

QUESTIONS OF THE WEEK

December 27 The Holy Family

Respect for Elders

Promises of a Great Nation - Genesis 15:1-6,21:1-3

Psalm 105:1-2,3-4,5-6,8-9

The Faith of Abraham - Hebrews 11:8, 11-12, 17-19

The Presentation of the Lord - Luke 2:22-40
or 2:22,39-40

Key Passage: “Look up at the sky and count the stars, if you can. Just so,” he added, “will your descendants be.”
(Gen 15:5)

For Reflection:

Adult Question: What does your family do to honor and respect its oldest members?

Child Question: Who are the oldest people you know, and what can you learn from them?

We celebrate the Feast of the Holy Family on the first Sunday after Christmas! This day is a reminder to us of the example Mary and Joseph set for all of us in welcoming Jesus into their lives. The Holy Family serves as a model for us all in which they live in faith and simplicity.

Add an additional prayer to your family routine today and brainstorm ways you might help each other grow in faith throughout this new year.

THE SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT de

PAUL

Today is the Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph. During our New Year may our families “grow in wisdom and have the favor of God upon them.” This month, through your gifts, the Society of St. Vincent de Paul was able to bring Christmas to the hearts of the poor, by providing gift cards, assistance with utility and rent bills and food. Thanks!

CHRISTMAS GIFT

There is a Christmas gift from the parish on a table in the back of the Church. Please take one as you leave. We wish you many Christmas blessings.

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, December 26

5:00

**Kabacinski and Siconolfi
Families**

Sunday, December 27

9:30

**Catherine, Michael and
Anthony Masullo
Mary DeCoste**

12:00 at St. Augustine

Monday, December 28

9:00

**Dr. Joseph G. and Martha
Paterno**

Tuesday, December 29

9:00

Aloyse Schmit

Wednesday, December 30

9:00

**Stephen Kutchko
NEW YEAR'S EVE**

Thursday, December 31

5:00

**Nicklos Fialo, III
NEW YEAR'S DAY**

Friday, January 1

12:00

**Living and deceased
parishioners**

IN OUR PRAYERS

May God strengthen and give peace to all of our sick parishioners, relatives and friends, especially for:

Robert Schlegel, Daniel Joseph, Matt Speicher, Edna Fialo, Al Campisi, Mary McLoughlin, Aloyse Chong, Lorraine Lozito, Tara Lindis-Corbel and David Harrison.

*May the hope of the Resurrection dawn on our deceased relatives and friends especially: **Justina Ramos.***

We lift them up to our heavenly Father who heals all ills and gives new life.

LONG ISLAND/METRO RETROUVAILLE

Long Island/Metro Retrouvaille is a lifeline for married couples. Retrouvaille helps couples through difficult times in their marriages. For confidential information about the

Retrouvaille program, or to register for the upcoming weekend that begins on Friday, January 22, 2021 at the Marriott Melville Long Island, Melville, NY please call 1-800-470-2230 and you will be connected directly and confidentially to a couple from Long Island/Metro Retrouvaille who can help.

1880. We thank you for your understanding as we work through St. Augustine, St. Francis Xavier (SASFX) merger.

ANNUAL CATHOLIC APPEAL

The Diocesan Catholic Yearly Appeal provides us with the opportunity to be bearers of Christ's light to others, a light that reflects Christ's kindness, compassion and hope. We hope that when presented with the opportunity to participate in the Annual Appeal, you will answer the call to build God's Kingdom. St. Francis Xavier Parish has achieved their diocesan assigned goal. Thank you to all who participated.

St. Augustine parishioners have pledged \$13,999.00 towards their assigned goal of \$38,000.00.

Please join us and help us to reach our assigned goal. Thank you!

NEW YEAR'S SCHEDULE

**New Year's Eve, Thursday, December 31st
Mass 5:00pm: St. Francis Xavier**

**New Year's Day Friday, January 1st
Mass 12:00pm St. Augustine**

**Rectory Office Will Be Closed
Dec. 31-Jan 2**

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

In the face of these unsettling times, you as a faithful parishioner remain generous. We are thankful for your continuing generosity.

MARY, MOTHER OF GOD



Mary is God's chosen one who bears God's Son to the world. Through baptism, we too are chosen. By our "yes" to the Word of God, we are adopted sons and daughters, children of God. Together we cry out with our brother Jesus, "Abba! Father!"

With Mary, we ponder the great mystery of all that has been told concerning her child. What we see and hear is more than a baby lying in a manger, but God's Word of salvation for the entire world. As Mary's spiritual children, we join in her mission to bring forth Jesus, the one who saves us from our sins. With her, we treasure in our hearts what we have seen and heard.

MASS INTENTIONS

"People shouldn't be forgotten, they matter"

The offering is \$15 per Mass Intention which is a way of providing for the needs of the church and a tangible way of offering the gift of remembrance.

Other ways to remember your loved ones are also available.

The SASFX Mass Intention Book for 2021 is now open for your intentions. Since we currently have fewer Masses and parishioners from both St. Augustine and St. Francis Xavier seeking Mass intentions, we will be accepting up to 2 intentions for each Mass. Anyone wishing to request more Masses for 2021 contact the rectory at 718-638-

**MAY GOD BLESS YOUR GOODNESS AND GIVE YOU
ALL HIS BLESSINGS AND JOY IN THE NEW YEAR**

WORLD DAY OF PEACE - JANUARY 1st

The World Day of Peace --- instituted by Pope Paul VI in 1968—is celebrated each year on January 1st.

The pope provides a message for the occasion, which is sent to foreign ministers around the world.

The pope’s message for 2021 World Day of Peace is entitled, “A Culture of Care as a Path to Peace.”

“The Culture of Care ... calls for a common, supportive and inclusive commitment to protecting and promoting the dignity and good of all, a willingness to show care and compassion, to work for reconciliation and healing, and to advance mutual respect and acceptance. As such, it represents a privileged path to peace,” Pope Francis wrote in the peace [message](#).

Pope Francis wrote that he envisioned this culture of care as a way to combat the “culture of indifference, waste, and confrontation so prevalent in our time.”

The pope stressed that there is a need for relationships between nations to be inspired by fraternity, mutual respect, solidarity, and the observance of international law. He also urged that humanitarian law be respected.

“While conflicts have many causes, the result is always the same: destruction and humanitarian crises. We need to stop and ask ourselves what has led our world to see conflict as something normal, and how our hearts can be converted and our ways of thinking changed, in order to work for true peace in solidarity and fraternity.”

Let us pray for peace in our hearts, in our homes and in our world.