

## Calendar

**Monday**  
January 2

*Sts. Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzen, Bishops and Doctors of the Church*  
1 Jn 2:22–28  
Jn 1:19–28

**Tuesday**  
January 3

*Christmas Weekday*  
1 Jn 2:29–3:6  
Jn 1:29–34

**Wednesday**  
January 4

*St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, Religious*  
1 Jn 3:7–10  
Jn 1:35–42

**Thursday**  
January 5

*St. John Neumann, Bishop*  
1 Jn 3:11–21  
Jn 1:43–51

**Friday**  
January 6

*Christmas Weekday*  
1 Jn 5:5–13  
Mk 1:7–11  
or Lk 3:23–38

**Saturday**  
January 7

*Christmas Weekday*  
1 Jn 5:14–21  
Jn 2:1–11

**Sunday**  
January 8

*The Epiphany of the Lord*  
Is 60:1–6  
Eph 3:2–5a, 5–6  
Mt 2:1–12

# Dear Padre,

## Does calling Mary “the Mother of God” mean that she came before God?

No; it simply expresses our belief that Mary is truly the Mother of Jesus, who from the moment of his conception was both human and divine. Catholics believe that God is a Trinity of persons—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit—in one divine nature. We believe that God existed from all eternity and is the source of all created things. We also believe that, to save us from sin, the second person of the Trinity, the Son, took on a human nature. God became one of us in the mystery of the Incarnation.

Luke’s Infancy narrative (1:26–38) tells us that God sent Gabriel to Mary to announce that she would have a child, the Son of God, by the power of the Holy Spirit. Mary consented, and Jesus Christ was conceived in her womb. Later, Mary is greeted by Elizabeth as “the mother of my Lord” (1:43). This greeting expresses the reality that the Lord, the God of the Hebrew Scriptures, is present in Mary’s womb. Other passages testify to the same fact. Mary is the Mother of Jesus. Jesus is God (John 20:28). Therefore, Mary is the Mother of God.

When we honor Mary as “the Mother of God,” we are professing our belief that Jesus is truly God. We are not saying that Mary came before God but rather that the Son, who existed from all eternity, “became flesh and lived among us” (John 1:14).



Source: *Dear Padre: Questions People Ask*, Liguori, 2005  
sundaybulletin@liguori.org



### A Word From Pope Francis

*“In Christ...we recognize a human nature and a divine nature, united in the same person in a miraculous and indissoluble way. This holds in an analogous way for the Church.”*

—General audience, October 29, 2014

# Assumption of Our Lady



www.ourladyofassumptionhayriver.com

January 01, 2016

Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God

## Hay River, NT

### Weekend Masses

Saturday 5:00 pm

Sunday 10:30 am

### Weekday Masses

Mon.-Thurs. 5:30 pm

Friday 12:00 noon

Reconciliation is on Saturday from 4:15 to 4:45 or by appointment. Please contact Fr. Don for any other sacraments or funerals.



Fr. Don Flumerfelt: 867.875.2545

father@ourladyofassumptionhayriver.com

& St. Anne, Katlodeche

Sunday Mass 1:30 PM

Date	Readers	Collection	Gift Bearers	Eucharistic Ministers	Coffee & Snacks
Jan 01	Sylvia Boyer Julia Flumerfelt	Horst B. Emmanuel Da-Rosa	DaRosa Family	Theresa Swallow Bea Lepine Shirley Gutierrez	Grace Engen
Jan 08	Dee Dee Lepine Sheila Ryan-Hachey	Kyle Reid Doug Swallow	Eva & Merv Templeton	Tessie Gonzales Julia Flumerfelt David Delorey	Sign-up: see Grace
Jan 15	Andrew Cassidy Michaela Crook	Darm Crook Emmanuel Da-Rosa	Ramirez Family	Kyle Reid Louisa Schrumm Doug Swallow	Sign-up: see Grace
Jan 22	Bea Lepine Katherine Lenoir	Paul Delorey Hort B.	Capulso Family	Doris Caudron Theresa Swallow Sylvia Boyer	Sign-up: see Grace
Jan 29	Ruth Boden Sherry DaRosa	Kyle Reid Andrew Cassidy	Lance, Nanette & Family	Bea Lepine Tessie Gozales Kyle Reid	Sign-up: see Grace



# Good News!

January 1, 2017

Mary, the Holy Mother of God (A)  
Nm 6:22-27, Gal 4:4-7, Lk 2:16-21

For the first four centuries following Jesus' ascension, Christians grappled with how to understand how his humanity and divinity commingled in his person. His humanity was evident to all who walked and talked with him. His divinity was also evident to his disciples because of the miracles he worked, not least his death and resurrection. In short, they knew he was fully human, and they knew he was fully God, but how could he be fully both at the same time?

The Council of Ephesus in 431 settled the issue definitively. The Church declared that in the one person of Christ there are two natures: one divine and one human. This same council also declared, as a natural consequence, that the holy virgin is the Mother of God (*Theotokos*), since she conceived and gave birth to the Word of God. So today's feast is one of the oldest, shared by all Christians from the earliest times.

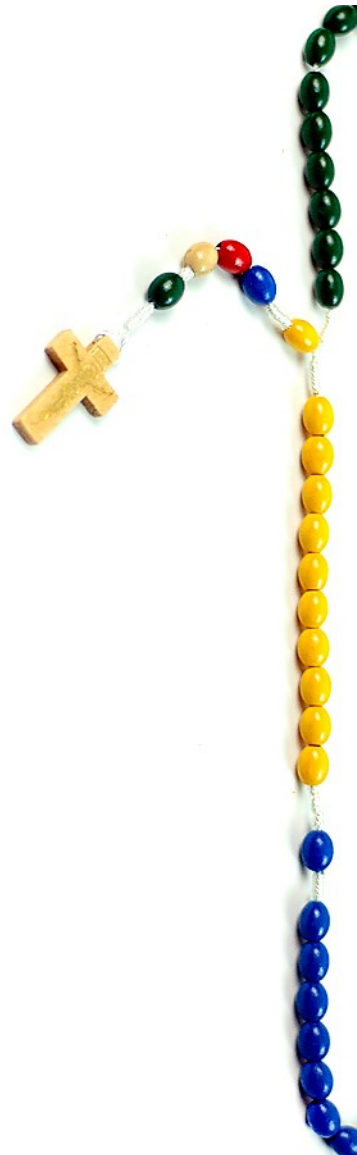
When Mary said "yes" to the Incarnation and gave birth to the Savior, all of us could bask in his divine light. She is like the morning star that first breaks the horizon and mirrors the light of the sun that she both foretells and follows. In loving Mary, we truly honor her Son. God was the first to praise her through Gabriel—"Hail, favored one!"—and the one who blessed her beyond all other creatures. We are merely following his example.

## For Reflection

Do I let God's face shine on me by spending time in prayer or before the Eucharist? How can I honor Mary today for her lifelong fidelity and grace?

*Fr. Mark Haydu, LC*

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# Our Parish COMMUNITY

January 1, 2017

Mary, the Holy Mother of God (A)  
Nm 6:22-27  
Gal 4:4-7  
Lk 2:16-21

## Like the Morning Star

For the first four centuries following Jesus' ascension, Christians grappled with how to understand how his humanity and divinity commingled in his person. His humanity was evident to all who walked and talked with him. His divinity was also evident to his disciples because of the miracles he worked, not least his death and resurrection. In short, they knew he was fully human, and they knew he was fully God, but how could he be fully both at the same time?

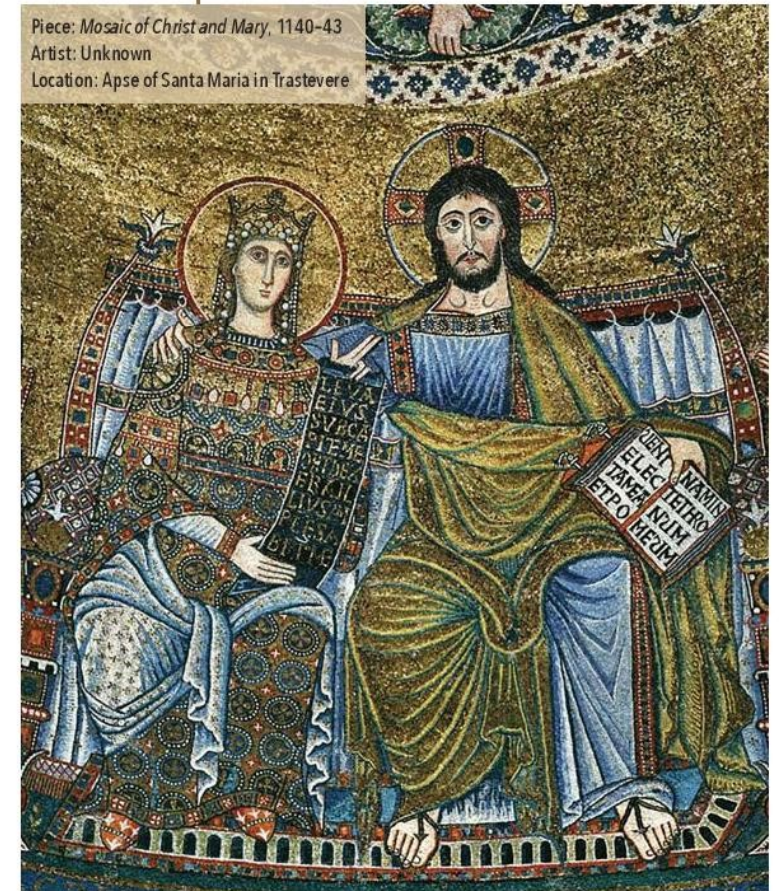
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—Fr. Mark Haydu, LC

Piece: Mosaic of Christ and Mary, 1140-43  
Artist: Unknown  
Location: Apse of Santa Maria in Trastevere



## For Reflection

*Do I let God's face shine on me by spending time in prayer or before the Eucharist? How can I honor Mary today for her lifelong fidelity and grace?*

*"The LORD bless you and keep you! The LORD let his face shine upon you, and be gracious to you!" (Numbers 6:24-25).*