

SCRIPTURE READINGS

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD



First Reading: Isaiah 60:1-6

Isaiah rejoices over the light and glory that will shine upon Jerusalem. He describes how the wealth of nations will be brought to Jerusalem, and travelers will arrive bearing gifts and praising God.

Second Reading: Ephesians 3:2-3a, 5-6

Paul explains to the Ephesians that the Gentiles are now co-heirs with the Jews. Through Jesus, they became members of the same body. Therefore, they would receive everything God had promised the Jewish converts if they followed Christ's teachings.

Gospel: Matthew 2:1-12

Astrologers from the east came looking for the newborn king of the Jews, which greatly disturbed King Herod. Herod wanted to kill Jesus, and asked the astrologers to return and tell him where Jesus was. The astrologers found Jesus and brought him gifts, but received a message in a dream telling them not to return to Herod.



For the Week of January 6th through
January 12th

Sunday

Is 60:1-6; Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6; Mt 2:1-12

Monday

1 Jn 3:22—4:6; Mk 4:12-17, 23-35

Tuesday

1 Jn 4:7-10; Mk 6:34-44

Wednesday

1 Jn 4:11-18; Mk 6:45-52

Thursday

1 Jn 4:19—5:4; Lk 4:14-22

Friday

1 Jn 5:5-13; Lk 5:12-16

Saturday

1 Jn 5:14-21; Jn 3:22-30



The US Council of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) provides a full listing of the Sunday and Daily Readings, in print and audio format, on its website, <http://www.usccb.org/bible/readings>.

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, January 5th

4:00 p.m.

Doris Moloney

Sunday, January 6th

8:00 a.m.

10:00 a.m.

Julia Marie Ortman

Monday, January 7th

8:30 a.m.

Frances Rouchard Feihe

Tuesday, January 8th

8:30 a.m.

John Easter

Wednesday January 9th

8:30 a.m.

Mass for Our Parishioners
Living and Deceased

Thursday, January 10th

9:00 a.m.

Communion Service

Friday, January 11th

8:30 a.m.

Communion Service

Saturday, January 12th

4:00 p.m.

Roger Cole

Sunday, January 13th

8:00 a.m.

10:00 a.m.

Mary Vukich Shearer and
Peter Vukich



REMEMBERING THE SICK OF THE PARISH:

Remember
in your prayers the sick of the
parish:

*John Troffo, Valerie
Lindyberg, Patricia Dana,
Elizabeth Montague, Angela
Wilmer, Faith King, Rosemary*

*Keating, Eugenia Brooks, Mary Ann Abeska, Alicia
Bourne, and all those whose names appear in the*

PARISH BOOK OF INTENTIONS.

NEW TO THE PARISH: Please be sure to register with the Parish Office and introduce yourself to Father Grasing after Mass.

Registration forms are available at the doors of the Church, the Parish Office, or online. For additional information, please call 410-778-3160, or go to sacredparish.org.



PREP

Parish Religious Education Program



Bringing the Gospel Home

Solemnity of the Epiphany – Matthew 2:1-12

Gospel Summary

The Magi from the east arrived in Jerusalem, asking the whereabouts of the newborn king of the Jews. Herod was troubled by this news of the birth, as was all of Jerusalem. He sent the Magi to Bethlehem to search for the child, asking that they bring the child to him so that he could do the child homage. The Magi set out and followed the star to the place where the child was. They did the child homage and offered him their gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. But they were warned in a dream not to return to Herod, and they left for their country by a different route.

Reflection for Parents

This Gospel narrative is full of adventure, danger, mystery, and yes—gifts! During this Christmas season, enjoy dramatizing this Gospel as a family. Then think about how far you would travel, how far you would go to pay homage to Jesus. Would you go as far as your parish to receive the Sacraments or to spend some time in quiet prayer? Would you go as far as the soup kitchen to serve a meal to the hungry? Would you go as far as to tell someone to stop bullying a classmate or a coworker? Would you go as far as to give up a morning cup of coffee or a favorite treat in order to give to someone in need the gift of food or clothing or the necessities of life? How far would you go? What would you give as your gifts to the King?

Bringing the Good News Into Your Family

The star led the Magi to the place where Jesus was. With your family, cut out several yellow construction paper stars. On each star write either a way you can find Jesus—such as “read God’s Word”—or the name of a person who has helped you find Jesus, such as “Grandma Joan.” Create a mobile of your stars using coat hangers and yarn or string. Hang your stars in a place where all family members will see them.

Discussion Starters

1. I can be like a star and show Jesus to others by . . .
2. The greatest gift I can give Jesus is . . .
3. The greatest gift our family can give Jesus is . . .

PARENTING POINTERS: January 6 is the Feast of the Epiphany when Christians celebrate the 3 kings, who had been following a star and found the baby, Jesus. Celebrate this with your children by simply walking outside and marvel at the stars. Seek to understand the mystery of the universe.

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DID YOU KNOW.....

that our Parish Religious Education Program is now called *Households of Faith*? This family centered approach to catechesis emphasizes the role of the family in sharing our Catholic faith with others, particularly our children. The goal of family catechesis is to provide parents with the tools and information needed to live the faith more fully within the “domestic church” - the home. The household is the place where our faith is lived daily, and so is the natural place for handing on our cherished beliefs and traditions.

Well, this opportunity for learning more about our Lord and His Church is too good to limit to only parents of young children. Whether you are a household of one, or a household of many, you are invited to join us on the second Sunday of each month to grow in faith and knowledge!

Households of Faith begins at 11:00 a.m. with a light meal followed by age appropriate faith formation sessions. Children’s groups are led by our dedicated catechists while adults and older students remain in the Hall. This year our focus is on the Sacraments. Thus far we have discussed Baptism, Marriage and Holy Orders. Our January 13th gathering will be facilitated by Ed Gordon, a fellow parishioner who was previously the Director of Religious Education for the Diocese of Wilmington. Our topic is the Sacrament of Confirmation.

So you think you know what Confirmation is all about??
Join us on January 13th and see!



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“We saw his star at its rising and have come to do him homage.”

Sheepish Question:

What personal and spiritual gifts can I offer as Christ’s light?

PARISH NEWS

Offertory – Week Ending December 23rd - Week 26

Thank you for your offering. It is with your continued support and the sharing of your time and talent that the ministries, programs and activities at Sacred Heart and St. John's are made possible. "Whatever you give to the Lord, He will return to you a hundred fold."

	Received	ACH	Budgeted	Diff.
Offertory 12/23 Wk. 25	\$4,692	\$500	\$6,346	-\$1,154
YTD Wk. 23	\$127,834	\$30,983	\$164,996	-\$6,179

COLLECTING WINTER OUTER WEAR: The Chestertown food pantry is currently collecting gently used winter outerwear – coats, hats, gloves and scarves (no shoes please). We have collection bins in the foyer of Sacred Heart and the front of St. John. Thank you for your generosity.



SAMARITAN GROUP WINTER SHELTER

The Samaritan Group Emergency Winter Shelter is now open at the Chestertown Church of the Nazarene. Volunteers are still needed for evenings (5:30-11:00pm)

and there is a special need for overnight volunteers (11:00pm - 7:00 am). Overnight volunteers are provided with a cot in an area separate from the shelter guests. There is a staff overnight person who remains awake during this time. If you can volunteer for either of these positions, please contact Barbara Harrison at barbara.hrrsn@gmail.com.

If you would like to provide an evening meal for shelter guests, please contact Janet Hilty at ghjh@atlanticbb.net. Meals are delivered ready to serve (bring any needed serving utensils) and you are encouraged to share the meal and conversation with the guests. If you are an early riser, you may choose to be a breakfast volunteer, again by contacting Janet at the address above.

If you have any questions regarding the responsibilities of Shelter Volunteers, please contact Barbara Kelly at barbara.kelly.dre@gmail.com.

"The life of Jesus is a life for others. It is a life of service." Pope Francis, World Youth Day, 2013

MAY THE ANGELS LEAD THEM INTO PARADISE: Please remember in your prayers Pamela Prue and Thomas McGlenn, and our deceased parishioners, loved ones, and benefactors. Grant them eternal rest, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them.

SAINTS OF JANUARY

January 7 – Raymond of Penyafort

Raymond was born near Barcelona, Spain, in 1175. He was such a gifted student that he was already teaching philosophy at the university by the time he was 20. He went on to earn degrees in both Church and civil law. After hearing the homilies of a Dominican preacher, he decided to join the Dominican order and made his vows in 1222.



Pope Gregory IX gave him an important assignment in Rome. The pope asked him to organize all the Church laws from the popes and bishops. This had not been done in more than 80 years. He compiled all these laws into five books called the Decretals. It was such an excellent collection that another organization of Church law did not have to be done for almost 800 years.

Although he was very interested in laws and how they work, he cared most about bringing Christ to people who had never heard his message of love and salvation. Raymond had always secretly dreamed of being a missionary, but was given other responsibilities in life. Still, he encouraged missionaries to learn the languages of the people they were working to convert. He prayed daily for the conversion of the Turks, pagan warriors who were very powerful in Raymond's time.

Raymond had a very full life and lived to be 100 years old. He died in 1275, and our Church has honored him as a saint since 1601. He is a patron saint of lawyers.

ELECTRONIC GIVING: It is possible to make your weekly financial commitment to the Parish using Electronic Funds Transfer. We are encouraging everyone to consider using this contribution method. Contact Mary Jo Frohlich with any questions at 410-778-3160, or mfrohlich@sacredparish.org. Sign up forms are available at the doors of the Church.

