solemnity of Mary</b>
Tue.	01/02	8:30 a.m.	Living members of Barady & Clementine Family
Wed.	01/03	8:30 a.m.	+ Miguel Dejuk Yunis
Thur.	01/04	8:30 a.m.	+ Deceased members of the Brady & Clementine Family
Fri.	01/05	8:30 a.m.	+ Mons Santiago Guanlao
Sat.	01/06	4:30 p.m.	+ James Hall

Due to bulletin deadlines, the offertory for December 24th will be in next weeks bulletin.

Thank you

#### Office Hours PARISH OFFICE

**Phone: 386-325-9777 • Fax: 386-329-1960**  
Mon., Wed., Thur., and Fri. 9:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.  
Tuesday 1:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.  
114 South 4th Street  
Palatka, Florida 32177

Nancy Tatum, Pastoral Administrator  
Cheryl Carr, Receptionist  
Diane Mutchie, Stewardship Pastoral Associate  
Lorenzo Delacruz, Church Sexton

**Attention**—The Diocese of Saint Augustine treats all allegations of sexual misconduct seriously and deals with all allegations in a prompt, confidential and thorough manner. To Report Abuse, call: Diocesan Victim Assistance Coordinator 904-262-3200, ext. 129, or the Department of Children and Families at 1-800-96-Abuse (800-962-2873).



Jesus is Mary's only son, but her spiritual motherhood extends to all humanity. The Son whom she brought forth from her womb is the first born among many and her cooperation with God's plan gives us a model for our own yes to God's plan. CCC #501

### Prayer to the

## Holy Family

Jesus, Mary and Joseph,  
in you we contemplate the splendour of true love,  
to you we turn with trust.

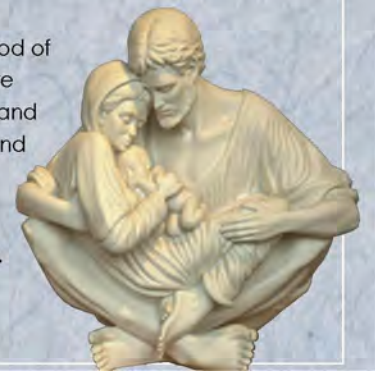
Holy Family of Nazareth, grant that our families too  
may be places of communion and prayer,  
authentic schools of the Gospel  
and small domestic Churches.

Holy Family of Nazareth, may families never again  
experience violence, rejection and division:  
may all who have been hurt or scandalized  
find ready comfort and healing.

Holy Family of Nazareth,  
may the approaching Synod of  
Bishops make us once more  
mindful of the sacredness and  
inviolability of the family, and  
its beauty in God's plan.

Jesus, Mary and Joseph,  
graciously hear our prayer.  
Amen.

~ Pope Francis



### St. Johns the Evangelist Interlachen All are Welcome

#### Mass Schedule

Wednesday 6:00 p.m.  
Friday 6:00 p.m.  
Sunday 11:30 a.m.

#### Social after Sunday Mass

#### Confessions

Sunday 11:00 a.m.

#### Bible Study

Wednesday 4:30 p.m.

# Here's What's Happening!

**January 1, 2018 - 9:00 a.m. Solemnity of Mary**  
**January 1, 2018 - Parish office closed**

**January 4, 2018 - Mobile Food Pantry**

**January 5, 2018 - St. Monica Fish Dinner**

**January 9, 2018 - Into the Deep,**  
**Bible Study**  
**with Father Ron, 6:00 p.m.**

**January 13, 2018 - Day of Reflection, more**  
**information to follow**



**January 9, 2017**  
**6:00 p.m.**

**Queen of Peace**  
**Gainesville**

**Clarence Keiser**

**Stephany Foster**

**Jim Wigand**

*May your Holy Spirit help them to grow  
in faith, hope, and love,  
so they may know peace, truth, and goodness.*



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## TODAY'S READINGS

**First Reading** — Those who honor their parents will be greatly blessed and will atone for sins (Sirach 3:2-6, 12-14) *or* *Genesis 15:1-6; 21:1-3.*

**Psalms** — Blessed are those who fear the Lord and walk in his ways (Psalm 128) *or* *Psalms 105.*

**Second Reading** — Be thankful; do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus (Colossians 3:12-21 [12-17]) *or* *Hebrews 11:8, 11-12, 17-19.*

**Gospel** — The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom (Luke 2:22-40 [22, 39-40]).

The English translation of the Psalm Responses from *Lectionary for Mass* © 1969, 1981, 1997, International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved.

## READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Nm 6:22-27; Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8; Gal 4:4-7; Lk 2:16-21

Tuesday: 1 Jn 2:22-28; Ps 98:1-4; Jn 1:19-28

Wednesday: 1 Jn 2:29 — 3:6; Ps 98:1, 3cd-6; Jn 1:29-34

Thursday: 1 Jn 3:7-10; Ps 98:1, 7-9; Jn 1:35-42

Friday: 1 Jn 3:11-21; Ps 100:1b-5; Jn 1:43-51

Saturday: 1 Jn 5:5-13; Ps 147:12-15, 19-20;

Mk 1:7-11 *or* Lk 3:23-28 [23, 31-34, 36, 38]

Sunday: Is 60:1-6; Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-13;

Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6; Mt 2:1-12

## TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

There's no more unusual setting to celebrate today's Feast of the Holy Family than Barcelona, Spain and the towering unfinished sandcastle known officially as the Temple Expiatori de la Sagrada Familia. In 1882, the plan was hatched to build a vast place of worship in reparation for the revolutionary and liberal leanings of the city. The modern artist Antoni Gaudi dedicated his life to the project, living in the building, attending Mass daily, and giving up his personal wealth. When people pressed him to pick up the pace, he responded, "My client is not in a hurry." (Gaudi's cause for beatification is moving along, and he could be the first professional artist and architect to be beatified.) The Spanish Civil War, a disaster for the Catholic Church in which thousands of priests, brothers, and nuns were murdered, halted work in 1935. In the 1950s work began anew, speeded up by computers in the 1980s. Still, the final stage of construction is not due to end until 2026. If the original methods had stayed in place, it would take several hundred more years to complete the plan. So far there are eight towers, with four to go. The highest steeple is three feet shorter than the nearest hill, since the architect didn't want his work to surpass God's artistry. The three faces of the basilica each have three doors, with the faces named Passion, Nativity, and Grace. The interior is crammed with geometric figures that almost seem to spin, crazy-quilt windows, spiral staircases, and jumbles of statues and figures. Although inspired by ancient Gothic cathedrals, the style is called Expressionist, and very little is left unexpressed by the masonry. If you can't afford a visit, Sagrada Familia maintains a web site, and virtual visits are free.

—Rev. James Field, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.



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