

# LITURGICAL CALENDAR & INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

**SUNDAY MASS:** 6.15pm (Saturday Vigil), 8.30am, 9.45am (Family) & 11.15 noon (Solemn), 5.30pm,  
**WEEKDAY MASS:** Monday – Friday 9.30am, **HOLIDAYS OF OBLIGATION:** 9.30am, 8.00pm,  
**EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION:** Saturday 5.15-6.00pm **RECONCILIATION/CONFESSIONS:** Saturday 5.15pm -  
 6.00pm and any time by appointment, **DIVINE MERCY:** Tuesday 10.30am **FRIENDS OF JESUS:** Friday  
 5.30pm.

W	Sun	29 Dec	<b>HOLY FAMILY Vigil</b>	6.15pm	Anastasia Evngalatou RIP
				8.30 am	PEOPLE OF THE PARISH
				9.45 am	Joan Longuet RIP (7th Anniv)
				11.15am	Oscar Vassau RIP
				5.30pm	Patricia Alice Brady RIP
W	Mon	30 Dec	6th Octave of Christmas	9.30am	Tommy Duffy RIP
W	Tues	31 Dec	7th Octave of Christmas	9.30am	Billy O'Rourke RIP
W	Weds	1 Jan	<b>MARY MOTHER OF GOD</b>	12 noon	Patrick Shields RIP
W	Thur	2 Jan	Ss. Basil & Gregory Naz.	9.30am	Maura Sheehan RIP
W	Fri	3 Jan	Holy Name of Jesus	9.30am	Hannah Doyle Intentions
W	Sat	4 Jan	Christmas feria	9.30am	Giulio Zucconi RIP

**SANCTUARY Lamp** has been sponsored this week In Memory of Fr. MICHAEL CREMIN RIP  
**OUR LADY OF WALSINGHAM Lamp** has been sponsored In Memory of MARY & JAMES GRIFFIN RIP  
**ROSARY AT HOME**—The statue of Our Lady of Fatima will be at the home of CLAUDETTE EVANS.

## Sunday reflection

Like all godly parents, Joseph and Mary raised the child Jesus in the fear and wisdom of the Lord. Joseph was given a unique task as the guardian and protector of Mary and of Jesus. What can we learn from the example and witness of Joseph? Joseph is a man of God, a man of unquestioning obedience and willing service. He is a man of prayer and a man of God's word. Through faith he recognized the hand of God in the mystery of the Incarnation — the Son of God taking flesh as the son of Mary. Joseph is a man of

action, diligent in the care of his family and ready to do the Lord's bidding. Joseph fearlessly set aside his own plans when God called him to "take to the road" and to leave his familiar surroundings — his home, friends and relatives, and the security of his livelihood in order to pursue a hidden mission God entrusted to him as the guardian of the newborn King. God has a plan for each of us. With the plan God gives grace and the assurance of his guiding hand and care. This is Good News for a New Year!

**HOLY FAMILY OF NAZARETH,**  
 Make our family one with you. Help us to be instruments of peace. Grant that love, strengthened by grace, may prove mightier than all the weaknesses and trials through which our families sometimes pass. May we always have God at the centre of our hearts and homes until we are all one family, happy and at peace in our true home with you.  
 Amen.

Nazareth is a kind of school ....we learn from its silence. If only we could once again appreciate its great value. We need this wonderful state of mind, beset as we are by the cacophony of strident protests and conflicting claims so characteristic of these turbulent times. The silence of Nazareth should teach us how to meditate in peace and quiet, to reflect on the deeply spiritual, and to be open to the voice of God's inner wisdom and the counsel of his true teachers. Nazareth can teach us the value of study and preparation, of meditation, of a well-ordered personal spiritual life, and of silent prayer that is known only to God. **Pope Paul VI**



Sunday cycle of readings Year A  
 Weekday readings Christmas  
 Divine Office Christmastide

The Catholic Parish  
 of St George, Sudbury



Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> December 2019

## THE FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY (A)

Welcome to all at Mass today, especially to any visitors especially those who are here for the first time. Please take this sheet home with you which will tell you about this week's celebration and the activities during the week and also to remind you of our Liturgy today.

### TODAY'S MASS

#### "Christ in the human family"

God sets before us the Holy Family of Nazareth as a model for all families. The family unit is the basic structure on which the human society is built. A good Christian family life is a most powerful witness to our world of God's love for us revealed in Christ.



#### First Reading: *Ecclesiasticus 3:6; 12-14*

Jesus himself had considered the fourth commandment as of God: he honoured his father and his mother. Yet he did not know a 'long life' here on earth... For all its great worth the age old wisdom of Israel had been unable to see the folly of the Cross.

#### Second Reading: *Letter of St. Paul to the Colossians 3:12-21*

It would be foolish to resent St. Paul being a man of his own times, and his outline of relations between husband and wife, parents and children, in the perspectives of his own day and age. Far wiser to note the insistence on mutual forgiveness, which implies lowliness and respect for the 'other', innovations in his time. In general, peace is the fruit of forgiveness, and joy is born of peace.

#### Gospel: *Matthew 2:13-15; 19-23*

No emphasis on the miraculous or marvellous but the story of a child over whom God watches particularly, in a family at the mercy of the historical and political cross-currents of the time. In its ready response to the word of God, the holy family is a model for all Christian families.

**HAPPY NEW YEAR TO EVERYONE!**

# TODAY'S MASS

## **Entrance Antiphon** (*Lk 2: 16*)

The shepherds went in haste,  
and found Mary and Joseph and the Infant  
lying in a manger.

## **Collect**

O God, who were pleased to give us  
the shining example of the Holy Family,  
graciously grant that we may imitate them  
in practicing the virtues of family life  
and in the bonds of charity,  
and so, in the joy of your house,  
delight one day in eternal rewards.  
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,  
who lives and reigns with you in the unity  
of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, for ever and ever.

## **First Reading: 1 Samuel 1:20-22.24-28**

*Theme: Samuel is made over to the Lord for  
the whole of his life.*

Hannah conceived and gave birth to a son,  
and called him Samuel, since she said,  
I asked the Lord for him. When a year had  
gone by, the husband Elkanah went up  
again with all his family to offer the annual  
sacrifice to the Lord and to fulfil his vow.  
Hannah, however, did not go up, having  
said to her husband, Not before the child is  
weaned. Then I will bring him and present  
him before the Lord and he shall stay there  
for ever. When she had weaned him, she  
took him up with her together with a three-  
year-old bull, an ephah of flour and a skin  
of wine, and she brought him to the temple  
of the Lord at Shiloh; and the child was  
with them. They slaughtered the bull, and  
the child's mother came to Eli. She said, If

you please, my lord. As you live, my lord, I  
am the woman who stood here beside you,  
praying to the Lord. This is the child I  
prayed for, and the Lord granted me what I  
asked him. Now I make him over to the  
Lord for the whole of his life. He is made  
over to the Lord. There she left him, for the  
Lord.

## **Responsorial Psalm: 83**

R/. ***O Blessed are those who fear the  
Lord and walk in his ways!***

O blessed are those who fear the Lord  
and walk in his ways!  
By the labour of your hands you shall eat.  
You will be happy and prosper. **R/.**

Your wife like a fruitful vine  
in the heart of your house;  
Your children like shoots of the olive,  
around the your table. **R/.**

Indeed thus shall be blessed  
the man who fears the Lord.  
May the Lord bless you from Zion  
all the days of your life! **R/.**

## **Second Reading: 1 John 3:1-2.21-24**

*Theme: We are called God's children, and  
that is what we are.*

Think of the love that the Father has lav-  
ished on us,  
by letting us be called God's children;  
and that is what we are.  
Because the world refused to  
acknowledge him,  
therefore it does not acknowledge us.

My dear people, we are already the  
children of God  
but what we are to be in the future  
has not yet been revealed;  
all we know is, that when it is revealed  
we shall be like him  
because we shall see him as he really is.  
My dear people,  
if we cannot be condemned by our  
own conscience,  
we need not be afraid in God's presence,  
and whatever we ask him,  
we shall receive,  
because we keep his commandments  
and live the kind of life that he wants.  
His commandments are these:  
that we believe in the name of his Son  
Jesus Christ  
and that we love one another  
as he told us to.  
Whoever keeps his commandments  
lives in God and God lives in him.  
We know that he lives in us  
by the Spirit that he has given us.

## **Gospel Acclamation**

***Alleluia, alleluia!***  
***Open our heart, O Lord,***  
***to accept the words of your Son.***  
***Alleluia!***

## **Gospel: Matthew 2:13-15.19-23**

*Theme: Take the child and his mother and  
escape into Egypt.*

After the wise men had left, the angel of  
the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream  
and said, 'Get up, take the child and his  
mother with you, and escape into Egypt,  
and stay there until I tell you, because  
Herod intends to search for the child and  
do away with him.' So Joseph got up and,  
taking the child and his mother with him,

left that night for Egypt, where he stayed  
until Herod was dead. This was to fulfil  
what the Lord had spoken through the  
prophet:

I called my son out of Egypt.  
After Herod's death, the angel of the Lord  
appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt  
and said, 'Get up, take the child and his  
mother with you and go back to the land  
of Israel, for those who wanted to kill the  
child are dead.' So Joseph got up and, tak-  
ing the child and his mother with him,  
went back to the land of Israel. But when  
he learnt that Archelaus had succeeded  
his father Herod as ruler of Judaea he was  
afraid to go there, and being warned in a  
dream he left for the region of Galilee.  
There he settled in a town called Naz-  
areth. In this way the words spoken  
through the prophets were to be fulfilled:  
He will be called a Nazarene.

## **Prayer over the Offerings**

We offer you, Lord, the sacrifice of  
conciliation, humbly asking that, through  
the intercession of the Virgin Mother of  
God and Saint Joseph, you may establish  
our families firmly in your grace and your  
peace. Through Christ our Lord.

## **Communion Antiphon** (*Bar 3: 38*)

Our God has appeared on the earth, and  
lived among us.

## **Prayer after Communion**

Bring those you refresh with this heavenly  
Sacrament,  
most merciful Father,  
to imitate constantly the example of the  
Holy Family,  
so that, after the trials of this world,  
we may share their company for ever.  
Through Christ our Lord.