

Our Savior is Born!

Furthering the Reign of God, Where All Are Welcome • December 24-26, 2021

SEASONS OF SERVICE SNAPSHOTS OF 2021

In 2021, even though we were not all back to in-person service, our community still heeded the call. On pages 4 and 5, we provide a glimpse into the many ways The Madeleine served the community this Christmas season, and all throughout 2021. Thank you, and a blessed Christmas to all!



A CHRISTMAS REFLECTION

In today's gospel, (December 21, Luke 1:39-45, 56) Luke opens the door to the home of Zachariah and Elizabeth. He invites us in to witness one of the happiest moments in scripture. We see a young, rosy-cheeked girl, bursting through the door, dropping her travel bag on the floor, and running into the arms of her gray-haired, pregnant cousin. What a wonderful three months they must have spent together...praising God, as they prepared for the births of their baby boys and sharing the special bond that women down through the ages have shared.

When I was growing up, my mother and her two sisters would meet every Monday morning at the home of my Aunt Agnes. They would gather around the table in her breakfast nook, drink coffee, enjoy fresh pastries from the local bakery and share the good and bad happenings in their lives. (This was one of those times of "visitation" that Fr. Mike referred to in his homily on Dec. 19th.) The summer I celebrated my twelfth birthday, I was invited to join them. For me it was a "rite of passage." They no longer saw me as a little girl, but now I was a young woman approaching adulthood. I valued being a part of those Monday mornings with my mother and her two sisters. Even after I grew up and left home, if I was in town on a Monday morning, I would join them in the breakfast nook for coffee, fresh pastries and conversation.

Perhaps it was my memory of those "visitations" with my mother and her sisters that stir my imagination and make me wonder what it was like in the home of Zachariah and Elizabeth during those three months when Mary was their guest.

I visualize the two women sitting together

at the breakfast table. Mary is sipping a special herbal tea to calm her morning sickness. Elizabeth is complaining about a sleepless night spent tossing and turning as she tried to find a comfortable position that would satisfy baby John, so he would calm down and quit moving around in her womb.

Did the two women prepare for their babies by singing the lullabies from their childhood as they sat at the loom weaving soft blankets for their soon to be born infants? As they sewed pieces of fabric together making tiny gowns and robes, did they imagine what their little boys would look like? Did Mary wonder if Jesus would have her eyes, or her smile, or the dimple in her chin? Would his hair be the color and texture of hers? What personality traits and habits would he inherit after spending nine months growing inside of her human body?

I imagine the two pregnant women going for long afternoon walks through the hill country, breathing the fresh air and praising God for his presence in their lives and the gift of his creation.

This season of Christmas, I encourage you to take Mary, this brave young girl, down from her pedestal and embrace her as Elizabeth did. Celebrate her humanity, for without her humanity, God's plan would not have worked. Acknowledge the discomfort she must have felt riding that donkey to Bethlehem and then the overwhelming joy of finally giving birth.

God, we offer you our earthly humanity this Christmas. We await your divine visitation in our lives. Come make your home within each of us.

—Marilyn Robb

Nativity of The Lord

December 24-25

THIS FEAST IS FOR THOSE who are sitting in darkness or waiting to hear a meaningful word from God. Today we celebrate that Jesus is truly light for those who cannot see and that God has said everything that can be said in the Word made flesh. God is among us, showing us everything we need to know and lighting our way. If we have never really looked at who Jesus is and what he is for us, the glorious time to do so is now.

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph

December 26

TODAY'S READINGS speak to us about living as a family and a community. They confirm that both require work, generosity, patience and openness to the unexpected. We look to the Holy Family as a model for ourselves, and we learn — with some relief — that Jesus' parents were as challenged and confounded as we often are. We can be like them because they were like us in so many ways.

PRAY FOR OUR FAITHFULLY DEPARTED

Elaine Garrow Nilsa Nippolt

PRAYER REQUESTS

For those who are ill, or in need of our prayers

Patrick Jasper John Endres,
Chad Garvens Annie Young
Faye Marchant Bill Rooney
Shirley Hughey-Smith

WORSHIP & PRAYER

12/28, Tues. Tillie Erhart †
12/29, Weds. Corinne Harvey †
12/30, Thurs. Fearne Stone †
12/31, Fri. 10:00 am. . . . Fr. George Thompson †
01/01, Sat. 10:00 am. . . . Msgr. George Campbell †
01/02, Sun. 8:00 am . . . The Madeleine Community
10:00 am Msgr. Edmund Van der Zanden †

Calendar This Week

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 26

► Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph

8:00 am: Mass—Church
 **IN-PERSON ONLY**

10:00 am: Mass—Church
 **IN-PERSON**  **LIVESTREAM**

MONDAY, DECEMBER 27

► School Christmas Break—
Continues through January 4
 ► Parish Office Closed

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 28

8:00 am: Mass—Church
 9:00 am: Adoration—Church

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 29

8:00 am: Mass—Church



THURSDAY, DECEMBER 30

8:00 am: Mass—Church




FRIDAY, DECEMBER 31

► Parish Office Closed
 8:00 am: Mass—Church

SATURDAY, JANUARY 1, 2022

► Mary, Mother of God
 10:00 am: Mass—Holy Mary Mother of God—
Church  **IN-PERSON**  **LIVESTREAM**
 ► **No 5:00 pm Mass today**

SUNDAY, JANUARY 2, 2022

► Feast of the Epiphany
 8:00 am: Mass—Church
 **IN-PERSON ONLY**
 10:00 am: Mass—Church
 **IN-PERSON**  **LIVESTREAM**

NEW YEAR'S MASS TIMES

► **Saturday, January 1**, Mary the Mother of God: Mass at 10:00 am; No 5:00 pm Mass
 ► **Sunday, January 2**, Feast of the Epiphany: Masses at 8:00 and 10:00 am

PARISH OFFICE CLOSURES

Over the Christmas/New Year holiday time, the Parish Office will be closed as follows:

► **Monday, December 27**
 ► **Friday, December 31**
 ► **Monday, January 3**

Care for our Common Home *Laudato Si*

GREEN TIPS FOR A MORE SUSTAINABLE LIFESTYLE

It's the time of year to make "new covenants." We are once again the witnesses of the Lord's coming among us as we make our New Year's resolutions. We are also invited, this year, to make a new covenant (alone or in community) with God, the Creator of the universe. Start by identifying changes you can make to live more harmoniously with your environment. Let us commit ourselves to becoming true guardians of Creation.

PARISH LIFE

SOLEMNITY OF MARY, HOLY MOTHER OF GOD

Mass at 10:00 am Saturday, January 1

Next week, we will celebrate the Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God. This solemnity offers the opportunity for us to recognize God's continued activity in our lives—just as Mary did through her acceptance of the graces offered by God. Join us as we celebrate Mass at 10:00 am on Saturday, January 1. (*Note, there is NO 5:00 pm Mass that day.*)

NEW YEAR'S EVE RETREAT RESCHEDULED

January 15, 8 am–12:30 pm • Old Church and St. Catherine Room

Therese Fenzl, Darlene Maurer, and Marilyn Robb invite you to a morning of reflection as we thank God for all that has been gifted in 2021 and ask God's blessing on all that will unfold in 2022. We will begin with Mass in the Old Church at 8:00 am. We will reflect and share faith on the first 3 rungs of a *Ladder to the Light* by

Steven Charleston. There will be presentations, time for prayer, journaling, and faith sharing. Please let me know if you plan on attending so that I can provide enough of the materials I am creating. Send your name, email and phone number to tfenzl@themadeleine.edu
 —Therese Fenzl, tfenzl@themadeleine.edu

THE MADELEINE SCHOOL 2022–23 OPEN HOUSE AND ADMISSIONS

Open House and Tours: Sunday, January 30, 11:30 am–1:30 pm
 Priority registration for parishioners through January 31, 4:00 pm

It's that time of year again...time to start thinking about school enrollment for Fall 2022. We invite all interested parents and guardians and their children to come visit the school, and learn more about our commitment to providing an academically excellent and faith-filled education for the children of our community.



Spread the word to your friends and neighbors and tell them to give our principal, Carol Glasgow, a call for more information about our school.
 ► Open House and Tours will be held on Sunday, January 30 right after Mass until 1:30 pm.

► New this year...all teachers will be in their classrooms to meet prospective new parents and students!
 ► Priority registration is offered for registered parishioners at The Madeleine until January 31, 4:00 pm.
 ► To receive in-parish tuition rates, families must be registered and active in the parish for at least 6 months prior to enrollment.

► Financial aid available. Please contact the school office for details.
 Visit www.themadeleine.edu/admissions, for more information, or contact Carol Glasgow, cglasgow@themadeleine.edu or 503-288-9197.



This Sunday is the feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph, and so we can celebrate that we all belong to the holy family of God which makes us brothers and sisters to each other. At Christmas this year, through your gifts, the Society of St. Vincent de Paul was able to bring the joy and hope to our brothers and sisters who are poor by assisting 95 individuals, including 46 children; providing 2,100 lbs. of food and gift cards. The gift boxes included 50 frozen turkey breasts and lots of oranges and potatoes, plus Christmas gifts for all the children. Thank you all!

—Mary Clare O'Brien, 503-309-7639

PARISH STEWARDSHIP AND END-OF-YEAR GIVING

Visit www.themadeleine.edu/parishgiving

As you know, your donations are what keep our parish working. Please, take a moment and consider The Madeleine this holiday season.

Parish Stewardship Drive

If you did not have the opportunity to make your pledge for the 2021-22 fiscal year in May's Stewardship Drive, please consider doing so today. If you are regularly contributing, but did not complete a pledge card, doing so can help us know to "count on" your generous gifts.

This campaign is the backbone of our parish budget, offering us the financial stability and means to keep our parish running smoothly and carrying out our ministries to the community. We've had a good response to the Stewardship Campaign....we just need to keep up the good work!

We know there are a lot of asks for donations at this time of year. And even through nearly two years of the pandemic, prudent fiscal management and good response to

our Stewardship Campaign this spring has kept your parish is on strong financial footing.

Matching Gifts

Many employers will match tax-deductible contributions. If you work for such a company, please consider checking to see if either The Madeleine or The Madeleine School is eligible.

Many ways to give

In addition to regular stewardship via Sunday donations, there are many ways to support The Madeleine:

- ▶ One-time gifts
- ▶ Estate planning or bequests
- ▶ Life Insurance
- ▶ Appreciated securities
- ▶ Real estate and personal property

If you wish to consider an additional gift to The Madeleine, please contact John Garrow, our Business Manager, or Father Mike.

Important: For your donation to be included in 2021 year-end statements, please have donations to the parish office by end of business day December 31. Online donations available at www.themadeleine.edu/parishgiving

PLEASE, REMEMBER CHRISTMAS DONATIONS

Two collections: Christmas Eve/Day and Sunday, December 26

Every year, we budget for both Sunday and Christmas offertory...the Christmas offertory is very important to our annual budget.

Those of you who contribute via envelopes know this...as you'll find envelopes for both Christmas Eve/Day and Sunday, December 26, Feast of the Holy Family in your packets. We thank you for your support.

To our Electronic Givers: to those of you who contribute weekly via EFT or Online Billpay through your bank, if you have not authorized one already, please remember to bring, or schedule, an additional donation for Christmas Day Mass.

You can also make a donation online at www.themadeleine.edu/parishgiving

HELP FOR MARRIED COUPLES

You give your heart and soul to everything you do, between your work and your family. Are you giving your heart and soul to your marriage? Sometimes the distance between a husband and a wife can seem so wide that it cannot be repaired. Retrouvaille is a marriage program designed to bring couples closer together.

For confidential information about or to register for the program beginning with a weekend on January 21-23, 2022, call 1-503-225-9191 or email portland@retrouvaille.org or visit www.helpourmarriage.org



SAVE • THE • DATE
THE MADELEINE
MARDI GRAS
FAT TUESDAY • MARCHI, 2022

WE WERE UNABLE TO HOLD OUR 10TH ANNUAL MARDI GRAS CELEBRATION LAST YEAR, BUT PLEASE MARK THE CALENDAR FOR OUR 2022 EVENT! MORE INFORMATION TO COME. FOOD AND FUN FOR THE ENTIRE FAMILY, AND WELCOME FELLOWSHIP FOR THE ENTIRE COMMUNITY. ONE LAST FLING BEFORE WE BEGIN LENT!

WEEKLY MASS TIMES

Masses:

Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday 8:00 am
 Thursday (During school) 2:00 pm
 Saturday Vigil 5:00 pm
 Sunday 8:00 am, 10:00 am
No 7:00 pm Sunday Mass during December

Notes:

▶ Livestream 10:00 am Sunday and 2:00 pm Thursday at youtube.com/themadeleineparish

PenanceBy appointment; call Parish Office

PARISH OFFICE

Hours Monday–Friday, 10:00 am–3:00 pm

Phone: 503-281-5777 **Fax:** 503-281-0673

School Office. 503-288-9197

PARISH STAFF

Rev. Mike Biewend—Pastor
fathermike@themadeleine.eduext. 111

Deacon Mike O'Mahoney—Permanent Deacon
deaconmike@themadeleine.edu

Carol Glasgow—School Principal
cglasgow@themadeleine.edu 503-288-9197

John Garrow—Business Manager
jgarrow@themadeleine.eduext. 118

Darlene Maurer—Pastoral Assistant
dmaurer@themadeleine.edu ext. 125

Therese Fenzl—Director of Spiritual Ministries
tfenzl@themadeleine.eduext. 116

Maria Manzo—Director of Music
mmanzo@themadeleine.eduext. 113

Ann Hart—Events Manager
ahart@themadeleine.edu

Allison Blakemore—Bookkeeper
ablakemore@themadeleine.eduext. 119

Mary Prusso—Registration
mprusso@themadeleine.eduext. 112

Julie Kupers—Special Events
jkupers@themadeleine.edu 720-936-5635

Janeen Reilly—Parish Administrator
jreilly@themadeleine.eduext. 110

Terry Silva—Facilities Support
tsilva@themadeleine.eduext. 117

Rich Hammons—Director of Communications
rhammons@themadeleine.eduext. 129

SACRAMENTS

Marriages, Funerals, Anointing of the Sick—Fr. Mikeext. 111

Infant Baptism—Darlene Maurer ext. 125

First Reconciliation, First Eucharist—Trisha Mummext. 127

RCIA—Christi Bohmbach, rcia@themadeleine.edu

Confirmation—Fr. Mikeext. 111

COUNCILS & CONTACTS

Pastoral Council—Meg Scharle

Finance Council—Jim Jones 503-284-3301

Buildings & Grounds—Erin Couch 503-281-9575

School Advisory—Eric Robinson 971-227-3772

Facility Requests—themadeleine.edu/facilities

Maintenance Requests—John Garrow
jgarrow@themadeleine.eduext. 118

Bulletin submissions due 5:00 pm Tuesday

Email to bulletin@themadeleine.edu

The Madeleine in Service, 2021



The Madeleine Conference of St. Vincent de Paul

The Madeleine Conference of St. Vincent de Paul filled Christmas Boxes with more than 2,100 pounds of food (including 50 turkey breasts) for 95 people, including 46 children who received Christmas gifts as well. Thank you to everyone who contributed, including during the collection at our Thanksgiving Mass.

Right: For the third year, St. Vincent de Paul's efforts were augmented by Madeleine School students, who donated food on the first Friday of each month in exchange for the ability to wear free dress. It's a win for everyone...for both the kids and for the folks who rely on St. Vincent de Paul!



Faith Formation Ministries—getting back together



Our Faith Formation Ministries began the year physically distanced, often on Zoom. then in the spring our First Communicants received their sacraments in multiple Masses. RCIA Zoomed through to a spring Sacrament at Easter Vigil. This winter, our Confirmation Class is able to meet...carefully...in person.



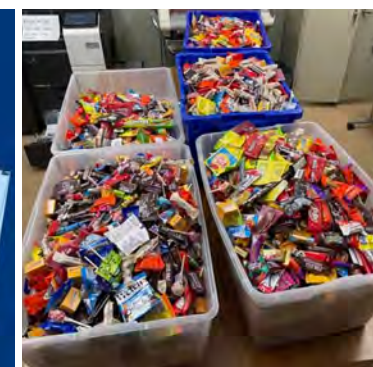
Children's Choir

This fall saw the resurgence of The Madeleine Children's Choir, who made their debut performance during Advent this year. What a delight it was to hear their lovely voices! We look forward to many more performances in the upcoming year!



The Haitian Project

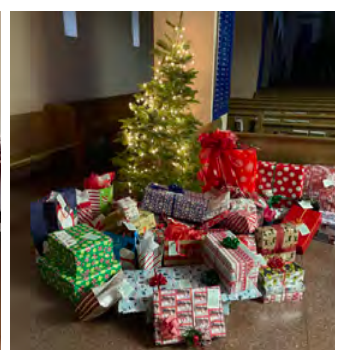
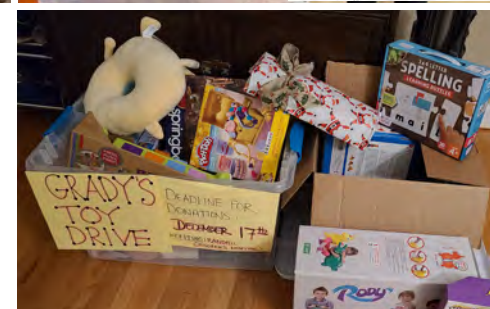
After a 1-year hiatus due to you-know-what, The Haitian Project Garage Sale made a triumphant return in July. The Parish Hall, Fireside Room, 5th Grade room and Commons were stuffed to the gills with an extra year's worth of "treasures," and thousands of people came to shop.



The Madeleine School in Service

Our Madeleine School students were busy in service this year. There are so many great causes represented, but some include placemats created for **Meals on Wheels**, Santa's Sock Drive for **Blanchet House** (more than 570 pairs collected), Legos and Grady's Toy Drive for **Randall Children's Hospital** (13,000 pieces collected), Halloween Free Dress Day donations for **Oregon Humane Society** (\$575 raised), extra Halloween candy collected for **Ronald McDonald House** (5 huge bins!). So many more, but this was just a sampling that we had photos for.

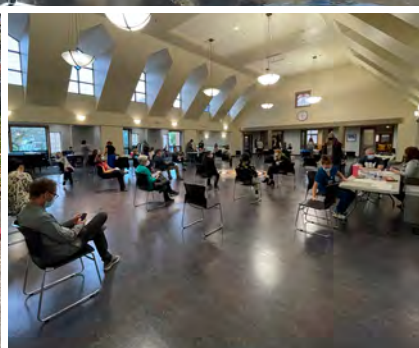
Of special note was the creation of the CLEAN Club. Students in this Catholic Leadership Environmental Action Network club meet weekly to discuss things we can all do to protect our climate and environment. In addition to their weekly meetings, members of the club participated in a Community Cleanup Event in November.



Around the Parish

Service ministries came back gradually this year, and even with COVID restrictions in place, our community was on the job

- **Knights of Columbus**—Busy all year, shown here assembling the tent for Madeleine School students to eat their lunches under during COVID protocol times.
- **Giving Tree**— Again this year, our community provided Christmas gifts for Children of Incarcerated Parents, a program of Northwest Family Services.
- **Electronic Recycling**—After a year hiatus, our E-Waste Recycling event collected tons of items this spring.
- **COVID Vaccine Clinic**—In partnership with Providence Health, The Madeleine hosted two vaccine clinics. Folks lined up to the school parking lot to "get the jab"; more than 700 doses were administered.



The Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

DECEMBER 26, 2021



We celebrate the Feast of the Holy Family on the first Sunday after Christmas! This feast day is a reminder to us of the example Mary and Joseph set for all of us in welcoming Jesus into their lives. The Holy Family serves as a model for us all in which to live in faith and simplicity.

Prayer for Family Commitment

Dear God our Father, you have called all Christian families to be a sign of your love to the world.

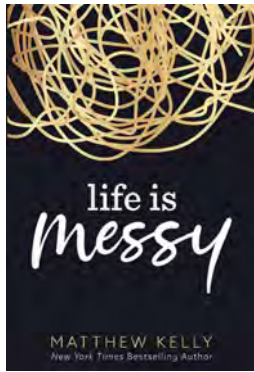
Help us to be generous with the gifts of life and love that you have showered on our family. May we share them so that our homes become true signs of unitive and fruitful love.

Let us never forget to thank you each day for all that sustains us and to look to Christ, who comes to us in the events of family life, in the sacraments of the Church, and in service to the poor.

In all of this, our family becomes a living expression of your Church, a hallowed home of life and love. By the power of the Holy Spirit, may all of us—spouses, parents, and children— share, as members of his Body, in Jesus' mission to build a civilization of love. Father, we ask this in Jesus' name in union with the Holy Spirit. Amen.

PICK UP YOUR COPY OF LIFE IS MESSY, OUR GIFT THIS CHRISTMAS

On your way out from Christmas Eve and Christmas Day Masses, please pick up Matthew Kelly's *Life is Messy*, as a gift from the parish (one per family please). From the liner notes:



“Life isn’t a color-within-the-lines exercise. It’s a wild and outrageous invitation full of uncertain outcomes. Sometimes it is beautifully rational, at other times it lacks all logic. What appears to be a step back today, may turn out to be the first marvelous step forward ten years from now. “The mess of life is both inevitable and unexpected. It is filled with delightful mysteries and frustrating predicaments, indescribable joy and heart-wrenching suffering.”

Enjoy!



MADELEINE BOOK CLUB WISHES YOU A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS

MBC joyfully invites parishioners and friends to join our book club community.

Please contact:

Gretchen Stevenson, MBC Coordinator
503-312-6834, gypsyfrau47@yahoo.com

Our January book selection is:
Last Bus to Wisdom By Ivan Doig

CHRISTMAS CAROLS IN A MAJOR KEY

I must admit, I love Christmas—and Christmas carols! Each year Michael and I, and our good friend Mary, pile in our 1992 Ford Ranger (every year I pray it still runs), crank up the Christmas tunes on K103 and belt out “Feliz Navidad” on the way to cut down our Christmas trees at (I kid you not) the Tree Wisemen Christmas Tree farm. When decorating, our “go to” Christmas CD is Barry Mannilow (although many of his Christmas tunes bear a striking resemblance to “I Write the Songs”), and Mannheim Steamroller. Once in a while, we throw a little Elvis, John Denver, and even The Temptations in the mix!



But inasmuch as I love the sounds and sights of Christmas, it is a season that is also tinged with melancholy – a time that we wistfully remember Christmases past, mourn those that we have lost, and ponder what lies ahead. That dichotomy of joy and sorrow is also reflected in Christmas carols. Take, for instance, the French carol “Angels We Have Heard on High.” First published in 1855, it tells of the angelic announcement of Jesus’ birth to the shepherds. Scholars think that these shepherds may have been those who supplied lambs for sacrifice at the temple in Jerusalem. But on this night, the shepherds were called away to greet Jesus. This joyous-sounding carol is also a prophecy of the sacrifice of the true Lamb of God that is to come.

Published in 1864, “I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day,” the lyrics by American poet Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, are a direct reflection of the Civil War. In the next to last stanza, Longfellow mourns, “And in despair I bowed my head, there is no peace on earth. For hate is strong and mocks the song of peace on earth, good will to men.” But the bells respond, “Then pealed the bells more loud and deep, God is not dead, nor doth he sleep; the wrong shall fail, the right prevail, with peace on

earth, good will to men.”

The Epiphany carol “We Three Kings” is, perhaps, the most prophetic. It is not just the story of the three Kings visiting the baby Jesus—but in the gifts that they bring. Gold was the treasure of Kings; Jesus was born to be King of the Jews. Frankincense was an important part of ancient Israel’s worship of God; Jesus is the child of God. And finally, Myrrh, a spice used to embalm the dead, foreshadows

Christ’s death to be Savior of the world. Musically, it follows suit—alternating between the minor-sounding verses (written in the Aeolian mode) and the chorus written in a major key.

In 1719, Isaac Watts based the famous, “Joy to the World” on Psalm 98, which tells of the Messiah’s coming and kingdom. Perhaps divinely inspired, Watts strayed a bit from the Psalm when he penned the third stanza – “No more let sins and sorrows grow; nor thorns infest the ground.” The tune is set by none other than G.F. Handel (of “Messiah” fame). Hint: if you take away the rhythm, it is just a simple major scale sung backwards!

Finally, perhaps the simplest yet most profound of all carols is “Silent Night.” The lyrics were written by Josef Mohr, the assistant priest at St. Nicholas Church in Oberndorf, Germany. With an organ in need of repair, Mohr turned to Franz Gruber, a then school teacher to arrange the song to be played on the guitar at Midnight Mass. This unlikely friendship, much like the humble beginnings of the Christ Child, led to the creation of one of the most famous Christmas carols in all of history.

This Christmas I invite you to celebrate both the joys—and embrace the sorrows—of the season, as we rejoice in the birth of Christ as the salvation for all humanity. Merry Christmas!

—Maria Manzo

**Happy 91st Birthday
Constance O’Toole
December 29**

**RMD
for 2021?**

If you are at least 70½ years of age and are required to take a minimum distribution from your IRA, you can donate part or all of that distribution to The Madeleine, tax free! For information, contact parish Business Manager, John Garrow, 503-281-5777 or jgarrow@themadeleine.edu



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