

The Parish Family of
St. Joseph Catholic Church
Farmington, Missouri

January 1st, 2012

Mary, the Holy Mother of God

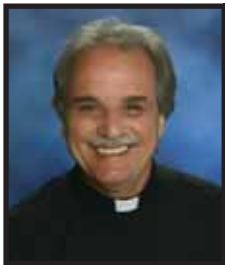
Living the Gospel Message Since 1890

Mary

*Blessed are You
Among Women*

Luke 1:42B





From the Pastor's Pen

Dear Parishioners of St. Joseph

A Prayer for Christmas and the New Year!

For unto us a child is born,
Unto us a child is given:
Upon his shoulder dominion rests.
He shall be called
Wonderful, Counselor,
The mighty God, the everlasting Father,
And the Prince of Peace.

Isaiah 9:6

Dear Heavenly Father,
we come to the stable in Bethlehem this New Year,
our hearts overflowing with adoration and gratitude,
as we kneel with Joseph and Mary
before the manger of Your only begotten Son.

Unto us, who have lost our innocence
and sense of wonder, a Child is born. Unto us, who have
hardened our hearts and misplaced our joy,
a Son is given. Upon his shoulder rests a government
both compassionate and servant,
for Jesus has come to embrace us,
wash our feet, and save us on the Cross.
Truly, in all our trials, He is born to be our Friend!

O Lord, please send out Your Spirit
upon us this New Year and soften our hearts.
Help us to take time to look into each other's eyes,
listen a little more closely, and appreciate the goodness
of each person we meet along our journey.

Help us to take time also to seek you in the quiet
of our hearts, homes and our parish community,
for time with You is our greatest treasure.
Watch over our loved ones near and far,
especially those who protect us at home and abroad.
Bring peace to every part of the world,
every room of our homes, and every corner of our hearts.

Lord Jesus, bless each of us here at St. Joseph's
with your warmth and light.
May you be born again in us this Christmas,
everyday of the New Year and forever.
Amen!

Join Us Next Sunday For Our "All You Can Eat Breakfast"

I hope you will join us next Sunday, January 8th, for our monthly breakfast sponsored by our **Knights of Columbus** after the 7:30 and 9:00 masses. All proceeds from the breakfast go for special need items for our school. The food is awesome!!!

Roses for Life Next Weekend

Next weekend after all of the masses our **Knights of Columbus** will be outside of church asking you to sign a small paper rose that will be carried personally with us on our pilgrimage to Washington D.C. These roses will then be taken to the office of Joann Emerson. Please take a moment to sign a rose.

Washington D.C. Pilgrimage Meeting Next Week

For those attending this year's pilgrimage, please mark your calendar for a special meeting next **Wednesday, January 11th in the parish center at 7:30 pm** to go over the itinerary of the trip! Your sweatshirts will be available for pick up on this evening.

Thank you St. Joe's for your tremendous support of our fundraisers that helped to make this trip more affordable to those attending. We have reached our monetary goal!!

Pastoral Care for Those Who are Homebound

If you know of anyone who is homebound because of illness or aging, please contact **Agnes Hinkebein, RN** at the Parish Office at 756-4250 to let us know. We would like to provide pastoral care for all our parishioners, especially those who cannot join us at Mass.

If you or someone in your family is in the hospital, please let us know as the hospital does not contact us with this information. If you are interested in being a Eucharistic Minister for our Nursing Homes, please call Agnes, our Parish Health Minister.

Our Annual Catholic Appeal Reaches Out to Our St. Vincent de Paul

Thank you for your support of the Annual Catholic Appeal. St. Vincent de Paul recently applied for and received a grant from the Annual Catholic Appeal for **\$1,500.00**. This will certainly help us help the needy through these cold winter months.

Thank You for Your Faithful Gifts of Treasure. Good Job St. Joseph's Family!!!

Last week we marked the half way point of our parish fiscal year. We are on target for meeting our budgeted goal from our weekly contributions!!! **I sincerely thank you for your generosity and faithful giving of your treasures each week!!!**

Because of your continued support, our parish and school are looking forward to having a balanced budget this fiscal year. If we continue to keep our weekly collection on par, we will reach our goal. Please continue to check the weekly collection report in the bulletin. You are all truly stewards of God's gifts. **My heartfelt thanks to all of you.**

Want a Great Suggestion for a New Year's Resolution? How about a commitment of spending one hour in Eucharistic Adoration each week of the New Year?

As we all know, the Eucharist is the source and summit of the Church's life and ministry. Fostering devotion to the Eucharist Adoration among the faithful should be a priority for our parish! As Pope Benedict XVI expressed so beautifully in The Sacrament of Charity, "The personal relationship which the individual believer establishes with Jesus present in the Eucharist points beyond itself to the whole communion of the Church and nourishes a fuller sense of membership in the Body of Christ."

I fully believe that all of the wonderful things that our parish experiences come directly from the prayers offered in Eucharistic adoration each week!

God calls; we respond. Each one of us is called by God for a particular life's work. But all of us share in the fundamental call to holiness of life, to service in the name of Jesus Christ. I invite each of you to join with me in renewed Eucharistic devotion for our parish. Please call **Rita Boyd** at **756-2383** to make your commitment of one hour in the Real Presence of Christ in the New Year! **I promise you, you will bear much fruit and grace from this New Year's resolution that will nourish both body and soul.**

Some Thoughts on New Year's Resolutions...

Each year I like to share with you the following meditation that might give us some thought as to how we will feed and nourish our souls for the New Year.

Two Wolves

One evening an old Cherokee told his grandson about a battle that goes on inside people. He said, "My son, the battle is between two 'wolves' inside us all.

One is Evil. It is anger, envy, jealousy, sorrow, regret, greed, arrogance, self-pity, guilt, resentment, inferiority, lies, false pride, superiority, and ego.

The other is Good. It is joy, peace, love, hope, serenity, humility, kindness, benevolence, empathy, generosity, truth, compassion and faith."

The grandson thought about it for a minute and then asked his grandfather, "Which wolf will win?"

The old man simply replied, "The one you feed."

And Finally...

Beginning next Saturday evening, January 7th, I will be the celebrant at a **7:30 pm** mass at **St. Catherine of Alexandria in Coffman**. This will be a permanent time for mass each week in Coffman. If you are ever in need of a later mass please feel free to join us.

Here is one of my favorite meditations as we continue to celebrate the Octave of Christmas.

"Now Christmas Begins"

*When the song of the angels is stilled
When the star in the sky is gone
When the kings and princes are home
When the shepherds are back with their flocks
The true meaning of Christmas is revealed...
To find the lost... To heal the broken...
To feed the hungry... To release the prisoner...
To rebuild the nations...
To bring peace among the people...
And to make Christ's love known in the world.*

Author Unknown

“Always remember that as long as we keep the Eucharist the center of our lives, everything else will fall in place...of that I am confident”!!!

Blessings of Christmas Joy...Fr. Rickey

Our Pastoral Team

Rev. Rickey J. Valleroy Pastor
email: frrickvalleroy@aol.com

Rev. James W. Dyer Associate Pastor
email: frjim@stjosephfarmington.com

Deacon Albin Gegg Permanent Deacon

Susie Rohrer Principal
email: principal@stjosephfarmington.com

Agnes Hinkebein Pastoral Health Care
email: agnes@stjosephfarmington.com

Abe AuBuchon Youth/Young Adult Ministry
email: aaubuchon@stjosephfarmington.com

Abbey McAnally Preschool Director
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email: bulletin@stjosephfarmington.com

Jane Hardy Secretary
email: secretary@stjosephfarmington.com

Mary Smith School Administrative Assistant
email: msmith@stjosephfarmington.com

Jane Ramos School Improvement Coordinator
email: jramos@stjosephfarmington.com

Mike Ward Maintenance Supervisor

Shirley Bieser Pastoral Council

Chuck Hayden Financial Commission

Ed Brown Cemetery Association

Parish Business Office Hours

Monday thru Friday • 8:00 am to 4:30 pm
Phone (573)756-4250 • Fax (573)756-6938
10 North Long Street • Farmington, MO 63640

St. Joseph Catholic Church Parish Mission Statement

*We are called by our Lord Jesus Christ,
to be His church and live His gospel.
We strive to fulfill our baptismal calling
by prayer, worship, teaching and in
sharing our faith and serving others.
Guided by the Holy Spirit and
through our patron St. Joseph, we
commit ourselves to the responsible
stewardship of all God's gifts.*

Mass Schedule

Monday thru Friday 7:00 am
Friday (All School Mass Aug-May) 8:05 am
Sunday Observance

Saturday 5:00 pm
Sunday 7:30 am, 9:00 am, and 10:30 am

Holy Days of Obligation 7 am, 8 am, and 7 pm

The Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturdays 4 pm, Sundays 7 am, or by appointment

The Sacrament of Baptism

Baptisms are held the first Sunday of the month
after the 10:30 am Mass

The Sacrament of Marriage

Celebrated after meeting the bride and groom and
beginning preparation six months before the wedding,
in accordance with Archdiocesan Wedding Policy.

Eucharistic Adoration

Thursdays 7:30 am through Closing Prayer Service
at 5:20 pm. First Fridays of the month from 8:30 am
through Closing Prayer Service at 2:15 pm.

St. Vincent de Paul Society

Open Tuesday and Friday from 9:00 am - 12:00 pm
For assistance call 756-0997



Happy Birthday



<u>January 1st</u> Natalie Boyd Tiffani Busenbark Dixie Cason Jaysen Mattingly Charmaine McFarland Jacinta Weidenbenner	<u>January 3rd</u> Jacob Johnson Floyd McFarland Amy Reynolds	<u>January 5th cont.</u> Rose Petinga Connie Watson
<u>January 2nd</u> Rosemary Kane Alex Kearns Luke Landreneau Courtney Nicholson Kody Winch	<u>January 4th</u> Golda Aseniero Nicholas Dore' Isabel Holloway Cindy Wade	<u>January 6th</u> John Dugan Karen Hutson Michelle Ramirez Dorothy Wade Gabrielle Werner
<u>January 5th</u> Barbara Brun Gina Gerstenecker Blake Krueger	<u>January 7th</u> Amy Gerstner Bob Govreau Elena Lawson Todd Reidt	



Happy Anniversary



January 1st, 2003 January 5, 1991
Brent & Heather Meyer **John & Carol Vuichard**

Congratulations

to the longest married couple in our parish family,
Bill & Frances Young, who were married **70**
years ago on December 26th, 1941.



Eucharistic Celebrations and Mass Intentions

Week of January 2nd - 8th, 2012

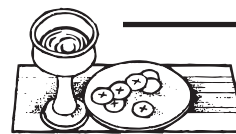
- Monday:** St. Basil the Great and
St. Gregory Nazianzen
Readings: 1 Jn 2:22-28 Ps 98:1-4 Jn 1:19-28
7:00 am: Vincent A. Tallo
- Tuesday:** Christmas Weekday
Readings: 1 Jn 2:29-3:6 Ps 98:1-3,6 Jn 1:29-34
7:00 am: Fred & Ruth Bangert
- Wednesday:** St. Elizabeth Ann Seton
Readings: 1 Jn 3:7-10 Ps 98:1,7-9 Jn 1:35-42
7:00 am: Frank & Rosemary Knittig
- Thursday:** St. John Neumann
Readings: 1 Jn 3:11-21 Ps 100:1-5 Jn 1:43-51
7:00 am: Lon Hayden Family
- Friday:** Christmas Weekday
Readings: 1 Jn 5:5-13 Ps 147:12-15,19-20
Mk 1:7-11 or Lk 3:23-28 or
Lk 3:23,31-34,36,38
7:00 am: John Kormos
8:00 am: Kay & Dave Ropelle
- Sunday: The Epiphany of the Lord**
Readings: Is 60:1-6 Ps 72:2,7-8,10-13
Eph 3:2-3a,5-6 Mt 2:1-12
5:00 pm Deceased Members of the
Kreitler & DeLassus Families
- Sunday:**
7:30 am: Josephine Govreau
9:00 am: Parishioners
10:30 am: Bob & Jo Boyd

visit www.stjosephfarmington.com and click on
"daily mass readings" for easy reference.

Welcome to St. Joseph Parish

A warm welcome to all of you who have come to worship with us. If you are visiting, we are honored by your presence. If you would like more information on becoming a member, please call the Parish Office at 756-4250. Our Parish serves the needs of the community in many ways. We offer preparation for Sacraments, education for children and adults, social activities, assistance to those in difficulty, comfort to the sick. If we can be of service, please let us know. We hope you will come again.

Ministers of the Liturgy



Saturday, January 7th

- Priest:** Fr. Rickey Valleroy
Lector: Shawn McCarver
Extraordinary Ministers:
Rick Conklin, Donna Conklin,
John Crouch, John Denkler, Tom Karl
Ushers: Bill Baker, Buddy Bordewick,
Donald Boyd, James Cissell
Servers: Mi. Harris, Ma. Harris, A. Willis

Sunday, January 8th

7:30 am Mass

- Priest:** Fr. Rickey Valleroy
Lector: Melissa Mitchell
Extraordinary Ministers:
Dotty Bach, Jerry Bach, Brenda Donze,
Jim Eaton, Steve Forsythe
Ushers: Ed Brown, Tom Donze,
Phil Roth, Ed Weidenbenner
Servers: A. Heberlie, E. Heberlie

9:00 am Mass

- Priest:** Fr. James Dyer
Lector: Charlotte Vander Bol
Extraordinary Ministers:
Adam Barnhouse, Dawn Fuemmeler, Mitch
Fuemmeler, Sandi Kracke, Vanessa Trokey
Ushers: Dan Combs, John England,
George Kracke, Bill Kure
Servers: K. Baechle, S. Bauer, J. Bone

10:30 am Mass

- Priest:** Fr. James Dyer
Deacon: Deacon Al Gegg
Lector: Phyllis LaPlant
Extraordinary Ministers:
Theresa Aubuchon, Shirley Bieser,
Charles Boyd, Alex Greif
Ushers: Bob Bone, Logan Cannell,
Tom Freeman, Roy Henson
Servers: N. Cassimatis, G. Gerstenecker, A. Gerstner

Tuesday, January 3rd, 2011

Sacristans

Sue Brown, Pat Dastoor,
Barb Doss, Geneva Jokerst

Money Counters

Marilyn Currington, Kathy Miller,
Bob & Mary Lou Govreau, Dottie Wade

Come join us for our weekly Parish Rosary to be offered this Wednesday at 7:15 pm in church.



Our Rosary Leaders will be:
Pat Dastoor, Barb Doss, Jeanie Gegg,
Joni Jones, Jackie Maloney

The Mysteries this week are: **Glorious**

Our petition for this week will be:

**“For the intentions of our Holy Father,
Pope Benedict for the New Year.”**

Your Gifts to God and Parish

Sunday, December 18th, 2011

Adult Envelopes	\$11,963.50
Loose	\$347.85
Children's Envelopes	\$3.00
First Offering	\$10.00
Immaculate Conception	\$40.00
Solemnity of Mary	<u>\$15.00</u>
	\$12,379.35

	<u>Current Week</u>	<u>Year to Date</u>
Sunday Offering	\$12,379.35	\$273,690.55
Budgeted Amount	<u>\$10,850.00</u>	<u>\$271,250.00</u>
Shortage/Overage	\$1,529.35	\$2,440.55

Partners in Education	\$200.00
Maintenance & Repair	\$35.00
St. Vincent de Paul	\$115.60
Seminaries	\$65.00
Christmas Flowers	\$440.00
Christmas	\$160.00
Secret Santa	<u>\$10.00</u>
Total for Specials	\$1,025.60

Thank You For Your Faithfulness!!!



“And Mary kept all these things, reflecting on them in her heart.” Luke 2:19

How lightly Mary held Jesus. She did not clutch Him to her but held Him out for the world to know. She knew that He did not belong to her alone. From the moment of His birth she was called upon to share Him with strangers who flocked to see Him. In the same way, we are also called to hold our blessings lightly, being willing to share what God has given to us with those whom God may lead to us. As this New Year begins, let us look to Mary as a grace-filled model of sharing all that God might ask of us.



Wedding Banns



Bann III
Mary Gibson & Donald Weiler
January 7th, 2012

Holiday Parish Office Hours



Please note that the parish office will be closed on **Monday, January 2nd** in observance of New Year's.

Let us pray for those who share weekly in our Eucharistic Celebration and who are carrying the gift of life. . .

Ashley (Matthew) Bono

If you are carrying the gift of life and would like the prayers of your parish family please call Sandy at the parish office.

Together we pray for those who are sick. (Parishioners names are in bold.)

Please pray for: **Denise Jeske**, Kathy Krechnyack, Cookie Loughary, **Joyce Wozniak**, Jim Boyd, Rollie Cahalane, **Robert McManus**, Betty Basler, **Demetra Franklin**, Suzette Morris, Cindy Marler, Kay Kearns, Trudy Flanagan, Katie Kirner, Rhonda LaPierre, **Paul Gremminger**, Debbie Gallahue, James Trolinger, Jean Fadler, Kenny Bierd, Cindy Elkings, Erin Czapala and her unborn baby, **Fred Manning**, Angie Boyer, Noel Burger, Dena Rose, Bern Striebel, Susan Fair, Martha Fay Clark, **Pat Johnson**, Delores Cleve, Ed Cannell, Allen Goldsmith, **Irene Eck**, **Carl Pruetzel**, Tom Boyer, Robert Klein, Hilda Pritchett, Bob Boyer, Connie Buenemann, Thomas Young, Debbie Gallahue, Jean Parrott, Stan Benne, Jim Greiner.

If you need to add someone to the prayer list, please contact Pat Boatright at 756-4169.

This Week in Our Parish

- Tues 01/03 **School Resumes**
- Wed 01/04 **Prayer Shawl Ministry Meeting**
9:00 am • Parish Center
- PSR Classes**
6:00 pm • School
- Knights of Columbus Meeting**
7:00 pm • Parish Center
- Parish Rosary**
7:15 pm • Church
- Thurs 01/05 **Eucharistic Adoration**
8:00 am - 5:15 pm • Church
- RCIA**
6:30 pm • Parish Center
- Boy Scout Meeting**
6:30 pm • Cafeteria
- Fri 01/06 **All School Mass**
8:05 am • Church
- First Friday Eucharistic Adoration**
8:30 am - 2:15 pm • Church
- Sun 01/08 **Parish All You Can Eat Breakfast**
after 7:30 and 9:00 am masses
in the cafeteria
- Spanish Mass**
3:00 pm • Church

Remember, Reflect, Respond

This feast has had several names through history. Most recently, it was called the Feast of the Circumcision and then the Feast of the Holy Name of Jesus. The Church finally settled on a more ancient title, Mary, the Mother of God. It also has a secondary title of the Octave of Christmas, the secular title of New Years Day, and an honorary title of World Day of Prayer for Peace. Strangely, the title that is most confusing to non-Catholics is the official one.

When we call Mary the Mother of God, we are not saying that she somehow preceded God or is equal to God. We are simply recognizing that her human son Jesus is also the divine Son of God. We honor Mary because God honored her by choosing her to be the mother of Jesus. In her humble response of "let it be done to me," she agreed to be part of God's plan for our salvation. And so today's gospel records one simple action of Mary: to keep these things in her heart.

Even in this simple sentence we are given a good example of being a disciple. Like Mary, we need to both keep, or remember, what God has done and reflect on what we remember. First, how much do we remember about what God has done for us? How well do we know the stories of salvation found in the scriptures? How well do we know God's actions in Church history? And how much do we remember of the personal graces God has given us? Do we recall the prayers God has answered, the guidance given, the love of God that others have shown us, the times He has forgiven us?

Second, how much do we reflect on what God has done? Even if we have many memories of God's goodness to us, we also need to pray over them and ask ourselves how we have changed because of what God has done. Am I more generous to others? Do I forgive hurts more readily? Do I share my faith with my family or friends? Do I support my parish with my time or offerings? Let us ask God's help to imitate Mary by remembering and reflecting.

(from "The Word in our Lives")



St. Joseph 3rd grade students participated in the United Way bell ringing this Christmas season.

Youth Group Tonight

Start off the new year right, gather with friends in prayer, enjoy food fun and faith tonight in the St. Joseph gym and cafeteria.

J.H. - 5:00-6:30

H.S. - 6:30-8:00

Join us to begin planning for the St. Joseph Youth Group 2012!!

Live the Faith!!

Abe and Jami AuBuchon



A Prayer Before The Blessed Nativity

O Blessed Mary and dearest Joseph, allow me to journey with you to Bethlehem. I am a lowly pilgrim making my way to the center of history, the center of the universe: the birth of Christ the Lord. With unspeakable awe and expectant wonder I long to behold the promised Messiah. Time will stand still, forever divided by the entry of the Creator into His creation. What joy to my eyes to see His adorable face. What joy to my ears to hear His soft cries. My heart is overcome with delight to see the splendor of God now truly alive in human flesh. For by God's infinite humility and kindness we now know Emmanuel, God with us. This dear infant at rest in a feeding trough will become the food for mankind, redeeming the world and nourishing each soul that receives Him. Both shepherd and lamb recognize Him as one of their own. For this Child will lead many into the green pastures of deathless Paradise by becoming the slain Shepherd, the sacrificial Lamb of God. By the light of a great star above, I see His precious eyes begin to open. He who is Light of Light now sees with eyes of flesh that star's gentle lumen. My heart is prostrate before Him and I have but one sorrow: I am poor, bereft of fitting treasures for this newborn King. And so I lay before Him the gift of my life, though even that be His own gift to me. O sweet Christ, Author of Life, accept my heart as gift born of Gift. O Jesus, remember me when you come into your Kingdom. Amen.



The Little Saints Corner



Before Christmas break, our Little Saints participated in a Polar Express Day in which we wore pajamas, watched the movie, got our pictures taken, and had a special guest come and read to us. Mrs. Rohrer, our principal, came and visited our preschool to read us The Polar Express book. She also brought us a cookie to eat just like the children in the story! Thank you, Mrs. Rohrer!

A Special Christmas Meditation

The Word Was Made Flesh and Dwelt Among Us...

10 WAYS TO LIVE THE MYSTERY OF THE INCARNATION

and to practice our belief that Christ came to live among us and is with us now



Listening: The art of listening is essential to living incarnationally. Appropriate listening is grounded in a faith that believes each person is made in the image of God. The Holy Spirit is active, working, leading, and inviting the church into the mission of Jesus especially when we listen to each other in the process of discernment.

Presence: Presence is about connection. In our culture, we connect through technology, and at the same time there is a great longing for face-to-face relationships. Bernard Cooke says it well: "We need people who mean something to us and to whom we mean something, knowing that being with them is coming home." The gift of presence is about building relationships and letting people see you and know you are there and letting people experience that you see them and want to know them.

Prayer: The regular practice of prayer, reflection, scripture reading, awareness, sharing faith and fasting, prepare us for genuine ministry and service pleasing to God and shape us into a people rooted in the Gospel.

Simplicity: With deep faith and trust in God, we choose to not live a stressed existence. Rather we choose to avoid rushing and frantic schedules. We choose to be rested, grounded and aware. Expediency and efficiency, plans and deadlines, are put in their proper perspective.

Empathy: The love of God is the beginning of incarnation. A response filled with compassion and fueled by the Holy Spirit comes out of our encounter with God, both personally and communally. This enables us to grow in awareness of God's love and to grasp the insight that those who suffer are Christ himself suffering. "Whatever you did for the least of my brothers, you did for me!"

Patience: Relationships, like any important aspect of life, take time. Incarnation happens through committed involvement with others and through faithful discernment of God's will. God waits for us. We wait for the evidence of Incarnation each day and "on that day" when Christ will come again. We wait for each other.

Generosity: The gift of Christ who became one of us calls us to be generous with all we have, especially our time, our presence, our attention. When we recognize Christ in each other, the desire to express that spiritual insight by generous gestures evangelizes and enriches both the giver and receiver. Generosity is both an imitation and a response to the abundance we have been given by God in Christ.

Advocacy: Following in the footsteps of Jesus means standing with the marginal, the poor and oppressed. We not only identify with them, but we act as advocates for them. The incarnation challenges us to work for a world where justice, peace and reconciliation are the norm. "The Lord hears the cry of the poor."

Hospitality: The Eucharist is the most tender expression of hospitality. Sharing a meal deepens relationships and allows all to be and to become the Children of God. Welcoming and being welcomed by all who follow Christ, strengthens us to go forth and invite others to the table. "When I was a stranger, you welcomed me."

Noticing: Our eyes are opened to Christ's Presence in our culture when we attend to and reflection on the stories people tell and live by, along with the media news and the GOOD NEWS, and those things people desire and buy into. Noticing these expressions and expectations, these values and vision, we are better able to respond to opportunities for evangelization. "Prepare the way of the Lord."

Nativity Prayer

Hymn of St. Ephraim the Syrian



The feast day of your birth resembles You, Lord
Because it brings joy to all humanity.
Old people and infants alike enjoy your day.
Your day is celebrated
from generation to generation.
Kings and emperors may pass away,
And the festivals to commemorate them
soon lapse.
But your festival
will be remembered until the end of time.
Your day is a means and a pledge of peace.
At Your birth heaven and earth were reconciled,
Since you came from heaven to earth on
that day
You forgave our sins and wiped away our guilt.
You gave us so many gifts on the day of
your birth:
A treasure chest of spiritual medicines for
the sick;
Spiritual light for the blind;
The cup of salvation for the thirsty;
The bread of life for the hungry.
In the winter when trees are bare,
You give us the most succulent spiritual fruit.
In the frost when the earth is barren,
You bring new hope to our souls.
In December when seeds are hidden in the soil,
The staff of life springs forth from the virgin womb

St. Ephraim the Syrian (AD 306-373)



Many of you were unable to get your wonderful recipes into the last Women of Mary cookbook "*Recipes and Remembrances*" and we would like you to submit these special recipes to us, so we may include them in our cookbook.

We will be accepting recipes for all categories in the cookbook and will compile them into packets that can be purchased for a small fee and added to the cookbooks you already own. **The deadline for submission is January 15th, 2012.** Please give your recipes to Helen Thurman or drop them off at the parish office.

The Women of Mary will also be doing a reprint of the original cookbook, "*Recipes and Remembrances.*" They will go on sale at our annual Bake Sale on Palm Sunday. Pre orders will be taken after January 15th, 2012. Contact Helen Thurman at 518-0627 for more details.

Quick-Start Annulment Program for Divorced and Separated Catholics

To help divorced and separated Catholics more fully understand the annulment process and begin whatever process may be necessary, Quick-Start sessions provide (1) a brief overview of the sacrament of marriage with an explanation of the annulment process and (2) personal assistance by an advocate to discuss an individual's situation and begin any application process which may be required. Please bring your marriage history including the date and location of any marriage and divorce as well as your ex-spouse's name and address. Registration is not required for these one-hour sessions to be held on:

- Saturday, January 7, 2012
at St. Joseph-Clayton at 10:00 am
- Monday, January 9, 2012
at St. Monica-Creve Coeur at 7:00 pm
- Wednesday, January 18, 2012
at Cardinal Rigali Center at 5:00 pm
- Monday, January 23, 2012
at Our Lady of Lourdes-Washington at 7:00 pm

Our local Meals on Wheels is in need of drivers! If you would like to donate some time to this worthy cause or would like more information please contact Pat Beussink at 756-1313.



Advertiser of the Week

This week we would like to thank

Earth Mother Health Food

for sponsoring our bulletin. Without our sponsors, we would have to assume the cost of publication. Please patronize our Advertisers!

Try Bulletin Advertising call 800-876-7000, Ext. 295.

“And the Word became Man and dwells among us!”

He dwells in our church day and night until the end of time. O come let us adore Him, Christ our Lord.

Eucharistic Adoration hours are **Thursdays from 7:30 am - 5:20 pm** followed by Benediction. Everyone is welcome to visit during Adoration Hours! For more information or to sign up contact Charlie and Rita Boyd at 756-2383, or e-mail them at ctboyd@sbcglobal.net.

