



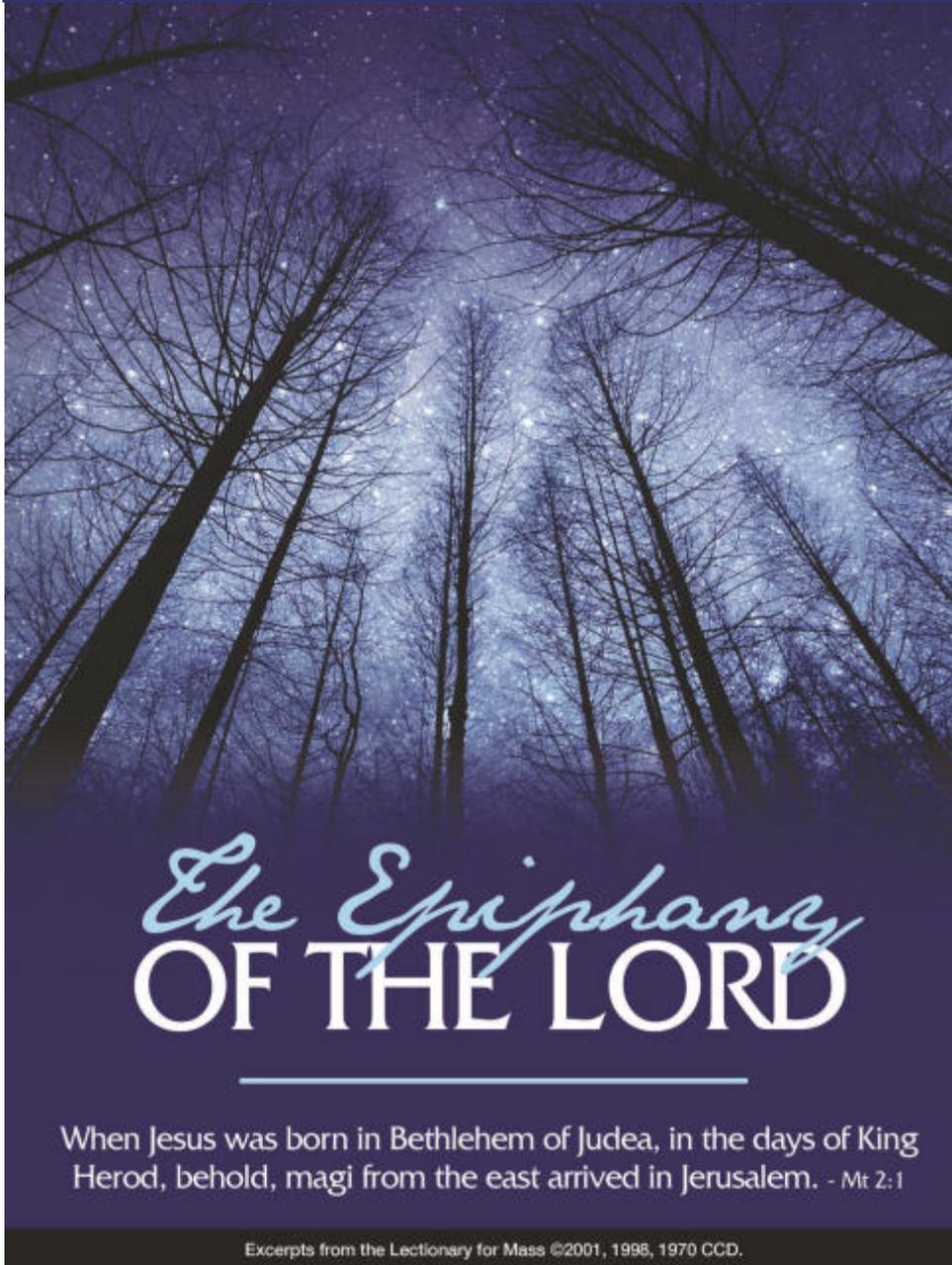
CATHOLIC COMMUNITY OF
Saint Thomas Becket

**A Welcoming Spirit-led
Catholic Community
where each is called**

to *love*,
to *serve* and
to *be hope*

"Your Spiritual home,
where each is called by name."

Sunday, January 3, 2021



PARISH STAFF:

Pastor:

Fr. Tim Wozniak Ext. 104

Weekend Assistant:

Fr. Mike Erlander

Business Administrator:

Karen Maza Ext. 100

Music Director:

Chris Ángel Ext. 107

Liturgical Ministry Coord & RCIA:

Jackie Graham Ext. 110

Pastoral Care:

Call 651-683-9808

Director of Faith Formation:

Mary McDonald Ext. 108

**Director of Outreach
and Confirmation:**

Dez Sobiech Ext. 109

**Coordinator Middle School
Faith Formation**

Lori Skare Ext. 111

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Monica Lopez Ext. 101

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Kevie Skogh Ext. 102

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Kevin Magyar, Ext. 106

Maintenance:

Dave Schelitzche Ext. 105

CONTACT US :

**4455 South Robert Trail
Eagan, MN 55123**

Phone: (651) 683-9808

Fax: (651) 683-0361

parish@stbeagan.org

VISIT US:

Parish Office Hours:

Monday / Wed / Th 9:00 am - 3:00 pm

Tuesday 9:00 am - 7:30 pm

Friday 9:00 am - 1:00 pm

Lord's Day Masses: All Are Welcome

See website for current information.

ONLINE:

www.stbeagan.org

Bulletin & Calendar

Like Us on FACEBOOK

CONFESSIONS:

Call parish office for appointment

Welcome!

a Catholic Community Where ALL are Welcome.

To New Parishioners: If you do not have a church home, we would be honored to have you as part of our parish family. Registration Forms are available at the New Parishioner Welcome Kiosk in the Commons, and online or call our Office at (651) 683-9808 , and we will help you out.

Baptism: All parents (must be parishioners) are asked to attend a baptism preparation meeting prior to the baptism of their child. Please register online; if you have questions call the parish office at (651) 683-9808.

Next baptism preparation meeting is Monday, January 4, 2021 at 6:15 p.m.

Marriage: Registered parishioners should contact the Office at least eight months prior to requested date.

Anointing of the Sick: Available to anyone who is seriously ill or suffering from a prolonged illness. Call Parish Office at (651) 683-9808 .

Faithful Shepherd Catholic School and Tri-Parish Center: www.fscsmn.org or call 651-406-4747

Readings

Week of January 3, 2021

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 [8ab]/
Mt 4:12-17, 23-25

Tuesday: 1 Jn 4:7-10/Ps 72:1-2, 3-4, 7-8 [cf. 11]/
Mk 6:34-44

Wednesday: 1 Jn 4:11-18/Ps 72:1-2, 10, 12-13 [cf. 11]/
Mk 6:45-52

Thursday: 1 Jn 4:19—5:4/Ps 72:1-2, 14 and 15bc, 17
[cf. 11]/Lk 4:14-22a

Friday: 1 Jn 5:5-13/Ps 147:12-13, 14-15, 19-20 [12a]/
Lk 5:12-16

Saturday: 1 Jn 5:14-21/Ps 149:1-2, 3-4, 5 and 6a and
9b [cf. 4a]/Jn 3:22-30

Next Sunday: Is 42:1-4, 6-7/Ps 29:1-2, 3-4, 3, 9-10 [11b]/
Acts 10:34-38/Mk 1:7-11 or Is 55:1-11/Is 12:2-3,
4bcd, 5-6 [3]/1 Jn 5:1-9/Mk 1:7-11

Prayers for the Sick

Please hold these parishioners in your prayers:

Janet Higgins	Mary Cloutier	Judy Schmidt
Peter DePover	Dale O'Brien	Lisa LaFrance

If you have someone you would like added to our confidential Prayer Line call Cathy at 651-344-3350.

Offerings

OUR OFFERINGS LAST WEEK: (12/22 - 12/28)

Online	9,760.00
In Person/mail	25,646.00
Simplified Giving (automatic transfers)	<u>10,381.00</u>
TOTAL	45,787.00

YEAR TO DATE: (11/30/20)

	Actual	Budgeted
Operating Revenue	\$ 491,745	\$ 490,250
Operating Expenses	<u>518,060</u>	<u>530,371</u>
Net Income (loss)	\$ (26,315)	(40,121)

Everyday Stewardship

Wise Men See God in the Simple Things

If you're on social media, you have probably seen a meme going around that features this quote: "God has a plan for your life. The enemy has a plan for your life. Be ready for both. Just be wise enough to know which one to battle and which one to embrace."

There were certainly two competing plans for the Magi: God's and Herod's. And, wise as they supposedly were, it wasn't entirely easy for the Magi to discern which was which.

After all, Herod posed as a friend. He offered the Magi hospitality and kindness. Though the Gospel doesn't say so, he probably flattered them and appealed to every moral weakness he could observe in them. In his palace, they must have felt great physical comfort — rest and tables of plenty on what was an otherwise long and treacherous journey.

But if the Magi were honest with themselves, I'll bet they would have admitted that, regardless of Herod's charm, they felt a gnawing sense of doubt while in his presence. When they looked upon the Christ Child, born in a stable without any of the comforts of the world or protections of wealth, they probably felt the opposite. They probably felt safe.

The Magi were lucky enough to have the right plan spelled out for them in a dream, but for the rest of us, it's enough to remember this: God's plan is often the one that leads us to places of great simplicity, great humility and great love. Let's have the wisdom to view power with suspicion, and innocence with admiration.

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS ©LPi



A Big Thank You to All

Dear Fellow Parishioners

On behalf of Sylvia Cook and Bruce and myself we would like to extend a HUGE thank you to each and everyone of you for digging deep in your hearts and sharing the love and respect for all of the Sharing Tree families. Each of these families, because of you, had a joyous Christmas .

Every year we talk about how "Blown Away" we are with how much that you are willing to give for all of God's extended families. Thank you from the bottom of our hearts!!!!

Sincerely, Sylvia Cook and Bruce and Mary Bruns

Exploring Sunday scriptures?

Are you interested in exploring the Sunday scripture readings with a small group of parishioners?

A group of parishioners has been meeting via Zoom at 10:30-11:30 on Friday mornings to break open the Sunday readings. As we begin the new year, it might be a good time to consider a new way to enhance your worship experience.

If you are interested in joining us please contact Mary Lou Logsdon at logsdon.marylou@gmail.com. All are welcome.

Finding it hard to focus?

Feeling anxiety and unrest?

Longing to go deeper and feel God's presence?

Learning about and practicing Centering Prayer may be a gift to you!

Here are a couple of links that offer information and insight about this personal prayer style. These are not short, simple descriptions, but Centering Prayer is not a short, simple idea. These are intended for those who want to explore a spiritual practice rooted in Jesus' own words.

See, for example these words of invitation from the Gospel of Matthew 6:6, "But you, when you pray, go into your inner room, close your door and pray to your Creator who is in secret, and your Creator who sees *what is done* in secret will reward you."

* Contemplative Outreach: <https://www.minnesotacontemplativeoutreach.org/centering-prayer.html>

* You tube resources: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5FWvxwfn_CE&t=262s

Do you have a green thumb?

People are needed to water the plants in the church. You would be on a monthly schedule with a partner for roughly three to four months a year of your choosing.

Email Jackie at jackieg@stbeagan.org for information or to volunteer.

Stewardship Message

Let your character speak for you.

Explore, Develop, and Use Your God-given Gifts

In all aspects of your life!

Check out the [St. Thomas Becket's Gifts Website](http://www.STB-LYTS.net) (www.STB-LYTS.net) where you can access a variety of gift reflection and development opportunities and resources, including St. Thomas Becket's **Online Small Group Gift Classes**.

The next Online Gift Classes are in January!

The two types of Gift class options include:

● Explore Your God-given Gifts

New to STB, this introductory reflection process will help you to begin reflecting on your God-given gifts, which include you:

- spiritual gifts like faith, hope, and love;
- talents of body and brain;
- cherished relationships with family and friends;
- material goods;
- the achievements of human genius and skill;
- the world itself.

You have the option to download the ***Explore Your Gifts*** booklet and reflect on your own and/or you can also attend a small group Zoom session to further reflect on your gifts with other STB parishioners.

● Living Your Talents & Strengths (LYTS) Learning Modules

Attending LYTS learning modules gives you the opportunity to dive deeper into your God-given talents and then equips you to be more intentional about developing and using all of your God-given gifts in all aspects of your life – at home, at work, at school, volunteering in your community, and as a STB parishioner.

Take a look at what LYTS Participants are saying...

Please register for January gift classes at www.STB-LYTS.net by December 29.

Questions?

Send an email to strengths@stbeagan.org

IF
YOU
WANT
PEACE
WORK
FOR
JUSTICE

PAUL G.

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JUST-FAITH MINISTRIES

Faith & Racial Healing:
Embracing Truth, Justice,
and Restoration

REMOTE SESSIONS

Do you want to address racism in your community, but you don't know where to begin?

Presented through the lens of the Christian faith, JustFaith Ministries' program, *Faith & Racial Healing: Embracing Truth, Justice and Restoration* is an eight-session program that guides participants in telling the truth about the history of racism in the United States, that we might work toward true reconciliation with God and restoration with one another.

Your only cost, besides faithful participation in the prayer, reading and conversations, will be the cost of the three books, about \$40. The parish will pay the registration fees.

The program will be offered **remotely** via Zoom on Monday evenings from 6:30 pm -9:00 pm starting January 11th - March 8th.

If you are unfamiliar with Zoom, we can assist you in getting the app set up - very easy!

This program is open to others in the community, including non-parishioners.

Invite a friend to share the journey - all are welcome!

If interested, please contact Dan Rietz at mnrietz@gmail.com.

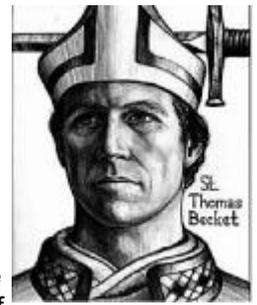
Feast of St. Thomas Becket

Thomas Becket was born in London in the year 1118.

He was a cleric of the Archdiocese of Canterbury.

When King Henry II ascended the throne in 1154, he made Thomas (then only 36 years old) the Chancellor of the kingdom. In 1162, Thomas Becket was made Archbishop of Canterbury and he began a life of prayer, fasting and discipline. Because of a conflict with the king, Thomas fled to France for safety; and remained there in exile for seven years.

When he returned to England, he suspected it would mean certain death. His concerns were well founded. On December 29, 1170, members of the king's court confronted Thomas in the cathedral and killed him. Within three years, Thomas Becket was named a saint of the Church. To this day, his tomb is a shrine of pilgrimage. We are fortunate to have eight pieces of the actual stone flooring from Canterbury Cathedral. These stones were donated to us in 1994 during a renovation of the cathedral. Very few churches in America can claim such a direct lineage to their patron.



Gospel Meditation

"Where is that thing?" mumbled Bob as he searched frantically on his dimly lit desk for the current electric bill. "I know I put it right on top of these papers this morning!" Growing in frustration and bordering on anger, he flies stuff around, moves books and opines why simple tasks need to be so hard. Enter his wife, who calmly says, "Maybe it would help if you put the light on, dear." The desk light goes on and lo and behold, there is the electric bill right where Bob left it earlier. All it took was a little light!

We stubbornly refuse to turn on the lights! Either we are distracted, determined, disinterested, preoccupied, stubborn, apprehensive, or all of the above. Or perhaps, we fail to do the obvious. We would rather live our lives with the dimmest of lights or even in total darkness. Why are we afraid to do something so that we can actually see? It might help us to find quicker and better answers to problems, the meaning of life, relationships, happiness, and what is ultimate truth. Yet, we stumble along, moving things from one side to the other, getting angry, feeling cheated, being unsettled, resigning ourselves to the agony of defeat once again.

"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." The light has come into the world in the person of Jesus Christ! We no longer have to fumble in the darkness. We have been gifted with the illumination we need to see our way through things and find what we really are looking for. All these years later, however, so many are still reluctant to accept him. Perhaps they are unconvinced, disinterested, preoccupied, stubborn, apprehensive, or all of the above. Everyone has their own reason for not wanting to turn on the switch

But there are so many answers to so many of our problems in this humble Child of Nazareth. A simple birth teaches us about God's tender wedded relationship with humanity. It speaks to the expanse of God's salvation across the globe, and the incarnate Divine wonders and blessings that are a part of our life moment to moment. It calls us to understand the design of world order God intended as found in the Beatitudes, the sacredness of every human life and all of creation and the meaning of things we struggle with most, like suffering and death. We have a lot of Good News to share, not just with a privileged few but with all the world. All races and creeds can receive God's healing word. God continues to manifest himself even now! Use the light to find what you are really looking for!

©LPI



This pandemic year has shown us what we can bear. May the coming year remove all this negative energy and enlighten our lives.

Treasure the smiles, good times and memories,

Leave behind the disappointments, Hard times and enemies.

Hold onto Faith, Hope and Beliefs,

And may your New Year be filled with Love, Joy and Peace!

Kids corner

Read the Gospel & Color



Epiphany of the Lord • Matthew 2:1-12

Sharing the Gospel

Jigsaw puzzles are fun. Solve a puzzle with your whole family, and it comes together even faster.

God helped the wise men solve a puzzle. They wanted to find the newborn king. Together the wise men read God's promises, did their homework, and followed the star.

When all of their answers fit, they found baby Jesus.

Prayer

God, thank you for all the people who helped me find Jesus.

PUZZLE

Find and circle these words from today's Gospel:

- | | | |
|----------|---------|--------|
| WISE-MEN | MESSIAH | GIFTS |
| STAR | WORSHIP | WARNED |
| HEROD | EXCITED | DREAM |

U W A R N E D E K O E
 J I N E G A J W I N G
 A S U T O F I O S A I
 N E X C I T E D U D F
 O M I Y U B A U W E T
 H E R O D E N Y O G S
 W N A H R T Y H R S F
 S O Y I E O M A S T U
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MISSION

Solve a puzzle together with your family. Work together like the wise men did.



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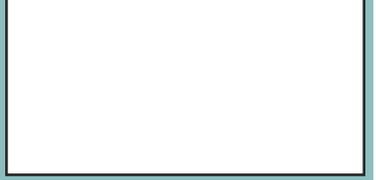


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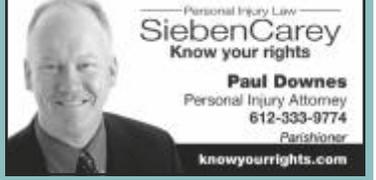


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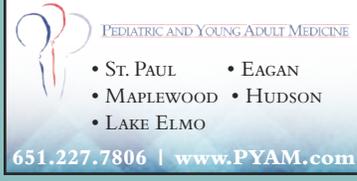
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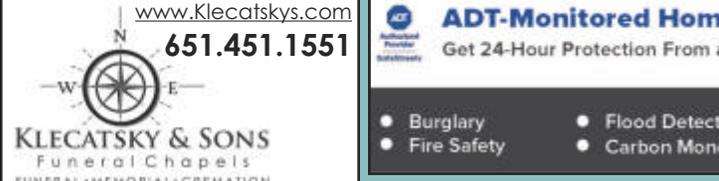
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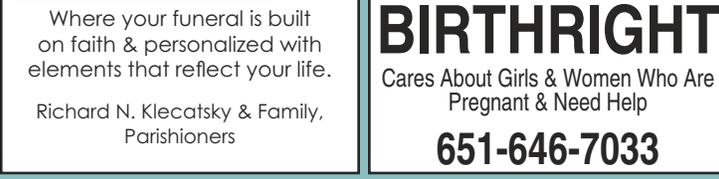


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