

The Solemnity Of The Epiphany Of The Lord

January 7, 2024

Mass Intentions

January	8	8:00 AM	Mary Requena requested by John & Mary Blair
January	9	8:00 AM	Sara Zettlemoyer requested by Madeline & Rich Rogers
January	10	8:00 AM	John Cover requested by Dave & Patty Suydam
January	11	8:00 AM	Lena Golden requested by Pat Harshberger
January	12	8:00 AM	Mike Landis requested by Pat & Kathy Raugh
January	13	5:00 PM	David Raugh requested by The Raugh Family
January	14	8:00 AM	Bernadette Ward requested by Frances Pugh
		10:30 AM	People Of The Parish

Liturgical Ministries January 13-14

	Lectors	Extraordinary Ministers	Servers
5:00 PM	Joe DeFrancesco	Mary Zimmerman	Dave Suydam
8:00 AM	Jory Harlan	Pat Pray	Julia & Anna Sheaffer Christopher Harlan
10:30 AM	Kathy Dubois	Mark Ticehurst	The Robinson Family Jacob Innerst

Schmidt Center Cleaning

January 7

The Raugh Family

January 14

Jim DiPofi & Tonya Sands

Next Sunday's Readings

Please prepare for Mass and the Homily by reflecting on these texts from the Sacred Scriptures

1 Samuel 3:3b-10, 19

1 Corinthians 6:13c-15a, 17-20

John 1:35-42

Christian Stewardship

Last Sunday's Collection amounted to: \$3,502.00

The Collection on this date one year ago amounted to: \$4,711.00

The December Parish Contingency amounted to: \$1,325.00

May God Bless you for your generous and responsible stewardship!!!

Church Calendar

Sunday, January 7th (Epiphany of the Lord)

Confessions, 7:00-7:45AM

Masses, 8:00 and 10:30AM

CCD, 9:15-10:15AM

Monday, January 8th

Mass, 8:00 AM

Tuesday, January 9th

Mass, 8:00AM

Wednesday, January 10th

Mass, 8:00AM

Prayer Group, 8:30AM

Thursday, January 11th

Mass, 8:00AM

Friday, January 12th

Mass, 8:00AM

Saturday, January 13th

Confessions, 4:00-4:45PM

Mass, 5:00 PM

Sunday, January 14th

Confessions, 7:00-7:45AM

Masses, 8:00AM and 10:30AM

CCD, 9:15-10:15AM

**“Lord, every nation on earth
will adore you.”**

From the Pastor's Desk:

It's interesting how an event can be interpreted by different people. God's revelation of himself in the birth of the child Jesus is clearly one such event.



The Magi, Gentiles from the east, had heard of this “newborn king of the Jews” and undertook a long and arduous journey to see him and offer him homage. They were edified and eager in their search. Herod, himself a king – of the Jews – did not have the same reaction. The very

thought of this “newborn king” threatened him and filled him with rage and suspicion. In this moment in human history, the manifestation of Christ to the Gentiles (i.e., the Epiphany) unveils the truth of God's redemptive work for all of creation to be reconciled to himself. This truth has

been accepted and rejected throughout time, and our celebration of this feast gives us an opportunity to give thanks in a focused and particular way for our acceptance of it – to give thanks for the gift of our faith. Perhaps it is even a moment for us to have our own, colloquial epiphany: an “aha moment,” where we once again truly understand the depth of God's love for us.

The Magi, the Gentiles from the east, were changed after their encounter with the Christ Child; they were warned not to return to Herod and they obeyed and took a different route home. In today's second reading, St. Paul says it has been revealed that Gentiles are “coheirs, members of the same body” – the body of Christ. Just as the magi were forever changed by their journey, so must we be. Their journey is a model for us, but we do not have to seek Christ in the world as they did; he is here with us, in Word and in the Eucharist. The Incarnation of Jesus is pure gift to our weary, troubled world. As we heard in Isaiah, “rise up! ... [our] light has come, the glory of the Lord shines upon [us].” As the Magi followed the light of the star, let us rise to the occasion and respond to God's light in our world by recognizing the good gifts God gives us each day. And then thank him for his enduring presence in our lives.

O God, Who on this day did reveal Your only-begotten Son to the gentiles by the guidance of a star; mercifully grant that we may one day be brought to the contemplation of the beauty of Your Majesty in heaven. Amen.

Remember the Sick of our Parish in your charity and prayers: John Kapp, Rosemary Anderson, Cathy Steiner, Marietta McQuaid, Marie Dishman, Suzanne Matunis, Jeanette Fasick, Pat Widdowson, Kay Dorundo, Mike Brennan, Gene Odat, Annetta Round, Marian Shatto, Joann Speis, Joni Lawrence, Shirley Scotta, and all the long-suffering in our community and at Perry Village.

Deacon Robinson's Contact Information: You may contact Deacon Robinson at his cell phone (602-6298) or through his email: dcnrobin@ptd.net.

Online Information: You can access the weekly bulletin and information at our parish website at www.stbernardsnbpa.org.

Parish Contribution Statements for your church offerings will be available in early January. If you would like to have a statement emailed to you, please contact the parish office (info@stbernardsnbpa.org) and request one. Paper statements will also be available upon request.

Parish Pastoral Council: Our Parish Pastoral Council will next meet on Monday, March 11th at 7:00PM in the Parish Hall. If you have any recommendations for Council, please call Bill Davies (717-582-0191) to include them on the agenda.

Update Your Parish: If your address, email, or telephone numbers have changed in the past few months, could you please call the parish office and update your records. This is important so our records are correct when we try to contact you! Also, please contact the parish office if you are going into the hospital, so a pastoral visit can be made.

Epiphany Home Blessings are available in the narthex. These blessings are affixed to the top of your front door after asking God to bless your home in the New Year so you may welcome all guests as if they were Christ. May all visitors find in your home the warmth and friendship characteristic of Christian homes! This tradition started in Germany where children at each house would paint the letters "20+C+M+B+24" above the door frame which are for the Latin *Christus Mansionem Benedicat* (Christ bless this house). At the same time the letters are the first letters of the names of the wise men: Caspar, Melchior and Balthazar.



Are you a star gazer? Where are you seeking your guidance? Is it in the horoscope section of the paper? Perhaps you go to your counselor every week? Or maybe it's the bartender at the lounge where you stop after work. Matthew 2: 1-12 tells the story of three men who followed their star. When they saw the star, they dropped everything and followed it. As a result, they found



the place at the manger of Jesus they had been seeking all their lives, and returned home with new hearts. God gives each of us a "star" as well, if only we can recognize it. This week, this year, step back from the false guides around you and see His star clearly once more. In its shining light of love and faith, we can find the contentment we've been seeking.

Thank you, fellow Parishioners: The Parish is indebted to the many parishioners who helped clean and decorate the Church for the Christmas holidays. So often we do not think about the work and the hours that must be expended to make our parish home a beautiful place to worship and pray. May God bless and reward them for all they do for our parish family!

Eucharistic Reflection: "The Church in the course of centuries has introduced various forms of the Blessed Sacrament publicly exposed. To be stressed is that this is not a merely passing devotional practice. It is founded on



divinely revealed truth." "This practice of adoration is based on strong and solid reasons. For the Eucharist is at once a sacrifice and a sacrament; but It differs from the other sacraments in that they only Author of Grace Himself." (Venerable Pope Pius XII)

Thank You: I am most grateful to the many parishioners who sent cards, notes, cookies, candy, and gifts to celebrate Christmas. Your generosity is a true mark of your Christian spirit and I am most grateful for your thoughtfulness and kindness.

O God, Who on this day did reveal Your only-begotten Son to the gentiles by the guidance of a star; mercifully grant that we may one day be brought to the contemplation of the beauty of Your Majesty in heaven. Amen.

"We saw His star at its rising and have come to do Him homage."