

December 31, 2017

Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph

From the Desk of Rev. Msgr. Hugh J. Corrigan:

I just watched the movie "The Man Who Knew Too Much" starring Jimmy Stewart and Doris Day. I remembered seeing this movie in 1956 and listening to the song by Doris Day "Que Sera, Sera. Whatever will be will be. The future's not ours to see. Que Sera, Sera". I had just finished four years in the seminary and was asking myself whether I should continue for eight more years in the seminary and be ordained a priest. Some of my friends had just left the seminary. I know that these lyrics were helpful in calming a child or an adult who is worrying too much about what will happen in the future. But to me at that stage in my life they were not helpful at all. I had to make my own decision about the future. "Que sera, sera" was not helpful.

I began reflecting on the meaning of "Fate" i.e. that we are destined to a life preordained by the gods or the stars or something. It is also expressed in the phrase "There are no coincidences". Many religions teach some aspect of this. Whatever happens is God's will. We see it in the interpretation of the life of Jesus. Most everything was predicted beforehand in the Bible. God wanted his Son to die on the cross etc. etc. I reject this interpretation. I reject the concept of Fate. True, there are many things that we have no control over e.g. who our parents are, where we are born and raised, etc. but we do make important decisions about our lives. Yes, we are not in complete control of our lives but we do make conscious decisions about our future. Think about this at the beginning of the New Year.

Collection : the collection for last Sunday, December 24, 2017 was \$4,302.

Food Collection: Next Sunday we will once again collect food for the needy in our communities. So please remember them when you go out food shopping this week. Once again thank you for your generosity.

The Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph: The feast of the Holy Family was introduced into the liturgical calendar in 1921, promoted as a way to honor the Christian family. So today not only do we honor the Holy Family, we also focus on our own families and consider how we can be like the Holy Family, Jesus, Mary and Joseph, in their devoted love and care for each other and in the way Mary and Joseph raised and cared for Jesus, can be a model for our own families.

Solemnity of Mary, The Holy Mother of God January 1, 2018 is not a Holy Day of Obligation ~Masses will be held at 8:15 am and 12:05 pm: Yet how appropriate that in this holy time of Christmas we honor Mary as the Holy Mother of God. God chose her before she was born to bear the Son of God. In the face of doubt and uncertainty, she assented to the word of God. She is a model for all of us in her willingness to obey God, to prepare a place for Jesus in herself, and to be devoted to Christ throughout her life.

The Parish office will be closed Monday, January 1st, New Years Day. The office staff would like to take this opportunity to wish all the Parishioners of St. Mary's

A Prosperous New Year.

January 2018:

6th Religious Education Classes resume 9:30-11:00

13th Religious Education Classes 9:30-11:00

20th Religious Education Classes 9:30-11:00

27th Religious Education Classes 9:30-11:00

Mass Schedule for the week of

December 31, 2017 to January 7, 2018

Mass are daily at 8:15 and 12:05 in English and in Spanish on Thursdays at 7:00pm

Below are the Special Intentions for this week

Sunday, December 31, 2017:

7:30am For the Parishioners

9:00am Guadalupe Tovar & Isabel Garcia Torivio Tovar

11:00am Clotilde & Domingos Rodrigues Eduardo & Esther Rodrigues

Monday, January 1, 2018:

8:15am Rose Kunny the Kunny Family

Saturday, January 6, 2018:

5:00pm Beatrice Zambrosky William Zambrosky

7:00pm Legion of Mary

Sunday, January 7, 2018:

7:30am For the Parishioners

9:00 am Jesus Ruiz & Carlota Zuniga Juaquina Tovar

11:00am Celina Antao Eduardo & Esther Rodrigues