



Mary, Mother of God. Pray for us!

*Hail Holy Queen,
Mother of Mercy,
our life our sweetness and our hope.
To thee do we cry,
poor banished children of Eve;
To thee do we send up our sighs,
mourning and weeping
in this valley of tears.*

*Turn then, most gracious advocate,
thine eyes of mercy toward us
and after this our exile
show unto us the blessed fruit
of thy womb, Jesus.*

*O clement, O loving,
O sweet Virgin Mary!
V- Pray for us,*

*O Holy Mother of God
R- That we may be made worthy
of the promises of Christ.*

*Let Us Pray: O God, by the life, death
and resurrection of Your only begotten
Son, You purchased for us the rewards
of eternal life; grant, we beseech You
that while meditation on these mysteries
of the Holy rosary, we may imitate what
they contain and obtain what they
promise. Through the same Christ our
Lord. Amen*

Church of the Holy Family

5900 West Lake Street ✕ St. Louis Park, MN 55416

January 1, 2012

Mary Mother of God

Reverend Thomas W. Dufner, Pastor

Reverend James Stromberg, Weekend Associate

Mass Times:

Sunday Masses 9:00AM and 11:00AM
Saturday Mass 5:00PM
Weekday Masses 8:00AM (Rosary 7:35AM)

Confessions:

Saturday 3:30PM to 4:50PM
Sunday 8:00AM to 9:00AM

Parish Office

952.929.0113

Staff:

Extensions:

Rev. Thomas Dufner	Pastor	ext. 15
June Kattar	Baptism/Marriage Prep.	ext. 14
Sharon Pero	Pastoral/Parish RN/Liturgist	ext. 13
Claudia Capello	Assistant	ext. 17
Jean Prather	Elementary DRE/Special Events	ext. 12
Elizabeth Brown	Confirmation Coordinator	ext. 19
Alyssa Bormes	Youth Minister	ext. 21
Kathy Vansickle	Controller	ext. 16
Bobbi Hanson	Bookkeeper	ext. 11
Rick Nichols	Facilities Manager	ext. 20
Theresa Bakos	Secretary	ext. 10

Web Address: www.hfcmn.org **Email Address:** staff@hfcmn.org

Registration in Parish:

Required for baptism and marriage. Adults 18 and over call the parish office 952.929.0113.

Marriages:

Registered parishioners must make application 3 months prior.

Baptisms:

First Sunday of the month. Must be registered parishioners. Baptism class required. Please call 3 months in advance.

Perpetual Adoration - Jim Glover 763.533.0423

Prayer Chain -Dona Marek, 9AM to 9PM 952.926.3130

STEP - Emergency Program 952.925.4899



5925 West Lake Street ✕ St. Louis Park MN 55416

Ann Coone, Principal

School Office

952.925.9193

World Youth Day vs. The Temptation of Lot's Wife

Pope Benedict XVI

"The essence of the crisis of the Church in Europe is the crisis of faith. If we find no answer to this, if faith does not take on new life, deep conviction and real strength from the encounter with Jesus Christ, then all other reforms will remain ineffective..."

Pope Benedict dedicated the majority of his address precisely to illustrating "the new way, rejuvenated, of being Christians" that he perceived in the young people who gathered in Madrid.

Benedict XVI furthermore cited World Youth Day as an example of "new evangelization lived out" and of "medicine against the weariness of believing." He did so in five sections...

"1. Firstly, **there is a new experience of catholicity, of the Church's universality...** We are all moved by the one Lord Jesus Christ, in whom true humanity and at the same time the face of God himself is revealed to us. We pray in the same way. The same inner encounter with Jesus Christ has stamped us deep within with the same structure of intellect, will and heart. And finally, our common liturgy speaks to our hearts and unites us in a vast family..."

2. For me, one of the most important experiences of those days was the meeting with the World Youth Day volunteers: **about 20,000 young people... were visibly and tangibly filled with a great sense of happiness: the time that they gave up had meaning; in giving of their time and labor, they had found time, they had found life.** And here something fundamental became clear to me: **these young people had given a part of their lives in faith, not because it was asked of them, not in order to attain Heaven, nor in order to escape the danger of Hell. They did not do it in order to find fulfillment. They were not looking round for themselves. There came into my mind the image of Lot's wife, who by looking round was turned into a pillar of salt. How often the life of Christians is determined by the fact that first and foremost they look out for themselves, they do good, so to speak, for themselves. And how great is the temptation of all people to be concerned primarily for themselves; to look round for themselves and in the process to become inwardly empty, to become pillars of salt. But here it was not a matter of seeking fulfillment or wanting to live one's life for oneself. These young people did good, even at a cost, even if it demanded sacrifice, simply because it is a wonderful thing to do good, to be there for others. All it needs is the courage to make the leap. Prior to all of this is the encounter with Jesus Christ, inflaming us with love for God and for others, and freeing us from seeking our own ego. In the words of a prayer attributed to Saint Francis Xavier: I do good, not that I may come to Heaven thereby and not because otherwise you could cast me into Hell. I do it because of you, my King and my Lord...**

3. A third element, that has an increasingly natural and central place in World Youth Days and in the spirituality that arises from them, is **adoration**. I still look back to that unforgettable moment during **my visit to the United Kingdom, when tens of thousands of predominantly young people in Hyde Park responded in eloquent silence to the Lord's sacramental presence, in adoration.** The same thing

happened again on a smaller scale in Zagreb and then again in Madrid, after the thunderstorm which almost ruined the whole night vigil through the failure of the microphones. God is indeed ever-present. But again, **the physical presence of the risen Christ is something different, something new. The risen Lord enters into our midst. And then we can do no other than say, with Saint Thomas: my Lord and my God! Adoration is primarily an act of faith – the act of faith as such. God is not just some possible or impossible hypothesis concerning the origin of all things. He is present. And if he is present, then I bow down before him.** Then my intellect and will and heart open up towards him and from him. In the risen Christ, the incarnate God is present, who suffered for us because he loves us. We enter this certainty of God's tangible love for us with love in our own hearts. This is adoration, and this then determines my life. Only thus can I celebrate the Eucharist correctly and receive the body of the Lord rightly.

"4. **A further important element of the World Youth Days is the sacrament of Confession**, which is increasingly coming to be seen as an integral part of the experience. Here we recognize that we need forgiveness over and over again, and that forgiveness brings responsibility. Openness to love is present in man, implanted in him by the Creator, together with the capacity to respond to God in faith. But also present, in consequence of man's sinful history (Church teaching speaks of original sin) is the tendency that is opposed to love – the tendency towards selfishness, towards becoming closed in on oneself, in fact towards evil. Again and again my soul is tarnished by this downward gravitational pull that is present within me. Therefore we need the humility that constantly asks God for forgiveness, that seeks purification and awakens in us the counterforce, the positive force of the Creator, to draw us upwards.

"5. Finally, I would like to speak of one last feature, not to be overlooked, of the spirituality of World Youth Days, namely **joy. Where does it come from? How is it to be explained?** Certainly, there are many factors at work here. **But in my view, the crucial one is this certainty, based on faith: I am wanted; I have a task in history; I am accepted, I am loved. Josef Pieper, in his book on love, has shown that man can only accept himself if he is accepted by another. He needs the other's presence, saying to him, with more than words: it is good that you exist. Only from the You can the I come into itself. Only if it is accepted, can it accept itself. Those who are unloved cannot even love themselves.** This sense of being accepted comes in the first instance from other human beings. But all human acceptance is fragile. Ultimately we need a sense of being accepted unconditionally. **Only if God accepts me, and I become convinced of this, do I know definitively: it is good that I exist. It is good to be a human being.** If ever man's sense of being accepted and loved by God is lost, then there is no longer any answer to the question whether to be a human being is good at all. Doubt concerning human existence becomes more and more insurmountable. Where doubt over God becomes prevalent, then doubt over humanity follows inevitably. We see today how widely this doubt is spreading. We see it in the joylessness, in the inner sadness, that can be read on so many human faces today. Only faith gives me the conviction: it is good that I exist. It is good to be a human being, even in hard times. Faith makes one happy from deep within. That is one of the wonderful experiences of World Youth Days."

Giving...at year-end

The time is now.....

The closing of the calendar year is a time when many tax payers review their charitable contributions and their tax liability for the past year. It is also a time of year when many professionals receive bonuses or profit/stock distributions.

We hope that the information presented here will help you make the best choices in order to give most effectively now or at any time of the year.

Your Tax Rate Can Mean Greater Savings

Charitable gifts offer one of the few ways to reduce your tax bill in a way that is totally within your control. The higher your effective tax rate, the more you can save.

Deciding What to Give

Cash is deductible up to 50% of your adjusted gross income in any year.

If, on the other hand, you have stocks, bonds, mutual funds, or certain other properties that have increased in value since you have owned them, they may make especially attractive gifts.

IRA owners who have reached 70 1/2—and who have begun withdrawing money from their retirement accounts—can contribute up to \$100,000 of otherwise taxable payouts annual directly to charity.

Check with your tax professional to ensure that your gift will benefit you as well as the church.

Make Sure It Counts

To write off any cash contributions, no matter how small, you need a canceled check, bank record or a receipt with the charity's name and donation amount. That means that putting cash in the church collection plate is a no-no if you want to be able to take a deduction for it.

Timing is everything. You can take the deduction for your contribution in the year that you make it.

In compliance with IRS regulations, checks dated December 31, 2011 but put in a collection basket on Sunday, January 1, 2012 are NOT considered a deduction for 2011—you will have to wait until 2012 to deduct that donation.

Opportunities.....

Donations can be made by check, cash, online, or stock transfers.

For online donations go to www.hfcmn.org and click **ONLINE GIVING** in the red bar at the top of the page and you can make a contribution to any number of categories at the church or the Endowment Fund or Adopt-A-Student program at the school.

If you are donating stock or need help with a donation please call Kathy Vansickle at the church office at 952-929-0113 ext. 16.

Make Year-End Gifts Online.....

In the course of year-end tax planning, you may find yourself considering special one-time donations. There is a growing trend among donors to make contributions to their favorite organizations via the Web during the final week of the year. As you contemplate year-end gifts, please keep Church of the Holy Family and Holy Family Academy in mind. We welcome your donations through the ONLINE GIVING page at www.hfcmn.org.

A Quick Summary...

Charitable Giving Tips:

- Charitable gifts made by December 31st are deductible and can reduce or eliminate the impact of income taxes.
- Checks dated December 31, 2011 but put in a collection basket on Sunday, January 1, 2012 are NOT considered a deduction for 2011. You will have to wait until 2012 to deduct that donation.
- To ensure full tax benefits, keep all acknowledgements of gifts and gift amounts you receive in letters from charitable recipients.
- Ask your advisor about the methods of giving most advantageous to you.

✂ Weekly Calendar of Events ✂

Sunday, January 1, 2012 - *Mary Mother of God*

9:00 am Mass
11:00 am Mass

Monday, January 2

8:00 am Mass
8:30 am Exercise Class (Gathering Place)
3:00 pm Widow and Widowers Holy Hour (Chapel)
7:00 pm Respect Life (Nursery)

Tuesday, January 3

8:00 am Mass
8:30 am Grandparents Prayer Group (Moorman Hall)
10:30 am Goodtimers 500 Club (Gathering Place)
7:00 pm Knights of Columbus (Gathering Place)

Wednesday, January 4 - *HFA DQ Night (Excelsior Blvd)*

8:00 am Mass
8:30 am Coffee & Rolls (Moorman Hall)
11:45 am Exercise Class (Moorman Hall)
5:15 pm Kids Praise Too!
6:30 pm Confirmation (Moorman Hall)
6:30 pm HFC (School)

Thursday, January 5

8:00 am Mass
12:30 pm Blood Drive (Moorman Hall)
7:00 pm Choir
7:00 pm NFP (Gathering Place)

Friday, January 6

8:00 am Mass
8:30 am Exercise Class (Gathering Place)

Saturday, January 7

6:30 am Holy Name Society (Gathering Place)
10:00 am Rosaries for Life (Robbinsdale)
3:30 pm Confessions
5:00 pm Mass

Sunday, January 8 - *Epiphany - Donut/New Member*

8:00 am Confessions
9:00 am Mass
11:00 am Mass

SATURDAY & SUNDAY EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS

Please be sure to arrive **15 minutes** early when you are scheduled to serve at Mass. It is difficult to find substitutes in the congregation or to know if the schedule is adequately covered if you arrive just a few minutes before Mass begins. Thank you. Call Sharon 952.929.0113 Ext. 13 with questions or concerns.

Last Call for Holy Family Men's Winter Getaway!

This annual trip, also known as the Eli Broomtree weekend will be held this year during January 13-16 at Boyd's Lodge in Crosslake, MN. This is not a retreat so much as it is a weekend of fellowship and "stress reduction". Every year a group of a dozen or more HFCC men take a much deserved break and head North to some remote and seasonably affordable cabins to recharge our batteries for the year to come. We pray a rosary together followed by Saturday evening mass, and generally speaking, we are free to spend our time in whatever way we find enjoyable. See the accommodations on the Boyd Lodge website at boyclodge.com. Please reserve your spot by Friday, January 6th and begin to feel the stress melt away already. The entire weekend, including gas, lodging and food is about \$150. For more information please contact Tom Bertoldi at 952-233-5511 or bert.mn@mchsi.com.

Banns III

Eric Crosby and Marcela Aciola

On TUESDAY, January 10, 2012 at 9:00AM

we will take down the Christmas decorations.

Can you help?

Stop down to Moorman Hall for coffee and a roll before we begin. If you have questions, call Sharon at 952.929-0113 Ext. 13, otherwise, just show up on **Tuesday, January 10th**.

Please remember to notify the Parish Office of any changes to your address or phone number. Thank you!

This Wednesday is HFA Dairy Queen Night

10% of all sales at the St. Louis Park DQ on Excelsior Blvd between 4:00 and 8:00PM this Wednesday will be given to Holy Family Academy so stop in and enjoy dinner or a special treat!

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: 1 Jn 2:22-28; Jn 1:19-28

Tuesday: 1 Jn 2:29 - 3:6; Jn 1:29-34

Wednesday: 1 Jn 3:7-10; Jn 1:35-42

Thursday: 1 Jn 3:11-21; Jn 1:43-51

Friday: 1 Jn 5:5-13; Mk 1:7-11 or Lk 3:23-38 [23, 31-34, 36, 38]

Saturday: 1 Jn 5:14-21; Jn 2:1-11

Sunday: Is 60:1-6; Ps 72; Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6; Mt 2:1-12

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Monday: Ss. Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzen

Tuesday: The Most Holy Name of Jesus

Wednesday: St. Elizabeth Ann Seton

Thursday: St. John Neumann

Friday: St. André Bessette; First Friday

Saturday: St. Raymond of Penyafort; First Saturday

Wills and Bequests

Have you remembered Holy Family for 10% of your estate?

When you do, our legal corporate title is:

“Church of the Holy Family of St. Louis Park, Minn.”

Holy Family Weekly Offering for December 17/18

Regular Envelopes	\$16,508.00
Plate	\$ 1,708.85
CARE Fund	\$ 668.87
Online Giving	\$ 2,305.25

Thank you for generosity!

Mass Intentions for the Week

Jan	2	Viola Murphy †
Jan	3	HFA Volunteers, Friends and Donors
Jan	4	Alice Szymanski
Jan	5	The Souls in Purgatory
Jan	6	Altar & Rosary
Jan	7	Vocations
Jan	8	In Thanksgiving for our Holy Priests
Jan	8	For the Parish (11am)



Fundamentals of Catholicism Classes and RCIA Candidates

We are getting ready to offer the Fundamentals of Catholicism Classes again beginning **Tuesday January 10th 2012 at 7:00PM through Tuesday April 6th, 2012**. We will be revising the class this year and incorporating some of Fr. Robert Barron's Catholicism Series! We invite all those adults interested in Baptism and those already baptized who are interested in becoming Catholic to call the parish office at 952.929.0113 and sign up for the course.

Youth Ministry

January 7 – Lifeline Mass at NET Center – please sign up with Miss Bormes at missbormes@gmail.com – we will leave Holy Family at 4pm and return around 10pm.

Limited spots left for Steubenville North Deposit due - \$50. The retreat will take place July 27-29, 2012. The retreat is for youth who, at the time of the retreat, will be entering 9th grade to those who have just graduated high school.

You can sign up for any youth event at missbormes@gmail.com or 952.929.0113 x 21

2012 Mother's Day of Renewal

Saturday ~ January 28th
Holy Family Catholic Church
5900 West Lake Street
St. Louis Park, MN

Featuring: Stephanie Maricich

Schedule: 8:30am: Confessions and Rosary
9:00am: Mass with Father Livingston
9:45am: Registration/Continental Breakfast
10:00am: Talk begins
12:00pm: Lunch break
12:30pm: Talks continue
3:00pm: Closing



Register by January 14th for the discounted rate of \$25. After Jan. 14th cost is \$30. Lunch included.

Name: _____

Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

Registration and payment (checks: Mother's Day of Renewal) to: Tina Robbins, 9301 Xylon Cir. S. Bloomington, 55438. For more info: trobbsins5@comcast.net

NATURAL FAMILY PLANNING

- The Billings Ovulation Method is a scientific, reliable method that celebrates your marriage, sexuality, and fertility. A First Instruction in the Billings Ovulation Method will be offered on **January 5th and 19th, (or by appointment) here** at Holy Family. To register, or to get more information, call Lorena at 612.396.4019.
- The Sympto-Thermal Method of Natural Family Planning here at Holy Family in the School Library. New streamlined methodology and new materials integrate Pope John Paul II's Theology of the Body. Classes begin on **Monday, January 9, at 7:00pm**. Visit our website at <http://twincities.ccli.org> for registration or for more information call 612.721.3791.

Rachel's Vineyard Retreat for Healing After Abortion - If you are struggling with an abortion experience, experience the healing love of Jesus Christ on a Rachel's Vineyard weekend retreat on Jan.6-8, 2012 in the Twin Cities area. Participation is strictly confidential and offers a beautiful opportunity to experience God's love, forgiveness and compassion. For info or to register contact Nancy at rvr-nancy@usfamily.net or 763.250.9313. Cost is \$160.00. If you have a financial burden, assistance is available.



...IT'S TIME TO REGISTER!

Holy Family is hosting an

"Emergency Blood Drive"

Thursday, January 5, 2012

from 12:30pm to 7:30pm in

Moorman Hall.

Since our blood drives have been no less than "fantastic" the Memorial Blood Center is turning to us for special help. Please mark your calendars and take time during this **Christmas Season** to give a very **"Special Gift."**

Did You Know? Each week, 2,700 volunteer donors are needed to help supply blood to patients in our area hospitals. Your **single donation** can save as many as three people's lives. Blood is needed for cancer and surgery patients, burn victims, accident victims, premature infants...the list is endless.

We need a total of 65 REGISTERED DONORS

to meet our goal.

Please call Sharon at

952.929.0113 Ext. 13

to schedule your appointment.

Pro-Life Corner

Pope Benedict issued a pontifical document denouncing efforts to promote abortion in Africa through "confusing language" in international documents and "lack of clarity at international meetings." The Pontiff also criticized one-dimensional AIDS prevention programs as ineffective and "not enough." The paper, an Apostolic Exhortation entitled *Africae Munus* addresses issues originally raised during a Synod of African Bishops in 2009. While no UN treaty mentions abortion, the UN human rights machinery and related organizations are attempting to fabricate a right to abortion through references to family planning, reproductive rights, and the right to health. In Africa a regional treaty known as the Maputo Protocol recognizes abortion as a right. However, only half of the 54 African nations are party to it precisely because of this. Concerning abortion, Pope Benedict writes: "The Church's position on the matter of abortion is unambiguous. Abortion, which is the destruction of an innocent unborn child, is contrary to God's will, for the value and dignity of human life must be protected from conception to natural death." LifeNews.com | 12/1/11