January 5, 2025 Epiphany of the Lord



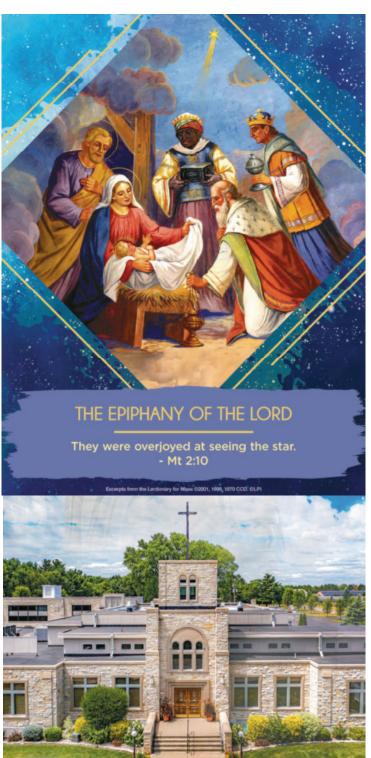
# Our Lady Queen of Heaven Parish

750 10th Avenue South • Wisconsin Rapids, Wisconsin • 54495-4100

Telephone: 715-423-1251 • Facsimile: 715-423-9407

parishoffice@our-lady.org • www.our-lady.org • OLQHWisconsinRapids

Please submit bulletin notices to bulletin@our-lady.org by noon on Monday.



# **PARISH CLERGY**

Fr. Alan M. Guanella, JCL • Pastor • fr.guanella@our-lady.org Fr. Steven Weller • Parochial Vicar • fr.weller@our-lady.org Deacon Thomas C. Anderson • dcn.anderson@our-lady.org

# Parish Office Hours

Monday—Thursday: 8:30a—3:30p • Friday: 8:30a—12:00 noon Scrip is available for purchase during parish office hours.

# **PARISH STAFF**

Business Manager	Janeen Sievers
· ·	jsievers@our-lady.org
Director of Religious Education	Rebecca Zalar
_	reoffice@our-lady.org
Choir Director	Mary Englert
Maintenance & Grounds	Paul Richmond
Custodian	LuAnne Birkhauser
Sacristan	Karen Pagel

# **CONFESSION**

Saturday: 8:30am–9:30am and 3:00pm–3:50pm First Fri.: 8:30am–9:30am; 6:30pm–7:30pm with Exposition • Any time by appointment by contacting the parish office.

# **BAPTISM PREPARATION**

Please contact the parish to schedule a baptism meeting and request a date for the celebration of baptism. Parents are encouraged to attend before the birth of their child.

# MARRIAGE PREPARATION

Couples requesting the celebration of Marriage should contact the parish at the time of formal engagement or at least six months prior to the anticipated date of marriage.

# **ANOINTING OF THE SICK**

In case of emergency only, when someone is dying, please call the pastor's emergency line at 715-629-9952. This number is for emergencies only. Those who are seriously ill or have been sick for a long time should receive the Sacraments. Please call the parish to make arrangements or to schedule a non-emergency visit for those who are sick or homebound.

# **OUR LADY QUEEN OF HEAVEN SCHOOL**

Principal Shelley Bruley • Administrative Asst. Jenny Zacher Tel: 715-422-0980 • www.assumptioncatholicschools.org

A Roman Catholic Parish of the Diocese of La Crosse • www.diolc.org

# **NEW PARISHIONERS**

New families are most welcome to the parish and are kindly asked to register at the parish office as soon as possible. Registration forms may be downloaded at **www.our-lady.org/contact**. Parishioners are asked to inform the office of any address, telephone, or family status changes.

#### **UPCOMING BAPTISM CLASS**

The next baptism preparation class will be **January 7th**. The class fee is \$20. Parents should be registered in the parish. Practice of the faith by parents is expected. Please contact the parish office to register.

# PARISH BOOK OF PRAYER

Prayer requests may be written in our parish Book of Prayer which is located in the gathering area by the offices. A general intercession for all prayer requests is offered at all Sunday Masses. **Prayer Chain:** Please call Mary Kobza at 715-421-0447 with your intentions.

# **ONLINE GIVING**



Donate to the parish online by scanning this QR code with your smartphone or visit **bit.ly/olqh-giving**. Also consider using ACH Direct Debit from your checking or savings account. Contact the parish office for an enrollment form.

# SACRIFICIAL GIVING FOR DECEMBER 15, 2024



General	\$7,769.00
Plate	\$1,190.00
<b>Building Maintenance</b>	\$80.00
<b>Endowment Donations</b>	\$100.00
Total	\$9,139.00

# SACRIFICIAL GIVING FOR DECEMBER 22, 2024



General	\$11,426.00
Plate	\$1,200.10
<b>Building Maintenance</b>	\$370.00
Direct Donation 12/20/24	\$4,002.00
Total	\$16,998.10

# ADVERTISER OF THE WEEK

# Thank you for supporting our parish!

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# **SANCTUARY CANDLES**



The Sanctuary Candles burn the week of January 5–January 11 in memory of

# Scott Lobner By: Mom

Christmas flowers donated in memory of:

Art & Jackie Ashbeck by: Jon & Audrey Arndt

# **LECTIONARY READINGS**

# Readings for the week of December 29, 2024

Sunday: Is 60:1-6/Ps 72/Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6/Mt 2:1-12 Monday: 1 Jn 3:22—4:6/Ps 2/Mt 4:12-17, 23-25

Tuesday: 1 Jn 4:7-10/Ps 72/Mk 6:34-44 Wednesday: 1 Jn 4:11-18/Ps 72/Mk 6:45-52 Thursday: 1 Jn 4:19—5:4/Ps72/Lk 4:14-22a Friday: 1 Jn 5:5-13/Ps 147/Lk 5:12-16 Saturday: 1 Jn 5:14-21/Ps 149/Jn 3:22-30

Next Sunday: Is 40:1-5, 9-11/Ps 104/Ti 2:11-14; 3:4-7/

Lk 3:15-16, 21-22

# Upcoming Central Wisconsin Retrouvaille \ Retro- vī\Marriage Help Program

Retrouvaille has been a lifeline for marriages for over 45 years. Whether a couple has drifted apart, separated, or even divorced, this 3-phase program offers hope for all who want to restore their marriages and rebuild loving relationships. Affordable, Catholic in origin and open to couples of all faiths, the next program begins with a weekend stay in Wausau area February 14-16, 2025. For local info and fully confidential registration call: 877-922-HOPE (4673).

More at HelpOurMarriage.org

A <u>Pro-Life Rosary</u> will be said on Monday, Jan. 13th at 4:00 pm along Eighth Street. All are welcome to join us. We will gather in Grace's parking lot at 3:45.

**Grief Support Group**- Wisconsin Rapids Deanery "Serenity" Grief Support Group meets on the 3rd Monday of the month in the Gathering Space of St Vincent de Paul Church from 1-2 pm. The next meeting is January 20th.

Mission Rosary Makers — The next date is Wednesday, Jan. 15th. Please join us in the cafeteria from 1:00 to 3:00 pm. All are welcome to join us.



TV Mass on Spectrum 985 or Solarus 3: OLQH Mass at 9 AM on Wednesday; Diocesan Mass at 6:30 AM on Sunday. Mass is also broadcast on Sunday at 6 AM on WZAW 7.3 (FOX) and at 6:30 AM on WJFW 12.1 (NBC).

# **KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS**

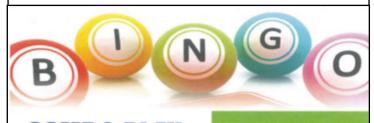
**Thursday, January 9:** Council Officers meeting at Our Lady Queen of Heaven cafeteria at 6:30 pm with the Council Meeting starting at 7:00 pm. Exemplification.

**Monday, January 13:** Fourth Degree meeting at Our Lady Queen of Heaven cafeteria. Meeting at 7:00 pm.

#### A Minute With Jesus

Wise men came to worship Jesus Wise men from far away saw an incredibly bright star moving across the sky. They followed the star to see where it would take them. It led them to the Infant Jesus. The Magi gave precious gifts to adore the Christ Child, which reveal this holy Child's identity; God becoming man: gold for Christ's kingship, frankincense for His divinity and myrrh for His anointing after His sacrifice on the Cross. Jesus gives us the greatest Gift – the Gift of Himself in the Eucharist again and again in a life-giving encounter.

Let's pray this right now and every day this week: Jesus, the wise man brought You precious gifts. Thank You for giving us the most precious Gift of Yourself in the Eucharist. This week, read how the wise men came to worship Jesus and bring Him gifts in Matthew 2:1-12



# COME & PLAY HAVING FUN ALONG THE WAY!

Mark Your Calendars For These 2024-2025 BINGO Dates!

- At Assumption High School
- Doors open at noon
- All BINGO cards have to be purchased by 1:00PM
- \*\* 10 REGULAR BINGO games will be played & 1 game of PROGRESSIVE BLACKOUT
- \*\* The Progressive Jackpot WILL roll over from May 5, 2024 to September 15, 2024\*\*

# **BINGO DATES**

- September 15th
- October 6th & 20th
- November 3rd & 17th
- December 1st & 15th
- January 5th & 19th
- F-1------
- February 2nd & 16thMarch 2nd & 16th
  - April 6th

(No Bingo Easter Sunday)

- May 4th

For any questions or information regarding which group

For any questions or information regarding which group is hosting each Sunday, please follow the Assumption Catholic Schools, Wisconsin Rapids Area, WI Facebook page, email acsroyalparentspta@gmail.com or call/text message Jill Vruwink at 715-252-3451

#### **Greetings from the Social Justice Committee:**

We wanted to follow-up on our recent activities.
Thank you for your generosity and compassion for others.

- At Thanksgiving we took approximately 200 pounds of food to the FOCUS food pantry.
- The Giving Tree in November and December again highlighted your generosity. We helped 140 children and their families in South Wood County have a better Christmas.
- Our next activity is the sister parish collection the weekend of January 25<sup>th</sup>, 2025

We are proud to be part of such a loving and caring parish. We wish you a Merry Christmas and a New Year full of God's Blessings.

The Social Justice Committee: Deb, Bob, Joan, Lisa, Kaity, and Mary

# **Employment Opportunity**

Assumption Catholic Schools is seeking a passionate numbers person to be our next school business manager. The ideal candidate will have experience in fund accounting and be adept at explaining finances to the non finance professional. Working closely with the president he or she will work to track income and expenses and help with the creation of the ACS budget and monthly reports to the finance committee. This position keeps overwatch on receipts and disbursements. To apply send a resume and cover letter to Daniel Minter, president dminter@assumptioncatholicschools.org

#### **Order of Christian Initiation for Adults**

As we get closer to celebrating the Baptism of the Lord, let us recall our own Baptism. We have all received the call to go and baptize all nations. Pray for those who are considering if they, too, are ready to renounce Satan and all his works and empty promises. If there is someone you think would like to explore Baptism in the catholic faith, ask him or her to contact Rebecca at reoffice@our-lady.org.

#### Save the Date!

Men of the Cross "Forgiveness and Freedom" | Mar. 8, 2025 |Blessed Sacrament Church, La Crosse

We are excited to have Bob Kroll as our keynote speaker and Mass with Bishop Battersby. More information is coming soon!

# **Discover the Domestic Church Kiosk Today!**

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to the Knights of Columbus for this incredible resource now available to our parish. Have you checked out the new kiosk in the gathering space? If not, you're missing out! It offers a wealth of engaging, faith -based literature that can support families in building their Domestic Church. Don't let this opportunity pass you by—visit the kiosk and enrich your faith journey! Please make a \$1 donation for each book at the parish office.

# **BRINGING UP THE GIFTS AT OLQH**

We have returned to the practice of bringing up the gifts at the offertory at weekend Masses. Families are encouraged to participate. There is a sign up sheet in the Gathering Space or just sign your name as you walk into Mass.

# Celebrating the Epiphany

Epiphany is a term derived from a Greek word meaning "manifestation." It refers to the visit of the three magi, also known as the wise men or kings, to Jesus after His birth. Around the world, Three Kings Day is celebrated even more widely than Christmas. Traditionally, this day is when families exchange gifts, symbolizing the offerings that the wise men brought to Jesus.

In his 2019 address, Pope Francis emphasized that, like the three kings, "we need to arise, to get up from our sedentary lives and prepare for a journey." Reflect on how God might be calling you to embark on a new journey.

As part of the celebration, consider making King Crowns to wear, baking King Cake, and blessing your home with chalk. Instructions for the blessings will be available in the gathering space.

# **Cultivating your Domestic Church**

Check out Restoring the Roots on top of the Children's Bookshelf in the gathering space.

The newsletter provides families with a monthly roadmap for saint days, fun family events, prayers, resources, and even recipes that can be tied into a saint's feast day. Every idea helps individuals or families easily incorporate liturgical living into their homes.

# DIOCESE OF LA CROSSE GUIDELINES FOR REPORTING INSTANCES OF CHILD ABUSE:

The Diocese of La Crosse, through its policies and procedures, seeks to provide a prompt, appropriate and compassionate response to reporters of sexual abuse of a child by any diocesan agent (bishop, priest, deacon, employee, religious, vendor or volunteer). Anyone wishing to make a report of an allegation of sexual abuse should send that report to Mrs. Teresa Brown, Complaint Intake Agent, at the Diocese of La Crosse, P.O. Box 4004, La Crosse, WI 54602-4004. Alternatively, you can contact Mrs. Brown at 608.791.0179 or intakeagent@diolc.org. The reporting form is available through the Diocese of La Crosse Office of Safe Environment or on the diocesan at: diolc.org/safe-environment/reporting. Individuals are also encouraged to take their reports directly to civil authorities. Copies of the diocesan policy are available through your local Parish and on the diocesan website. If you have any questions about the Diocese of La Crosse and the implementation of the Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People, please contact Teresa Brown, Diocese of La Crosse, at 608.791.2679 or tbrown@diolc.org.

# **UPCOMING MASSES & EVENTS**

MONDAY, JANUARY 6, 2025 ST. ANDRÉ BESSETTE 8:00 am Morning Prayer & Communion Service

TUESDAY, JANUARY 7, 2025 ST. RAYMOND OF PENYAFORT 8:00 am Children's Mass † Gail Seefeldt by: Mom & Dad

#### WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 8, 2025

8:00 am Mass Collective Intentions

- † Harry Richmond by: The Family
- † Gail Ashenbrenner by: Dick & Family
- † John Klonsinski by: Ken & Lisa Klein
- † Wayne Tracy by: Knights of Columbus # 1558
- † Jeff Helminiak by: Karen Smolarek
- † Living & Deceased Members of Joseph & Martha Schmutzer By: The James Schmutzer Family
- † Deceased Members of the Klonowski & Kempen Families By: Joyce Klonowski

6:00 pm Religious Education Classes Grades 1-8

## THURSDAY, JANUARY 9, 2025

5:00 pm Mass † Dr. Kevin Miller by: Kathleen & Bob Schultz

#### FRIDAY, JANUARY 10, 2025

2:30 pm Mass † Don Gruenberg by: Connie & Jim Landry

# SATURDAY, JANUARY 11, 2025

8:00 am Mass † Mary Rayome by: Tom & Family

8:30 am Confessions

3:00 pm Confessions

3:30 pm Rosary

4:00 pm Mass † Dan & Colleen Kluck by: Doug & Karen Pagel

SUNDAY, JANUARY 12, 2025 THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD 7:30 am Mass † Bill Hielke by: Rose Frederick 10:00 am Mass † Elizabeth Gebert by: The Edwards Family

# MINISTRIES SCHEDULE

#### **Altar Servers**

Jan. 11 4:00pm - Corby Olson

Jan. 12 7:30am - Christian Statz & 2 volunteers

Jan. 12 10:00am –

#### Readers

Jan. 11 4:00pm - Therese Miller

Jan. 12 7:30am – Diane Moss

Jan. 12 10:00am - Tim Huebner

#### **Gift Bearers**

Jan. 11 4:00pm - Volunteers Needed

Jan. 12 7:30am - Volunteers Needed

Jan. 12 10:00am - Volunteers Needed

#### **Greeters**

Jan. 11 4:00pm – Parker Vruwink

Jan.12 7:30am – Jerold & Nancy Mischnick

Jan.12 10:00am - Gary & Kathi Wierzbicki

## Hospitality

Jan. 11, 4:00pm - Rebecca Zalar

Jan. 12, 7:30am - Shelley Bruley/Kerry Meinel

Jan. 12, 10:00am – John & Rosemary Hokamp

#### PASTORAL THOUGHTS...

Christmas Season is the The shortest of the Church's liturgical seasons. Before Vatican II. the Christmas Season lasted until the Feast the Presentation of Jesus (Candlemas Day). After Vatican II, the season was shortened and the season now ends on the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord, which takes the place of the Sunday in Ordinary Time.



Nonetheless, I know many people like to keep their Christmas decorations and lights up throughout the month of January until the Presentation on February 2nd. The additional light from the decorations is welcome in the middle of winter and helps to focus on the true light of the world, Jesus Christ.

With the Christmas Season being so short, we have to focus more intently on it to make sure we celebrate it well. One of my favorite Old Testament scripture passages used at Christmas is from the Book of Wisdom: When peaceful stillness compassed everything and the night in its swift course was half spent, Your all-powerful word bounded to earth from heaven's royal throne. The imagery of "peaceful stillness" covering the earth reminds me of how quiet it can be after a snowfall—the snow dampens the sound and everything seems so still. The "half spent night" reminds me, in a similar vein, to waking up in the middle of the night and looking out of the window: everything is quiet and still.

Then, in the midst of all that peacefulness and stillness, like a lightning bolt and a clap of thunder, Jesus enters into the world. The angels sing out "Gloria in excelsis Deo!" and the world was forever changed. The course of the world was changed when the Son of God "bounded to earth from heaven's royal throne." The ancient sin of Adam and Eve was about to be conquered. The light from the Son of God was so bright it pierced through the darkness of that night and shone throughout creation. That light was so bright it would stretch back to Adam himself and forward even to the Second Coming.

In a similar way, when we were baptized, when that water and the formula of "I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit" was poured over us, it broke the chains of Original Sin. The light of the newborn Christ Jesus reached us and shined within our hearts. We were claimed that day for God and made His adopted son or daughter. The course of our own life was changed that day—changed by the birth of a baby in Bethlehem over 2000 years ago. Having received the light of the Christ and the grace of the Holy Spirit, our Christmas calling is then to pass that light on and to live as a child of God so as to reach that heavenly royal throne one day ourselves so that we can spend eternity of with the King of Kings and Lord of Lords.

-Father Guanella

# TOTS: Theology of the Storyteller STAR. WARS: The Original Trilogy

Watch a film, deepen your faith.
Our Lady Queen of Heaven
Three Sundays
Jan 12, Jan 26, Feb 9
12:00PM to 4:00PM
RSVP today!



# **ASSUMPTION CATHOLIC SCHOOLS NEWS**

# **School News**

Coming Soon: I:55 Book Fair



The I:55 Book Fair is just around the corner! Join us in the OLQH cafeteria to shop a Wonderful selection of faith-based books, children's literature, and more. Let's celebrate the joy of reading together!







# Save the Date: 4K & 5K Kindergarten Registration

Mark your calendars! Registration for 4K and 5K Kindergarten will take place on Thursday, January 30. We look forward to welcoming your little ones!



# "Behold: Prayer of the Saints" Young Adult Retreat | Jan. 25, 2025 | Blessed Sacrament Church, La Crosse

This retreat is for young adults aged 18-25 and will be held on January 25, 2025, from 9 am-5 pm at Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church in La Crosse. Hear inspiring talks about the prayer of the Saints, foster a deeper Catholic community with other young adults, and participate in the life of God via Mass, Confession, and personal prayer. There are also optional evening socials on Friday, January 24 at 7 pm at 608 Brewing Co. and Saturday, January 25 at 6 pm at Pizzeria Dolorosa. The cost is \$25 per person and includes a warm meal. Register at tinyurl.com/beholdprayer.



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