



# Saint Joseph's Parish

Box 1429 2994 Burrard Ave. Vanderhoof BC V0J 3A0

Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph Year B | December 27, 2020

## THE LORD IS OUR GOD, MINDFUL OF HIS COVENANT FOREVER.

**Pastor:** Fr. Pier Pandolfo  
1-250-614-3220

**Secretary:** Julie Kulchar

**Parish Phone:**

250-567-9151

**Parish Fax:**

250-567-9115

**Office Hours:**

**Tues 1-4:30pm**

**Thurs& Fri 1-4:30 pm**

**Sacraments:**

**Holy Mass**

**Sat 5:00 pm**

**Sun. 9**

**Saik'uz 12 noon**

**Daily Mass**

**Tues 6:30 pm**

**Wed – Fri 9AM**

**Reconciliation**

by appointment

**Baptism**

Contact the Parish Office

**Matrimony**

Contact the Parish Office

The family is a jewel of God's creation. Our God –Father, Son and Holy Spirit –is a family. Just as individual humans are made in the image and likeness of God, so is the human family. For this reason, Satan seeks to destroy both the institution and our personal families. This is evident in the cultural and spiritual war against the family we see happening all around us. Many of us are also disheartened by the heavy discord in our own families.

Let us turn to the Holy Family for help. In Jesus, Mary and Joseph, we see the human family as God intends it to be. Their home was uncorrupted by sin. For thirty years, Jesus lived in this setting. Contemplate the harmony, warmth and love in their household. Meditate on how selfless, patient, gentle and kind they were with each other. Imagine the peace and joy in the home of the Holy Family.

If there is pain, anger or discord in your own family, do not lose heart. Call upon Jesus, Mary and Joseph, for they will bring healing forgiveness and peace. If you feel discouraged by the apparent demise of the family in our society, do not be afraid. Pray to the Holy Family, and remember God's solemn promise. The gates of hell shall not prevail.

*Connor Brownrigg, St. Joseph's Sunday Missal pg.119*



Holy Trinity Church  
Mission  
Saik'uz



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

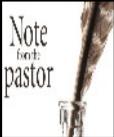
*Luke 2.16*



St. Joseph's Parish-Vanderhoof

e-mail: [stjosephsp93@gmail.com](mailto:stjosephsp93@gmail.com)

website: [stjosephsvanderhoof.com](http://stjosephsvanderhoof.com)



**Christmas- THE HOLY FAMILY and THE DOMESTIC CHURCH.** The Church calls the family the “Domestic Church” because the family and the home are the first place where we encounter God in the everyday events of life. The Holy Family demonstrates Mary and Joseph encountering Jesus in these daily events. Likewise it is in our eating and sleeping, in our crying and comforting, in our washing and teaching, that God is revealed. This emphasis on the domestic church confirms that what we do in our families is even more important than what we do in our parishes – the energy of our parishes depends on the energy of our homes. And like a home, the parish is ordered towards helping each family member become the best they can be. Further, since God is everywhere and in every family, whether that family is rich and famous or is poor and obscure, whether in the tin shacks of Haiti or the garbage dumps of Mumbai, whether there is abuse or addiction or violence or injustice, God is there and every family has hidden within it the seeds of holiness. Such is the domestic church; not a place where we are judged against the holiness of Mary, Joseph and Jesus, but a place where God is present. **Homework:** take a family photo... take three .. take more.

**Dec 20: Christmas in the Park;** this traditional event at Riverside Park has been transported to online: view the composite work of the various Christian Churches in Vanderhoof: <https://youtu.be/ldbOiUfh9NY>

**QUIET PARISH HEROS : decorating the Church** – our worship space has been wonderfully and prayerfully designed; please visit the Church to see our Nativity scene and to spend a moment in prayer.

**PARISH ACTIVITIES : Christmas Season celebrations:** the pandemic forbids us to gather as a community; enclosed is a schedule for our activities

**PARISH ACTIVITIES : KofC Charity Appeal tickets:** the COVID19 situation has moved the charity fundraiser on line. See the insert in the past two Sundays.

**PARISH ACTIVITIES : CHURCH ENVELOPES:** envelopes for 2021 are available in the Church foyer; please take the envelope with your name; if you do not see an envelope with your name or if you want envelopes, please contact the OFFICE (250 567-9151); **CHURCH 2020 DONATIONS** need to be received by the Church before December 31 to be applied to your 2020



## Gospel Reflections

Today the Church celebrates the Feast of the Holy Family. This celebration is assigned to the Sunday within the octave of Christmas. The Gospel for today is taken from the Gospel according to Luke and is part of Luke's Infancy Narrative.

Today's Gospel describes the presentation of the child Jesus in the Temple and shows Joseph and Mary as devout Jews, following the prescriptions of the Law of Moses. The Gospel alludes to several aspects of the Law of Moses: circumcision, the dedication of the firstborn son to the Lord, and the purification of a woman after childbirth.

According to the Law of Moses as presented in the Book of Leviticus, a woman was considered ritually unclean during her menstrual period and for a prescribed period of time following the birth of a child. After the birth of a son, a woman was considered ritually unclean for 40 days. After the birth of a daughter, a woman was considered unclean for 80 days. In order to be restored to ritual purity, a Jewish woman performed the appropriate rites of purification and made the prescribed ritual offering.

Today's Gospel notes that Jesus was circumcised on the eighth day after his birth, in accordance with the Mosaic Law. At that time, he was called Jesus, the name he was given by the angel Gabriel. On the 40th day after Jesus' birth, Mary performed the appropriate purification rites and made her offering at the Temple. Although the Law of Moses required an offering of a lamb, those who could not afford a lamb could substitute two turtledoves or two pigeons. In this scene, Luke identifies Joseph and Mary as being poor, and indeed throughout Luke's Gospel, Jesus will show special concern for the poor.

Another Jewish rite referenced in this Gospel is the dedication of the firstborn son to the Lord. In remembrance of the feast of Passover, when the firstborn children of the Israelites in Egypt were saved from death, the Law of Moses prescribed that all firstborn males of Israel should be consecrated to the Lord. In this tradition, Mary and Joseph present the infant Jesus in the Temple in Jerusalem.

In Jerusalem, Luke reports that Mary and Joseph encounter two devout Jews, Simeon and Anna, who recognize the infant Jesus as the fulfillment of Israel's hope for redemption. In Simeon's words we find a prediction of Mary's witnessing of Jesus' death on the cross. The Canticle of Simeon, also called by its Latin name, *Nunc Dimitis*, is prayed at night prayer, or compline, during the Liturgy of the Hours.



*"Long ago God spoke to our ancestors by the Prophets; in these last days he has spoken to us by the Son."*

*Hebrews 1.1-2*



**WorkBC** Employment Services

Looking for work? Looking for Workers?  
Come see us at 139 First Street East for  
all your employment needs!  
(250) 567-5785.

Canada

BRITISH COLUMBIA

This program is funded by the Government of Canada  
and the Province of British Columbia.

Portrait photographer  
and Custom Frame Shop

Print lab *and* passport or id photos

**WALLACE**  
STUDIOS

wallacestudios.ca Phone: 250.567.3979

### HALCYON HOLISTIC HEALTH

ALTERNATIVE THERAPIES FOR HEALTH  
REFLEXOLOGY, HEALTH CONSULTS & MORE

**Maggie Saito**

To book an appointment,  
call: 250-524-0333

#### **Parish Prayer Requests**

Beverly Antoine,  
Brenda Antoine,  
Margaret Antoine,  
Mackie Basil,  
Cliff Childers,  
Joyce Clare.  
Cooper Cursley,  
Leland Funk, Brent

Gray, Ellen Haynes,  
Patrick Irving, Roy  
(Junior) Casimir,  
Carson Lafrance,  
Jennifer Lock, Rose  
Marie MacDonald,  
Della Morin, Eunice  
Nash, Michael Nelson,  
Dorothy Nielsen,  
Stephanie Oulette,  
Ruby Irene Patrick,

Dorothy Ranck, Ian  
Scott, Madison Scott,  
Clark Todd, Bill  
Urquhart,  
Mike Van Dusen, and  
for all who are in need  
of God's healing  
grace.

