



# SAINT MARGARET OF SCOTLAND

CATHOLIC CHURCH AND SCHOOL

JANUARY 3, 2021  
EPIPHANY OF THE LORD



**The Dream of the Magi** by Master Gislebertus, Autun Cathedral, France, c. 1120-1130.

In this stone sculpture, the artist depicts the angel communicating to the three kings in a dream. The angel's gown sweeps across the magi, appearing to be the blanket under which they sleep. With one hand she points to the star which will guide them safely home. With the other she gently touches one of the kings, who opens his eyes. (*Google images*)

## CELEBRATION OF THE EUCHARIST

Saturday 4:30 p.m. & Sunday 8:00 a.m. and 10:00 a.m.

Monday thru Friday at 6:30 a.m.

Holy Days and holidays as published in Sunday Bulletin

## SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturday 3:45 to 4:15 p.m.

## MASS INTENTIONS

### Monday, January 4

6:30 a.m. John Bedene +

### Tuesday, January 5

6:30 a.m. The Casey Family +

### Wednesday, January 6

6:30 a.m. Carlos Fritz "Happy Birthday"

### Thursday, January 7

6:30 a.m. Mary Casey Wille +

### Friday, January 8

6:30 a.m. Alitz Tucholko +

### Saturday, January 9

4:30 p.m. People of the Parish

### Sunday, January 10

8:00 a.m. Martha Brake +

10:00 a.m. Bill & Mary Mills +

*To mark a special occasion or to remember a beloved family member or friend, living or deceased, with a Mass intention please call the Parish Office at 314-776-0363. The bishops of Missouri ask the faithful to make a \$10 offering for each Mass if they are able.*

## PTA NEWS



Dragon's Blend Coffee Sale  
Support the PTA's Teacher Grants fund with your purchase of locally roasted coffee for \$12 per bag in your choice of

Whole Bean or Ground. Fans of Keurig and pod brewers will love our reusable, BPA-free stainless mesh filters, \$5 each. Place your order on WeShare <https://stmargaretstl.weshareonline.org/ws/opportunities/PTACoffee> or contact Julie Mudd at 314-960-1864 or [juliemudd2001@yahoo.com](mailto:juliemudd2001@yahoo.com)

The *St. Louis Review* is your faith resource to local, national and international news. If you are not a parish subscriber, contact the parish office 314-776-0363 or make a parish contribution with your request to receive the *St. Louis Review* in your home. If you are a current parish subscriber, consider a parish contribution of \$35 or more today.



## STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION

*"..they fell down and worshipped him. Then they opened their treasures and offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh..." - Matthew 2:11*

Notice the order of events in the Magi's visit. First, they knelt before Jesus and prayed to Him. Then they presented Him with their gifts. We, too, must take time to pray before we present our gifts to the Lord. We never know what God may be asking us to share!



## RESPECT LIFE NEWS

Our Lady's Inn Maternity Homes is having their Virtual Trivia Night – Saturday, January 23. Trivia begins at 7:00 pm on Zoom. Cost is \$25 per person and \$200 for a team of 8. To register, [www.ourladysinn.org](http://www.ourladysinn.org) or contact Katrina at 314-736-1544 for more information. Join the fun from the comfort of your own home.

## EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Our Parish prays before the Blessed Sacrament on Thursdays from 7:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. Drop-ins are welcome and encouraged. We meet in the main body of Church, please sit towards the front of the church. If you have questions or need more information contact the Parish Office 314-776-0363.



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I've seen the skulls of the three kings! Really. In 2003, I was on a day visit to the city of Cologne, Germany. It was the twelfth day of Christmas, a most festive occasion in Cologne, for there inside the great Gothic cathedral is found the bejeweled shrine of the three kings. Legend says that their relics were found by the Byzantine Empress Helena in the 4<sup>th</sup> century, moved to Constantinople then to Milan and then to Cologne in 1164. Since the day of my visit was Epiphany, the reliquary of the three kings was unveiled. Pilgrims steadily filed up to the gold chest resting several feet near the high altar. I spied the dark outlines of three skulls positioned inside the reliquary. Three towers of wax, much like Easter candles, stood in front and each had a different letter emblazoned on them: B, C, M. My friend and I figured the letters represented the traditional names of the three kings – Balthazar, Caspar, and Melchior.



BY FR. MATT O'TOOLE

Now, the skeptic and even the little-bit-dubious believer can be a witness to everything I described and say, "C'mon! Really? You're telling me those are the remains of the magi? How can anyone be sure?" One more attuned to the details of scripture may add, "How do you know there were *three* of these magi?" Matthew's gospel account never said there were three visitors who adored Jesus. It simply identifies three gifts. There could have been only two; or there may have been a dozen of these astrologers! And the names of the magi? They can't be found in the Bible. Those were invented sometime in the Middle Ages.



*The gold chest reliquary of the Three Kings stands behind the high altar of Cologne Cathedral.*

So with all this evidence at hand, what's a Catholic to think when he or she is standing before the reliquary of the three kings in Cologne? Or any shrine that claims to possess the remains of a holy follower of Christ? There are no less than fourteen churches in Europe which claim to have the head of John the Baptist. And there is even a basilica in Italy with a glass casket containing what is purported to be a feather left behind by the Archangel Gabriel at the Annunciation. That's a tough swallow, since angels have no material composition. But there's no way I'm going to question its authenticity to a pious Italian!

Our faith in Jesus Christ and His Church is not founded on the authenticity of relics or even the miracles associated with them. These things are, to put it in everyday parlance, the "extras" of our beliefs which we can take or leave. They exist only to reinforce a genuine belief in what we already hold fast. There's a comfort level our Catholic faith has developed over the centuries with less than perfectly factual things. Imagination has a role to play in every person's faith. For the sake of our human senses, imagination can spread out in creative and inspiring ways a truth of God that would otherwise be elusive or intangible.

The astrologers from the east are mysterious characters. Their country of origin and their number are both uncertain. Their presence in scripture occupies a mere twelve verses in Matthew's gospel. And yet they have filled the imagination of Christianity for centuries. The account of them has been extrapolated into colorful stories, and it has inspired elaborate and ornate works of art. It be sure, they are the best dressed and most exotic figures in any Nativity scene. So what if those skulls inside the gold chest are not the astrologers from the east who brought gifts to the newborn King? Well, I'm OK if they're not. They still prompted me to draw more closely to the mystery of Christ and the richness of our faith.

But you can be sure, when I approached that reliquary in Cologne, I blessed myself.

*Rev. Matthew O'Toole*

## THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

### *Gathering Hymn*

#### **We Three Kings of Orient Are**

Traditional Carol

We three kings of Orient are; bearing gifts, we traverse afar  
Field and fountain, moor and mountain, following yonder star.

*REFRAIN* O star of wonder, star of night, star with royal beauty bright,  
Westward leading, still proceeding, guide us to the perfect light

Born a king on Bethlehem's plain, gold I bring to crown Him again;  
King forever, ceasing never, over us all to reign.

Frankincense to offer have I; incense owns a Deity nigh;  
Prayer and praising, gladly raising, worshipping God on high.

Myrrh is mine: it's bitter perfume breaths a life of gathering gloom;  
Sorrowing, sighing, bleeding dying, sealed in the stone-cold tomb.

*REFRAIN*

Glorious now behold him arise, King and God and Sacrifice;  
"Alleluia, alleluia!" sounds t rough the earth and skies.

*REFRAIN*

### *Gloria*

H. Hughes, A. Hommerding

Gloria in excelsis Deo. Gloria in excelsis Deo.

### *First Reading*

Isaiah 60: 1-6

Rise up in splendor, Jerusalem! Your light has come, the glory of the Lord shines upon you.  
See, darkness covers the earth, and thick clouds cover the peoples;  
but upon you the LORD shines, and over you appears his glory.  
Nations shall walk by your light, and kings by your shining radiance.  
Raise your eyes and look about; they all gather and come to you:  
your sons come from afar, and your daughters in the arms of their nurses.

Then you shall be radiant at what you see, your heart shall throb and overflow,  
for the riches of the sea shall be emptied out before you,  
the wealth of nations shall be brought to you.

Caravans of camels shall fill you, dromedaries from Midian and Ephah;  
all from Sheba shall come bearing gold and frankincense,  
and proclaiming the praises of the LORD.

### *Responsorial Psalm*

Michael Joncas

#### **Psalm 72**

*Sung:* Every nation on earth will adore you, Lord;  
every nation on earth will adore you, Lord.

*Recited:* Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.

## *Second Reading*

Ephesians 3: 2-3a, 5-6

Brothers and sisters:

You have heard of the stewardship of God's grace that was given to me for your benefit, namely, that the mystery was made known to me by revelation.

It was not made known to people in other generations as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit:

that the Gentiles are coheirs, members of the same body, and copartners in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel.

## *Gospel Acclamation*

Paul Hillebrand, Gesu Bambino

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

## *Gospel*

Matthew 2: 1-12

When Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, in the days of King Herod, behold, magi from the east arrived in Jerusalem, saying,

"Where is the newborn king of the Jews? We saw his star at its rising and have come to do him homage."

When King Herod heard this, he was greatly troubled, and all Jerusalem with him.

Assembling all the chief priests and the scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Christ was to be born. They said to him, "In Bethlehem of Judea, for thus it has been written through the prophet:

*And you, Bethlehem, land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; since from you shall come a ruler, who is to shepherd my people Israel."*

Then Herod called the magi secretly and ascertained from them the time of the star's appearance. He sent them to Bethlehem and said,

"Go and search diligently for the child. When you have found him, bring me word, that I too may go and do him homage." After their audience with the king they set out.

And behold, the star that they had seen at its rising preceded them, until it came and stopped over the place where the child was.

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.

And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they departed for their country by another way.

## *Nicene Creed*

I believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible.

I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Only Begotten Son of God, born of the Father before all ages.

God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,

begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father; through him all things were made.

For us men and for our salvation he came down from heaven,

and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate, he suffered death and was buried, and rose again on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures.

He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead and his kingdom will have no end. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church. I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

## *Preparation of the Gifts*

### **What Child is This**

Dix; GREENSLEEVES

What child is this, who, laid to rest, on Mary's lap is sleeping?  
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet while shepherds watch are keeping?  
This, this is Christ, the King, whom shepherds guard and angels sing;  
Haste, haste, to bring Him laud, the babe, the son of Mary.

Why lies He in such mean estate where ox and lamb are feeding?  
Good Christian, fear, for sinners here the silent Word is pleading.  
This, this is Christ, the King, whom shepherds guard and angels sing;  
Haste, haste, to bring Him laud, the babe, the son of Mary.

So bring Him incense, gold and myrrh; come, peasant, king, to own Him.  
The King of kings salvation brings; let loving hearts enthrone Him.  
This, this is Christ, the King, whom shepherds guard and angels sing;  
Haste, haste, to bring Him laud, the babe, the son of Mary.

## *Mass Setting*

*The Glendalough Mass, Liam Lawton*

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, Lord God of hosts. Heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest. Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest. Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.

Save us, Savior of the world, save us, Savior of the world,  
for by your Cross and Resurrection you have set us free, you have set us free.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us; ... grant us peace.

## *Communion Hymn*

### **The First Nowell**

English Carol

*REFRAIN*

Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell! Born is the King of Israel.

## *Recessional Hymn*

### **Epiphany Carol**

Francis Patrick O'Brien

Once again may we discover Word made flesh sent from above.  
In our neighbor, sister, brother, in the lonely and unloved.

May we touch him, may we hold him, may we cradle him with care  
As we learn to love each other, Bringing hope from out despair.

Gather, God, the world together in the brightness of your day.  
Fill our hearts with joy forever forever; help us walk the holy way.  
May your justice rule the nations; may all people live as one.  
Now we see our true salvation in the glory of your Son.

## NEWS FROM ST. MARGARET OF SCOTLAND SCHOOL



By CLARE YOUNG

Thank you for your patience during the challenges of the pandemic. Thank you to each one of you for your kindnesses, for your support and feedback, and for your continued grace.

For third-quarter, St. Margaret of Scotland School intends to implement these teaching and learning models:

**The in-person learning option** will accommodate four days per week of in-person learning for all grades, K – 8.

- In-person learners will be on campus Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday.
  - Wednesdays will continue as virtual learning days to give teachers the opportunity to assess our full virtual learners, as well as to do additional cleaning in the buildings.
  - Teachers and students will adhere to physical distancing of 6 feet apart, per CDC guidance and results from parent and teacher surveys.
  - Grades 3-8 will have a staggered return.
  - 3,4, & 6 grades return in person on January 11
  - 5, 7, & 8 return in person on January 19
- PK-2 grade schedules will remain unchanged and return in person on January 11

**The full-virtual learning option** will be offered through the end of the 2020-21 school year.

- Based on focus group feedback and survey results, administration will work with teachers, parents, and students to improve virtual learning.
- Better communication and coordination are our priorities.

**ALL students, Pre-Kindergarten through 8<sup>th</sup> grades, will return to learning in the full-virtual model during the first week back to school, beginning January 4, 2021.**

**While it is our intent to implement this timeline as planned, it is important that you and your family have a contingency plan in place for if, or when, St. Margaret of Scotland needs to pivot to our hybrid or fully virtual learning model.**

We will need your prayers and patience as we continue to adapt to a new way of teaching and learning. We especially ask for your patience as our teachers pivot, yet again, to a new type of instruction.

St. Margaret of Scotland, pray for us.



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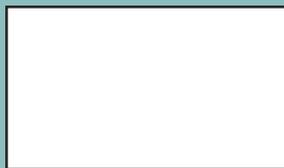
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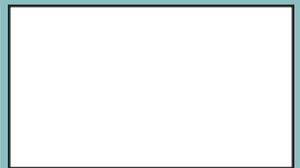
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