

# *Our Faith Community*

*January 2 & 3, 2021*



*Sacred Heart, Melcher*



*St. Anthony, Knoxville*

## THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

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." - Mt. 2:1-2

Excerpt from the Lectionary for Mass © 2005, 1998, 1979 CEB

# FAITH HUMILITY GENEROSITY WISDOM

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# SACRED HEART

P.O. Box 277, 204 D. Street • Melcher IA 50163-0277  
 www.melchersacredheart.com  
 (641) 947-4981 Email: sacredheartmd@iowatelecom.net

**Pastor:** Fr. Kevin J. Anstey (641) 226-1907 ansteyk@diodav.org

**Lay Directors:** Jane Schneider & Duane Schmaltz

**Staff:**

Parish Secretary: Martha Reed  
 Parish Bookkeeper: Corina Ernst  
 Faith Formation Directors: Shari Schneider  
 Buildings & Grounds: Daryl Ripperger

**Word & Sacrament**

**Weekend Mass:** Sat. 4 p.m., Sun 8:30 a.m.  
**Weekday Mass:** Monday & Wednesday 8:30 a.m.  
**Reconciliation:** By appointment  
**Baptism:** Pre-baptism classes are required. Please contact the office.  
**Marriage:** Please contact the office to schedule your wedding nine months before anticipated date.

**Publication Deadlines**

**Bulletin:** Submit by Monday at 1:00 p.m.  
**Newsletter:** Published quarterly

## Upcoming Events for Sacred Heart Church

Sunday, January 3	8:30 a.m. 9:30 a.m.	Mass Faith Formation
Monday, January 4	8:30 a.m. 4-6 p.m.	Mass Office hours for Fr. Kevin
Wednesday, January 6	8:30 a.m.	Mass
Saturday, January 9	4:00 p.m.	Mass
Sunday, January 10	8:30 a.m. 9:30 a.m.	Mass Faith Formation

### Mass Intentions

Saturday, January 2 † Pro Popoulo  
 Sunday, January 3 † Edward L. & Alfred J. Hanlon  
 Monday, January 4 † Jerry Gass  
 Wednesday, January 6 † Gilbert Hoch Family  
 Saturday, January 9 † Paul & Mary Sommar  
 Sunday, January 10 † For Vocations

**Sacred Heart Parish Support for December 24-27: \$ 833.00**



**PRAY FOR OUR SICK:**  
 Carol Putz, Angie Gass, Leonard Bishop, Judy Schneider, Gerald Hoch, and Clifford Hoch.



## SUNDAY'S READINGS

**First Reading:**

Rise up in splendor, Jerusalem! Your light has come, the glory of the Lord shines upon you. (Is 60:1)

**Psalm:**

Lord, every nation on earth will adore you. (Ps 72)

**Second Reading:**

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. (Eph 2:5-6)

**Gospel:**

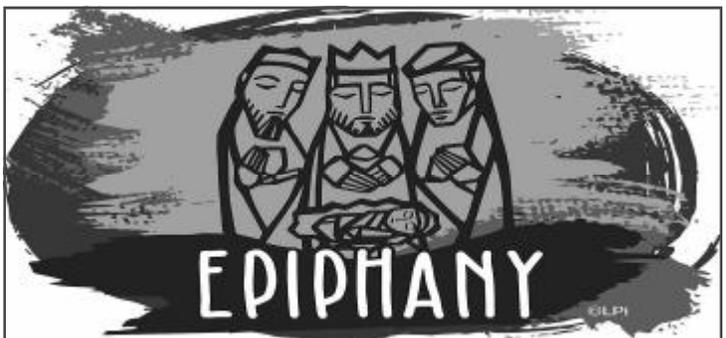
They were overjoyed at seeing the star, and on entering the house they saw the child with Mary his mother. They prostrated themselves and did him homage. (Mt 2:10-11)

*Our deepest sympathy and prayers to the family of Madonna Milburn who died last week. May she rest in eternal peace.*



Faith Formation classes begin January 3rd with the 5th thru 9th grades attending. Also, the 2nd graders will be meeting every Sunday in January.

**Faith Formation**



Sacred Heart's ADA goal for 2020/2021:  
 \$11,946.00

Current amount pledged: \$13,170 (110.25%)  
**Thank you all for your support! We have SURPASSED our goal!**



# ST. ANTHONY

1201/1202 Woodland • Knoxville IA 50138-1013

www.knoxvillestanthony.com

(641) 828-7050 Email: knoxvillestanthony@diodav.org

**Pastor:** Fr. Kevin J. Anstey (641) 226-1907 ansteyk@diodav.org

**Lay Directors:** Beverly Jones & Cris Schwanebeck

**Staff:**

**Deacon & RCIA Coordinator:** Tom Hardie (641) 218-4357  
hardiet@diodav.org

**Faith Formation Director/Youth Minister:**  
Laura Hollinrake (641) 828-7050  
knoxvillestanthonydre@diodav.org  
**Parish Secretary:**  
Amanda Welsh (641) 828-7050  
knoxvillestanthony@diodav.org

**Music Minister:** Mary Burke  
**Custodian:** Sarah Grier  
**Pastoral Care Coordinator:** Mary Hanna Cell: (641) 218-0974  
Home: (641) 842-6714

**Word & Sacrament**

**Weekend Mass:** Sat. 6 p.m., Sun. 10:30 a.m.  
**Weekday Mass:** Tuesday & Thursday, 8:30 a.m.  
**Reconciliation:** Saturdays 30 minutes prior to Mass  
**Baptism:** Pre-baptism classes are required. Please contact the office.  
**Marriage:** Please contact the office to schedule your wedding nine months before anticipated date.

**St. Anthony Parish Support for the weeks of December 21-27:**  
Weekly Giving: Unavailable  
Vanco Online Giving: \$207.00  
Weekly Budget: \$ 3938.90



**Epiphany**

**Question:**

Besides the Wise Men, what is significant about the Epiphany?

**Answer:**

Epiphany means “manifestation,” or public display. The feast is usually celebrated January 6. In the US, it is celebrated on the Sunday nearest to January 6. It originates from a story unique to Matthew (2:1-12). Magi from the East come to offer homage to the newborn King, presenting him with gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

This part of Matthew’s infancy narrative differs from Luke’s account of the birth of Jesus. In Luke there are no Magi, star, nor gifts. Luke has Jesus being born in a stable after Mary and Joseph’s long travel from Nazareth to Bethlehem. Matthew seems to have the family living in a house in Bethlehem, where the Magi find them.

Why these differences? They stem from the needs and concerns of the audience the authors were addressing, as well as the theological stance of each author. Knowing the original intention helps get at the correct interpretation of the text.

Since Matthew was writing primarily to a Jewish community, his concern was to show that Jesus did not come just for Jews, but for Gentiles as well. From his very birth, Jesus not only manifests himself to Jews, but also to Gentiles, who are prominently included in the manifestation, symbolized by the Magi and their journey. This is the most significant aspect of the feast of Epiphany. How do you manifest Jesus to all with whom you come into contact?



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## Upcoming Events for St. Anthony Church

<b>Sunday, January 3</b>	10:30 a.m. 7:00 p.m.	Mass (for last names M-Z) Middle School Youth Ministry (Grades 6-8) via Zoom
<b>Tuesday, January 5</b>	8:30 a.m. 9:30 a.m. 6:30 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	Mass Staff Meeting Holy Half-hour of Adoration Faith Formation Committee via Zoom
<b>Wednesday, January 6</b>	6:00 p.m.; 6:30 p.m.	Altar & Rosary Meeting Revitalize Meeting
<b>Thursday, January 7</b>	8:30 a.m.	Mass
<b>Saturday, January 9</b>	6:00 p.m.	Mass (for last names A-L)
<b>Sunday, January 10</b>	10:30 a.m. 7:00 p.m.	Mass (for last names A-L) High School Youth Ministry (Grades 9-12) via Zoom

**Mass Intentions**

<b>Saturday, January 2</b>	† Nancy Kingrey
<b>Sunday, January 3</b>	† For Vocations
<b>Tuesday, January 5</b>	† Neil Maxwell
<b>Thursday, January 7</b>	† Monica Lee
<b>Saturday, January 9</b>	† Pro Popoulo
<b>Sunday, January 10</b>	† Frank Croghan



**St. Anthony’s ADA goal for 2020/2021:**  
**\$40,400.00**  
**Current amount pledged: \$32,146.00 (79.57%)**

**Spiritual Communion Prayer:**

*“My Jesus, I believe that you are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love you above all things, and I desire to receive you into my soul. Since I cannot receive you at this moment sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace you as if you were already there and unite myself wholly to you. Never permit me to be separated from you. Amen.”*



**PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR SICK:**

Elsie Grimes, Fran Kain, Lucille Pitt, Karen Lewin, Rod Collins, Elamie Ball, Lorraine Daugherty, Pat Alessandra, Fr. Innocent Patrick, Alyssa Scheve, Theresa Lee, Zayleigh Sparks, Judy Garrett, Easley Mae Grier, Marlene Ver Steeg, Charlie Reddick, Richard Brees, Joe Sweet, Garyn Key, Ruth Smith, Barb Sedlock, Bill Vaske, Merrill Williams, Joan Lukavsky, Delaney Digman, Ann Lewitke, Mike O’Brien, June Sharar, Tim Terrell, Shirley Fisk, James Bale, Mary Lane, Brenda Brown  
\* Please notify our parish secretary if you would like someone added to or removed from the list.





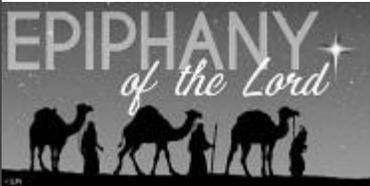
*St. Anthony parishioners once again participated in the annual Salvation Army bell-ringing campaign that raises money to help those in need in our community. Thanks to Lori and Meggie Rockwood, Anna Buttell, Rod Lewin, Darlene and Emory Riseley, Pat Finan and Maria Finan who gave their time to ring bells.*

Thanks to all who donated for our Christmas giving drive to benefit local charities. The money collected was used to purchase gift cards for clients of both Crisis Intervention Services and IMPACT Community Action that were used to buy Christmas gifts for their kids as well as personal care items



*The song "We Three Kings" details the gifts of the Magi, but do you know what you're singing? "Born a king on Bethlehem's plan, gold I bring to crown Him again." This one is the most straightforward - gold symbolizes the Kingship of Christ. "Myrrh is mine: its bitter perfume breathes a life of gathering gloom." Myrrh is an embalming spice. Already at Christ's birth, we have the symbolic reminder of his death. "Frankincense to offer have I. Incense owns a deity nigh." In many religious traditions, incense symbolizes prayers rising to heaven. In some pagan traditions, it is thought to help "call down" the deity. The gift of*

*frankincense symbolizes Jesus' role as the Great High Priest, sanctifying the world through his sacrifice.*



Following God requires more than just a bit of blind faith. We have many examples in Sacred Scripture of people who do not hesitate to respond to God's call, no matter how intimidating that call may be! Today we look to the magi from the east, who followed a star in the night sky to the crib of the newborn King. On the way, they encountered Herod, whose reaction to Jesus was one of jealousy and fear. They also encountered the chief priests and the scribes, who were fairly indifferent to the news of Jesus' birth. Yet these wise men pressed on, keeping their gaze on the star that led them to the Holy Family, where they paid homage to the Christ child. In your own efforts to grow in discipleship you may encounter similar difficulties. There will be people who react to you with hostility, trying to steer you off course. There will be people who are completely unconcerned with your efforts. They don't interfere, but they certainly don't help. There will be distractions in our culture.



Like the magi, you must lift your eyes to heaven and trust God to guide you to the exact place He intends you to be.



## A note from Father:

Today is called Epiphany Sunday because it is the day in which Christ's birth is revealed to the world by the Magi who came to honor Him. These three people were the only ones who saw the signs and understood them according to what the prophet Micah had foretold:

*Herod 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."***

In coming to honor Christ as the newborn King, this was a threat to Herod, which set in motion the chain of events that led to Joseph and Mary taking Jesus to Egypt to keep Him safe. This may seem a bit strange, but it actually proves the importance of Christ's birth was very real. If Jesus didn't have a

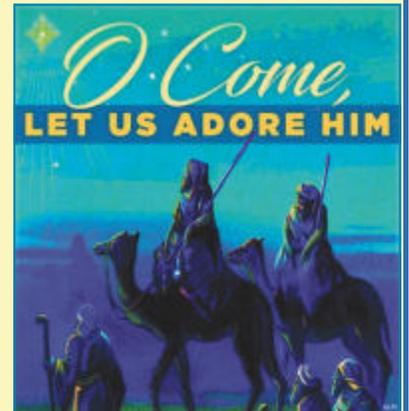
legitimate claim to become King, the Magi wouldn't have come all that way to honor him, and Herod wouldn't have wanted to kill Him.

It is a strange set of circumstances, that the newborn King would be honored by foreigners and under threat from his own people. But this isn't so strange when we consider how we all feel threatened by the loss of power. For most of us, this is a loss of independence and abilities as we get older. Many may feel threatened by the thought of retiring, as this means handing over what they have built to someone. We all fear loss of control in some way, and we all must find a way to accept this loss graciously.

While not one of us will leave this life with control over everything we want, we can all find a way to accept a new way of living, and even celebrate the passing on of responsibilities to another. We all have an opportunity to make a difference in the world, and we are also charged with helping future generations do the same. When that feels like a threat to our way of life, let it become a challenge to help it happen in the way you want it to. You may just wake up one day and find that you can be proud of how someone else is taking care of things now.

This is very important for your own life, but even more for those who come after you. May we never give in to feeling threatened by these changes in our lives, but accept the challenge of handing our own little piece of the world to those who follow us.

- Rev Kev





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