

Religious Education Newsletter Holy Savior Catholic Church

January 2023



As we start the new year, we customarily set our resolutions, which hopefully will be carried out during the year. Many of these pertain to our physical lives: eat healthier, exercise more, become more organized, start a new hobby, etc. Some involve our mental health: read more, attend more cultural events, sleep more, etc.

We should also set spiritual resolutions for ourselves which will bring us closer to God. Our souls need nourishment too. Examples include pray the rosary more often, attend daily Mass once a week, go on a retreat, actively take part in church services, attend church events, volunteer, go to confession once a month, etc.

Whatever goals we set for ourselves for the year, don't get discouraged if you fail to meet your expectations. Keep trying. God sees our struggles. Pray for the strength to keep moving forward.

Upcoming Events

JANUARY

4th Adoration, Benediction, Confession 6-7:00 PM

6th Sacred Heart of Jesus Mass 8:30 AM 1st Friday Breakfast McGing Hall

8th CCD Parish Potluck Epiphany Lunch

13th 2nd Friday Mass of Healing & Anointing 8:30 AM

14th CYO Garage Sale Dropoff

15th CCD CYO Garage Sale Dropoff

19th Women's Book Club 6:00 PM

21st CYO Garage Sale 7 AM - Noon

22nd CCD and Adult Education

26th Women's Book Club 6:00 PM

29th CCD and Adult Education



Feast of the Epiphany January 8

The Epiphany is the high point of the Advent-Christmas season. The word Epiphany means "manifestation" or "showing forth." We celebrate the manifestation of the Lord to the whole world. He is revealed to the Magi who come from the East and journey to Bethlehem to adore Him. Because they represent the entire world, they also represent our search for Jesus. The three gifts they bring represent Jesus' role in salvation: Gold is Jesus' kingship, Frankincense is a symbol of His divinity because it was burned in the temple, and Myrrh is in anticipation of His death because it was used to prepare the dead for burial.

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Web: holy-savior-ms.org



Solemnity of Mary, Holy Mother of God

January 1

Excerpt from Fr. Lincoln's Homily

On the first day of the New Year, we always celebrate the Solemnity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Mother of God - Mary, as the Theotokos, the God bearer through whom Jesus came into the world. "Being obedient, Mary became the cause of salvation for herself and for the whole human race." Mary is seen as the new Eve, as St Irenaeus states: "The knot of Eve's disobedience was untied by Mary's obedience; what the virgin Eve bound through her unbelief, the Virgin Mary loosened through her faith."

Pope Francis loves the image of Mary as helping us untie the knots that hinder us on our journey of faith. In our relationship with God, when we disobey his will, when we do not listen to him, when we lack trust, when we turn to sin, a kind of knot is created in us. These knots take away our peace

difficult to untie them. Yet, we know nothing is impossible with God and his grace. By saying yes to God, Mary opened the door for God to undo the knot of original sin, that ancient disobedience. Mary, the Mother of God and our Mother, patiently and lovingly brings us to God so that he can untangle the knots in our souls.

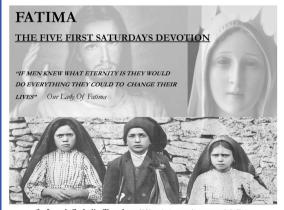
Mary, Undoer of Knots Novena

We pray this novena when there are knots, tangles, and problems in our lives that we can't undo, untangle, or fix on our own. It could be a knot in your spiritual life, in your relationship, or perhaps for a knot in the life of someone close to you. See this link for the novena guide. The Laudette Catholic app also has this novena podcast.



How to Pray: Mary, Undoer of Knots Novena

- 1. Reflect on the "knots" in your life
- 2. Make the Sign of the Cross
- 3. Reflect with the daily meditation
- 4. Say or listen to the main prayer of the
- 5. Conclude with the Sign of the Cross



St. Joseph Catholic Church would like to invite you to become part of the Fatima nessage by fulfilling the request of Our Lady of Fatima to complete the Five First Saturdays Devotion

Five First Saturday Dates for 2023

To complete the Five First Saturdays Devotion

- Confession within 8 days of each Saturday Devotion
- · Receive the Eucharist at each Saturday Devotion · Recite Five Decades of the Rosary at each Saturday Devotion
- · Meditate for "at least" 15 minutes on the fifteen mysteries at

January 7 - February 4 - March 4 - April 1- May 6 All Five First Saturday Devotions will be at St. Joseph Catholic Church in Gluckstadt

- 9:30 am Rosar
- 10:00 am Meditation will begin
- Times May Vary Slightly

Contact: St. Joseph Church 601-856-2054 / Located 127 Church Road, Madison, MS

First Five Saturdays Devotion

St. Joseph Catholic Church **Gluckstadt**

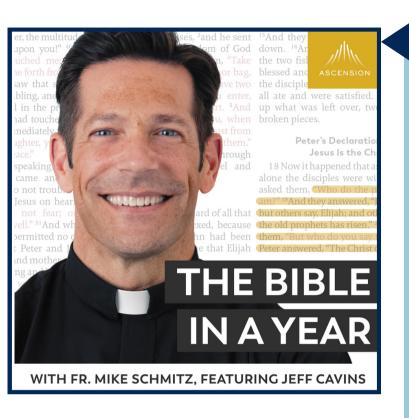
On December 10, 1925, our Loving Mother Mary, appearing to Lucy, the only survivor of those who saw our Lady at Fatima, spoke these heartrending words: "My child, behold My Heart surrounded with the thorns which ungrateful men place therein at every moment by their blasphemies and ingratitude. You, at least, try to console Me. Mary promises to assist at the hour of death, all those who followed this devotion.

> January 7 Dates: February 4

> > March 4 April 1

May 6

See flyer for additional information.



Bible in a Year

If you've struggled to read the Bible, this podcast is for you. Ascension's Bible in a Year Podcast, hosted by Fr. Mike Schmitz and featuring Jeff Cavins, guides Catholics through the Bible in 365 daily episodes starting January 1st, 2023. You won't just read the Bible ... you'll finally understand how all the pieces fit together to tell an amazing story that continues in your life today! Listen to the podcast everyday or at your own pace.

To listen for free, click on one of the apps below, or listen Ascension Press' website:

- Ascension Press
- Spotify
- Apple Podcasts
- Stitcher
- Google Podcasts
- YouTube

Catechism in a Year

If you have ever wanted to understand what it means to be Catholic and allow those truths to shape your life—this podcast is for you. With this podcast, you will read the entire Catechism of the Catholic Church in 365 days and understand the essentials of the Catholic Faith and why they matter. You'll also see how Church teaching is rooted in Sacred Scripture. Listen to the podcast everyday or at your own pace.

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Parish Potluck Epiphany Lunch

Join us Sunday, January 8 after the 10:30 AM Mass in McGing Hall for a parish Epiphany lunch. If you missed the signup, please call the office at 601-924-6344. Bring a side dish or dessert to share.

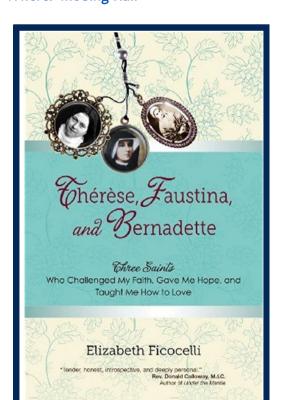
Adult Education

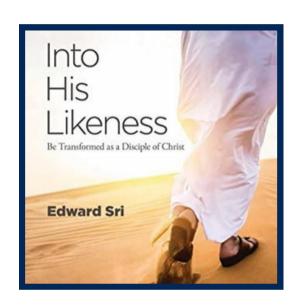
In the ancient disciple-rabbi relationship, the disciple would follow the rabbi so closely that he would be covered in the dust kicked up from his rabbi's feet. Thousands of years later, though we walk on roads of pavement and not dust, we are still called to be disciples—to follow our Rabbi, Jesus Christ, so closely that we are covered with his life, changed, and made new.

Join the adult group every Sunday during CCD for this Lenten journey.

When: Starts January 22, 9:00-10:10 AM

Where: McGing Hall





Women's Spirituality

Join us for a women's book club as parishioner Pat MaHaffey leads us in the reading and discussion of "Thérèse, Faustina, and Bernadette: Three Saints Who Challenged My Faith, Gave Me Hope, and Taught Me How to Love" written by author, speaker, and retreat leader Elizabeth Ficocelli. In this book, she introduces her readers to three remarkable women saints who became not only her role models, but also her life-changing friends. Thérèse, Faustina, and Bernadette taught Ficocelli about faith, hope, and love, and showed her what true Catholic womanhood looks like.

When: Starts January 19 at 6:00 PM and will meet for 5 Thursdays

Where: McGing Hall



World Marriage Day

The Diocese of Jackson is hosting the annual World Marriage Day on Sunday, February 12 at 3 p.m. at the Cathedral of St. Peter the Apostle in Jackson. This is a wonderful celebration of the sacrament of matrimony for those couples celebrating their 25th, 50th or 60th wedding anniversaries.

Call the parish office to register.

Stroke Scan

Stroke Scan will be at Holy Savior February 4 in McGing Hall, 9:00-3:00 to offer the 7 screenings listed in the picture at the right for \$159.00. They will be at both vigil and morning Mass the weekend of January 28-29 to offer information and sign up.

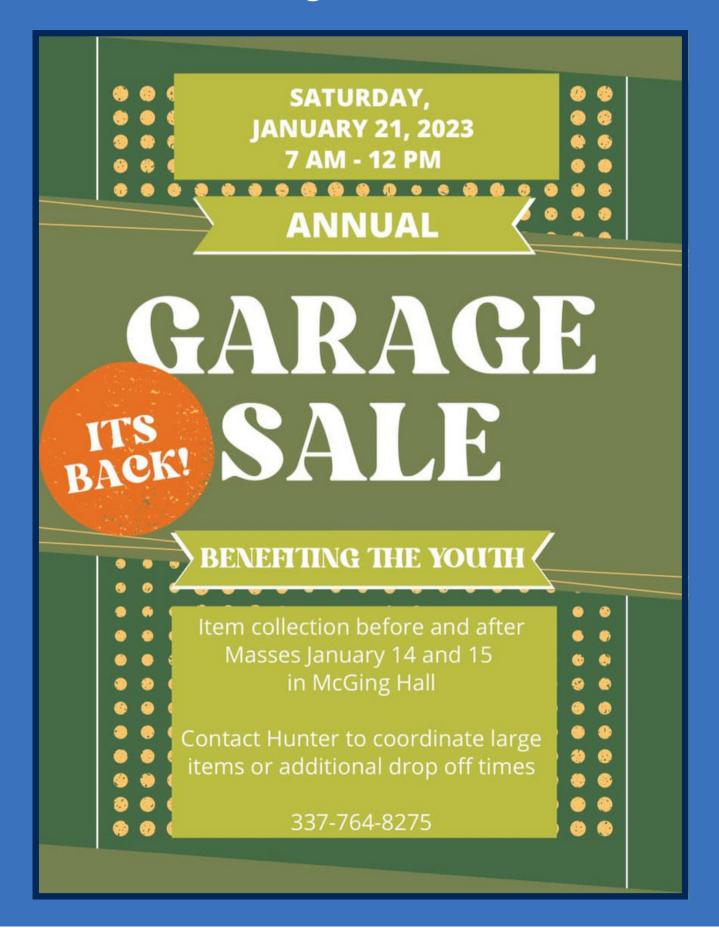




DCYC 2023 - Behold, I Make All Things New!

The Diocesan Catholic Youth Conference will be at the Vicksburg Convention Center March 3-5, grades 9-12th. The keynote presenter is Chika Anyanwu and worship leaders are The Scally Brothers. Deadline to register will be at the end of January. More info to come.

CYO Garage Sale is Back!





Angel Tree

The Confirmation class sponsored the 4C's Angel Tree this year for one of their community service projects. The 4C's Angel program helps children in need in the Clinton community receive a Merry Christmas. Various organizations in Clinton help contribute gifts. Holy Savior received 40 children and with the generous support of our parishioners, we were able to fulfill all 40. This is a great example of living the Gospels.

"I have shown you in every way, by laboring like this, that you must support the weak. And remember the words of the Lord Jesus, that He said, 'It is more blessed to give than to receive." Acts 20:35

Caroling at Brookdale

Another community service project for the Confirmation class was caroling at Brookdale Assisted Living in Clinton. They, along with other 7-12th grade youth, sang to the residents during dinner. The residents enjoyed traditional Christmas songs as Betty Cox played piano. They were very grateful and are looking forward to next year. This is another example of living the Gospel as we spread joy to the elderly who may not have family to visit them during the holidays.

Click this YouTube link to watch a video of Joy to the World, or the picture to the left.







2nd Grade Reconciliation

The 2nd graders received the Sacrament of Reconciliation December 14 during the Advent Penance Service. They gathered beforehand to eat pizza and prepare for the sacrament. Many thanks to our 2nd grade Catechist, Joanne O'Clair, for teaching them about this sacrament during CCD class. They will start learning about their next sacrament: Sacrament of the Eucharist when we meet again. First Communion is May 7.

Jesse Tree

PreK-6th grade decorated the Jesse Tree as they read the bible verse which corresponds with the ornament.

The Jesse tree helps us connect the custom of decorating Christmas trees to the events leading to Jesus' birth. The Jesse tree is named from Isaiah 11:1: "A shoot shall come out of the stock of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots." Jesse was the father of King David. We adorn a Jesse tree with illustrated ornaments that represent the people, prophesies, and events leading up to the birth of Jesus. The ornaments of the Jesse tree tell the story of God in the Old Testament, connecting the Advent season with the faithfulness of God across four thousand years of history. (Loyola Press)









Breakfast With Santa

On December 10th, our younger youth enjoyed a pancake breakfast with Santa. They were excited to visit Santa and and share their Christmas wishes with him. Santa also visited with them as they ate. We thank our older youth for volunteering to help. We especially thank Santa!



















Christmas Eve Program

PreK-6th grade participated in our Christmas Eve Program at the children's 5:00 vigil Mass. They were shepherds, angels, the three magi, and drummer boys. As Fr. Lincoln read the nativity story of Luke's gospel, they acted the parts as they processed up to in front of the altar.

At the end of Mass they sang Hark! The Herald Angel Sing and We Wish You A Merry Christmas. Santa surprised them with a visit and Fr. Lincoln blessed him with safe travels.

We thank everyone who participated and those who helped with the program.

Click this YouTube link to watch them sing









Youth Christmas Party

6th-12th grade enjoyed fellowship, pizza, and a spirited dirty Santa for their Christmas Party. Top gifts were the mini skateboard, the Minions lawn decorations, and gift cards. Bribery, tears, and pleas were used by all to negotiate for the top gifts as they were opened. Wailing and begging was the sound of those who frantically pleaded for others to take their gift.











