

THE HOLY FAMILY OF  
JESUS, MARY, AND JOSEPH  
DECEMBER 30, 2018



*Jesus said to his parents,  
“Why were you looking for me?  
Did you not know that I  
must be in my Father’s house?”*

*Luke 2:49*

# St. Cyril of Jerusalem

REV. EBEN M. MACDONALD -PASTOR

REV. CYPRIAN CARLO -PRIEST IN RESIDENCE

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### From the Desk of Father Mac

Today we celebrate the Feast of the Holy Family. The Gospels give us very few details of Jesus' early life growing up in Nazareth. Here and there we get snippets of what his early life must have been like, and of course we can fill in some of the missing details from what we know of life in first-century Palestine. As a carpenter, Joseph was most likely a man of modest means from the lower middle class. While a member of the house of David, he and his family, and indeed his community, lived modestly.

Today's Gospel passage, often known as the *Finding of the Child Jesus in the Temple*, is very familiar to us. The Holy Family has traveled to Jerusalem for the annual celebration of Passover. On their way home they realize that Jesus is no longer with them. Passover was, and continues to be, the key defining feast of Judaism - a commemoration of Israel's liberation from slavery and the source of its identity as God's Chosen People. Today, it stands as the backdrop to Luke's revelation of Jesus' fullest and deepest identity. Here, the Gospel tells us, Jesus reveals himself as the Father's Son who has come among us to answer the great questions of human experience.

Filled with concern for his safety and indeed with a little bit of righteous annoyance, Mary and Joseph return to Jerusalem to search for their missing son. When they find him, he is not with children of his own age but with the elders. We can all imagine their emotions and fears before they found him, and their relief and joy when they found him safe.

This Gospel, however, is not so much a commentary on family life, but more a testimony to its importance in God's plan for our world. Having experienced the wonder of Jesus' birth, Mary and Joseph do not keep his holy presence to themselves nor closet him away from the world. Instead, as faithful people of the Covenant, they ensure that he is brought up as part of a worshipping and faith-filled community. There, he would grow in grace and favor even in the face of life's struggles and challenges.

Today's feast sets before us the truth that, with God's help and despite all the challenges of life, we too can grow in goodness and holiness. Imagine what a difference we could make in our own families if we sought to understand more fully, as Saint John reminds us in our second reading, that we already share a holy dignity as God's children and a holy destiny that has yet to be revealed.

As we celebrate the Feast of the Holy Family, let us invite Christ Jesus to bring his loving presence into our homes this day - binding us together, healing our divisions and allowing us to give ourselves over to loving God and others. Then we would truly be God's holy family!

On behalf of the clergy and staff of Saint Cyril of Jerusalem Parish I wish you a happy and peaceful New Year!

YOURS IN CHRIST,  
REV. EBEN MACDONALD, PASTOR

*Fr. Mac*



**HOLIDAY OFFICE HOURS** The office will be open until 12 noon on Monday, December 31st. We will be closed on Tuesday, January 1st, in observance of the New Year's holiday. We will reopen at 9am on Wednesday, January 2nd.



**REGISTER NOW** to participate in our fifth annual **WALK FOR LIFE** on JANUARY 19th, 2019! 35,000 people came together last January in downtown LA to celebrate life and promote the beauty and dignity of every person from conception to natural death.

ONELIFE LA challenges participants to actively build a culture of life through small and large works of mercy in our own neighborhoods. Join us this January 19th for our family friendly celebration!

Volunteer with our Community Partners who serve women and families, care for the poor and homeless, assist the immigrant and refugee and visit the sick and elderly. ONELIFE LA invites you to build a civilization of love the entire year, not just for one day. Connect with us on Facebook. Meet our Community Partners and impact your family, your neighborhood and our world with good works that help those in need. [Onelifela.org/register](http://Onelifela.org/register).

### TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

This New Year's Eve, at the turning of the year, you may catch a glimpse of the old year, a cartoon figure of a hunched old man with a sickle, Father Time. Did you know this is in fact a *pope*? December 31 was in the old calendar the feast of St. Sylvester. Legend says that Sylvester healed the Emperor Constantine of leprosy, and presided at the liturgy of baptism for the grateful emperor. In 314, he was chosen pope, and it fell to him to organize the peacetime church, free at last from persecution.

In northern Europe "Sylvester Night" is a time of great parties with eating, dancing, and singing--recalling perhaps the joy of the church in the fresh air of Sylvester's papacy. In Poland, there was great fear as the year 1000 approached that an immense dragon would devour the earth and set fire to the heavens. The people prayed earnestly to St. Sylvester, trusting that the saint would not permit such suffering on his feast day. They've been celebrating ever since!

Many New Year's customs have pagan roots, like the British "First Footer" tradition. The idea is that the first person setting foot into your house in the new year determines the luck for the year ahead. The ideal first footer was not a bit like old Pope Sylvester, but rather a tall, dark-haired man carrying the right gift. A handsome first footer meant the year ahead would be pleasant, and if he carried bread or a shovel of coal there would be food and warmth in the future. Who will be your household's first footer?

**SAFEGUARDING THE CHILDREN  
ALWAYS KEEP YOUR BLINK SPOTS IN MIND**



Each week, more than 50 children are killed or injured when a driver backs up the car. In an overwhelming number of those cases, a parent, relative, or close friend is behind the wheel. It's devastating to think that a simple action could cause such harm to your child, but it happens far too frequently. Be aware of your 'blind spots' when you're behind the wheel – those areas you know are there, but can't see clearly from your mirrors. Check out what's happening around your vehicle before you get in. Make sure you know where your children are before you start your car. For a copy of the complete VIRTUS® article, "A Preventable Accident," contact us.

email: [jvienna@la-archdiocese.org](mailto:jvienna@la-archdiocese.org)



**FULLY RELY ON GOD (FROGS)** is our 'little church' program for ages 4-7, which meets during the 10 am Mass **There will be no FROGS on December 30th.** Please watch the bulletin for January dates.



**UPCOMING OPPORTUNITIES** to attend a VIRTUS training session are on **Wednesday, January 6th at 6pm**, hosted by Our Lady of Grace in Encino. Please call (818) 344-4126 to reserve a spot. And on **Wednesday, January 30th at 6:30pm**, hosted by St John Eudes in Chatsworth. Please call Martha Garcia at (818) 341-3680, ext. 110, to register.

**CANDLELIGHT ROSARY AND PRAYER GROUP** will meet Monday, January 7th, 14th, 21st & 28th at 7pm in the Blessed Mother's chapel near the west doors of the church. All are welcome to join this special devotion to our Lady.



**CALLED TO RENEW CAMPAIGN UPDATE**

**AS OF DECEMBER 23RD, 2018**

**TOTAL= 171 GIFTS**

PARISH GOAL      \$ 1,000,000      100% OF GOAL

AMOUNT PLEDGED    \$ 1,141,060      114 % OF GOAL

**THANKS TO ALL OUR GENEROUS PARISHIONERS WHO PARTICIPATED IN OUR CALLED TO RENEW CAMPAIGN.**

**IF YOU HAVE NOT YET PARTICIPATED IN THE CAMPAIGN, IT'S NOT TOO LATE! YOU CAN PICK UP A PLEDGE CARD AT THE ENDS OF THE PEWS, OR DROP BY THE PARISH OFFICE AND WE WILL ASSIST YOU. EVERY DOLLAR WE RAISE WILL STAY RIGHT HERE AT SAINT CYRIL'S !**



**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 29TH**

4:00 pm - Florence Buttita, *RIP*

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 30TH**

8:00 am - People of the Parish, *SPEC. INT.*

10:00 am - Luvia Rojas, *RIP*

12:00 pm - Michael & Clara Hughes, *RIP*

**MONDAY, DECEMBER 31ST**

7:30 am - People of the Parish, *SPEC. INT.*

**TUESDAY, JANUARY 1ST**

7:30 am - Bob Farina, *SPEC. INT.*

**WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 2ND**

7:30 am - Vince McEveety, *RIP*

**THURSDAY, JANUARY 3RD**

7:30 am - Felixberto Victorino, *SPEC INT.*

**FRIDAY, JANUARY 4TH**

7:30 am - Nancy Gervin, *SPEC. INT.*

**SATURDAY, JANUARY 5TH**

7:30 am - Michael O'Connor, Sr., *RIP*

**ST CYRIL OF JERUSALEM PARISH STEWARDSHIP  
December 16th**

*"For behold, when the voice of your greeting came to my ears, the babe in my womb leaped for joy." (LUKE 1:44)*

Envelopes (Egive incl.)	\$ 8,842
Loose cash	\$ 1,859
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$10,681</b>

*Our weekly collection goal is 13,000*

*When you hear the scripture readings and Gospel reading each Sunday, do you "leap for joy?" If not, don't blame the lector or the priest, rather look inside yourself. Do you prepare for Mass each week or do you just show up and expect to be entertained? We are called through Stewardship to be active participants, not passive by-standers.*

**Thank you**



**PLEASE JOIN US IN THE GROTTO FOR COFFEE AND DONUTS AFTER THE 8 AND 10 AM MASSES THIS WEEKEND. COME MAKE NEW FRIENDS!**

*Pray For*



- |                     |                    |
|---------------------|--------------------|
| Frank Ivancie       | Bob Farina         |
| Regina Hagan        | Sheldon Payne      |
| Anne Galli          | Jose Ramirez       |
| Tio Galli           | Christopher Browne |
| Mickey Pappas       | Antonio Almonte    |
| Barbara Bick        | Dolores Genova     |
| Mary Shartzter      | DeNardis           |
| Sandra Osorio       | Maria Rooney       |
| Dorothy Montanio    | Dan Stoppie        |
| Shelia Hartman      | Dolores Cardelucci |
| Fr. Verne Boutilier | Ali Rich           |
|                     | Giovanna Cortese   |
|                     | Mary Rubino        |

# Saint Cyril of Jerusalem Church

## SUNDAY & WEEKDAY MASS SCHEDULE

Saturdays	4:00 PM
Sundays	8:00 AM, 10:00 AM, 12:00 PM
Vigil of Holy Days	7:00 PM
Holy Days	7:30 AM, 12:00 PM, 7:00 PM
Weekdays (MON-SAT)	7:30 AM

## SACRAMENT OF PENANCE/RECONCILIATION

Saturday: 8:00-8:30 AM & 3:00-4:00 PM

## MOTHER OF PERPETUAL HELP DEVOTIONS

Tuesday: 8:00 AM

## HOLY ROSARY

Daily after the 7:30 AM Mass

## SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

2nd Sunday of each Month at 2:00 PM

## WEDDINGS

*Must contact the priest at least 6 months in advance*

## BLESSED SACRAMENT CHAPEL

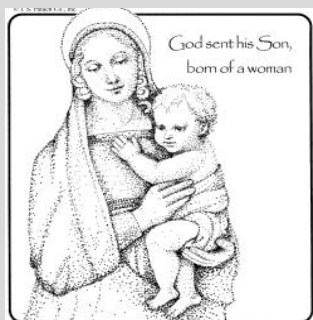
Open Monday–Friday: 8:00 AM - 4:30 PM

## ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

1st Friday of each Month after the 7:30 AM Mass

January 1st

The Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God



*(Not a Holy Day of Obligation in 2019)*

## - Contact Us -

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SCHOOL .....	818- 501.4155
CONVENT .....	818- 784.1290
BIBLE STUDY .....	818- 789.5947
RCIA/ RELIGIOUS ED OFFICE .....	818- 789.5947
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SCHOOL WEBSITE .....	stcyril.net
SCHOOL EMAIL .....	info@stcyril.net

PARISH MAIL ADDRESS: 4601 FIRMAMENT AVE., ENCINO, CA 91436

# 52nd WORLD DAY OF PEACE

1 JANUARY 2019

*“Whatever house you enter, first say, ‘Peace be to this house!’ And if a son of peace is there, your peace shall rest upon him; but if not, it shall return to you” (Lk 10:5-6).*



Bringing peace is central to the mission of Christ's disciples. The "house" of which Jesus speaks is every family, community, country and continent, in all their diversity and history.

It is first and foremost each individual person, without distinction or discrimination.

But it is also our "common home": the world in which God has placed us and which we are called to care for and cultivate.

So let this be my greeting at the beginning of the New Year:

*"Peace be to this house!"*

- Pope Francis *From the Vatican, 8 December 2018*

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