

ST. JOSEPH'S EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION NEWSLETTER

December 2020

Issue 18

**St. Joseph Catholic Church
Mandarin, Florida**



**Presented by the
Eucharistic Adoration Committee**

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OUR MONTHLY THEME FOR THE MONTH OF DECEMBER IS DEDICATED THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

The feasts on the General Roman Calendar celebrated during the month of December are:

THE MONTH OF DECEMBER IS DEDICATED TO THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

3. Francis Xavier, Memorial
6. Second Sunday of Advent, Sunday
7. Ambrose, Memorial
8. Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Patronal Feast day of the United States of America , Solemnity
9. Juan Diego (USA), Opt. Mem.
11. Damasus I, Opt. Mem.
12. Our Lady of Guadalupe (USA), Feast
13. Third Sunday of Advent, Sunday
14. John of the Cross, Memorial
20. Fourth Sunday of Advent, Sunday
21. Peter Canisius, Opt. Mem.
23. John of Kanty, Opt. Mem.
25. Christmas, Solemnity
26. Stephen, Feast
27. Holy Family, Feast
28. Holy Innocents, Feast
29. Thomas Becket, Opt. Mem.
31. Sylvester I, Opt. Mem

This information on the special feast days were obtained from Catholic Culture.org.

In this Issue:

- **The Month of December – The Immaculate Conception**
- **St. Anne, The Blessed Mother and Jesus**
- **The Church of St. Anne**
- **Special Prayers and Devotions**
- **Schedules and More**
- **Team Captains**

"The Eucharist, in the Mass and outside of the Mass, is the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ, and is therefore deserving of the worship that is given to the living God, and to Him alone" (St Pope John Paul II, Opening address in Ireland, Phoenix Park, September 29, 1979).



THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

THE MONTH OF DECEMBER – THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

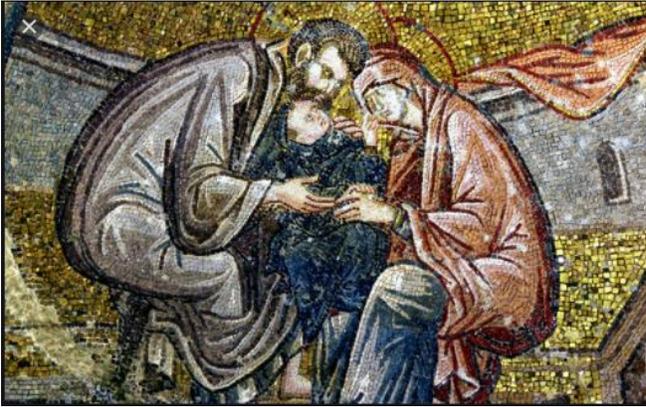


HISTORY OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

For a digital history please click on the link which follows:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VDTg6J4oYSg>

On July 26 the Church commemorates the parents of the Virgin Mary, Sts. Joachim and Anne. The couple's faith and perseverance brought them through the sorrow of childlessness, to the joy of conceiving and raising the immaculate and sinless woman who would give birth to Christ. The New Testament contains no specific information about the lives of the Virgin Mary's parents, but other documents outside of the Biblical canon do provide some details. Although these writings are not considered authoritative in the same manner as the Bible, they outline some of the Church's traditional beliefs about Joachim, Anne and their daughter.



The "Protoevangelium of James," which was probably put into its final written form in the early second century, describes Mary's father Joachim as a wealthy member of one of the Twelve Tribes of Israel. Joachim was deeply grieved, along with his wife Anne, by their childlessness. "He

called to mind Abraham," the early Christian writing says, "that in the last day God gave him a son Isaac." Joachim and Anne began to devote themselves to rigorous prayer and fasting, in isolation from one another and from society. They regarded their inability to conceive a child as a surpassing misfortune and a sign of shame among the tribes of Israel.

As it turned out, however, the couple was to be blessed even more abundantly than Abraham and Sarah had. An angel revealed this to Anne when he appeared to her and prophesied that all generations would honor their future child: "The Lord has heard your prayer, and you shall conceive, and shall bring forth; and your seed shall be spoken of in all the world."

After Mary's birth, according to the "Protoevangelium of James," Anne "made a sanctuary" in the infant girl's room, and "allowed nothing common or unclean" on account of the special holiness of the child. The same writing records that when Mary was 1 year old, her father "made a great feast, and invited the priests, and the scribes, and the elders, and all the people of Israel." "And Joachim brought the child to the priests," the account continues, "and they blessed her, saying: 'O God of our fathers, bless this child, and give her an everlasting name to be named in all generations' ... And he brought her to the chief priests; and they blessed her, saying: 'O God most high, look upon this child, and bless her with the utmost blessing, which shall be forever.'"

This apocryphal account goes on to describe how Mary's parents, along with the temple priests, subsequently decided that she would be offered to God as a consecrated virgin for the rest of her life, and enter a chaste marriage with the carpenter Joseph. Sts. Joachim and Anne have been a part of the Church's liturgical

calendar for many centuries. Devotion to their memory is particularly strong in the Eastern Catholic churches, where their intercession is invoked by the priest at the end of each Divine Liturgy. The Eastern churches, however, celebrate the feast of Sts. Joachim and Anne on a different date, Sept. 9.

ST. ANNE, THE BLESSED MOTHER AND JESUS



All our information concerning the names and lives of Sts. Joachim and Anne, the parents of Mary, is derived from apocryphal literature, the Gospel of the Nativity of Mary, the Gospel of Pseudo-Matthew and the Protoevangelium of James. Though the earliest form of the latter, on which directly or indirectly the other two seem to be based, goes back to about A.D. 150, we can hardly accept as beyond doubt its various statements on its sole authority. In the Orient the Protoevangelium had great authority and portions of it were read on the feasts of Mary by the Greeks, Syrians, Copts, and Arabians. In the Occident, however, it was rejected by the Fathers of the Church until its

contents were incorporated by Jacobus de Voragine in his "Golden Legend" in the thirteenth century. From that time on the story of St. Anne spread over the West and was amply developed, until St. Anne became one of the most popular saints also of the Latin Church.



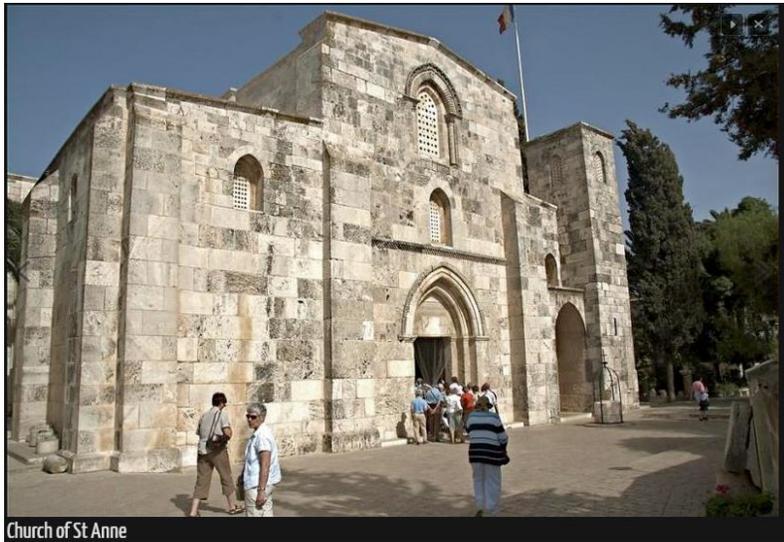
The Protoevangelium gives the following account: In Nazareth there lived a rich and pious couple, Joachim and Hannah. They were childless. When on a feast day Joachim presented himself to offer sacrifice in the temple, he was repulsed by a certain Ruben, under the pretext that men without offspring were unworthy to be admitted. Whereupon Joachim, bowed down with grief, did not return home, but went into the mountains to make his plaint to God in solitude. Also Hannah, having learned the reason of the prolonged absence of her husband, cried to the Lord to take away from her the curse of sterility, promising to dedicate her child to the service of God. Their prayers were

heard; an angel came to Hannah and said: "Hannah, the Lord has looked upon thy tears; thou shalt conceive and give birth and the fruit of thy womb shall be blessed by all the world". The angel made the same promise to Joachim, who returned to his wife. Hannah gave birth to a daughter whom she called Miriam (Mary).

The supposed relics of St. Anne were brought from the Holy Land to Constantinople in 710 and were still kept there in the church of St. Sophia in 1333. The tradition of the church of Apt in southern France pretends that the body of St. Anne was brought to Apt by St. Lazarus, the friend of Christ, was hidden by St. Auspicius (d. 398), and found again during the reign of Charlemagne (feast, Monday after the octave of Easter); these relics were brought to a magnificent chapel in 1664 (feast, 4 May). The head of St. Anne was kept at Mainz up to 1510, when it was stolen and brought to Düren in Rheinland. St. Anne is the patroness of Brittany. Her miraculous picture (feast, 7 March) is venerated at Notre Dame d'Auray, Diocese of Vannes. Also in Canada, where she is the principal patron of the province of Quebec, the shrine of St. Anne de Beaupré is well known. St. Anne is patroness of women in labor; she is represented holding the Blessed Virgin

Mary in her lap, who again carries on her arm the child Jesus. She is also patroness of miners, Christ being compared to gold, Mary to silver.

THE CHURCH OF ST. ANNE



Church of St Anne

The Church of St Anne is the best-preserved Crusader church in Jerusalem. It marks the traditional site of the home of Jesus' maternal grandparents, Anne and Joachim, and the birthplace of the Virgin Mary. Located just north of the Temple Mount, about 50 meters inside St Stephen's or

Lions' Gate, the church stands in a courtyard with trees, shrubs and flowers.

Its tranquility contrasts with the bustling streets and alleys of the Muslim Quarter.

Next to the church is the large excavation area of the Pools of Bethesda, where Christ healed a sick man (John 5:2-9).

The New Testament says nothing about the birthplace of Mary. However, an ancient tradition, recorded in the apocryphal Gospel of James which dates from around AD 150, places the house of her parents, Anne and Joachim, close to the Temple area. A church built around 450 on the site of St Anne's was dedicated to "Mary where she was born."

Strong lines and thick walls give St Anne's a fortress-like appearance. Its simple dignity offers a space for prayer and contemplation without distraction. It is also unusually asymmetrical in the detail of its design: Opposite columns do not match, windows are all different sizes, and buttresses differ in thickness and height.

The Church of St Anne is renowned for its remarkable acoustics and reverberating echoes. The voices of even a small choral group can sound like a large congregation in a vast cathedral.

SPECIAL PRAYERS AND DEVOTIONS

Traditional Prayers to St. Anne

St Anne teaches us that patient continual prayer can bring about fruition in one's life. Prayer can help us to keep our focus, to center our values and to bring our lives to a greater thanksgiving. The following prayers have been recommended by the church as prayers to St. Anne, patron of parents, grandparents, pregnant mothers, women in labor, women who want to be pregnant, single women, and educators.

Parents Prayer to St. Anne

We call upon you, dear St. Anne, for help in bringing up our family in good and godly ways. Teach us to trust God our Father as we rear the precious heritage entrusted to us. May God's will prevail in our lives and God's providence defend us. These blessings we ask for all families in our neighborhood, our country, and our world. Amen.

St. Anne Prayer

Good St. Anne, you were especially favored by God to be the mother of the most holy Virgin Mary, the Mother of our Savior. By your power with your most pure daughter and with her divine Son, kindly obtain for us the grace and the favor we now seek. Please secure for us also forgiveness of our past sins, the strength to perform faithfully our daily duties and the help we need to persevere in the love of Jesus and Mary. Amen.

Prayer to St. Anne

Lord, God of our fathers, through Sts. Joachim and Anne, you gave us the Mother of Your Incarnate Son. May their prayers help us to attain the salvation promised to your people. Amen.

St. Anne Prayer

Good St. Anne, obtain for me an increase of faith in the great mystery of the Holy Eucharist. Help me to see in this great Sacrament Christ our High Priest, making real for me the saving grace of His death on the cross; feeding my soul with His Flesh and Blood so that I may live in Him and He in me; producing the unity of the people of God and gathering His Church together. By your powerful intercession with God, help me to center my life around the altar that I may inherit the promise of the Lord: "He who eats my flesh and drinks my blood, has life everlasting." Amen.

Prayer to St. Anne for Special Needs

We thank you, dear St. Anne, for the favors, known and unknown, you have obtained for us. Assured of your constant love, we bring our special needs to you (mention them here). Mother of the Mother of the Eternal Word made flesh, kindly recommend to your Grandson, Jesus, these intentions we lift to you in confident prayer. Amen.

Children's Prayer to St. Anne

Good St. Anne, you must have loved your parents just like we love our Moms and our Dads. They love us so much and take care of all our needs. Help us to make them happy every day. Thank you, dear Grandmother of Jesus, for listening to our prayer. Amen.

Teenager's Prayer to St. Anne

Dear St. Anne, Mother of the Mother of God-become-human, please bless our parents who said "yes" to life. Warm our hearts with love for them. May we give them every reason for joy, not

distress. Into your hands we commit our future. Teach us to say “yes” to God’s plan for us in all the years ahead. Amen.

A Memorare to St. Anne

We remember, dear St. Anne, that your name means “grace.” Confident in your power before the Throne of Grace, we implore your intercession. Share with us the faith, hope, and love that made your life a tribute of praise to the Lord God Almighty. May our days be grace filled and secure under your protection. Amen.

Daily St. Anne’s Prayer

Dear St. Anne, you never tire of assisting those who recommend themselves to you. Trusting not in our merits but in your powerful intercession, we request your help through this present day with all its duties and responsibilities, all its situations whether happy or anguishing. And when “tomorrow” becomes today, assist us anew for God’s glory and our good. Amen.

Rosary Prayer (Chaplet) of St. Anne

The Chaplet of St. Anne consists of three groups of five beads, separated by a single bead.

- The first group of beads say: “In honor of Jesus,” 1 Our Father and 5 Hail Mary’s. After each Hail Mary say: “Jesus, Mary and St. Anne, grant the favor I request.”
- The second group of beads say: “In honor of Mary,” 1 Our Father and 5 Hail Mary’s. After each Hail Mary say: “Jesus, Mary and St. Anne, grant the favor I request.”
- The third group of beads say: “In honor of St. Anne,” 1 Our Father and 5 Hail Mary’s. After each Hail Mary say: “Jesus, Mary and St. Anne, grant the favor I request.”

SCHEDULES AND MORE

**Eucharistic Adoration has started again Monday through Friday
from 9 AM through 11:45 AM.**

First and Second Fridays Nocturnal from 7 PM Friday Nights to 7:45 AM Saturday

All individuals are encouraged to practice “Social Distancing”

TEAM CAPTAINS

St. Joseph's Catholic Church: Eucharistic Adoration Day/Evening Captains

Day	Name	Phone No.	Email
Monday – day (9am – 6pm)	Bernadette & John Hashtak	904-268-2686	jphashtak@bellsouth.net
Monday – night (6pm – 10pm)	David Britt, Linda Salvatore	904-268-9978 904-524-9329	Dwbritt@comcast.net linda@salvatorefamily.com
Tuesdays -- day (9am-6pm)	Susana Suarez Lisa Pohlgeers	904-629-2693 904-994-8226	susanassuarez@gmail.com lpohlgeers@aol.com
Tuesday – night (6-10pm)	Matt Reese	904-333-8018	Reeseroof@aol.com
Wednesday – day (9am-6pm)	Susan Rezsonya	904-268-7741	Srezsonya@bellsouth.net
Wednesday – night (6 – 10pm)	Open		
Thursday -- day (9am-6pm)	Open		
Thursday –night (6-10pm)	Matt Reese	904-333-8018	Reeseroof@aol.com
Friday – day (9am-6pm)	Janet LaFrance	904-880-1422 904-910-5739	jjlafrance@comcast.net
Friday -- night (6-10pm)	Angela Fisher (6-10pm) 1/2019	904-600-6369	angelaferisher365@gmail.com
First Friday/Saturday Second Friday/Saturday Second Thursday/Friday & Subs	Open		

This section of the Newsletter is dedicated to questions we receive from Adorers and our answers.

If you have a question specifically related to Eucharistic Adoration at St. Joseph’s, our schedule or our current procedures, please do not hesitate to pose those questions. You may send your questions to drrodacruz@yahoo.com.

We will do everything we can to provide you an answer, and we will post the Q & A in this section the following month.

Thank you, Rod Cruz