



Prince of Peace PARISH

494 Main Street South | P.O. Box 5001 | Woodbury, CT 06798 | (203) 263-2008 | Fax (203) 263-7259
Website - www.princeofpeaceparish-aohct.org | Office Email - princeofpeace@aohct.org
Prayer Line - (203) 263-2008 ext.25

Prince of Peace Parish strives to be a welcoming Catholic family that joyfully gathers to celebrate the sacraments and to live the Word of God as disciples of Christ. United with the Holy Spirit, we go forth to bear witness to our faith and to share our unique gifts in loving service of all God's people.

January 2, 2022

STAFF

Rev. James T. Gregory, Pastor
fr.gregory@aohct.org

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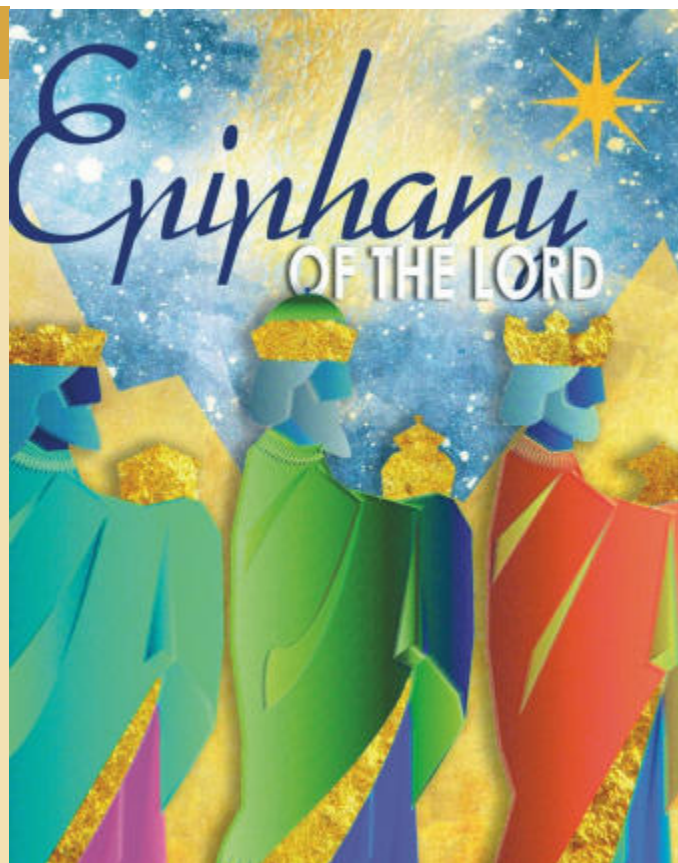
Nancy Rahuba
nancyrahuba@cs.com

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Bret Ciarlo, John Charbonneau, Diane Jens,
Hugh Langin, Mary Ellen Parlato, Mike Smeraglia

PASTORAL PARISH COUNCIL

Gillian Brown, Suzanne Church, Michael Clemens-
mp03clem@gmail.com, Lou DeLuca-irishco@charter.net, Marc Duncan-
mcdunc03@gmail.com, Gail Rizzo-g.f.rizzo@hotmail.com, Jeff Stein



MASS SCHEDULE

Monday
8:30 AM - St. Teresa
Tuesday & Friday
8:30 AM - Nativity

CONFESSION

Saturday
3:00 PM - St. Teresa
SATURDAY VIGIL
4:00 PM - St. Teresa

SUNDAY

8:00 AM - Nativity
10:00 AM - St. Teresa
12:00 PM - St. Teresa

Please Remember Prince of Peace Parish in Your Will.

CHURCH OF THE NATIVITY
48 East Street
Route 132
Bethlehem, CT 06751



ST. TERESA OF AVILA CHURCH
146 Main Street South
Route 6
Woodbury, CT 06798

PRINCE OF PEACE PARISH

Mass Intentions for the Week

SATURDAY JANUARY 1ST EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

4:00 PM Living & Deceased Members of
The Dunham Family

SUNDAY JANUARY 2ND EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

8:00 AM Sue Carroll

by The Frey Family

At Church of the Nativity

10:00 AM Prince of Peace Parish

At St. Teresa Church

12:00 PM Prince of Peace Parish

At St. Teresa Church

MONDAY JANUARY 3RD CHRISTMAS WEEKDAY

8:30 AM Mary Moore

At St. Teresa Church

**TUESDAY JANUARY 4TH SAINT ELIZABETH ANN
SETON, RELIGIOUS**

8:30 AM At Church of the Nativity

**THURSDAY JANUARY 6TH CHRISTMAS WEEKDAY
NO MASS**

**FIRST FRIDAY JANUARY 7TH CHRISTMAS
WEEKDAY**

8:30 AM Francis Giannini

by Vincent & Gail Rizzo

At Church of the Nativity

SATURDAY JANUARY 8TH BAPTISM OF THE LORD

4:00 PM Dolores Smith

SUNDAY JANUARY 9TH BAPTISM OF THE LORD

8:00 AM Charles Russell

by Cathie & George Murdock

At Church of the Nativity

10:00 AM Lewis Barre

by John & Janet Aresta

At St. Teresa Church

12:00 PM Prince of Peace Parish

At St. Teresa Church



**THE PARISH OFFICE WILL BE
CLOSED ON MONDAY
JANUARY 3RD IN OBSERVANCE
OF NEW YEARS.**

the Shepherd's Desk

by

Rev. James T. Gregory

"The light must be just sufficient, neither too much nor too little, because both these extremes are blinding, and blind men do not see." – Antoni Gaudí, Catalan architect

Light is the most divine of all phenomena. It is the most divine because God created light first. Once created light, God separated it from the darkness calling the light "day" and the darkness "night." In so doing God created with light a temporal context in which God brought the rest of the world into existence (Gen. 1:3-5). From its primordial prominence to this day light shows its divine quality by providing great wonder through its elusive existence. We see light existing simultaneously as a wave and as a particle. Its electromagnetic velocity is considered unattainable by anything in the physical universe. This luminous phenomenon brings to God's created world visibility, energy, and life.

As God once used light to create the world and sustain it, so now God uses light to recreate the world and save it. This time, instead of creating the light, God becomes the light. Jesus Christ is the *lumen gentium*, the light of the nations, the light of the world (John 9:5), and the light of our lives. By existing simultaneously as divine and as human, Jesus overcomes the separation of day and night and shines on in the darkness (John 1:5). Christ the light penetrates our world, our community, and our very person. His rays seek to touch every corner of the universe to bring rebirth.

Like the man born blind, we are anointed by the light of the world. In the divine light from light, we come to see Jesus more and more for who he is. He may at first be just a man named Jesus. Later he may be a prophet. Eventually we see him as the Son of Man, the Christ. We gradually are empowered by the courage to acknowledge the Christ as Lord more openly with our words and with our actions. We gain clarity in our seeing into the shadows of complexity in our world without resorting to the simplicities of extremes whether they are religious or political. Ultimately we live a life of freedom and integrity to have the good work of God's will made visible through us. We gain what we may consider unattainable, namely, eternal life.

Physical light, even with its divine qualities, only illuminates our eyes. The divine light of Christ illuminates much more. As enlightened disciples through our baptism into Christ's dying and rising, we are called to diffuse this light in us through prayer and reading scripture. Then, we are to radiate Christ's light into all the existing darkness in the world.

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD



Prince of Peace Clothing Bank

Located in the lower level of the Church of the Nativity building in the rear and will be opened.

Will be open each month for people in need.

Masks should be worn if not vaccinated or if you feel more comfortable. Gloves are available for those who would like to wear them.

The Prince of Peace Clothing Bank has received an abundance of donations from caring parishioners and area residents. We are now well positioned to provide free clothing and footwear to area people in need.

WHAT WE ARE ACCEPTING AT THIS TIME

We are in need for

- Gently used washable coats/jackets for large and larger men and women? Donations are coming in but coats/jackets not so much.
- Men's' Jeans plus sweat shirts and bottoms for both sexes, are always in demand.
- We also have an urgent need for socks: Boy's size 6 – 14, Girl's size 6-14, Men's size S, M, L, Women's S, M, L
- Underwear is always in need, all sizes boys, girls and adults.

AND

- Gently used recently washed towels and/or sheet sets, preferably twin or full size, are needed. The towels and sheets will be given to the St Vincent DePaul shelter in Waterbury. Thank You for your generosity.

We will be open:

Fri, Jan 7 – 3-5 pm

Sat, Jan 8 – 10am-12pm

Fri, Jan 21 – 3-5 pm

Sat, Jan 22 – 10am-12pm

LOURDES IN LITCHFIELD

Beginning January 8th, the Grotto Gift Shop at Lourdes in Litchfield, 50 Montfort Rd., Rte. 118, Litchfield will be open weekends only from 11:30-4:00, weather permitting. A 30% discount will be offered on selected Christmas items during this time. Regular hours will resume in March. For further information, email: lourdesshriect@gmail.com or call 860-567-1041.

THANK YOU
for your generosity

The Good Shepherds would like to thank all who donated hats, scarves, gloves, mittens and socks. The two 13 gallon bags full of these beautiful warm items will be donated to St Vincent de Paul. Thank you so much for helping us with helping St Vincent's.

Toys for Tots Brian G. Barry, the scouts leader and the Marine Corp League would like to thank Prince of Peace parishioners for your **generous** donations of toys for our Toys for Tots drive. The toys were delivered to the Marine Corps League in Southington for distribution to children in Connecticut for Christmas. Thank you again, **You** made Christmas **very happy for many children.**

Thank you,

Brian G. Barry, Boy Scouts &
The Marine Corp League



The Prince of Peace Prayer Line Ministry is available for all those in need of prayer and support. We also welcome anyone interested in becoming part of the Prayer Ministry. We know that life is hectic. You want to volunteer, but are not sure how. This ministry is something that you can do from your house, your office, or in the car. All we ask is that you pray with us to lift up the specific intentions submitted. Prayer requests and requests to join the ministry can be emailed to Mary at saintteresas@aol.com or call the Parish Prayer Line and leave a message at 203-263-2008 or hit the Prayer Line icon on our website under quick links.

**TO REQUEST YOUR 2021 TAX
STATEMENT EMAIL MARY AT
princeofpeace@aohct.org**



Written
TH
FAITHFUL
DISCIPLES

January 2, 2022

The Epiphany of the Lord

Is 60:1-6 | Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6 | Mt 2:1-12

GROW AS A DISCIPLE | PRAY, STUDY, ENGAGE, SERVE

My husband is a bird watcher by day and a stargazer by night. I confess it drives me a little bonkers on our evening dog walks. I tend to want to keep moving; between him and our dog (who seems to want to sniff every mailbox), it's the pedestrian equivalent of stop-and-go traffic. Hearing about the journey of the Magi, however, reminds me to pause and look, too. Just as they saw the star rising and followed it to Jesus, we, too, can seek God in our surroundings, our relationships, and the beauty of creation – the next step is to follow where God leads us. As Pope Benedict XVI wrote, the Magi represent “the journeying of humanity toward Christ.” (*Jesus of Nazareth: The Infancy Narratives*) We may falter from the path from time to time, but Isaiah's prophecy reminds us of our destination: “You shall be radiant at what you see, your heart shall throb and overflow.”

GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

The Epiphany is early this year, falling right on the heels of New Year's Day. If we haven't made our New Year's resolutions yet, now is a good time to do so. In addition to typical resolutions such as reducing clutter or getting fit, we can set some spiritual goals as well. The definition of epiphany (lower case) is “a moment in which you suddenly see or understand something in a new or very clear way.” As we reflect on today's readings, let us ask the Holy Spirit to provide us an epiphany – into how we can grow closer to Jesus during this year ahead. Just as their encounter with the infant Jesus caused the Magi to be transformed from outsiders to faithful believers, and to take a different route home, our encounter with Jesus in the Eucharist is meant to transform all of us, and set us on a new path to light and life.

RESOLVE New Year's resolutions are great! Why not add a couple of spiritual resolutions to the list – perhaps to pray the rosary more often, spend time in eucharistic adoration, or go on that retreat you have been meaning to attend. Ask the Holy Spirit for inspiration and see where it leads.



Arise, shine, for the Light of the World has come! Darkness covers the earth and its people, but the radiance of God's Light burns away its shadows, illuminates the smallest corner, and heralds in the start of a new dawn, where hearts no longer fear, souls might be set free, and sister shall follow brother, nation shall follow nation, and kings and princes bow down in awe before the one who comes to reign. Arise, shine, for the Light of the World has come! Alleluia!

OUR RETURN FOR GOD'S GENEROSITY

Collection 12/19/21 \$5,767

1,809-Online

\$7,576

Collection for 12/26/21 To Be Posted Next Week

Thank You!

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