



The grace
of God
was upon him

HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH

DECEMBER 28, 2008

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 27, 2008

4:00 PM THOMAS & GRACE DI SABATO REQ. BY
FAMILY

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 28, 2008

7:30 AM M/M JOSEPH CASTONGUAY REQ. BY
DAUGHTER PAULINE

9:00 AM LIVING AND DECEASED MEMBERS OF
ST. JOSEPH PARISH

10:30 AM ESTHER GODREAU REQ. BY FAMILY

12 NOON SPANISH MASS ~ AMPARO & ARTURO
ESCOBAR REQ. BY BERNARDA SANCHEZ &
ROSA JARAMILLO

MONDAY, DECEMBER 29, 2008

9:00 AM LIVING AND DECEASED MEMBERS OF
THE ROBBINS-LEVINS FAMILIES

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 30, 2008

9:00 AM ISADORE AUBIN REQ. BY WIFE & FAMILY

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 31, 2008

9:00 AM MASS IN CHAPEL

7:00 PM SPANISH VIGIL

THURSDAY, JANUARY 1, 2009 – MARY, MOTHER OF GOD
MASS IN CHURCH – A HOLY DAY OF
OBLIGATION

9:00 AM

FRIDAY, JANUARY 2, 2009

9:00 AM

SATURDAY, JANUARY 3, 2009

8:00 AM

4:00 PM HELEN PERRING REQ. BY PAUL & KAREN
CYR

SUNDAY, JANUARY 4, 2009

7:30 AM MARION BURNS REQ. BY PETER & ALINE
BURNS

9:00 AM NEIL SIMONEAU-EATON REQ. BY FAMILY

10:30 AM ROBERT A. NELSON REQ. BY ELLIOT &
PAT NELSON

(CONFIRMATION 1 IN ATTENDANCE)

12 N SPANISH MASS ~ FABIAN MELENDEZ REQ.
THE FELIX FAMILY

SUNDAY READINGS

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 28

Gn 15: 1-6, 21: 13;

Hebrews 11:8, 11-12, 17-19;

Luke 2:22-40

SUNDAY, JANUARY 4

Isaiah 60:1-6; Ephesians 3:2-3a, 5-6

Matthew 2:1-12



~How many other areas can you see our mission
statement working within our own parish? ~



Check out our web site –
<http://www.stjosephbristol.org>

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

St. Joseph Church is a welcoming Catholic Christian community, called by God, baptized in Christ, and guided by the Holy Spirit to proclaim God's steadfast love.

As a parish in the Archdiocese of Hartford, we share in the mission of the universal church. Sustained by God's grace, we strive to reflect on the continuing presence of Jesus in the world. Therefore, under the guidance of the Spirit and relying on God's grace, we propose to:

become a people sanctified and enlivened by the power of Christ in the liturgy and worship of the Church, especially at the weekly Eucharistic meal, the Mass;

commit ourselves to Christian stewardship in all aspects of life;

recognize and affirm the gifts of each member while fostering a shared ministry acknowledging that the leadership of the parish is the responsibility of the entire community of faith;

create a community of charity based on the gospel imperative to love and care for one another;

nurture the gift of faith in the young people of our community;

seek and promote justice and peace in all areas of life;

work with other Christian churches to promote a spirit of unity in prayer and service.



STEWARDSHIP

"Whatever you do," says St. Paul to the Colossians, "...do it in the name of the Lord Jesus. Give thanks to God the Father through him." And so it is that we offer our gifts in the Eucharist "through Him, with Him and in Him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit..."

~ST. JOSEPH PRAYER LINE~

To activate the prayer line or to join the prayer line, please call the numbers below:

SANDI – 585-1028 ~ DAYS

BARBARA – 589-3239 ~ ANYTIME



Do you have a **FAMILY MEMBER** who has been hospitalized? Is someone homebound or in an area nursing home? **PLEASE CALL** THE PARISH OFFICE and let us know- (583-1369)

✓ Mark Your Calendar

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 28, 2008

1:30 PM (SPANISH) YOUTH GROUP, PC

MONDAY, DECEMBER 29, 2008

SCHOOL VACATION

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 30, 2008

SCHOOL VACATION

NO CHOIRS

NO REL. ED CLASSES

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 31, 2008

SCHOOL VACATION

NO BINGO

8:00 PM SPANISH VIGIL MASS, CH

THURSDAY, JANUARY 1, 2009 – NEW YEAR'S DAY

PARISH OFFICES & SCHOOL CLOSED

FRIDAY, JANUARY 2, 2009

PARISH OFFICES & SCHOOL CLOSED

SATURDAY, JANUARY 3, 2009

NO REL ED CLASSES

2:30 PM CONFESSIONS, CH

8:00 PM AA MTG., PC

SUNDAY, JANUARY 4, 2009

10:30 AM CONFIRM. I AT MASS, FOLLOWED BY CLASS, CH & GH

1:00 PM THREE KINGS, GH



We had a lot of help in the food pantry over the past few weeks.
"Many hands make light work"

Special thanks to:

Kay Broderick

Anthony & Anthonella Sanmartin

Mary Lynn and Noah Boisvert

Lannie & Christine Libbey

Reganne & Jessica

You certainly made the re-stocking of the food pantry so much easier. God bless you all!

NEW YEAR'S SCHEDULE

NEW YEAR'S EVE

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 31ST

7:00 PM – SPANISH VIGIL

MARY, MOTHER OF GOD

THURSDAY, JANUARY 1, 2009

9:00 AM – CHURCH



The Monthly Holy Hour of Eucharistic Adoration will be held on Friday, January 2, 2009 at 8 PM at St. Stanislaus Church, 510 West Street. All are welcome.

Mary, Mother of God

Thursday, January 1, 2009

is a Holy Day of Obligation

Mass will be held in Church at 9:00 AM



Family Perspective

Holy Family Sunday is not just about Jesus, Mary and Joseph.

Your family too is called to be a "sign" to the world of a way of life modeled after the Holy Family. Like Mary and Joseph, you will be "a sign opposed" by others. For being different a "sword will pierce your heart." If we are doing it right, pain and Christianity to together!

PARISH OFFICES CLOSED

THURSDAY, JANUARY 1ST &

FRIDAY, JANUARY 2ND

IN OBSERVANCE OF NEW YEAR'S
OFFICE HOURS & SCHOOL CLASSES WILL
RESUME MONDAY, JANUARY 5TH



Scripture Studies



Year of Saint Paul

The year of St. Paul will be celebrated in the Archdiocese of Hartford through two special events surrounding the Feast of the Conversion of St. Paul. The Office of Religious Education, the Office of the Diaconate and the Office of Divine Worship are sponsoring a Scripture workshop of St. Paul's Conversion. Fr. Frank Matera, Ph.D., a priest of the Archdiocese and a Professor of New Testament Studies at Catholic University of America will speak on "St. Paul's Conversion: as recorded in the Acts of the Apostles and in his own writings" at the Archdiocesan Center at St. Thomas Seminary in Bloomfield on Saturday, January 24, 2009 from 8:30-Noon. Cost per person is \$10. To register, call the Office of Religious Education (860-243-9465) or go to www.orehartford.org.

The next day, January 25, 2009, Archbishop Henry J. Mansell will celebrate a special Mass at the Cathedral of St. Joseph at 2 PM. All of the faithful in the Archdiocese of Hartford are invited to attend.

Bingo Bingo

TELL ALL YOUR FRIENDS!!! THE 'BEST BINGO IN BRISTOL' BENEFITTING ST. JOSEPH SCHOOL WILL TAKE PLACE IN THE GUILD HALL, ON WEDNESDAY, WITH DOORS OPENING AT 5:00 PM AND GAMES STARTING AT 6:45 PM. COME AND JOIN THE FUN! BRING A FRIEND



Now there were shepherds in that region living in the fields and keeping the night watch over their flock.

The angel of the Lord appeared to them and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were struck with great fear.

The angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for behold, I proclaim to you good news of great joy that will be for all the people.

For today in the city of David a savior has been born for you who is Messiah and Lord.

And this will be a sign for you: you will find an infant wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a manger."
(Luke 2, 8-12)

May we welcome our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ at this blessed time of year. May we also welcome all other babies, born and unborn, and show respect and love for each one of them.



Parish Finances – 2008

Figures will not be available for the next couple of weeks due to early bulletin deadlines and the close of the calendar year. A full report for 2008 will be mailed with your statement.

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We ask your cooperation in regard to your weekly offertory envelopes and special collection envelopes. All collections are counted and posted separately. For accounting purposes, it would be a **GREAT help** to us if you **do not combine** your contributions in one payment.

### Rev. David McDonald Scholarship Fund for St. Joseph School

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Please accept my contribution for the Rev. David McDonald Scholarship.

\_\_\_\$10.00 \_\_\_\$20.00 \_\_\_\$25.00 \_\_\_\$50.00 \_\_\_other

### Please make checks payable to St. Joseph Church/ Fr. McDonald Scholarship.

We thank those who have already made contributions. There is more than \$1500.00 in this fund for scholarships.

### A NEW TAX INCENTIVE TO GIVE!

Have you been waiting for the federal government to make it easier to give? If so, this may be your opportunity.

New tax legislation permits people over 70 ½ to donate from their IRA or Roth IRA to non-profit institutions such as St. Joseph Church and the Archbishop's Annual Appeal without paying the deferred income tax. Instead of taking the required withdrawal from your IRA, you can donate the required amount to your Parish.

You can give up to \$100,000 to as many organizations as you like for the remainder of 2008 and all of 2009. The opportunity ends December 31, 2009. Speak to Fr. DiSciaccia and he will put you in touch with the Diocesan Office of Development for further information.

This is a wonderful opportunity to make a gift to St. Joseph Church.

## PASTOR'S CORNER

These are **good days** to celebrate with family and friends. Maybe you have been to too many gatherings though and just want to relax. Sitting in front of the "fireplace" with a cup of tea or coffee and no Christmas music, might sound like a good thing to you.

Or, you could be like others who seem to enjoy lots of gatherings and could keep on going right through until the end of the holiday season.

Whatever you do, this is also the **time to reflect** on the past year and many will make resolutions for the New Year. Was this a **difficult year** for you and your family? Housing, food and gas prices have touched us all. Loss of a job or the possibility of loss of a job is stressful. Was there bad health or the loss of a loved one? In these days we need to help one another as much as we can.

Maybe this was a **good year** for you. Rejoice and be thankful to the Lord.

When thinking about next year and your resolutions, be sure to make them realistic but also with the goal of a little bit of a stretch. It is good to reach a little, but not so high that the resolution cannot possibly be achieved.

**May the Lord bless us all in the New Year.** May we reach out with kindness, justice and peace to all.

**Happy New Year to you.**



## WE CAN'T DO IT WITHOUT YOU!

**WHAT: Parish Open Forum**

**WHERE: St. Joseph Church Guild Hall**

**WHEN:** January 10, 2009 following the  
Saturday - 4PM Mass.

*(Snow Date: Jan. 12, 2009 - 7 PM.)*



**DETAILS:** Immediately following the **SATURDAY 4 PM MASS** on **January 10, 2009**, a **Light supper and dessert** followed by an **Open Forum** will be held in the Guild Hall. Please come and share your ideas and comments on how you feel our Parish can be improved. We welcome both your comments from the floor and those submitted via the Suggestion Box located in the Church vestibule. Every effort will be made to provide timely replies.

**PERKS:** In addition to the FREE Light Supper and Dessert, there will be a drawing with the winner receiving a DINNER-FOR-TWO Gift Certificate at a local restaurant.

~~We extend a warm welcome to all visitors sharing the liturgy with us.  
May you feel Christ's peace and love.~~