

January 6, 2013: 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

Image is One of the Treasury for Mass, 2010, 119, 119 CCC.

LITURGY

MASS INTENTIONS & READINGS

Sunday, January 6, *The Epiphany of the Lord*

(Is 60:1-6/Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6/Mt 2:1-12)

8:00 am- Joe, Agnes & Frank Leopold
10:30 am- For our Parish Family
5:00 pm- ACTS Mass

Monday, January 7, *St. Raymond of Penyafort, Priest*

(1 Jn 3:22--4:6/Mt 4:12-17, 23-25)

7:00 am- John Lell
10:00 am- Edward, Emilia & Bill Biehunko (Hallettsville Rehab)

Tuesday, January 8 (1 Jn 4:7-10/Mk 6:34-44)

7:00 am- Buster & Anne Hale

Wednesday, January 9 (1 Jn 4:11-18/Mk 6:45-52)

7:00 am- Clement & Julie Trlicek
8:05 am- Manuel, Antonio & Emilia Gomez

Thursday, January 10 (1 Jn 4:19--5:4/Lk 4:14-22a)

7:00 am- Leroy Rybak
10:00 am- Gus & Rosa Werner (Stevens)

Friday, January 11 (1 Jn 5:5-13/Lk 5:12-16)

7:00 am- Grace Ann Liska
8:05 am- Billy Joe Sitka

Saturday, January 12 (1 Jn 5:14-21/Jn 3:22-30)

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

Sunday, January 13, *The Baptism of the Lord* (Is 42:1-4, 6-7/Acts 10:34-38/Lk 3:15-16, 21-22)

8:00 am- For our Parish Family
10:30 am- Living & deceased members of George & Apolena Bujnoch Family

Bulletin Sponsor: Lillian Haas & Family in memory of Frank & Mary Grahmann Haas Family.

Radio Broadcast Sponsor: In memory of Christopher Jares.

Vigil Light: In memory of the Lucario & Cappellano Families.

Our Gift to God: Envelopes-\$12,617.50; Christmas Env.-\$152; Church Endowment-\$330; School Endowment-\$893; Catholic Ed.-\$1,075; Religious Retirement Fund-\$245; Loose- \$1,225; Children-\$50; Solemnity of Mary: Envelopes-\$3,006; Loose-\$940; Children-\$26.

Welcome to the Parish: Leo & Greta Henke, children Leo & Lane.



Please pray for the blessing of rain!

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

SUNDAY, JANUARY 6

-ACTS Social & Meeting after 5 pm Mass, Family Center.

MONDAY, JANUARY 7

-Rosary & Evening Prayers, 5:30 p.m., Church.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 8

-Quilting Circle, 9:00 a.m., K.C. Hall of Fame Room.
-K.C. General Meeting, 7:30 p.m., K.C. Hall.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 9

-CCD: K-12th Grade, 6:00-7:15 p.m.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 12

-First Penance Practice, 9:00 a.m., Church.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 13

-First Penance, 2:00 p.m., Church.

Among our sick: Edna Key, Frank Fishar, Faith Del Castillo, Michael Gerdes, Renae Ross, Doug Blumberg, Rose Thumann, Sterlin Ritchie, Ed Aulick, Ricky Skelton, Larry Appelt, Irene Bordovsky, Milissa Zamora, Rhonda Janak, Chris Layton, Hank Morris, Frances Moore, Frank, Patrick & Robben Nemeck, Geneva Strmiska, Joyce Bucek, Chibana Alfaro, Steve Smith, LaNora Konvicka, Delores Grahmann, Bernice Neskora, Glenn Rabel, Benedict Bujnoch, Lorene Christ, Donna Coldewey, Braxton & Bentley Rother, Donna Avant, Matt Pohler, Wilbert Kalinec, Annette Krupala, Mary Bonorden, Bobbie Lee Drozd, Richard Terry, Richard Staha, Rev. Lundy Hooten, Joyce Pesek Hermes, Josephine Muniz, Franklin Billimek, Dorothy Allen Hass, Gene Valenta-Yoakum, nursing home residents & homebound.

December Baptisms: Haiden Blaze, son of Travis & Heather Wagner Bludau; Zayden Rylee, son of Crescencia Vargas & Bradlee Foley; Emily Kay, daughter of Aaron & Rhonda Smirak Bludau; Lexi Marie, daughter of Alan & Elizabeth Myers Pilat; Lauren Rose, daughter of Edgard & Bernadette Grahmann Martinez; Trevor Blake & Jayden Cierra, children of Travis Gienau & Dawn Howard; Cameron Thomas, son of Kevin & Dawn Howard Krejci.

Adult Religious Education Sign-up. The Spring series for Fr. Tommy's Tuesday night Adult Religious Education classes will be using the Catholicism DVD series by Fr. Robert Barron. Come by the Rectory to sign up for the classes and to order the \$25 workbook. The workbook **must be prepaid**. The **sign-up deadline is January 14**. Classes begin on Tuesday, January 29.

Thank you for your generous gift to Catholic Relief Services. Your donation of \$2,952 provides vital support for CRS' Hurricane Sandy Relief Fund and is essential to our efforts to alleviate human suffering. I am inspired that you have chosen to reach far beyond the bounds of your own community to care for perfect strangers in such great need. On behalf of all those touched by your compassion, I offer my deepest gratitude and wish you an abundance of blessings and joys. Dr. Carolyn Woo, President & CEO

From the Desk of Msgr. John

Today we celebrate the Feast of the Epiphany, the coming of the Three Kings. An old Catholic custom is the blessing of the home at Epiphany, especially the doorways. We can bless ourselves and the rooms of the home with holy water. We use chalk to mark the numerals and letters over doorways. The chalk reminds us of the dust of the earth from which we were made. The numerals consecrate the new year. The initials remind us of the legendary names of the Magi – Caspar, Melchior and Balthasar – and also stand for the Latin motto: *Christus mansionem benedicat* (May God bless the house):

20 + C + M + B + 13

There is a very good Catholic television station called EWTN. It is on our local cable on Channel 64. EWTN has very good Catholic religious programming. It has a variety of instructional programs, daily Masses, the praying of the Rosary, and many inspirational programs. If you haven't watched it before, I would suggest you give it a try.

Religious Education (CCD) –

Jan. 9: CCD classes resume.

Jan. 12: First Penance Practice at 9:00 a.m. in Church.

Jan. 13: 4th Grade youth involvement 8:00 am Mass.



Sacred Heart Catholic School –

Jan. 14: School Advisory Council Meeting, 6:00 p.m.

Jan. 16: H.S.A. Spaghetti Supper plates to go, 5-7 pm, KC Hall

2013-2014 Pre-Kindergarten & Kindergarten early registration, notification – We are in the process of planning for the 2013-14 school year. Please notify the school now if you are planning to enroll a child in Pre-K and/or Kindergarten for next year. Your child must be 4 years old on or before Sept. 1, 2013 for Pre-Kindergarten and 5 years old on or before Sept. 1, 2013 for Kindergarten.

Sacred Heart Youth –

Youth Night! will be on **Sunday, January 20th** and a Eucharistic Procession to pray for the unborn! More details to follow.

Pro-Life Candlelight March set for Jan. 24, 2013. The Life & Family Advocates of Victoria is sponsoring the **Candlelight March for Life** on **Thursday, January 24th**. This is in response to the 40th anniversary of the infamous Supreme Court case of Roe vs. Wade which legalized abortion in our country. This year we will gather in downtown Victoria at DeLeon Plaza at 6:30pm and will begin our march to Our Lady of Sorrows on River and Water Street at 7:00pm. Those who cannot walk can meet at **Our Lady of Sorrows Church**. **A bus will be provided to take people back to their cars.**

For those who attended Fr. Tommy's Adult Ed Class on the Book of Revelation during the Fall and who purchased the binder, but did not pick up the Answer Packet during the last two classes, packets are still available for pick-up at the church office.

Bulletin & radio broadcast sponsors are needed. Please call the Rectory if you are interested in being a sponsor.

“Come and See” Discernment Weekend, January 26-27 at Incarnate Word Convent in Victoria, Texas. If you are interested, please call (361)575-7111 or email iwbsvoc@yahoo.com.

REV. MSGR. JOHN C. PETERS SEMINARY BURSE

In honor of Msgr. John Peters: Bruce & Kelly Schimcek-\$20; Michael & Joyce Brier-\$20; Mark & Karen Janak-\$25; Lily Nilsson-\$50; Bill & Fran Byrd-\$40; Margaret Novak-\$10; Jimmie & Sylvia Steffek-\$50; Dorothy Bujnoch-\$25; Thomas & Charlotte Sitka-\$50; Martha Sitka-\$25; Theresa Pesek-\$25; Marcus & Mava Jalufka & family-\$40; Bruce & Angela McConnell & Joseph-\$250; Gene & Maureen Schott-\$25; Margie Kvinta-\$50; Bill & Mildred Bohlmann-\$100; David & Patsy Fuller-\$25; Marcus & Margie Grahmann-\$50; Vaclav & Helen Motal-\$50; Jack & Mildred Klesel-\$25; Nancy & Leon Etzler-\$50; Anthony & Joan Corte-\$40; Daniel & Beverly Wagner-\$25; Mr. & Mrs. Raymond Dornak-\$20; Willie C. & Mary Migl-\$20; James & Monica Vanek-\$50; Glenn & Mary Ann Janca-\$20; Alton & Bernice Michalcik-\$15; Ervin & Bernice Neskora-\$25; Leroy & Alice Janak-\$30; Crimp & Sammie Grahmann Family-\$25; Henry & Frances Kallus-\$20; Pat & Barbara Pesek-\$50; Frank & JoNell Janecek-\$25; Henry Joe & Marcella Henke-\$50; Alvin Paul & Barbara Grahmann-\$30; Royce & Irene Schulte-\$100. **In memory of Lester Haas:** Willie E. Barborak-\$10. **In memory of Sylvester Janak & Henry Tupa:** Ervin & Bernice Neskora-\$30.

SACRED HEART CHURCH FLOWER FUND –

In honor of Ed & Peggy Scherer's 50th Anniversary: Siegfried & Mary Golsch-\$10.

SACRED HEART SCHOOL ENDOWMENT FUND –

In memory of Tom & Annie Kanak and Oscar & Ella Schulte: Royce & Irene Schulte-\$100

SACRED HEART SCHOOL OPERATING FUND –

In memory of Martha Polach: James Liska Family-\$25

SACRED HEART SCHOOL ATHLETICS FUND –

In memory of Judith Koerth: Ervin & Terry Bludau-\$25

HENRY & ELIZABETH HENKE SCHOLARSHIP FUND –

In memory of Angela Hermes: Henry Joe & Marcella Henke-\$25.

SACRED HEART EARLY CHILDHOOD & DAY

CARE – In memory of Judith Koerth: Bill & Fran Byrd-\$20. **In honor of Bob Pesek's 90th Birthday:**

Bill & Fran Byrd-\$20.

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY – In memory of Marie Holy: D.M. & Linda Ward-\$500



Growing in FAITH™

Discovering **hope and joy** in the Catholic faith.

January 2013

Sacred Heart, St. Mary, St. John and Ascension Churches

Fr. John C. Peters, Pastor

One Minute Meditations

A Christian's job

As followers of Christ, our primary job is to love. "Keep the joy of loving God in your heart and share this joy with all you meet especially your family. Be holy – let us pray." Blessed Teresa of Calcutta

Help Catholics come home

Do you know someone who was baptized Catholic but has stopped attending Mass, is questioning the faith, or hasn't found a parish home? Why not help your friend to come home? Perhaps you can act as a resource or offer to attend Mass together. If you aren't sure how to help, ask your pastor or priest for advice.

January saint

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton is the Year of Faith saint we celebrate in January. A wealthy American, St. Elizabeth became Catholic after her husband died. Despite much personal tragedy, she founded the Sisters of Charity of St. Joseph, a teaching order that established affordable schools.



Grow in love for God this New Year

The more we know God, the more we love him. It naturally follows because of who he is. But we can't love someone we don't know. When making New Year's resolutions, consider adding a plan for deepening your knowledge of God.

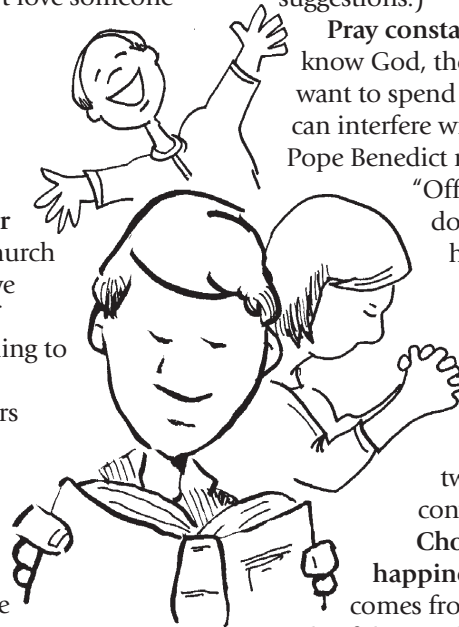
Learn and study our faith. The Catholic Church leads us to God and we have two millennia of inspired Church teaching to help.

For a start, the prayers and readings at Mass remind us of what we know about God. To go deeper, we can turn to the works of many reliable Catholic authors. For example, *The Catholic Way* by Cardinal Donald W. Wuerl, uses easy-to-understand language to explain many

wonderful aspects of our doctrine and practice. (Your pastor may have more suggestions.)

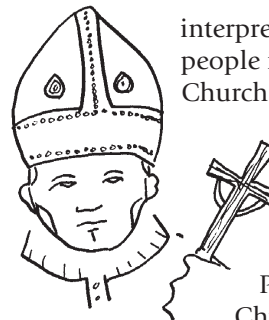
Pray constantly. The better we know God, the more time we will want to spend with him but life can interfere with formal prayer. Pope Benedict recently advised, "Offer everything you do to the Lord, ask his help in all the circumstances of daily life and remember that he is always beside you." Make prayer a constant, two-way conversation with God.

Choose joy over happiness. Happiness comes from pursuing the rewards of this world. Joy is pursuing those of the next. Happiness never lasts. Joy lasts forever but can only come from knowing and loving God.



Why Do Catholics Do That?

In Matthew 16:13-19, Jesus changed Simon's name to Peter ("rock") making him the foundation of the Church. Jesus gave Peter the keys to the kingdom of God on earth and the power of binding and loosing, which in Judaism meant giving him the authority to



Why do Catholics obey the Pope?

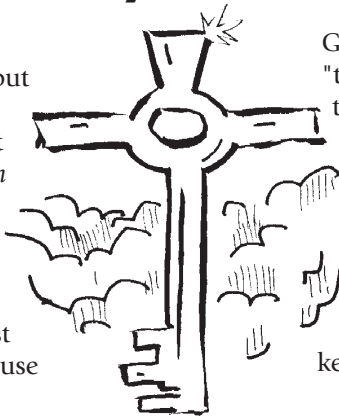
interpret the Scriptures and bring people into communion with the Church. Peter traveled to Rome and became its first bishop. His successors, the popes, receive the same position and authority Peter had as head of the Church.

The keys to holiness

Holiness will help us to get to Heaven and comes when we surrender to God's will and put all of our trust in him.

Courage. During the Sermon on the Mount (Matthew 5), Jesus said, "blessed are the poor in spirit, blessed are they who mourn," and promised that when we turn to God in times of trial, we will be comforted and cared for. Trusting God in difficult times takes courage.

Discipline. Jesus makes it clear that we must apply the correct principles to our habits and use



God's laws as our standards. When he talked about "the meek, the merciful, those who hunger and thirst for righteousness," he was giving us a ruler. We are to measure our behavior against these standards to see if we are on the right path to holiness.

Endurance. Only a true follower of Christ can put the Sermon on the Mount fully into practice. It takes endurance to combine holy inner attitudes with these outward actions and keep it up for life.

from Scripture

Luke 1:1-4, 4:14-21; Jesus teaches in the synagogue

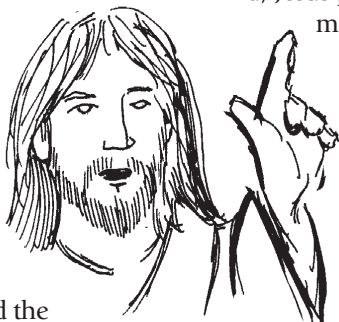
This Gospel tells the beginning of Jesus' teaching in the synagogues of Galilee. It makes several points.

First, Jesus entered the synagogue on the Sabbath according to his custom. He regularly took time to worship, showing us the importance of communal worship.

Second, Jesus read the scriptures, explained their meaning, and finally applied the scripture to a situation. In the process he taught us how to approach the Bible. Some Bible passages can be confusing so explanation is important when we read Scripture. Applying its lessons in our lives

is equally important. Jesus came into the world to bring glad tidings to us.

Third, Jesus provided details of his mission: "to bring glad tidings to the poor...to proclaim liberty to captives, and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, and to announce a year of favor from the Lord."



This passage from Isaiah is a prophecy of the Messiah. When Jesus said, "Today this Scripture passage is fulfilled in your hearing," he confirmed for his listeners that he was the awaited Messiah.

Q & A What is the Liturgy of the Hours?

The Liturgy of the Hours is a public and common prayer of the Church comprised of psalms, scripture texts, canticles, hymns, writings from the works of Church Fathers, and other prayers. Ordained clergy and religious are required to pray the Liturgy of the Hours daily, which has components that are prayed many times throughout the day in order to sanctify it.

In the Middle Ages, monks gathered for prayer seven times a day. The Liturgy of the Hours is based on the prayer formulas used by the monks. "The traditional terms of 'hours,' familiar in the daily breviary, namely, matins, lauds, terce, sext, none, vespers, and compline, have been replaced by with simpler terms under the headings: Office of readings, morning prayer, three daytime prayers, evening pray, and night prayer" (*The Catholic Encyclopedia*).

While the Liturgy of the Hours is obligatory for the ordained, all Catholics are encouraged to participate in one or more of the Hours. Many do morning, evening, or night prayer. Some parishes have community evening prayer.

Our Mission

To provide practical ideas that promote faithful Catholic living.

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(Unless noted Bible quotes and references are from the Revised Standard Version and the New American Bible)



Feasts & Celebrations

In January we celebrate the Holy Name of Jesus. "...at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, of those in heaven and on earth and under the earth" (Philippians 2:10).

January 1 – Solemnity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Mother of God. When we celebrate this feast, we honor Mary, but also Jesus as God. This is a holy day of obligation and Catholics are required to attend Mass.

January 13 – Baptism of Our Lord. Celebrates the baptism of Jesus by his cousin, St. John the Baptist. This also marks the end of the Christmas Season.

January 26 – Sts. Timothy and Titus (1st century). Timothy was a convert of Paul's and later became his trusted friend joining him in apostolic work. He was with Paul at the founding of the Church in Corinth. Titus was also a friend of Paul's who served the early Church as a peacemaker and as administrator to a community on Crete.

