



# gather learn Live

December 2022



Encountering  
CHRIST as  
A Family

## Family of Faith Ministry Newsletter

ST. JOSEPH PARISH

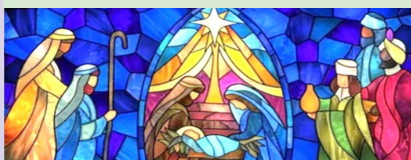
### Month of the Immaculate Conception



*Oh Mary, Conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to thee. The Immaculate Virgin, preserved free from all stain of original sin, when the course of her earthly life was finished, was taken up body & soul into heavenly glory & exalted by the Lord as Queen of the World.*

### DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS:

- 4- Ryan Albert (Gr 4)
- 7- Miquel Lombos (Gr 1)
- 8- Cassandra Lima (Gr 6)
- 11- Andrew James (Gr 3)
- 11- Ethan Tsang (Gr 3)
- 21- Rovana Balla (Gr 4)
- 25- Benedict Pham (Gr 2)
- 28- Minh Giang Nguyen (Gr 1)
- 28- Christopher Jazrawi (Gr 5)
- 29- Shreyan Thumma (Gr 4)
- 31- Clement Liu (Gr 2)



### Dear FFM Families,

During the month of December, it's customary for us to give & receive gifts. The Holy Spirit gives us the everlasting gifts of wisdom, understanding, counsel, fortitude, knowledge, piety, & fear of the Lord. This month we focus on the Sacrament of Confirmation. Confirmation completes, or confirms, the outpouring of the Holy Spirit received at Baptism and sends the person out to proclaim boldly the Good News.

### Suggested Family Activities:

- \*\*Add a book of spiritual reading to your prayer corner at home
- \*\*Observe the season in your home with an Advent wreath

### \*\*Family Car Conversations:

–Was there ever a time you had to have courage & stand up for someone or something you believed in? Was it hard? How did you feel afterward?  
–Can you think of a special way of sharing the gift of the Christ Child with your friends during this Christmas season, especially with those who might not know a lot about Jesus? FFM Families are a gift to me,  
**Rowena Radich**

### Important Dates & Events

Fridays	4:00pm-5:00pm Children/ Youth Choir practice- Main Church
Sat 12/3	Preparing for the Coming of Christ with St. Joseph/ Parish Advent Retreat & Reconciliation 8:00am-1:00pm with Fr. Matthew Spencer, OSJ. All are welcome.
Sun 12/4	10:00am-12:00pm RCIC Mass & Session ( <u>Our Catholic Faith</u> Ch. 6 & 7) 11:00am- 11:45am Sacrament of Penance/ Grades 3 & 4 and their families 12:00pm-1:00pm Family Mass 1:15pm-2:15pm FFM Parent & Children Session 4 ( <u>A Family of Faith-Confirmation</u> )/ Dominican Auditorium & SJS Classrooms In Progress: SVDP Christmas Food Drive– last day 12/18
Thu 12/8	SJ School Virtual Open House, TK-8th Grade enrollment, visit <a href="http://www.stjosephschoolfremont.org">www.stjosephschoolfremont.org</a> for details
Sat 12/10	11:00am-1:00pm Parish Clean Up Day! All are welcome & much appreciated 7:30pm Carols of Christmastide: A Christmas Concert– Main Church
Sun 12/11	10:00am-12:00pm RCIC Mass & Session ( <u>Our Catholic Faith</u> Ch. 8) 11:00am- 11:45am Sacrament of Penance/ Grades 5 & 6 and their families 12:00pm-1:00pm Family Mass 3:30pm- 4:30pm FFM Chinese Session
Sun 12/18	10:00am-12:00pm: RCIC Mass & Session ( <u>Our Catholic Faith</u> Ch. 9) 11:00am- 11:45am Sacrament of Penance/ Grades 7 & 8 and their families 12:00pm-1:00pm Family Mass 1:15pm-2:15pm Sacramental Prep Session 4 ( <u>Reconciliation</u> Ch. 7 & 8 )
Sat 12/24	5:30pm Christmas Eve Children's Mass/ Nativity Play- sign-up now to join
Sun 12/25	12:00pm-1:00pm MERRY CHRISTMAS! Family Mass/ No Sessions

### Prayer to Saint Stephen Feast Day Dec 26

*We give you thanks  
O Lord of glory, for the example of the first martyr who looked up to heaven and prayed for his persecutors to Your Son Jesus Christ, who stands at Your right hand, where He lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, One God, in glory everlasting.  
Amen*



**Saint Vincent de Paul Christmas Food Drive ends Dec 18.** Bring canned Spam, Chili, & Soups for SVDP collection bins at the back of St Joseph Church