

PARISH BULLETIN No. 514

Sunday, 28 December 2025

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

Evangelje: Mt 2, 13-15. 19-23.

When they had gone, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream. "Get up," he said, "take the child and his mother and escape to Egypt. Stay there until I tell you, for Herod is going to search for the child to kill him." So he got up, took the child and his mother during the night and left for Egypt, where he stayed until the death of Herod. And so was fulfilled what the Lord had said through the prophet: "Out of Egypt I called my son."

After Herod died, an angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt and said, "Get up, take the child and his mother and go to the land of Israel, for those who were trying to take the child's life are dead." So he got up, took the child and his mother and went to the land of Israel. But when he heard that Archelaus was reigning in Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there. Having been warned in a dream, he withdrew to the district of Galilee, and he went and lived in a town called Nazareth. So was fulfilled what was said through the prophets, that he would be called a Nazarene.

Pastor's Commentary:

On the first Sunday after Christmas, the Church celebrates the Feast of the Holy Family, through which she wishes to encourage us to experience even more deeply the Incarnation of Jesus—His “entering into a home,” His acceptance of earthly reality and human life. Namely, the Second Divine Person became Man, and now He, the Messiah, as a human being, does not live without anyone anywhere, but has His own family with a concrete, real-life existence. This concreteness required a flight into Egypt so that the newborn King of the Jews might escape the executioner Herod, as well as life in Egypt until the return to Nazareth.

In this Gospel we can observe how, from the very beginning of His life, the forces of the world “came crashing down” upon Jesus, and how the Heavenly Father cares for Him through the responsibility of His righteous foster father. Thus, in this Word of God we can also discover a threefold message for families:

First is communication with God: that is, concrete daily religious life, filled with prayer, lived through the sacraments, and marked by carrying out the concrete will of God. It is the presence of prayer both in joys and in the mysteries of real life and its problems.

Second is communion: the family is realized through togetherness, based on marital love, daily fidelity, and respect for one's spouse. Through mutual understanding and conversation, even the greatest hardships and “relocations” can be overcome.

Third is the protection of the child: the image of saving Jesus is an image of the family's care for children and descendants. There is no future without children! Just as great as the cry of heaven was, “save Jesus,” it seems to me that it is no less urgent for our Croatian people that young people marry and have children.

Oh, may the Holy Family intercede for us in this, may it help us in our Homeland, and also our displaced Croats, to return as much as possible!

HOLY MASSES

HOLY FAMILY 28. 12. 2025.	NEW YEAR 1. 1. 2026.	FIRST FRIDAY 2. 1. 2026.	WORKING DAY
08.00: ŠESTAK	08.00: ŠESTAK	6.00, 7:00,	7:00, 8:00, 9:00,
09.30: BALATINAC	09.30: BALATINAC	8.00, 9:00,	12:00 i 19:00
11.00: KOČIŠ	11.00: VLAH	11.00, 12:00,	
12.15: BILIĆ	12.15: BILIĆ	17.00 i 19:00	
17.00: VLAH	17.00: NAGY		
19.00: SKELIN	19.00: SKELIN		

CONFESION

HOLY FAMILY	FIRST FRIDAY
07.30-13.00	05.45-13.00
16.30-18.00: 18:30-20.00	16:30-20.00
WORKING DAY:	NEW YEAR:
06.30-09.30	NO
11.00-12.30	CONFESION!
18.30-20.00	

O B A V I J E S T I I LITURGIJSKI KALENDAR

Wednesday, 31 December	St. Sylvester I, Pope; End of the Civil Year
Thursday, 1 January	SOLEMNITY: MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD; NEW YEAR – World Day of Peace
Friday, 2 January	Memorial: St. Basil the Great and St. Gregory of Nazianzus, Bishops and Doctors of the Church
Saturday, 3 January	SOLEMNITY: THE MOST HOLY NAME OF JESUS, TITLE OF THE SOCIETY OF JESUS
Sunday, 4 January	2nd SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS

HOLY FAMILY: Today's feast of the Holy Family is also the World Day of Migrants and Refugees, established by Pope Benedict XV in 1914. The Church in Croatia prays for the dispersed Croatian people with the desire for their return to the Homeland.

END OF THE JUBILEE: With a solemn Holy Mass in Zagreb Cathedral today at 10:00 a.m., the Jubilee Year will also conclude for our Archdiocese. On this occasion, the relics of Blessed Alojzije Stepinac will be returned from Krašić to the Cathedral.

NEW YEAR'S EVE: On Wednesday, 31 December, the last day of the calendar year, a Thanksgiving Holy Mass will be celebrated at 7:00 p.m., and the parish statistics will be announced.

NEW YEAR: On Thursday is New Year's Day. The Sunday schedule of Holy Masses applies, and there will be no regular confessions that day.

FIRST FRIDAY: Immediately after New Year comes First Friday, with regular Holy Masses as usual, devotions to the Sacred Heart of Jesus, and the opportunity for confession.

FIRST SATURDAY: Saturday is also First Saturday, with devotions to the Blessed Virgin Mary. In the Society, it is the Solemnity of the Most Holy Name of Jesus—essentially the name day of our religious community. Holy Masses will be celebrated as on weekdays.

BLESSING OF FAMILIES AND YOUR HOMES: This has officially concluded; anyone who still wishes may freely contact the parish priest or the parish office.

ORATORY: In our parish we are organizing a CHILDREN'S ORATORY from 9 to 11 January 2026. To participate, please register with Sr. Marijela or Fr. Marko Petričević.

ROSARY PRAYER AT KAMENITA VRATA: Mondays at 8:00 p.m.

PARISH OFFICE HOURS: Monday and Tuesday from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. and from 5:00 to 6:00 p.m.

“LESS IS MORE” - LAY COLUMN No. 464 – written by: Iva Smolčić

The Quiet Strength of Christmas – Love as the Bond of Perfection

Dear parishioners, like all of us, I often imagine Christmas as a perfect picture: the scent of cookies, the glow of lights, a warm home, and family gathered around the table. Yet today's Gospel reminds us that the first Christmas was neither peaceful nor comfortable. It speaks of flight, fear, and uncertainty. Joseph, Mary, and the newborn Jesus had to flee to Egypt at night, without a plan, without security, guided only by trust in God's word, which explains nothing but simply says: "Get up and go". In that spirit, I view Paul's call to "put on" mercy, kindness, and patience differently. As a student, I often feel like I am always rushing somewhere, running late with something, and not good enough. Christmas reminds me that God does not require a perfect schedule or ideal circumstances, but only an open heart. Love, as Paul says, is not an addition but "the bond of perfection.". In the Holy Family, I do not see a fairy tale, but real life: responsibility, care for one another, listening, and trust. Christmas teaches me precisely in this way that Christ's peace is not the absence of problems, but the strength to remain faithful, gentle, and trusting in the midst of uncertainty. Perhaps the greatest Christmas gift is the realization that God comes exactly where life is not perfect, but real.