

The Pastor's Page

Garbage Truck Wisdom!

One day I hopped in a taxi and we took off for the airport. We were driving in the right lane when suddenly a black car jumped out of a parking space right in front of us. My taxi driver slammed on his breaks, skidded, and missed the other car by just inches! The driver of the other car whipped his head around and started yelling at us. My taxi driver just smiled and waved at the guy. And I mean, he was really friendly!

So I asked, "Why did you just do that? That guy almost caused an accident and sent us to the hospital?" This is when my taxi driver taught me what I now call: "The Law of the Garbage Truck."

He explained that many people are like garbage trucks. They run around full of garbage, full of frustration, full of anger, full of disappointment and rage. As their garbage piles up, they need a place to dump it and sometimes they'll dump it on you. Don't take it personally. Just smile, wave, wish them well, and move on. Don't pick up their garbage and spread it to other people in your life whether at work, at home, or to people that you don't even know on the streets.

Always remember that good people do not let garbage trucks take over their day. Life's too short to wake up in the morning with regrets.....so "Love the people who treat you right and forgive and pray for the ones who don't."

Marital Discussion Starter

On the Holy Family website, you will find an article to download that is a real discussion starter by Dennis Prager. The article is entitled: **When a Woman Isn't in the Mood**. It's actually a two part article I've copied into one article for your benefit. I encourage EVERY married couple to read this article. It's a bit long at seven pages, and I want you to read it to the end. In part I Dennis Prager offers five basic objections frequently made and answers each in turn. In part II he offers eight reasons for a woman to reconsider her decision.

If you've ever heard Dennis Prager on Patriot Radio 1280AM you know he is not some flamboyant wild-man simply looking for trouble. He is a thoughtful, intelligent person whose arguments are well reasoned and enlightening. I hope you find this article very helpful.

If love means doing what's best for the other, then for husbands and wives, it has to begin here.

Fr. Thomas Dufner

ADVENT PENANCE SERVICE

On **Wednesday, December 16**, we have our Advent Penance Service. 9 priests are scheduled to hear Confessions starting at 7PM. (Religious Ed students begin at 6:40PM and everyone else can begin at 7PM.) Invite your family and friends to join us for this beautiful night of grace. Remember what Jesus told Saint Faustina: *"It is in the confessional that the greatest miracles take place and are incessantly repeated."*

Fall Festival Raffle Winners!

Congratulations one and all!

\$2000	Jeff O'Brien
\$1000	George Stauner
\$ 500	James Cardinal
\$ 300	Lien Vu
\$ 200	Tom Vavrick
\$ 100	Tim & Ruth Laxen
\$ 100	John Richardson
\$ 100	Stella Ercole
\$ 100	Florence Novak

Early Bird Winners!

\$ 500	John Richardson
\$ 200	Kathy Knapp
\$ 100	James Williams
\$ 100	Mary Wild
\$ 100	Lou Mitera
\$ 100	John Crudele
\$ 100	George Tabery

DINNER FOR GRADUATING HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS

****Save the date**** The dinner for the graduating High School seniors will take place on Friday, January 15th at 6PM in Moorman Hall. Father Mike Schmitz from the Archdiocese of Duluth will come and speak about the Theology of the Body to the graduating seniors and their parents. More information will follow.

THEOLOGY OF THE BODY RETREAT, 9-12TH GRADE

On Saturday, January 16th, we have a Theology of the Body retreat in Moorman Hall 8AM-1PM. Fr. Mike Schmitz from the Archdiocese of Duluth will give two talks, separate girls and boys talks, as well as Mass and Adoration. Cost is \$10 including lunch. To register for the event, download the flyer at either the Youth Ministry or Confirmation link under "Faith formation" at hfcmm.org.



Adoration News

Open hours are posted on the bulletin board outside the Chapel. Please help if you can. Call Jim Glover 763.533.0423 to see if any of these hours would work for you.

Holy Family Catholic Church Christmas Eve Family Mass

Gospel Presentation of the Birth of Jesus *Presented by the children of Holy Family!*

Children ages 4 on up who are interested in being an Angel, Shepherd, King or Camel Leader during the 4pm Christmas Eve Mass: REHEARSAL is Saturday, December 19, 10am in the Church.

All actors participating in the Gospel Presentation must attend this rehearsal!

Various costumes will be available to take home after the rehearsal.

**Adults/teens are needed to help distribute costumes, cue actors and be in camel costumes.
Please call Jean Prather at 952-929-0113 x12 if you can help.**

Children, 7 years old and older, who would like to play the part of **Mother Mary, St. Joseph, Head Angel, Head Shepherd** or the **Giant Star from the East**, complete and clip the slip below and place it in an envelope addressed to: Mrs. Jean Prather. Slips must be received by Thursday, December 17.
All are **simple acting parts** (no speaking) and will occur during the Gospel Reading at Mass.

HOLY FAMILY CHRISTMAS EVE GOSPEL PRESENTATION

Name: _____ Age: _____ (7 years old and older for parts below)

Phone Number: _____

Please put my name in the drawing to be: (circle one)

Mother Mary St. Joseph Head Angel Head Shepherd The Bethlehem Star (circle one)

There will be a random drawing to determine the above parts. If YOUR name is picked, you will be notified by our Saturday rehearsal. If your name is not picked, you still get to participate in the celebration of the birthday of Jesus as an Angel, Shepherd or Magi!!! **Every single child is needed and welcome!!!**

Mother's Day of Renewal

Featuring: Coleen Kelly Mast

• Prayer • Encouragement • Fellowship •

Saturday, January 30, 2010

At Holy Family Catholic Church, 5900 Lake Street, St. Louis Park, MN

8:30 Rosary ✕ 9:00 Mass with Father Samuel Martin (Confessions to follow mass)

Continental Breakfast

11:00 - 12:30 Coleen Kelly Mast

1:00 Luncheon (optional)

Sponsored by: MDR, Holy Family's Altar and Rosary Society, And Holy Family Academy's PTO

Register early- Seating is limited:

Name- _____

Phone- _____

Address- _____

E-mail- _____

Mail registration form and payment (checks made out to Mother's Day of Renewal) to: Tina Robbins, 9301 Xylon Cir. S., Bloomington, MN 55438 All morning events ~ \$15 if registered before Jan. 10; later is \$20 Optional Luncheon ~ free will offering:
Lunch- yes / no

✠ Weekly Calendar of Events ✠

Sunday, December 13 ~ Third Sunday of Advent

Donut/New Member

- 8:00 am Confessions
- 9:00 am Mass
- 11:00 am Mass
- 3:30 pm Father & Son Movie Night (MH)

Monday, December 14

- 8:00 am Mass
- 8:30 am Exercise Class (GP)
- 3:00 pm WOW Holy Hour (Adoration Chapel)
- 6:30 pm Carmel (C/MH)

Tuesday, December 15

- 8:00 am Mass
- 10:30 am Goodtimers 500 Club (GP)

Wednesday, December 16

- 8:00 am Mass
- 8:30 am Coffee & Rolls
- 9:30 am Quilting
- 11:45 am Exercise Class (MH)
- 5:15 pm Kids Praise Too!
- 6:30 pm Confirmation
- 6:30 pm HFC
- 7:00 pm **Communal Penance Service (Church)**

Thursday, December 17

- 8:00 am Mass
- 7:00 pm Choir
- 7:00 pm Vaco (MH)
- 7:00 pm NFP (GP)

Friday, December 18

- 8:00 am Mass
- 8:30 am Exercise Class (GP)
- 7:00 pm Holy Family Academy Concert (Church)

Saturday, December 19

- 6:30 am Holy Name Society (Gathering Place)
- 10:00 am Rosaries For Life (Robbinsdale)
- 10:00 am Children's Christmas Eve Rehearsal
- 3:30 pm Confessions
- 5:00 pm Mass

Sunday, December 20 ~ Fourth Sunday of Advent

Food Drive Sunday

- 8:00 am Confessions
- 9:00 am Mass 11:00 am Mass

REMINDER: FOOD COLLECTION for the NEEDY and S.T.E.P. Every First and Third weekend of the month, you are Invited to bring non-perishable food items to share with the needy and S.T.E.P. You may drop off your items at any of the Church doors.

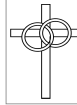
Altar and Rosary News



Sincere thanks to all who baked, cooked, supported and helped in any way with this year's Sugar Plum Days. Everyone was incredibly generous and all your efforts were appreciated! Grateful thanks are also extended to Holy Family Staff for their patience and help before and during this year's event.

The Spiritual Bouquet Book for Priests in in the back of Church for anyone who wishes to sign it.

Christmas peace, joy and blessings to all!



Banns I

Jason Doering and Pam Lensing

We would like to extend a heartfelt "thank you" to everyone at Holy Family for all of the love and support shown to our family over the past few months. The meals, rides, hospital and home visits, and other acts of kindness are very much appreciated. We are especially grateful for all of your prayers and sacrifices which continue to give us the grace and strength to carry our cross during this difficult time. God bless you all!
In Christ Jesus,
Julie Haynes and family, Bucky and Mary Haynes

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

- Monday:** Nm 24:2-7, 15-17a; Mt 21:23-27
- Tuesday:** Zep 3:1-2, 9-13; Mt 21:28-32
- Wednesday:** Is 45:6b-8, 18, 21b-25; Lk 7:18b-23
- Thursday:** Gn 49:2, 8-10; Mt 1:1-17
- Friday:** Jer 23:5-8; Mt 1:18-25
- Saturday:** Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a; Lk 1:5-25
- Sunday:** Mi 5:1-4a; Ps 80; Heb 10:5-10; Lk 1:39-45

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Monday: St. John of the Cross

HOSPITAL AND HOMEBOUND VISITATION:

Please notify the parish office when; ** a parishioner is hospitalized. ***a homebound parishioner desires Holy Communion.

Census (Membership) Update.....

★ Please call Bobbi Hanson at 952-929-0113 ext. 11 or email at bobbi@hfcmn.org to verify your contact information.



PLEASE HELP US TO HELP YOU!!!

In order to track your contributions and list them on your annual statement you must use your envelope OR put your envelope number in the memo section of your check. Thank you!

Holy Family Weekly Offering

Regular Envelopes	\$20,945.76
Plate	\$ 2,234.10
Care	\$ 841.56

Thank You For Your Generosity!

Mass Intentions for the Week

- Dec 14 Bill Everett †
- Dec 15 Chester Wozniak †
- Dec 16 Pat Corcoran †
- Dec 17 Alison Schuth
- Dec 18 Jack Schuth
- Dec 19 Jean Matheny
- Dec 20 Robert Bauer † (9AM)
- Dec 20 For the Parish (11AM)





**Share the Joys of Advent at our annual
Holy Family Academy Christmas Concert**
Friday, December 18th, 7:00 p.m. at Holy Family Church

Mark your calendars for a beautiful evening of music, joy, and anticipation as our schoolchildren present you with our annual Christmas concert. The Sanctuary will be lit with the sparkle of tiny lights, the children will stand before you on an elevated stage, narrators and soloists will lead us, and the young voices of children will open our hearts as we wait in longing, knowing that Someone special is coming. The event is free but free-will donations are welcome.

FATHER & SON MOVIE NIGHT

Fathers and Sons are invited to a movie evening on **Sunday, December 13th at 3:30PM in Moorman Hall**. This month we will be showing "The Christmas Miracle of Jonathan Toomie" The intent of these movie nights is to find virtue on the battlefield, in the workplace and to provide dads with the opportunity to discuss these with their sons. The Holy Name Society has previewed this movie and prepared discussion questions about morality and true manliness. A short discussion break will occur during the movie.

CHRISTMAS DECORATING!

It will soon be time to decorate the Church for Christmas. As last year, the decorating will be done in **two steps**. On **Thursday, Dec. 17**, we will put the **lights** on the large trees in the sanctuary, hang all **wreaths**, and put up the **banners**. On **Wednesday, Dec. 23**, we will finish the **remaining decorating**. . . **after Coffee & Rolls**. Please mark your calendars for **Dec. 17th and/or Dec. 23rd** and plan to help decorate. (Adults only, please, due to the nature of the work) Call Sharon at 952.929.0113 Ext. 13 if you have questions.

YOUTH MINISTRY

CHRISTMAS PARTY - Sunday Dec 20th - 6-8PM @ Youth House. Come celebrate the birthday of Jesus! This will be a true birthday party with games and cake! You need to bring three things, yourselves, a gift to donate for Toy's for Tots and a white elephant gift. Call Jay & Lynn Tomaszewski with questions 612.396.6890.



POINSETTIAS! POINSETTIAS!

You are invited to help defray the cost of decorating the Sanctuary this Christmas by donating a beautiful Poinsettia plant. The cost per plant is \$10. For your convenience, there is an envelope in your church envelope packet labeled "**Christmas Flower Offering**." Just drop it in the Sunday collection basket any week-end. Thank You! Sharon

MESSAGES from your HOLY FAMILY HEALTH BOARD

HELP PREVENT THE SPREAD OF FLU . . .

1. **Cover Your Cough!** Cover your nose and mouth with your sleeve when you cough or sneeze.
2. **Wash Your Hands!** Clean your hands frequently and thoroughly - with soap and hot water or an alcohol-based hand rub solution.
3. **Hand Hygiene!** Clean your hands after shaking hands, before eating or preparing food, or touching your eyes, nose or mouth.
4. **Prevent Dehydration!** Drink plenty of fluids.
5. Limit your contact with others who may be ill.
6. If you are sick with flu-like illness, CDC recommends that you stay home for at least 24 hours after your fever is gone except to get medical care or for other necessities. (Your fever should be gone without the use of a fever-reducing medicine.)

**CHILDREN'S
CHRISTMAS EVE MASS**

Every year at the 4PM Christmas Eve Mass, the children of Holy Family present the Gospel of the birth of Jesus. Children, ages 4 and up, who would like to participate as an Angel, Shepherd, Magi, or Camel Leader, need to come to our rehearsal **on Saturday, December 19 at 10AM in Church**. If you are 7 years old or older and would like to play the special roles of Mother Mary, St. Joseph, Head Angel, Head Shepherd or the Bethlehem Star, you can register for those drawings by picking up a flyer on all church bulletin boards. Questions? Call Mrs. Prather at 952.929.0113 x12.

 **Pro-Life Corner**

Bishop William F. Murphy of Rockville Centre, N.Y., outlined the policy priorities of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops on health care in a letter to Congress.

On respecting life and dignity: "No health care reform plan should compel us or others to pay for the destruction of human life, whether through government funding or mandatory coverage of abortion. Any such action would be morally wrong."

On protections from public funding of abortion: "Health care reform cannot be a vehicle for abandoning this consensus which respects freedom of conscience and honors our best American traditions. Any legislation should reflect longstanding and widely supported current policies on abortion funding, mandates and conscience protections because they represent sound morality, wise policy and political reality."

On access for all: "All people need and should have access to comprehensive, quality health care that they can afford, and it should not depend on their stage of life, where or whether they or their parents work, how much they earn, where they live, or where they were born. *The Bishops' Conference believes health care reform should be truly universal and it should be genuinely affordable*" (emphasis in original).