



We dedicate this website to the Generous Heart of Mother Mary



**DAILY HIGHLIGHTS, MASS READING, DAILY SAINTS, PRAYERS...**

Volume 146, Sunday, December 26, 2021.

Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

Today's Bible Readings			
Latin Rite	1st Reading	Sir 3:2-6, 12-14	Responsorial
	2nd Reading	Col 3:12-21	Gospel
Syro-Malabar Rite	1st Reading	GAL 4:21-5:1	Gospel
Syro-Malankara Rite	1st Reading	HEB 3:1-6	Gospel
			128:1-2, 3, 4-5.
			Lk 2:41-52
			MT 2:1-12
			LK 2:41-52

I Must Be in My Father's House

About Us

Mission of Jesus, is a Non profit, service oriented website. This site belongs to each and every Christian who view this website. This is our 22nd Year of Service on the Web. This site is been developed with the help of many of the Christian Brothers around the world, we do even invite you Brothers and Sisters in Christ to send us related information about your Testimonials and News letters so that we could add them into our website.

Prayer for All Souls



Prayer of St. Gertrude the great dictated by Our Lady to release 1,000 Souls from Purgatory each time it is said. The prayer was extend to include living sinners which would alleviate the indebtedness accrued to them during their lives.

**"Eternal Father, I offer Thee the Most precious Blood of Thy Divine Son, Jesus in union with the Masses said throughout the world today, for all the holy Souls in Purgatory, for sinners everywhere, for sinners in the Universal Church, those in my own home and within my family. Amen."**

St. Gertrude the Great was born in Germany in 1263. She was a Benedictine Nun, and meditated on the Passion of Christ, which many times brought floods of tears to her eyes. She did many penances, and Our Lady appeared to her many times. Her holy Soul passed away in 1334. November 16 is her Feast Day.



Abortion isn't a lesser evil, it's a crime. Taking one life to save another, that's what the Mafia does. It's a crime. It's an absolute evil.

Pope Francis

Visit

Our Website

[www.missionofjesus.com](http://www.missionofjesus.com)

Face book

[Mission of Jesus](#)

WhatsApp group

Mission Prayer

(+918281778684)

Prayer requests to

Email: [mojcounselor@gmail.com](mailto:mojcounselor@gmail.com)

**Meditation:** How cans families grow together in mutual love, harmony, and care for one another? When God made a covenant with his people, he taught them his way of love:

"You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength - And these words which I command you this day shall be upon your heart - and you shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise" (Deuteronomy 6:5-7).

God the Father's love is a covenant love that binds people together as his beloved children. His love is the cornerstone that binds man and woman in one flesh in marriage, and in their mutual love for their children, and for their children's children for generations to come. God wants his love to be the center of all our relationships and all that we do. That is why God gives us his Holy Spirit so we can love as he loves us. "God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us" (Romans 5:5). We love because he first loved us (1 John 4:19).

Jesus was born into a family devoted to the word of God

When God sent his only begotten Son into the world, Jesus was born into a human family as a Jew who was raised according to the teaching and wisdom of God's word in the Hebrew Scriptures (the Old Testament Scriptures) and the religious customs of his people. Jesus was born under the law of Moses (Galatians 4:4) and was circumcised (the sign of being a covenanted member of Israel) on the eighth day and given his name, Yeshua in Hebrew (Jesus in English) which means "God saves."

We know little about Jesus' early life at home in Nazareth. Luke in his Gospel account gives us a glimpse of Jesus' growth as a boy into young manhood. Luke tells us that Jesus was obedient to his parents - Mary, his mother and Joseph, his foster father. As devout and God-fearing Jews, Joseph and Mary raised the boy Jesus according to the Scriptures and Jewish customs. It was the duty of all Jewish parents to raise their children in the instruction and wisdom of God's word in the Scriptures.

**"Hear, my son, your father's instruction, and reject not your mother's teaching" (Proverbs 1:8). "Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not depart from it" (Proverbs 22:6).**

A home life centered on prayer and the reading of Scripture

Jewish home life was centered on daily family prayers, including the singing of the Psalms and the reading of the Scriptures. Every Friday evening, the family gathered for a festive meal with the lighting of the Sabbath candle and prayers of blessing over the bread and wine to open the celebration of the Sabbath holy day. Each Saturday morning the family attended the Sabbath service which includes a reading from the Torah (five books of Moses) and chanting the psalms at the local community synagogue. Older boys were sent to school on weekday mornings, called the "house of the book" (either at the synagogue or the rabbi's house), where they were given further instruction in the reading and study of the Jewish Scriptures. Every Jewish boy was required to memorize the first five books of the Jewish Scriptures (the Torah or Books of Moses) by the age of 13. They also learned to memorize and put into practice the wise counsels found in the Book of Proverbs (Wisdom of Solomon) and the Book of Sirach (Ecclesiasticus) which was another common book of instruction for Jews living throughout the Greek-speaking world.

Jesus' Journey to the Father's house

Jews were expected to travel to Jerusalem for the high feasts each year (Passover, Pentecost, Tabernacles). Jesus undoubtedly traveled with his parents every year from Nazareth to Jerusalem for the feast of Passover. This eighty mile journey normally took three days. So families often traveled in large groups, for safety and comfort.

Luke records a remarkable incident which happened when Jesus went up to the temple at Jerusalem for his first Passover at the dawn of his manhood (usually the age of twelve for Jewish males). It was at this key turning point in his earthly life that Jesus took the name "father" from Joseph and addressed it to God his Father in heaven. His answer to his mother's anxious inquiry reveals his confident determination to pursue his heavenly Father's will. Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house? (Luke 2:49)

Jesus obeyed and served his family at Nazareth

While Jesus identified himself as Son of the eternal Father in heaven, he, nonetheless, submitted himself with love and obedience to Mary and Joseph. Like all godly parents, Mary and Joseph raised their son in the fear (Godly respect) and wisdom of God. Luke tells us that Jesus grew as a man in wisdom, stature, and favor with God and with the people of Nazareth, his home town. He remained at Nazareth until the age of 30 when he was baptized by John at the River Jordan and anointed by the Spirit for his mission as the Messiah and Savior of the world. (Thirty was the traditional age when a Jewish man could become a rabbi who taught and formed disciples in the knowledge and wisdom of God's word.) Do you seek to love and serve your family and to pursue peace and harmony in your home, neighborhood, and community?

The Lord Jesus came to show us the way to our Father's house and family in heaven. Listen to his word and obey him and you will find great peace, joy, and favor in serving him now and forever.

Lord Jesus, you came to restore us to peace and friendship with the Father in heaven. Where there is division, bring healing and restoration. Where there is strife bring peace and forgiveness. May all families and nations on the earth find peace, harmony, and unity in you, the Prince of Peace and Savior of the world.

Reading 1 Sir 3:2-6, 12-14 OR:

1 Sm 1:20-22, 24-28

God sets a father in honor over his children: **a mother's authority he confirms over her sons.** Whoever honors his father atones for sins, and preserves himself from them.

When he prays, he is heard: he stores up riches who reveres his mother. Whoever honors his father is gladdened by children, and, when he prays, is heard. Whoever reveres his father will live a long life: he who obeys his father brings comfort to his mother. My son, take care of your father when he is old: grieve him not as long as he lives. Even if his mind fail, be considerate of him: revile him not all the days of his life: kindness to a father will not be forgotten, firmly planted against the debt of your sins —a house raised in justice to you.

Responsorial Psalm 128:1-2, 3, 4-5. OR: 84:2-3, 5-6, 9-10.

R. (cf. 1) Blessed are those who fear the Lord and walk in his ways. Blessed is everyone who fears the LORD, who walks in his ways! For you shall eat the fruit of your handiwork: blessed shall you be, and favored. R. Blessed are those who fear the Lord and walk in his ways. Your wife shall be like a fruitful vine in the recesses of your home; your children like olive plants around your table. R. Blessed are those who fear the Lord and walk in his ways. Behold, thus is the man blessed who fears the LORD. The LORD bless you from Zion: may you see the prosperity of Jerusalem all the days of your life. R. Blessed are those who fear the Lord and walk in his ways.

Reading 2 Col 3:12-21 or 3:12-17

1 Jn 3:1-2, 21-24

**Brothers and sisters: Put on, as God's chosen ones,** holy and beloved, heartfelt compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience, bearing with one another and forgiving one another, if one has a grievance against another: as the Lord has forgiven you, so must you also do. And over all these put on love, that is, the bond of perfection. And let the peace of Christ control your hearts, the peace into which you were also called in one body. And be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, as in all wisdom you teach and admonish one another, singing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs with gratitude in your hearts to God. And whatever you do, in word or in deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

Wives, be subordinate to your husbands, as is proper in the Lord. Husbands, love your wives, and avoid any bitterness toward them. Children, obey your parents in everything, for this is pleasing to the Lord. Fathers, do not provoke your children, so they may not become discouraged.

Alleluia Col 3:15a, 16a

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

Let the peace of Christ control your hearts:

Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly.

R. Alleluia, alleluia. OR:

Cf. Acts 16:14b

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

Open our hearts, O Lord,

to listen to the words of your Son.

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

Gospel Lk 2:41-52

**Each year Jesus' parents went to Jerusalem for the feast of Passover,** and when he was twelve years old, they went up according to festival custom. After they had completed its days, as they were returning, the boy Jesus remained behind in Jerusalem, but his parents did not know it. Thinking that he was in the caravan, they journeyed for a day and looked for him among their relatives and acquaintances, but not finding him, they returned to Jerusalem to look for him. After three days they found him in the temple, sitting in the midst of the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions, and all who heard him were astounded at his understanding and his answers. When his parents saw him, they were **astonished, and his mother said to him, "Son, why have you done this to us? Your father and I have been looking for you with great anxiety." And he said to them, "Why were you looking for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?" But they did not understand what he said to them.** He went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was obedient to them; and his mother kept all these things in her heart. And Jesus advanced in wisdom and age and favor before God and man.



Today's Saints

St. Stephen



St. Stephen

The Jewish origin of Saint Stephen is universally acknowledged: he is known and loved everywhere as the first follower of Christ to give to his martyred God love for love, blood for blood. It is not certain whether he was among the seventy-two disciples of Jesus; some believe he was of the Greek tongue and not a native of Palestine. He studied with Saint Paul and Saint Barnabas under the famous Doctor of the Law, Gamaliel, who, being a member of the Sanhedrin, attempted to stop the persecution of the Apostles. (Acts of the Apostles 5:34-40) What is certain, however, is that he distinguished himself among his brethren as an admirable Christian, replete with the gifts of the Holy Spirit. To his great beauty and angelic chastity were joined humility, patience, gentleness and charity, so perfect that they drew from all the faithful great admiration and esteem for him.

He was head of the seven disciples whom the Apostles named as deacons, to execute the works of charity which their mandate to preach did not permit them to carry out. Stephen manifested all the qualities one could wish for in a minister of charity and of the Gospel. He knew Scripture to perfection and was steeped in its divine spirit: he was endowed with invincible force because he feared nothing in the service of God. Everywhere in Jerusalem, he was proving Jesus of Nazareth to be the Messiah, and working great prodigies to confirm the truths he taught. Some believe he was the cousin of Saul, later Saint Paul; in any case, the latter, still a fire-breathing Pharisee, took offense at his boldness and presided at the scene of his martyrdom by stoning. The fervent deacon, insensible to his own fate, defended Christ before the Jerusalem tribunal with a perfection which enraged the proud authorities of Jerusalem, unwilling to recognize a humble carpenter of Nazareth for their Saviour. He boldly upbraided the chief priests with their hard-hearted resistance to the Holy Spirit. And when he accused them of putting to death, just as their forebears had treated the prophets who foretold Him, the long-awaited Just One announced by Moses, they stoned him without further delay. (Acts of the Apostles, chapter 7)

Saint Stephen died, beholding his Lord standing at the right hand of God. He imitated Him in death: crying out, Lord Jesus, receive my spirit! He concluded on his knees, Lord, do not impute to them this sin! And then he fell asleep, the narrative says.

His mortal remains were left outdoors to be devoured by beasts, but were protected by God; and Gamaliel, the Doctor of the Law, took the body of the martyr to his own country home, a few leagues from the city, where he buried him. His tomb was discovered miraculously in the fifth century, by the intervention of Gamaliel himself in a priest's dream. The greater part of his relics are still conserved in the Basilica of Saint Lawrence and Saint Stephen in Rome. His death was the signal for a great persecution of the Christians in Jerusalem, spurred on by Saul, who had approved his death. But Saint John Chrysostom remarks that because Stephen prayed, we have Saint Paul, whose conversion miraculously came about soon afterwards.

St Dionysius, Pope



St Dionysius, Pope

Roman citizen. Nothing is known about his early life. Monk. Priest. Bishop in Rome during the papacy of Saint Stephen I. Involved in the controversy over orthodox and heretical forms of Baptism. Following an inter-regnum of a year caused by the persecutions of Valerian, Dionysius was chosen 25th Pope.

Issued a doctrinal letter to correct the writings of Patriarch Dionysius of Alexandria regarding the Trinity. The letter opposed Sabellianism, and insisted on the true doctrine of Three Persons in one Godhead. Sent large sums of money to the churches of Cappadocia for construction and the ransom of slaves; invading Goths had destroyed the buildings and enslaved the faithful. Brought order to the Church after a period of no leadership, and made peace with Emperor Gallienus who issued an edict of toleration. He condemned Paul of Samosata as a heretic. First pope to die not as a martyr.

Born: in Greece

Papal Ascension: 22 July 259

Died: • 26 or 27 December 268 at Rome, Italy of natural causes• buried in the papal crypt in the catacomb of Callistus

St. Vincenza



St. Vincenza María López y Vicuña

Daughter of a lawyer. Educated in Madrid, Spain. As a young woman she refused an arranged marriage and took a private vow of chastity. She lived with her aunt, Eulolia de Vicuna, who had founded a home for domestic servants. With her aunt's help, Vincenza founded a group of women to minister to working girls, who were open to all sorts of abuse. She developed a Rule for the group, and in 1878 with three companions she took vows. They formed what became the Daughters of Mary Immaculate for Domestic Service which received papal approval from Pope Leo XIII in 1888, and which in Vincenza's life had spread throughout Europe and Latin America.

Born: 22 March 1847 at Cascante, Navarre, Spain

Died: 26 December 1890 in Madrid, Spain of natural causes

Canonized: 25 May 1975 by Pope Paul VI

[www.missionofjesus.com](http://www.missionofjesus.com)

Email: [mojcounselor@gmail.com](mailto:mojcounselor@gmail.com)