

**Saturday, January 2:**

5:00 p.m. Mass

Sunday, January 3:

9:00 a.m. Mass

11:00 a.m. Mass

Monday, January 4: Elizabeth Ann Seton, religious

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

No Mass today

Tuesday, January 5: John Neumann, bishop

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

No Mass today

Wednesday, January 6: Wednesday after Epiphany, Blessed Andre Bessette, religious

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

8:30 a.m. Mass

Thursday, January 7: Weekday after Epiphany Raymond of Pernafor, priest

1 Jn 4: 19:5:4, Lk 4:14-22

8:30 a.m. Mass

Friday, January 8: Weekday after Epiphany

1 Jn 5: 50:13, Lk 5: 12-16

8:30 a.m. Mass

BAPTISM OF THE LORD

Is 40: 1-5, 9-11, Ti 2: 11-14: 3,4-7, Lk 3: 15-16, 21-22

Saturday, January 9:

5:00 p.m. Mass

Sunday, January 10:

9:00 a.m. Mass

11:00 a.m. Mass

REMINDER:

Parish Council will meet this Thursday, January 7 @ 7:00 pm in the Rectory basement.

TAX CONTRIBUTIONS

Your Church contributions may be tax deductible. If you wish to have a copy of your contributions mailed to you, to be used in preparing your income tax returns for 2009, please call the office @ 673-2346. Please make your request known by January 27, so we can have your tax information by the end of January.

CATHOLIC WEEKLY

Please note the pink envelopes in your Church envelope packets, which are enclosed for a subscription to the Catholic Weekly. Cost for the subscription is \$7.00 for six months. (Your parish pays the remaining amount of the subscription.)

VG'S RECEIPTS

Many thanks to all who are saving their VG's receipts. This is a great help for those who are facing homelessness in our community.

SATURDAY AND SUNDAY, JANUARY 9 & 10**LECTORS:**

5:00 p.m. Mary Knoll
9:00 a.m. Carolyn Graff
11:00 a.m. Renee Wood

MINISTERS OF THE EUCHARIST:

5:00 p.m. Ginny DeRoche*
Irv DeRoche, Karen Cody
Dave & Donna Klebba
9:00 a.m. Rose Putnam*
Bob & Pat Chisholm,
Norm & Jan Daniels
11:00 a.m. Dolly Aymer*
Char Bauerschmidt, Chris Creguer
Rita Papp, Mary Ann Szpunar

ALTAR SERVERS:

5:00 p.m. Alex Rollend, Andrew Rollend
9:00 a.m. Allison Learman, Fischer Smith
11:00 a.m. Nick Bauerschmidt, Alex Phillips

GREETERS:

5:00 p.m. Pat Strozkeski, Jill, Stephanie Brink,
Cheree Szidik, Onna Lee LaPratt
9:00 a.m. Norma & Bob Berry, Joan Smith,
Daniella Babcock, Gloria Orban
11:00 a.m. LaBerge Family, Lanny, LaDonna
LaFave, Jerry, Suzanne Lasceski,
Bernard Lenda

USHERS FOR JANUARY:

5:00 p.m. Dave Kolacz*, Doug Lagos
Mark McKerverey, Dave Luebbert
9:00 a.m. Dave Klebba*, Jason Kappen
Dale Romain, Jim Will
11:00 a.m. Bill Blaylock*, Paul Ellsworth
Jack Generous, Doug Prosser

**Newly Baptized**

We are happy to welcome into our Catholic faith community, Madalyn Grace Kurish and Alexandria Nichole Garza who were baptized at Sacred Heart recently. May the light of the Lord always be their guide.

RCIA

Our next R.C.I.A. class will be held on Wednesday, January 13 @ 7:00 pm in the Parish Center. Please keep in your prayers all those who are attending these classes and preparing to become members of our Catholic faith.

MANY THANKS

Richard Jaster wishes to thank all those who prayed for him and sent cards while he was having health issues. He believes it helped put him back on track.

WE ARE THE FACE OF LOVE ON EARTH

How deeply God loves us, we who are the crown of creation, we who are called to be Jesus in the world! God first sent Jesus and then Jesus sent us. You and I (yes, and the neighbor down the road) are now the face of love in the world. We are God's hands and feet, eyes and ears so that we might offer to others God's listening ear, God's heart of compassion, and God's tender arms wrapped around one in need.

Others who may be feeling estranged from God can feel connected once again through us. Others who may be feeling defeated by life's struggles can find encouragement through us. Others who may be feeling unloved can feel loved once again through us. (From Living Faith)

PARISH SUPPORT

Collection amount for this week not available because of an early bulletin deadline.



“**Epiphany**” means “manifestation” or “appearance.” In Greek mythology, this word describes a time when a god appeared among human beings. Thus, it is appropriate that we use the term for Jesus’ appearance in our world.

Matthew’s Gospel is the only one containing the popular story about the wise men who follow a star to Bethlehem in search of a newborn king. Finding the house where Jesus and his parents are staying, they pay homage and give the child gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. The rich symbolism in this story deserves our close attention.

The Star: Ancient people believed a new star appeared in the sky each time a child was born. Consequently, when they spotted an extra bright star they concluded someone important had been born, someone who would outshine everyone else. This was certainly true of Jesus.

Gold, Frankincense, and Myrrh: A loyal subject who had an audience with the king did not approach him empty handed, but brought gifts to show appreciation for receiving such a great honor. Failing to do so would have been a breach of etiquette. Because a gift should reflect the importance of the person who receives it, only the best and most expensive gifts (like gold, frankincense, and myrrh) were good enough for a king. Gold, the most precious of metals, was especially valuable because it was so rare. Frankincense and myrrh, on the other hand, were perfumes only the rich could afford because merchants had to import them from distant lands.

Bethlehem: Many Jewish people thought the messiah would come from Bethlehem, the city King David came from, because the messiah was to be one of David’s descendants. Like David, the messiah would be a military/political leader who would bring peace and prosperity.

The Wise Men: The words “magi” and “magician” (one who has secret knowledge”) both come from the Greek word *magoi*, a word that originally referred to the educated priestly class in Persia but later described any knowledgeable individual. Because *magoi* had nothing to do with royalty, we shouldn’t call Jesus’ visitors kings, but wise men. Being from the East (areas like Arabia or Mesopotamia), these men were not Jewish. Matthew carefully chose all these symbolic details to tell us Jesus was not just an important individual but was also the messiah-king whom many of the Jews were eagerly awaiting. Including the Gentile visitors may have been Matthew’s way of saying the messiah would be for all people, not just Jews.

FOR REFLECTION: The three wise men gave the best gifts they could possibly give to the child Jesus. If Jesus were born today, what gift would you bring?

†**FAITH FORMATION NEWS†**

Jan. 3-No Faith Formation activities

Jan. 4-Faith Formation classes resume

Jan. 10-Inscription Service @ 9:00 Mass

Jan. 10-No 7/8 grade class today

Jan. 13-Sacramental meeting @ 6:30

Jan. 20-After school social 3:30-5:00

Jan. 21-23-March For Life-Washington D.C.

SUNDAY-BY-SUNDAY meets each Monday, 6:15-7:30 pm in the Parish Center. Join us as we meet to read and discuss the upcoming Sunday readings in an informal way!



IT’S TIME FOR HOCKEY!

Once again our parish is offering tickets for a Saginaw Spirit/Barrie Colts hockey game. It’s fun for people of all ages. **When: Saturday, January 17, 2010. Time: 4:00 pm. Where: Dow Event Center, Saginaw. Why:** To gather as a community of faith. **How:** We order the tickets, and you provide transportation. **Cost:** \$8.50 per ticket. Checks payable to Sacred Heart. For tickets call Karen @ 673-2276. **Note:** It’s a faith day, and Bishop Cistone is the guest speaker!

THE LIGHT OF CHRIST

Your light has come, the glory of the Lord shines upon you. (Isaiah 60:1)

The starlight which the astrologers followed so faithfully was a mere shadow of the Light that awaited them in Bethlehem. The star was brilliant—no doubt about it. But it pointed to a greater Light, a Light beyond all other lights. Cradled in straw, the Christ Child shone in the darkness of the stable, illuminating the very night with his presence. Neither stable nor town nor surrounding hills could contain this Light: its radiance spread across the earth, extending its invitation to everyone, everywhere.

Two thousand years later, this holy Light continues to manifest itself to us, if only we have eyes to see. It guides us and forms us, fills us and sustains us. It scatters all darkness, liberating the oppressed, comforting the afflicted, encouraging the heavy-hearted. This holy Light, this Christ-light, awaits our welcome, our “Amen”. When we embrace its coming, we share in its beauty, reflecting God’s glory.

Come, Light of Christ, rest upon us and dwell in us.

BLESSING OF THE HOUSE FOR EPIPHANY

All make the sign of the Cross.

Head of the Household: Peace be to this house and all who dwell here, in the name of the Lord.

All: *Blessed be God forever.*

Reader: In the beginning was the Word and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came to be through him, and without him nothing came to be.

All: Lord God of heaven and earth, you revealed your only-begotten Son to every nation by the guidance of a star. Bless this house and all who inhabit it.

After the prayer of blessing is recited, each room of the home is sprinkled with holy water. Blessed chalk may be used to inscribe the initials of the Magi (C, M, and B, for Caspar, Melchior, and Balthasar) above the door, separated by crosses and framed by numbers indicating the calendar year. For 2010, the inscription would read as follows: + 20+ C + M + B + 10+.