



Howard County Catholics

Sts. Peter & Paul | St. Anthony | St. Joseph

December 28, 2025

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J.C.L., Pastor

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Tri-Parish Website:
www.howardcountycatholics.com

Daily Mass Schedule:

Tues/Thurs 8:30am Wed 12:05pm SPP
Friday 9:00am - at Brookfield/Matelyn

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturdays at 4:30pm or
by appointment

Sacrament of Baptism

Please call the Parish Office



HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION

Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God

Wednesday, December 31st - Vigil Mass 5pm (SPP)

Thursday, January 1st - Mass 9:00am (SPP)

The Holy Family

NOTE FROM OUR PASTOR

You may have seen this three word motto depicted on commemorative cards, posters, plaques or even towels. It speaks worlds to us, especially today as we honor the Holy Family of Nazareth: Jesus, the Son of God; Mary, His immaculately conceived mother; and Joseph, her spouse. Though each member of the Holy Family has individual feast days, today we celebrate them as a family unit, and they are presented to us as a model for all families.

Devotion to the Holy Family was initiated by Pope Leo XIII and others as early as the 17th century. The Feast of the Holy Family was inserted into the universal liturgical calendar in 1921 by Pope Benedict XV. Originally celebrated on the Sunday after Epiphany (then January 6), in 1969 it was moved to the Sunday between Christmas and January 1, the Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God. The Christmas Season now ends on the following Sunday when we currently celebrate the Feast of the Epiphany.

Our first reading today is from the Book of Sirach. It is the last of seven books of the bible described as books of Wisdom: Job, Psalms, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, Song of Songs, Wisdom and Sirach. Jesus Ben Sira (Jesus, son of Sirach) was a wisdom educator who lived about 200 years before Jesus Christ was born. He taught people how to live in society. A theme that pervades his entire writing is fear of the Lord – not dread, rather love, hope, trust and humility before God; keeping God’s Law and seeking to please the Lord who acts with mercy, compassion and forgiveness. Our three word motto in the title summarizes so much of what is the essence of today’s feast day.

We know from the Gospels that Joseph was a man who feared the Lord. He accepted the will of the Lord and took Mary into his home even though she was with child. Joseph had faith and trusted in the word of God’s angel. He loved the Lord and gave this Child the name Jesus.

Later this week on January 1 we celebrate the feast of Mary, the Holy Mother of God. Mary loved and trusted in the Lord. We witness her hope and humility when her response to the Angel was, “I am the servant of the Lord. Let it be done to me according to your will.” Mary embodied the fullness and perfect fear of the Lord.

Mary and Joseph were not the only members of the Holy Family to live in fear of the Lord. Jesus Himself, had a unique relationship with the Father; He was consubstantial with the Father, and He also exhibited fear of the Lord. His love, hope, trust and humility before God were absolute perfection.

The Holy Family is a model for all families because they were a family with special grace and blessing, yet they were not without their trials and sorrows. They were much like each of our families: we are given special graces and blessings, but there is absolutely no guarantee that our lives will not be touched with some kind of discord or sorrow.

I offer to each of you the blessing that the Lord directed Moses to give to the Israelites (Reading I for January 1 from the Book of Numbers):

The Lord bless you and keep you!

The Lord let his face shine upon you, and be gracious to you!

The Lord look upon you kindly and give you peace!

May you love, have faith and cherish family.

Jr. Vincent L. Parsons

Ministry Schedule

JANUARY 3RD & 4TH

SATURDAY 5:00PM MASS

MUSIC: Lewandowski Family

GREET: Don & Becky Knox /
John & Sandi Mudloff

LECTOR: Larry Happ

EM: Sharon Tibbetts / Sarah Townsend

SERVE: Verah Paulsen /
Jamie Stepanek

SUNDAY 8:00AM MASS

MUSIC: Thede Family

GREET: Dan & Carrie Vech Family

LECTOR: Kristin Townsend

EM: Carol Vincik / Terri Townsend

SERVE: Reed Coufal / Paislee Call

SUNDAY 10:00AM MASS

MUSIC: Open

GREET: Joe & Paulette Hansen /
Rich & Marleen Kosmicki

LECTOR: Todd Peters

EM: Monte Brouillette / Todd Peters
/ Chris Elstermeier / Rich Kosmicki

SERVE: Owen & Archer Shotkoski

This Week's Schedule

Monday, December 29

No Daily Mass

Women’s Bible Study 6:30pm (PLC)

Tuesday, December 30

Daily Mass 8:30am (SPP)

Intention: †LaVern & †Eunice

Lukasiewicz By Terry & Teresa Gorecki

Wednesday, December 31

**Mary, the Holy Mother of God Vigil /
New Year’s Eve Mass 5:00pm (SPP)**

Intention: Dedic Family

By Carolyn Just

Thursday, January 1

**Mary, the Holy Mother of God /
New Year’s Day Mass 9:00am (SPP)**

Intention: †Bill Sack

By Tom & Sally Mudloff

Friday, January 2

Daily Mass 9:00am (**Brookfield**)

Intention: †Rose Marie Olsufka

By Carolyn Just

Holy Adoration 10am - 5pm (SPP)

Saturday, January 3

Reconciliation 4:30pm (SPP)

Weekend Mass 5:00pm (SPP)

Intention: †Roman & †Hazel Krzycki
By Bob & Patty Krzycki

Polish Soup Supper 5-7pm (SA BSMT)

Weekend Mass 7:00pm (SA)

Intention: †Dan Gorecki

By Bob Bogus

Sunday, January 4

Weekend Mass 8:00am (SPP)

Intention: People of the Parishes

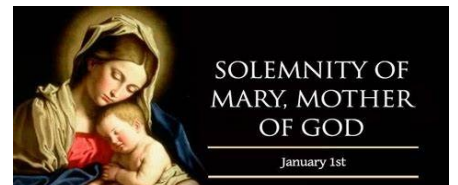
Religious Ed. Preschool-4th 9am (PLC)

Religious Ed. Pre/K Class 2 10am (PLC)

Weekend Mass 10:00am (SPP)

Intention: †John Wroblewski

By Family



**MESSAGE OF HIS HOLINESS POPE LEO XIV
FOR THE LIX WORLD DAY OF PEACE - 1st JANUARY 2026**

Peace be with you all: Towards an “unarmed and disarming” peace
“Peace be with you!”
This ancient greeting, still in use today in many cultures, was infused with new life on the evening of Easter on the lips of the risen Jesus. “Peace be with you” (Jn 20:19, 21) is his Word that does not merely desire peace, but truly brings about a lasting transformation in those who receive it, and consequently in all of reality. For this reason, the Apostles’ successors give voice every day throughout the world to the most silent of revolutions: “Peace be with you!” From the very evening of my election as Bishop of Rome, I have wanted to join my own greeting to this universal proclamation. And I would like to reiterate that this is the peace of the risen Christ – a peace that is unarmed and disarming, humble and persevering. It comes from God who loves us all unconditionally. (Full message: **The HOLY SEE** at www.vatican.va, scroll on News to 18-20-2025.)

Tri-Parish Events & News

HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION

Mary, Mother of God / New Year’s Mass 5pm on December 31st, and 9am on January 1st, at SPP.

PARISH OFFICE CLOSED

Office will be closed December 30 - January 2. Please have bulletin info. in by noon on Monday, December 29th. Thank you!

HEARTFELT GRATITUDE

Special thanks to all that take part in our Liturgical & Music Ministries. Your time and talents are a true gift to our Parishes. We appreciate your willingness to help make each Mass a true celebration.

HOLY ADORATION

Friday, January 2, 10am to 5pm at Sts. Peter & Paul Church. Please help fill in the times.

FARWELL / ELBA ENVELOPES

Pick up box in back of Church.

CCW News

We are looking for new reps for the **Welcoming Committee** and the **DCCW** as Barb Sack and Betty VanDyke wish to step down from those positions. So thankful for the time they have put into it. Contact **Tonya Anderson** 308-380-0037.

FRIDAY MASS REMINDER

Mass will be at **Brookfield** on this first Friday of the Month.

ST. ANTHONY SOUP SUPPER

January 3rd from 5-7pm in the Farwell Church basement.

PRE-BAPTISMAL CLASS

Sunday, January 11, 11am-12pm SPP Parish Life Center; Contact the Parish Office to register.

ST. JOSEPH FELLOWSHIP

January 17th, Potluck following the 6:30pm Mass in Elba. Bring your favorite dish.

CONFIRMATION RETREAT

January 18th, 7:45am - 2pm SPP.

KNIGHTS FAMILY BOWLING NIGHT

January 25th at 5pm at Riverview Lanes in St. St. Paul. Bowling & Pizza provided! All Knights (and perspective) members & families are invited to attend!

Religious Ed. Classes

Classes resume: **Sunday, January 4th & Wednesday, January 7th**. We are blessed to serve over 235 students & are excited to welcome them back! Please **KEEP UP** the great attendance in the new semester.

Christmas Flowers

*Sts. Peter & Paul -
In loving honor / memory of...*

*Alex & Elaine Kulwicki by Ron, Diane, Spencer Kulwicki & Amanda (Kulwicki) Burton, Renee (Kulwicki) Dalton, Tom, Thomas, James & Greg Dalton

*Darold Townsend, Hank & Carla Peters by Chris & Terri Townsend

Thank you to all that contributed towards Christmas flowers & thank you to all of our decorators for helping make our Church so beautiful as we celebrate the Birth of our Savior, Jesus Christ.

COLLECTION

THANK YOU for checking the amount & type of contribution on your envelope, it saves our collection counters a lot of time:)

THANK YOU to those that donate their time & talents every month to count & deposit the collection!

Finance Corner

Sunday Collections & OSV Online Giving
December 15 - 21, 2025

The Lord’s Portion Farwell & Elba

St. Anthony Church	\$330.00
St. Joseph	\$590.00

The Lord’s Portion Sts. Peter & Paul

Actual General Fund	\$5542.00
OSV On-Line General Fund	\$1795.80
Religious Education	\$5.00
Parish Life Center	\$280.00
Restoring Our Father’s House	\$3543.00

DECEMBER Totals as of 12/21/25

Monthly Budget	\$20000.00
Actual General Fund	\$15191.00
Online General Fund	\$3823.60
Monthly Surplus (Deficit)	\$985.40

Special Collections

DIOCESE - Religious Retirement - \$30.00
PARISH - Christmas Flowers - \$214.00

Area Events & News

MASS AT MOUNT CARMEL

Thursday, January 1, 2026 at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church in Paplin at 10:30am

Come celebrate the start of the New Year and Mass of Holy Mary, Mother of God with us.

DIOCESE SUMMER CAMPS

- * High school 10th-12th grades - join us for Higher Ground!
- * Current 6th-8th grade students - get ready for Higher Ground Extreme Faith!

Registration opens February 1, 2026
<https://gidiocese.org/higher-ground>

SCAN HERE



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Tracy Hadenfeldt, DVM Phone: 308-754-4222
Barrett Huneke, DVM spvetclinic3@gmail.com



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