



## December 30, 2018 – The Holy Family– Year C

### Mary, The Mother Of God

In his moving musical composition *Like Winter Waiting*, John Foley, SJ, has Joseph sing about Mary, “Who is this woman?” For many people (and, of course, maybe for Joseph too) the question is really, “Who is this woman *to me*?” These two questions are very different in character.

Consider the first one. The traditional answer to it is that Mary is the Mother of God. This answer can be hard to understand. All Christians agree that God is without beginning. It seems that a God without beginning *can't* be born. And so it seems that God can't have a mother either. *But* Jesus is fully human *and* fully divine. As man, God *can* be born. And so, after all, God can have and did have a human mother.

The woman who was that mother is Mary.

And that is why, if it is taken theologically, the answer to the question Joseph sings in John Foley's music, “Who is this woman?” is this: Mary is the Mother of God. But the more pressing question remains: “Who is this woman *to me*?”

The answer to this question depends on the life and love of each person who answers it, doesn't it? Think about it this way. For every person who reads this Saint Louis University Liturgy Website, John Foley is the Jesuit priest who is the editor of the website and the composer of powerful and influential liturgical music. But the answer to the question, “Who is John Foley *to me*?” depends on the person answering the question. *To me*, he is a dear friend. But that is because the history of my life includes care for him and commitment to him. But, you might think, how much care and commitment *should* I have for Mary?

Isn't that a backwards way to think about relationship with any person, Mary included? What a person is *to you* depends on you, on your own care for her and commitment to her. We will discover our right relationship to Mary if we ask ourselves the question Elizabeth asked: “Who am I that the mother of my Lord should come to me?”

### Eleonore Stump

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## Songs for The Holy Family – Year C

**Gathering:** Angels We Have Heard On High - 97

**Offertory:** Infant Holy, Infant Lowly - 77

**Communion:** The First Nowell - 110

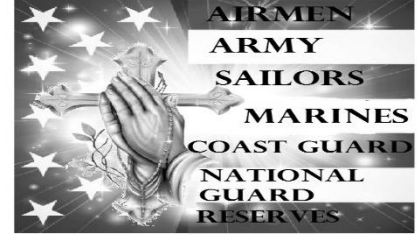
**Post- Communion:**

**Sending Forth:** Go Tell It On The Mountains - 101

**VISIT OUR WEBSITE :** The Fort Detrick Holy Family Catholic Community Website can be found at: <http://www.holyfamilyfd.org>

### PRAYER REQUESTS

#### **PRAY FOR OUR DEPLOYED TROOPS**



Busch Family – Traveling mercies for those on the road during this holiday season. Prayers for my brother, Sonny, as he goes through some medical issues. Remember Jesus is the reason for the Season

Regina Vanessa Kelly – Chris had knee replacement surgery. Pray for complete recover. Chris II is graduating from Frostburg State Univ. on 12/19/18. Praise the Lord

Howard James – Praise – Steve Millward – retirement. Prayer – travel mercies over holidays. Prayer – Lee Family – support & guidance. Praise – Renewing friendship rom college 31 years ago

Pam Sardelis – Prayers of healing for my brother-in-law who is experiencing chest pains.

#### PRAYER FOR SICK IN THE COMMUNITY

Helen Lauritano      Isaac Gusman

### SCHEDULE

Date	Priest	Greeters	Altar Servers	EM	Lector	Children Liturgy
30 December 18 0915	Father Donohoo	Stubbs Family	Jeremy N. Jared H.	R. Debes J. Kelly L. Muniz	L. Debes	
1 January 19 1900						
6 January 19 0915						
13 January 19 0915						
20 January 19 0915						

## THANK YOU FOR YOUR OFFERING

Sunday, 23 December 2018	\$0.00
Attendance	0

## DESIGNATED OFFERINGS FOR FY19:

The following are the Regular Designated Offerings for FY19 for the Archdiocese for The Military Services and The Mustard Seed:

**7 OCT 2018 – AMS – Done**

20 JAN 2019 – AMS

17 MAR 2019 – MUSTARD SEED

21 APR 2019 - AMS

21 JUL 2019 - AMS

**You also have the choice of contributing to the Regular Collection or to both. Now during collection time there will be two marked plates one for Designated Offerings and one for Regular Offerings during the time for designated offerings.**

The Lectors will announce this before Mass starts.

## **FORT DETRICK HOLY FAMILY CATHOLIC COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS 30 December 18**

**VOLUNTEERS FOR MINISTRIES ARE NEEDED:** Altar Server, Eucharistic Ministers, and Choir. Please contact Isaac Gusman and Mary Gusman for details. Volunteers please don't forget to log your volunteer hours to the chapel you can do this at the website or at the Log book located in front of the Chapel's Office.

**ATTENTION VOLUNTEERS!** Time to record your 2018 hours in VMIS!! Either enter the hours directly, or contact Howard James, Chapel Volunteer POC (301-619-3860; [hjames@ncmi,detrick.army.mil](mailto:hjames@ncmi,detrick.army.mil) <<mailto:hjames@ncmi,detrick.army.mil>> ). Questions? Call or visit Daphnie Freeman, Fort Detrick Volunteer Coordinator, phone: 301-619-3171; [daphnie.l.freeman.civ@mail.mil](mailto:daphnie.l.freeman.civ@mail.mil) <<mailto:daphnie.l.freeman.civ@mail.mil>> ; Community Support Center, Bldg. 1520.

**FACEBOOK:** Like us on Facebook:  
[www.facebook.com/FortDetrickChapel](http://www.facebook.com/FortDetrickChapel).

**HOLY FAMILY WEBSITE:** <http://www.holyfamilyfd.org>

**FORT DETRICK WEBSITE:**  
<http://www.detrick.army.mil>

**CHAPEL WEBSITE:**  
<http://www.detrick.army.mil/chapel>

**INCLEMENT WEATHER INFORMATION:** 301-619-7611, 1-800-256-7621 and Hearing Impaired 301-619-2293 or check the Fort Detrick Website for Weather Related information.

**ROSARY GROUP:** Meets every Tuesday Evening at 6:45 p.m. in the Chapel. Rosary will also be said every Sunday after Mass in activity room #1 during the CCD season.

**CCD REGISTRATION:** The Registration for this coming CCD Year is ongoing. Please get registration forms at the entrance table or get with Mary Gusman for more information.

**COUNCIL MEETING:** The next Council meeting will be on 13 January 2019 at 12:00 PM. All are invited to participate.

**FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY:** Please join us after Mass on 30 December 2018 to celebrate with cake the feast of the Holy family. The Holy Family Patron Saint Celebration will be at the end of February 2019.

**SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION:** Confessions are offered at 0830 to 0900 before Sunday Mass or after Mass by request and availability of the Priest.

**MARY MOTHER OF GOD MASS:** On 1 January 2019 we celebrate the Solemnity of Mary Mother of God. Mass will be at 1900 hrs. ( 7:00 PM). This is a Holy Day of Obligation.

## SAINT OF THE DAY

Feast: **30 DECEMBER**

### **ST. EGWIN**



Saint Egwin's date of birth unknown. He died (according to Mabillon) 20 December, 720, though his death may have occurred three years earlier. His fame as founder of the great Abbey of Evesham no doubt tended to the growth of legends which, though mainly founded on facts, render it difficult to reconcile all the details with those of the ascertained history of the period.

It appears that either in 692, or a little later, upon the death of Oftfor, second Bishop of Worcester, Egwin, a prince of the Mercian blood royal, who had retired from the world and sought only the seclusion of religious life, was forced by popular acclaim to assume the vacant see. His biographers say that king, clergy, and commonalty all united in demanding his elevation; but the popularity which forced on him this reluctant assumption of the episcopal functions was soon wrecked by his apostolic zeal in their discharge.

The Anglo-Saxon population of the then young diocese had had less than a century in which to become habituated to the restraints of Christian morality. They as yet hardly appreciated the sanctity of Christian marriage, and the struggle of the English Benedictines for the chastity of the priesthood had already fairly begun. At the same time large sections of England were more or less permanently occupied by pagans closely allied in blood to the Anglo-Saxon Christians. Egwin displayed undaunted zeal in his efforts to evangelize the heathen and no less in the enforcement of ecclesiastical discipline. His rigorous policy towards his own flock created a bitter resentment which, as King Ethelred was his friend, could only find vent in accusations addressed to his ecclesiastical superiors.

Egwin undertook a pilgrimage to seek vindication from the Roman Pontiff himself. According to a legend, he

prepared for his journey by locking shackles on his feet, and throwing the key into the River Avon. While he prayed before the tomb of the Apostles, at Rome, one of his servants brought him this very key — found in the maw of a fish that had just been caught in the Tiber. Egwin then released himself from his self-imposed bonds and straightway obtained from the pope an authoritative release from the load of obloquy which his enemies had striven to fasten upon him.

After his return, with the assistance of Coenred King of Mercia, St. Egwin founded the famous Abbey of Evesham. After this, he undertook a second journey to Rome, in company with both Coenred and King Offa of Essex. St. Egwin was buried in his Abbey at Evesham, to which his shrine brought many a medieval pilgrim. His relics were so popular that, when the abbey church required a major rebuilding in 1077, they were taken on a highly successful fund-raising tour of southern England, initiating miraculous cures at Dover, Oxford, Winchester and elsewhere. He is represented in art as a Bishop holding a fish with a key in its mouth.

## PRAY WITH THE SAINTS

Father,

Your love is as wide as the oceans  
As deep as the sea  
And as tall as the heavens.  
May your spirit rise like a mighty wave and come  
and restore those who are ill.

You are the water of life,  
You are a fresh spring,  
You are healing rain  
To all those who are in need.  
Come Lord!

Amen





# Bringing Home the Word

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph  
December 30, 2018

## The Holy Family's Example for All Families

By Mary Katharine Deeley

An old joke portrays an Irish couple with several children listening to the priest extolling the obedience of Jesus, the patience of Mary and Joseph, and exhorting his congregation to be just like them. When the Mass was ended, the couple turned to each other and one muttered to the other, "Sure to heaven, they were patient—they and their one." The joke highlights one struggle for many parents: keeping patience while children learn the lessons of life. It's a

### Sunday Readings

#### **Sirach 3:2-6, 12-14**

Those who honor their father atone for sins; they store up riches who respect their mother.

#### **Colossians 3:12-21**

Children, obey your parents in everything, for this is pleasing to the Lord. Fathers, do not provoke your children, so they may not become discouraged.

#### **Luke 2:41-52**

[Jesus said,] "Why were you looking for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?"

job that may seem easier with one than with many.

Today, though, the Holy Family offers an example that applies to all families, whether large or small. Since Jesus was born, Mary and Joseph knew that one day he was going to have to follow his own path. They couldn't choose it for him; they could only prepare him as best they could. After they found him in the Temple and he told them, "I must be in my Father's house" (Luke 2:49), which can also be translated as "I must be about my Father's work", they knew he was growing into adulthood and that his time was coming. However, Jesus returned with them because it was not yet time for him to leave, and he remains obedient to them as he always is to his heavenly Father.

All of us who are parents know that we cannot dictate what our children can or should be. We can only help them discern what God has called them to be. In the meantime, we give them the best foundation we can give by praying with them, talking to them, and modeling our own response to God's call. +

*Mary and Joseph knew  
they could only prepare Jesus  
to follow his own path.*

## A Word from Pope Francis

Every family should look to the icon of the Holy Family of Nazareth. Its daily life had its share of burdens and even nightmares, as when they met with Herod's implacable violence. This last was an experience that, sad to say, continues to afflict the many refugee families who in our day feel rejected and helpless.

—*Amoris Laetitia*,  
March 19, 2016



### REFLECTION QUESTIONS



- As a parent, am I doing all I can to help my children discern God's calling?
- Instead of "helicoptering," do I give my children the space to discover their own paths?



# How to Really Forgive

By Fr. William H. Shannon

*If you forgive others their transgressions, your heavenly Father will forgive you. But if you do not forgive others, neither will your Father forgive your transgressions (Matthew 6:14-15).*



Every day I say a prayer at least seven times which, if I truly thought about its full meaning, would scare me half to death. I say the Lord's Prayer, in which I ask God to treat me the way I treat others. I suspect—though don't like to admit it—that I secretly hope that God will treat me much better than I treat others.

I'm not a nasty person; at least I don't think I am. But there are times when I treat others rather shabbily, times when I find it hard to forgive. Oh, I can go through the external motions of being gingerly polite, but rancor may still be in my heart. So let's admit it: It takes courage to say the Lord's Prayer.

In this text from Matthew that we are reflecting on, Jesus is blunt: If you forgive, God will forgive you. If you don't forgive, God won't forgive you. That's it. Forgive, or else.

What does Jesus mean by such strong words? First, let's be clear about what he doesn't mean. He doesn't mean that ours is a God of retaliation, a God who tells us, "I'll show you. If you don't forgive

I will get even. I won't forgive you either." The God Jesus reveals loves us and continues to love us, no matter what we do.

The point Jesus is making is more subtle. He is telling us that God, much as God might want to do so, cannot forgive us if we don't forgive others. He is telling us that forgiveness cannot be received by an unforgiving heart.

## Receptive Hearts

Outside my office window is a cement sidewalk. I think to myself: *How nice it would be if I could look out and, instead of seeing slabs of concrete, encounter a colorful group of lovely flowers growing in the middle of that space.* I might even ask a friend with a green thumb to plant such flowers there for me. Alas, as much as he might want to please me, it's impossible for my friend to do so. The concrete is too hard to receive the roots of the flowers.

Likewise, a hardened heart can be no more open to forgiveness than concrete is to flower seeds. We need to have our hardened hearts softened and opened by God's grace so that God's loving forgiveness can flow into us, then through us to others.

## Gift of Tears

Do you remember the story of the Israelites in the desert protesting to Moses that they have no water? God ordered Moses to strike a huge rock with his staff and, behold, water gushed forth in abundance. Early Church writers often prayed for the gift of tears that would open their hearts and enable them to receive God's loving forgiveness.

In *The Roman Missal* there is a beautiful "Mass for the Forgiveness of Sins," known more colloquially as the "Mass for the Gift of Tears." The opening prayer is strikingly beautiful:

*Almighty and most gentle God, who brought forth from the rock a fountain of living water for your thirsty people, bring forth, we pray, from the hardness of our heart, tears of sorrow, that we may lament our sins and merit forgiveness from your mercy.*

The situation may well arise when this lovely prayer will prove to be helpful for any of us. +

## PRAYER

*Lord, through your Word we receive the knowledge and wisdom of God. May your Spirit lead me to your sacred Word and guide me in my search for knowledge and truth.*

—From *Joyful Meditations for Every Day of Advent and the 12 Days of Christmas*, Rev. Warren J. Savage and Mary Ann McSweeney

## WEEKDAY READINGS

December 31–January 5

**Monday**, Seventh Day in the Octave of Christmas: 1 Jn 2:18–21 / Jn 1:1–18

**Tuesday**, Solemnity of Mary: Nm 6:22–27 / Gal 4:4–7 / Lk 2:16–21

**Wednesday**, Sts. Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzen: 1 Jn 2:22–28 / Jn 1:19–28

**Thursday**, Christmas Weekday: 1 Jn 2:29–3:6 / Jn 1:29–34

**Friday**, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton: 1 Jn 3:7–10 / Jn 1:35–42

**Saturday**, St. John Neumann: 1 Jn 3:11–21 / Jn 1:43–51

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