



### BIRTHDAYS



Michael Awan	1-01	Geoff Shahady	1-13	Michael Peeples	1-26
Jubilee Archer	1-06	Delores Susko	1-13	Racine Adams	1-29
Mary Jane Accavitti	1-09			Monica Bezel	1-30
Jarel Adams	1-12				

### AND ANNIVERSARIES

Bill & Mickey Dietz	01/27		Michael & Lenore Mondalek	01/27
			Daniel & Charlene Goeddeke	01/29

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY:** 12/29: Louis Randall, 12/30: Dolores Kein, 12/31: Chico Mondalek,

**HAPPY ANNIVERSARY:** 12/29: Michael & Wendy Kent 12/31: Rosanne & Karl Schwartz

#### We pray for God's healing for:

Mary Jane Accavitti, Brenda Banks, Judy Bartnik, Hedwig Buczek, Frank Candela, Brian Cavanaugh, Frank Candela's brother-in-law, Ed, Randy Clarke, Gabriel Crowe, Tom Davis, John Deisinger, Bill Dietz, Diane Ferschneider, Karen Foy, Douglas Frattini, Rosa Gracey, Neidra Halthon, Bart Houston, Art Hill, Patrick Jansen, Journee Jones, Mia Halthon-Jones, Alex Kelly, Genevieve and Rosy Krembel, Mickala Lewis, Clarence Lewis, Deborah Marshall, Kathy McDonald's Granddaughter, Ryan, Traver Meathe, Andrea Milligan, Jennifer Mondalek, Allan Patterson, Helen Randall, Yvonne Rottach, Phil Scamihorn, Geoff & Joyce Shahady, Larry Shelton, Rose & Tom Sheehy, Jim & Marie Singer, Sheila Starke, John Stuart, Marianne Szymanski, Phyllis Treece, Sr. Jolene, Pat Wimble, Nikki Zapinski, Carolyn Sutton's friend, Molly, Barbara Gabriel's sister Pearl, Joni Scott's mom, Annie, Rosanne Schwartz's grandson, Gavin, Joanne Pierick's sister, Suzanne, The Benigni and Chida Families

#### MASS INTENTIONS Feast of The Holy Family

**SUNDAY, December 27th, 2020**

**9:30** Kirtis III & Rose Thomas  
(Family)

Lois Heike, Edna Boyd,  
And  
Sharon Wrocklage  
(Patty Adams & Norma Danzie)

THURSDAY, December 31st  
5:00PM At St. Charles

#### Epiphany of the Lord

**SUNDAY, January 3, 2021**

**9:30** Dorothy Mudloff (Family)  
Paul Burkhardt  
(Nina Zarro)  
Dorothy Kroetsch  
(Family)

#### MISSION STATEMENT

*Nativity is a diverse and inclusive Catholic Faith Community on Detroit's eastside dedicated to proclaiming the Gospel and sharing God's love through commitment to social justice, service to the neighborhood, the community and each other.*



# NATIVITY NEWS

5900 McClellan \* December 27 2020 \* Detroit, MI 48213

## PASTOR'S PEN

On this Sunday after Christmas, we celebrate the Holy Family. For some, the idea of family is a reminder of quarantines, home schooling, lock up, long days, children fighting out of boredom and a host of ailments that being in the same household over time can bring. For others, the pandemic has meant not having the opportunity to be with family since March. For many of us, the COVID-19 Pandemic has broadened the whole definition of family. We have had to take care of people who were not blood relatives while neighbors in other parts of the country have taken care of our loved ones. This year has been a reminder that we are all connected and children of the same Creator. I was so moved by the display this summer at Belle Isle. We saw faces of all those who had died of COVID from the Detroit area. They were powerful photos that went on and on throughout the park. There were all types of people affected by this deadly virus. Some of the photos showed smiling faces at weddings, others showed couples, others showed family photos, others showed serious faces and other were people acting silly. It was the whole gamut of life before our eyes. I remember tearing up realizing that all of these people who had so much life in their eyes and in their smiles were all gone in a moment. The other realization that came right after that was that all these people were just like me. They lived their lives trying to love others and be loved by them, succeed in careers, and discover meaning in their lives, find joy with family and friends and try to savor the moments of their lives. In all of those common pursuits, we are all kin.

As we think about the Holy Family of Joseph, Mary, and Jesus, we are reminded that their lives were not always idyllic but came with many struggles and hardships. Jesus was lost at an early age and later found in the Temple. What terror that must have been for Mary and Joseph as they frantically searched for their child. Those parents who have lost children in a store for only a few minutes know that terror. We know how Mary followed Jesus through the struggles of his public ministry and preaching. I suspect she knew early on that he was disturbing the powerbrokers of his time and it would not end well. How many nights did she agonize thinking of her son meeting suffering and death because of his words and actions? There she was at the foot of the cross, witnessing the horror of a suffering, dying son. She stood there valiantly as she experienced the pain no mother should have to endure. Yes, the Holy Family was holy, but not because life was easy for them, but because they believed that all things were possible with God. Our families, whether blood or human kinship, are sacred and we are called to broaden our idea of family to include the whole world. May the whole Human Family and all of Creation be blessed in this new year!