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January 2, 2022



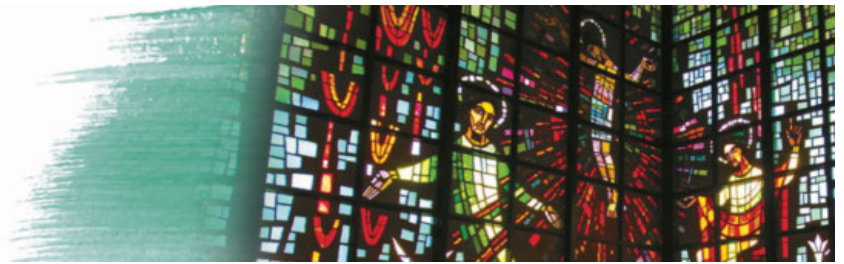
THE EPIPHANY *of the Lord*

"Since from you shall come a ruler,
who is to shepherd my people Israel." - Mt 2:6b

Excerpt from the Lectionary for Mass 02001, 1998, 1970 CC2.

MISSION STATEMENT

St. Matthias Catholic Parish is committed to continuing the ministry of Jesus Christ. We invite and welcome all. Come... live, grow, and be challenged by the message through prayer, formation, and service.



Pastoral Staff

Deacon Stan Lowe, Parish Director
Alissa Turner, School Principal
Brian Jens, Director of Lifelong Faith Formation
Peter Morello, Coordinator of Lifelong Faith Formation
Francine Micklus, Director of Liturgy and Music

Weekend Help Out Priests

Fr. Dave Cooper
Fr. Chuck Schramm
Fr. Bill Stout, OFM
Fr. Charlie Zabler

Parish Officers

Don Vaclav, Trustee Secretary
Paul Ziehler, Trustee Treasurer
Mark Kopplin, Parish Council Moderator

Mass Schedule

Tuesday and Thursday 8:15 am
Saturday: 4:00 pm and 6:00 pm; Sunday: 8:00 am and 10:00 am

Anointing of the Sick

First Saturday of the month after 4 pm Mass. When a parishioner is hospitalized, homebound, or in a nursing home, please notify the Parish Office.

Rite of Reconciliation

First and third Saturday of the month at 8:30 am

Membership

online at www.stmatthias-milw.org

Contact Information

Parish Phone: 414-321-0893 School Phone: 414-321-0894
Parish Fax: 414-321-1330 School Fax: 414-321-9228

Please call the Parish Office for more information regarding all sacramental preparation and celebration.

Bulletin requests to cpfeifer@stmatthias-milw.org by Monday noon. Bulletin requests are subject to approval.

Saint Matthias Parish

The Epiphany of the Lord

In his Apostolic Exhortation, *The Joy of the Gospel*, Pope Francis references a thought from Pope Benedict XVI: "Being a Christian is not the result of an ethical choice or a lofty idea, but the encounter with an event, a person, which gives life a new horizon and a decisive direction." Today we celebrate an encounter with the Person of Jesus Christ! This simple but holy event in time dramatically changes human life, pointing it toward a new horizon and giving it a decisive direction. This is a message and truth that is not meant to be shared with only a select few who qualify but with the entire world. Pope Francis continues saying, "Thanks solely to this encounter or renewed encounter with God's love, which blossoms into an enriching friendship, we are liberated from our narrowness and self-absorption. We become fully human when we become more than human, when we let God bring us beyond ourselves in order to attain the fullest truth of our being."

Look around at people. Where is life heading for them? What gives them direction? Even we who are people of faith can get distracted and lose our focus. God, in all of His fullness, is revealed in Jesus Christ and we can encounter Him! God is tangible, real, vulnerable, poor, and full of wonders, surprises, and opportunities. For those who are struggling and lost, today is a day of great joy. All they have to do is reach out and touch the truth of Christ. This presence is revealed in the poor, exploited, and vulnerable ones who cry out for compassion and love. But it is also found in the faithful ones who see in the Epiphany of God a liberation from structures and systems that hurt us, a narrowness of mind and heart that constricts us, and an absorption in our self-agenda that prevents us from seeing anything other than ourselves as important.

We have been given the charge of preaching this Good News. If only we could find a way to be more effective, it might stand a chance of doing what God intended it to do. There is always tomorrow and our memory of that bright new light that shone so brilliantly that Bethlehem night pointing us to truth and reminding us that we are loved.

©LPi



Readings for the week of January 2, 2022

Monday: 1 Jn 3:22—4:6/Ps 2:7bc-8, 10-12a/Mt 4:12-17, 23-25

Tuesday: 1 Jn 4:7-10/Ps 72:1-2, 3-4, 7-8/Mk 6:34-44

Wednesday: 1 Jn 4:11-18/Ps 72:1-2, 10, 12-13/Mk 6:45-52

Thursday: 1 Jn 4:19—5:4/Ps 72:1-2, 14 and 15bc, 17/Lk 4:14-22a

Friday: 1 Jn 5:5-13/Ps 147:12-13, 14-15, 19-20/Lk 5:12-16

Saturday: 1 Jn 5:14-21/Ps 149:1-2, 3-4, 5 and 6a and 9b/Jn 3:22-30

Next Sunday: Is 42:1-4, 6-7/Ps 29:1-2, 3-4, 3, 9-10 [11b]/Acts 10:34-38/Lk 3:15-16, 21-22or, Is 40:1-5, 9-11/Ps 104:1b-2, 3-4, 24-25, 27-28, 29-30 [1]/Ti 2:11-14; 3:4-7/Lk 3:15-16, 21-22

Rest in Peace

We commend to God the soul of **Katherine Globig**. May her soul and the souls of all the faithful departed rest in eternal peace. Please remember her and her family in your prayers.



Wedding Banns

I - Robert Effinger & Alyssa Bayer

Memorials

A memorial donation has been given to St. Matthias Parish in loving memory of **Thomas Kleczka & Helen and Frank Vento**, from Patricia Kleczka, to be used for the food pantry.

A memorial donation has been given to St. Matthias Parish in loving memory of **Joan Crossman**, from Pamela Knackert, for the needs of the parish.

Memorial donations have been given to St. Matthias Parish in loving memory of **Donna Farrington**, from many family and friends, for the needs of the parish.

Memorial donations have been given to St. Matthias Parish Music Ministry in loving memory of **Shirley Anderson**, from many family and friends.

Special Donations

A special donation of \$1,500 was given to St. Matthias Parish in anonymity to be used toward music for Christmas.

A special donation of \$2,000 was given to St. Matthias Parish from the West Allis Community Improvement Foundation to be used for the food pantry.

Time, Talent, and Treasure Forms

Just a gentle reminder that if you have not returned your forms, please do so by January 9th. We will be contacting ministry groups with responses shortly thereafter.

Thank you to those parishioners who have already returned their forms in the past weeks.



Please be aware that during inclement weather if the parish school is closed, the parish office is also closed and there will be no Mass.

WEEK AT A GLANCE

Sunday, January 2, 2022 The Epiphany of the Lord

8:00 am Mass—Church
10:00 am Mass—Church

Monday, January 3, 2022

6:30 pm St. Vincent de Paul Mtg.—Steiger Hall
7:00 pm River of Life Prayer Group—Church

Tuesday, January 4, 2022

8:15 am Mass - Church
3:00 pm Jr. Handbells practice—Church
7:00 pm Boy Scout Troop 592 Mtg.—Steiger Hall

Wednesday, January 5, 2022

7:00 pm Centering Prayer—Parish Center Living Rm.

Thursday, January 6, 2022

8:15 am All School Mass—Church (masks required)
6:30 pm Adult Faith Formation Bible Study—Parish Office Conf. Rm.
7:00pm Choir Rehearsal—Church
8:00 pm A New Awakening Group—Parish Center

Friday, January 7, 2022

5:30 pm Sleeping Bags for the Homeless—Steiger Hall & Rm. 4

Saturday, January 8, 2022

7:00 am Men's Ministry—Parish Center Living Rm.
7:30 am St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry—Circle drive in front of church
8:00 am Sleeping Bags for the Homeless—Steiger Hall & Rm. 4
4:00 pm Mass—Church
5:15 pm Anointing of the Sick
6:00 pm Mass—Church

Sunday, January 9, 2022 The Baptism of the Lord

8:00 am Mass—with Liturgy of the Word for children- Church
9:30 am K4—8th Grade Christian Formation
10:00 am Mass—Church
6:30 pm 9th, 10th & 11th grade Christian Formation

The Catholic Stewardship Appeal thanks you for your generosity!

Our parish goal is \$ 81,608.
We received \$74,285.20 from 365 parishioners. To date, 18.02% of our parishioners have contributed.

If you haven't contributed already, please return our Catholic Stewardship Appeal pledge card today, or give online at www.catholicappeal.org.

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St. Vincent de Paul Society

St. Vincent de Paul is an organization of lay Catholics, following Christ's call to serve the poor and the suffering. Vincentian members establish personal relationships with our neighbors in need, not only providing material assistance such as rent, utilities or food, but also offering friendship, understanding, and prayer. If we can be of assistance to you, please call us at (414) 321-0893 ext. 408.

St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry

The next Food Pantry dates are January 8 and 22 from 7:30 am-11:00 am. Please drive up in the circle drive in front of St. Matthias Church and stay in your car. A food pantry volunteer will come to assist you.

The following items are needed:

Chef Boyardee	Tuna
Soup	Applesauce
Canned Veggies	Canned fruit, any kind
Rice	Pork and Beans
Pasta Sauce	Pasta
Hamburger Helper	Cereal
Toilet Paper	

Please do not donate baby food.

PARISH WEEKLY STEWARDSHIP WEEK OF: December 19, 2021

These funds represent the majority of the parish income needed to sustain the mission of St. Matthias.
Thanks for all you do!

Finance and Stewardship Committees

Total # Envelopes	188
Total Contributions	\$15,440.60
Year to Date Total	\$406,319.45

Sleeping Bags for the Homeless

The Sleeping Bags for the Homeless Ministry will be gathering on Saturday, January 8, 2022 in Steiger Hall from 8:00am-12:00pm. Come join us! No skills necessary, we will teach you! Please bring scissors and pliers. Donations of clean, used blankets, mattress pads, large pieces of material, yarn for hats and men's ties can be dropped off at the parish office.



Epiphany Home Blessing



Kids Corner

Prayers and acts of kindness from the children's weekly offerings:

The blessing of homes is an old custom in many countries. The current year, along with the initials C-M-B are marked above the doorway with blessed chalk: 20 + C + M + B + 22

C-M-B are the initials of the legendary names of the wise men, Caspar, Melchior, and Balthasar. Another explanation of C-M-B is: Christus mansionem benedicat, "May Christ bless this dwelling place". The four crosses represent the four seasons. As the door is marked, the following prayer is said:

Blessed be this doorway. May all who come to our home this year rejoice to find Christ living among us as we welcome them with respect and kindness. May all our comings and goings be under the seal of God's loving care. May we seek and serve, in everyone we meet, Jesus who is Lord for ever and ever. Amen.

The family may now walk through the house, sprinkling each room with holy water and lighting a candle or incense. The following prayer is said:

Blessed be all the rooms of this home. May each of them be holy and filled with the spirit of happiness and peace, love, and affection.

May the spirit of pardon and affection reside with us and be always ready to heal our divisions.

May the spirits of joy and laughter, hope and faith, playfulness and prayer, compassion and love, be perpetual guest in our home.

May God's holy blessing rest upon us all, in the name of the Father, + and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Chalk and holy water will be available after the 8am and 10am Masses this weekend.

I pray for ppl
who need prayers
😊

You are Kind - God!

I will pray for everyone who is dealing with stress or ~~has~~ has something difficult in their life right now. I will pray for others who have lost a loved one during this holiday season.

have a good day got a
happy birthday Jesus

I want to pray for the 11 year old that got home from the hospital from the Christmas parade

I thank God for my mom and dad.
❤️

REFLECTION

Question:

Besides the Wise Men, what is significant about the Epiphany?

Answer:

Epiphany means "manifestation," or public display. The feast is usually celebrated January 6. In the US, it is celebrated on the Sunday nearest to January 6. It originates from a story unique to Matthew (2:1-12). Magi from the East come to offer homage to the newborn King, presenting him with gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

This part of Matthew's infancy narrative differs from Luke's account of the birth of Jesus. In Luke there are no Magi, star, nor gifts. Luke has Jesus being born in a stable after Mary and Joseph's long travel from Nazareth to Bethlehem. Matthew seems to have the family living in a house in Bethlehem, where the Magi find them.

Why these differences? They stem from the needs and concerns of the audience the authors were addressing, as well as the theological stance of each author. Knowing the original intention helps get at the correct interpretation of the text.

Since Matthew was writing primarily to a Jewish community, his concern was to show that Jesus did not come just for Jews, but for Gentiles as well. From his very birth, Jesus not only manifests himself to Jews, but also to Gentiles, who are prominently included in the manifestation, symbolized by the Magi and their journey. This is the most significant aspect of the feast of Epiphany. How do you manifest Jesus to all with whom you come into contact?



ADVENT GIVING TREE THANK YOU



The Human Concerns Committee would like to extend a most heartfelt thank you to everyone who helped to make the Advent Giving Tree project a successful effort again! Thank you to staff and volunteers who assisted in this undertaking, and most importantly, thank you to all parishioners who donated so generously. The agencies we supported are so grateful to St. Matthias Parish for all we have done to brighten this holy season for the hundreds of children and adults they serve. May God bless you!



Courtesy Announcements

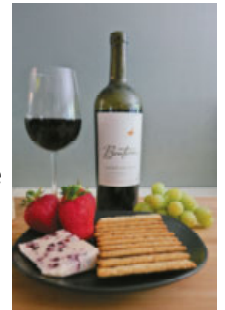
Grief to Healing Support Group



The Northwest side parishes will be starting a "Grief to Healing" group in the new year. The meetings will be held at St. Bernadette (8200 West Denver Avenue, Milwaukee) on the first Tuesday of each month at 11:00 a.m. beginning on January 4. Brother Joe Pense, an Alexian Brother, will facilitate this support group. Please contact Sr. Jane Mary at 414-352-1148 or jmlorbiecki@olghparish.org to register or to ask any questions.

Dinner and Wine Tasting

Join St. Roman Parish on February 12, 2022 at St. Roman Parish Betz Center, 1810 W Bolivar Avenue (entry is from the Parking Lot), for a Dinner and Wine Tasting Fundraiser.



The event will feature Fr. Domenic Roscioli's Holy Spirit Wines and dinner by That' Amore Restaurant.

The cost is \$30 per person. Please visit our parish website at <http://www.stromans.com> for additional details and

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<p>Anthony M. Burant, D.D.S.</p> <p>9431 W. Beloit Rd. Ste. 205 Milwaukee, WI 53227 (414) 543-2657</p>	<p>Attorney Gary A. Glojek</p> <p>General Practice - Wills & Estate Plans Family Law - Title 19 - Civil Litigation 6212 W. Greenfield Ave. 414-774-3414 Serving West Allis for over 70 years</p>	<p>Family Lawn-Cutting Service</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Family Oriented Business Frequency of cuts to your preference Prices include cut, trim, grass-blowing Personal Care Free Estimates <p>We treat your yard like our own Contact Mike at 414-750-1782 Parish Members</p>	<p>TWO GUYS AUTOMOTIVE EXPERIENCED & HONEST</p> <p>DOMESTIC & FOREIGN CAR & TRUCK REPAIRS</p> <p>Nate Krause Mike Heerey Hwy 100 at Coldspring 414-235-3465 www.twoguysautomotive.com</p>	<p>SHARON IGGENS HANSON ATTORNEY AND COUNSELOR AT LAW Personal Injury • Criminal/Traffic • Family Law • Real Estate • Wills 414-453-8500 Parish Member</p>
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