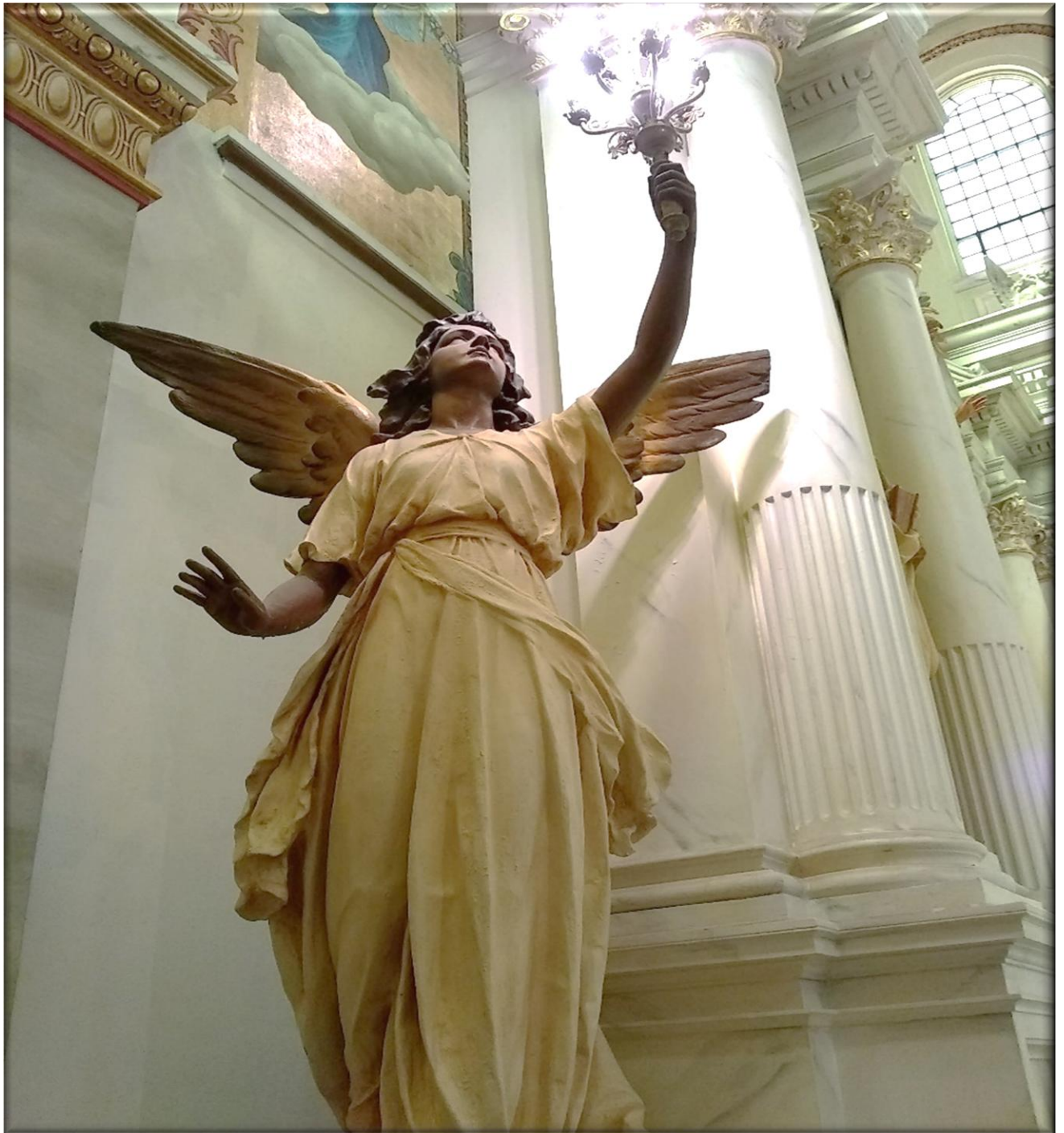

St. Charles Borromeo Catholic Church
THE VIGIL

Sunday, December 28, 2025 (Year A)

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph



Thoughts for Today's Readings "With a Prayer..."

Sunday Food for Your Soul

Immense Danger

In this age of terrorist attacks and threats and so much unthinking violence in the world, it is easy to imagine Herod's otherwise appalling pogrom against the children in Bethlehem and surroundings. He was simply trying to destroy the Christ child.

Get to know and to love the others in your family, whether they have grown up and left home or not.

But it was hard to find the right infant. So Herod thought he might as well slay all the newborn babies just to make sure, and apparently this included the girl babies as well. Mary and Joseph were under obligation to run from this destructive campaign, and run they did, to Egypt, until the danger was past.

Immense danger.

If you are part of a family, you too must take great care today. The family unit is in peril, chased down and slain by the Herods of modern culture.

Television has almost no shows that depict successful families. Advertising pushes us to fill our own personal needs, to load up on pleasure, to buy products that make life easier, to eliminate being bothered. Many or most movies show uncommitted sex in detail and with approval. Of course everyone knows that more than 50% of marriages today end in divorce. Latchkey children, two-job families, a commercially created teenage world which stands in direct opposition to values and family. Watch MTV sometime.

Since the objective of advertisers has long been to "define us as consumers," is it any wonder that Americans are the most overweight population in the world with other countries eating their way to second place?

Maybe you grew up ok. Psychologists tell us all we need is a "good-enough" family, as opposed to a perfect one. You are blessed if you did have one. But many people were raised in what is called a "dysfunctional family," where values are grossly but subliminally skewed, to the extreme detriment of all involved. Portions of the coming generations will be twisted, whether they know it or not, because all families in the United States are in trouble, big trouble. Maybe you are not one of them, but then again maybe you are.

Jesus was born into a good family, though poverty-stricken, but nevertheless a human microcosm of God's life. Love bestowed and love received, as within the Trinity. Care for a new and helpless infant. A fond gaze into its eyes, the kind that bestows a first fragile identity. People "putting themselves out" for each other. The feast of the Holy Family is placed so close to Christmas in order to show how crucial are love and care to human lives in their beginnings, and their continuings as well.

Being in a family is no easy job. All parents are amateurs when they start off. What can they do about today's great assault on family and Christian/human values? For one thing, be willing to spend time even when it is scarce. Be willing to give up some of their own fascinations for the sake of others. Commit and do not relent. Defer to sensitivities.

In other words, imitate the Holy Family.

Get to know and to love the others in your family, whether they have grown up and left home or not. Every value-rooted family builds another entrenchment against the ghastly degradation of this most important foundation-stone of human life.

We all want to be part of the great web of love that is God's presence on earth. It is played out in the foibles and fun of ordinary family life. God is there.

*John Foley, SJ
St. Louis University*

Sunday Community Dinners... As one of our most important ministries to our members and neighbors, we have been blessed. We are in need of more. If you and your group would like to sponsor a meal, please contact Georgia Kingsley via the rectory. **Today Sunday, December 28, 2025: NO MEAL (Holiday); January 4, 2026: SPONSOR NEEDED; January 11, 2026: Angie Kadowaki & Family; January 18, 2026: Parish Council; January 25, 2026: St. Bonaventure Secular Franciscans; February 1, 2026: The Rosary Group; February 8, 2026: Patty Gillis and Crew; February 15, 2026: Kim & Steve Llorens**

Nativity Pantry News: We are so grateful for your continued support of the pantry. This week, we need **Christmas Candy, Hot Chocolate Packets, and Tuna Fish**. We are preparing for the Christmas boxes of food too. Again, we thank you for all you do to help us.



The Holy Family Prayer

JESUS, Son of God and Son of Mary, bless our family. Graciously inspire in us the unity, peace, and mutual love that you found in your own family in the little town of Nazareth.

MARY, Mother of Jesus and Our Mother, nourish our family with your faith and your love. Keep us close to your Son, Jesus, in all our sorrows and joys.

JOSEPH, Foster-father to Jesus, guardian and spouse of Mary, keep our family safe from harm. Help us in all times of discouragement or anxiety.

HOLY FAMILY OF NAZARETH, make our family one with you. Help us to be instruments of peace. Grant that love, strengthened by grace, may prove mightier than all the weaknesses and trials through which our families sometimes pass. May we always have God at the center of our hearts and homes until we are all one family, happy and at peace in our true home with you. Amen.

**PRAY FOR THE
HEALING PRESENCE**

Jean-Marie Allion
 Anderson and Miller Family
 Paul Andreovich
 Kathy Ayoub
 Mary Canaday
 Jane Colombo
 Kyle Duker
 Jim Dutkiewicz
 Doris Franklin
 Anna Grabowski
 Nancy Hayes
 Jim Howard
 Evelyn Hughes
 Bertha Jackson-Hyde
 Michelle Koss
 Steve Lamendola
 Michael Martin
 Jacqueline Morant
 Gloria Parham
 Ronald Parham
 Vertis Park, Sr.
 Earlene Park-Williams
 Orlando Richardson
 Aaron Scott
 Cherise Sweeney
 Jonathan Taylor
 Tommy Traylor
 Anna Tyler
 Guillerma Villanueva
 Eldora White

Please call the rectory at 313-331-0253 to let us know when a name should be added to or removed from the list. Names will stay on the list for 3 months, but can be continued if we are notified of the wishes to do so.

MASS INTENTIONS

December 28, 2025
**Steven and Catherine
 Bogotaitis
 Kevin Scully
 Madalere Mannino**

January 4, 2026
Dr. Robert Preuss

January 11, 2026
**Patricia Sweeting
 Carolyn Loring
 James Callahan**

January 18, 2026
Michael Ayoub

January 25, 2026
**Fr. Dan Trapp
 Joyce Carson
 Carolyn Carson**

TODAY'S READINGS

Sirach 3: 2-6, 12-14
(Duties toward Parent)

Psalms 128: 1-2, 3, 4-5
(Happiness in Families)

Colossians 3: 12-21
(Plan for Family Love)

Colossians 3: 15a, 16a
(Peace of Christ)

Matthew 2: 13-15, 19-23
(Escape into Egypt)

**The Holy Father's Intentions
 for the Month of
 December 2025**

For Christians in areas of conflict

Let us pray that Christians living in areas of war or conflict, especially in the Middle East, might be seeds of peace, reconciliation, and hope.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Mon., Dec. 29: First John 2: 3-11; Psalms 96: 1-2a, 2b-3, 5b-6; Luke 2: 32; Luke 2: 22-35

Tues., Dec. 30: First John 2: 12-17; Psalm 96: 7-8a, 8b-9, 10; Luke 2: 36-40

Wed., Dec. 31: First John 2: 18-21; Psalm 96: 1-2, 11-12, 13; John 1: 14a, 12a; John 1: 1-18

Thurs., Jan. 01: Numbers 6: 22-27; Psalm 67: 2-3, 5, 6, 8; Galatians 4: 4-7; Hebrews 1: 1-2; Luke 2: 16-21

Fri., Jan. 02: First John 2: 22-28; Psalm 98: 1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4; Hebrews 1: 1-2; John 1: 19-28

Sat., Jan. 03: First John 2: 29 – 3: 6; Psalm 98: 1, 3cd-4, 5-6; John 1: 14a, 12a; John 1: 29-34

Sun., Jan. 04: Isaiah 60: 1-6; Psalm 72: 1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13; Ephesians 3: 2-3a, 5-6; Matthew 2: 2; Matthew 2: 1-12

STEWARDSHIP MINUTE

"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." COLOSSIANS 3:17

Giving thanks to God and using our words and actions to give all glory to God is the foundation of living a stewardship lifestyle. We were made in God's image and likeness, gratitude and generosity is in our DNA. As beloved sons and daughters of God, we are all part of God's family. Using our gifts to help others is our gift back to God and helps grow the Body of Christ here on earth and establishes a pathway to Heaven for each of us.

**COLLECTION INFO
 12-21-2025**

Collection \$9,228.58
 Online \$1,617.00

TOTAL \$10,845.58

Parish Nurse News and Notes December

2025 Keeping Healthy Hands During the Holiday Season

As we enter the busy month of December, our hands are everywhere—preparing meals, wrapping gifts, greeting loved ones, and serving in our church community. It's a joyful season, but also a time when colds, flu, and other infections spread easily. One of the simplest and most effective ways to protect ourselves and those around us is **good hand washing**.

Why it matters:

Clean hands help prevent the spread of germs that cause respiratory and stomach illnesses. Many infections are passed when we touch shared surfaces—doorknobs, pews, hymnals—and then touch our faces. Hand washing interrupts that cycle.

When to wash:

- Before eating or preparing food
- After using the restroom
- After coughing, sneezing, or blowing your nose
- After visiting someone who is ill
- When you return home from church, school, or shopping

How to wash well:

Use warm water and soap, scrub all parts of your hands for **20 seconds** (the time it takes to pray the Lord's Prayer or sing "Happy Birthday"), rinse thoroughly, and dry completely. When soap and water aren't available, use hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol.

As we celebrate the light of Christ this Advent and Christmas season, let's keep our hands clean and our hearts open—caring for our health and for one another.

Blessings on a healthy and hopeful December! God Bless.

Mary Catherine Wright RN
Parish Nurse

FAMILY FAITH FORMATION NEWS

We guide children in their faith journey through engaging lessons, Sacrament preparation, Scripture stories, prayer, and meaningful activities rooted in Catholic life.

Christmas Season

The liturgical season of Christmas begins with the vigil Masses on Christmas Eve and concludes on the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord. During this season, we celebrate the birth of Christ into our world and into our hearts and reflect on the gift of salvation that is born with him, including the fact that he was born to die for us. (Taken from USCCB)

Please Note

Liturgical dates for Christmas Season:
Dec. 24, 2025 - Jan. 4, 2026.

Key Dates:

- **Sunday, Dec. 28, 2025**
10:45am before Mass, Family Formation Meeting with Parents & children
 - Youth Mass at 11:30am
- **Saturday, Jan. 17, 2026**
 - YFACT SERVICE DAY for MLK day
- **Sunday, February 1, 2026**
 - RISE Detroit 2026 Mercy High School for teens

Contact Info

- Interested in Registering?
- If you would like to sign up or need sacraments
please contact:
Barbara Taylor



"BE STRONG AND COURAGEOUS!
DO NOT FEAR NOR BE DISMAYED,
FOR THE LORD, YOUR GOD, IS WITH YOU
WHEREVER YOU GO."
JOSHUA 1:9

UNAFRAID RISE

A GATHERING OF HIGH
SCHOOL YOUTH

DATE:

**Sunday, February 1, 2026
8:15 a.m. – 7:15 p.m.**

COST:

\$35

Merch available for \$5-10

FEATURING:

Chika Anyanwu

MASS WITH:

Archbishop Weisenburger

MERCY HIGH SCHOOL, FARMINGTON HILLS, MI
AOD.ORG/RISE

Detroit Eastside Family Parish Information and Mass Times

St Charles Borromeo Detroit
1491 Baldwin
Detroit, MI 48214
313-331-0253

www.stcharlesborromeodetroit.org
stcharlesborromeodetroit@yahoo.com

Sunday: 11:30am
Friday: 11am in rectory
Live Stream & YouTube

Nativity of Our Lord
5900 McClellan
Detroit, MI 48213
313-922-0033

www.nativitydetroit.org
nativityol@sbcglobal.net

Sunday 9:30am
Thursday: Holy Hour 8am; Mass 9am
Live Stream and YouTube

St Augustine & St Monica
4151 Seminole
Detroit, MI 48214
313-921-4107

www.saintamparish.org
office@saintamparish.org

Sunday: 10am
Wednesday: 9am

St. Jude
15889 Seven Mile E ·
Detroit, MI 48205
313-527-0380

stjudedetroit.org
Sunday: 10:30am
Saturday: 4pm

Sacred Heart
1000 Eliot St.
Detroit, MI 48207
313-831-1356

www.sacredheartdetroit.com
info@sacredheart.com

Sunday: 8am and 10am
Tuesday: 5pm
Saturday: 5pm

St. Elizabeth
3138 E. Canfield St.
Detroit, MI 48207
313-921-9225

www.stelizabethdetroit.org
saintelizabethchurchofdetroit@gmail.com

Sunday: 12:00pm

St. Raymond – Our Lady of Good Council
20103 Joann
Detroit, MI 48205
313-527-0525

www.straymondolgc.org
Sunday: 10:30am
Tuesday: 8:30am
Thursday: 8:30am

Our Lady Queen of Heaven/Good Shepherd
8200 Rolyat St.
Detroit, MI 48234
313-891-4553

ourladyofgoodshepherd.org
Sunday: 9am
Tuesday: 10:30am
Thursday: 10:30am
Friday: 10:30am
Saturday: 4pm

January 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 New Year's Day Solemnity of Mary, The Holy Mother of God Parish Office Closed	2 Mass in Rectory 11am	3
4 Epiphany of the Lord 11:30am Mass <i>Community Meal</i> Diabetes Class	5 Parish Office Reopens	6 PGC On- Line Session 6pm	7 NO Bible Study	8	9 Mass in Rectory 11am	10
11 The Baptism of the Lord 11:30am Mass <i>Community Meal</i> <i>Christmas Decorations Come Down</i> Diabetes Class	12	13	14 NO Bible Study PGC On- Line Session 6pm Holy Hour for Archdiocesan Restructuring—Cathedral of the Most Blessed Blessed Sacrament 7pm	15	16 Mass in Rectory 11am	17
18 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time 11:30am Mass <i>Community Meal</i> Diabetes Class	19 Annual Justice & Peace Mass—Cathedral of the Most Blessed Blessed Sacrament (MLK Day) 11am	20	21 Bible Study Resumes 6-7pm	22 PGC On- Line Session 6pm	23 Mass in Rectory 11am	24
25 3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time 11:30am Mass <i>Community Meal</i> Diabetes Class	26	27	28 Bible Study Resumes 6-7pm	29	30 Mass in Rectory 11am	31

St Charles Borromeo

1491 Baldwin St., Detroit, MI 48214
(313) 331-0253 (Fax 313-331-4834)

St. Charles Office Hours:

Monday, 10am to 3pm
Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, 9am to 4pm
Friday, 9am to 3pm

Pastoral Team

Fr. Francis Asomkase, SSJ, Priest in Solidum and Moderator
Fr. Richard Baumann, Priest in Solidum
Reverend Charles Nwamadi, SSJ, Priest in Solidum
Fr. David Preuss, OFM, CAP, Priest in Solidum
Deacon Joseph Jones
Edward Cotton – Mission Support Director
Rhonda Gilbert – Pastoral Associate
Joan Jacobs & Angie Kadowaki – Boulevard Ministry Ministers
Mary Catherine Wright – Parish Nurse

Council Members: Naim Edwards (Chairperson), Angela Kadawaki, Dennis Ballard (Vice-Chairperson), Patricia Ballard, Alex Grabowski, Marian Harvey (Secretary), Freddie Henry, Mary Ellen Howard, Bruce McDonald, Mikhail Perkins, Richard Preuss, Linda Simpkins

**AOD Restructuring
St. Charles Parish
Leaders**

Doris Allen
Alex Grabowski
Joan Jacobs
Bruce McDonald
Richard Preuss

**Parish Point Person of
Contact**

Rhonda Gilbert

St. Charles Mission Statement

St. Charles Borromeo, a diverse urban parish of Detroit, is rooted in Christ's Gospel and Catholic tradition. We strive to build a community of faith through education, worship, and evangelization. We are called to carry on Christ's ministry to our brothers and sisters, especially the sick and their families, the elderly, youth, and the disabled. With Mary as our example of unconditional love, we strive to welcome everyone to share joyfully in the peace, love and salvation of Jesus Christ. We acknowledge that it is the Holy Spirit who calls and empowers us, who strengthens and renews us, and who gives us the will to continue our mission, until Jesus comes.

St Charles Website: www.stcharlesdetroit.org
Email: stcharlesborromeodetroit@yahoo.com

Facebook: St. Charles Borromeo Parish - Detroit MI
YouTube: www.youtube.com/@st.charlesborromeodetroit



Online Giving

Go to the giving site at:

<https://giving.parishsoft.com/app/giving/stcharlesdetroit>