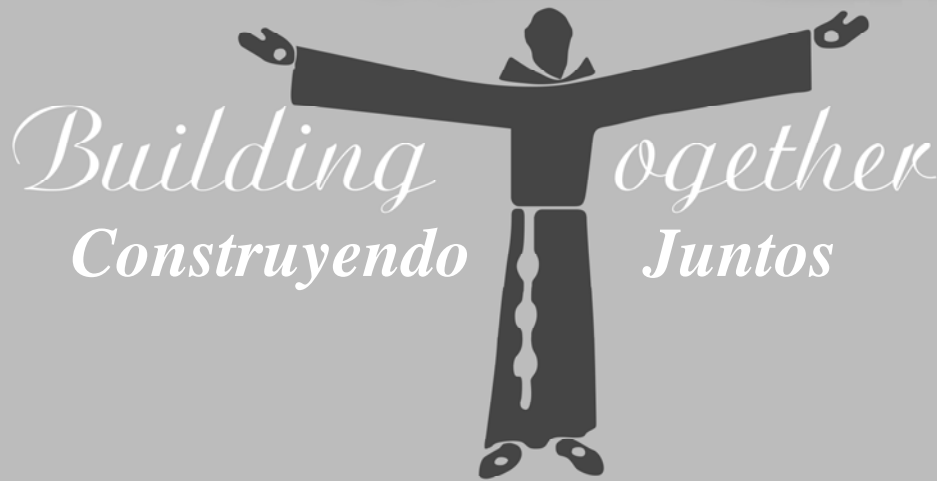
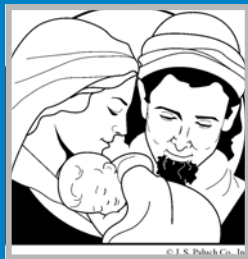


La parroquia de San Francisco de Asís  
**ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI PARISH**



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



**As a faith filled community guided by  
 the Holy Spirit with Christ as our  
 model and Saint Francis of Assisi as  
 our patron, we are called together to  
 live God's Word through Worship,  
 Evangelization, Welcoming, and  
 Caring of all people in building  
 together the Kingdom of God.**

*Mass Times*

*Office Hours*

**Tuesday / Martes: 7:30 a.m. St. Nicholas**  
**Wednesday / Miércoles: 5:30 p.m. St. Joseph**  
**Thursday / Jueves:**  
**7:30 a.m. Mary, Help of Christians**  
**Friday / Viernes: 7:30 a.m. St. Nicholas**  
**Saturday / Sábado: 4:30 p.m. St. Nicholas**  
**Sunday / Domingo:**  
**7:00 a.m. Mary, Help of Christians**  
**9:00 a.m. St. Joseph**  
**11:00 a.m. (Spanish/Español) St. Joseph**

**St. Joseph (Central Ofc)**  
 Monday 8:00—4:00  
 Tuesday 8:00-4:00  
 Wednesday 8:00—5:00  
 Thursday 8:00—4:00  
 Friday 8:00—4:00

**Mary, Help of Christians**  
 Monday —Closed  
 Tuesday 9:00-12:00  
 Wednesday 9:00-5:00  
 Thursday 9:00-12:00  
 Friday—Closed

**St. Nicholas**  
 Monday —Closed  
 Tuesday 9:00-12:00  
 Wed. 9:00-12:00  
 Thursday—9:00-12:00  
 Friday—Closed

*Reconciliation is celebrated 30 minutes before Mass Wednesday thru Saturday.*

**St. Joseph (Central Office)**  
 P.O. Box 684  
 Dale, IN 47523-0684  
 Phone 937-2200  
 email: stjosedale@evdio.org

**Mary, Help of Christians**  
 6827 E. CR 1930 N  
 Dale, IN 47523  
 Phone 937-4326  
 email: maryhelp@evdio.org

**St. Nicholas**  
 P.O. Box 351  
 Santa Claus IN 47579-0351  
 Phone 937-2385  
 email: stnick@evdio.org

**WEBSITE** [www.catholicnorthspencer.org](http://www.catholicnorthspencer.org)

*Please feel free to contact our offices with any questions or concerns.*

**Pastor:** Fr. John Brosmer—jbrosmer@evdio.org  
**Deacon:** Jim Woebkenberg—jwoebkenberg@evdio.org  
**Deacon:** Tim Cox—812-454-1369  
**Pastoral Assistant:** Juan Ramirez—jramirez@evdio.org  
**Central Office Mgr. at SJ:** Devin Carpenter—stjoedale@evdio.org  
**Office Mgr. at MHC:** Deacon Jim—maryhelp@evdio.org

**Faith Formation:** Michelle Fischer—mfischer@evdio.org  
**Office Assistant:** Nora Weber—nweber@evdio.org  
**DRE:** Michelle Fischer—mfischer@evdio.org  
**CRE at MHC:** Marilyn Satkamp—msatkamp@evdio.org  
**Music Director:** Cisco Lloveras—clloveras@evdio.org  
**Admin. Assistant:** Trish Schuler—tschuler@evdio.org

# Welcome to our Parish!

*We want to extend our hearts to you and your family. If you would like to join our parish, or if someone is ill, in the hospital, homebound or if you have any other concerns, please drop the information into the collection basket at church, phone one of the offices or stop by one of the offices so that we can minister to you as a Christian Parish Family. May the peace of Jesus be with you!*

## From Our Music Minister's Desk

MERRY CHRISTMAS!!

Because of the printing deadlines from the bulletin company, I am writing this before December 25<sup>th</sup>. However, I do want to make sure and wish everyone, many blessings during this most holy time of the year. Plus, we are still celebrating the Christmas season – not just one day, but a whole season extending from Christmas Eve all the way through the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord (a moveable feast, which this year falls on Monday, January 8, 2018).

Thus, I shall say it again: MERRY CHRISTMAS!!

This weekend we are smack-dab in the middle of the Christmas season. And we get two wonderful liturgical celebrations back to back: the **Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph**, followed by the **Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God**. The first of these feasts celebrates ALL families and the fact that Jesus, the Son of God, came, not as a “lone ranger,” but came into the world and into the family of Joseph the carpenter and Mary of Nazareth. This feast reminds us also that families, even with their quirks, their messes, and their troubles, are and can still be called... holy. Then, we follow that immediately by a second feast which starts the “new” calendar year under the patronage of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of God and OUR mother. Two great feasts to continue our celebration of the season.

So, how are we celebrating this Christmas Season?

I was talking to a friend the other day and he was telling me: “You know, we put so much energy and effort on the days leading to Christmas Day, that the days afterwards seem like a letdown...” I know! Even though I’ve tried to live the season of Advent as a time of expectant waiting for the coming of the Christ, the truth is... We are SO BUSY these days prior to and leading into Christmas, that afterwards all I want to do is to curl into bed and hibernate for the rest of winter. Yes, not a very joyful way to celebrate the season.

So, how CAN we celebrate Christmas?

Well, one thing we can do is... what we’re already doing: Coming to church and celebrate the liturgical season of Christmas. (And since, you’ve picked up a copy of this bulletin, I know you’re already doing that). But, what else CAN we do? I’ll give you a few easy suggestions...

1<sup>st</sup> – LIGHTS: Keep those lights on. Don’t be afraid to keep the Christmas lights, tree and decorations lit for a while longer (unless it’s a fire hazard, of course). Keep them on for the whole season. They are meant to be for us a reminder of Christ, who is the light of the nations. Plus, they bring joy to our hearts and to those near us.

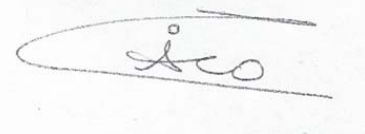
2<sup>nd</sup> – CAROLS: Sing and listen to Christmas Carols throughout the season. Better yet... take time to look at the words of those carols and see the richness of faith and truth they contain. Gems like:

- \* Long lay the world in sin and error pining, ‘til He appeared and the soul felt its’ worth.
- \* Above its sad and lowly plains they bend on hovering wing, and ever o’er its Babel sounds the blessed angels sing.
- \* Peace on earth and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled.
- \* Now to the Lord sing praises all you within this place, and with true love and charity each other now embrace.

3<sup>rd</sup> – VISIT: Visit friends and families this season. Visit the homebound and the sick. Serve the poor and the marginalized. Be the Christ child to one another!

Once more, on behalf of myself and our family, we wish you a very, Merry Christmas and many blessings on the New Year starting this week.

¡Feliz Navidad!                      Merry Christmas!  
Fröhliche Weihnachten!  
Buon Natale!                        Joyeux Noël



## This Week

**Saturday, December 30th**

**Sunday, December 31st**

**Monday, January 1st — Mary Mother of God**

- 8:00am at Mary, Help of Christians

**Tuesday, January 2nd**

- ESL Class at SJ @ 5:30pm
- Civics/Government Classes at SJ @ 6:00pm

**Wednesday, January 3rd**

- Catechists Pathway Formation SN LL @ 6:00pm
- No SFA Music Rehearsal

**Thursday, January 4th**

- 24 Hr. Eucharistic Adoration at SJ @ 6:00am
- ESL Class at SJ @ 5:30pm

**Friday, January 5th**

- Eucharistic Adoration at SN following Mass @ 7:30am
- Hispanic Music Rehearsal at SJ @ 6:00pm

**Saturday, January 6th**

- St. Meinrad Sunday
- Fellowship SN Lower Level following Mass @ 4:30pm

**Sunday, January 7th**

- St. Meinrad Sunday
- Fellowship following Masses at MHC & SJ



The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary,  
and Joseph  
December 31, 2017

My eyes have seen your salvation, which you  
prepared in the sight of all the peoples.

—Luke 2:30-31

*Let us Pray for our parish families who have lost loved ones. That in their time of sadness, may our support and prayers bring them some comfort.*

Family of Charles R. Ruxer  
Especially his daughter, Karen Springston

Names in the "Pray for" box will be listed in four bulletins. If you would like your name added again, please call the office.



Janet Dilger - Edna Meunier - Trisha

Martin - Brian Bledsoe - Carmen

Loveras - Verna Wollenmann

**white-collar  
workers needed.**

## VOCATIONS PRAYER CALENDAR

Pray daily for an increase in vocations to the priesthood. Pray for the priests and seminarians of the day listed below. Give thanks for their vocations.

### 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* Psalm 105.

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

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

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

**Fr John Breidenbach**

**Fr Raymond Brenner**

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

**Fr John Brosmer**

**Fr Claude Burns**

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

**Fr John Davidson**

**Fr William Dietsch**

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

**Fr Donald Dilger**

**Fr Christopher Droste**

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

**Fr Brian Emmick**

**Fr James Endress**

**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]

**Fr Joseph Erbacher**

**Fr Anthony Ernst**

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

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

**Fr Bernard Etienne**

**Fr Zach Etienne**

*St. John Vianney, Patron Saint of Priests, bless these men with the strength and wisdom to follow God's will.*

## Minister Schedule

### St. Nicholas — Saturday, January 6th — 4:30 p.m.

**GR** Charlene & Eugene Peters  
**SE** Paige & Bridget Flannagan, Landon Schaefer, Volunteers  
**LE** Mary Sue Johnson, Mark Lubbehusen  
**CL** Ann Dauby  
**US** Trae Dauby, Al Logsdon, **Volunteers**  
**GB** Schaefer Family  
**EM** Sonya Disinger, Francie Wagner, Terry Wagner, Lee Ringeman, Melissa Ward, **Volunteers**  
**Sacristan** Anna Ward

### Mary, Help of Christians — Sunday, January 7th — 7:00 a.m.

**GR** Tami & Tim Nord  
**SE** Carter Lashley, Samantha Dilger, Pierce Lashley, Alexa Fleck  
**LE** Lucy Meunier, Grant Lashley  
**CL** Marilyn Satkamp  
**US** Cindy Gogel, Pat Gogel, Joyce Philipps, Lee Philipps  
**GB** Jonathan Pund Family  
**EM** Bryce Denning, Kim Hochgesang, Ryan Hochgesang, Christine Schlachter, **Volunteers**  
**Rosary Leader** Dana Dilger

### St. Joseph — Sunday, January 7th — 9:00 a.m.

**GR** Connie Bender Esther & Ed Lutterman, Jeanne Daunhauer  
**SE** Grant Gogel, Hayden Gogel, Gabe Gogel, Trey Nord  
**LE** Amy Cox, Mrs. Jennifer Wahl  
**CL** Katie Kress  
**US** Daryl Kast, Adie Morrison, Cindy Morrison, Andy Lubbehusen, **2 Volunteers**  
**EM** Phyllis Schaefer, Tanya Eger, Ron Schaefer, Steve Clark, Diana Clark, Terri Dicus, **2 Volunteers**  
**Sacristan** Connie Bender

## Stewardship of Treasure December 17th

Sunday Envelopes	\$ 9,285.00
Loose Cash/Checks	\$ 527.75
Children's Basket	\$ 55.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 9,867.75</b>

Number of Envelopes Used: **182** (out of 380)

Budget amount needed **\$10,000.00**

YTD Actuals: **\$234,471.96**  
 YTD Budget: **\$250,000.00 (25 Sundays)**  
 YTD Net: **(\$15,528.04)**

Building & Grounds	\$ 55.00
St. Vincent De Paul	\$ 35.00
St. Pierre	\$ 175.00
NSCAC	\$ 65.00
Catholic Charities	\$ 35.00

**Total Deposit \$ 10,232.75**

## 2016 - Mass Attendance - 2017

180 Dec 17	Sat - Dec 16 - 4:30pm	174
119 Dec 18	Sun - Dec 17 - 7:00am	171
220 Dec 18	Sun - Dec 17 - 9:00am	260
80 Dec 18	Sun - Dec 17 - 11:00am	70

## CATHOLIC PARISHES CAMPAIGN

Total pledged to date: **\$120,366.40**

Parish Goal: **\$132,428**

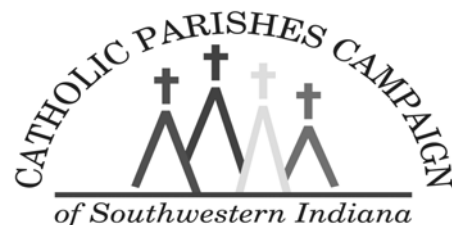
Cards mailed out: **674**

Cards returned: **440 (65%)**

Please return your pledge card.

## Mass Intentions

Sat, Dec 30 4:30 pm (SN) St. Francis of Assisi Parish  
 Sun, Dec 31 7:00 am (MHC) St. Francis of Assisi Parish  
 Sun, Dec 31 9:00 am (SJ) St. Francis of Assisi Parish  
 Sun, Dec 31 11:00 am (SJ) St. Francis of Assisi Parish  
 Mon, Jan 1 8:00 am (MHC) Heather Snyder, Elizabeth Kiszewski (birth mom's of Isaiah & Sierra Evans)  
 Tues, Jan 2 7:30 am (SN) Jerry Meunier  
 Wed, Jan 3 5:30 pm (SJ) Rudy Jochim, George Eger  
 Thur, Jan 4 7:30 am (MHC) Kathryn Meyer  
 Fri, Jan 5 7:30 am (SN) Fred Crews  
 Sat, Jan 6 4:30 pm (SN) Rose Snyder  
 Sun, Jan 7 7:00 am (MHC) James & Rita Jochim  
 Sun, Jan 7 9:00 am (SJ) Mary Philipps  
 Sun, Jan 7 11:00 am (SJ) St. Francis of Assisi Parish



Your Catholic Parishes Campaign (CPC) pledge is part of your personal commitment to Christian Stewardship: giving thanks to God by returning a portion of the blessings God has given you.

# Community News



## THE MARIAH HILL QUILTING GROUP

will start quilting on Tuesday January 9th at the Mariah Hill Parish Hall from 8:00-3:00. Lunch will be provide. We are also looking for anyone who would like to set together or mark quilts, adopt a quilt or prepare lunches. If you have any question or would like to donate you time and talent, call Loyce Gries at [812-686-0021](tel:812-686-0021) or Dionne Hanselman at [812-686-2407](tel:812-686-2407).

## DIOCESAN CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

On Monday, January 22, representatives from the Diocese will have a presentation on the upcoming Diocesan Capital Campaign for our parish. We are in the last wave of parishes to complete this campaign. Father Bernie Etienne and maybe our new Bishop Joseph Siegel will be at St. Nicholas Lower Level to share information about the campaign. It will begin at 6:00pm. Let us keep the campaign in prayer for our diocese and our parish.

## MARRIAGE SAVING – THE POST SESSION PHASE

The post-weekend phase of Retrouvaille (pronounced retro-vi with a long i) is as crucial to the healing of a troubled marriage as the initial weekend experience. During the post-weekend sessions, the weekend technique is further developed and combined with additional tools to explore other areas of the marriage relationship. The registration deadline for the January 12 program is January 5, 2018. To register, please call 270-852-8346 or email: [felliott3232@yahoo.com](mailto:felliott3232@yahoo.com) or visit the web site at [www.retrouvaille.org](http://www.retrouvaille.org)

## ST. MEINRAD SUNDAY-

We have a representative from St. Meinrad Archabbey Seminary on Saturday and Sunday January 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup>. They will inform us about their mission in educating priests. You will receive information about their ministry in the mail for your support. Let us welcome our friends from St. Meinrad.



*Saint Meinrad*

**PARISH JOB OPENING**—Saint Francis of Assisi Parish is in need of a part-time Administrative Assistant and Volunteer Ministry Coordinator. Applicants need to be positive, energetic, self-motivated, and able to manage multiple tasks. Applicants are also expected to have experience with Microsoft software (Word, Excel, Publisher, Power Point). Bilingual Spanish/English desired, but willingness to learn also acceptable. St. Francis of Assisi Parish consists of St. Joseph, St. Nicholas and Mary, Help of Christians Churches. Please email resume to: [jbrosmer@evdio.org](mailto:jbrosmer@evdio.org) or send to: Job Opportunity, St. Francis of Assisi Parish, PO Box 684, Dale, IN 47523.



## 2017 DAS NIKOLAUSFEST SNOW FLAKE

### CONTEST WINNERS

Camden Kress

Trent Winchell

Alexa Fleck

Cole Fleck

Paige Flannagan

Trey Nord

Jesse Weatherholt

Aerial Bancroft

Payton—out of town guest

The prizes can be picked up at St. Nicholas during office hours or at Mass until the first of the year.

The prizes then will be taken to the St. Joseph office location in Dale.

## The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph

“[H]e thought the one who had made the promise was trustworthy.” Abraham trusted in God, although what God had promised seemed impossible. And yet, God fulfilled his promise to Abraham and Sarah and gave them a much-longed-for son, through whom the people would be as numerous as the stars of the sky.

Mary and Joseph fulfilled the law of God by bringing Jesus to the temple for the customary rites. They obeyed the law of the Lord, even though it could be argued that Jesus, being God, was exempt from the law.

We see in their example how faith in God is considered “an act of righteousness.” We can follow in their footsteps and believe that the Lord is one whose promises are trustworthy.

### GOD’S WORD HAS BEEN FULFILLED

In this joyous Christmas time, it is fitting that we turn our attention from all the angels and shepherds and kings to take a look at the more intimate picture of the Holy Family in their ordinary life. They come with Jesus to consecrate him to the Lord, as is written in the law, and they come upon Simeon and Anna, prophets of the Lord, who have amazing things to say about this child and Mary, his mother. One can wonder what Mary must have thought when Simeon told her that “you yourself a sword will pierce.” We interpret that in hindsight she would suffer greatly at the crucifixion of her beloved son. But what must she have thought at the possible literal interpretation of this prophecy? And yet she was, as always, obedient to God and accepting of God’s word for her.

### TWO PROPHETS

Simeon and Anna recognized in this infant the Messiah of God. Both were “righteous and devout” and prayed in the temple constantly. Simeon spoke at length to Mary and Joseph about this child, and Anna proclaimed to all the salvation of Israel in Jesus. Throughout the centuries, God had made use of many prophets to proclaim the coming of Jesus, as Jesus explained to the two disciples on the road to Emmaus after his death and resurrection. But people, being hard-hearted and somewhat clueless, did not recognize these prophecies as referring to the Messiah and later, to Jesus. Many in his time heeded the words of the prophets and believed, but many walked away. To those who believed, he gave the words of eternal life. They believed that “the one who had made the promise was trustworthy.” These loving parents would protect and raise this miraculous child, and he “grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favor of God was upon him.”

Today’s Readings: Gn 15:1–6; 21:1–3; Ps 105:1–2, 3–4, 5–6, 8–9; Heb 11:8, 11–12, 17–19; Lk 2:22–40 Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co., Inc.

## La Sagrada Familia

### LA PALABRA DE DIOS SE HA CUMPLIDO

En este jubiloso Tiempo de Navidad, es apropiado que cambiemos nuestra atención hacia todos los ángeles, pastores y reyes a observar más íntimamente la imagen de la Sagrada Familia en su vida ordinaria. Ellos vienen con Jesús para consagrarlo al Señor, así como está escrito en la Ley, y se encuentran con Simeón y Ana, profetas del Señor, ellos tienen palabras maravillosas que decir acerca del niño y María, su madre. Uno podría preguntarse lo que María debió de haber pensado cuando Simeón le dijo “y a ti, una espada te atravesará el alma”. Podemos interpretar en retrospectiva que ella sufriría extremadamente al pie de la cruz, mientras su amado hijo agonizaba clavado en la cruz. Pero, ¿qué es lo que ella debió de haber pensado en una interpretación literal de esta profecía? Y todavía, ella estaba, como siempre, obediente a Dios y aceptando la palabra de Dios dirigida hacia ella.

### DOS PROFETAS

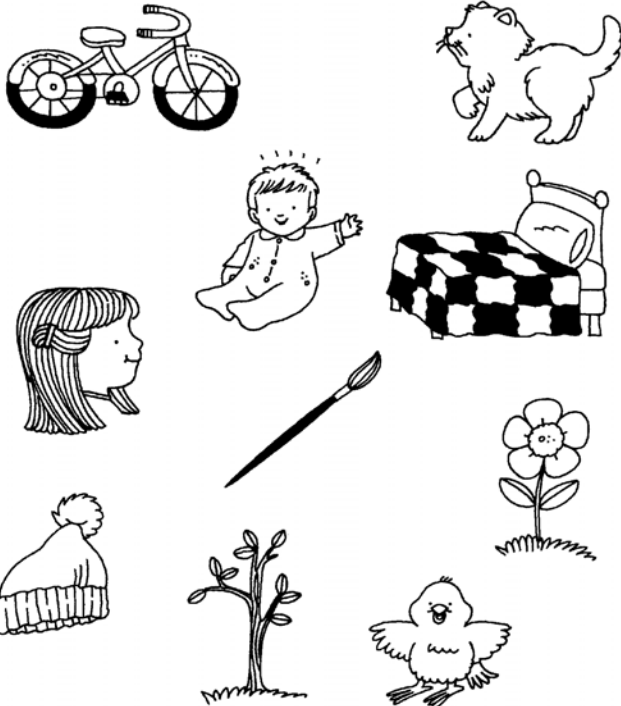
Simeón y Ana reconocieron en este bebé al Mesías de Dios. Ambos eran justos y devotos y en el templo oraban frecuentemente. Simeón habló a María y a José extensamente acerca de este niño, y Ana proclamó a todas las personas la salvación de Israel por medio de Jesús. A través de los siglos, Dios se ha servido de muchos profetas para proclamar la venida de Jesús, así como Jesús explicó a los dos discípulos en el camino de Emaús después de su muerte y resurrección. Pero las personas, siendo de corazón duro y algo despistadas, no reconocieron esas profecías que se referían al Mesías y posteriormente a Jesús. Muchos en su tiempo pusieron atención a los profetas y creyeron, pero muchos se alejaron. Para aquellos que creyeron, él dio las palabras de vida eterna. Ellos creyeron “que Dios habría de ser fiel a la promesa”. Estos padres cariñosos protegerían y criarían a este niño milagroso, y él “iba creciendo y fortaleciéndose, se llenaba de sabiduría y la gracia de Dios estaba con él”.

Lecturas de hoy: Gn 15:1–6; 21:1–3; Sal 105 (104):1–2, 3–4, 5–6, 8–9; Heb 11:8, 11–12, 17–19; Lc 2:22–40

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# Saint Francis of Assisi Parish Youth

The scriptures tell us that Mary and Joseph took Jesus home to the town of Nazareth, where he grew and became strong and wise. Circle all the living things below that can grow!



Scripture excerpts from the New American Bible, revised edition © 2010, 1991, 1986, 1970. Confraternity of Christian Doctrine, Inc., Washington, D.C. and are used by permission of the copyright owner. All rights reserved. No part of the New American Bible may be reproduced in any form without permission in writing from the copyright owner.

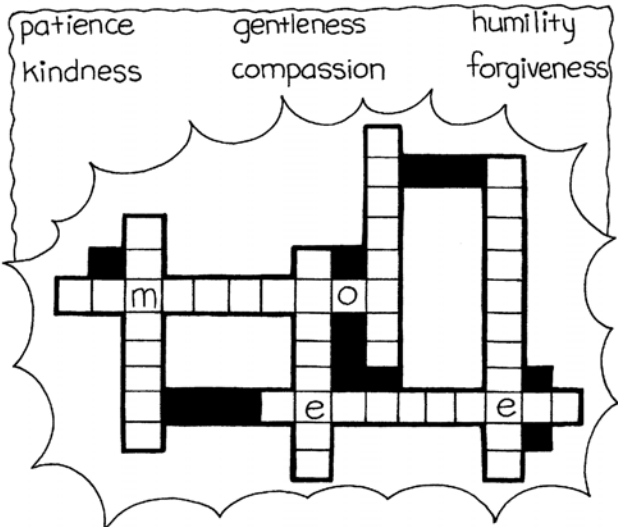
## GOD'S WORD FOR CHILDREN!

### The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph

As children of God, we want people to see certain traits in us. Some of the qualities we should strive to practice are listed here.

Work to fit them in the crossword.

Some letters have been written in to help you.



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## Upcoming

### Faith Formation

Classes will resume on January 10th

### Encounter

No Sessions on December 31st

Sessions will resume on January 7th

### Catechists Pathway Formation

Wednesday January 3<sup>rd</sup> at SN LL 6:00pm topic will be the Trinity! (Anyone is welcome to attend!) Please RSVP to Michelle Fischer at 937-2200 or [mfischer@evdio.org](mailto:mfischer@evdio.org).

