

Weekend of December 29, 2024

Dear People of God,

On this Sunday within the Octave of Christmas, we honor the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph. In honoring them, we also honor all families, large or small. And in honoring all families, we honor the family of God, the Church. But most especially, we focus on the hidden, day-to-day life of the Holy Family of Nazareth.

The family life of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph, in many ways, would have been like that of any other home. They would have related together, talked, had fun, disagreed, worked, eaten, dealt with problems, and encountered everything else that makes up family life.

Of course, being who they were, the overriding characteristic of their home would have been love.

But with that said, their family would not have been exempt from daily work, hurt, challenges that face most families. For example, they would have encountered the death of loved ones - St. Joseph most likely passed away prior to Jesus' public ministry. They would have encountered misunderstanding and gossip from others. Our Blessed Mother, for example, was found with child out of wedlock. This certainly would have been a hot topic for discussion among many of their acquaintances for sure. They would have had to fulfill all daily chores, earn a living, put food on the table, attend gatherings of family and friends and the like. They would have lived normal family life in every way.

The holiness of the Holy Family reveals to us that every family is invited to share in God's divine life and to encounter ordinary daily life with grace and virtue. Surrender yourself and your family today and invite the Triune God to make your family a holy family. Jesus, I Trust in You.

Many thanks for making Christmas a bit brighter for so many families in need. May God bless you all abundantly and always!

Hope for spreading the good news of Mary Help of Christians Parish still burns brightly for me. As we prepare to enter a New Year, I pray and hope that everyone will join in continuing to share our blessings with those less fortunate around us.

December 31st: 5:00pm Vigil Mass of the Solemnity of Mary the Mother of God - MHC Church

January 1st: 7:00pm Mass of the Solemnity of Mary the Mother of God - MHC Church

BLESSED & JOY and Grace filled new year  
TO EACH AND EVERYONE OF YOU!

As usual please remember to pray for all of the Salesians in our presence here at MHC . . . especially those at St. Philip Residence. Be assured we will be doing the same for you.  
Peace and Joy Always!

Fr. Steve Dumais, SDB.  
Pastor

**PRAYER LIST**

**Please keep the following in your prayers:**

Pete & Mary Gallar, Janice Murphy, Vivian Diaz, Joe Brocato, Tom Costa, David & Rosie Gratz, Lisa Franz, Patti Capitano, Fran Johns, Betsie Welch, Laura Munoz, Bobby Ryder, David Netel, Larry Walsh, Fernando Romero, Akers family, Jay Samman, Rose Gabriel, Francis Briones, Julia Kelly, Barbara Dahl, Martha Catul, Elaine Jones, Barbara Robles. Ruth Maund, Patricia Hauser, Beverly Fernandez, Bob & Marge Fallon, Rene Zarte, Joe Branson, Kathy Cortez, Jean Nichols, George Hernandez, Victor Pichardo, David Schwaller, MaKayla Jennings, Esther Savio, Lucy Clemons, Lauren Lynch, Clarissa Roberson, Katherine Conrad, Rosa E. Alvarez, Valerie Sieger, Georgene & Dennis Bender, Rae Godbout, Penny Love, Paytin Hampton, Daniel Wiles.

**2024 Mass Intentions:**

**Dec. 28, 2024 to Jan. 5, 2025**

- Sat, December 28 2024, 5:00pm:** + Tony Glassman req. by Sean & Ann Rockway
- Sun, December 29, 2024, 8:00am :** +Della Sarsfield req. by Janice Murphy
- Sun, December 29, 2024, 11:00am:** +Della Sarsfield req. by Gail Hagenback, Gayana & Family
- Mon, December 30, 2024, 6:45am :** Innocents- Kim Ki Hong Family, req. by Susanna George
- Mon, December 30, 2024, 7:00pm:** For the Health of John Shelton, req. by Nadine Shelton
- Tues, December 31, 2024. 5:00pm:** Parishioners of Mary Help of Christians, req. by Parish
- Wed, January 01, 2025 7:00pm:** Blessings on Julianna Kim req. by Julianna Kim
- Thurs. January 02, 2025, 6:45am +** Annamarie Rockway req. by Sean & Ann Rockway
- Fri, January 03,2025, 6:45am** Christina Park-Ki Soon req.by Susanna George
- Sat, January 04 2025, 5:00pm :** +John Michael Shinko req. by Chet Shinko
- Sun, January 05, 2025, 8:00am :** +Stella Elizabeth Shinko req. by Chet Shinko
- Sun, January 05, 2025, 11:00am:** +Leona Pruchniewski req. by Jim Pruchniewski

**Margherita Occhiena** was born on 1 April 1788 in [Capriglio](#) in [Asti](#), the sixth of ten children. At the age of 24 she married 27 year old Francesco Bosco, a family friend and widower whose wife and infant daughter had died shortly after childbirth, leaving him with a three-year-old son, Anthony. The family settled in Becchi, a hamlet of [Castelnuovo d'Asti](#) (today Castelnuovo Don Bosco). Francesco died of pneumonia in May 1817, leaving the 29-year-old Margherita a single mother with three sons: Antonio, Giuseppe and Giovanni (John).<sup>[1]</sup> A strong woman with clear ideas, Occhiena raised her sons with a regimen of sober living, strict but reasonable. The boys were quite different in temperament. Still, Occhiena made sure she presented them with the beginnings of a Christian education. She gave them the example of faith, wisdom, and courage in facing the difficulties of life.<sup>[1]</sup>



**December 2024**

- 12/29** No Faith Formation
- 12/31** Mary, Holy Mother of God Mass 5pm
- January 2025**
- 01/01** Mary, Holy Mother of Mass 7PM  
No Adoration
- 01/05** Faith Formation 9:15am / Adult 9:30am
- 01/08** Adoration 4-7 silent/ Mass 7pm / Praise & Worship 8-9pm/  
Youth Ministry 7pm
- 01/12** Blood Drive 8am-1pm / Faith Formation 9:15am / Adult 9:30am
- 01/15** Adoration 4-7pm silent / Praise & Worship 8-9pm/ Youth Ministry 7pm
- 01/18** Don Bosco Gala
- 01/19** Faith Formation 9:15am/ Adult 9:30am

The **Marriage Jubilee Mass of Thanksgiving** will take place at the Cathedral of St. Jude the Apostle on **Sunday, February 9 th at 3:00pm**. This event honors couples throughout the diocese who will celebrate their **25th or 50th anniversary** as well as those celebrating **51** or more years of marriage during the 2025 calendar year. Please **RSVP by calling our parish office by Wed. Jan. 15, 2025**

**PART TIME COOK NEEDED AT ST PHILIPS**

St Philips is in need of a part time cook you can contact

Mary Sverko @ 813-297-4872 for more information

**Mary, Holy Mother of God**

Dec. 31 - 5pm Vigil Mass

Jan.01, 2025 -7pm Mass

Holy Day of Obligation



Thank you from Fr Steve and the parish staff

What a busy time it has been leading up to Christmas. Many thanks to all of you for the 250+ food bags that were distributed to those in need. Thank you for the many gifts you placed under the angel tree, the elves that wrapped them, and for those who distributed them, bringing a smile to a large number of children. Thanks to those who decorated the church and our choir who lifted us in song. Blessings to all of you, for your good deeds do not go unnoticed by the Lord.

**Don Bosco Festival—Feb. 2, 2025**

We are in need of volunteers to help with the Festival.  
2nd meeting on Jan. 14th @ 7pm in the conference rm.

**MARY HELP OF CHRISTIANS  
PARISH OUTREACH**

- **Box of Pasta** -
- **Ramen Noodles**
- **Gift Card-\$10**
- **Diapers - Baby Wipes**
- **Chef Boyardee, Mac & Cheese**
- **Peanut Butter & Jelly - great need**
- **Travel shampoos /Razors /Shaving cream/Deodorant**
- **Canned tuna**

Our goal : To fill 50 blue bags with the listed items.  
Next Outreach is 01/18/2025. Meet at Mary Help at 8am to load cars and trucks . All are welcome to join us, come and see.

**GIVING THANKS**

Each month, you as a parish fulfills the needs of the poor and needy through your generous giving to Outreach. It is amazing the number of items that we take out each month to these folks. We are small in number, but strong in deeds. We give thanks to all of you for your generous hearts.

**Weekly Gift Giving**

**Weekend of December 21, 2024 to December 22, 2024**

**Attendance 171 Envelopes 24**

Mass Offertory	\$	2,564.00
Loose Checks	\$	503.00
Online Giving	\$	1,943.00
Christmas Flowers	\$	20.00
Candles	\$	52.00
Special Collections	\$	20.00

**TOTAL \$ 5,102.00**

**2025 DB Yard Sale  
Now Accepting  
Donations for Our  
Annual Flea  
Market/ Yard Sale**

We are accepting clothes, shoes, books, household items, furniture, home decor, games, toys, etc. We are NOT accepting electronics.

Items dropped off before January 3rd and or during the week in January, please visit the Parish office.

Items brought in on or after Friday, January 3rd will be stored in the BLUE ROOM.  
\*\*Preferable drop off : The trailer wagon located outside the Church every Sunday in January.

6400 East Chelsea Street  
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parish@mhctampa.org

Please contact Pam or Anne Marie for more information.



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**NOTARY PUBLIC**

Mary Help of Christians Foundation, INC.  
Helping the needy is our goal!

Bill Palmisano, Executive Director  
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Cell 813-294-2894  
Email [bpalmisano@mhcfoundation.net](mailto:bpalmisano@mhcfoundation.net)

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MAMA MARGARET WOMEN'S GUILD

Contact Julie Fameree at [Juliefam@aol.com](mailto:Juliefam@aol.com)

For information on joining the Mama Margaret Women's Guild.

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Parishioner, Alumnus



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813 626 7588  
Email: [Parish@mhctampa.org](mailto:Parish@mhctampa.org)  
Website: [www.mhctampa.org](http://www.mhctampa.org)



Administered by the Salesians of St. John Bosco

Fr. Steve Dumais, S.D.B. Pastor  
Fr. John Serio, S.D.B. MHC Center Director  
Fr. Francis De Sales La, S.D.B. Korean Ministry  
Deacon Edmond Anctil

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph  
December 29, 2024



**Staff Directory and Ministry**

Office: Pam Brewer: [parish@mhctampa.org](mailto:parish@mhctampa.org)  
Altar Servers/Readers: Deacon Ed: [eanctil@mhctampa.org](mailto:eanctil@mhctampa.org)  
Knights of Columbus: Cassidy Simpson: [cassidy9031@gmail.com](mailto:cassidy9031@gmail.com)  
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Music: Susanne Hathaway: [susanne.cellist@gmail.com](mailto:susanne.cellist@gmail.com)  
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Religious Education: Ann Marie Brummett : [CRE@mhctampa.org](mailto:CRE@mhctampa.org)  
Young Adult: Choima Okoye, [Cokoye@mchctampa.org](mailto:Cokoye@mchctampa.org)  
Youth Ministry: Steve Jarosz: [sjarosz@mhctampa.org](mailto:sjarosz@mhctampa.org)  
Christmas Committee: Maggie Brown; [Parish@mhctampa.org](mailto:Parish@mhctampa.org)

Mass Schedule

Daily: Monday-Friday  
6:45am(Chapel)  
12:10 (Chapel)  
Monday & Wednesday  
7pm (Church)  
Saturday Vigil  
5pm-(Church)  
Sunday  
8am (Church)  
11am (Church) *livestreamed*

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament  
Every Wednesday  
◇ 4:00pm-6:45pm Silent Adoration  
◇ 8-9pm Praise/Worship Adoration

Sacrament of Reconciliation  
30 minutes prior to Weekend Masses

Korean Ministry  
Sun 9:20am Mass

Contact the parish office 813 626 7588 for information Annulments, Baptisms, Weddings, Home Visits, Hospital Visits. Sacrament of the Sick or Reconciliation. We are available Mon thru Friday, from 9am to 4pm. Call for appointments.

For information on the various venues, use of the Church and any areas of our property available contact Mary Sverko at 813 297-4872

MISSION STATEMENT

Our Parish here in Tampa, FL, is a Catholic Church dedicated to the Mother of God under her title as Help of Christians, is a place of joy, worship, welcome, evangelization and reconciliation. As a Salesian Parish in the Diocese of St. Petersburg we commit ourselves to having a deep-seated preference for working with the young especially those who are poor, while striving to minister to the corporal and spiritual needs of all our members and visitors as well. We pray and work for peace, love, truth, and social justice through active stewardship and service notably with the assistance of our advocate Mary Help of Christians, and her great devotee St. John Bosco. We hope to provide an opportunity for everyone who worships with us to be transformed into people courageously living the Gospel.