



MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday Vigil: 5:15 PM

Sunday: 8:30 and 11:30 AM

St. Joseph: 10 AM

Daily: 6:30 AM (Adoration Chapel) Mon. through Fri.
10:00 AM (Adoration Chapel) Tues. and Thurs.
8:00 AM (Adoration Chapel) Saturday

St. Joseph: 10:00 AM Mon., Wed., Fri.

Holyday: No Vigil Mass at Presentation

Holyday: 6:30 AM and 7:30 PM

(Except Christmas & New Year's Day)

St. Joseph: Vigil Mass, 7:30 PM; Holyday: 10 AM

MIRACULOUS MEDAL NOVENA DEVOTIONS

Each Saturday following the Rosary at 7:30 AM

SACRAMENTS

RECONCILIATION: Saturdays: 4:00 PM to 4:45 PM

BAPTISM: Third Sunday of the month at 1:00 PM

Baptismal Instructions: 2nd Monday of each month at 7:00 PM in the rectory. Pre-registration is required; please contact the Rectory.

MARRIAGE: Arrangements must be made at least six months before the date of the wedding.

Formed.org Parish Code: Z4NTN

Rectory Office Hours

Monday – Friday, 9 AM - Noon

PRESENTATION BVM

100 Old Soldiers Road
Cheltenham, PA 19012

<http://www.presentationbvm.org>

PARISH STAFF

Pastor: Rev. William S. Harrison
Parochial Vicar Retired: Rev. John R. McFadden
Deacon Retired: William A. Cella
Principal: Mrs. Joyce Flanigan
Business Manager: William Boyce
Coord. of Liturgical Music: Mrs. Melanie Capoferri
Organist: Stephen Duffy
PREP Coordinator: Mrs. Mary Ciamachelo

PARISH OFFICES

Rectory: 215-379-1364; Fax: 215-379-2054
PREP Office/Youth Ministry: 215-379-2054
School: 215-379-3798
Convent: 215-379-8343
Bulletin Info: bulletin.pbvm@gmail.com

PASTORAL COUNCIL

Vacant

PARISH ORGANIZATIONS

Altar Servers: Father Harrison 215-379-1364
C.Y.O.: cyoboard.presentation@gmail.com
C.Y.O. Athletic Dir.: Dawn Kessler. 267-934-3366
Environmental Helpers: Ethel Burke: 215-725-5973
Gabriel Project: Annie Byrne 215-379-6830
Home & School: Heather Martinez
hspbvm@presbvmschool.org
Lectors: Father Harrison: 215-379-1364
Liturgy: Father Harrison: 215-379-1364
Mary's Helpers: Ethel Burke: 215-725-5973
Music Coord., Melanie Capoferri : 215-379-1364
Pastoral Council, Father Harrison: 215-379-1364
Phone Prayer Line, Ethel Burke: 215-725-5973
P.R.E.P. Coordinator, Mary Ciamachelo: 215-749-0804
Scrip: PresBvmScrip@gmail.com
Spiritual Life Committee, Fr. Harrison: 215-379-1364

Deadline for Publication

The deadline for publication in the parish bulletin is Monday at 11am. You can submit your notices either by email (bulletin.pbvm@gmail.com) or by dropping them off at the rectory. (Previously published bulletins are available on the parish website.)

Visit Presentation BVM Parish's FaceBook page:
<https://www.facebook.com/PresParishCheltenham>

December 31, 2023 – Feast of the Holy Family

First Reading: Sirach 3: 2-6, 12-14

Here we read “the cornerstone of biblical ethics”: Fear of the Lord embraces our duties to others, first of all to our parents.

Second Reading: Colossians 3: 12-21

St. Paul offers a true formula for living family life on the Lord. He lists several virtues and then adds: “Over all these put on love.”

Gospel: Luke 2: 22-40

Luke tells us of the Holy Family’s cautious return to Israel, and how they had to avoid Judea because Herod’s son ruled there. They settled in Galilee. All of this done by Joseph as head of the family at the directions given him in his dreams.

Reflection:

Simeon and Anna were vigilant in prayer and watching – waiting for God to enter their lives. They were wide awake and receptive to something new and unexpected. God is there in surprising ways for those with open minds and hearts. Like Simeon and Anna, those who have put their hope in God will recognize the messiah when at last the Christ does come.

So, we ask ourselves:

- For what revelation from God am I waiting?
- Where and how am I waiting?
- What will be the sign that will tell me God has visited me in my waiting?

Readings for the Week – December 31, 2023

Monday, January 1, 2024 Nm 6:22-27 Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8 Gal 4:4-7 Lk 2:16-21

Tuesday, January 2, 2024 1 Jn 2:22-28 Ps 98:1, 2-3AB, 3CD-4 Jn 1:19-28

Wednesday, January 3, 2024 1 Jn 2:29–3:6 Ps 98:1, 3CD-4, 5-6 Jn 1:29-34

Thursday, January 4, 2024 1 Jn 3:7-10 Ps 98:1, 7-8, 9 Jn 1:35-42

Friday, January 5, 2024 1 Jn 3:11-21 Ps 100:1b-2, 3, 4, 5 Jn 1:43-51

Saturday, January 6, 2024 1 Jn 5:5-13 Ps 147:12-13, 14-15, 19-20

Mk 1:7-11 or Lk 3:23-38 or Lk 3:23, 31-34, 36, 38

Sunday, January 7, 2024 Is 60:1-6 Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13 Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6 Mt 2:1-12



MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Sunday, December 31, 2023

8:30 Cyrenian Society

11:30

5:00 pm Vigil at St. Joseph

Monday, January 1, 2024, Solemnity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Mother of God

10:00 Mass at Presentation

Tuesday, January 2, 2024, Memorial of Sts. Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzen, Bishops and Doctors of the Church

6:30 James Cole

10:00 John Taylor

Wednesday, January 3, 2024, 2023, Feast of St. John, apostle and evangelist

6:30 Bernard M. Rigby

10:00 Mass at St. Joseph

Thursday, January 4, 2024, Memorial of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, Religious

6:30 Herb Gress, Jr.

10:00 Anne McAna

Friday, January 5, 2024, Memorial of St. John Neumann, Bishop

6:30 John F. Taylor

10:00 Mass at St. Joseph

Saturday, January 6, 2024, 2024

8:00 Catherine Boyle

REMEMBER OUR SICK

Please keep in your daily prayers, those who are sick and in need of God’s healing touch.



Joseph Affet, Sonny Andris, Matthew Balent, Bill Bamberg, Debbie Chakler, Joanna DeNofa, Charles and Donna Frush, Bob Gottschalk, Stanley Grey, Fred Henderson, Carol Jean Hertkorn, Mary Hillenbrand, Brian Hinchey, Stanley Hrynko, Russel Kahny, Joey Lanzi, Donna McGonigle, Bill Mahoney, Angelo Maiale, Norah Mason, Eileen Myer, Mary Ellen Murphy, Theresa Noraka, Anthony Piotrowski, Mary Rowland, Patty Rowley, Ann Ruocchio, Ann Schlimer, John Sheridan, Theresa and Bill Sheviver, Josephine D. Smith, Michael R. Smith, Rita Marie Smith, Steven Specht Jr., Howard Stickley III, Ethel Thomas, Tim Thompson, Marie Verna, Chris Vogel, James White, Patricia Wilbert

Quotables

“Spread love everywhere you go. Let no one ever come to you without leaving happier”

~St. Teresa of Calcutta

“Be who God meant you to be, and you will set the world on fire.”

~St. Catherine of Siena
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Pres Events, 12/31– 1/6		
	Parish	School
Sun., 12/31		
Mon., 1/1	New Year's Day	School Closed.
Tues., 1/2	Rosary, 6pm, Chapel; PREP, 6:45 - 8:05	Classes resume.
Wed., 1/3		
Thurs., 1/4		
Fri., 1/5		
Sat., 1/6		

Vigil for Life

Christ the King from 7:00-10:00 am, Saturday, January 6..

Adoration

We have Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament every Monday from 3-5 pm in the Adoration Chapel. But Jesus is always present there and the Chapel is a beautiful place for silent prayer. So come visit!

SUPPORT THE PARISH!

Our parish offers online giving. Sponsored by the Catholic Foundation of Greater Philadelphia, support our parish by visiting www.thecfpg.org/parish. Use your credit card or debit from your bank account, and make a one-time contribution or set up a recurring gift so that Presentation BVM parish, Cheltenham, can receive a steady avenue of support.

Scrip News & Schedule

Sunday: 9:30 am - 11:30 am; **Monday:** 7:30 am – 10 am;
Tuesday: 2 pm - 3 pm; **Wednesday:** 6:30 pm – 7:30 pm;
Thursday: 9 am – 11 am; **Friday:** 7:30 am – 10 am;
Saturday: CLOSED.

SCRIP IS AVAILABLE 24/7 @ www.shopwithscrip.com or by using the Raise Right App on your mobile device.

Any questions? Need help? Call us, text us, email us!

Nicole H. (215) 939-3900; Kathleen H. (215) 870-8251

The Scrip program is the easiest, no cost fundraiser there is. There is no gimmick, no catch. It takes a few minutes of pre planning and a smidge of discipline, but the payoff is great!!!! Monies earned through Scrip can be used at ANY school (AOP, Private Schools/Academies, etc)...from preschool through college, student loans, and any school related fees.

Come and See Weekends for Men Discerning a Call to the Priesthood

Come & See events offer men (high school and post-high school) considering a vocation the opportunity to visit the St. Charles Borromeo Seminary to see what seminary life is like and explore a possible call to the priesthood.

When: January - March 2024

Where: St. Charles Borromeo Seminary, Wynnewood

More info: Visit <https://heedthecall.org/comeandsee/> or contact Fr. David Friel, Vocations Director, fr.dfriel@archphila.org



Answers to Theology Trivia

1. Revelation 2. Jesus 3. Parables 4. The Virginal Conception or Virgin Birth 5. Joyful



Thoughts for the New Year

"You can have flaws, be anxious, and even be angry, but don't forget that your life is the greatest business in the world. Only you can stop it from failure. You are appreciated, admired, and loved by many. Remember that being happy is not having a sky without storms, a road without accidents, a job without effort, relationships without disappointments.

"Being happy is to stop feeling a victim and become the author of your own destiny. It's going through deserts, but being able to find an oasis deep in your soul. It's to thank God every morning for the miracle of life. It's kissing your children, cuddling your parents, having poetic moments with your friends, even when they hurt us.

"To be happy is to let live the creature that lives in each of us, free, joyful, and simple. It's having maturity to be able to say: "I made mistakes". Having the courage to say "I'm sorry". It's having a sensitivity to say "I need you". Is having the ability to say "I love you". May your life become a garden of opportunities for happiness... that in spring I can be a lover of joy and in winter a lover of wisdom.

"And when you make a mistake, start over. Because only then will you fall in love with life. You will find that being happy doesn't mean having a perfect life. But she uses tears to irrigate tolerance. Use your defeats to train your patience.

"Use your mistakes with the serenity of the sculptor. Use pain to tune into pleasure. Use obstacles to open the windows of intelligence. Never give up ... Above all, never give up on the people that love you. Never give up on happiness, because life is an amazing show. "

~ Fernando Pessoa (1888-1935)

Christmas Celebration Schedule Presentation BVM and St. Joseph

New Year's Eve Mass

Sunday, December 31, 5 pm, at St. Joseph

New Year's Day Mass

Monday, January 1, 10 am, at Presentation

Christmas Mass Obligations

This year the Solemnity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Mother of God, is NOT a holy day of obligation since it is celebrated on a Monday. Thus the faithful DO NOT HAVE to attend Mass on New Year's Eve (December 31) or New Year's Day (January 1), but, of course, are encouraged to do so!

Interested in Volunteering?

Presentation BVM School is looking for volunteer librarians to encourage a love of reading in our students.

More Info: Please call Joyce Flanigan at 215-379-3798 or email mrs.flanigan@presbvmschool.org.

PRESENTATION BVM SCHOOL

Registrations for the 2023-2024 academic year are now being accepted. Grants and scholarships are available!

Accommodating the educational needs of children beginning



in Preschool (3 & 4 year old programs) and continuing through 8th grade, Presentation BVM School, offers a nurturing, faith-filled environment rooted in strong Catholic traditions. With a

dedicated faculty committed to achieving high standards of academic excellence, Presentation BVM is a Middle States Accredited school that offers many curricular and co-curricular opportunities for your child to be a well rounded individual: academically, spiritually, and socially. Tour our school, meet faculty members, and find out what makes Pres the best fit for your child!

- AOP School of Distinguished Instruction
- Middle States Accredited
- 3 & 4 Year Old Preschool Program
- 1:1 Chrome books
- Fine Arts Program
- Free breakfast and lunch
- Hands on Science Lab
- After School CARES Program
- Anti-bullying Program
- Active H&S Association
- Honors Math Program
- Catapult
- MCIU Services
- Award winning band

105 Old Soldiers Road, Cheltenham, PA 19012

Visit us at www.presentationbvmschool.org

Tours available every Tuesday and Thursday.

For more information or to schedule a tour, call the school at (215) 379-3798 or visit the website.

Novena to Three American Saints for Life

Saints Elizabeth Ann Seton, Francis Cabrini, and John Neumann are powerful witnesses to the Gospel of Life, each in their own time. This novena suggests three days of prayer to each of the saints for the promotion of life in our country and our Church today. Pray this novena along with us either in person or via Livestream through Facebook or YouTube.

When: Sunday, January 14, to January 22, 20s4

Where: National Centre, 111 Barto Road, Barto , PA or

Facebook: www.Facebook.com/PadrePiolnc

YouTube: <https://YouTube.com/@PadrePiolnc>



Presentation BVM School
Cheltenham, PA
presentationbvmschool.org



**Lottery
Calendar
Fundraiser**

Makes a great stocking stuffer!
31 chances to win —
\$2,650 in total prizes
ranging from \$50 to \$500!
Winner based on the daily 7pm
Pennsylvania Evening Pick 3
(straight as drawn)

**Your \$10 donation supports
the students and staff at
Presentation BVM School.**

Calendars can be purchased at school,
at the Scrip office or after Mass on the weekends .
If you are interested in selling/buying calendars,
please contact Bill Boyce at
wboyce@presbvmschool.org

Thank you for your support!

Reflection by Rev. Leonard N. Peterson

Many items in our everyday lives follow a formula. The list would include everything from breakfast cereal to industrial chemicals. But the same holds true for our spiritual lives. Our Catholic prayers, for example, generally follow the “formula” or pattern of the “Our Father.” We praise God and then make respectful request(s) of Him.

So too is there a formula for living family life as given us in Holy Scripture. Today’s Second Reading, of St. Paul to the Colossians, should rank high in our estimation. It is a direct refute of all the bullish attacks on Christian family life in the secular culture that surrounds us. The chief feature there is the absence of God and any reference to Him that is sadly prevalent in many families today.

The purpose of this particular letter was to bolster the faith of the community at Colossae and to correct errors reported about the Church in that city. Jewish and Hellenistic elements seem to be combined in those errors. Paganism, magic, astrology and mystery religions.

As we read the particular section of the Letter chosen for us on this special Feast of the Holy Family, we note the formula that emerges for living all our families in a truly Christian way. The basic component is the fact that we are “God’s chosen ones.” This means that God’s existence as well as His presence are the essentials. Take God away and the whole formula is baseless. Note that “bearing with one another and forgiving one another” is included. How absent that seems to be many times these days!

Comedians make light of it, sometimes, but underneath the laughter is the sad kernel of truth that too many of us do not forgive and forget the mistakes of those people who have the same last name as ours.

We dare not push aside the Holy Family as our model because of the sublime holiness present there. If we are, as Paul tells us, “God’s chosen ones,” we have the inborn ability to honor God’s choice by our prayer and daily effort.

The story is told of a young man who stood before a judge to be sentenced for forgery. The judge had been a friend of the boy’s father, who was famous for his books on the law of trusts. “Young man,” said the judge sternly, “do you remember your father, that father whom you have disgraced?”

“I remember him perfectly.” the young man answered quietly.

“When I went to him for advice or companionship, he would say ‘Run away, boy, I’m busy.’ Well, my father finished his book, and here I am.”

God love you, and bring His peace to your family.

“God walks into your soul with silent step. God comes to you more than you go to Him. Never will his coming be what you expect, and yet never will it disappoint. The more you respond to his gentle pressure, the greater will be your freedom.”

— Ven. Fulton Sheen

Theology Trivia

1. Sometimes called the Apocalypse, the last book of the New Testament is known as _____.
2. Whom does John’s Gospel describe as the Way, the Truth, and the Life?
3. Jesus taught in the form of stories called _____.
4. The doctrine, based in Scripture, that states that Jesus had no human father is known as _____.
5. Which mysteries of the Rosary include the Annunciation?
6. The Gospels are found in this part of the Bible.

(Answers on p. 3)

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The Holy Family

When we talk about the Holy Family we are talking about Jesus and his mother Mary and his foster-father, Saint Joseph. Mary became the mother of Jesus when she was betrothed (formally engaged) to St. Joseph, and Jesus' real father was God the Father Himself. So Saint Joseph acted as the Father of Jesus on earth.



Saint Joseph was a carpenter and worked hard to provide for his family. Mary loved Jesus and Joseph and cooked and cleaned for them. When Jesus was old enough Saint Joseph trained Him to be a carpenter as well. Because they all loved each other with generosity and selflessness they were really the happiest and holiest family that ever lived.

We can imitate the Holy Family by loving our parents and siblings and putting others before ourselves. What can you do today to make your family happier and holier?



Answers to Word Find: Love each other

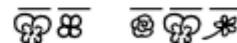
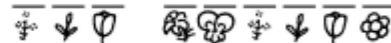
www.thekidsbulletin.com

The Kids' Bulletin

December 31st, 2023: Feast of the Holy Family
January 1st, 2024: Feast of Mary the Mother of God



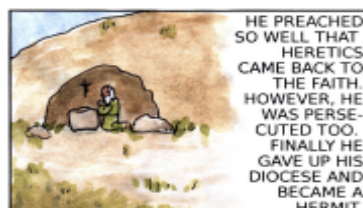
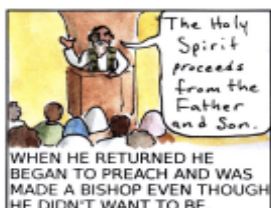
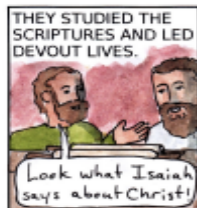
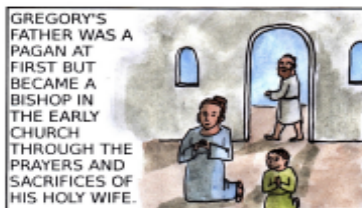
Mary,



Under what title do we honour Our Lady on January 1st?
Use the code to find out!

D E F G H M O R T
* * * * *

Saint Gregory Nazianzen January 2



SAINT GREGORY LIVED A LIFE OF SACRIFICE AND PENANCE, AND THOUGHT NOTHING OF ALL WORLDLY RICHES AND PLEASURES. HE WROTE AND TAUGHT ABOUT THE FAITH SO ELOQUENTLY THAT MANY WERE BROUGHT BACK TO THE FAITH. BECAUSE OF ALL HE DID TO TEACH THE FAITH HE IS CALLED A DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH.

thekidsbulletin@gmail.com

Holy Family Word-Find

L G O D S E L F L E S S
O M H V J E F A E J A C
C O O P E R A T I O N A
H T L C S L M H S S H R
I H Y H U E I E H E L P
L E O O S A L R A P O E
D R T M A R Y H R H V N
H O M E H N J A E E E T
F A I T H R O P E A C E
F O S T E R Y P P O O R
P E R F E C T Y C A R E



See if you can find all these words about the Holy Family in the puzzle!

Use the leftover letters to fill in the blanks at the end!

CARE
CARPENTER
CHILD
COOPERATION
FAITH
FAMILY
FATHER
FOSTER

GOD
HAPPY
HELP
HOLY
HOME
JESUS
JOSEPH
JOY
LEARN

LOVE
MOTHER
MARY
PEACE
PERFECT
POOR
SELFLESS
SHARE

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The best way to be like the Holy Family:

_____!

