

Dear Padre,

How much should we support our adult children? We have a niece and a daughter who are both healthy, capable, and in their twenties. We have set boundaries and continue to give to them but they just can't seem to get their act together. Would it be unchristian to cut them off?

The Catechism of the Catholic Church describes in detail the duties of family members toward each other (CCC 2214–33). Parents are responsible to ensure that their children grow up in faith and to meet their basic needs. Children should show respect toward their parents and, as they grow older, assist them as needed. As children become adults, they should take on responsibility for themselves and parents are not to pressure them into choices of a profession or a spouse, while at the same time, “giving their children judicious advice....” (CCC 2230). At some point, children need to become responsible adults, which brings us to your point.

You seem to have done what is required as parents. At the same time, you would not want to abandon young adults if physical, mental, or emotional factors prevent them from assuming the responsibility of adulthood. If they are healthy, capable young people they should be able to progress in life without your financial assistance. To help them toward this goal, you may want to set very specific limits, perhaps with the help of a counselor, and then consistently follow those limits. ●

Fr. John K. Schmidt, CSSR / DearPadre.org

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
January 1 Mary, Holy Mother of God Nm 6:22–27 Gal 4:4–7 Lk 2:16–21	January 2 Sts. Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzen, Bishops and Doctors of the Church 1 Jn 2:22–28 Jn 1:19–28	January 3 Christmas Weekday 1 Jn 2:29–3:6 Jn 1:29–34 Daybreaks inspires during our Church's holiest seasons. Leading Catholic voices inspire the faithful with daily reflections & prayers for Advent and Lent. Including: Fr. Ron Rolheiser, Dr. Mary Katharine Deeley, Sr. Dianne Bergant, Fr. Paul Turner, and more at Liguori.org.	January 4 St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, Religious 1 Jn 3:7–10 Jn 1:35–42	January 5 St. John Neumann, Bishop 1 Jn 3:11–21 Jn 1:43–51	January 6 Christmas Weekday 1 Jn 5:5–13 Mk 1:7–11 or Lk 3:23–38 or 3:23, 31–34, 36, 38	January 7 Epiphany of the Lord Is 60:1–6 Eph 3:2–3a, 5–6 Mt 2:1–12



HOLY FAMILY WITH SAINTS ANNE AND JOHN THE BAPTIST (DETAIL), ANDREA MANTEGNA / WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

In imitation of the Holy Family, we are called to rediscover the educational value of the family unit: it requires being founded on the love that always regenerates relationships.... [I]f you quarrel within the family, do not end the day without making peace.... And do you know why? Because a cold war, day after day, is extremely dangerous.

ANGELUS, ROME, DECEMBER 27, 2020



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Our Parish COMMUNITY

December 31, 2023

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph (B)

Sirach 3:2–6, 12–14 / Colossians 3:12–21 or 3:12–17 / Luke 2:22–40 or 2:22, 39–40



Family Gifts

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

I asked some folks what they carried with them as their most treasured gift from their parents. One spoke of the gift of freedom. As an adult he always felt loved and welcomed by his parents. Although he was not always able to visit them as frequently as his life would allow, he was never made to feel guilty about it. It was an atmosphere unpressured by any “have-tos” whether it concerned choices for marriage or profession or simply for occasional family visits.

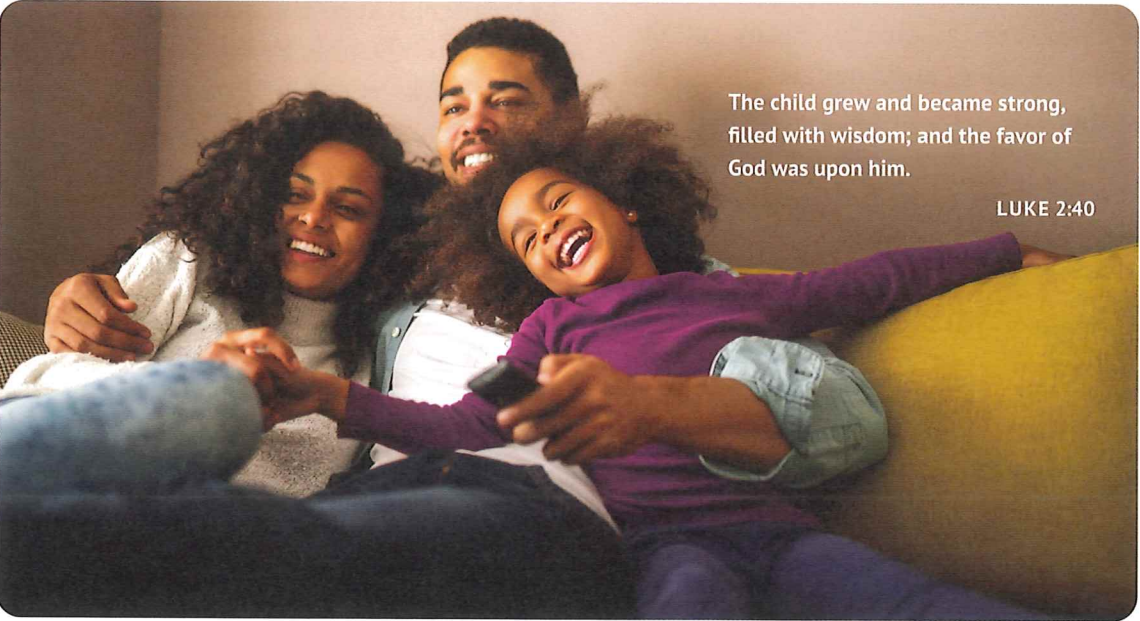
Another spoke of being taught by example that love in a family always extends to welcoming the stranger, caring for the unfortunate, opening one's home to those in pain. She learned to live that way because that was how her parents lived.

Yet another spoke of her father's gentleness and faithfulness as treasured gifts. And in truth she herself had become gentle and faithful, both with life and with God. Yet another took note of his parents' acceptance and openness to differing cultures and traditions and value systems. It was a way of living he now took to himself and his own family.

Not every family may seem as graced as these individuals remember their own families, and no doubt these families had flaws, too. Yet those qualities of a believer, enumerated by St. Paul in his Letter to the Colossians, make for good family life as well: “heartfelt compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience, bearing with one another and forgiving one another. And over all these put on love” (Colossians 3:12–14). ●

Reflect

What gift from your family do you hope to pass to the next generation?



The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favor of God was upon him.

LUKE 2:40



Rectory & Parish Office
600 Soderberg St. Lakin, KS 67860
Mailing Address: PO Box 983
Fr. Peter Tran, Pastor—355-6405
Tuesday—Friday 9:00 am - 4:00 pm
Email: saintanthonylakin@gmail.com
Website: saintanthonylakin.org



Karen Burden, Rel.Edu. Committee 355-6388
Lisa Gannett, DRE 355-6611
Gwen Waechter, Parish C. Chair 272-1030
Tressa Powers, Finance C. Chair 355-6206
Altar S. President, Nanette Rice 355-7676
Tom Bachman, Grand Knight 640-8259
Prayer Line Starters, Allison Bushek 355-1696
& Nanette Rice 355-7676

Reconciliation: Confessions will be heard every Saturday at 3:00 p.m. and every Sunday at 8:00 a.m. or by appointment.

Baptism: Parents who have children to be baptized must be registered. Godparents must be 16 years of age or older and have received Confirmation and Eucharist. Please call the parish office for an appointment.

Marriage: Please contact parish priest at least four to six months before the wedding.

Anointing of the Sick: Celebrated anytime by calling a priest.

FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY

12/30/2023 - Saturday, 4: 00 p.m.

Servers: Ryann & Brecken Bamberger, Rowen Simon

Reader: Gwen Waechter

E.O.HC: Rosemary & Tom Bachman

12/31/2023 – Sunday, 9:00 a.m.

Servers: Kirbe & Kipton Koons, Joleigh Lohman-Fuller

Reader: Hannah Schauf

E.O. HC: Toby Luhman-Fuller, Jessica Luhman-Fuller

EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

1/6/2024 - Saturday, 4: 00 p.m.

Servers: Jason Velasco, Jonathan Gannett, Nathan Gannett

Reader: Karen Burden

E.O.HC: Debbie Frederick, Gwen Waechter

1/7/2024 – Sunday, 9:00 a.m.

Servers: Cade Berning, Jace Berning, Haley Berning

Reader: Alvin Bergkamp

E.O. HC: Maria Enriquez, Rosa Cardenas

DECEMBER 31, 2023

THE HOLY FAMILY

“The Lord remembers his covenant forever.” (PS 105)

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Saturday, Dec. 30 4:00 p.m. People of our parishes

Sunday, Dec. 31 9:00 a.m. Emily Hughes

Monday, Jan. 1 9:00 a.m. People of our parishes

Tuesday, Jan. 2 9: 30 a.m. David Hoang

(Tuesday Mass at the High Plains Retirement Village)

Thursday, Jan. 4 12:10 p.m. Bryan Coulter

Friday, Jan. 5 7:30 a.m. Special Int. Powers Family

Saturday, Jan. 6 4:00 p.m. People of our parishes

Sunday, Jan. 7 4:00 p.m. Karen Burden Sp. Int.



My friends, today is a day on which we celebrate the Holy Family. We humbly ask for the prayers of Mary and Joseph and sincerely proclaim Jesus as our Lord. And we look to this remarkable family to see what true “holiness” looks like --- to see a concrete example of people bound together in love, facing life’s challenges not alone, but together.

And so, we ask that they help us reflect these same God-qualities in our own unique families too. St. Paul provides us with a beautiful list --- in the passage from his Letter to the Colossians (3:12-21) --- one that each of us is invited to strive for. Let us . . . “Put on . . . heartfelt compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience, bearing with one another and forgiving one another, . . .” Fr. Peter

COLLECTION for December 25, 2023

Envelopes: \$570; Loose: \$927.65; Online Giving: \$ 278.60

Total \$1776.25; Average Weekly Expense: \$1,761.17. Income over/under +15.08

CHURCH PROJECT GOAL

\$52000—Building Fund To Date: \$45307.96. *Thank you so much for your love for our parish church and your faithful stewards*

2023 CHRISTMAS FLOWER MEMORIALS

FOR	FROM
JOSHUE SKIPTON, ALFONSO SANDOVAL JESSE AND CAROL SKIPTON	MIKE AND MARY JANE SKIPTON MICHALE, ASHLEY, AUDREY AND BRAZTON SKIPTON
LINDA NOE	DALE AND LISA GANNETT FMAILY
MCKINNEY AND BERNING FAMILIES	STEVE AND DEBRA BERNING
BOB ROOENY MAREY HOODENPYLE THELMA DARRENLL	BILL AND JANET ROONEY
BERGKAMP FAMILY SCHRUFER FAMILY VETTETEAU FAMILY	ALVIN BERGKAMP
WAECHTER FAMILY SULLIVAN FAMILY	P.J. AND JANEY SULLIVAN
LANE FAMILY GEUBELLE FAMILY	STEVE AND MARGE LANE
JUAN AND ROSIE PEREZ ARTHURO & ANDREA NEBAREZ GEORGE PEREZ BENNY NEBAREZ WES GROTH	BOB AND SALOME PEREZ AND FAMILY RICH AND MARY LOU HIGGINS AND FAMILY
DON KIRSCHENMANN	ARTHUR AND LINDA KIRSCHENMANN
KELVIN HILGER URIE FAMILY HILGER FAMILY	CARL AND SANDRA HILGER
THOMAS K. EDWARDS ELIZABETH EDWARDS CYNTHIA EDWARDS GUNTER	TIM AND DELORES EDWARDS



UPCOMING LITURGICAL CELEBRATIONS AND EVENTS

-1/1/2024 New Year– Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God-Solemnity, but not obligatory.
Mass in Lakin at 9:00 am.

- 1/3/2024: Pastoral Parish Council @ 5:30 p.m.
- 1/3/2024: Knights of Columbus Meeting @ 7:30p.m.
- 1/4/2024 Finance Council @ 6:00 p.m.

VOCATION CORNER DIOCESE SCHEDULE VOCATIONS DINNERS God calls each man to live out his own vocation. Your own vocation maybe to the priesthood. One way to discern what that may be is by attending an Andrew Dinner with Bishop Brungardt and priests of the diocese. If interested in attending any of the following events, please let Fr. Peter know. Below please find the 2024 schedule of Andrew Dinners
Jan.7 College –Age 6-8 pm @ St. Andrew Church, Wright;
Jan.14 Post –College Age 6-8pm @ St. Andrew Church, Wright;
Jan. 28 High-School Age 6-8pm @ St. Joseph Church, Scott City
HUNDREDFOLD for VOCATIONS The overall mission of any Catholic parish is to help its members fulfill their primary vocation: To grow in holiness. Within this broad context a Vocations Ministry has a narrower task: To help parishioners, especially our young people, discern God’s will for their specific vocation. The harvest is plentiful but the laborers are few. Let’s begin to work and pray together for an increase of vocations. Bishop Brungardt is requiring every parish to have a Vocations Committee in place by Lent 2024. Watch this space for developments.

STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION DECEMBER 31
“...as the Lord has forgiven you, so you must forgive.” - colossians 3:13

Forgiving is one of the hardest things for people to do. We can’t give what we don’t have. We need to receive God’s mercy and forgiveness first before we can give it to others. Go to the sacrament of Reconciliation and receive God’s mercy and forgiveness. Then, share the gift of forgiveness with someone – a family member, a friend or a co-worker. Pick up the phone or text someone right now.

..Como el Señor los ha perdonado, así deben ustedes perdonar.” - COLOSENSES 3-13

Perdonar es una de las cosas dificiles para las personas. No podemos dar lo que no tenemos. Necesitamos recibir la misericordia y el perdón de Dios antes de darlos a otras personas. Acérquese al sacramento de la Reconciliación y reciba la misericordia y el perdón de Dios. Entonces, comparta el don del perdón con alguien - un miembro de la familia, un amigo o un compañero de trabajo. Tome su teléfono y llame o envíe un mensaje de texto a alguien, justo en este momento.

QUESTION OF THE WEEK How does my faith affect the way that I treat the members of my family? How can my faith help me grow to be a better parent/sibling/daughter/son?

PRAYER OF THE WEEK (Blessing for a Family or Household)In good times and in bad, in sickness and in health, we belong to each other as we belong to you, God ever faithful. By morning and by night may your name be on our lips, a blessing to all our days: so may kindness and patience be ever among us, a hunger for justice, and songs of thankfulness in all we do. May the Lord Jesus, who lived with his holy family in Nazareth, dwell also with our family, keep us from all evil, and make all of us one in heart and mind. Amen.

NATIONAL EUCHARISTIC REVIVAL

DO THIS IN REMEMBRANCE OF ME, PART 10: PENTITENTIAL ABSOLUTION



The Mass Having spent a brief moment calling to mind our sins and acclaiming together God’s mercy, the priest then says words that the Roman Missal calls “the **absolution**.” Is this a “real” absolution, another version of the absolution we receive in the Sacrament of Reconciliation? The short answer is no, it is not the same. Let’s look at it a bit more closely.

Not a Sacramental Confession In the words of Charles Belmonte: “At the end of [the Penitential Act], the priest takes refuge with his brethren in the mercy of God: *May almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us our sins, and bring us to everlasting life*” (*Understanding the Mass*, p. 56). In the past, some people (including priests) were incorrectly told that this prayer was the equivalent of the absolution prayer the priest says in the Sacrament of Reconciliation. This is certainly not the case! To make this clear, the *General Instruction of the Roman Missal* directly says that this prayer “lacks the efficacy of the Sacrament of Penance” (*GIRM*, no. 51). Elaborating, Belmonte comments, “The Penitential [Act] of the Mass is not a sacramental confession; therefore, it does not bring immediate remission of mortal sins. Forgiveness of mortal sins has to be obtained in the Sacrament of Penance. It is also important to remember that a person who has committed a mortal sin cannot go to Communion unless he goes to Confession beforehand” (*Understanding the Mass*, p. 57).

If we think about the actual words of the prayer, this explanation makes sense. The priest here simply asks the Lord to have mercy on us, forgive us, and bring us to heaven. This is clearly different from the words of sacramental absolution where the priest, in the person of Christ, says the words, “*God, the Father of mercies, through the death and resurrection of his Son has reconciled the world to himself and sent the Holy Spirit among us for the forgiveness of sins; through the ministry of the Church, may God give you pardon and peace, and I absolve you from your sins in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.*” In the Sacrament of Reconciliation (also known as the Sacrament of Penance or Confession), we openly confess our sins and speak them to the priest, whereas in the Mass we review them interiorly. In the Mass, we certainly are acknowledging that we have sins and that we need the Lord’s mercy, but we are not directly bringing those sins to God for forgiveness as we do in Reconciliation.

Obtaining Pardon Even though the words the priest says at Mass are not a sacramental absolution, that does not mean they are not important. As Belmonte says, “the Penitential [Act], if it is said with true contrition, helps to obtain pardon for present venial sins, as well as to stir up new sorrow for past sins that have already been forgiven. In this way, it helps us to purify ourselves and so to take better part in the Holy Mass” (*Understanding the Mass*, p. 57). As we have reviewed previously, the Sacrifice of the Mass is our participation in the one perfect sacrifice of Jesus offered on the Cross for the forgiveness of sins. It is a fitting place for us to recall what a wonderful Savior we have and how powerful the gift of his forgiveness truly is in our hearts. Hopefully, it also helps us resolve to seek out the sacramental grace of Reconciliation whenever we need it!

A Necessary Pause I don’t know about all of you, but sometimes I find that when my days are full, I am often going from one thing to the next without time for reflection. I find that brief moments of quiet in my day are needed so that I can thoroughly review what I have said and done. It is in those moments that I realize times when I have gotten off track and need a reset. Similarly, the Penitential Act of the Mass certainly can be an important opportunity to review how we have lived since our last time at Mass. It is also a great moment to realize that there might be sins that need sacramental forgiveness before we receive Communion.

As I continue to grow in my life as a priest, I am finding the Penitential Act to be one of my favorite parts of the Mass. It is such a great gift to recall where I need God’s mercy and to acclaim his great mercy together with God’s people. To add to our joy, next in the Mass we sing of God’s glory!

For Reflection:

1. The Cantic of Zechariah ([Luke 1:68-79](#)) reflects Zechariah’s confidence in God’s loving mercy after his period of nine months of silence before the birth of John the Baptist. Take some time for silent reflection on God’s mercy in your life. Conclude by praying this cantic, which is part of the Church’s daily [Morning Prayer](#).
2. Fr. Luke acknowledges the importance of brief moments of quiet in our day to reflect on our thoughts, words, and actions. Where can you build in or embrace a few moments of quiet in your daily schedule? The next time you wonder, “What’s next?”, allow yourself a few moments of quiet prayer before moving on to your next task. (Fr. Luke Spannagel)

FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY, AND JOSEPH

Great expectations

Family road trips are great memory makers. Details are not soon forgotten. Certainly, Mary and Joseph regaled Jesus with stories of their trip to Jerusalem for his Presentation at the Temple and the amazing words of Simeon about Jesus’ destiny as a light for revelation. Wow! That’s quite an expectation to live up to. But Jesus did not disappoint. Not only did he grow in strength and wisdom, but he grew in love. Make a plan to do the same in the coming new year.

FESTIVIDAD DE LA SAGRADA FAMILIA DE JESÚS, MARÍA, Y JOSÉ

Grandes esperanzas

Los viajes en coche con la familia son una gran fuente de recuerdos. Los detalles no se olvidan pronto. Sin duda, María y José contaron a Jesús historias de su viaje a Jerusalén para su Presentación en el Templo y las sorprendentes palabras de Simeón sobre el destino de Jesús como luz para la revelación. ¡Wow! Toda una expectativa que cumplir. Pero Jesús no defraudó. No sólo creció en fuerza y sabiduría, sino también en amor. Haz un plan para hacer lo mismo en el próximo año nuevo. (Preparethework)