



Weekly Newsletter for  
**ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC  
 CATHEDRAL**

1200 South Washington Street  
 Amarillo, Texas 79102  
 Diocese of Amarillo



Church 376-7204      Rectory 373-7971

**Sunday Liturgies**

Saturday, 5:30 p.m.  
 Sunday, 8:00, 9:15 a.m., 12 Noon & 6:00 p. m.

**Sacrament of Reconciliation**

Saturday, 4:00 p.m. Main Church  
 By appointment at other times

**Weekday Liturgies**

Monday-Friday: 7:00 a.m., 12:10 p.m. & 5:15 p.m.  
 Saturday: 9:30 a.m. in St. Mary's Chapel

**Nursery**

Sat. at 5:30p.m., Sun. 9:15 am,  
 12 Noon & 6:00 p.m.

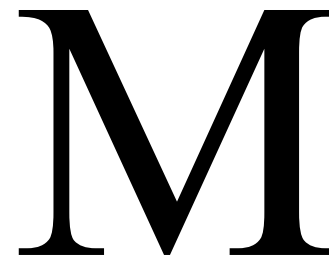
**Eucharistic Adoration**

Adoration in Mary's Chapel 24/7

**Deaf Ministry**

Sun. 12 noon Sign Interpreted

Saint Mary's Parish & School Website: [www.stmarysamarillo.com](http://www.stmarysamarillo.com)



M is the parish symbol in the Heraldry.

*Holy Mary, pray for us.*

**January 1, 2012**

**Mary, the Mother of God**

*When the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son, born of a woman...so that we might receive adoption. (Galatians 4:4-5)*

Our mothers usually know what's best for us—and that's especially true of our mother Mary. So on a day when we celebrate her feast day and make New Year's resolutions, let's ask Mary what she would want us to do. What is one transforming truth that Mary would want us to carry with us throughout this new year?

Perhaps she would echo Paul's words from today's second reading: Through baptism we have become sons and daughters of God. Most of us have already heard this truth, but does it sustain us in our daily lives? Has it become one of the central guiding principles of our lives? To answer that question, it may help to explore what it means to be a child of our heavenly Father.

First and foremost, being children of God means that we aren't orphans, left alone in the world to fend for ourselves. No, God loves and treasures us more than we can ever comprehend. He has called us his own, and he will never forsake us (Hebrews 13:5).

Second, being a child of God means that we carry the "family name." This is our identity. Not only does it define who we are, it also tells us what we can become as we learn to cooperate with God's grace. It even tells us that we can come to bear a resemblance to our heavenly Father because we are sharing in his very nature (2 Peter 1:4)!



So while you're formulating your New Year's resolutions today, ask Mary to guide you. Each day of this coming year, make it a point to remind yourself of who you are, where you came from, and where you are going. Live as the son or daughter that you are. It will make your Mother very happy!

*"Mary, pray for me throughout this year so that I can walk in the dignity that your Son has won for me!"*

**NOW MASTER, YOU CAN DISMISS  
 YOUR SERVANT IN PEACE**

LK. 2: 29

## SERVING OUR PARISH

### *Pastoral Staff*

Monsignor Harold Waldow, Rector  
Monsignor Cal Stalter  
Robert Smith, Deacon; John Peters, Deacon  
Floyd Ashley, Deacon; Bill Allein, Deacon

### *St. Mary's School*

Kathi Lewis, School Principal  
Julie Scrimpscher, Director of Montessori Program

### *Parish Program Staff*

Jim & Vanessa Rauscher,  
Music & Choir Directors  
Sheri Friemel, Youth Minister  
Kevin Raef, Director of  
Life Teen Music  
Bernice Nogler, Director of  
Religious Education  
Deacon John & Laveta Peters,  
Catechumenate Directors  
Jeannine Bellinghausen,  
Membership Coordinator  
Liturgy Assignments & Training  
Laveta Peters and Cindy Cox.  
Safe Environment Coordinators  
Dr. Faye Usala  
Parish Pro-Life Director  
Dr. Maganne Walsh  
Parish Health Ministry

### *Parish Service Staff*

Elaine Bush, Receptionist, Masses,  
Mike Deneke, Parish Plant & Building Use  
Cathy Freeby, Receptionist, Masses  
Arlene Wagner, Accountant, Bulletin  
Lora Hoelting, School Secretary  
Lloyd Fitzsimmons, Parish Plant  
Ricky Garcia, Parish Plant

### *Parish and School Boards*

Tyson Berryman & Joanne Utley,  
Parish Council Co-Presidents  
Monica Williams, Parish Council Secretary  
Linda Kay Robinette and David Huseman,  
Finance Council Co-Chairmen  
Denise Wieck, Chair of School Board  
Cathy Ice, Vice Chair of School Board  
Melissa Eyer, Secretary of School Board

### *Parish Organizations*

Michelle Garvert  
Altar Society President  
Kevin Morris,  
Knights of Columbus

## M A S S I N T E N T I O N S

### Monday, January 2nd

7:00 am Intention Sister Theresa by Oralia Garcia  
12:10 pm Communion Service  
5:15 pm Liturgy of the Hour/Communion

### Tuesday, January 3rd

7:00am Liturgy of the Hour/Communion  
12:10 pm Communion Service  
5:15 pm + Lorraine Metzler by Jack & Fran Irwin

### Wednesday January 4th

7:00 am + Clara O'Neal by Catherine & Philip Wedding  
12:10pm Communion Service  
5:15 pm Liturgy of the Hour/Communion/Janie Hale

### Thursday January 5th

7:00 am Liturgy of the Hour/Communion  
12:10 pm Communion Service  
5:15 pm + Tom Walsh by Stephen Ministry

### Friday, January 6th

7:00 am + Nell Wedding & Shirley Monfort by Philip &  
Catherine Wedding  
9:00 am + John Connelly by Loretta Connelly  
12:10 pm Communion Service  
5:15 pm Liturgy of the Hour/Communion/Michael Lindley

### Saturday, January 7th

9:30 am Living & Deceased Members of Altar Society  
5:30 pm + Jerry Lyons by Mike & Sherry Lyons

### Sunday, January 8th

8:00 am Int. Joann & Tom Utley by Dallas & Chris Bishop  
9:15 am Intention of the Parish Family  
12:00 noon Intention Larry Casey by Sharon Casey  
6:00 pm Intention Nathan Stratton by Wanda Mulherin

## WEEKLY READINGS

Sun: (Jan 1)Nm 6:22-27; Ps 67:2-3,5-6,8; Gal 4:4-7; Lk 2:16-2

Mon: 1 Jn 2:22-28; Ps 98:1-4; Jn 1:19-28

Tue: 1 Jn 2:29-3:6; Ps 98:1,3-6; Jn 1:29-34

Wed: 1 Jn 3:7-10; Ps 98:1,7-9; Jn 1:35-42

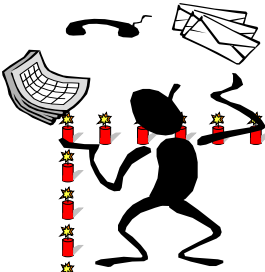
Thur: 1 Jn 3:11-21; Ps 100:1-5; Jn 1:43-51

Fri: 1 Jn 5:5-13; Ps 147:12-15,19-20; Mk 1:7-11

Sat: 1 Jn 5:14-21; Ps 149:1-6,9; Jn 2:1-11

Sun: Is 60:1-6; Ps 72:1-2,7-8,10-13; Eph 3:2-3,5-6; Mt 2:1-12

St. Mary's Prayer Ministry will not take place after Masses during the holidays but will resume on Saturday, January 7, 2012.



## “Sparky’s” Embers

How would our parish of St. Mary’s change...or how would any parish change if its men prayer regularly together?...if our men understood their faith?...or if the men regularly led their family in spiritual activities?

Men in the United States have buddies but not necessarily many close friends. We men tend to be loners and remain isolated. Men are natural philosophers who need to talk to other men about the most important things in life. Strong male friendship needs to be revived if Catholic men and their children are to get on with the holy and ambitious task in this new millennium to build up the civilization of love and truth in the 21st century.

Many parishes have men who want more out of their relationship with God but they often times do not know that other like minded men even exist. One of the bigger surprises in Catholic Churches today is that there are spirituality components specifically for men. In St. Mary’s Cathedral Church there are men’s groups such as: That Man Is You, Men’s ACTS Retreat small groups, Renew, Knights of Columbus, the new exploring Catholicism class and what I hear is the beginning interest in Lectio Divina. I would hope that this interest in a men’s group for Lectio Divina would take a look at MAN ALIVE IN CHRIST....a new format for lectio divina that focuses on small groups of men praying and focusing on the texts of Sacred Scripture.

“The catechesis of adults is the principal form of catechesis because it is addressed to persons who have the greatest responsibilities and the capacity to live the Christian message in its fully developed form.” The Catechism of The Catholic Church.

The Man Alive In Christ programs provide catechesis in a male-only setting where friendships can develop. The Man Alive vision is that men become wise and loving husbands, fathers, friends and workers through knowledge and daily application of the Catholic faith. This vision becomes realized through discussion based catechesis in a structured but flexible small group format. I think it might be looked at seriously.

Msgr. HW

January 3rd the picture taking for the new parish picture directory begins.

January 1st, Blessing of new Stephen Minister candidates as they begin their formation of 50 hours of training and learning.

**Stewardship 2011 Budget \$ 1,281,084.00**

Contributions December 25, 2011	
Envelopes/loose checks	\$ 57,254.60
Loose coin/currency	<u>\$ 3,359.11</u>
Sub-total	\$ 60,613.71
Religious Retirement	\$ 110.00
Christmas	<u>\$ 3,734.00</u>
Total	\$ 64,457.71
Weekly Goal:	\$ 24,636.00
<b>Over/(under)</b>	<b>\$ 35,977.71</b>

**A New Dream-A New Generation—2011**

Amount Pledged	\$ 215,246.00
Money rec'd December 25, 2011	<u>\$ 1,720.00</u>
Total Rec'd for Year	\$ 216,966.00

**UNITED CATHOLIC APPEAL 2011/2012**  
as of December 5, 2011

Quota	\$ 134,165.00
Pledged	\$ 155,838.00
Paid	\$ 109,160.15
Balance Due	\$ 46,677.85

190 have pledged \$72,493.00 and have paid in full.  
143 have pledged \$75,095.00 and have paid \$36,667.15  
With a balance of \$38,427.85  
11 have pledged \$8,250.00 and have yet to pay.

**“WEDDINGS”**

Please notify the Pastor at least five (5) months in advance of the date you have chosen.

**“BAPTISMS”**

Parents and Godparents must attend baptism classes prior to a baby's baptism. The parents need to be a registered member of St. Mary's for at least six (6) months.

**“QUINCEANERAS”**

Must have attended Faith Formation for 2 years prior to celebration and meet with team in January or June the year of the celebration



ST. MARY'S  
SCHOOL

**St. Mary's Catholic School**  
**Education for Eternity**

A fully accredited, Catholic faith-based education, full academic program and after school extracurricular activities.

Visit our school website

[www.stmarysamario.org](http://www.stmarysamario.org)

**Kathi Lewis—School Principal**

[lewis@stmarysamario.com](mailto:lewis@stmarysamario.com)

St. Mary's Cathedral School collects Box Tops for Education, Campbell's Soup labels, and empty Capri Sun juice pouches. If you have any to contribute, it is appreciated!

**The Light Weigh in 2012!!!**

A new session of The Light Weigh will start on Thursday, January 12, 2012 at St. Mary's classroom #2. The Light Weigh is a 12 week Bible Study and instructional DVD Series, authorized and founded by Suzanne Fowler in 1998. In Light Weigh you will learn a new approach to eating that leads to peace with God, peace with yourself and peace with food. This session is an excellent Lenten companion as this session will be completed the week before Holy Week! If you are interested in joining, please contact Tess Walters at 654-1827. The initial charge is \$141.00 and registration deadline is January 4th.

All Sunday morning classes—children four years old through fifth grade and adults—begin next Sunday, January 8th at 10:30 am.

**Catholicism Course**—Those who signed up for this course, please come by to pick up your books at the office this week. You will need to read the first lesson before class on Sunday, January 8th.

**Reminder!!!** Have you filled out and turned in your stewardship card? Well—if not, you are on a slippery slope with Monsignor.



## YOUTH MINISTRY SCHEDULE

LIFE TEEN

Resumes January 15th

EDGE

Resumes January 11th

Have a safe and Blessed Holiday Season!

### Attention All Members of the ACTS Community

**Re-Acts** for men, women and teens will be on Saturday, February 11 from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. at St. Mary's Cathedral. This is a one day retreat that is meant to rekindle your first experience with ACTS and help to build small communities. It will be a day of hearing talks and testimonies, sharing with each other and adoration. Men will be at tables with other men, women with other women and teens with other teens. You must have attended an ACTS retreat to attend. Registration forms can be found at the information desk in the Gathering Area and at the front desk in the main office. There is room for only 300, so please register as soon as possible. If you have any questions, contact Melissa Neusch at 806-584-6774 or Sara Walsh at 352-4680.

### **English as a Second Language**

Registration is now open for the spring semester at Amarillo College! The English as a Second Language courses start January 17, 2012 on Amarillo College's Washington Street campus. We will offer morning, afternoon and evening classes. If you need further information regarding cost and class times, please feel free to contact Jeff Martin at 371-5908 or email [jcmartin@actx.edu](mailto:jcmartin@actx.edu).

**Bishop Zurek** invites you each, "Amarillo Walk for LIFE" a day of prayer and penance, January 21, 2012 at 10:00 a.m. St. Mary's Cathedral; Our Lord hears their cry....what will you do for the least among us?

**The St. Thomas the Apostle Altar Guild** invites all women of the diocese to the 5th Annual Women's Retreat, Saturday, January 7, 2012 from 8:30—12:30. Cost is \$20—includes coffee/donuts and catered lunch. Sally Robb, nationally known co-host of *Mary's Touch* radio program, will be the guest speaker. She will present a program entitled, *Listening to Life: Learning to hear the words of love God whispers into our lives*. Registration forms can be downloaded from the diocese website ([www.amarillodiocese.org](http://www.amarillodiocese.org)) or the St. Thomas website ([www.stthomasamarillo.org](http://www.stthomasamarillo.org)) or contact Madonna Hogue, 352-0831 for more information. Deadline for registration is January 2, 2012.



**Please be aware of and honor all handicapped parking around St. Mary's. It is vital that our elderly and physically challenged parishioners be considered.**

## *An Evening with Immaculee*

*Friday, March 9th at 7p.m.  
Amarillo Civic Center Auditorium*

St. Mary's Cathedral will host *Immaculee Ilibagiza*, the New York Times bestselling author of "**Left to Tell, Discovering God Amongst the Rwandan Holocaust.**" The evening with Immaculee will give a clear testimony of Faith, Hope, Love and Forgiveness.

Tickets are on sale now through St. Mary's website. Visit St. Mary's website, [www.stmarysamarillo.com](http://www.stmarysamarillo.com), to purchase yours today! Tickets are \$25 each.

Immaculee was "Left to Tell." Will you be there to hear?

### **Holy Cross Catholic Academy**

#### **Alumni Game**

Holy Cross Catholic Academy's annual Alumni Game will be held on Tuesday, January 3, 2012 at the Alamo Gym. Graduates of Holy Cross, Price College and Alamo Catholic High School will be recognized during halftime. For \$10 a plate, a brisket dinner will be served from 5:30—7:00 p.m. with the games beginning around 7:00 p.m. Alumni interested in playing can call the school to sign up. Also, former cheerleaders are invited to come and cheer. For more information, please call the school at 355-9637.

**True Blessing, LLC** is a new local business assisting seniors in their own homes. The company's mission is to preserve the quality home and community life for our seniors. True Blessings will transport seniors to and from doctor's appointments, hair appointments, run errands, or just help our seniors stay involved in their communities. Our company also will cook nutritional meals if requested, do light house cleaning or just be around for companionship. Our business is not limited to these services, however, we are not staffed for medical services/treatment. Our initial assessment/meeting with you or your loved one is free to help you decide if our service is a right fit for your home! Please call Marla Gales, LSW at 806-678-4714 or Kim Huseman at 806-683-4117.

### **Catholic Campus Ministry Dinner, Dance and Auction**

Make plans now to attend the annual Catholic Campus Ministry Auction, Steak Dinner, and Dance Fundraiser, (music provided by Young Country) on Saturday, February 4, 2012 from 6 pm—midnight.

The auction will be held at St. Thomas the Apostle in Amarillo, the tickets will be \$25 per person if bought in advance, however ticket will be \$35 per person at the door. Thank you for supporting our ministry to the students at WTAMU and Amarillo College. If you have any questions, would like to purchase a ticket(s), or would like to make a donation to our silent and/or live auction, please call Betty Aragon/Auction Coordinator at the Catholic Student Center 806-655-4345.

### **NEEDED!!!**

**Lead cook and assistant cooks** for the Bishop DeFalco Retreat & Conference Center's kitchen. **Must be able to work early mornings, evenings and weekends. Wages depend on experience and references. Please come by the center at 2100 N. Spring to fill our an application. For more information call the Center 806-383-1811.**

JANUARY 2012

Printed 4th weekends of  
Apr., July, Sept.,  
1st weekend of Jan.

## Stephen Leaders

◆ Msgr. Waldow

◆ Dcn. Bill Allein

◆ Bill Chudej

◆ Cindy Cox

◆ Tonya Detten

◆ Kelle Hall

◆ Cathi Lake

◆ Diane Lee

◆ Linda McCurdy

◆ Cathy Presnall

◆ Suzanne  
Schwettmann

◆ Jill Watts



# STEPHEN MINISTRY

## in the news



## Intense training, enjoyable experience

*Stephen Ministry training set to begin in January.*

Caring ministry at St. Mary's Catholic Cathedral will be expanding soon as ten parishioners are set to begin Stephen Minister training in January.

At the completion of their training in March, they will be commissioned as Stephen Ministers. They will then join 32 active Stephen Ministers at St. Mary's in providing one-to-one care to individuals experiencing difficulties in life.

The training is intense and top-notch. The skills Stephen Ministers learn and practice prepare them to provide a very high level of Christian caregiving. The training is intense because it explores some serious life issues, but it is also a growth-producing and enjoyable experience.

St. Mary's Stephen Leaders conduct the 50-hours of training. Some of the training topics include:

- The Art of Listening
- Distinctively Christian Caring

- Maintaining Boundaries in Caregiving
- Confidentiality
- Ministering to Those Experiencing Grief
- Caring for People before, during, and after Hospitalization

**People whose needs might otherwise slip through the cracks are coming face to face with Jesus' love through their Stephen Minister.**

More than a half-million people have gone through Stephen Ministry training in more than 10,000 churches worldwide since the ministry began in 1975.

The impact of Stephen Ministry at St. Mary's has been tremendous. People whose needs might otherwise slip through the cracks are coming face to face with Jesus' love through their Stephen Minister. Our new class will help us touch many more lives with the Gospel.

### **What you can do:**

Please lift up the training class in your prayers over the coming months.

Amazing things happen when we let God be in control!

## Maybe a Stephen Minister can HELP!

Consider having a Stephen Minister walk with you or a friend on a journey to wholeness.

### *How does the referrals process work?*

- A person who is a registered member of St. Mary's – either you, a relative, or a friend – is in need of Christian care.
- The Stephen Ministry Referrals Coordinator learns about this need from you, the pastoral staff, through the confidential drop box in the gathering area or St. Mary's Chapel, or through the confidential care line, **806-350-2930**.
- The Referrals Coordinator, a trained Stephen Leader, meets with the person to talk about Stephen Ministry.
- With the person's permission, the Referrals Coordinator assigns a Stephen Minister to meet on a weekly basis with the person.
- The Stephen Minister continues to provide distinctly Christian care for the person with strict confidentiality.

### *What can you do?*

When made aware of a person's struggles, tragedies, or health issues, ask if they have ever considered a Stephen Minister. If they are open, get in touch with any Stephen Leader, Monsignor Waldow, or the church office so the referrals process can begin.

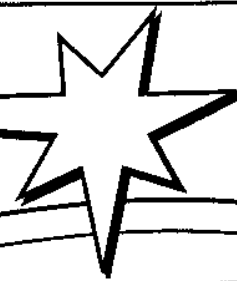
So you're not a Stephen Minister, a Stephen Leader or in need of the ministry? We still need your help. Here are a few things you can do to assist in the ministry and be the hands and feet of God.

- Pray for our Stephen Ministers
- Help us stay sensitive to those who need caring support
- Help make others aware of the support system that is available
- Consider God's direction as to whether you should become a Stephen Minister

## STEPHEN MINISTERS

Barbara Alexander  
 Gayle Brown  
 Marilyn Carr  
 Pat Conley  
 Nancy Craven  
 Stan Doak  
 Irene Downy  
 Ofelia Fleming  
 Elma Fletcher  
 Lance Garcia  
 Oralia Garcia  
 Janie Hale  
 Rita Hardesty  
 Ron Herr  
 May Hochstein  
 Kent Hoelting  
 Dorothy Huseman  
 Deloris Jones  
 Danny Lee  
 Mike Lyons  
 Sherry Lyons  
 Marty Marmaduke  
 Flo Mestas  
 Darla Mueller  
 Bernice Noggler  
 Kathy Raef  
 Cherry Sanchez  
 Anna Shumaker  
 Luz Smart  
 Robin Steele  
 Monica Tenorio  
 Jeff Weirick

# Partners in FAITH™



Helping our children grow in their Catholic faith.

January 2012

Saint Mary's Catholic Cathedral  
Msgr. Harold Waldow, Rector



## Thoughtful Moments

### Resolutions

The New Year is a good time to set resolutions that will help us grow in character. Even young children can form resolutions that will help them improve. The key is to pick age-appropriate resolutions they can actually accomplish. A good rule of thumb is, the younger the child the fewer the resolutions.



### Make it last

Don't take the Christmas tree down just yet. The retail Christmas season starts so early that by the time December 25th comes, we are ready to stuff the decorations away for another year. But for the Church, the Christmas season starts on the 25th and goes until January 9th, the feast of the Baptism of Our Lord, the true end of the Christmas Season.

### Parents' advice

*"Hear, my son, your father's instruction, and reject not your mother's teaching; graceful diadem will they be for your head; a pendant for your neck" (Proverbs 1:8-9).*



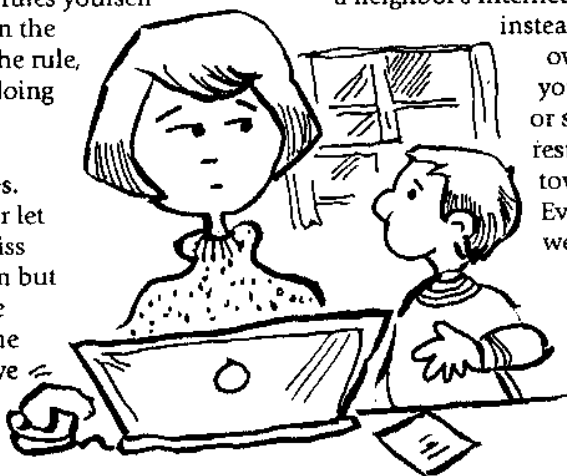
## Are you teaching your children to sin?

Sounds like a silly question, doesn't it? No Christian parent would teach a child to sin. But, if whether or not you follow God's rules yourself depends upon the situation or the rule, you may be doing just that. For example:

"White" lies.

Have you ever let your child miss school for fun but sent in a note saying that she was sick? Have you dodged a phone call by saying,

"tell him I'm not home!"? Have you snuck extra items on the express grocery line? If so, you demonstrated that it's okay to break God's law about telling the truth. How can children tell when to stop?



"Thou shall steal?" Do you download copyrighted movies and music without paying? Do you tap into a neighbor's internet or cable service instead of buying your own? Do you help yourself to napkins or silverware from restaurants or take towels from hotels? Even if the victim is wealthy, you are breaking God's law against stealing.

Do as I do. To our children, what we do is more powerful than what we say. "Whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in me to sin, it would be better for him to have a great millstone hung around his neck and to be drowned in the depths of the sea" (Matthew 18:6).

we say. "Whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in me to sin, it would be better for him to have a great millstone hung around his neck and to be drowned in the depths of the sea" (Matthew 18:6).

## Why Do Catholics Do That?

In the early days of the Church, many of the faithful couldn't read or write. Images, icons, and statues in our churches served as teaching tools and spiritual aids.

Today, images of the Crucifix remind us of Jesus' sacrifice and

## Why are there statues and images in our churches?



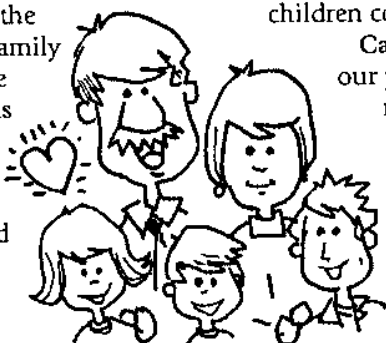
Resurrection. Statues of Mary and the saints recall their heroism and remind us of what we can become. These tools call us to better efforts at holiness, and urge us to ask God for the grace to keep trying for saintliness.

## Catholic families shine with love

Pope Benedict recently said that just like the Catholic Church as a whole, the Catholic family is called to "welcome, radiate and show the world the love and presence of Christ." This love is evident when we:

**Care for and educate our children.** And studies have shown that youth who feel loved and cared for are more likely to avoid risky behavior like indulging in drugs, alcohol, and sexual activity.

**Care for the poor.** Families that make a regular practice of helping the poor teach



children compassion, empathy, and love of neighbor.

**Care for our local parish.** Without each of us, our parishes can't pay bills, perform necessary ministries or do God's work. Becoming active in and supporting the parish at a young age helps build a child's Catholic identity, and that helps to "radiate" the presence of Christ as an adult.

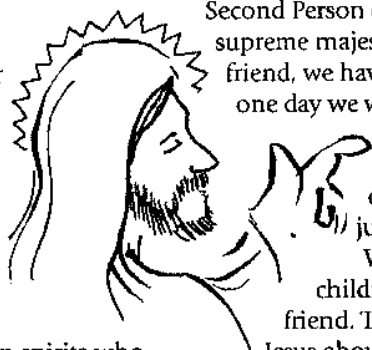
**Strike a balance between work and play.** Work is important, but it is often during the family time when we make loving memories that will last a lifetime.

### Scripture LESSON

### Mark 1:21-28, My Buddy or My God?

This Gospel describes Jesus and his apostles entering the synagogue at Capernaum. Jesus taught those gathered for the Sabbath. Most teachers or prophets would have said, "Thus says the Lord..." But Jesus said something like, "I tell you..." He taught as one who had the authority of God and that astonished his listeners. Even the unclean spirits who tortured a man at the synagogue recognized who Jesus was.

As a kind and gentle soul, it is easy to



treat Jesus as a buddy and he wants us to trust and rely on him. But as the Second Person of the Trinity, Jesus has supreme majesty. While he is our friend, we have to remember that one day we will appear before him on bended knee. He is our divine savior, not just our buddy. We can explain to our children that Jesus is our friend. Teach children to talk to Jesus about anything that happens, good or bad. At the same time, stress that Jesus is God and deserves to be worshipped and adored.

### Parent TALK

Jeff's job was in jeopardy and we were both worried. We thought we were hiding our concern until I got a call from our third-grader's teacher.



Mrs. Conboy said that Leslie was becoming argumentative, bossing other students around, and even told Mrs.

Conboy that she wished she would be "more proactive," something I had said to Jeff just a few nights before. Mrs. Conboy chuckled, but I didn't find it funny. We obviously weren't doing a good job of hiding our tension and Leslie was mimicking my behavior.

Before dinner that night, we prayed a family Rosary and talked with the children. We also acknowledged that we have been worried about Jeff's job but also said we knew that God would take care of us. We promised to pray more and worry less.

The atmosphere in the house got lighter and I didn't get any more phone calls from school.

### Feasts & Celebrations

In January we celebrate the Holy Name of Jesus. "...At the name of Jesus every knee should bend, of those in heaven and on earth and under the earth" (Philippians 2:10).

**January 1 - Solemnity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Mother of God.** When we celebrate this feast, we honor Mary, but also Jesus as God.

**January 24 - St. Francis de Sales (1622).** As bishop of Geneva, St. Francis bolstered the faith of others by his writings and works. For the laity, St. Francis wrote Introduction to the Devout Life, which is as applicable today as it was in his day.

**January 26 - Sts. Timothy and Titus (1st century)** Timothy was converted by St. Paul and later became his trusted friend joining him in apostolic work. He was with Paul at the founding of the Church in Corinth. Titus, also a friend of St. Paul's, served the early Church as a peacemaker and as administrator to a community on Crete.



### Our Mission

To help parents raise faithful Catholic children  
 Success Publishing & Media, LLC  
 Publishers of Growing in Faith™ and Partners in Faith™  
 (540)662-7844 (540)662-7847 fax  
<http://www.growinginfaith.com>  
 (Unless noted Bible quotes and references are from the Revised Standard Version and the New American Bible.)