

JANUARY 3, 2016

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

MONDAY – Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton

8:30 Raymond Witte III req. by Patricia Scanlon
McLaughlin
Thomas Haynes req. by Elise & Thomas Adams
Family

TUESDAY - Saint John Neumann

8:30 James N. Costello req. by Betsy Sutherland

WEDNESDAY – Saint Andre Bessette

8:30 Winnie Hunter

THURSDAY – Saint Raymond of Penaforte

8:30 Charles Mulvaney req. by the Mulvaney Family

FRIDAY

8:30 Robert H. Milburn req. by the McGovern Family
Special Intention of Goullee Gorospe req. by
Anna & Simon

SATURDAY

8:30 Louis Spera req. by Mary & Bob McGauley
5:30 Alex Foulds req. by Lori & John Krieger
Thomas Haynes req. by Thomas J. Adams

JANUARY 10, 2016

THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

7:45 Edward Loyas req. by Anthony Hetel
Camille Angeli req. by Joan Taylor
9:00 Camille Angeli req. by Alice and Bill Kelly
10:30 Margaret Savage req. by Henry Savage
12:00 People of the Parish
5:00 Michael McDonnell

PARISH FINANCES

December 20, 2015	\$10,898
Religious Retirement Fund	\$3,638
December 21, 2014	\$11,379
Religious Retirement Fund	\$5,100



PASTOR'S CORNER

FOLLOWING THE STAR

Epiphany is not a word we use very often. It's a Greek word meaning manifestation or a showing forth. The Gospel speaks of this today. Astrologers travel from afar in search of the newborn king of the Jews. At their journey's end they present him with gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. Gold because he is a king; frankincense because he is a priest, and myrrh because he is human. Afterwards they return to their home country amazed at how the newborn king could be born in such simple surroundings. He revealed himself to them in the ordinary.

When you think about it, our lives are made up of ordinary things and ordinary happenings. But seen through the eyes of faith, they can have a deep meaning. Take a cup of water, for example. What is it? Two parts hydrogen and on part oxygen. It's very common and ordinary. And yet, it causes a seed to burst into life; it brings comfort to those in need of fresh water; it refreshes us when we are tired and it is used in baptism to welcome new members into the Christian community.

Or take a piece of bread – the most basic of all foods. Have you noticed that when we share it lovingly with someone who is hungry, it becomes a feast. Jesus used ordinary bread and wine and changed them into his body and blood. A cup of water, a piece of bread, of themselves not much of anything and yet, each one can manifest, in its own way, the care and compassion of God.

With the eyes of faith, we open ourselves to the epiphanies of God all around us. We see it in the love and concern we have for one another; in the outpouring of food and gifts for the needy over the past few weeks. We see it in the fun and laughter we share; in the excitement of a child, the energy of our teens and the contentment of the elderly. Indeed, if we have eyes to see, all creation speaks to us of God. Sometimes it takes a poet to shake us out of our 'business as usual' mode of living to remind us of the beauty all around us - someone like Gerard Manly Hopkins who wrote: "The world is charged with the grandeur of God. It will flame out like shining from shook foil."

It must be said on this feast that the Epiphany of God is somewhat meaningless for you or me if the showing forth of Christ's love has no impact on the way we think or live. Christ could manifest himself a thousand times, but if we are not receptive, it loses its impact. And make no mistake about it, Christ is trying to reveal himself to us. Let us be open to his presence in our lives.

Sincerely,

Fr. David

THE WEEK IN THE PARISH 1/3/16 – 1/9/16

Sun.	3:00-8:00 PM Confirmation Day of Mercy	MH
Mon.	6:30 PM Knights of Columbus	McKenna Hall
	7:30 PM Respect Life	Library
Tues.	9:00 AM Scripture Sharing	Library
	7:00 PM Bible Study	Cassidy Hall
	7:30 PM Finance	Library
Wed.	Women's Cornerstone	Cassidy Hall
Thurs.	BINGO (Non-smoking)	McKenna Hall
Fri.	8:30 PM AA	Cassidy Hall
Sat.	9:00 AM Legion of Mary	St. Benedict

LITURGY

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.

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS

THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

First Reading: Isaiah 42:1-4, 6-7

Second Reading: Acts 10:34-38

Gospel: Luke 3:15-16, 21-22

KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS

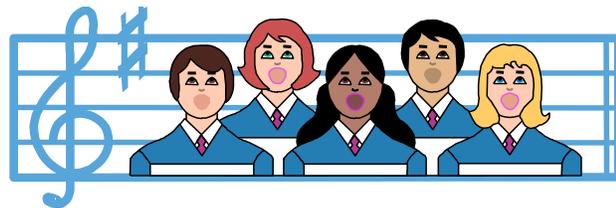
Those serving in the military especially: Richard Fox, John Garlasco, Brian McCarthy, Lt. Daniel Faherty, Joseph Venutolo, Cpl. Marc Vero, Sgt. Jeremy Overstreet, Kevin Michael Kiefer, Michael Krapels, Robert Stumpe, USMC, Staff Sgt. Jeremy Curcio, Staff Sgt. Lena Webb, Spc. Samuel Nolan, US Army, Lt. Jamie Curcio, Navy Reserve, Christopher Tantillo, Pvt. Nico Fluri, Army National Guard, Cpl. Conor J. Brady, USMC, LCpl. Marc Stanziale, USMC. 1st Lt. Joseph Brunone, US Nat'l Guard. Please continue to pray for all our service men & women.

TUESDAY EVENING BIBLE STUDY



Bible Study will resume on January 5th at 7:00 PM.

MUSIC MINISTRY



CHOIR PRACTICE

The Adult Choir practice takes place on Tuesdays at 7:30 PM in the Choir loft.

Contemporary Choir - Saturdays, 4:30 PM

Children's Choir practice takes place on Thursdays at 2:45 PM in the St. Cecilia Room.

Vocal- Instrumental Group - contact our Music Director, Krzysztof Kowalewski at the parish office.

New and existing members are invited.

WE'VE BEEN ASKED TO ANNOUNCE

God's Mercy Through the Ages

Sacred Heart Spirituality Center will hold its Women's Retreat Weekend on January -10, 2016. The theme for this retreat is: "God's Mercy Through the Ages." It will focus on the history of God's merciful love poured out on His people right up to the present day. A weekend experience created a special bond and climate among the retreatants and allows one the time to relax and recharge: however, if someone is unable to make the entire weekend, there is the possibility of coming on Saturday only. The registration form can be found on our web site: www.sacredhaartspiritualitycenter.org . Please call (973)383-2620 or e-mail shretreatcenter@gmail.com for further information.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

CONFIRMATION

9th and 10th grade Confirmation students will meet on January 3rd in McKenna Hall at 3:00 PM.

YOUTH GROUP

Youth Group/Team will meet on January 4th.

FINANCE

AMAZON.COM TO HELP OUR PARISH

If you're shopping online please keep in mind that if you make purchases through Amazon.com, you can help our parish by using the link on our website (www.ourladyofthelake.org). The church gets a little money back for every dollar that people spend on Amazon using our link. To find the link, click on the "Getting Involved" button and you will see the Amazon.com link at the bottom of the drop-down menu.

PARISHPAY - AUTOMATED GIVING

ParishPay is an automated giving program. Those who wish can make their church donations by automatic deduction or by credit card. To enroll: a) call 1-866-727-4741, or b) use the website, www.parishpay.com through the link on the parish website. Please keep in mind that signing up for ParishPay does not register you with the parish if you are just joining our parish; please come into the office to register.

A CHILD IS BORN CD

If you pre-ordered Fr. David's CD, "A Child is Born", you may pick up your order at the parish office between 9:00 AM and 4:00 PM, Monday through Friday. If you did not pre-order, but would like to purchase a copy, please contact the parish office to check for availability. Thanks again for your generosity and kind support.



MARCH FOR LIFE ON FRIDAY, JANUARY 22, 2016

Our Lady of the Lake's Respect Life Committee is hosting a bus to the March for Life in Washington, DC on Friday, January 22, 2016. We will be departing from the parking lot at 6:00 AM and returning by about 10:00 PM. The cost is \$25 per person; please sign up at the parish office (973) 729-

6107, by January 15. For more information, please contact Christine Levin at (973) 729-4293. Please join us this year to offer prayers and witness for the sanctity of human life from its very beginnings to its natural end.

WE'VE BEEN ASKED TO ANNOUNCE Rainbows for All God's Children

The Sparta United Methodist Church will sponsor the winter/spring session of *Rainbows for all God's Children*. This program supports children (kindergarten through 8th grade) who are grieving as a result of loss. This may be a result of death of a parent/grandparent, divorce, separation, or incarceration. *Rainbows* offers peer support along with the guidance from trained, caring adults who will listen and give youngsters a safe place to express their feelings about the changes in their family's dynamics. The winter/spring session begins February 9, 2016, and concludes March 22, 2016, (Tuesday evening meetings at the Sparta United Methodist Church). If you would like to register your child for this program, please call Pat Johnson at (973) 729-3233.



Every Nation shall offer praise

REDISCOVER JESUS: An Invitation by Matthew Kelly

We hope you are enjoying the book *Rediscover Jesus* by best-selling Catholic writer and speaker Matthew Kelly. If you have chosen to read it one chapter a day, perhaps you have finished the prologue and first seven chapters by now. Each chapter ends with a "point to ponder," Bible verse, question to consider, and a very short prayer. You may want to discuss them with friends and family around the dinner table or with coworkers in the breakroom.

- Jesus wants us to carry on His work. Is the sheer busyness of your life preventing you from living the life God is calling you to live?
- Our God is a God of second chances, fresh starts, and new beginnings. Are there any areas of your life in which God is inviting you to experience a new beginning?
- God the Father wants us to know His Son deeply and personally. The story of Jesus Christ is the most powerful story ever told, but it loses its power when we take it for granted and stop really hearing it. It's time to rediscover Jesus, who is God's invitation to live an incredibly abundant and fulfilling life.
- In response to crisis and war, dysfunction in our lives, the chaos and complexity of modern living, let us look to Jesus, who wants to perform miracles in us and through us. What area of your life will benefit most from accepting God's invitation to rediscover Jesus?
- Jesus asked his disciples long ago, "Who do people say that I am?" He asked them, and He asks us today, "Who do *you* say that I am?" Not who do your parents or teachers, spouse, pastor, or friends say that Jesus is, but who do *you* say that He is? Some today would reduce Him to just "a nice guy," a great teacher or a great prophet. But Jesus never claimed to be a great teacher or great prophet; Jesus claimed to be God!

Who does Jesus say that we are? We are children of God, beloved and infinitely valuable, free to reject Him or to love Him back. No matter what happens, God loves you! Do you value yourself anywhere near as much as Jesus loves you?

U.S. NATIONAL PARKS TOUR MAY 23 - JUNE 5, 2017

Visit our country's greatest natural treasures on this comfortably-paced and in-depth National Parks tour. Travelers have been calling it the trip of a lifetime. It's impossible to duplicate the vast open spaces of the American West. Discover God's handiwork in six U.S. National Parks-



- Yellowstone-the 1st National Park
- Grand Teton, along the trail of Lewis & Clark
- The Arches National Park
- Grand Canyon National Park
- Bryce Canyon National park
- Zion National Park
- Monument Park, a tribal park.

We'll journey from jagged peaks to verdant forests and cascading waterfalls. See the unmatched splendor of the canyons and the red-rock formations. You'll have a genealogy demonstration at Salt Lake City, as well as a concert by the Mormon Tabernacle Choir. What's more, your experience will be enhanced by spending six nights at official National Parks Lodges. The grand finale of the trip will be a night in Las Vegas!

This comprehensive American West experience is not to be missed!

For more information, call the parish office or Judy and Bill Bosworth, 973-729-4629

**Happy New Year from
Cornerstone
April 2016**

SAINT PAUL INSIDE THE WALLS

205 Madison Ave., Madison, NJ

Please go to www.insidethewalls.org for more information and to register.

Being Single, Being Faithful (35+)

Saturday, January 9 from 10:00 a.m. – noon

Whether single by choice or by circumstance, we must live every "single" day to the fullest. We can find fulfillment in Christ and his Church by embracing the opportunities in the Church for spiritual growth, meaningful service and a sense of community.

Young Adult Mass (Ages 23-39)

with Bishop Serratelli

Saturday, January 9 from 5:30-8:30 p.m.

All young adults between the ages of 23-39 are invited to pray together at the annual diocesan-wide Young Adult Mass with Bishop Serratelli. Mass will be celebrated by Bishop Serratelli at 5:30 p.m. followed by a young adult social with drinks and light food until 8:30 p.m. hosted by the Diocese of Paterson Office of Evangelization with hospitality provided by the St. Paul Young Adults. This is a great opportunity for all young adults in the Diocese to come together in faith and fellowship to pray together and kick off the new year.

Reasons to Believe: Why the Catholic Faith Makes Sense

Saturday, January 16, from 10:00 a.m. – noon

Come hear what Catholics believe, why Catholics believe it, the personal difference it makes, and how it makes sense in today's world. Fr. Derek Anderson, presenter.

Catholicism from Scratch: Adam's Apple (Humanity, Sin, and Grace)

Saturday, January 23 from 10:00 a.m. to noon.

A course in basic Catholicism for those who need a brush-up, those who missed it the first time around, or those who never heard it before. Fr. Paul Manning, presenter.

The Third Annual Catholic Trivia Super Bowl

Saturday, January 30 from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Build your own five-person team and tackle multiple-choice questions on the Catholic Faith! Rules: Only one priest, religious brother/sister, or theologian allowed per team.

How to Build a Couples Ministry

Wednesday, February 17 from 6:00 – 9:00 p.m.

Building a couples' ministry is easier than you think. Join Mike and Faith Rose for practical insights on how to organically build relationships with couples, especially the newly married.