



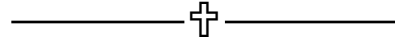
Merry Christmas ~ Feliz Navidad

Holy Family Catholic Church
Iglesia Católica De La Sagrada Familia

2005



HOLY FAMILY CATHOLIC CHURCH



IGLESIA CATÓLICA DE LA SAGRADA FAMILIA

7817 Old Auburn Road • Citrus Heights, CA 95610 • (916) 723-2494

Our Parish Mission Misión Parroquial

We the community of Holy Family Parish, all members of the Body of Christ, strive to be a voice of truth and clarity in our faith. We worship God and celebrate the gift of Jesus Christ in Word and Sacrament. Unified by the Holy Spirit, we commit to the on-going conversion to Christ in ourselves and in our parish. We are committed to extending Christ's unconditional love to all, especially the neglected, the oppressed, the aged and the wounded of heart. We welcome all to share in the richness of our Catholic heritage.

La comunidad de la Parroquia de la Sagrada Familia, todos miembros de cuerpo de Cristo, nos esforzamos de ser portadores de la Verdad y de ser claros en nuestra fe. Nosotros glorificamos a Dios y celebramos a Cristo en Palabra y Sacramento. Unidos por el Espíritu Santo, nos comprometemos a una continua conversión a Cristo en cada uno de nosotros y en nuestra parroquia. Nos comprometemos a compartir el amor incondicional de Cristo a todos, especialmente a los rechazados, oprimidos, ancianos y los de corazón herido. Todos sus miembros son bienvenidos a compartir las riquezas de nuestra tradición Católica.

Reverend Michael Kiernan

Parochial Administrator / Administrador Parroquial

Reverend Santiago Raudes

Parochial Vicar / Vicario Parroquial

Sister Arlene Connelly, I.B.V.M.

School Principal / Directora de La Escuela

Mark Holt

Deacon / Diácono

Pastoral Council - Consejo Pastoral

Katie Martin, Chair

Liturgy Council - Consejo Litúrgico

John Wihl, Liturgy Director

Finance Council - Consejo Finanzas

Rolf Schumann, Chair

PARISH OFFICE HOURS - HORAS DE OFICINA DE LA PARROQUIA

Monday	12:00 - 4:00 pm	Lunes
Tuesday - Friday	8:00 am - 4:00 pm	Martes - Viernes
Saturday and Sunday	Closed	Sábado y Domingo

MASS SCHEDULE - HORARIO DE MISAS

Daily Mass (Monday - Saturday)	8:30 am	Misa Diaria (Lunes - Sábado)
Saturday Vigil	4:30 pm	Vigilia Sabatina
Sunday	7:30 & 9:00 am, 12:00 noon, 6:00 pm (in English) 10:30 am (en Español)	Domingo
Holy Days	8:30 am, 6:00 pm (in English) 7:30 pm (en Español)	Días de Fiesta

CONFESSIONS - CONFESIONES

Saturday	3:00 - 4:00 pm (in English and Spanish)	Sábado
By appointment in English and Spanish		Por cita en español e inglés

MARRIAGES - MATRIMONIOS

Six months advance notice requested	Avisar seis meses antes
Please contact the parish office	Por favor contacte la oficina de la parroquia

BAPTISMS - BAUTISMOS

Please contact Rebecca Kistler (916) 726-7217	Por favor llame a Frank Borja (916) 723-6309
--	---

Merry Christmas Feliz Navidad





Holy Family Catholic Church

Christmas 2005

Dear Friends in Christ,

"A HAPPY AND HOLY CHRISTMAS TO YOU"

Christmas is a time of Family. At this time of year, we share a spirit of intimacy and a feeling of joy like no other time. This sense of family grows beyond our homes into the family of our parish community and further to the family that is the universal church – the People of God. We have as inspiration the image of the humble and happy family of Bethlehem. We take this chance to show our heart-felt gratitude for past kindnesses and love by exchanging cards and gifts and gathering to celebrate.

Many people in this world seem to have lost sight of the true meaning of Christmas. As Catholics we do our best to "Keep Christ in Christmas," and we are afforded many opportunities to keep the spiritual fires burning in this holy season. We recognize the rare privilege we are blessed to receive, the "Perfect" Christmas Gift – Christ, Himself, on His Birthday. And whether our loved ones are far or near, we are all united with Christ and with each other in the celebration of Christmas Mass.

Here in our parish family, Christmas allows us as your spiritual servant leaders to extend our deep and heartfelt appreciation for your loyal and generous cooperation during the past year. The special Christmas services we make available are our contribution to your spiritual joy – a gift of "Spiritual Opportunity" – for a Happy and Holy Christmas. As always, we will remember each and every one of you in a very special way in all of the Christmas Masses and will ask Christ our Savior to shower the choicest of His Blessings upon you and yours.

We are truly grateful that you have shown real stewardship in your generous response to the financial needs of our community throughout the year. In this "season of giving," while you are thinking of gifts for your family and friends, remember that, had it not been for the Birth of Christ, there would be no Christmas ... no Church. Isn't it fitting, then, that His Church be on your list?

May you keep the image of the Holy Family in your heart on Christmas and let them guide you throughout the coming year. Blessings and joy to you and yours.

As the servants of Christ and His people, it is a privilege to continue to serve the people of Holy Family.

Michael F. Kiernan
Rev. Michael F. Kiernan

Santiago Raudes
Rev. Santiago Raudes



December 25, 2005 – The Nativity of the Lord
 "And the Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us . . ." John 1:14



**SOLEMNITY OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY,
 THE MOTHER OF GOD:**

Holy Family Church will utilize the regular weekend schedule of Masses for the holy day weekend.

- Saturday Vigil** 4:30 pm
Sunday Masses 7:30 am, 9:00 am, 12:00 noon & 6:00 pm in English
 10:30 am in Spanish

There will be incense at all Masses except the 4:30 pm Saturday Mass.



READINGS FOR THE WEEK

- Mon: Saint Stephen: Acts 6:8-10;7:54-59; Mt 10:17-22
 Tue: Saint John, Apostle and Evangelist:
 1 Jn 1:1-4; Jn 20:1a and 2-8
 Wed: Feast of the Holy Innocents: 1 Jn 1:5-2:2; Mt 2:13-18
 Thu: The Fifth Day in the Octave of Christmas:
 1 Jn 2:3-112; Lk 2:22-35
 Fri: Feast of the Holy Family: Sir 3:2-7, 12-14; Lk 2:22-40
 Sat: The Seventh Day in the Octave of Christmas:
 1 Jn 2:18-21; Jn 1:1-18
 Sun: Blessed Virgin Mary, The Mother Of God:
 Nm 6:22-27, Gal 4:4-7; Lk 2:16-21

MASS INTENTIONS

- Monday: Albert Massini +
 Richard Seward +
 Thursday: Madeline Ferlisi -Int.
 Diane Cummings -Int.
 Friday: Mary Jo Padilla +
 Robert McClain -Int.
 Richard Seward +
 Saturday: New Year's Eve - no intentions



PRAYER CORNER

Please remember in your prayers:
 Barbie Adorno, Peter Alvarez, Marcel Arnal, Mary Avila,
 Jack Barca, Cody Bartley, Ray Bechler, Teresa Bennett Smith,
 Charles Black, Jill Boyd, Chet Brown, Bernard Burke,
 Arlene Chapla, Diane Cummings, Maria Dixon, Andrew Flores,
 Roman Fontana, Evelyn Gonsalves, Robert Gonzaga,
 Max Guerra, Charlene Gutierrez, R. Gutierrez, Stanley Hayes,
 Jenny Kam, Betty Kava, Adeline Lozano, Esther Layfield,
 Maria Mamauog, Maria Martinez, Earl Mattingly,
 Jenine Michilena, Mary Nekrassoff, Eleanor Obmann,
 Bud Phelps, Peter Popjevalo, Sr. Mary Porter, Troy Doyle
 Powers (Father of Fr. Troy David Powers), Christine Regan,
 Zan Rockett, Charles Schneider, Katherine Schottgen,
 Phyllis Steele, Jo Ster, Laura & Paul Studer, Clement Sweeney,
 D. Sweeney, Maureen Sutton, I. Thompson, X. Thompson,
 Bishop Weigand, Elly Weiss, Bob Westbrook, Lani Zacherson

Stewardship
 ~ a way of life ~

PLANNED GIVING

End-of-the-Year Contributions

In order to take advantage of this year's tax benefits, checks must be dated and envelopes postmarked on or before December 31, 2004. If you are in the position to make end-of-the-year contributions, please consider Holy Family Parish as a beneficiary of your support. Donating securities such as stocks, bonds or mutual funds can give special tax benefits.

Remembering Holy Family

The people of our parish family are so generous in the general and special collections. How wonderful it is when, on occasion, people leave all or part of their will to Holy Family, depending on their circumstances. If everyone in the parish were to do this in some amount, it would be a marvelous, long-term blessing for our parish community. Knowing how giving our people are, I am confident of a generous response to this will request. Thank you for considering this opportunity to build up Holy Family. Please feel free to call me if you have any questions or would like the available material explaining this process.

STEWARDSHIP – TREASURE

GENERAL COLLECTION

Weekly Goal	\$ 10,500.00
Nov 27	\$ 9,137.00
Dec 4	\$ 13,781.00
Dec 11	\$ 10,179.00
Dec 18	\$ 9,600.00
YEAR-TO-DATE	\$ 255,821.00
Goal-to-Date (25 Weeks)	\$ 262,500.00
% of Goal Collected	97.46 %
Annual Goal	\$ 546,000.00

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN COLLECTION

Weekly Goal	\$ 3,750.00
Nov 27	\$ 569.00
Dec 4	\$ 2,887.50
Dec 11	\$ 1,000.00
Dec 18	\$ 3,958.00
YEAR-TO-DATE	\$ 58,967.84
Goal-to-Date (25 Weeks)	\$ 93,750.00
% of Goal Collected	62.90 %
Annual Goal	\$ 195,000.00

SPECIAL COLLECTION

Religious Retirement Fund	\$ 2706.00
---------------------------------	------------

*He scatters abroad, he gives to the poor;
 His righteousness endures forever.*



Holy Family School

HOLY FAMILY SCHOOL students wish all parishioners, visitors, and all those whom they love a Blessed Christmas Season! The students are currently enjoying Christmas Vacation and will return to school on January 4, 2006.



Health Ministry

*Wishing you the gift of health of body, mind
and spirit this Christmas season.*

YOUTH MINISTRY

LAST CHANCE TO DONATE A WARM BLANKET OR SLEEPING BAG to the CYM Blanket Drive!

Please consider giving the gift of warmth this season to someone in need. Place your donations in the red bins around the altar area. Thank you for your generosity.

SANDWICH DRIVE- DECEMBER 26TH

All Parishioners are invited to give food/cash donations to the Youth Ministry and Joyful Noize effort to feed the hungry on the day after Christmas. Donations of turkey/ham leftovers, loaves of bread, mayo, mustard, lettuce, bottled water, canned soda, snacks are needed! Please drop off your items on the 26th in the Old Hall at 9am or donations may be left with the Parish Office until the 23rd of December.

LOOKING AHEAD...

Mark your calendars: All 7th Grade Students from the parish and the school who are preparing for Confirmation, there will be a special Rite of Blessing at the 9am Mass on January 8th with a reception to follow. More info will be sent home.



CHRIST THE KING RETREAT CENTER

HOLY FAMILY MEN'S WEEKEND RETREAT:

Saint Luke tells us that in the final moment of His life, "Jesus cried out in a loud voice, 'Father, into your hands! commend my spirit'. "These words of the Lord complete the portrait of Him that began, "Here I am ... I have come to do your will, O God." (Hebrews 10:5,7) It is the picture of One whose life was not 'sometimes yes and sometimes no' but a life of total commitment to, "Thy will be done!"

This year's theme here at Christ the King Passionist Retreat Center will be "Into Your hands ... Risking, Releasing, Receiving." We will be considering this constant dynamic in the life of Jesus and how it is supremely relevant to our living in the 21st Century! If we do indeed live surrounded by a "culture of death", it is especially urgent to come to understand the meaning and purpose of our lives!

Sign-up now! It is an unwinding weekend of peace and quiet. You will enjoy good rest, good food, and insightful talks to help draw you closer to God, to your loved ones, and to yourself! The men of Holy Family are scheduled to come on retreat the weekend of January 20-22, 2006. For reservations, call the Retreat Center at 725-4720.

FEAST OF THE HOLY INNOCENTS

On Wednesday evening, December 28, families are invited to walk with our priests in a candlelight Rosary procession. We will gather at 5:45 pm at the steps of the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament (11th & K) and walk to Our Lady of Guadalupe (7th & T) for Mass at 7:00 pm.

This annual March for Life on the Feast of the Holy Innocents commemorates those male infants of Bethlehem who were killed by decree of King Herod, as well as those innocent unborn babies killed by abortion today. Candles will be provided for adults and children, or you may bring your own. Carpools will shuttle people back to their cars.

For more information, please call 791-1819.

2ND ANNUAL WALK FOR LIFE WEST COAST

Make history! Join thousands of West Coast pro-lifers on January 21, 2006 in the 2nd Annual Walk for Life West Coast. Join us as we continue to challenge the idea that abortion has been a good choice for women, for men, for families and for our society. Join us as we proclaim that Abortion Hurts Women, Men and Children and that We All Deserve Better than Abortion. Join us as we proclaim a message of Life and Peace throughout the streets of San Francisco. The Walk for Life will begin at 11:00 am at Justin Herman Plaza (near the Ferry Building in San Francisco). For more info - call (415) 586-1576 or visit our website www.walkforlifewc.com.



NEWS FROM THE KNIGHTS



NEW MEMBERS MORE THAN WELCOME!

Any practicing Catholic man 18 years old or older may join the Knights of Columbus and participate in the charitable works we do. This is a wonderful time to think about all the benefits of being a Knight and joining us.

We will be having an installation on new members in January and if you would like to join please call Young Stewart, 332-8732, Bill Swars, 722-5578 or just ask any Knights that you see.

PARISH BOOK SALE:

Come by the parish book sale at our monthly breakfast on Jan. 8, 2006. If you have any gently used books you would like to donate for the sale please call Tom Poeschl @780-0254 or Cathy Sucharski @ 725-2053.

Books may also be dropped off at the Parish Office.

The Twelve Days of Christmas

As promised, here is some of the material Fr. Kiernan used in his homily last weekend regarding the Twelve Days of Christmas:

The Twelve Days of Christmas is probably the most misunderstood part of the church year among Christians who are not part of liturgical church traditions. Contrary to much popular belief, these are not the twelve days before Christmas, but in the Western Church are the twelve days from Christmas until the beginning of Epiphany (January 6th; the 12 days count from December 25th until January 5th).

The popular song "The Twelve Days of Christmas" is usually seen as simply a nonsense song for children. However, some have suggested that it is a song of Christian instruction dating to the 16th century religious wars in England, with hidden references to the basic teachings of the Faith. They contend that it was a mnemonic device to teach the catechism to youngsters. The "true love" mentioned in the song is not an earthly suitor, but refers to God Himself. The "me" who receives the presents refers to every baptized person who is part of the Christian Faith. Each of the "days" represents some aspect of the Christian Faith that was important for children to learn.

On the 1st day of Christmas my true love gave to me...
A Partridge in a Pear Tree

The partridge in a pear tree is Jesus the Christ, the Son of God, whose birthday we celebrate on December 25, the first day of Christmas. In the song, Christ is symbolically presented as a mother partridge that feigns injury to decoy predators from her helpless nestlings, recalling the expression of Christ's sadness over the fate of Jerusalem: "Jerusalem! Jerusalem! How often would I have sheltered you under my wings, as a hen does her chicks, but you would not have it so"

On the 2nd day of Christmas my true love gave to me...
Two Turtle Doves

The Old and New Testaments, which together bear witness to God's self-revelation in history and the creation of a people to tell the Story of God to the world.

On the 3rd day of Christmas my true love gave to me...
Three French Hens

The Three Theological Virtues: 1) Faith, 2) Hope, and 3) Love

On the 4th day of Christmas my true love gave to me... Four Calling Birds

The Four Gospels: 1) Matthew, 2) Mark, 3) Luke, and 4) John, which proclaim the Good News of God's reconciliation of the world to Himself in Jesus Christ.

On the 5th day of Christmas my true love gave to me...
Five Gold Rings

The first Five Books of the Old Testament, known as the Torah or the Pentateuch: 1) Genesis, 2) Exodus, 3) Leviticus, 4) Numbers, and 5) Deuteronomy, which gives the history of humanity's sinful failure and God's response of grace in the creation of a people to be a light to the world.

On the 6th day of Christmas my true love gave to me...
Six Geese A-laying

The six days of creation that confesses God as Creator and Sustainer of the world.

On the 7th day of Christmas my true love gave to me...
Seven Swans A-swimming

The seven gifts of the Holy Spirit: 1) prophecy, 2) ministry, 3) teaching, 4) exhortation, 5) giving, 6) leading, and 7) compassion

On the 8th day of Christmas my true love gave to me...
Eight Maids A-milking

The eight Beatitudes: 1) Blessed are the poor in spirit, 2) those who mourn, 3) the meek, 4) those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, 5) the merciful, 6) the pure in heart, 7) the peacemakers, 8) those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake.

On the 9th day of Christmas my true love gave to me...
Nine Ladies Dancing

The nine Fruit of the Holy Spirit: 1) love, 2) joy, 3) peace, 4) patience, 5) kindness, 6) generosity, 7) faithfulness, 8) gentleness, and 9) self-control.

On the 10th day of Christmas my true love gave to me...
Ten Lords A-leaping

The ten commandments: 1) You shall have no other gods before me; 2) Do not make an idol; 3) Do not take God's name in vain; 4) Remember the Sabbath Day; 5) Honor your father and mother; 6) Do not murder; 7) Do not commit adultery; 8) Do not steal; 9) Do not bear false witness; 10) Do not covet.

On the 11th day of Christmas my true love gave to me...
Eleven Pipers Piping

The eleven Faithful Apostles: 1) Simon Peter, 2) Andrew, 3) James, 4) John, 5) Philip, 6) Bartholomew, 7) Matthew, 8) Thomas, 9) James bar Alphaeus, 10) Simon the Zealot, 11) Judas bar James. (Luke 6:14-16). The list does not include the twelfth disciple, Judas Iscariot who betrayed Jesus to the religious leaders and the Romans.

On the 12th day of Christmas my true love gave to me...
Twelve Drummers Drumming

The twelve points of doctrine in the Apostle's Creed: 1) I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. 2) I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. 3) He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. 4) He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell [the grave]. 5) On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. 6) He will come again to judge the living and the dead. 7) I believe in the Holy Spirit, 8) the holy catholic Church, 9) the communion of saints, 10) the forgiveness of sins, 11) the resurrection of the body, 12) and life everlasting.
