

The Solemnity Of The Epiphany Of The Lord

January 5, 2025

Mass Intentions

January	6	8:00 AM	NO MASS
January	7	8:00 AM	I/O Gerald Kupris requested by The Fordyce Family
January	8	8:00 AM	I/O Henry & Emily Robinson requested by Deacon Robinson
January	9	8:00 AM	I/O Monsignor Hugh Overbaugh
January	10	8:00 AM	Josephine A. King
January	11	5:00 PM	Pete Staub requested by Emma Kazor
January	12	8:00 AM	Kenneth Biggie requested by Ron & Kay Utzig
		10:30 AM	People Of The Parish

Liturgical Ministries January 11-12

	Lectors	Extraordinary Ministers	Servers
5:00 PM	Joe DeFrancesco	Mary Zimmerman	Terry Meek
8:00 AM	Erin Jenkins	Scott Dunkelberger	Joseph Morrison Helena Krieger
10:30 AM	Julie Richelderfer	Rose Wheatley	The Robinson Family

Schmidt Center Cleaning

January 12	The Raugh Family
January 19	Tonya Sands

Next Sunday's Readings

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

Isaiah 42:1-4, 6-7

Acts 10:34-38

Luke 3:15-16, 21-22

Christian Stewardship

Last Sunday's Collection amounted to: \$4,111.00

The Collection on this date one year ago amounted to: \$3,302.00

The Christmas Collection amounted to: \$6,934.00

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

Church Calendar

Sunday, January 5th (Epiphany of the Lord)

Confessions, 7:00-7:45AM

Masses, 8:00 and 10:30AM

CCD, 9:15-10:15AM

Monday, January 6th

NO MASS

Tuesday, January 7th

Mass, 8:00AM

Wednesday, January 8th

Mass, 8:00AM

Thursday, January 9th

Mass, 8:00AM

Friday, January 10th

Mass, 8:00AM

Saturday, January 11th

Confessions, 4:00-4:45PM

Sunday Vigil Mass, 5:00PM

Sunday, January 12th (The Baptism of the Lord)

Confessions, 7:00-7:45AM

Masses, 8:00 and 10:30AM

CCD, 9:15-10:15AM

**“WHEN THEY SAW THE STAR,
THEY REJOICED WITH
EXCEEDING GREAT JOY.”**

From the Pastor's Desk:

Deeply fatigued from their perilous journey, the three wise men must have been filled with doubt and hope in equal measure, wondering if the star would truly lead them to the promised King. “Is this really worth it?” they may have questioned. “Will we ever meet this child?” And then, in a single gaze, Christ broke into the world of humanity. In this perfect encounter with the Son of God, the wise men “prostrated themselves” and “opened their treasures” before him – in all his glory and all his innocence. We, on our earthly pilgrimage, may relate to feeling exhausted, full of both hope and heartache, as we wait and wonder where we will meet Jesus. Today, remember, he is here, among us. Waiting for our presence, waiting for our heart. Like today’s Scripture from Isaiah, the Magi must have experienced their hearts throbbing and overflowing with wonder and awe at the sight of their long-awaited King.

“Your light has come!” What thrilling words these must have been, proclaimed to a world that had been shrouded in darkness, eagerly – desperately – waiting for their God to save them.

And not only has their light come; with it came a promise that this light would guide all nations. Yet this invitation to light, to freedom, also comes with a great responsibility. This light that came into the world isn’t just for us to follow; it is also for us to reflect to others. In today’s world, this may not involve leading flocks of sheep or strumming a 10-stringed lyre, but it does call us to live as radiant witnesses of Christ’s love, always singing his praise! Perhaps this means living joyfully despite our suffering. Maybe it looks like practicing generosity, when we feel like we have little left to give or remaining hopeful in a bleak situation. We are called to praise at all times, but it takes different forms in the different seasons of our life. Whatever season we find ourselves in, let us, like the Magi, seek the King, trusting in his promise and following his light.

Consider areas in your life where the Child Jesus is waiting to break in. Where does he long to heal you, comfort you, and bring you peace? Like the wise men, we are on a pilgrimage filled with hope – and at times, fear and restlessness. On this great feast, let us offer Jesus our treasure – our hearts – and, in return, he will give us the greatest gift of all: himself.

Remember the Sick of our Parish in your charity and prayers: Cathy Steiner, Marietta McQuaid, Marie Dishman, Suzanne Matunis, Pat Widdowson, Kay Dorundo, Gene Odato, Annetta Round, Joann Speis, Joni Lawrence, Shirley Scotta, Samantha Strazisar, Ellen White, Tara Smith, Dennis Haag, Louise Kline, Frances Kute, and all the long-suffering in our community and at Perry Village.

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

Deacon Robinson's Contact Information: Contact Deacon Robinson at his cell phone (602-6298) or deacon.robinson@analogypologetics.com.

Parish Contribution Statement for your church contributions 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, January 20th at 7:00PM in the Parish Hall. If you have any commendations/recommendations for Council, please call Bill Davies (717-582-0191) to include them on the agenda.

Parish Calendars for 2025 are available in the narthex. These calendars are complementary from Melpenzi Funeral Home, Mechanicsburg.

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 produce grace, but the Holy Eucharist contains in a permanent manner the 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.

Blood Drive Thank You! "Thank you very much to those who supported the American Red Cross Blood Drive on December 20th sponsored by our Perry County Commissioners honoring Gene Odatto. Both the turnout and blood collection were very high – and many people who require blood products/transfusions will be helped. "Bear one another's burdens and so fulfill the law of Christ." Galatians 6:2 (s/Kathy and Gene Odatto)

The light of faith will lead you to discover Jesus,
the Savior of the world."