THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

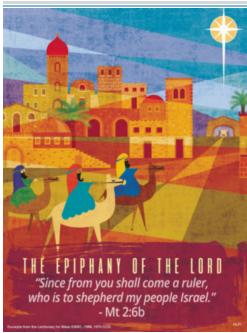
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Business Hours: 7:30 AM-4:00 PM, Monday-Friday



FAMILY PRAYER PARTNER

As we begin 2022, remember to make contact with your family you should have received in the mail. If you have questions, or are choosing not to participate this year for whatever reason, please call the parish office and the family will be reassigned to another family willing to take on more partners so all are remembered in prayer in 2022. God knows we all need them.

SENIOR CITIZEN POTLUCK

Tuesday, January 4 at 12:00 PM at St. Benedict Hall.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS NEWS

*Knights of Columbus meeting will be held on Monday, January 10 at 6:00 PM.

*Blood Drive will be held on Sunday, January 16 from 9:00 AM-1:00 PM at the St. Jerome Parish Hall.

BAPTISM CONGRATULATIONS!

*Harper Jo and Hallie Jane, twin daughters of Jimmy and Lindsey Farris, was baptized on December 19, 2021. Welcome!

EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

The song "We Three Kings" details the gifts of the Magi, but do you know what you're singing? "Born a king on Bethlehem's plan, gold I bring to crown Him again." This one is the most straightforward - gold symbolizes the Kingship of Christ. "Myrrh is mine: its bitter perfume breathes a life of gathering gloom." Myrrh is an embalming spice. Already at Christ's birth, we have the symbolic reminder of his death. "Frankincense to offer have I. Incense owns a deity nigh." In many religious traditions, incense symbolizes prayers rising to heaven. In some pagan traditions, it is thought to help "call down" the deity. The gift of frankincense symbolizes Jesus' role as the Great High Priest, sanctifying the world through his sacrifice.

SYNOD INFORMATION

St. Jerome Church will be participating in a two-part listening session as part of the diocesan synodal process! Synodality means journeying together and gathering in assembly as the People of God. Pope Francis has invited EVERYONE to participate in a dialogue with one another and with the worldwide Catholic Church. Join us! We hope you will participate in the conversation. Each individual matters and each of our experiences is valid and in need of ears to listen. Nobody is excluded - all are welcome. We are all on this journey of faith together. This is an opportunity to listen to one another in a spirit of prayer and dream about the Church we are called to be. The information gathered from the listening sessions will not only help us discern how we can move forward together as a community, but also as a diocesan and universal Church. Please join us January 25 and February 24 (place TBD).



Welcome Visitors ... We are delighted to have you visit with us here at St. Jerome Catholic Church. We hope your visit with us has been a happy and faith-filled experience.

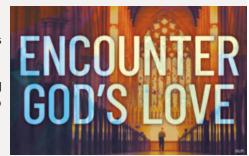
2 REFLECTION ON THE GOSPEL ... THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

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



ONGOING GROWTH IN FAITH

If you have a desire to grow in your Catholic faith and enjoy social media, check out Our Sunday Visitor's program entitled **Real + True**. It is pretty engaging and reaches a broad audience. It is based and inspired by the Catechism and has videos and podcasts. You can find it at https://realtrue.org.



*Wednesday, January 5th: Youth Council @Youth House ... Middle School 6:30—7:15 and High School 7:30—8:15 PM

*Wednesday, January 19th: Middle School Fun Night - 6:30—8:00 PM. Details TBD.

*Saturday, January 22nd: High School Girls Overnight ... Begin with Mass at 5 PM on Saturday through Sunday morning (we will head straight to PRE). More details to follow.

*February 12/13: Souper Bowl Collection.



Crisis Text Line • Text TALK (or HOME) to 741741 any time

Veterans Crisis Line • Text to 838255 • Or call 800-273-8255 and select option for veterans

Contacting the Staff (via e-mail)

Fr. Darrell Venters — frdarrell@wk.net
Sister Martha Keller — martha.keller@maplemount.org
Marie Woodrum — stjerome@wk.net
Sherry Jones — sdjones1@wk.net
Lacy Riddle — lacyriddle@live.com
Shanda Purcell — shandapurcell@gmail.com
Timmy Hobbs — stjerome@wk.net

Parish Registration

If you have just moved into our community or have changed your address, please call the parish office to update your information.

Rite of Christian Initiation (R.C.I.A.)

For adults, youth, and children (over age 6) who have a desire to learn more about the Catholic faith. Weekly sessions are held for adults. You may contact the parish office or Sister Martha Keller.

Funerals

The funeral Mass replaces the regularly scheduled weekday Mass.

Sacraments

Contact the Parish Office for information about Baptism, Reconciliation, Communion, Confirmation, Matrimony.

The Diocese of Owensboro requires couples to make arrangements at least six months in advance of the desired date of Marriage. You must be 19 years of age or have graduated from 12th grade for at least one year.

Hospital Visits

Please call the Parish Office or have someone call for you if you are admitted to the hospital and would like a priest to visit. When you are admitted, please let the hospital know which parish you belong to.

Parish Religious Education (PRE)

Classes for Kindergarten—11th grade are held on Sundays from 9:00-10:10 am. 12th grade will meet September thru December on Wednesdays from 7:00—8:00 pm.

STEWARDSHIP

MAYFIELD-GRAVES COUNTY NEEDLINE AND FOOD PANTRY

Item needed this week is canned fruit. Place donations in back of church and they will be picked up. Thanks to everyone for their donations.

PARISH RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (PRE) PERFECT ATTENDANCE FOR DECEMBER

Kudos to our young people and parents on your perfect attendance for the month of December. Kindergarten: Samuel Driscoll, Elliott Hoskins, Kynlee Smith; 1st: Nolan Croft, Conner Elliott, Zachary Hayden, Easton Henson, Lillian Key, Eden Miller: 2nd: Cayden Drury, Nathan Elder, Slade Pendel, Grev Wiggins. Macy Wilson; 3rd: Charlie Driscoll, Brayden Smith, Brody Thompson; 4th: Zoey Atkins, Miles Fowler, Xavier Gong, Hudson Hayden, Myles Hobbs, Lola McLeary, Max Miller, Silas Pendel: 5th: Clayton McLeary, Kendall Wilson: 6th: Jackson Fowler, Reagan Manuel, Bethlyn Thompson, Rebecca Wilson; 7th: Libby Englert, Payton Hayden, Jase Henson, Kaylenn Morganti, Madeline Pierce, Madelyn Toon: 8th: Hadley Hayden, Anna Taylor, Emilie Williams, Gerald Wilson; 9th: Connor Drury, Wyatt McLeary, Josie Redden, Connor Riddle, Hayden Thompson; 10th: Ryan Barnett, Molly Miller; 11th: Cambelle Drury, Natalie Elder, Drew Havden, Gabe Redden, Marley Shoulta, Avery Thompson, Mitchell Wilson; 12th: Isabelle Miller, Jessica Mills, Gwen Munsell, Logan Thompson, Abbey Williams and Ellie Youngblood.



SAINT JEROME PRAYER LINE / EMAIL REQUEST

To submit a prayer request to those who are praying for the needs of others daily, please send your intention to SaintJeromePrayerRequests@gmail.com

SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION IN 2022

Parent Meeting for First Eucharist: Parents of our First Communion candidates, please mark your calendars for a meeting on Wednesday, January 12 at 6:30 PM in the Parish Center.

Parent Meeting for Confirmation: Parents of our Confirmation candidates, please mark your calendar for Wednesday, February 2 at 6:30 PM in the Parish Center. More info to follow.

Service Opportunities: If you have any service needed, please contact the parish office, our candidates are willing to help.

RCIA will resume this week, Monday, January 3 at 6:00 PM. The topic is the Sacrament of Confirmation.

SAFE ENVIRONMENT

The safety of our children is the responsibility of every Christian. Anyone aware of the abuse of a person under the age of 18 is required by law to report this to the proper state authorities 270-247-8522; local law enforcement 270-247-4501; or the Kentucky Child Abuse Hotline 1-877-597- 2331. To report abuse to the diocese, current or past, by anyone acting in the name of the Church (paid or volunteer), call Louanne Payne, Pastoral Assistance Coordinator (English) on the confidential phone line: 270-852-8380, or Susan Montalvo-Gesser/Miguel Quintanilla, Pastoral Assistance Coordinators (Spanish): 270-880-8360. The Diocese of Owensboro's sexual abuse policy is available in the parish office and also on the diocesan website (owensborodiocese.org/safe).

PRAYER REQUESTS

Parishioners: Maria Puryear, Julia Barnett, Jeanette Harms, John Willett, John Andrews, Clay & Karen Willett, Vicky Riley, Pat Wilson, David & Robin Redden, Shelley Cook, Eugene Willett, Robert "Butch" McClure, Gayle Vermillion, Norris & Elexie McNutt, Dot Murphy, Joy Ann Toon, Code & Shirley Rowe, Terry Goatley, Vayda Bollenbecker and Family, David & Geralynn Carbine, Joey & Sue Elder, Scott Elder, Jackie Langham, Elmer Elliott, Mark Elder, Will Dee Stahr, Dorothy Hobbs, Algene & Debbie Wilson, Allen Cissell, Susan Crenshaw, W. Dewey Hobbs, Pat Carrico, Wayne & Ruth Ann Higdon, Sara Elliott, David Thompson, Andrea Kemp, Joyce Wilson, Lydia Hobbs, Dorothy Elliott, Dennis Tharp, Teresa (David) Hobbs, Joe Elliott, Larry & Delores Wilson, Brenda Goatley, James & Dottie Wilson, Danny & Theresa Thompson, Helen Lockett, Angela Hayden.

Non-Parishioners: Virginia Emerson, Sister Charles Mary Burns, Tracy French, Elaine Hinkebein, Christy Anderson, Vince Roberts, Brayden Barnett, Joyce Matthews, Debbie Underwood, Kathy Butler, Randy Cope, Lori Jody, Michael Brian Rowland, Rhonda West, Steve Rehrig, Al Cash, Kyle Thomas, Kara Goodman, Bruce Lee, Ronnie Smith, Penny Nelson, Gordon Dickerson, Barbara Brown, Jaxon Short, Mike Mortensen, Kristen Hobbs, Jeff Cooper, Zoie Pyle, Sandy Donohoo, Frank Redden, Marilyn Miller, Kelly Walker, Ronnie Reed, Ruthie Ellegood, Charlie Crider, Mark Barnett, Robin Evans, C.W. Jackson, Graham Hosman, Nick Smith, Charles Hokanson, Karla Ray, Carolyn Ramsey, Wayne Viniard, Johnny & Phyllis Walker, Ricky Walker, Daniel Hayden, Katie Harms, Ellen Mortensen, Cheryl Ayers, Dorothy & Robert Pierceall, Mary Brame, Kye Thomason, Owen Coombs, Florence Vessels, Cecilia Burnett, Eric Ritzie, Amanda Dunlap, Bobbie Edds, Lisa P. Nelson, Robert Toon, Ray Willett, Ryan Ballard, Dustin Turska, Tina Elder Via, Peggy Adams, Tracey Hargrove, Stephanie H. Dunn, Cody Carrico, Belinda Rucker, Bobby Hobbs, Phillip & Karen Carr, Leon & Vicki Elder, Sue Farris, Betty Ballard, Mark Wilson (Liz's son), Seth Karlson, Michael Curtis Hobbs, Jeanette Hobbs Farrell.

The **tornado victims**, doctors, nurses, essential workers, the homebound, those in the hospital, assisted living & nursing homes. Pray for our enemies.

Pray for all men and women serving in the armed forces, especially Nathaniel Brown, David Michael Clifton, Adam Curtsinger, Autumn Goatley, Jarred Lutz, Michael McGrath, Luke Nimmo, Josh & Sarah Thompson, Tanner Webster, Luke Westmoreland, Brittany Willett, and Thomas Wilson.

4 LIVING THE LITURGY

Human beings easily get bored. Life's routines can become so predictable that there is often little time for excitement or freshness. Today is all about the new and the wonderful. In celebrating the beauty and simplicity of the Epiphany, we see in tangible ways God's creative, redemptive, and restorative power. This refreshment and revitalization is offered not only to a select few but to everyone throughout the world. There is nothing routine or static about God. Surprises, wonders, miracles, opportunities, healings, and joy without measure are available to those who believe. There are never any endings, just beginnings. And, when darkness, boredom, and gloom seem to be the order of the day, a bright new light now shines pointing us to truth and reminding us that we are loved. ©LPi

ST. ELIZABETH ANN SETON | JANUARY 4

The patron saint of Catholic schools, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton (August 28, 1774 – January 4, 1821) was born in New York City to a prominent family of the Episcopal faith. When she turned 19, she married a wealthy businessman with whom she had five children. He later died of tuberculosis in 1803, leaving her a young widow. After discovering the Catholic faith in Italy, where her husband had died, she returned to New York and converted to Catholicism in 1805.

After several years struggling as a single mother, Elizabeth moved in 1809 to Emmitsburg, Maryland, where she founded the Sisters of Charity of St. Joseph,

the first community for religious women established in the United States. She also began St. Joseph's Academy and Free School, which started a chain reaction of Catholic-based education in the United States that continues today.

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton was canonized September 14, 1975 in St. Peter's Square by Pope Paul VI and was the first citizen born in the United States to be given the title of "saint." ©LPi



OBSERVANCES FOR THE WEEK OF JANUARY 2

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 Next Sunday: The Baptism of the Lord ©LPi

POPE FRANCIS' INTENTIONS FOR JANUARY 2022

For true human fraternity ... We pray for all those suffering from religious discrimination and persecution; may their own rights and dignity be recognized, which originate from being brothers and sisters in the human family.



WEEKLY SCHEDULE

Sunday, January 2, 2022

8:00 AM Mass [Our Parish Family] 9:00 AM NO PRE for K—11th grade 10:30 AM Mass [Bill Elliott (d)] 5:30 PM Rosary at the Grotto

Monday, January 3, 2022

8:00 AM No Mass 6:00 PM RCIA

Tuesday, January 4, 2022

8:00 AM Mass [Elaine Hayden (d)]

12:00 PM Senior Citizen Potluck @ St. Benedict Hall

Wednesday, January 5, 2022

8:00 AM Mass [Lester, Elva & Omega Hayden (d)]

9:00 AM Quilting

6:30 PM Middle School Youth Council 7:30 PM High School Youth Council

Thursday, January 6, 2022

8:00 AM Mass [Pat Toon Nucup (d)]

Friday, January 7, 2022

6:30 PM Mass [Jack & Liz Wilson (d)]

Saturday, January 8, 2022

3:30 PM Confession

5:00 PM Mass [Elizabeth Nelson (d)]

Sunday, January 9, 2022

8:00 AM Mass [Our Parish Family] 9:00 AM PRE for K—11th grade 10:30 AM Mass [Pat Walsh (d)] 5:30 PM Rosary at the Grotto



HOUR OF PRAYER FOR THE WEEK OF JANUARY 2

Sun: Lydia Hobbs

Mon: Teresa (Phil) Hobbs Tues: Jim Johnson Wed: Sister Martha Keller

Thurs: Ken Kilcoyne Fri: Marilyn King Sat: Helen Lockett



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