



# HOLY FAMILY CHURCH

## The Mother Church of Auburn

85 North Street, Auburn, New York 13021 phone 315-252-9576, cell 315-246-3112

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**December 30, 2018**

## The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

**Parish Office**  
315-252-9576

**Office Hours**  
Monday -Thursday  
9:00-5:00  
Closed on Fridays

**Pastor Ext. 10**  
Fr. John Gathenya

**Secretary Ext. 14**

**Faith Formation  
Coordinator- Ext. 16**  
Barbara Quinn  
**Faith Formation  
Secretary- Ext. 16**  
Kathy Timerson

**Pastoral Minister  
Ext. 13**  
Richard White

**Pastoral Council  
Chair** Liza Kelly

**Finance Council  
Chair**  
Richard Nestor

**St. Joseph School  
253-8327**  
**Principal**  
Mary Jo Keba

**Weekend Mass  
Schedule**  
Saturday: 4:30 pm  
Sunday: 9:00 am &  
11:15 am  
**Reconciliation**  
Saturday: 3:30 pm

**Baptisms**  
By appointment. Call  
to register.

**Marriages**  
By Appointment

[auburnhollyfamily.org](http://auburnhollyfamily.org)  
and  
[facebook.com/  
auburnhollyfamily](https://www.facebook.com/auburnhollyfamily)

Dear Parishioners and Friends of Holy Family!

Welcome to this celebration of the Patronal Feast of Holy Family Parish! As 2018 gives way to a new year, I thank you for your generous support spiritually and financially. The foundation of this parish is deep and strong. Happy Feast of the Holy Family! **The Holy Family** consists of the [Child Jesus](#), the Blessed [Virgin Mary](#), and [Saint Joseph](#). The **Feast of the Holy Family** is normally held on the Sunday within the octave of [Christmas](#), between Christmas and [New Year's Day](#). Jesus wanted to be born and grow up in a human family; he wanted the Virgin Mary to be his mom and Joseph to fulfill the role of father. They raised and educated him with immense love. Jesus' family truly merits the title of "holy," since it is entirely focused on the desire of fulfilling the will of God, incarnated in the adorable presence of Jesus. **What is the purpose of this feast then, to us in the Church?** Pope Francis says that "today as we gaze on the Holy Family lets us also be drawn into the simplicity of the life they led in Nazareth." It is an example that does our families great good, helping them increasingly to become communities of pilgrimage, prayers, love and reconciliation, in which tenderness, mutual help, and mutual forgiveness is experienced. The Feast of the Holy Family calls us to focus on Catholic family life and allow the Holy family of Nazareth to be model for our own family life.

The biblical readings this Sunday presented us with the image of two families *on pilgrimage to the house of God*. Elkanah and Hannah bring their son Samuel to the Temple of Shiloh and consecrate him to the Lord (cf. *1 Sam*1:20-22, 24-28). In the same way, Joseph and Mary, in the company of Jesus, go as pilgrims to Jerusalem for the feast of Passover (cf. *Lk* 2:41-52). But the most beautiful thing which emerges from the word of God today is that *the whole family goes on pilgrimage*. Fathers, mothers and children together go to the house of the Lord, in order to sanctify the holy day with prayer. It is an important teaching, which is meant for our own families as well. For example, how comforting it is for us to reflect on Mary and Joseph *teaching Jesus how to pray!* This is a sort of pilgrimage, the pilgrimage of education in prayer. And it is comforting also to know that throughout the day they would pray together, and then go each Sabbath to the synagogue to listen to readings from the Law and the Prophets, and to praise the Lord with the assembly! **This is an invitation to consecrate your family to God in attending and participating in the celebration of the Holy Eucharist.** What makes the Holy Family worthy of reflection is that apart from their trials and challenges this was a family that was united in love, mercy, and centered on God. Here is where all families can learn lessons from the home of Nazareth. Our families are called to be "domestic churches" meaning that they are places where unconditional love flows to each member of the house. They are to be places where mercy and forgiveness bring healing to the arguments and divisions that can inevitably happen. Finally, our families are to be places where God is at the center and our faith is taught, lived, and passed on. As we celebrate our parochial patron the Holy Family in the midst of this joyous Christmas season, let us ask them to intercede for all our families (and our parish family as a whole) that we may truly have homes united in love and mercy and where God is honored and adored.

It is also right and fitting that every first day of every New Year is dedicated to Mary, the Mother of God. In her life we see a deep and abiding faith, and a tremendous willingness to do God's will.

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**Sunday, December 30**

9:00 am Rev. Raymond Wahl—Estate

11:15 am Deceased Members of the Brooks Family—  
Peter Brooks & family**Monday, December 31 Vigil-Mary, Holy Mother of God**

5:30 pm Joseph Shea—Elisabeth Shea

**Tuesday, January 1 Solemnity of Mary, Holy Mother of God**

10:00 am Jeanne Salva—Mary &amp; Chuck

**Wednesday, January 2**

12:15 pm Frannie Camilleri &amp; Donna Hasson—Margaret Lepak

**Thursday, January 3****NO MASS****Friday, January 4**

12:15 pm Paul Vitagliano—H.F. Bereavement

**Saturday, January 5**

4:30 pm William A. Morgan—Family

**Sunday, January 6**

9:00 am Blanche &amp; Lester Furnia—Family

11:15 am Edward Murray—Family

**FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP**

12/16/2018

Attendance	373
Regular Collection	\$4156.35
St. Joseph's School	\$114.00
Catholic University	\$75.00
Fuel & Heat	\$156.00
Immaculate Conception	\$175.00
Christmas	\$125.00
Christmas Flowers	\$212.00
Roof	\$293.00

**God Bless you for your generosity. Your support is needed and greatly appreciated.**

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**Second Collection** next weekend, January 5-6, is for St. Joseph's School.

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**A SANCTUARY LAMP** will burn this week in memory of Deceased members of the Brooks' Family by Peter Brooks & family.

**OUR PARISH THIS WEEK****Tuesday, January 1 OFFICE CLOSED****THERE WILL BE NO CLOTHES CLOSET OR LUNCHES WITH LOVE TODAY****Thursday, January 3**

6-7 pm Clothes Closet

7:00 pm—Choir Practice

**Saturday, January 5**

3:30 - 4:30 pm Confessions

**FAITH FORMATION UPDATES:****December 30** No Faith Formation**January 6th, 2019** Faith Formation resumes—

Liturgy of the Word Offertory

5:30-7:00 pm Confirmation Year 1 Meeting

**OUR THANKS** to R. F. Stryker Homes, for sponsoring our bulletin this week.

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**HOLY FAMILY'S CATHOLIC MINISTRIES APPEAL (CMA):**

As of December 19, 2018, 112 of our total 504 households have committed themselves and offered \$13,554 which is 38.64% of our total goal of \$35,076. Thank you all for your sacrifice and I continue to invite those who have not yet participated to continue praying about it and I am sure that you will join us along the way. **I am very optimistic that all of us will have made our pledges and met our goal by Christmas so that we may concentrate on other important local issues of our parish with the beginning of the year!** Always know that you are an important to our church family. Your presence will always make a difference in our prayers, worship and fellowship and parish development. If you can help your parish in this load, but do not want to contribute to the CMA directly, please place your check payable to Holy Family in the weekly collection and at the MEMO write "PARISH SPECIAL CARE" This will ensure that these monies are used to make up the difference. Please pray for the success of our efforts.

Thank you. Fr. John

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**ROOF RENOVATION FUND:** Our Roof Campaign Goal is \$300,000.00. We are proud to announce that at the bulletin printing time we have received \$208,580.00 (69.52%). Thank you for what you have sacrificed to contribute towards this Campaign!

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**THANK YOU:** Special thanks to all who shared their talents and wealth to help us celebrate the liturgies of Advent and Christmas. The art and environment volunteers spent many hours decorating the church and created a wonderful atmosphere to celebrate Christ's birth. Thanks to the leadership of Mary Warter, and also Tammy Yoensky for the hundreds of dollars to restore our Advent wreath. Tom Techman, Debbie Pinckney, cantors and choirs provided excellent leadership in helping us worship God in song at our Christmas Masses. Thanks also to our sacristans, greeters, ushers, lectors, altar servers, Eucharistic ministers, who helped make our liturgies such inspiring celebrations of Our Lord's Nativity. Our parish is blessed to have so many talented parishioners who share their gifts by serving our parish community. May God continue to fill you with his grace throughout this coming New Year 2019 and keep us ever grateful for sharing your talents so generously! As Christmas is already gone and New Year is about to begin may I extend my personal heartfelt thanks for the cards, greetings, well-wishes, and gifts I have received from members of the parishes during this season. It is a blessing to be a part of your parish community and I am continually grateful for the opportunity to serve as your pastor

**ALTAR SERVERS**

**Monday, December 31—Vigil**

5:30 pm J. White

**Tuesday, January 1—Solemnity of Mary**

10:00 am J. White

**Saturday, January 5**

4:30 pm C. Duffy; K. Duffy

**Sunday, January 6**

9:00 am M. Dennis; T. Dennis

11:15 am J. Acevedo



**LECTORS**

**Monday, December 31—Vigil**

5:30 pm J. Kearse

**Tuesday, January 1—Solemnity of Mary**

10:00 am R. White

**Saturday, January 5**

4:30 pm A. Seneca; D. Walsh

**Sunday, January 6**

9:00 am A. Bryant; C. Moskov

11:15 am S. Weldon; J. Renahan

**EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS**

**Monday, December 31—Vigil**

5:30 pm R. White; F. Blackwell

**Tuesday, January 1—Solemnity of Mary**

10:00 am M. Warter; P. Stolarow; K. Pines

**Saturday, January 5**

4:30 pm A. Seneca; D. Walsh; P. Stolarow; G. Bennett

**Sunday, January 6**

9:00 am A. Bryant; R. Bryant; S. Dec; H. Delaney

**Nursing Home Minister:** H. Delaney

11:15 am K. Spinelli; S. Weldon; S. Mills; M. Warter

(continued from page one)

Her words to the angel, "I am the handmaid of the Lord. Let it be done to me according to your word" are an expression of her determination to mold and shape her life according to God's plan for her. Now consider what she accomplished: she became the mother of Emmanuel, "God-is-with-us, the Savior of the world. This is something clearly beyond human power. And she could have made all the resolutions possible, exercised extraordinary amounts of determination and will-power, and this feat would have still been beyond her reach. As we journey into the New Year 2019, here at Holy Family, we have a "big job" ahead of us to be good Stewards in building our Church to better serve our families. And do not be afraid, just remain open and be willing to admit our need for God's grace and what God desires to accomplish in us during the months ahead. I pray that, through the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary, God will fill every day of your New Year 2019 with graces and blessings galore. I am very optimistic that we can become the best community in the city—viable, caring and life-giving. However, there are some things that cannot be accomplished by good intention and will-power alone. When we consider our spiritual life and reaching-out in compassion, we are called to be more than good will and good intention—this is where we allow our lives be opened to God's grace. **MARY HAD THE GOOD WILL, GOOD INTENTION BUT ALSO EXECUTED THE WILL OF GOD IN ACTION!** Lady Bird Johnson offered this advice, "Each day do a little more than you think you can." Imagine how different life would be in [our church community of Holy Family] if we adopted her wisdom. Each day, love a little more than you think you can. Each day, forgive a little more than you think you can. Each day, reach out to someone who is hurting a little more than you think you can. Each day, be willing to compliment others a bit more than you think you can. If we adopted Lady Bird Johnson's advice as our new year's resolution, it would be one of the best gifts we could give to the Church of Holy Family in the coming year. May we work to bring happiness to all people that will cross our path this New Year, 2019! The staff, parish council and I wish you and your family a blessed and prosperous new year 2019. God bless and I love you all. Fr. John

**"Our Spiritual Journey"** this will be the 2019 Retreat Theme for the Notre Dame Retreat House for parishioners with the Diocese of Rochester. The Notre Dame Retreat Team will be giving weekend retreats for Men, Women, and Couples which offers insights on our journey towards and with Christ. It is the Team's hope that all who participate will return to their respective faith communities with a desire to be Christ within parish life. Holy Family Parish Weekend Retreats are: Men/ March 22-24,2019; Women/ September 27-29, 2019.

All Couples within the Diocese of Rochester are welcome to attend one of the couple's weekend retreats. They are February 15-17, 2019 and October 11-13, 2019.

Please pray about where you can joyfully serve your parish, then **cut and fill in the space provided below and either drop it in with the Sunday collection or send it to the parish office.**

May the joy of Christmas remind you of God's love  
And may He always be a part of your life  
May God's blessings be with you  
This Christmas and the New Year.

I want to express my appreciation to you for your contribution to my church. Thank you and may God bless you all.

Fr. Joseph Osei Bonsu

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Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone # \_\_\_\_\_  
Email \_\_\_\_\_  
Ministry \_\_\_\_\_  
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