



Family Faith Formation News

Family Devotionals & Sacrament Schedule

Eucharistic Adoration

St. Anne's Chapel at
St. Louis Bertrand, Foreston
Monday from 8:00 a.m. until
Saturday at 7:00 a.m.

St. Mary's, Milaca following
Daily Mass each Thursday until
5:00 p.m. Except for the
Thursday before First Friday,
then Adoration closes after
Reconciliation at 5:45 p.m.

St. Kathryn's, Ogilvie one hour
following the Tuesday 7:00 a.m.
Daily Mass.

St. Mary's, Mora each Friday
from 7:30 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Reconciliation

Saturdays

Confession at 3:00 p.m. in
Foreston and after 6:00 p.m.
Mass in Ogilvie.

Sundays

Confession upon request before
Mass in Milaca and after Mass
in Mora.

Second Friday of Each Month

Confession at St. Mary's, Mora
from 7:30 a.m. to 8:30 a.m.

Thursday before First Friday

Confession at St. Mary's, Milaca
from 4:45 p.m. to 5:45 p.m.

Family Rosary

Sundays at St. Mary's, Milaca
at 6:00 p.m.

First Friday

Mass at St. Mary's, Mora each
First Friday at 7:00 a.m.

First Saturday

Rosary at 9:00 a.m. followed by
prayers and devotions on the
first Saturday of each month at
St. Mary's, Milaca.

"Know that I am with you all days
until the end of the world." (Mt. 28, 20)
"These are the words of Christ
Resurrected before ascending into
Heaven on the day of His
Ascension. Jesus Christ is indeed
the Emmanuel, God-with-us, from
His Incarnation until the end of
time. And He is in an especially
intensive and close way in the
mystery of His permanent
presence in the Eucharist."
(St. Pope John Paul II)



The first nine days of January fall during the liturgical season known as Christmas represented by the color white, a symbol of purity and joy. The remaining days begin Ordinary Time represented by the color green, a symbol of hope.

The Holy Name of Jesus

"Reverence for the Holy Name of our Lord, Jesus Christ, arose in the apostolic times. St. Paul in his Letter to the Philippians wrote, 'So that at Jesus' name every knee must bend in the heavens, on the earth and under the earth, and every tongue proclaim to the glory of God the Father: Jesus Christ is Lord' (2:10-11). In invoking our Lord's name with reverential faith, one is turning to Him and imploring His divine assistance. An old spiritual manual cited four special rewards of invoking the Holy Name: First, the name of Jesus brings help in bodily needs. Jesus Himself promised at the Ascension, '...In my name they will cast out demons, they will speak in new tongues, they will pick up serpents, and if they drink any deadly thing, it will not hurt them, they will lay their hands on the sick and they will recover.' (Mark 16:17-19). After Pentecost, St. Peter and St. John went to the Temple to preach and encountered a cripple begging; St. Peter commanded, 'I have neither silver nor gold, but what I have I give you! In the name of Jesus Christ, the Nazorean, walk!' and the cripple began to walk (Acts 3:1-10). Invoking Jesus' name, St. Peter also cured Aeneas (Acts 9:32).

Second, the name of Jesus gives help in spiritual trials. Jesus forgave sins, and through the invocation of His Holy Name, sins continue to be forgiven. At Pentecost, St. Peter echoed the prophecy of Joel, 'Then shall everyone be saved who calls on the name of the Lord' (Acts 2:21), a teaching echoed by St. Paul in his Letter to the Romans (10:13). As St. Stephen, the first martyr, was being stoned, he called upon the name of the Lord and prayed, 'Lord Jesus, receive my spirit' (Acts 7:59). Third, the name of Jesus protects the person against Satan and his temptations. Jesus on His own authority exorcized demons. Through the invocation of His Holy Name, Satan is still conquered. Finally, we receive every grace and blessing through the Holy Name of Jesus. Jesus said, 'I give you my assurance, whatever you ask the Father, He will give you in my name. Until now you have not asked for anything in my name. Ask and you shall receive, that your joy may be full' (John 16:23-24). In summary, St. Paul said, 'Whatever you do, whether in speech or in action, do it in the name of the Lord Jesus.'" (Colossians 3:17) (Fr. William Saunders)

There are a number of acts of reverence we can perform that show our devotion to Jesus. Incorporate these into our daily routines and teach our children to do the same.

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- ✠ We can make the Sign of the Cross as we pass by a Catholic Church.
- ✠ Bow our heads when the Name of Jesus is spoken.
- ✠ Offer a silent prayer of reparation when we hear the Lord's name used in vain.

January 3: Feast of the Holy Name of Jesus

Pope John Paul II reinstated the Feast of the Holy Name of Jesus. The devotion dates back to the 13th Century when the Church struggled against heresies that were denying the divinity of Christ. The Church knew something needed to be done about the irreverent use of Our Lord's name and confronted the matter during the Second Council of Lyons in 1274. Pope Gregory X wrote, "We have also judged it proper to persuade the faithful to demonstrate more reverence for that name above all names, the only name in which we claim salvation- the name of Jesus Christ, Who has redeemed us from the bondage of sin. Consequently, in view of obeying that apostolic precept, in the Name of Jesus let every knee be bent; we wish that at the Holy Sacrifice, everyone would bow his head in token that interiorly he bends the knee of his heart."

January 1

Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God

"Solemnities are the highest rank of liturgical celebration, higher than feast days or memorials. By celebrating a solemnity dedicated to Mary's motherhood, the Church highlights the significance of her role in the life of Christ. Mary is honored because her Son is so much more important. Her great dignity flows directly from her being the human mother of Jesus Christ.

The term 'Mother of God' is often misunderstood. It has a very specific meaning. It does not mean that Mary gave to Jesus His divine nature. At a particular moment in history, the second person of the Holy Trinity took to Himself a human nature. He became a man, while remaining at the same time, fully God. This is called the 'Incarnation.' This is where Mary comes into the picture. When the Son of God "stepped into" human history, He did so through Mary. The womb of Mary is where He received His human nature. Mary is the woman out of all human history who was chosen by God the Father to give human flesh and blood to His divine Son. This fact makes Mary absolutely unique and special." (ACM)

January 4 - 6:15 p.m. – 7:45 p.m. - Class at St. Mary's, Milaca for all Students, Parents & Parishioners

Guest Speaker Jeff Duresky, a High School Theology teacher at St. Agnes Catholic School in St. Paul, will speak on the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

Why Do We Call Mary Our Mother Even Though She is Not Our Biological Mother?

Since Mary gave birth to Jesus, who is the Head of the Mystical Body of Christ, and we are all members of His Body, she, therefore, brought us spiritually into being as sons and daughters of God. This fundamental truth is also why we have high regard for Mary. Before she said "yes" to God, we were not able to enter Heaven. Her role in salvation history is crucial. Mothers guide, nurture, and teach their children. The Blessed Mother guides, nurtures, and teaches us to become faithful followers of her Son, Jesus Christ. (catholiccompany/getfed.com)

"Listen and let it penetrate your heart, my dear little son: let nothing discourage you, nothing depress you. Am I not here, your mother? Are you not under my shadow and protection? Are you not in the folds of my mantle? In the crossing of my arms?" Our Lady to Juan Diego

January 8: Epiphany of the Lord

The first Epiphany was the visit of the Magi to adore the Christ Child. The Feast of the Epiphany celebrates the revelation that Jesus was the Son of God. While the feast of Epiphany in the Roman Rite is primarily focused on the visit of the Magi, historically it was more focused on the Baptism of Jesus Christ in the Jordan River. For this reason, there developed a special blessing of Epiphany water in memory of Jesus sanctifying the waters of Baptism. It is traditional for parish priests to bless water, chalk, and incense on the eve of Epiphany, and use them for the blessing of homes the next day. While there is no official teaching of the superiority of one holy water over the other, there is a special blessing for Epiphany Water. "Epiphany water is considered the most potent of holy water because it is blessed once a year on the Vigil of Epiphany and blessed using an extensive liturgy. It is mixed with exorcised salt and the exorcism over the water is lengthier. Therefore, it is deemed more potent by many, especially exorcists." (Fr. Richard Heilman) **We are very blessed to have Father Derek perform this special blessing which is not done at most parishes. Join Father Derek for the Holy Water Epiphany Blessing at St. Mary's, Milaca on Saturday, January 7 at 2:00 p.m.**

January 9: Baptism of the Lord - This brings an end to the Season of Christmas and begins Ordinary Time. The Baptism of our Lord was a symbol and not a sacrament because the sacrament of Baptism washes away sin and Christ had no sin. A sacrament actually confers a grace from God, so our Lord's Baptism qualifies as a sacramental, which differs from a sacrament in that a sacramental moves the soul to desire the sacraments. There are many sacramentals; they include holy water, the Rosary, the Liturgy of the Hours, the Brown Scapular, the Miraculous Medal, the Stations of the Cross, the Cross itself, candles, incense, and the Sign of the Cross. Anything blessed would qualify as a sacramental. (Fr. George Rutler)

The Seven Gifts of the Holy Spirit

At Baptism, we receive seven gifts from the Holy Spirit freely given to us to help us live as followers of Jesus and to build up the Body of Christ, the Church. The Gifts of the Holy Spirit are sealed and strengthened within us at Confirmation. These gifts help us to respond to the presence of the Holy Spirit in our lives, to make good choices, and to serve God and others.

Wisdom is the gift of knowing the right choices to make to live a holy life. The gift of wisdom helps you avoid the things that could lead you away from God.

Understanding is the gift of comprehension, or the ability to grasp the meaning of the teachings of the Church. The gift of understanding helps you be tolerant and sympathetic of others. It helps you sense when someone is hurting or in need of compassion.

Counsel is the gift of prudence. The gift of right judgment helps you make choices to live as a faithful follower of Jesus.

Fortitude is the gift that helps you stand up for your faith in Christ. The gift of courage helps you overcome any obstacles that would keep you from practicing your faith.

Knowledge is the gift of knowing and enlightenment. The gift of knowledge enables you to choose the right path that will lead you to God. It encourages you to avoid obstacles that will keep you from Him.

Piety is the gift of confidence in God. This gift of reverence inspires you to joyfully want to serve God and others.

Fear of the Lord is the gift of wonder and respect that encourages you to be in awe of God. The gift of wonder and awe moves you to so love God that you do not want to offend Him by your words or actions.

Fruits of the Holy Spirit

Charity: We exhibit the virtue of charity, or love, by our unselfish devotion and care for God and our neighbor.

Joy: We live with joy when we recognize that true happiness comes, not from money or possessions, but from knowing and following Christ.

Peace: We are freed from worrying about trivial things because of the inner peace we experience with God in our hearts. We work and pray for peace throughout the world.

Patience: We demonstrate patience by treating others with thoughtfulness and tolerance. We know that we can overcome the temptations and sufferings of life because God is always with us.

Kindness: We live the virtue of kindness by treating others as we want to be treated.

Goodness: We exhibit goodness when we honor God by avoiding sin and always trying to do what we know is right.

Generosity: We demonstrate the fruit of generosity when we are share our gifts and possessions with others.

Gentleness: Gentle people act calmly and avoid actions that might lead others to anger or resentment.

Faithfulness: We are faithful when we live out our commitment to the teachings of Jesus, the Scriptures, and the Catholic Church.

Modesty: We exhibit modesty by being pure in our thoughts, words, and dress.

Self-control: We exercise self-control by working to overcome the temptations we face and by trying always to do God's will.

Chastity: We live the virtue of chastity when we use the gift of sexuality wisely, according to God's plan.

Saint Feast Days in January

1	Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God
3	Most Holy Name of Jesus
4	St. Elizabeth Ann Seton
5	St. John Neumann
8	Epiphany of the Lord
9	Baptism of the Lord
17	St. Anthony
21	St. Agnes
22	Day of Prayer for Unborn
25	Feast of Conversion of St. Paul the Apostle
28	St. Thomas Aquinas
31	St. John Bosco

January 22: Day of Prayer for the Unborn (January 23 when January 22 lands on a Sunday as in 2023)



The General Instruction of the Roman Missal designates January 22 as a particular day of prayer and penance called the "Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children." This date is observed as a particular day of prayer for the full restoration of the legal guarantee of the right to life and of penance for violations to the dignity of the human person committed through acts of abortion.

Spiritual Adoption

Participants in the Spiritual Adoption Program pledge to pray for nine months for a baby in danger of abortion. While this child will remain unknown to his or her "spiritual parent," God knows who the child is. Many people have found that naming "their child" helps to keep them focused on the reality that their prayers are helping to save a particular baby from the harm of abortion.