

**DECEMBER 28, 2008 - THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY & JOSEPH
28 DE DICIEMBRE DEL 2008-LA SAGRADA FAMILIA DE JESUS, MARIA Y JOSE**

FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY

We continue the celebration of the Christmas Season with the celebration of the Holy Family. We hear the proclamations of Simeon and Anna who see in this child Jesus the salvation of the world. The presentation of Jesus in the Temple in Jerusalem, is an affirmation of His mission to save both the Gentiles and the people of Israel.

We are in difficult times in our nation as we continue to be at war in Iraq and Afghanistan. Many people have lost jobs and almost everyone is a bit poorer financially than a year ago. We are looking for salvation from our troubles and anxieties. Where will redemption come from? We too look to Jesus for salvation and redemption. As your family gathers over this Christmas season, may we be clear that Jesus is the light of Salvation. Jesus' message of the love of God for us and love for each other is the solution to the problems we face of violence, war, greed, immorality, and unfaithfulness. Following Jesus as our light, we receive our salvation and His love. We are empowered then to love in our relationships and transform our fallen world one person at a time as we bring others to the love of Jesus, our salvation. In Jesus we find love, peace, hope, joy, and faithfulness. May we rejoice with Simeon and Anna, as we celebrate the birth of Jesus. May the Holy Family bless your family!



Peace,

Fr. Tom

HAPPY NEW YEAR

Feliz Año Nuevo

**WORLD DAY FOR PEACE
JANUARY 1, 2009**

The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) urges Catholics to follow the call of Pope Benedict XVI in his 2009 World Day of Peace Message, "Fighting Poverty to Build Peace." "The bishops want to help people understand the extent of poverty," said Joan Rosenhauer, associate director for education and outreach of Justice, Peace and Human Development at the USCCB. "With 10 percent of families in the U.S. living in poverty and 1.4 billion people worldwide living in extreme poverty, the numbers alone express the urgency of this issue and why Pope Benedict would single it out as an essential part of working for peace."

**CHILDREN ARE THE MOST VULNERABLE
VICTIMS (BENEDICT XVI)**

"When poverty strikes a family, the children prove to be the most vulnerable victims: almost half of those living in absolute poverty today are children. To take the side of children when considering poverty means giving priority to those objectives which concern them most directly, such as caring for mothers, commitment to education, access to vaccines, medical care and drinking water, safeguarding the environment, and above all, commitment to defense of the family and the stability of relations within it. When the family is weakened, it is inevitably children who suffer. If the dignity of women and mothers is not protected, it is the children who are affected most" (no. 5).

ALTAR SERVERS

Thank you to all new altar servers for attending the classes. At this point, unless you have attended at least one of the Altar Server practice with Father Maseo Gonzales, you ought not to serve at any Masses here at the Cathedral. New altar servers will be contacted individually for a private lesson in the month of January. **All altar servers are expected to attend a follow-up session on Saturday, January 31, 2009 at 9:00 a.m. in the Cathedral.**

During the practice on January 31, 2009, you will receive your new schedules. If you cannot attend, please contact Father Maseo in the Parish Office.

ACOLITOS

Gracias a todos los nuevos acólitos que atendieron las sesiones de entrenamiento. Por el momento, a menos que usted haya atendido por lo menos una de las practicas para los Acólitos con el Padre Maseo, usted no debe servir en ninguna Misa aquí en la Catedral. Los nuevos acólitos serán contactados individualmente para una practica privada en el mes de enero. Todos los acólitos deberán asistir a una sesión de continuación el sábado 31 de enero del 2009 a las 9:00a.m. en la Catedral.

Durante la practica del 31 de enero del 2009 se entregarán los nuevos calendarios. Si usted no puede asistir, por favor comuníquese con el Padre Maseo en la Oficina Parroquial.

UPDATE ON 2009 SUMMER FESTIVAL

Western Nevada Supply of Sparks, Nevada has already donated two 20x20' tents for our Summer Fiesta. Please pray for them.

We are in need of an Event Marketing person and a Chairperson for Children's games.

Future Meetings: 1/12/09, 1/26/09. All meetings begin at 7PM on the 2nd floor of the Parish Center. Please bring your wonderful ideas to the meeting. If you have any questions please call Fr. Maseo Gonzales at 329-2571 Ext. 103.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: 1 Jn 2:3-11; Lk 2:22-35
Tuesday: 1 Jn 2:12-17; Lk 2:36-40
Wednesday: 1 Jn 2:18-21; Jn 1:1-18
Thursday: Nm 6:22-27; Ps 67; Gal 4:4-7; Lk 2:16-21
Friday: 1 Jn 2:22-28; Jn 1:19-28
Saturday: 1 Jn 2:29 — 3:6; Jn 1:29-34
Sunday: Is 60:1-6; Ps72; Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6; Mt 2:1-12

FREEDOM OF CHOICE ACT

Please contact your Senator and ask him **NOT** to support the Freedom of Choice Act, *FOCA*, which expands abortion rights.

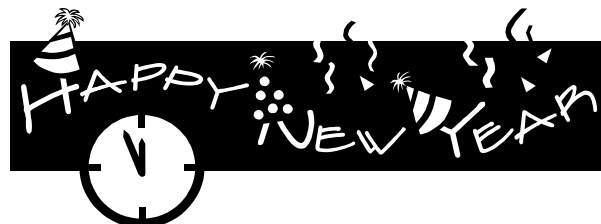
Senator Harry Reid

Washington D.C. Office

528 Hart Senate Office Building

Washington, D.C. 20510

202-224-3542



LET US PRAY FOR THE SICK OREMOS POR LOS ENFERMOS

Lorena Chains, Carol Madsen, Rosita Arcamone, John Flynn, Rafael Areas, Catherine Walsh, Joyce Mentaberry, G.W. Milks, Jerry Stahl, Roque Uribe, Theresa Bennett, Wanda & Ted Zdydel, Mary Soliz, Jim McGrail, Tim Bauer, June Gailey, Donna Leffler, Sarah Wilson, Mr. & Mrs. Eugene Whiteford, April Benati, Bruno Pincolini, Linda Kelly, Louise Miller, Albert Aucremanne, Dolores Fry, Carl & Nancy Came, Jean Jackston, Arthur Anderson, Kathy Duffert, Maureen Walls, Antonia Flores, Ryan Anderson, Gary Blount, Jack Harned, Kristen Fagan, Esther Amper, Jody Sperlin, Jeri Weeks, Helen Jordan, Eric McDougal, Robert Gibbs, Lance Blakely, Kristen Frost, Betty Barnes, Henry Ulibarri, Angelino Petrocelli, Monica Munns, Becky Powers, Christina Matovich, Sylvia Powers, Kristen Monibi, John Pagee, Alex Nimmick, Ted Sadari, Jan Savage-Brauman, Maurice & Susan Leak, Martha Delia Mendoza, Annie Greco, Ron Davison, Mark Tomas, Deanna Jensen, Mary Ann Condon, Scott Marks, Heidi Colony, Margo Heinz, Kenny Fitzgerald, Betty & Toni Woerlein, Will Hunt, Joseph Cordova, Jerry & Herlinda Potter, Angela Zinter, Alexis Flannery, John Dudley, Mike Smith, Bobby Estes, Fran Dillon, Don Weightman, Carole Kahn, Fr. Patrick McGrath, Donald Abeyta, Kenneth Dean, Kelly Hosley, Brian Davis, Del Artean, Michael Kelly, Roy Avery, Margaret O'Brien, Emily Hinsley, Jason Gaydosh, Lenore Pagee, Sommer Rogers, Charlie Ines, Natalie Touchon, Leanna Murget, Mary Gorell, David Goodwin, John Hanlon, Todd Umeda, Matthew Sherwood, Sarah Munns, Arthur Wilson, Jane Beversdorf, Arlene Hess, Tim Herriford, Rachel O. Belo.

† **David Robb**

† **Serapio Aguirre**

BOOKSTORE & GIFT STORE

A HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL

**I WOULD LIKE TO THANK ALL OUR STAFF
AND VOLUNTEERS FOR THEIR HARD WORK &
DEDICATION. KEEP UP THE GOOD WORK.**

The Gift Shop will be closed from
December 25 - January 1st.
Will re-open on Jan 2, 2009.

ST. THOMAS AQUINAS CATHEDRAL
310 W 2ND STREET, RENO, NV 89503

BUSINESS HOURS

Sunday, 8:00a.m.-1:00pm & 4:45pm-6:45pm

Saturday, 1:00pm-5:00pm

Monday-Friday, 11:00am-12pm & 1:00-4:00pm

MONTHLY MEMORIAL MASS

The Monthly Memorial Mass at Our Mother of Sorrows Catholic Cemetery will be on Wednesday, January 7th at 11:00AM. The celebrant will be Rev. Bruce Lamb, OFM Conv.

FEAST OF THE CONVERSION OF ST. PAUL

This feast will be celebrated on **Sunday, January 25, 2009**, instead of the Third Sunday in Ordinary Time. Pope Benedict XVI authorized the possibility of celebrating this feast on Sunday as part of the Year of St. Paul, the commemoration of the 2,000th anniversary of the birth of St. Paul.

MISA DE VISPERA DEL AÑO NUEVO

Se celebrará una Misa el miércoles 31 de diciembre a las 7:00PM en honor a María la Madre de Dios. Habrá adoración al Santísimo brevemente después de la Misa.



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION BACK TO SCHOOL

May we be prepared to receive our Lord & Savior in our hearts and in our life this Christmas.

We wish all of our students in Religious Education a wonderful and peaceful holiday vacation.

We would like to remind their parents that Confirmation class will resume on Tuesday, January 6th and First Holy Communion class on Saturday, January 17th.

PARISH BUDGET NEWS

9,000 per week is needed to meet our budget

Collection for the weekend of (12/21/08): \$5,755.75

Please offer one hour of your wages per week as your tithe.

CONTRIBUTION ENVELOPES



Contribution envelopes for 2009 are ready for pick up in the Parish Office.

If you would prefer other special arrangements be made, please contact the Parish Office at 329-2571 Ext. 100.

UPDATE ON FINANCES

I was hoping that the reopening of the Cathedral would result in the return of the many who went to other Churches during our construction. However, they have not all returned yet, and our collections continue to be far short of what we need to cover our expenses. We need about \$8,000 to just cover our bills and we have been receiving \$5,000 to \$6,000 a week. I asked for Fr. Bruce to come hoping that when the church opened we would return to normal. Please remember us this New Year as you give to charity and invite our parishioners back home.

May God Bless Us!

Fr. Tom

NEW YEAR'S EVE MASS

Fr. Maseo Gonzales will celebrate a New Year's Eve Mass, in honor of Mary the Mother of God, on Wednesday, December 31st, at 11:00p.m.



Adoration/Benediction will follow the Mass to welcome the New Year. **All are welcome.**

THE FEAST OF THE SOLEMNITY OF MARY MOTHER OF GOD

Bishop Calvo is dispensing the Diocese of Reno from the obligation to attend Mass on January 1, 2009. Nonetheless, although not an obligation, parishioners are still encouraged to participate at Eucharist on this holy day.



We will have Mass here at the Cathedral at 7:30AM & 11:30AM.

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, Dec. 27th Vigil: Holy Family

7:30am Int. of Jean Johnson
 5:00pm † Bernardino B. Suetos, Jr.
 7:00pm † Serapio Aguirre

Sunday, Dec. 28th-Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph

7:30am † Thomas Magee
 9:30am Int. of Coyne Family
 11:30am † Weldon Upton
 5:00pm Int. of Parishioners, especially for † Jerry Utter
 7:00pm † Angelina Amadeus

Mon., Dec. 29th—Fifth day in Octave of Christmas

7:00am † Henry & Martha Hagan
 12:10pm Int. of Jean Crowder

Tuesday, Dec. 30th—Sixth day in Octave of Christmas

7:00am Special Intention
 12:10pm † Boyce Johnson

Wednesday, Dec. 31st—Seventh day in Octave of Christmas

7:00am Int. of Czeck Family
 12:10pm Int. of Quelddy Aguirre - B-day
Vigil: Mary Mother of God
 7:00pm Int. of Charismatic Prayer Group
 11:00pm Int. of El Padrecito Ministries

Thursday, Jan. 1st—Blessed Virgen Mary, Mother of God

7:30am Int. of Gonzalo Castellanos
 11:30am Int. of Diane Randles

Friday, Jan. 2nd—Basil the Great & Gregory Nazianzen

7:00am † Mildred Walsh
 12:10pm Int. of Josephine Dorma

WE ARE GOD'S HOLY FAMILY

The scriptures of Israel are filled with many stories of barren couples who were miraculously granted the gift of children by God. Surely the best known among these is the first reading from today, from which Luke took inspiration when he recounted the miraculous birth of John the Baptist to Zechariah and Elizabeth, and the more miraculous birth of Jesus to Mary and Joseph. In each instance, we are given examples or role models of those who trusted in God. More than examples of those who trust, they are models of self-surrender. They abandoned their own presuppositions and prejudices about the workings of the world and turned their lives over to belief in a God who can make life grow where none ought to; a God who can turn death around into a new and unimagined life; a God who can, today, take a tiny child of humble parents in an insignificant town and make him into a light for all the world. This is what we, as God's holy family, are called to do each day: to trust not in ourselves and the way we think things should be, but to open ourselves and surrender ourselves in faith to a God of endless promise.

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UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday, December 28th
 5:00pm Spanish Choir

Monday, December 29th
 11:30am Rosary—Cathedral

Tuesday, December 30th
 11:30am Rosary—Cathedral

Wednesday, December 31st
HAPPY NEW YEAR
PARISH OFFICE & GIFT SHOP CLOSED

Thursday, January 1st
HAPPY NEW YEAR
PARISH OFFICE & GIFT SHOP CLOSED

Friday, January 2nd
 11:30am Rosary—Cathedral

Saturday, January 3rd
 7:00am Rosary—Cathedral
 3-4pm Confessions—Cathedral

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS TRAINING

Training for all Eucharist Ministers will be held in the Cathedral on Sunday, January 11th at 1:00PM.

If you cannot attend this date, a make up session will be held on Saturday, January 17th at 9:00AM in the Cathedral.



PARISH REGISTRATION REGISTRACION PARROQUIAL

If you are new or have moved recently, please complete the form below and drop it off at the office or in the collection basket. **(Please print).**

Si usted es nuevo en la parroquia, o ha cambiado su dirección, por favor, llene la forma **(en letra de molde)** y dépositela en la canasta de la colecta o llévela a la oficina.

Date/Fecha _____

Name/Nombre _____

Address/
 Dirección _____

Apt. # / # de Apartamento _____

City/State/Zip/
 Ciudad/Estado/C.P. _____

Phone/Teléfono _____