



THE CATHOLIC CHURCH OF SAINT MARY

112 E. Washington Street • P O Box 246
Elizabeth, IL 61028

Parish Mission Statement

The Church of St. Mary, followers of Christ, are inspired by our Catholic faith to build on our traditions through the Eucharist, prayer and education. As the family of God, and with one another, we desire to live our faith in the world.

Church of St. Mary Parish Address:
112 E. Washington St., Elizabeth, IL

Phone: 815-858-3422

Email: stmary-elizabeth@rockforddiocese.org;

DRE/DYM & Bookkeeper:.....Norma Schwirtz 815-238-2317

Web:.....www.stmaryelizabethil.org
www.facebook.com/stmary.eliz.il.61028

Parish Office Hours:
8:30am—3:30pm (Tuesday through Thursday)

First Thursday: 8:30am—Mass, Holy Hour and Healing Service (SJ)

First Friday: 8:30am—Mass, Holy Hour & Healing Service (SM)
* Subject to change during holy days.

Confession
Wednesday afternoon 5:00-5:45pm. If you wish to come at a different time, call to make an appointment.

Marriage
If you wish to get married, please call the office and make an appointment at least six months before your wedding date.

Baptism
Please call the office to begin preparation.

Sick or Hospitalized
Please notify the office or Father.

Pregnant? There are alternatives to abortion! If pregnant and in need of assistance, call 1-800-848-love. Freeport Pregnancy Center at 815-232-5433.

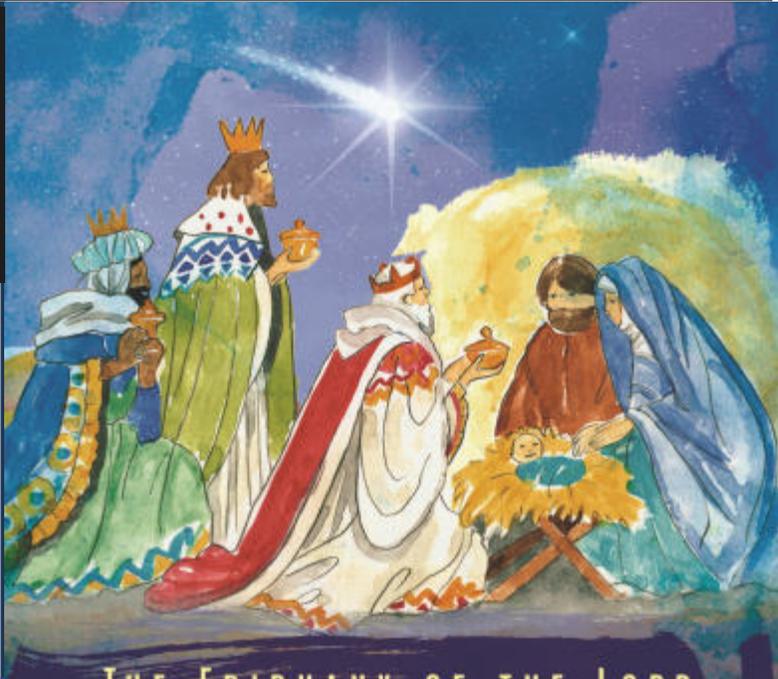
Jupiter

Contributed to Facebook by Greg Hogan Photography in Kathleen Georgia and credited to him as such.

Saturn and its rings

The Bethlehem Star or Christmas Star

This is the closest the two planets have been in 800 years and will not happen again until year 2080. This is so close to Christmas it is now dubbed the Christmas star and could have been the “star” at the Lord’s birth.



Ezekiel 15:26 “I am the Lord, your healer”

Please Pray for the following

Jennifer Sullivan	All those alone during this time
Rich Gesiorski	All those in need of healing grace
Ed Ersfeldt	
Karyl Schuman	

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

They were overjoyed at seeing the star, and on entering the house they saw the child with Mary his mother. They prostrated themselves and did him homage. Then they opened their treasures and offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.
- Mt 2:10-11

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

January 3, 2021



Saturday, Jan 2, 2021
6:00 pm (Elizabeth) † Josephine Leden by the family

Sunday, Jan 3, 2021 +- Epiphany of the Lord
8:30 am (Elizabeth) † Lois Mostek
By Roseann Mardjetko

Monday, – January 4, 2021 No Mass

Wednesday, January 5, 2021
8:30 am (Elizabeth) † Ken Berlage by Marilyn Berlage
6:00 pm (Elizabeth) † Pat Uhl by the family

Friday, January 6, 2021
8:30 am (Elizabeth) † Marlene Chunes
by Tony Chunes

Saturday, January 9, 2021
6:00 pm (Elizabeth) For the people of St. Mary

Sunday, January 10, 2021
8:30 am (Elizabeth) † Pat Uhl by the family

**Gospel Readings for
January 3-10, 2021**



Sunday, Jan 3, 2021
Mt 2:1-12

Monday, January 4, 2021
Mt 4:12-17, 23-25

Tuesday, January 5, 2021
Mk 6:34-44

Wednesday, January 6, 2021
Mk 6:45-52

Thursday, January 7, 2021
Lk 4:14-22a

Friday, January 8, 2021
Lk 5:12-16

Saturday, January 9, 2021
Jn 3:22-30

Sunday, January 10, 2021
Mk 1:7-11



If you have any prayer requests please email or call the office.



If you wish to have mass intentions also please call the office or email.

Word of Life
Respect Life Corner

January 10th

“When we encounter Christ, experience his love, and deepen our relationship with him, we become more aware of our own worth and that of others. His love for each person is cause for great joy, and growing understanding of this priceless treasure motivates us to share his love with others. Our lives are often changed by the witness of others; so too, others’ lives may be changed by our witness and authentic friendship with them.”

USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities
“How to Build a Culture of Life” (respectlife.org/culture-of-life)

Liturgical and Safety Duties Jan. 9-10, 2021

Saturday, @6:00pm(SM)
Lector/Com.....Frank Schwartz

Names, temperatures, sanitizing pews
Saturday.....Schwartz's

Sunday, @8:30am (SM)
Lector/Com.....Cheryl Rife

Names, temperatures only
Sunday.....Engle's

Sanitizing: staff

Knights of Columbus



Fr. Ron Conro Knights of Columbus will meet this Tuesday evening, November 17, 2020 6:30pm in the church hall at the Church of St. Mary. If you are a member, please plan to attend.

January 10, 2021 The Baptism of the Lord

We need history. We need it in order to understand ourselves, personally and collectively. The pieces of our histories may not have always been the most positive, honest, exemplary, dignified, proud and best moments of our lives, but they are ours. We have to acknowledge, remember, accept, and often heal them. We cannot forget them or pretend that they never existed. As horrible as the atrocities of events like Auschwitz, brutal injustices committed throughout the human journey, or personal painful experiences in our own stories, we need to remember. These times when humanity in general or people in particular have lost their way are times that need to be reconciled and redeemed.

If we lose the memories, we will make the same mistakes again. The human soul needs a strong sense of affirmation, direction, and clear purpose. Without these essentials, we will easily run amuck and repeat the sins of our past. God’s voice throughout history has spoken precisely about this! We are reminded through the voices and example of many prophets and witnesses not to make the same mistakes again, come back to center, discover the purpose given to us by God, maintain a sense of proper direction, seek healing for wounds and be reconciled to our Creator.

Baptism is so incredibly important for the salvation of humankind, not only eternally but here and now. Our existence depends upon it. It gives us the affirmation we need from God by gifting us with the same intimate relationship Jesus had with the Father. We are blessed with the direction and clear purpose we need in order to be productive stewards and faithful Christians. Baptism calls us to remember, accept, and deal with the sins and inequities of our past regardless of how hurtful and serious. We consciously choose to turn away from them and put on the new life of Christ. To do this well, we must look hard and long at our sins and failings, listen to what they are saying and learn from them. If we ignore the past, collectively or personally, or pretend that it never happened, we will never grow. We will surely die.

People need to hear the message, lived and spoken, delivered by the baptized members of the Body of Christ. It is an essential message of hope that is layered with visions of justice, peace, reconciliation, redemption, blessing, and healing. It is a message that helps us remember what has gone before, the graces and the sins, and bring ourselves by God’s help where we need to be. We are called to do much more than sit home behind our closed doors. We have a message to deliver. Are we ready to do so?



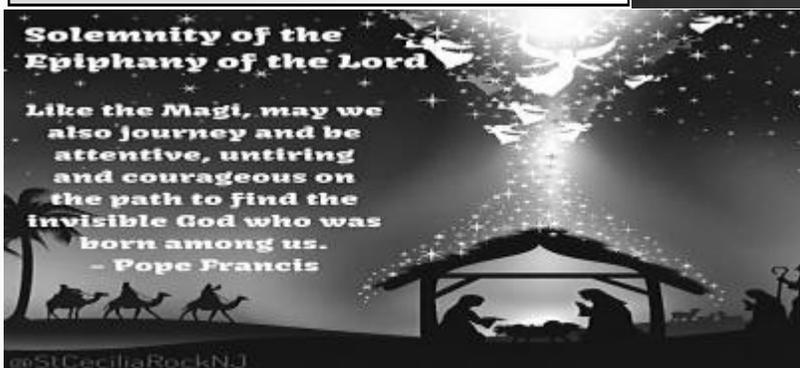
Christmas which celebrates the birth of a “helpless child” is followed by this more ancient feast that originated in the East around 4th century and it celebrates the “manifestation” or “showing forth” of God’s power. “Epiphany”, as this feast is called, was known in the East as the “Feast of Lights.” The focus of this feast is the mission of the Church as the “**light**” of all nations.

The dogmatic Constitution on the Church of Vatican II, right at the beginning of the 1st chapter says that Christ is the light of humanity. Each member of the Church—and we became its members through our baptism—must project this light visibly to the world by the way we live, what we say, and how we treat each other. This is our responsibility. The document stresses that the condition of the modern world demands, with great urgency, this duty from the church.

One of the important factors of our membership in the Church—that we often forget about—is the fact, that the external membership is no proof of the inward union with the Church and, of course, with Christ. It is St. Paul who in this letter to the Romans says that not all Israelites belong to Israel (9:6). Membership of the Church is no guarantee that a man belongs to Christ. What we need is not new truth, but for the truth we already know to become active and effective in our lives. This is what the Constitution on the Church urges us to do: to use the wisdom that God shared with us through Christ and raise up men and women to share in His own divine life.

It is the simple fact of the Christian life that things would be different immediately, if we would only put into practice what we already know. That is not to say that we never need to learn anything new, but it is to say that, even as we are, we have light enough to walk by if we would only use it. Our relationship to God depends on our reaction to Jesus. Our Christian faith depends on that fact that Jesus alone makes it possible, It is in Jesus that we can approach God. His words become more than the guesses which any good and great person could make. They are the words of the Father that His Son has made known to us. Our reaction to Jesus is, in fact, our reaction to God and that reaction settles our destiny in time and in eternity.

Happy Epiphany!

<p>STEWARDSHIP SHARING GOD'S BLESSINGS FOR THE COMMON GOOD</p> <p>Weekly Offering: Dec 20, 2020: \$2432.88 Christmas Offering: \$145.00 Holy Day \$15.00 Donation: \$1000.00</p> <p>December 27, 2020: \$984.50 Christmas Offering: \$3410 General Donations: \$145 Project donations: \$245</p>	<p>Thought and Joke of the Week</p>	
<p>The future starts today, not tomorrow.</p> <p>St. John Paul II</p> 	<p>A Morning Prayer</p> <p>Dear Heavenly Father, So far today I've done all right. I haven't gossiped or lost my temper. I haven't been greedy, grumpy, nasty, or self-centered. I'm really happy about that so far. But in a few minutes I'm going to be getting out of bed and then I'm going to need a lot of help. Thank you!</p> <p>Anna</p>	
<p>Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord</p> <p>Like the Magi, may we also journey and be attentive, untiring and courageous on the path to find the invisible God who was born among us.</p> <p>— Pope Francis</p>  <p>@StCeciliaRockNJ</p>	<p>Advertiser of the Week January 10, 2021</p>	<p>Support Local Business.</p> <p>Shop our Bulletin Advertisers Today!</p> 
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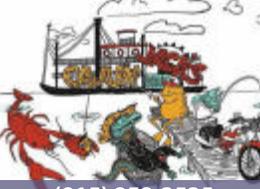
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