

## Calendar

### Monday

DECEMBER 24  
Advent Weekday  
2 Sm 7:1-5,  
8b-12, 14a, 16  
Lk 1:67-79

### Tuesday

DECEMBER 25  
Christmas  
Is 52:7-10  
Heb 1:1-6  
Jn 1:1-18 or  
Jn 1:1-5, 9-14

### Wednesday

DECEMBER 26  
St. Stephen,  
The First Martyr  
Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59  
Mt 10:17-22

### Thursday

DECEMBER 27  
St. John, Apostle  
and Evangelist  
1 Jn 1:1-4  
Jn 20:1a and 2-8

### Friday

DECEMBER 28  
The Holy Innocents,  
Martyrs  
1 Jn 1:5-2:2  
Mt 2:13-18

### Saturday

DECEMBER 29  
Fifth Day in the  
Octave of Christmas  
1 Jn 2:3-11  
Lk 2:22-35

### Sunday

DECEMBER 30  
The Holy Family of  
Jesus, Mary, and Joseph  
Sir 3:2-6, 12-14 or  
1 Sm 1:20-22, 24-28  
Col 3:12-21 or  
Col 3:12-17 or  
1 Jn 3:1-2, 21-24  
Lk 2:41-52

# Dear Padre,

**Our parish is big into nighttime services. We have the Advent vespers and, of course, Midnight Mass. Is there a reason for doing these services at night?**

Both Advent vespers and Midnight Mass center on our expectation of Jesus coming into our midst as the Light of the World. The vespers prayer is usually celebrated at dusk, as day is turning into night. The service proclaims that the darkness of night will not conquer the Light of Jesus. Christian tradition holds that the ecclesiastical day begins at sunset, in accord with Genesis 1:5: "Evening came, and morning followed—the first day." Vespers, or the Office of Evening, is the first hour of the new Church day.

Both the vespers and the Mass at midnight call us to embrace a new beginning, which is Jesus the Light. This imagery is especially appropriate considering the arrival of the winter solstice. In the beginning of Advent, the nights grow progressively longer. Then, right before Christmas, the winter solstice marks the light's reclaiming of the world.

In the early centuries of Christianity, people from the countryside would gather on Christmas Eve in the warmth of the great monastery church. They would go to confession, be forgiven, sing of the newborn Savior, and participate in the Eucharist. After Eucharist, they would join in a great feast that lasted until sunrise. When you celebrate at Midnight Mass this year, recall that you are proclaiming that Jesus the Light has conquered the darkness again—this year and forever.

—Fr. Paul J. Coury, CSsR  
Sundaybulletin@Liguori.org



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## A Word From Pope Francis

Jesus keeps knocking on our doors, the doors of our lives. He doesn't do this by magic, with special effects, with flashing lights and fireworks. Jesus keeps knocking on our door in the faces of our brothers and sisters, in the faces of our neighbors, in the faces of those at our side.  
—Meeting the homeless, Washington, DC, September 24, 2015

# Our Parish COMMUNITY

December 23, 2018

Fourth Sunday of Advent (C)

Mi 5:1-4a

Heb 10:5-10

Lk 1:39-45

## True Love Means Sacrifice

God is often present in the little, hidden things of life. Take for example the small town of Bethlehem. This place barely appeared on the maps of the time. Yet in this dull town, overlooked by all, God wished to be born. God isn't into bling.

Look at the ray of light in the painting that shines from the upper left window directly down onto Mary's womb. She carries in her the Light of the World, but it happened in a way unknown to anyone. He is the Light of the World, shining to catch our attention, but he does so in silence, humility, and intimacy.

There is a second aspect of the Incarnation to learn here. Christmas was about a real sacrifice. Mary and Jesus offered their very selves. Hebrews says it wasn't an animal or a wheat offering but Jesus' very body and blood. The same for Mary, as it was her life, her virginity, her very intimacy, that she was opening to God when she agreed to be the mother of the Lord. It's easy to be generous when it doesn't touch too close to home.

So try not to look for glitz and externals this Christmas but for God's hidden presence. And imitate Jesus and Mary by giving of your very self. It's not about a fast, a donation, or extra prayers—as good as

those Advent practices are. But all of this prepares us to give our very selves to him in trust through the hidden acts of love of every day.

— Fr. Mark Haydu, LC



Piece: *Annunciation*, 1427  
Artist: Gentile da Fabriano  
Location: Vatican Museums

PHOTO © GOVERNATORATO S.C.V. - DIRETTORATO OF MUSEUMS

## For Reflection

What hidden acts of love can you offer during this upcoming Christmas?

Are there ways you can point out to your children God's presence in the little things?

*We have been consecrated through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.*

Hebrews 10:10



Priest: Chaplain (MAJ) Matthew Whitehead  
 Deacon: [Rev. Mr. Joe Pak](#)  
 Catholic Coordinator: [Pam Ortiz-Marty](#)

**Mass & Confession Schedule**  
 Weekly Mass – Wednesdays at Noon, Blessed Sacrament Chapel  
 1700 Saturday Vigil Mass & 0900 Sunday Mass, Memorial Chapel  
 Confessions – By Appointment

Connect with us!



Joint Base Myer-Henderson Hall Catholic Community  
 Catholic Chaplain's Office  
 101 McNair Rd BLDG 480, Fort Myer, VA 22211  
 703.696.5688 [info@jbmhhcatholicparish.com](mailto:info@jbmhhcatholicparish.com)  
 Office hours vary – email or call ahead

**Emergency Contact for a Catholic Priest:** MP's 24/7 line 703.588.2800/2801; Duty Chaplain 202.236.4901

**Suicide Prevention Lifeline:** 800.273.8255 | [Veterans Crisis Line](#)

**Registration:** Registering helps us to better serve our congregants. To register – and to enroll children in the CRE program – please call or email the Catholic Coordinator for a form. [Forms](#) can also be downloaded off the website. To update or deactivate current registrations, contact the Catholic Coordinator.

**Sacraments and Sponsor Letters:** Registration required. Priests only have pastoral jurisdiction with respect to sacraments for active duty military and their family members. Please contact the Catholic Coordinator for more information.

**E-Bulletin:** E-mailed each Thursday; available on website

**Adverse Weather | Closures:** JBM-HH follows OPM (Office of Personnel Management) guidance. Visit or call: [opm.gov](#); OPM information line (recorded message) 202.606.1900; JBM-HH Commander's Information Hotline (recorded message) 703.696.6906.

**OFFERTORY 15-16 DECEMBER 2018**

		Attendance
Sat 1700 Vigil Mass:	\$4,156.17	238
Sun 0900 Mass:	\$2,406.00	184
<b>Reg Offering Total:</b>	<b>\$6,562.17</b>	<b>422</b>

All checks - Regular Offering and Designated Offering - are made payable to C.T.O.F. (Chapel Tithes & Offering Fund)

**UPCOMING DESIGNATED OFFERINGS:**

12 & 13 JANUARY 2019 – Archdiocese for the Military Services, USA

2 & 3 FEBRUARY 2019 – National Collection for Religious



**MONDAY, 24 DECEMBER – CHRISTMAS EVE**

1630 CHORAL PRELUDE

1700 CHRISTMAS EVE MASS

**TUESDAY, 25 DECEMBER – CHRISTMAS DAY**

0900 CHRISTMAS DAY MASS

NO TOPICS IN CATHOLICISM

**WEDNESDAY, 26 DECEMBER**

NO WEEKLY MASS

**SATURDAY, 29 DECEMBER**

1700 VIGIL MASS

**SUNDAY, 30 DECEMBER – FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY**

0900 MASS

NO RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

**TUESDAY, 1 JANUARY 2019 – NEW YEAR'S DAY**

0900 MASS - SOLEMNITY OF MARY

HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION

NO TOPICS IN CATHOLICISM

**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS SOCKS FOR THE HOMELESS**

**PROJECT** ends the last weekend of December. Filled bags can be dropped off before the weekend Masses. The Knights are taking the bags to the designated homeless shelter on Sunday, 9 January 2019, after the 0900 Mass.

**LORD, HEAR OUR PRAYER...**

...for Vocations to the Priesthood and the Military Chaplaincy; for our deployed troops and their families; for our community members who are ill; for our deceased; and, for those who are lonely or in crisis:

**Healing:** Barbara Nestro, Alfred Prados, Len Trahan, Warren Efting, Caroline "Tiger" Davidowich, Bob Schaaf, Finian Lalime, Virginia & Bill Hoh, Rosemary Haddock, Ann McDermott, Tim Meyer, Tom Meyer, Nellie Jo Yannarella, David Pellicci

**Lonely or in crisis:** If you need to talk to someone, please call 1-800-273-TALK (8255) Option 1; text 838255; chat live at [Veterans Crisis Line](#).

To add or remove names, please call the Catholic Chaplain's Office or [email](#) the Catholic Coordinator.

**READINGS - - FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

FIRST READING: MICAH 5:1-4

The prophet Micah, writing some 700 years before Christ, attacked the social injustices of Israel. He looked ahead to a day when the tiny city of Bethlehem, where David had been born, would bring forth a new shepherd – a good shepherd – who would unify the people and bring peace.

SECOND READING: HEBREWS 10:5-10

The Letter to the Hebrews constantly looks to the Old Testament and shows how Jesus surpassed its laws and sacrifices. In Old Testament times, the people offered animal sacrifices over and over in atonement for their sins. But this could not compare to the God-made-flesh who gave his life *once* for the sins of all.



We have been blessed to have Maria Conté and Joel Waugh as our Altar Server ministry coordinators. They have tirelessly guided this remarkable group over the past three years. Thank you, Maria and Joel, for serving our community in this capacity – your efforts are greatly appreciated.

We offer our heartiest congratulations to Dave & Beth Coe - newly appointed coordinators of the Altar Servers! May God bless you and guide you as you lead these young people in this important ministry.



If you would like more information about the Altar Server ministry, please email [altarservers@jbmhhcatholicparish.com](mailto:altarservers@jbmhhcatholicparish.com).



**Mission Statement**

We, the Catholic community of Joint Base Myer-Henderson Hall, serve to advance the spiritual growth and resilience of all bonded by love of Christ, and shared experiences of service to country. Guided by our military chaplain, we actively participate in the living Body of Christ and persevere in our Savior's mission. We are grateful stewards of the gifts we have received and eagerly use them to show our love for God and for one another. Jesus' life and teachings direct our lives as Christian disciples.

*We seek to light the way to Christ as a strong military Catholic Community of faith guided by the Holy Spirit and on fire with God's love.*

**Core Value Statements**

WE bond through shared service to our country.  
 WE welcome all to join our community's journey with Christ.  
 WE grow continually to celebrate Christ through education, prayer, service, and fellowship.  
 WE thrive through vibrant ministries that engage all within our [JBM-HH] community.  
 WE walk with other JBM-HH faith communities to praise and serve God.