

Holy Family Parish

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The Nativity of the Lord (Christmas)
December 25, 2022

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

CATECHETICAL CORNER

Life after Death (Cont.)

Last week we concluded our study with the explanation of Particular Judgment. We continue with same.

When and Where: There was a good deal of controversy throughout the first century as to the details and circumstances of the Particular Judgment, but the Second Council of Lyons, in 1274, decreed that souls free from sin are at once received into Heaven, and half a century later, Pope Benedict XII defined that “The souls of those who depart this life in the state of mortal sin descend into Hell immediately after death and are there subject to infernal torments.”

The common opinion of theologians is that the Particular Judgment will take place where death occurs and that it will be instantaneous. At the moment of death the soul will be internally illuminated as to its own innocence or guilt and will immediately, on its own initiative, make its way to Heaven, to Hell or to Purgatory.

It is the desire of God that all should attain a destiny of eternal happiness. Those who are quite unfit for it, as a result of their death in deliberate mortal sin, will go to Hell; those who are not quite fit, owing to the presence of venial sin or some spiritual debt still due to the justice of God, will go to *Purgatory*; those who are quite fit will be admitted at once to Heaven.

Eternal Punishment (Hell)

The major religions believe that man’s soul is immortal and even after separated from the body the soul will continue to live. All these religions, including Christianity are unanimous in their belief that there will be a judgment at the end based on the **deeds** of every human being; those who have done good deeds will go to eternal life (Heaven) and those who have done bad deeds will be condemned to eternal punishment which is called the Hell. Though the Jews didn’t have a clear picture of eternal life and eternal punishment, we see the reference to eternal punishment in the Old Testament Prophetic writings. Jesus speaks in the gospels about these two realities to great extent, but we don’t see him using the word ‘Hell’ anywhere in his preaching. But eternal life and eternal punishment is well expressed in many places in the gospels. Let us see some of the quotes from the Scripture.

Scriptural Basis:

Matt. 3:12 and Luke 3:17: John the Baptist said the Lord will burn the chaff with unquenchable fire. This unquenchable fire is the state of eternal separation from God, which the Church has called "hell" for 2,000 years. Some Protestant communities no longer acknowledge the reality of hell.

Matt. 25:41 - Jesus says, "Depart from me, you cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels."

Matt. 25:46 - Jesus says, "They will go away into eternal punishment" which is in reference to this eternal fire.

Mark 9:47-48 - Jesus refers to hell as where the worm does not die and the fire is not quenched. It lasts forever.

2 Thess. 1:6-9 - the angels will come with flaming fire and the disobedient will suffer punishment of eternal destruction. It is important to note that "destruction" does not mean "annihilation," as some Protestant denominations teach. It means eternal exclusion from the presence of God.

Jude 6-7 - the rebelling angels, and Sodom and Gomorrah, serve as an example by undergoing a punishment of eternal fire.

Isaiah 33:14: "Who of us can dwell in the everlasting fire?" This is a reference to hell which is forever.”

Isaiah 66:24: “Their worm shall not die and their fire shall not be extinguished”

Judith 16:17: “... in the Day of Judgment the Lord will take vengeance on the wicked and they shall weep in pain forever.” Hell is a place that sinners have prepared for themselves by rejecting God, who desires all people to be saved in His Son Jesus Christ. God sends no one to hell.

(Will be continued).

A HUGE THANK YOU to the great group of parishioners who helped last weekend decorate our church so beautiful for the Christmas Season! Many hands made the work load light!

THIS WEEK AT HOLY FAMILY

Mon.	Dec. 26 th	<i>Saint Stephen, the First Martyr</i> 8:00 A.M. – NO Mass ----- Parish office closed
Tues.	Dec. 27 th	<i>Saint John, Apostle and Evangelist</i> 8:00 A.M. - Mass - Gerald & Lorraine Nelson 5:00 P.M. - St. Vincent DePaul Society meets ----- Parish Office closed
Wed.	Dec. 28 th	<i>The Holy Innocents, Martyrs</i> 8:00 A.M. - Mass – Don Menuier Novena to our Lady of Perpetual Help 6:30 P.M. - NO CCD Classes
Thurs.	Dec. 29 th	<i>Saint Thomas Becket, Bishop and Martyr</i> 8:00 A.M. - Mass – Jeff Lancour 7:30 P.M. - No Smear League
Fri.	Dec. 30 th	<i>The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph</i> 8:00 A.M.- Mass – Craig Olson ----- Parish Office closed
Sat.	Dec. 31 st	<i>Saint Sylvester I, Pope</i> 3:00 P.M. - Confessions 4:00 P.M. - Mass – Darlene Smith
Sun.	Jan. 1 st	<i>Solemnity of Mary, The Holy Mother of God</i> 8:00 A.M. - Mass – For the people of our parish 10:00 AM - Mass – Violet Therrien

STEWARDSHIP CORNER

81 envelopes were returned for Sunday, Dec. 18th

Adult Offering.....	\$3,334.00
Loose.....	98.00
General Maintenance.....	40.00
Total.....	\$3,472.00

Budgeted weekly Income & Expense... \$3,980.50
Short Fall..... \$ 508.50

St. Vincent DePaul donations.....	\$ 59.00
The Word Among Us Subscriptions....	40.00
Christmas Flowers.....	100.00
Donations.....	50.00

We are looking for more people to join the Ministry of Readers. If interested please contact the Parish office.

CALLING ALL PARISHIONERS

Fr. Sebastian would like to have an APPRECIATION DINNER for all of our parishioners to say THANK YOU for your support of Holy Family.

It will be a Chicken & Meatball Dinner on Saturday, January 21, 2023, in the church hall. Social starting at 5:00 PM with dinner served at 5:30 PM. We invite all to come. We would like to have a count so if you plan to attend (which we hope you will) please sign up at the back of church. We will take reservations through January 15th.



SPIRIT LIFTERS

- Dec. 25th** - “For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior which is Christ the Lord.” Luke 2:11
- Dec. 26th** - It’s a little too much to save, And a little too much to dump. There’s nothing to do but eat it, That makes the housewife plump.
- Dec. 27th** - The greatest thing in life is to be needed.
- Dec. 28th** - You can’t change the past, but you ruin a perfectly good present by worrying about the future.
- Dec. 29th** - Beware of the high cost of low living.
- Dec. 30th** - It is better to look ahead and prepare than to look back and regret.
- Dec. 31st** - And as the Old Year slips away, He kindly with him takes The pages we have blurred and marred With failures and mistakes. The blighted hopes and needless bears are gone beyond recall. And ours once more the fair, clean page the New Year brings to all.

St. Vincent DePaul Corner

Today we celebrate the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ, hearing the words of the angel, “Do not be afraid, for behold, I proclaim to you good news of great joy”. Today and throughout the new year, may we take care of our suffering brothers and sisters, bringing hope, not fear.

For more information contact Beverly Miller at 428-3610.

**Warm up with Breakfast
at St. Thomas Church!
Sunday, January 8th
9am - 12:30pm**

Eggs, Pancakes Sausage, Potatoes, Toast, Coffee & Juice will be served. \$9.00 ages 13 & up \$6.00 ages 6-12, 5 and under are FREE!

THIS WEEK’S READINGS

Monday Acts 6:8-10,7:54-59 Mt 10:17-22	Tuesday 1 Jn 1:1-4 Jn 20:1a,2-8
Wednesday 1 Jn 1:5—2:2 Mt 2:13-18	Thursday 1 Jn 2:3-11 Lk 2:22-35
Friday Sir 3:2-6,12-14 Mt 2:13-15,19-23	Saturday 1 Jn 2:18-21 Jn 1:1-18
Sunday Nm 6:22-27 Gal 4:4-7 Lk 2:16-21	

U.P. CATHOLIC SERVICES APPEAL

We still have 96 outstanding cards

Please drop off your pledge card at the parish or mail it to the parish at 4011 County 416-20th Road. We need 100% participation to make our goal. Thanking you in advance

Our goal for this year is \$39,676

To date we have 107 returned cards with pledges of \$31,800. **Leaving a balance of \$7,876.** *There are still A LOT of OUTSTANDING PLEDGE CARDS. Please return as soon as possible.*

Dear Lord,
We pray that this New Year will bring us closer to You. May we take the time to get to know You. Help us to truly celebrate the gifts You have graciously given us and use them to serve You and spread Your word. May we also see and love You in all the people we meet, so that in turn, they can see You in us. In this new year, let us realize that every action of ours no matter how great or small enables us to be in touch with You. Let us accept You in our lives, in the way it pleases You, as Truth to be spoken, as Life to be lived, as Light to be lighted, as Love to be followed, as Joy to be given, as Peace to be spread about, as Sacrifice to be offered among our relatives, friends, neighbors and all people. Amen.