

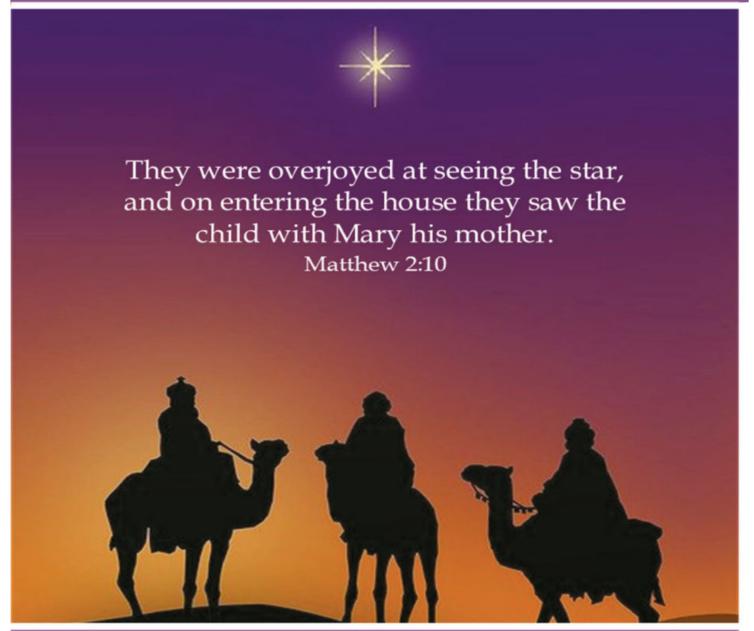
January 2 2022 The Epiphany of the Lord

Guardian Angels Mission Statement

Engaging in God's Service

PARISH INITIATIVES

- Strive to be an Inclusive Community and Engage Parishioners
- Deepen our Witness to Catholic Social Teaching
- Respond to the Church at a Crossroads
- Improve Communication Awareness



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Caring & Support Ministries



PASTORAL PEARLS

Each of us is called by our Baptism to BE the Love of God to those around us — anyone we encounter. And since those around us will at times have a need for more tender care, I thought I would pass on some brief, concise "Pearls" or "Tools" to help us be that Love of God.

AND SUDDENLY
YOU JUST KNOW
IT'S TIME TO START
SOMETHING NEW
AND TRUST
THE MAGIC
OF BEGINNINGS

TODAY'S PEARL: That is what I want to feel this New Year. "Suddenly" makes me feel like some new and wonderful change is happening. It feels like a Mystery, an Adventure. To "Just Know" is to really tune into my OWN Intuition and listen for that "Still small voice" of God that speaks to me there. "It's Time" – yeah, sometimes I just *need* a kick in the butt. "To Start" ... It's time to *act* on what God's guidance through my intuition is calling me to do. I've heard the saying that "A Goal without a plan is just a Wish," and to that I would add that I need to support it through what I actually *do.* "Trust the Magic" reminds me that there will *always* be magic in whatever God calls me to do, wherever he calls me to go. Trust means also to embrace, to jump in with both feet, to "put my Money where my mouth is." Trust means I "fake it till I make it," knowing God will make all things right, somehow, no matter what. Trust seems to be the hardest for me, though – trusting myself, trusting my intuition,.. trusting that God will really come through for me, or work through me. And yet I keep acting as if that is exactly what will happen. Trust. "Beginnings" is the part I

like best about the New Year — each year. I get to begin again. I get to open myself up again, and clear away all the clutter that has distracted me from God's infinite possibilities for me. I get to work at *believing* again. It's exciting, because it feels like I'm given permission to follow my curiosity again — see where it leads. This is a time where I can look at the world through fresh eyes, with an open heart, with new enthusiasm (which means, by the way, belief in special revelations of the Holy Spirit) and with renewed energy. Happy New year! Buckle up for this amazing ride!

Loving God, open my heart to new special revelations of your Holy Spirit. Give me courage to follow my intuition – your voice guiding me. Fill me with the joy of this exciting new adventure, this new year, and show me how to BE your presence to the world, even in small, meaningful, and surprising ways. Fill me with your strength to leap with faith into wherever you take me in this new year. I am grateful for this opportunity again, and all the possibilities. Amen.



Communion Visitors Needed

How would you like to bring Jesus to people who home-bound? In order to serve our valued homebound members we need people to volunteer as Communion Visitors. We offer a brief training and set you up with people who can't get out and are missing this important sacrament. It means so very much to them. It would greatly help to have more Communion Visitors to serve those who may request Communion, so no one Visitor is overloaded. Please contact MaryPat Potts at 651-789-3178 or via email at mpotts@guardian-angels.org to find out more.

Please **let us know** what's going on in your life - share your joys, struggles, **illnesses hospitalizations**, challenges ...
Our Pastoral Team can find the best way to walk with you on your journey so you know you are never alone.

Are you or someone you know homebound? Would you like Eucharist brought to you where you live? Contact Mary Pat at mpotts@guardianangels.org or 651-789-3178 so we may help to arrange this for you.

Caregivers Gathering! Time to Treat yourself to a little self-care time with our GA Support Group - Second Thursday January. 13th, 6:30pm - IN PERSON in the library AND via Zoom for anyone who can't be here (if you let me know). If you are juggling work, family and caring for someone living in a care facility or caring for a loved one of any age who may some special care and attention – 24-7 in your home, or even - the weight might seem heavy at times. Others in similar situations can offer understanding, validation, insight, sometimes even ideas. Support like this can make a huge difference for a you as caregiver, empowering you to be better able to care for your loved one. Contact MaryPat Potts if you'd like the link or to answer your guestions: mpotts@guardian-angels.org / 651-789-3178

Social Justice & Outreach



Pope Francis and A Global Economy Week 5

In a global virtual address in October, Pope Francis outlined nine compelling calls to reform of a variety of economic sectors. His words are a direct appeal to apply our Catholic social teaching to our global economic structures. (You can read the entire address by scrolling down on the front page of the parish website.) In coming weeks, this space will offer for your reflection each of his nine calls. They are challenging, based on a view from the margins of society and rooted in care for each other and for the earth. This week, we highlight Pope Francis' fifth call:

In the name of God, I ask arms manufacturers and dealers to completely stop their activity, because it foments violence and war, it contributes to those awful geopolitical games which cost millions of lives displaced and millions dead.



Everyone at HJH is deeply grateful for the support received from so many of you. Our challenge grant is active until the end of the year and you can still make a donation on the parish website. We can also use donations of toilet paper, laundry baskets, shelf-stable, 100% apple and orange juice and new or likenew double sheet sets. **Our top need right now, however is for volunteers.** If you can serve dinner and clean up afterward or if you can stay in our comfy overnight room we would love to welcome you. Go to www.quardian-angels.org/hope to see the sign up links.

Who is our neighbor?

As winter sets in we will see an increase of neighbors coming to the parish seeking support with basic needs. We can always use your donations for our emergency assistance fund. If you can help, send checks to the parish or donate online.



Did you know that Oakdale's newest food rescue innovation is open and thriving? Today's Harvest is a wonderful community resource, both for those who find themselves short on funds and for those who just want to make good use of surplus groceries from local stores. It's a beautiful, welcoming space and



you can shop just like you would at a neighborhood grocery store – but for free. Volunteer opportunities are also available.

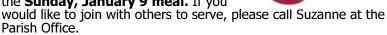
Go to www.todaysharvestmn.org to learn more.

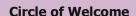
Afghanistan C-O-N-N-E-C-T-I-O-N-S

Have you or anyone you know served in the military in Afghanistan? Did you connect with any of the residents of the country while there? Or learn about the local culture? If so, might you be interested in connecting with our refugee resettlement team? We will be welcoming a family from Afghanistan in the coming weeks. Please call Suzanne at the Parish Office if you want to talk about this further.

Sunday Evening Meal

Our parish Loaves & Fishes teams are back in the swing of things and we have a few openings for our team that will serve the **Sunday, January 9 meal.** If you





Our refugee resettlement team begins this new year with anticipation of our relationship with a family from Afghanistan. Thank you to all who have made a financial contribution so far. In the coming weeks, we will have need of items to set up the



will have need of items to set up the household for the family. We will use an online system for your donations of all the items it will take to create a home. Our first set of needs is posted now and additional items will be added when we learn more details about the family. Please sign up online before you bring any items to the parish, using this link: https://signup.com/go/dvwHspn. If you have trouble with the online option, please call Suzanne at the Parish Office for assistance. Thank you!

Love Builds Bridges, Not Walls

We invite you to pray for a person caught in our broken immigration system. Each week, we offer a name of someone detained, deported or waiting for justice.

Those who have fled Afghanistan and those who remain

For more information about anything you read here, or about any of the Justice and Outreach ministries at Guardian Angels, contact Suzanne Bernet at 651-789-3181 or sbernet@guardian-angels.org.

Administrator's Corner

Happy New year!

Stewardship Message: Today is the Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord. For centuries we as Catholics celebrated this Feast on Jan. 6, but the decision was made a number of years ago (at least in the United States) to celebrate the Epiphany on the Sunday which falls between Jan. 2 and Jan. 8. "Epiphany" means "manifestation." It is on this day that Jesus Christ, the Messiah, is revealed as the light of all nations. Officially Christmas is not over. In fact, the recommendation of the Church is that on this day those who display a crèche, a nativity or manger scene, should replace the shepherd and sheep with the Magi and their likely animals on which they traveled as well as their gifts. However, that is all secondary to the real meaning of this day. At Christmas the Messiah Jesus was revealed to the shepherds, who were Jewish. But on this day the Lord is revealed to all nations and to the Gentiles (represented by the Magi). We are all familiar with the star the Magi followed, but we need to understand all that is happening and what it means. This all represents the Light of Christ, a Light which today we honor and commemorate. We are called to be the Light of Christ right now to those around us and those with whom we come in contact. That way we can be the disciples Christ wants us to be. The poet William Cullen Bryant captures the significance of the star the Magi followed very well when he wrote, "O Father, may that Holy Star, Grow every year brighter, And send its glorious beams afar, To fill the world with light." The Catholic Steward

Save the Dates: The Fish Fry Friday Core Team has met just before Christmas and the 2022 dates are March 11, March 25, and **April 8.** The team decided that we again will offer Drive Through Service and, we will also offer a walk in, pick up option to for those who may want an odd number of meals. We will be using the same online prepaid ordering system exclusively for both options and you will have

only the option of ordering 2, 4, 6 or 8 full dinners for the Drive Through Service. For both types of service, you will be able to order either baked of fried fish. The traditional meal will again be served along with the Lake Elmo Inn signature desert.

In mid-January, please watch the bulletin and the Friday Blast Email for information on volunteer sign up opportunities. The ability to recruit volunteers is the team's biggest concern. We will continue to require masks and social distancing throughout prep work to delivery to your car at the ramp door to keep everybody safe. Please start planning now on which dates you would like to volunteer.

Thank You! The 2021 Stewardship Campaign for last calendar year was successful in that the amount received is very close to the amounts pledged. We have decided to incur the expense for a second reminder letter from Fr. Joe asking those who have not turned in their 2022 pledge cards to do it now. Pledges for 2022 are more than 15% below last year. will continue to remind parishioners in the bulletin and the weekly blast emails to send in their commitment cards even if not able to pledge at this time.

Thank You: We thank all those parishioners, who through their 2022 Stewardship Campaign pledge cards, will be donating to our Capital **Projects Saving Fund on January 15**. For those who don't use the EFT/ Credit Card electronic option, please try to drop your check in the plate collection over the next couple of weeks and write in "Annual Capital Donation" on the memo line. Through out years past, we have a special plate collection on the third Sunday each month for Capital Repairs and Improvements. Both collections help pay for general capital needs. We also receive Angel List donations for very specific capital needs that resonate with some parishioners so they can earmark their donation to a specific need. During the year, we receive memorial gifts from families who have lost a loved one and they

decide which project they want to donate to. All these different sources help keep our buildings and grounds well maintained and safe. Thank you.

Reminder: Your donation summary statements for 2021 will be mailed the last week in January. Please contact Heidi if you have any question before then.

Alert: January **February** are prime months for slips and falls when outdoors. Our maintenance team does an excellent job maintaining a safe sidewalk even if is snowing at the time. They will lay down ice melt in areas where there may be ice. We need everyone to be extra careful in the parking lots which become slippery even when they are If you have problems walking, please try to get dropped off at the lower level.

Keep smiling, 6



Denny

PS: The ultimate aim of Saint Paul's Letter to the Colossians is to teach the community how to deepen its relationship with Christ Jesus. His list of virtues summarizes the ideals of communal stewardship: compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience. For Paul, practicing these virtues opens our hearts to Christ as individuals and as a worshipping community. This is how the Christian community ought to live. This is how its members should behave in their dealings with others, particularly with fellow believers. As we approach a new year, how might we embrace one of these virtues more fully in order to deepen our relationship with Jesus?

Thought of the Week: May the Lord grant us to work in this new year with generosity to create a more supportive and welcoming world.

Pope Francis



Financial Corner

December 19, 2021 (25 Weeks) Stewardship Giving

Please note, that due to bulletin print deadline, Financial Scoreboard is through December 19

Stewardship Giving Year to Date 721,250 Envelopes Budget Actual Difference

Regular Plate Collection (Excludes Outreach Sunday Collections) Plate Year to Date

Budget 6,875 Actual Difference \$

Advent & Christmas Schedule

ADVENT & CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE 2021

WEEKEND MASSES

Saturdays at 4:30 p.m. and Sundays at 8:30 & 11:00 a.m.

DAILY MASSES - NOW IN WORSHIP SPACE

Tuesdays - Fridays at 8:30 a.m., Wednesdays at noon

INDIVIDUAL RECONCILIATION

Saturdays from 3:30 - 4:00 p.m.



Poinsettias Help

The poinsettias are beautiful! Will you help keep them beautiful?

We water them twice a week on a flexible schedule. Please call Louise at 651-731-0764 and I will tell you more. Thanking you in advance.





Women's Club News

Thanks to everyone who shopped, volunteered and/or organized the Christmas Boutique, Cookie Sale, Santa Shop, White Elephant Sale and Holiday Pie Sales earlier this month. It was so much fun and a great turnout. We hope those gift items and the pies brought joy to your home and lightened your task load for the holiday season. The money raised from the Pie Sales will go toward the Angel List item of Livestreaming Equipment for the Church.

Our Card Making Ministry continues with our next sessions on January 10 & 24 and February 14 & 28 from 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. in the Teen Room. All are welcome!



- Interested in helping to plan our Morning of Reflection for Lent, the Spring Salad Luncheon or the Scholarship Committee? Email us at womensclub@guardian-angels.org and we will get you in touch with the planning groups!
- Join us Monday, January 10, for our next Women's Club meeting, the January Potluck/ Meeting, which starts a bit earlier at 6:00 p.m. in Peter O'Neill Hall or email us to get the Zoom link. Bring a dish to share if in person and bring a recipe to share if you attend by Zoom. We look forward to catching up.

We hope you and your families have a blessed New Year!

Youth Ministry and GIFT Faith Formation

UPCOMING OPPORTUNITIES

- High School Mission Trip to Watertown, South Dakota, June 19-24. Grow in faith by serving others and meeting new friends. Email Paul for more information pdeziel@guardian-angels.org
- Growing In Faith Together Faith Formation for Elementary and Junior High JOLT do not meet December 29 or January 4. Sessions resume on Wednesday, January 12.
- * Youth Council meets Sunday January 2, 10:00 a.m. in the Youth Center for planning. All high school youth welcome.
- ** CONNECT meets Sunday, January 23, 12:30-1:30 p.m. for Q and A with Father Joe. All youth grades 9 - 12 welcome in Peter O'Neill Hall. Masks required.

Prayer & Reflection

Readings for the week of January 2, 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

STAFF CONTACTS

Email: 1st name initial + last name@guardian-angels.org All Phone Numbers Area Code 651

Parish Team

raiisii i caiii	
Administration Fr. Joe Connelly, Parochial Administrator	789-3188
Denny Farrell, Parish Administrator	789-3169
Faith Formation	700 2472
	789-3173 789-3162
Deborah McMahon	789-3174
Liturgy/Music	700 0407
Zack Stachowski Deacon Mick Humbert	789-3187 366-0758
Maintenance	
Jason Kustritz	789-3186
·	789-3186
~~	789-3165
Heidi Tousignant	789-3168
Carla McGough	789-3167
	789-3182
	789-3190
	789-3178
•	709-3170
	789-3181
	705 0101
Trish Brokman	503-3380
Parish Finance Council	
	770-6475 735-0966
•	/35-0900
	739-5759
Teri Asiala, Vice-Chair	612-396-3770
Trustees	
Craig Johnson, Treasurer	485-1701
Mike Hansel, Secretary	770-2544
	Administration Fr. Joe Connelly, Parochial Administrator Denny Farrell, Parish Administrator Faith Formation Paul Deziel Sarah Gibson Deborah McMahon Liturgy/Music Zack Stachowski Deacon Mick Humbert Maintenance Jason Kustritz Tom Specht Office Cindy Sutton Heidi Tousignant Carla McGough Sharon Schwarz Michelle Fox Pastoral Care MaryPat Potts Justice/Outreach Suzanne Belongia Bernet Hope for the Journey Home Trish Brokman Parish Finance Council Marc Cove, Chair Greg Larson, Vice-Chair Parish Pastoral Council Craig Svendsen, Chair Teri Asiala, Vice-Chair

Prayers of the Faithful

We pray for all in our community who need our loving support.

Titus Ciolkosz Catherine Scoles Pat Sherrill Dolores Crane Judy Dahl Sue Smith Kathy Fleck Carol Stewart Frank Steel Amara Strande Teresa Johnson Robert Tatreau Henry Klotz Irene Watson Jodi Landry Walt Welna Ruth Olson Joan Nedeau

Mary Cinquegrana Suzanne Schmidt Colleen Pierre Tom Huebsch Amy Lippert Hoffman

Please submit names for prayer requests to MaryPat Potts at **651-789-3178 or mpotts@guardian-angels.org**

Find us on

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Office Information 8260 Fourth Street North Oakdale, MN 55128

www.guardian-angels.org

Parish Business Office Hours

Monday - Friday: 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Saturday & Sunday: Closed

Parish Center Hours

Building is open 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Mon - Friday

If you have a Pastoral emergency after hours, please call the Parish Office at 651-738-2223.

Liturgies

Mass Saturdays at 4:30 p.m. (also livestream) with ASL The livestream will be available online after 5:30 p.m.

Mass Sundays 8:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.

Adoration Chapel

Wednesdays 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Reconciliation Saturdays, 3:30 p.m.

Please call the Parish Office regarding these Sacraments:

- * RCIA, Baptism, Eucharist, Confirmation * Marriage
- * Anointing of the Sick * Communion for the Homebound

Mass Intentions

Tuesday 8:30 a.m.	January 4 †Ann Lasky
Wednesday 8:30 a.m. 12:00 p. m.	January 5 †Geraldine Everson †Don Beltzner
Thursday 8:30 a.m.	January 6 †Jaci Meyer
Friday 8:30 a.m.	January 7 †Tom Stanton

Other Updates



Thank you to the consistent and dedicated livestream volunteers who have provided this service for our community! As we are in the second year, we would like to invite new volunteers to the ministry of Sound operator and Livestream operator. We can train anyone who is interested, as mentioned earlier, this is a volunteer run ministry. If you could help out, please email us at helpatmass@guardian-angels.org or call the Parish Office at 651-738-2223. Thank you!







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