

JANUARY 8, 2012: THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD



They were overjoyed at seeing the star, and on entering the house they saw the child with Mary his mother. They prostrated themselves and did him homage. Then they opened their treasures and offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. — Mt 2:10-11
 Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD

LITURGY

MASS INTENTIONS & READINGS

Sunday, January 8, *The Epiphany of the Lord* (Is 60:1-6/Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6/Mt 2:1-12)

8:00 am- Dorothy, Ervin, Evelyn & Bonnie Grahmann
 10:30 am- For our Parish Family

Monday, January 9, *The Baptism of the Lord* (Is 42:1-4, 6-7 or Is 55:1-11 or Acts 10:34-38 or 1 Jn 5:1-9/Mk 1:7-11)

7:00 am- Grace Liska
 10:00 am- Lucille Etzler, Benefactor (H'ville Rehab)

Tuesday, January 10 (1 Sm 1:9-20/Mk 1:21-28 or 1 Sm 1:1-8 and 1:9-20/Mk 1:14-20 and 1:21-28)

7:00 am- Jim, Willie Mae & Jimmy Kahanek

Wednesday, January 11 (1 Sm 3:1-10, 19-20/Mk 1:29-39)

7:00 am- Deceased members of John & Annie Polasek Family
 8:05 am- Willard Hagendorf

Thursday, January 12 (1 Sm 4:1-11/Mk 1:40-45)

7:00 am- Special Intention
 10:00 am- Stanley Kutac (Stevens)

Friday, January 13, *St. Hilary, Bishop & Doctor of the Church* (1 Sm 8:4-7, 10-22a/Mk 2:1-12)

7:00 am- Tommy Najvar
 8:05 am- Mary Ann Koenig

Saturday, January 14 (1 Sm 9:1-4, 17-19; 10:1/Mk 2:13-17)

5:30 pm- Janie, Stasie & Rudy Billimek; Otilia & Jim Zissa

Sunday, January 15 (1 Sm 3:3b-10, 19/1 Cor 6:13c-15a, 17-20/Jn 1:35-42)

8:00 am- John & Lucille Jalufka; Ben Huser
 10:30 am- For our Parish Family

Bulletin Sponsor: Living & deceased members of the Neskora & Hermes Families.

Radio Broadcast Sponsor: Dennis & Gerardette Haas.

Vigil Light: Living & deceased members of Neskora & Hermes Families.

Our Gift to God: Envelopes-\$5,491.50; Christmas-\$1,340; Solemnity of Mary-\$1,646; Initial Offering-\$443; Church Endowment-\$10; School Endowment-\$20; Loose-\$1,580; Children's-\$40; Building Repair Fund-\$692.

Anniversaries:

James & Sally Kolos	40 years	Jan. 8
Frank & Betty Teltschik	68 years	Jan. 11

December Baptisms: Konnor James, son of Kevin & Kelly Henke Chance; and, Shaylee Mae, daughter of Eric Van Howten and Ashley Christen.

Please pray for the repose of the souls of *Annie Henke & Frank Matula* of our parish family; and, *Sidney Berger*, brother of Linda Pavliska. *May they and all the faithful departed rest in the peace of Christ.*

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

MONDAY, JANUARY 9

- SHCS Blood Drive, 10:30am-6:00pm, Gym Parking Lot.
- Rosary & evening prayer, 5:30 p.m., church.
- Safe Environment Training, 6:00 p.m., Family Center.
- KJZT meeting, 6:30 p.m., Mary's House.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 10

- Quilting Circle, 9:00 a.m., KC Hall of Fame Room.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 11

- CCD: K-12th Grade, 6:00-7:15 p.m.
- English Class, 6:00-7:15 p.m., Family Center.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 15

- Novena for Life, 7:00-8:00 p.m., Church.

Among our sick: Edna Key, Frank Fishar, Faith Del Castillo, Michael Gerdes, Renae Ross, Hubert & Mary Grahmann, Doug Blumberg, Dan & Danielle Grady, Rose Thumann, Dr. Michael Moore, Bill Gohlke, Sterlin Ritchie, Ed Aulick, Ricky Skelton, Larry Appelt, Victor Pavliska, Anita Bohuslav, Anita Kallus, Daniel Wick, Josephine Janak, Paul Najvar, Irene Bordovsky, Betty Hemmi, Milissa Zamora, Rhonda Janak, Larry Korenek, Red Kahanek, Emily Dworsky, Theresa (Alvin) Steffek, Bobby Pavliska, Liz Woytek, Hank & Marion Morris, Angela Hermes, Bohumir Pustejovsky, Chris Layton, Wade Amsden, Vernell Bozka, Denise DeBord, nursing home residents & home-bound.

Safe Environment Training, Monday, January 9, 6:00 p.m., Family Center. To register, call Donna Shimek 798-4501 or email shimekdk@hotmail.com.

Bulletin (\$80) & Radio Broadcast (\$50) Sponsors are needed! If you are able to sponsor one or both, please come by the Rectory at your earliest opportunity.

Single Catholic women (18-50 years of age) are invited to attend a "Come and See" weekend at Incarnate Word Convent, Victoria on Jan. 21-22. Please check us out at www.iwbsvictoria.org or call 575-7111 for more details or to make a reservation.

Life in the Spirit Seminar, January 28, Incarnate Word Convent, Victoria, 9am-5pm, followed by healing Mass at 6pm. Fr. Joseph Lam Nguyen, noted celebrant & speaker, will be the presenter. Registration deadline Jan. 21. Call Sr. Louise Marie 575-7111 or Paula Gauna 575-7120.



PRAYER FOR RAIN – *Almighty God, we are in need of rain. We realize now, looking up into the clear, blue sky, what a marvel even the least drop of rain really is. To think that so much water can fall out of the sky, which now is empty and clear! We place our trust in You. We are sure that You know our needs. But You want us to ask You anyway, to show You that we know we are dependent on You. Look on our dry hills and fields, dear God, and bless them with the living blessing of soft rain. Then the land will rejoice, and the rivers will sing Your praises, and the hearts of men will be made glad. Amen.*

From the Desk of Father John

This week, January 8th-12th, Fr. Tommy will be on the Annual Priest Retreat at the Spiritual Renewal Center in Victoria. Fr. John will be on retreat the following week.

Today, January 8th, we celebrate the 6th Anniversary of the Adoration Chapel. We have been blessed to have the Blessed Sacrament exposed every week from Sunday evening at 6:00 p.m. until Friday evening at 6:00 p.m. We have been able to do this because of so many people who have committed themselves to spending one hour a week with Our Lord in this special way. Adoration has been such a blessing to the individuals participating, to the church and to the community.

Even though we have a great number of people involved, we still need more to replace the ones who have died and those who are ill. If you are not yet involved as a regular adorer or as a substitute, please call Charlene Bradbury at 798-3224 for more information.

Epiphany House Blessing. Using blessed chalk, mark the current year and the initials of the Magi above the outside doorways to your home. Place a cross in between each of the letters. It should look something like this:

20+C+M+B+12

After completing the markings, pray the following prayer: *May all who come to our home this year rejoice to find Christ living among us; and, may we seek and serve, in everyone we meet, that same Jesus Who is Lord of all people forever and ever. Amen.*

The legendary names of the three Magi are: **Caspar, Melchior, and Balthasar.** The initials C-M-B also stand for the Latin words "Christus Mansionem Benedicat," which means "*May Christ bless this dwelling.*"

The markings over the doors should be left all year round as a sign that yours is a Christian home.

Ordinary Time begins on Tuesday, January 10th, and continues through Tuesday, February 21st, the day before Ash Wednesday and the beginning of the Lenten season. It will resume when the Easter season ends, that is, on Monday, May 28th, the day following Pentecost.

**Sacred Heart Catholic School News
Office 798-4251**

Jan 9: Student Council Blood Drive, 10:30 am–6:00 pm.
School Advisory Council Meeting, 6:00 p.m., Teacher's Work Room.

Jan 11: Booster club meeting, 7:30 p.m., KC Hall.

Jan 16: Classes dismissed. Faculty retreat.

Jan 18: Spaghetti Supper, 5:00-7:00 p.m., KC Hall.
Tickets available from any SHCS student.

Jan 29-Feb 3: Catholic Schools week.

Extravaganza – Feb. 4: Social, dinner & dance (music provided by "Cactus Country"). Tickets \$125 per couple & available at Sacred Heart Credit Union, School Office & Rectory.

Religious Education (CCD) -- Office 798-3124

Angela McConnell, Coordinator

Jan 8: 4th Grade youth involvement at 8:00 a.m. Mass.

Jan. 28: First Penance practice, 9:00 a.m. in church.

Jan. 29: First Penance, 2:00 p.m. in church.

Epiphany of the Lord – The prophet Isaiah returns one more time in this Christmas season, now on the feast of the Epiphany. In the final chapters of Isaiah (chapters 56-66), the prophet is proclaiming God's word to the Israelites who have returned to Jerusalem after the Exile in Babylon. What at first was a joyful return, has turned inward. Those who have taken up positions of power after returning to Jerusalem have marginalized even the Israelites who remained in the land during the Babylonian Captivity, not to mention the people of other nations whose defeat of Babylon actually facilitated Israel's restoration. In response, Isaiah proclaims that God's salvation is for all. Every nation will stream to Jerusalem to worship the Lord.

Isaiah's message is reflected in Matthew's Gospel as he tells the story of the birth of Jesus. Christ comes for everyone! The followers of Christ in Matthew's community are not only the Jews who became Christians, but also the Gentiles who came to believe that Jesus was the Messiah. In Matthew's Gospel this latter group is represented by the Magi, who come from afar, while the Jewish Christians, who believe in God's word, are represented by Joseph, the faithful spouse of Mary.

While the Epiphany is a great and joyous feast, it



contains a cautionary message as well. God's salvation is for everyone. That means that no one can be excluded from the invitation to follow Christ. And once they choose to

do so, they become our brothers and sisters in the Lord. If that is the case, when we demean, cast aside, or ignore others, we open ourselves to the same condemnation with which Isaiah castigated the powerful in Jerusalem in the sixth century BC. If we add statues of the Magi to our Nativity scene, it also means that we must add the stranger, the foreigner, the person not like us, to our life in Christ. 2011 Liturgical Publications Inc

SACRED HEART CHURCH ENDOWMENT FUND –

In memory of David Kostelnik: Chris Berger, Cyndi Koehne & Theresa Wheeler-\$25; George & Bernadette Kramer-\$20; HISD Class of 1971-\$15; R.L. & Elsie Orsak-\$15; John & Sherry Henke-\$10; Charles & Dorothy Jansky-\$20; Lundy & Sharon Hooten-\$20; Raymond & Virginia Steffek-\$20; Henry & Sandra Kostelnik-\$10; Patsy & Helen Zabransky-\$20; Daniel & Beverly Wagner-\$20; Sonia Menking-\$20; Royce & Joan Dusek-\$20; Chris & Sandra Steffek-\$10; Bubba & Sheryl Barnes-\$25; Don & Barbara Rainosek-\$10; Forrest & Carol Sevcik-\$5; Dennis & Rose Mary Havlik-\$20; Anthony Petru-\$3; Elrose Kalisek-\$10; Melba Bucek-\$20

Financial Report – November, 2011

Church Income:

Sunday Collection	\$ 29,669.71
Other Donations	6,025.23
Family Center Rental	1,070.00
Campaign for Human Development	960.00
Religious Articles	956.95
Interest	16,921.34
Total Church Income	<u>\$ 55,603.23</u>

School Income:

Registration Fees	\$ 100.00
Book Fees	700.00
Field Trip	198.00
Athletic Fees	975.00
Bus Fees	90.00
Student Fees	22.00
Tuition PreK-12 th Grade	59,910.00
Extended Care	2,255.00
Catholic Education Envelopes	2,820.00
Memorials	1,090.00
Shop Donations	40.00
Athletics & Band	4,300.00
Golf Tournament	200.00
Donations	1,387.50
Miscellaneous	459.93
Interest	10,601.00
Total School Income	<u>\$ 85,148.43</u>

Church Expenses:

Salaries	\$ 7,608.15
Utilities	1,782.31
Church Expense	3,368.20
Rectory Expense	733.64
Office Expense	1,544.55
Religious Articles	1,453.08
Building Insurance	1,803.95
Family Center Expense	426.88
Special Collections	960.00
Medical Insurance & Pension	2,943.94
Repairs & Maintenance	692.78
Total Church Expenses	<u>\$ 23,317.48</u>

School Expenses:

Salaries	\$ 87,563.02
Contracted Services	633.15
Office & Teaching Expense	3,151.11
Postage	95.88
Staff Development	493.95
Assessment Fees	155.00
Textbooks & Testing	4,586.50
Library Expenses	66.95
Utilities	6,106.53
Plant Repairs	1,009.85
Bus & Vehicle Expense	4,441.22
Payroll Taxes	6,466.56
Medical Insurance	14,870.40
Retirement	3,650.00
Workers Compensation	3,847.80
Property Insurance	3,274.87

Convent Expense	567.65
Technology	811.81
Marathon Expense	1,541.00
Book Fair Expense	2,131.10
Alumni Expense	430.97
Miscellaneous	241.50
Total Expenses	<u>\$146,136.82</u>
Parish Income	\$140,751.66
Parish Expense	<u>-169,454.30</u>
Parish Deficit	<u>\$(28,702.64)</u>

SACRED HEART CHURCH CEMETERY FUND –

In memory of David Kostelnik: Victor & Lucille Vasek-\$10. **In memory of June Janak:** Francine Couch-\$20

SACRED HEART CCD PROGRAM – In memory of David Kostelnik: Patrick & Carol Steffek-\$15.

SACRED HEART CHURCH MUSIC FUND – In memory of David Kostelnik: Soila Sanchez-\$5; Bob Kubena-\$20; Kubena Funeral Home-\$20; Gay O'Neill-\$20. **In memory of Gilbert Butschek & Helen Appelt:** Bob Kubena-\$45

SACRED HEART SCHOOL ENDOWMENT FUND –

In memory of David Kostelnik: Dennis & Cynthia Matula-\$20; Robert & Louise Pesek-\$20; Iris Riske-\$15; Melba Armstrong-\$40; Jimmy & Tammy Greer-\$20; Bob & Carol Franks-\$10.

SACRED HEART SCHOOL OPERATING FUND –

In memory of Joe Matula: Emma Wick-\$10; Dennis & Gerardette Haas-\$20. **In memory of David Kostelnik:** John & Charlene Pillow-\$10; Ervin & Terry Bludau-\$20; James, Kandyace & Allyshia Grahmann-\$20; Gene & Maureen Schott-\$10; Bob & Sally Janak-\$10; Andrew & Jane Pesek-\$20; Daniel & Shirley Steffek-\$15; Andrew & Laurie Janak-\$10; Anthony & Anna Etzler-\$20; Leon & Nancy Etzler-\$10

SACRED HEART SCHOOL CAFETERIA – In memory of David Kostelnik, June Janak & Helen Appelt: Margaret Henneke-\$40

SACRED HEART SCHOOL ATHLETICS – In memory of Helen Appelt, David Kostelnik & June Janak: R. John & Rose Henneke-\$100

DOROTHY HENNEKE SCHOLARSHIP FUND – In memory of Lee Roy Hardcastle: Edwin & MaryAnn Grahmann-\$30; Richard Grahmann-\$5; Roy & Loretta Harcastle-\$50.

JEROME HAAS SCHOLARSHIP FUND – In memory of David Kostelnik, June Janak & Helen Appelt: Georgia Haas-\$30

VICTOR GRAFE SCHOLARSHIP FUND – In memory of Eugene Mucala: Jimmie & Sylvia Steffek-\$20

SACRED HEART EARLY CHILDHOOD & DAY CARE – In memory of Joe Matula: James & Mary Lee Honish-\$10. **In memory of David Kostelnik:** Andy & Mary Chapman-\$20; Troy & Daniel Knox-\$50; Harvey & Vivian Janak-\$10.

The Word of God This Week

Set time aside each day this week with other members of your household, with other members of your parish or alone to listen to and reflect on the living Word of God. Use these passages from the Lectionary that are assigned for Liturgy this week. Reflect on how the Lord is inviting you to a deeper union with him.

TODAY**

Isaiah 60:1–6
Ephesians 3:2–3A, 5–6
Matthew 2:1–12

MONDAY* ***

Mark 1:7–11

"The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me"

TUESDAY

Mark 1:14–28

"... the kingdom of God has come near."

WEDNESDAY

Mark 1:29–39

"Let us ... proclaim the message ... for that is what I came out to do."

THURSDAY

Mark 1:40–45

"Be made clean!"

FRIDAY

Mark 2:2–12

"Son, your sins are forgiven."

SATURDAY

Mark 2:13–17

"Follow me."

*Alternate readings exist for this day.
**Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord
***Feast of the Baptism of the Lord

Jesus, Light to the World



The feast of the Epiphany of the Lord is also sometimes called "Little Christmas." It is an extension of our celebration of the mystery of the Incarnation—the Word made flesh who came to dwell among us.

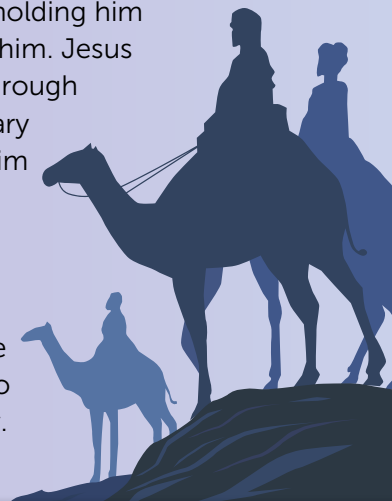
This feast celebrates Jesus' manifestation. The Greek word *epiphania* means precisely a manifestation or a shining out. This is the moment anticipated by the prophet Isaiah who speaks to Jerusalem and announces, "Your light has come, the glory of the Lord shines upon you."

Jesus comes among us as light not only for the people of Israel but for all the nations. And Saint Paul is clear about the universal value of Jesus in the second reading from the letter to the Ephesians. Jesus is light for Jews and Gentiles alike.

The Gospel account of the Epiphany contains two important details for our

own journeys of faith. The first is that Jesus is revealed to those who search for him. The Magi, or wise men from the East, set out on a long and arduous journey guided not only by a star but by a hope of encountering the newborn King of the Jews. Their patient and persevering journey and search becomes a model for our own quest to encounter the Lord.

The second detail has to do with Mary, the Mother of Jesus. Saint Matthew tells us that the Magi saw the child with his mother. She is holding him and presenting him. Jesus is manifested through the hands of Mary who presents him to the world. The Lord's manifestation uses human instruments. We all have a part to play in His story.



The Faith of the Church

The Church believes that Jesus is the light of all humanity, *lumen gentium*, as the opening words of the Second Vatican Council's *Constitution on the Church* indicates. The Church understands its sacred mission and purpose in sharing that light with all people, so that all nations may be one in God. (Cf. the Second Vatican Council *Dogmatic Constitution on the Church*, no. 1).



Questions of the Week

The Epiphany of the Lord was the manifestation of Emmanuel, God-with-us celebrated at Christmas. With the Magi, let us seek the Lord, as well.

Adults

What events and encounters with others have helped revealed to me that I am God's son or daughter?

Children

Have there been times when I have called God "my Father," as Jesus called God his Father?

Responding to God's Word . . .

In today's second reading, Saint Paul speaks of the stewardship of God's grace that was given to him for the sake of the people he serves. In other words, Paul is conscious that an extraordinary responsibility has been entrusted to him. He is aware that God has revealed himself in Jesus Christ and that Jesus is the Savior for all people. At the same time, Paul is aware of his own responsibility to bring this message and, indeed, the very person of Jesus to those entrusted to his care.

We can easily translate Paul's sense of responsibility to our own lives. We

are aware of Jesus, of the healing grace he brings to all humanity, and of the hope he offers everyone.

This awareness is not given to us to safeguard as a private possession. Like Paul, we need to recognize that we are instruments of the manifestation of Jesus to the world.

We do not need to think in dramatic terms. All we need to do is examine the circumstances of our lives, the places of daily living and work, and the faces of those we encounter on a regular basis. In these places and with these people, we can share—in what we say and do—Jesus who is light.



Meditation Moment

Years ago, an artist painted a striking picture, showing a solitary figure rowing a boat at night across an endless sea of water. Off in the distance is a solitary star shining in the night sky. The impression you get as you look at the picture is this: "If that boatman ever loses sight of that star, he's lost." What that painting says about the star, we can say about Jesus: "If we ever lose sight of Jesus, we are lost." Without Jesus the world is lost. Without him, there is not hope. Without him, the human race is lost.

For reflection . . .

How do I see Jesus as the Light in my world?

ADAPTED FROM *ILLUSTRATED HOMILIES* BY MARK LINK, SJ

Let Me Stay on the Journey

Lord, help me
to stay on the journey
in search of you. Help me
when I am tired. Help me when
I've lost my way. Help me when the
destination is not clear. Help me when
discouraging voices crowd out my
hope. Lord, help me to stay on the
journey with the sure knowledge
that you wait for me and are
my final destination.
Amen.

*Carry this thought in your heart
as a guide for your faith journey
this week.*

The Magi found Jesus, the Light of the world and returned home to share the One they found with all those whom they met. Go out and share the One who has brought you into the light.

SUGGESTIONS

Use one of these suggestions or one of your own to respond to God's Word this week.

In the home. At mealtimes this week, introduce grace before meals and pray for the people in different parts of the world.

In the workplace or in school. Take one action that would enhance the dignity of co-workers (or a particular co-worker) or of fellow students.

In the community. Identify in your own reflections and, even better, in conversations with others how the community could be a more just environment for everyone.

Profile in Faith

Father Joseph Champlin

Father Joseph Champlin (died 2008) was a priest of the diocese of Syracuse, New York. He was a prolific writer who produced pastoral materials to help people be light to the world by the way they lived out their baptismal commitment, especially through the sacrament of marriage.

NIHIL OBSTAT
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† Most Reverend Kevin J. Farrell, DD, Bishop of Dallas
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Author: Louis J. Cameli

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