

January 2nd
The Epiphany Of The Lord



Pastoral Office:

Phone: (414) 762-0552

Hours: M, T, W, Th: 9:00A- 3:30P
Closed on Friday

Pastor: Rev. Robert Kacalo x222
rkacalo@saintstephenmil.org

Deacon: Stan Lowe (On Assignment)
414-322-6891

Deacon: Bob Starr
847-890-8671
robertstarr1441@gmail.com

Director of Liturgy and Music:
Lynda Trani x263
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Director of Religious Education:
Position Currently Open

Director of Family Life Center:
Gail Schlicht x225
glicht@saintstephenmil.org

Administrative Assistant: Nick Ward
adminasst@saintstephenmil.org

Maintenance Supervisor:
Joe Kosobucki

Mass Schedule:

Tuesday - Friday 8:00 am
Saturday 4:30 pm
Sunday 8:30 am & 10:30 am

Sacrament of Reconciliation:

Saturday 3:30 pm
or by appointment

Baptism

Parish membership is required.
Baptismal preparation for parents
and sponsors is held monthly. Pre
-registration is required. Contact
the Parish Office for more
information.

Marriage

Parish membership is required.
Arrangements need to be made a
minimum of six months prior to
the wedding date. Please contact
Fr. Robert.

Anointing of the Sick

Please contact the Parish
Office



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Come Join Us!

We would love to officially welcome you into our family.
Registration packets are available at the information center.

Thank you to the Oak Creek High School Choirs 14th Annual Caroling for Cans

OCHS Choir students went caroling on a brisk and very cold December 21st from 5:30 P.M. to 7:45 P.M for the FLC food pantry.

And...The Oak Creek neighborhoods where the carolers visited donated well over 832 pounds of non-perishable food items to the FLC food pantry!

The FLC food pantry continues to be most appreciative of the continued support and generosity of our St. Stephen parishioners and community!



Many Thanks!!



January 2, 2022 | The Epiphany of the Lord

Is 60:1-6 | Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6 | Mt 2:1-12

Written by
THE
FAITHFUL
DISCIPLE

GROW AS A DISCIPLE | PRAY, STUDY, ENGAGE, SERVE

My husband is a bird watcher by day and a stargazer by night. I confess it drives me a little bonkers on our evening dog walks. I tend to want to keep moving; between him and our dog (who seems to want to sniff every mailbox), it's the pedestrian equivalent of stop-and-go traffic. Hearing about the journey of the Magi, however, reminds me to pause and look, too. Just as they saw the star rising and followed it to Jesus, we, too, can seek God in our surroundings, our relationships, and the beauty of creation - the next step is to follow where God leads us. As Pope Benedict XVI wrote, the Magi represent "the journeying of humanity toward Christ." (*Jesus of Nazareth: The Infancy Narratives*) We may falter from the path from time to time, but Isaiah's prophesy reminds us of our destination: "You shall be radiant at what you see, your heart shall throb and overflow."

GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

The Epiphany is early this year, falling right on the heels of New Year's Day. If we haven't made our New Year's resolutions yet, now is a good time to do so. In addition to typical resolutions such as reducing clutter or getting fit, we can set some spiritual goals as well. The definition of epiphany (lower case) is "a moment in which you suddenly see or understand something in a new or very clear way." As we reflect on today's readings, let us ask the Holy Spirit to provide us an epiphany - into how we can grow closer to Jesus during this year ahead. Just as their encounter with the infant Jesus caused the Magi to be transformed from outsiders to faithful believers, and to take a different route home, our encounter with Jesus in the Eucharist is meant to transform all of us, and set us on a new path to light and life.

RESOLVE New Year's resolutions are great! Why not add a couple of spiritual resolutions to the list - perhaps to pray the rosary more often, spend time in eucharistic adoration, or go on that retreat you have been meaning to attend. Ask the Holy Spirit for inspiration and see where it leads.

WHAT'S HAPPENING

Baby Bottle Campaign

The St. Stephen Knights of Columbus Baby Bottle Campaign, which benefits pro-life causes, will run from January 8th through January 30th.

How you can participate:

- Pick up a baby bottle after mass the weekends of January 8th/9th or January 15th/16th.
- Fill the baby bottle with coins, bills, or checks made payable to the Knights of Columbus.
- Return your baby bottle before or after mass the weekend of January 29th/30th.
- 100% of the money raised will be donated to pro-life groups in the Milwaukee area.
- Last year's campaign raised \$3,500 and that money was contributed to the Women's Care Center and Milwaukee Birthright.
- Our goal is to surpass last year's total raised so please join in.

ANOTHER BLESSING!

Our Burn the Mortgage events are reaping the fruit of our labors. The Christian Women's Bazaar, the Tenderloin Dinner, the Sweet Shoppe, and continued donations by you, the faithful, we were able to make another \$20,000 payment to the Principal Only of our mortgage. Soon, and very soon, there will be dancing in the streets (or at least the narthex)! Thanks to all who helped to make this happen!

CURRENT MORTGAGE UPDATE

Current Balance \$61,688
December Principal Payment \$14,107
December Interest Payment \$199
Total December Payment \$14,306

We Are Looking for
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Keepsake Booklet

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your family's name in our booklet!

Contact: Julie (414) 764-2791



Christmas Giving Tree 2021

Thank you to all of our St. Stephen parishioners who generously gave to our FLC Christmas Giving Tree. Over 185 gifts were distributed to our food pantry patrons on December 14th, 16th, and 21st! The food pantry patrons and families were most grateful for your generosity and kindness!

THANK YOU TO ALL OF YOU WHO CONTRIBUTED and DONATED!

The FLC could not do the outreach ministries without the support, help and generosity of our St. Stephen parishioners! In addition, four large full of gifts were donated to our sister parish: Congregation of the Great Spirit.

Also, a special thank you to the many FLC volunteers who generously donate their time and energies to make the St. Stephen Christmas Giving Tree a successful ministry outreach!

Readings for the week of January 2nd, 2022

Sunday: Is 60:1-6/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13 [cf.11]/Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6/Mt 2:1-12

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, 21-22 or, 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

Observances for the week of January 02, 2022

Sunday: The Epiphany of the Lord; Sts. Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzen, Bishops and Doctors of the Church

Monday: The Most Holy Name of Jesus

Tuesday: St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, Religious

Wednesday: St. John Neumann, Bishop

Thursday: St. André Bessette, Religious

Friday: St. Raymond of Penyafort, Priest

EPIPHANY



Tuesday, January 4th

9:00am Food Pantry

Wednesday, January 5th

1:00pm-7 Adoration

6:00pm Religious Ed Grades K-5

Thursday, January 6th

9:00am Food Pantry

4:30pm Choir Rehearsal

Friday, January 7th

Nothing scheduled at this time

Saturday, January 8th

KOC Baby Bottle Campaign Drive Begins

Sunday, January 9th

9:00am Religious Ed Grades 6-11

January 2nd
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.

Mass Intentions

Tuesday, January 4th

8:00am † Sister Mary Alice Walters

Wednesday, January 5th

8:00am † In Honor Of The Holy Spirit

Thursday, January 6th

8:00am † Poor Souls In Purgatory

Friday, January 7th

8:00am † John & Stephanie Udziela

Saturday, January 8th

4:30pm † Marlene Wilkowski

Sunday, January 9th

8:30 am † Rosemary Jackson

10:30am † For the people

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