

St. Patrick Catholic Community

324 Nicolet Blvd., Menasha WI 54952

Mission Statement:

'Joyfully serving God and our neighbor with open hearts and helping hands.'

Discover! Follow! Worship! & Share Jesus!

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E-Mail: stpatmen@gmail.com

Web Site:

www.stpatricksmenasha.org

Mass Times:

Sunday: 8:30 & 10:30am

Reconciliation: between Sunday masses except on Holidays

Parish Office Hours: The office is open by appointment only until further notice.

PARISH STAFF

Pastoral Leader (x102):.....
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Priest Moderator:.....
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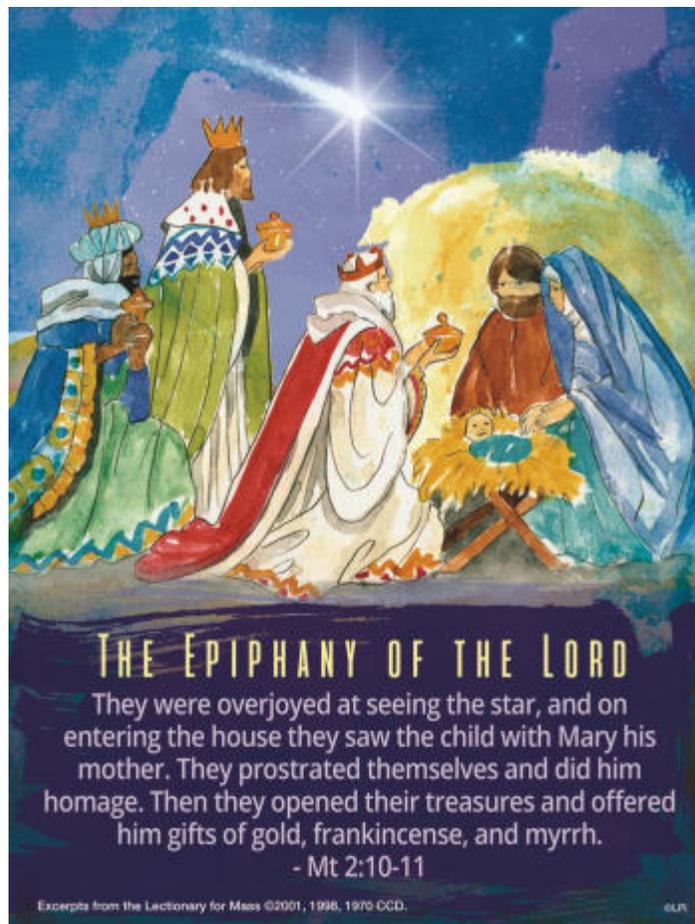
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Consider St. Patrick's in your Will and Estate Plans.

January 3, 2021



Even the slightest flicker of a light helps to properly orient us when we find ourselves in total darkness. Being in darkness can be unsettling and even a bit unnerving. We lose our focus and struggle to find our bearings and achieve balance. On life's journey we may think we are walking in the light but are really lingering in darkness. We do not see the full picture, either because we are distracted, disinterested, or even apprehensive.

Sometimes, we even choose to close our eyes when the light is readily available to illuminate our path. Do we really desire to know the truth of who we are? In Jesus Christ, a light has been given to those who dwell in darkness. God's revelation gives us the light to see where we come from, who we are and where we are going. It also tells us that this Good News is not meant for just a privileged few but is intended to go out to all the world. Is this something we want to see? ©LPi



From the desk of



**Mary Krueger,
Pastoral Leader**

Dear St. Patrick Family,
A Blessed **New Year** of 2021 to you! We wait with hope that the nightmare of the COVID-19 pandemic will soon be over. We pray for health and a renewed spirit for all the people of the world.

This Sunday we celebrate the Epiphany of the Lord. I asked those who were in church last weekend to notice our Magi figurines who were making their journey along the windowsills (on the west side of church) to the creche to worship the Christ Child. Our own journey to God's heart may follow a similar path in which we need to ask directions just like the Magi stopped to ask Herod where the baby was.

Speaking of directions: I delivered some cards from parishioners to Father Jim last Wednesday night. He rents an apartment in a sprawling complex, and the Christmas lights and decorations were simply beautiful! But, the address numbers were not well lit, and I ended up calling Father Jim for directions. Thank God for cell phones!



Here is a picture that I took to prove to you that Father is safe and sound in his own apartment. We talked and laughed for quite some time, and he was in good spirits. His walker is serving him quite well ... not bad for 79½ years young!

I share this prayer with you that was sent me by the Salesians:

Lord, we pray that this **New Year** will bring us closer to You.

Help us to truly celebrate the gifts You have graciously given us and use them to serve You and spread Your word.

May we also see and love You in all the people we meet, so that in turn, they can see You in us.

In this **New Year**,

let us realize that every action of ours no matter how great or small enables us to be in touch with You.

Let us accept You in our lives ... in the way it pleases You,

as **Truth, to be spoken,**

as **Life, to be lived,**

as **Light, to be lighted,**

as **Love to be followed,**

as **Joy to be given,**

as **Peace, to be spread about,**

as **Sacrifice, to be offered among our relatives, friends, neighbors, and all people.**

Let us always have **HOPE** in our heart,

Amen.

~Mary K.

"They that **hope** on the LORD will renew their strength, they will soar on eagles' wings

They will run and not grow weary, walk and not grow faint." (Isaiah 40:31)

Mass Intentions

Sunday, January 10, 2021

The Baptism of the Lord

8:30am Mike Goble

10:30am Dick Voelzke

Readings for the Week

Monday (St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, Religious): 1 Jn 3:22—4:6/Ps 2:7bc-8, 10-12a/Mt 4:12-17, 23-25

Tuesday (St. John Neumann, Bishop): 1 Jn 4:7-10/Ps 72:1-4, 7-8/Mk 6:34-44

Wednesday (St. André Bessette, Religious): 1 Jn 4:11-18/Ps 72:1-2, 10, 12-13/Mk 6:45-52

Thursday (St. Raymond of Penyafort, Priest): 1 Jn 4:19—5:4/Ps 72:1-2, 14, 15bc, 17/Lk 4:14-22a

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

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

Sunday (The Baptism of the Lord): Is 42:1-4, 6-7/Ps 29:1-4, 9-10/Acts 10:34-38/Mk 1:7-11 or Is 55:1-11/Is 12:2-4bcd, 5-6/1 Jn 5:1-9/Mk 1:7-11



Happy Birthday

to all who are celebrating a birthday in JANUARY. May everyone be blessed with His Ever Loving Light!



Sunday January 3, 2021—The Epiphany of the Lord

Isaiah 60:1-6; Psalms 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-13; Ephesians 3:2-3a, 5-6; Matthew 2:1-12

Today, we celebrate the Epiphany of our Lord. "Epiphany" comes from the Greek word meaning "to manifest" or "to make known." In other words, today we celebrate the first manifestation or revelation of Jesus as the Son of God. Our readings today remind us of God's numerous manifestations in our lives and how we are called to share these manifestations with others.

The Gospel account of the three magi traveling to meet the newborn Baby Jesus bearing gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh is one that we know well. Yet, when we pause to reflect on this passage and unpack the richness of that moment when these men met Christ for the first time, we recognize that there is much to be said for us still today.

As today's Gospel tells us, the magi traveled quite a distance as they followed the star, and "on entering the house they saw the child with Mary his mother. They prostrated themselves and did him homage." Clearly these men knew that they were in the presence of their King, for one prostrates himself out of reverence and submission. They also came bearing gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh, which symbolize Christ's kingship, divinity and humanity. These gifts make known to us Who Christ is — our Lord, our God and our Redeemer.

Christ is still manifesting Himself to us today. We enter God's house weekly. Upon entering His house, we are in His presence. Is meeting Christ our top priority each week? When we meet Him, do we give Him homage and show reverence knowing that He is our King? Do we offer Him our gifts — our time, talent and treasure? As Christian stewards, we are called to respond to Christ's manifestation in the Eucharist with love, reverence and gratitude.

And as Christ primarily manifests Himself in the Eucharist, He also manifests Himself in everyday moments — like a beautiful sunrise, a good conversation, a merciful spouse. He gifts us with little manifestations throughout our days and we often miss them. In order to recognize Him, we need an attitude of gratitude — a key component of a stewardship way of life.

A faithful steward not only receives Christ gratefully, but also shares His goodness responsibly. St. Paul expresses this in our Second Reading in his letter to the Ephesians, "the mystery was made known to me by revelation... the Gentiles are coheirs, members of the same body." St. Paul is sharing the Good News that has been revealed to him with the Gentiles. As a Christian steward, we too are called to share what has been revealed to us. We are called to manifest Christ to others by the way we live our lives.

As we strive to become more faithful disciples of Christ, let us prepare our hearts to receive Christ's many manifestations in our lives, both big and small, and let us be Christ to others. In other words, let us look at every moment through the lens of gratitude, and share what we receive with one another. God gifts us with countless little epiphanies! We just need a grateful disposition to receive them.

REFLECT & RESPOND TO SCRIPTURE

First Reading: In late 6th century BC, the prophet Isaiah proclaimed an unimaginable future of glory for Israel in the wake of their return from seventy years of captivity in Babylon. What message of hope does our nation need today?

Second Reading: Paul speaks of God's "revelation" to include Gentiles as "coheirs" and "copartners" with Jews in the divine promise fulfilled in Christ Jesus. How welcoming are you to those you consider outsiders?

Gospel Reading: The magi's visit to discover the "newborn king of the Jews" caused great anxiety for the religious leaders of Jerusalem, including King Herod. Why do you think some people are not open to the good news of Jesus Christ? ©LPi

Why are the Readings & Prayers Not Being Projected During Mass?

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2021 Calendars, donated by Kessler Funeral Home, and the book "I Heard God Laugh". are available in the

Gathering Area after masses or stop by the Parish Center starting Monday, January 4, 2021 Monday-Thursday from 9am-4pm. The calendars and book are at the bottom of the ramp —Self-Serve!

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