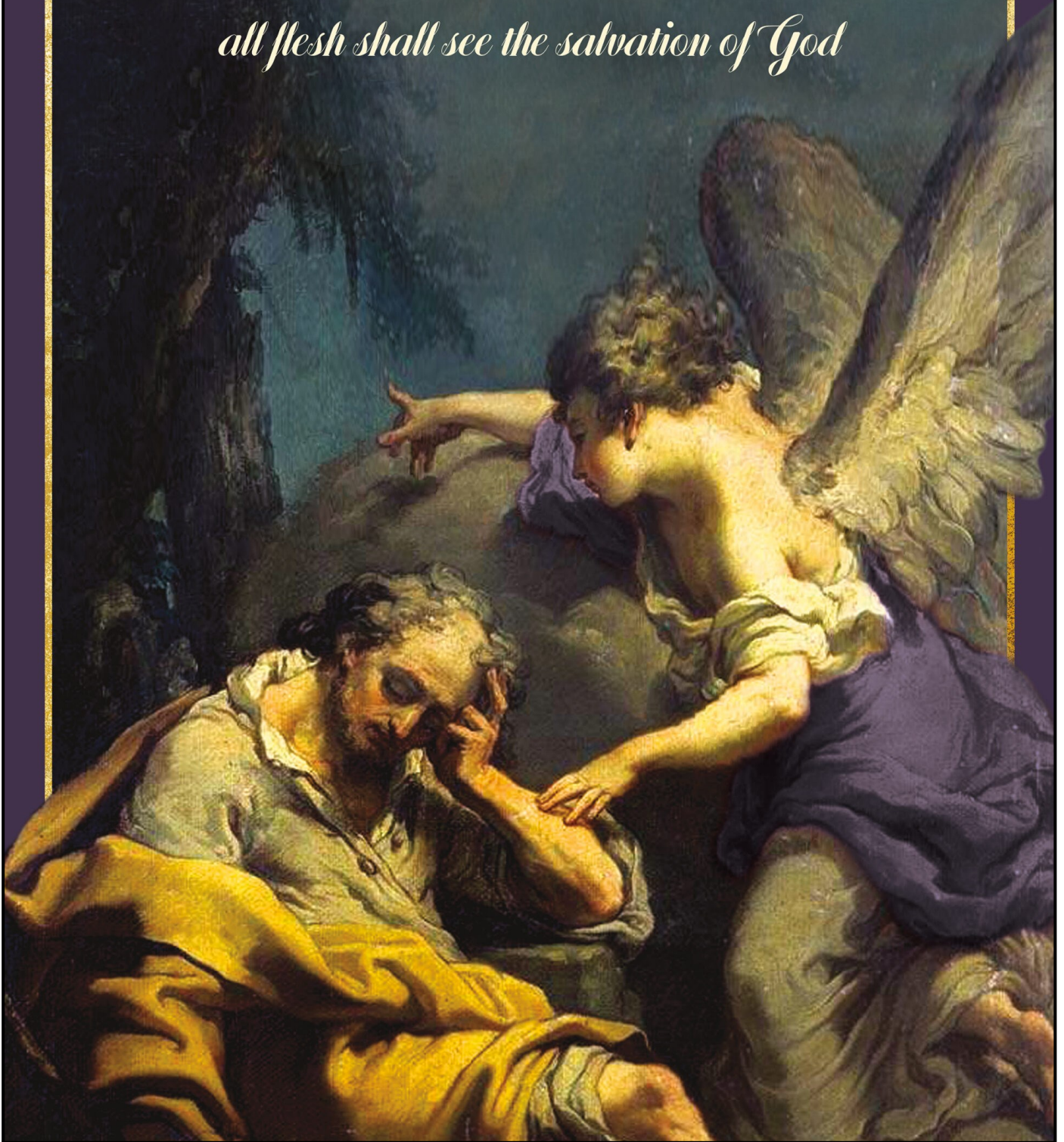


PEACE

all flesh shall see the salvation of God



Church of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross December 6, 2020



**A PRAYER FOR THE
FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

God of light and life, give us hope as we wait for your coming again.

When we are tempted to be grateful to have found you while others are lost, send us out into the darkness in search of those who need you most.

Amen.



**A PRAYER FOR THE
SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

Jesus you came among us with the irresistible power of a baby, requiring both our hands and captivating our whole hearts. Help us to cast aside the sin and brokenness that we cling to, so we might be ready to hold you when you come again.

Amen.



**A PRAYER FOR THE
THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

Joy-filled Giver of Life, let the anticipation of your birth fill us with overflowing joy. May our excitement and anticipation be a sign to the world that you are always near.

Amen.



**A PRAYER FOR THE
FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

Jesus, you are constantly coming to your people, even when we fail to see you. In each and every moment that we are blessed to recognize you here and now, give us the courage to leap with joy at your coming.

Amen.



THE TRUE MEANING OF THE ADVENT SEASON

The word Advent originates from a Latin word "Adventus" which means "coming" or "arrival." Advent Season is focused on preparing for the coming of Jesus Christ in all ways, from His birth in the past to His Second Coming in the future as the Messiah.

For us Catholics, Advent is a meaningful season that reminds us of the reality of Jesus Christ and that He has come and He is present in our world and lives. The birth of Jesus is worth celebrating because it reveals His human side and is therefore an example of how we should live our own lives as his followers here on earth.

The Advent Season starts on the fourth Sunday before Christmas Day or the Sunday that is closest to November 30, (the Feast of St. Andrew the Apostle), and it ends on Christmas Eve or December 24th. If Christmas Eve falls on a Sunday, it is considered the fourth Sunday of Advent and the time after sundown is considered to be Christmas Eve.

PASTORAL STAFF SERVING HOLY CROSS

Fr. Joseph P. Donton, Pastor
Fr. Remigius Bukuru, Parochial Vicar
Deacon Ed Mohrbacher
Deacon Michael Smith

TRUSTEES

Tom Murray John Powers

DIRECTOR OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Gloria Fellers

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC

Jonathan Young

TRIBUNAL AUDITOR

Deacon Ed Mohrbacher

MASSES

Saturday: 5:30 p.m. Vigil Mass

Sunday: 8:00 a.m., 10:00 a.m., 4:00 p.m.

Weekdays: 7:00 a.m. Monday thru Friday

Holy Days: 8:15 a.m., 12:10 p.m.

HOLY CROSS PARISH OFFICE

405 W. Clark St., Champaign, IL, 61820

Phone: 217-352-8748 Fax: 217-366-2929

e-mail address: office@holycrosscatholic.org

website: www.holycrosscatholic.org

HOLY CROSS SCHOOL

Greg Koerner, Principal

410 W. White, Champaign, Illinois, 61820

Phone: 217-356-9521 Fax: 217-356-1745

ADORATION

Adoration is available on the patio in the courtyard anytime.

RECONCILIATION

Saturday: 4:00-5:00 p.m.

Monday thru Friday, 6:30-6:45 a.m.

Or by appointment.

BAPTISM: Second and fourth Sunday of the month, after the 10:00 a.m. Mass. Parents must be registered members and attend a baptismal preparation session, preferably before the birth of the child. Contact the Parish Office 3 months in advance to schedule.

MATRIMONY: Couples contemplating marriage should call the Office at least 8 months in advance. At least one partner must be a registered parishioner at Holy Cross and be actively practicing the faith. If you have had a previous marriage, set no marriage date until you have discussed this with your Pastor.

CARE OF THE SICK: Call the Parish Office to make arrangements at any time for Communion and/or the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick.

BULLETIN DEADLINE: Two Wednesdays prior to the bulletin in which the information will be posted.

Second Sunday of Advent

OUR PARISH

HOLY CROSS MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Catholic Community of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross is to provide a home for all who wish to join our spiritual family and share our Catholic beliefs and values. We are here to continue the life-giving works of Jesus Christ, to make His name known and loved, and to live our lives according to the Gospel of Jesus Christ, under the leadership of the Bishop of the Peoria Diocese.



Mass Intentions for the Week

Monday, Dec. 7

7:00 a.m. Dan Crawmer

Tuesday, Dec. 8, *The Immaculate Conception*

7:00 a.m. William Busker

12:10 p.m. Joe Santarelli

Wednesday, Dec. 9

7:00 a.m. Shirley Bowen Stanley

Thursday, Dec. 10

7:00 a.m. Patty Kundrat-Woodward

Friday, Dec. 11

7:00 a.m. Freedom to Worship

Saturday, Dec. 12

5:30 p.m. Eileen Painter

Sunday, Dec. 13

8:00 a.m. For the Parishioners

10:00 a.m. Thelma Sparks

4:00 p.m. Stephen Primmer

PRAYER TO THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

O pure and immaculate and likewise blessed Virgin, who art the sinless Mother of thy Son, the mighty Lord of the universe, thou who art inviolate and altogether holy, the hope of the hopeless and sinful, we sing thy praises.

We bless thee, as full of every grace, thou who didst bear the God-Man. We bow low before thee; we invoke thee and implore thine aid.

Rescue us, O holy and inviolate Virgin, from every necessity that presses upon us and from all the temptations of the devil. Amen



CHRISTMAS FLOWER FUND

Consider contributing to the flower fund to pay for church's Christmas decorations. Drop off your donation in the collection basket in an envelope marked "flower fund" or bring it to the office. Donations have been made in memory of the Hettinger, Painter & Wagner families; Rose Baum; Norma Wilson; James & Zachary McNabney; Finn W. Oliveira; Skip Hartman; Mel Meyer; John & Clara Rakers; Wayne & Delores Wade; Donna Menacher; the Murray & Huckaba families; Robert Lewis & Robert Plecki Sr., the Cochrane & Vedder families; Tom & Anne Corkery; John & Catherine Murray; Ethel Cox; Sr. Rita Corkery; and Francine Cindy Gibas.

A READING FROM THE HOLY GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MARK 1:1-18



John the Baptist appeared in the desert proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. People of the whole Judean countryside and all the inhabitants of Jerusalem were going out to him and were

being baptized by him in the Jordan River as they acknowledged their sins. John was clothed in camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist. He fed on locusts and wild honey. And this is what he proclaimed: "One mightier than I is coming after me. I am not worthy to stoop and loosen the thongs of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."



NEWEST MEMBER OF THE CHURCH, and of Holy Cross, through the Sacrament of Baptism, is Dayna Marie, daughter of Justin & Amber Duncan. Let us support her on her faith journey!

FAITHFUL DEPARTED. Your prayers are requested for the repose of the soul of Gene Roberts. May his soul, and those of all the Faithful Departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.



Season of Advent

Advent is intended to be a season of preparation for the coming of Jesus. It is a time of joy, prayer, and commitment. Holy Cross has made two sources available to help nourish your spiritual renewal.

FREE ADVENT MEDITATION BOOKLETS from *The Word Among Us* are available as you exit the church.

Thanks to the generosity of some parishioners, we are once again blessed with a special book from Dynamic Catholic. Written by Matthew Kelly, *I Heard God Laugh*. It will be available as you exit the church



PARISH OFFICE CLOSED BUT MASS STILL TAKING PLACE

The Parish Office is closed until further notice. We are still available by phone (217) 352-8748, and email: office@holycrosscatholic.org. You can also find information at holycrosscatholic.org on our website.

The lobby of the Parish Center will be open for drop-off or pick-up of any necessary items or materials.

At this time, we are still having Mass. We will continue to practice the COVID safety guidelines. This includes social distancing, wearing a face mask over your mouth and nose, and sanitizing practices.

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS

Saturday, December 12

5:30 p.m. Gloria Fellers

Sunday, December 13

8:00 a.m. No ministers

10:00 a.m. Margie Hoss, Dawn Friedman

4:00 p.m. Anthony & Beth Frasca, John Farney

Last 2 Weeks' Collections

Offering for November 21st/22nd\$5,812.83

Campaign for Human Development.....\$520.00

Offering for November 28th/29th.....\$4,831.50

Bishop's Seminarian Appeal.....\$558.00

Thank you very much!



In consultation with the Parish Council and the Reopening our Church Committee, I am taking this opportunity to share with you our plan for celebrating Christmas at Holy Cross. Please note the time changes. Sorry, no Midnight Mass this year.

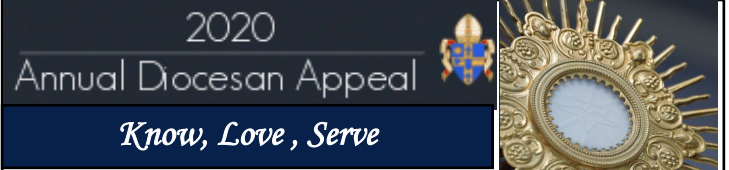
MASS SCHEDULE

Christmas Eve 4:30 p.m. and 6:30 p.m.

Christmas Day 8:00 a.m. and 10:00 a.m.

RESERVED SEATING

Unfortunately, we will not be able to accommodate the in-person crowds we are accustomed to. Seating for the Christmas Masses will be by reservation only. Seating will be available in the church AND the parish hall. Doors will be open 30 minutes before Mass begins. All four Masses will be livestreamed on the parish Facebook page www.facebook.com/holycrosscatholic. You can make a reservation by calling the Parish Office (217) 352-8748 or emailing us at office@holycrosscatholic.org.



HAVE YOU MADE A PLEDGE FOR THE 2020 ANNUAL DIOCESAN APPEAL?

A gift to the ADA, large or small, can go a long way. As noted in the letter that went to parishioner homes, even if the pledge is a prayer and a zero dollar commitment, our goal is to have a response from every family in the parish. There are pledge cards and envelopes in the back of the church, as well as on the table in the Parish Center. Your pledge to the Annual Diocesan Appeal will be gratefully received and deeply appreciated!

CONFIRMATION

Our 8th-graders received the Sacrament of Confirmation yesterday (Saturday, Dec. 5th). The names of all 25 will be posted in next week's bulletin, along with the group picture.



Holy Cross School
356-9521
www.holycrosselem.org

School Office Hours

Every day that school is in session, the school office will be open from 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Please call or email with any questions or concerns. We are here for you!

Save the Date! Empower Illinois Scholarship Reservation Day

Reserve your spot to apply for an Empower Illinois Scholarship for the 2021-2022 school year on **Jan. 13th!** Reservations open at 6:30 p.m. in order to submit at 7:00 p.m.

Need Financial Assistance for the 2021-2022 School Year? You Must:

1. Apply for an Empower Illinois Scholarship.
2. Submit and pay for (\$30) the FACTS Grant & Aid Application (usually opens in January each year).
3. Apply for the Diocesan Spalding Scholarship (more info to come after January 2021).
4. Request assistance from your home parish (Holy Cross, St. Patrick, or St. Mary's).

Be Safe, Be Healthy and Be Blessed

We look forward to our journey toward Christmas and our remembrance of Christ's humble entrance into our world.



High School of St. Thomas More
352-7210
www.hs-stm.org

STM OFFICE HOURS

During this time of Virtual Learning and Holiday Season, STM will have limited school office hours. To contact the school during this time, view <https://www.hs-stm.org/o/hs-stm/staff> for faculty and staff emails, or leave a message at 217-352-7210.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

The High School of St. Thomas More is seeking applicants for a Biology Teacher for the 2021-2022 academic year. If interested, email Sr. M. Bridget at srmbridget@hs-stm.org.

STM ADMISSIONS NEWS

Calling all 8th graders: You Belong Here! Become a St. Thomas More Saber. Applications for 2021-22 are officially open, and those who submit a completed application by February 1st will receive 2% off their tuition amount. Apply at <https://ecollect.accelaschool.com/stm>.

STM SPRING GALA, FEBRUARY 6

Mark your calendars and volunteer for Gala 2021, the Masquerade Ball. Where? Virtual online at our FaceBook and YouTube pages. When? **Saturday, February 6, 2021** starting at 5:30 p.m. We will use online bidding again and we have a great program for the evening in the works! Mark your calendars, thank you for everything you do, and Go Sabers! To volunteer or if you have questions, contact Mr. Matt Vander Vennet at: mvandervennet@hs-stm.org or Mrs. Lillian Mockus at: lmockus@hs-stm.org.

CATHOLIC DAUGHTERS

Catholic Daughters of the Americas, Campaign County. #1070, will have their next meeting on **Thursday, December 10th**, at the Holy Cross Church Parish Center at 5:30 p.m. All Catholic women, 18 and older, are encouraged to join us, make new friends, and share God's love through service. Please contact Debby at 217-359-9961 for more information.



APOSTLESHIP OF PRAYER

REFLECTIONS ON THE POPE'S MONTHLY INTENTIONS, DECEMBER 2020

For a Life of Prayer

We pray that our personal relationship with Jesus Christ be nourished by the Word of God and a life of prayer.

www.apostleshipofprayer.org

CHRISTMAS FOR SWANN SPECIAL CARE CENTER

It's that time of year again but, due to COVID, we will not be able to provide Christmas gifts for the residents of Swann as we did in the past. If you still want to contribute toward their Christmas giving, you can make a monetary donation labeled Swann Special Care Center, and drop it off at the Parish Office. You may also contact Swann directly and discuss options with them by calling 217-356-5164 and asking for Monette.

2021 CALENDARS are available next to the bulletins as you exit the church after Mass, as well as in the Parish Office. Many thanks to Owens Funeral Home for providing us with complimentary calendars every year!

FORMED
Now!



FORMED NOW! DO WE MAKE TOO MUCH OF MARY?

Throughout our Marian feast days, you might wonder why Catholics think so highly of Mary. Join Dr. Tim Gray and Dr. John Sehorn as they discuss our Lady's esteemed place among the saints.

**A WORD FROM JOY
PRO-LIFE DISCUSSION GROUP**

We meet via Zoom every 3rd Monday of the month at 1:00 p.m. Our next meeting will be on December 21st. To join in on the Zoom meeting, please contact Joy at 217 359-8406 (home), or 217 840-0322 (cell).

This discussion is open to everyone. We discuss everything, from ethical vaccines, to abortion, to human trafficking, to ethical medical practices and more. Pro-Life affects more than just abortion – and living a pro-life life helps inform and guide every decision. We truly believe that every human needs to be treated fairly and with dignity, simply because he or she is human

SAVE THE DATE: JANUARY 22ND, 2021

The Ecumenical Memorial Prayer Vigil will be at St. Patrick Catholic Church in Urbana. This will be an in-person and virtual event. Virtual guest speaker will be national speaker Rebecca Kiessling, president of Save the One, a Pro-Life organization featuring those conceived in rape or incest. Stay tuned for more info!

GUADALUPE
THE MIRACLE AND THE MESSAGE



GUADALUPE: THE MIRACLE AND THE MESSAGE

As we celebrate the patroness of the Americas this week, enjoy this film narrated by Jim Caviezal that walks us through our Mother's miraculous appearance to Juan Diego, an encounter that has converted millions.

SPONSOR OF THE WEEK

The advertisements that appear completely defray all publishing costs with which the church would otherwise be burdened. Please patronize these sponsors as a thank you for their kind generosity.

Baytowne Apts

**Our Parish has a FORMED subscription.
To set up your free account visit formed.org/signup
and select our parish.**

HOLY CROSS FIRST FRIDAY MEMORIAL

Devall, Desmier, Jensen Families
Menke & Leahy Families
Jerry & Loretta M. Dano
Paul, Joe, Edward, & Marie Knoke
Dec. Mem. of Donato, Pace, Follis Families
Dec. Mem. of Mueller, Neunhoffer, Willard Families
Robert F. Reiser Family
Dec. Mem. of Corkery, Cox, Murray Families
Nichols, Oetzel, Parod & Foltzler Families
Dec. Mem. of Happ, Krueger Families
Pellum & Gillis Families
Thelma Sparks, Parents of Charles & Thelma Sparks
Ed & Jean Bown
Chuck, Chad, Meghan Schweighart
Larry Hausmann, Bob Soucie
Living & Dec. Mem. of Cler & Flavin Families
Graham & Huguette Families
Liv. & Dec. Mem. of Pastore, Buzinsky, & Piccolo Families
Lamendola/Smith/Hammers Families
Hammel & Mitsdarfer Families

Margaret & Eldon Tufte and Dec. Mem. of their family
Living & Dec. members of Baum & Decker Families
Barham & Bosch Families
Tangora & Kovera Families
William McMahon, Linda & Mike Wesolowski
McNamara & Mulcahey Family
Living & Dec. Mem. of Giuffre & Cacioppo Families
Boudreau & Arseneau Family
Margaret Turkcan
Aloysius J. Winka
Charlie & Evelyn Bell
Zeilenga Family
Rentfrow Family
Ron Murphy
Haggin Family
Rakers-Wade Families
Hershberger & Kick Families
Dec. Mem. of Cochrane-O'Brien families
Liv. & Dec. Mem. of David & Bernice Williams Family
Liv. & Dec. Mem. of Graham, Fellers & Gordon Family

John E. Sullivan Family
Birdie & Edward Cronau
Margaret Hettinger
Raymond Timpone
Maxine Timpone
Living & Dec. Mem. of Schwenk Family
Perrodin Family
Living & Dec. Mem. of McNabney Family
Liv. & Dec. Mem. of Eli & Hazel Kinser Family
John Michael Cabutti
Glen & Helen Jones
Betty Madrey
Christie & Hoss Families
Menacher & Sizer Families
Leonard & Loretto Doyle
Alan & Patricia Berndt
Thomas McCarthy
Costello Family