


CHURCH OF OUR LADY OF THE ASSUMPTION
WOODBRIDGE/BETHANY
THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD
JANUARY 2, 2022



“We saw his star at its rising
and have come to do him homage.”

OPENING HYMN: WE THREE KINGS

Verses



1. We three kings of O - ri - ent are; Bear - ing gifts we
 2. Born a King on Beth - le - hem's plain, Gold I bring to
 3. Frank - in - cense to of - fer have I: In - cense owns a
 4. Myrrh is mine; its bit - ter per - fume Breathes a life of
 5. Glo - rious now, be - hold him a - rise, King and God and



1. tra - verse a - far Field and foun - tain, Moor and moun - tain,
 2. crown him a - gain; King for - ev - er, Ceas - ing nev - er
 3. De - i - ty nigh; Pray'r and prais - ing Glad - ly rais - ing,
 4. gath - er - ing gloom; Sor - r'wing, sigh - ing, Bleed - ing, dy - ing,
 5. Sac - ri - fice; "Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia!"

Refrain



1. Fol - low - ing yon - der star. O star of won - der,
 2. O - ver us all to reign.
 3. Wor - ship him God on high.
 4. Sealed in the stone - cold tomb.
 5. Sounds through the earth and skies.



star of night, Star with roy - al beau - ty bright, West - ward




lead - ing, still pro - ceed - ing, Guide us to the per - fect light.

A Reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah

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. **THE WORD OF THE LORD**

RESPONSORIAL PSALM



Lord, ev - 'ry na - tion on earth will a - dore — you.

Smolinski

A READING FROM THE LETTER OF PAUL TO THE EPHESIANS

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.

THE WORD OF THE LORD.

A READING FROM THE HOLY GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

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. **THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD.**


OFFERTORY HYMN: INFANT HOLY, INFANT LOWLY



1. In - fant ho - ly, in - fant low - ly, For his bed a
2. Flocks were sleep - ing, shep - herds keep - ing Vig - il till the
3. As we jour - ney to the sta - ble Like the wise - men
4. Wake our spir - its from their slum - ber; Send the dark - ness



1. cat - tle stall; Ox - en low - ing, lit - tle know - ing
2. morn - ing new. Saw the glo - ry, heard the sto - ry,
3. long a - go, We are hop - ing to dis - cov - er
4. on its way. Fill our hearts with joy and won - der



1. Christ the babe is Lord of all. Swift are wing - ing,
2. Tid - ings of a gos - pel true. Thus re - joic - ing,
3. What these pil - grims came to know. All are wel - come
4. On this bless - ed Christ - mas day. Songs of an - gels



1. an - gels sing - ing, No - els ring - ing, tid - ings bring - ing:
2. free from sor - row, Prais - es voic - ing greet the mor - row:
3. at this man - ger, King and shep - herd, friend and strang - er.
4. all a - round us; Grace and bless - ing now sur - round us.



1. Christ the babe is Lord of all.
2. Christ the babe was born for you.
3. Christ the babe is Lord of all.
4. Christ be with us as we go.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION


Soul of Christ, sanctify me. Body of Christ, save me. Blood of Christ, inebriate me. Water from the side of Christ, wash me. Passion of Christ, strengthen me. O Good Jesus, hear me. Within your wounds hide me. Permit me not to be separated from you. From the wicked foe, defend me. At the hour of my death, call me and bid me come to you That with your saints I may praise you for ever and ever. Amen.

PRAYER TO ST. MICHAEL

St. Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle, be our protection against the wickedness and snares of the devil. May God rebuke him we humbly pray; and do thou, O Prince of the Heavenly host, by the power of God, cast into hell Satan and all the evil spirits who prowl about the world seeking the ruin of souls. Amen.

CLOSING HYMN: GOD REST YOU MERRY, GENTLEMEN

Verses



1. God rest you mer - ry, gen - tle - men, Let noth - ing you dis - may;
2. From God our heav'n - ly Fa - ther A bless - ed an - gel came,
3. "Fear not, then," said the an - gel, "Let noth - ing you af - fright;
4. Now to the Lord sing prais - es, All you with - in this place,




1. Re - mem - ber Christ our Sav - ior Was born on Christ - mas Day
2. And un - to cer - tain shep - herds Brought tid - ings of the same,
3. This day is born a Sav - ior Of Vir - gin pure and bright,
4. And with true love and char - i - ty Each oth - er now em - brace;




1. To save us all from Sa - tan's pow'r When we were gone a - stray.
2. How that in Beth - le - hem was born The Son of God by name.
3. To free all those who trust in him From Sa - tan's pow'r and might."
4. This ho - ly tide of Christ - mas Is filled with heav'n - ly grace.

Refrain




O tid - ings of com - fort and joy, Com - fort and



joy; O tid - ings of com - fort and joy.


Please Pray for the Sick



Ed Rish, Steven Rish, Danielle Esposito, Connie DiCarlo, Anna Adamovich, Sandra Overlock, Laura Luzzi, Pamela Willis, Mark Cefaloni, Patricia McDonnell, Janice Barone, Damian Horbury, Frank DeLucia, Nancy Cavallaro, Rob Sapitowicz, Paul Gawron, Michele Schioppo, Victoria Diana, Laura Daddio, Michael Cosenza, Barbara Tiedemann, Joseph Moore Sr., Joseph Moore Jr.

Please contact the Parish Office to add or remove names from the Prayer List.

Please Pray for those serving in the Military



Pvt Nicholas Rickel, (Army), Dan Kelley (Army), Captain Alexander Carpenter (Army), Captain Patrick Carpenter Jr., Captain Benjamin Steven Santandreu (Army), SEA BEE Nicholas Listro, (Navy) Lieutenant John Philip Morrissey (Army) Lieutenant Matthew Hansen, Major Daniel Morrissey, (Air Force) Lieutenant Colonel Seth Krummrich (Army), Captain Samuel Hurchala, Lieutenant Sean Leary, Kevin Murphy, Danny Murphy, Pfc. J. Adams, Emily O'Hara, Jonathan Sanchez, Alice Mary, Eric Trivette, Meara O' Hara, Zachary Simpson, Jon Farwell, Sergeant Brian Streit, Ryan Rausch, Mary O'Connell, Andrew Gnidula, and LCPL Glenn Warner.

WELCOME FATHER JOHN LAVORGNA!

My dear friends,

I am happy to extend Christmas Season greetings and best wishes to all in our community. I have been asked to provide some background information as I soon begin my assignment as Pastor in Woodbridge and Bethany; I am excited to be among you soon. I am very grateful to Father Christopher Ford for his friendship to me and his faithful leadership as Pastor of Our Lady of the Assumption these past years. We all support him as he takes on significant responsibilities as Chancellor of our Archdiocese and Pastor of Saint Peter Claver Parish in West Hartford. I was born in New Haven and was raised in the Elm City and also in Hamden. (So I am familiar with the neighborhood!) My home parishes growing up were Saint Rose and Saint Francis in New Haven, and ultimately Saint Ann in Hamden. My parents are Egidio and Palma and I am so grateful for their love, guidance, and many sacrifices, rooted in our faith and heritage. My older brother, Egidio Jr. is married to Stefanie, and I am blessed with great nieces and nephew, as well as devoted relatives and friends. I have truly special grandparents, now all deceased, but their memory lives on in my heart and prayers. I am also thankful for the companionship of so many colleagues in the ministry throughout the Archdiocese and the countless parishioners I have been called to serve through my varied assignments. Most of all, our dear Lord Jesus and our Catholic faith remains at the center of my life. Jesus calls us together as the Body of Christ, the Church, and holds us close to His Sacred Heart through the hope, peace, and strength that only He can give us. May God be praised by our efforts to seek and do His holy will. Our fundamental identity is as a child of God. That makes all the difference. Our positive achievements are reflections of God's grace and the care of others. I share the requested information below, with gratitude for the many blessings that come through the experiences and opportunities we are given along the journey of faith.

All the way - to God's embrace. Sincerely, *Father Lavorgna*



Father Lavorgna is a graduate of Saint Francis School in New Haven. At Notre Dame High School in West Haven, he was Valedictorian, Man of the Year, and also the recipient of the Notre Dame Code Award. While in high school, he was involved in many activities, including campus ministry. He is very grateful for the gift of Catholic education and the example of many dedicated priests and religious sisters and brothers throughout his life. Father Lavorgna went on to study at Yale University, where he received his Bachelor of Arts in Political Science with a concentration in American Government in 1996. During his college years, Father Lavorgna expanded his involvement in Catholic campus ministry and held varied leadership roles. This included a term as the Chairman of the Youth Institute of the National Italian American Foundation and serving as Founding President of the Yale College Italian Society. Upon discerning the call to the priesthood and being accepted as a seminarian by Archbishop Daniel Cronin, Father Lavorgna entered priestly formation in 2000. He began his preparation at Saint Thomas Seminary in Bloomfield, CT, and ultimately completed all his theological studies at Mount Saint Mary's Seminary in Emmitsburg, Maryland. He enjoyed serving as Chairman of the Orientation Team welcoming new seminarians. These were joyful years of continued spiritual and intellectual growth and fellowship. Father Lavorgna was ordained a priest by Archbishop Henry Mansell on May 20, 2006 at the Cathedral of Saint Joseph in Hartford. His first full-term assignment was Parochial Vicar for the Torrington Cluster of Roman Catholic Parishes, comprised of the parishes of Saint Francis, Saint Peter, Saint Mary, and Sacred Heart. In 2010, Father Lavorgna was named administrator and later pastor of Our Lady of Pompeii Parish in East Haven. Archbishop Leonard Blair appointed Father Lavorgna as his priest-secretary and vice chancellor of the Archdiocese in 2014, and he also was later involved in vocations ministry. Father Lavorgna returned to parish ministry in 2016, serving briefly at the Basilica of the Immaculate Conception in Waterbury and then as administrator of the linked parishes of Saints Peter and Paul and Saint Leo the Great. In June 2017, Father Lavorgna was named the pastor of the newly established Parish of Mary, Mother of the Church, which encompasses the formerly linked parishes in the East End of Waterbury. In addition to his duties as pastor, Father Lavorgna was appointed by Archbishop Blair to serve as the Director of Continuing Formation for Priests for the Archdiocese in 2020. He is a member of the Archdiocesan Presbyteral Council and also has actively served as chaplain for several Knights of Columbus Councils. Prior to entering seminary, Father Lavorgna's professional background includes positions for the National Italian American Foundation (Greater New York Regional Office), and Saint Thomas More Catholic Chapel and Center at Yale University.

Mass Intentions

FOR THE WEEK



SATURDAY, January 1 Vigil, Epiphany of the Lord

5:00 P.M. People of the Parish

SUNDAY, January 2 Epiphany of the Lord

8:00 A.M. +Alphonse Falcigno (Stephen, Loredana, Stephen, and Sabrina Falcigno)

9:30 A.M. Intentions of Fr. Ford (Lasto Family)

11:30 A.M. +Mariana Letunic (Aunt Jane & Uncle Pero)

MONDAY, January 3 Christmas Weekday

9:00 A.M. Open for Mass Intention

TUESDAY, January 4 St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, Religious

9:00 A.M. +Clifford Lasto (Family)

WEDNESDAY, January 5 St. John Neumann, Bishop

9:00 A.M. +Doris Anne Polinsky (Joseph & Mary Ellen Kendzierski)

THURSDAY, January 6 St. Andre Besette, Religious

No Mass

FRIDAY, January 7 St. Raymond of Penafort, Priest

9:00 A.M. +Frank & Amelia Proto; +Ann Proto; +Dominic Proto (Family)

SATURDAY, January 8 Christmas Weekday

8:30 A.M. Open for Mass Intention

SATURDAY, January 8 Vigil, Baptism of the Lord

5:00 P.M. +Stephen Andrussian (Zak Family)

SUNDAY, January 9 Baptism of the Lord

8:00 A.M. Open for Mass Intention

9:30 A.M. +Cynthia Schultz (husband, Charles)

11:30 A.M. People of the Parish

Parish Giving:

CHRISTMAS: \$12,341.00

DECEMBER 26: \$7,533.00

AVERAGE WEEKLY EXPENSES: \$9,158.00

Deficit: \$1,625.00

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Deacon Victor Lembo

Deacon Mario DiRienzo, Senior Status

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Dr. Keith Smolinski

*Director of Adult Faith Formation
and Evangelization*

Sister Carolyn Severino, ASCJ

carsev2000@yahoo.com

Director of Faith Formation/Youth Ministry

Ms. Mary Ryan

oloareligiousdirector@gmail.com

Main Office 203-389-9863

Office Hours: Monday-Wednesday

9:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M.

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Office is closed on Thursdays and Fridays

Parish Secretary

Anita Bellmore, 203-387-7119

parishsecretaryloa@gmail.com

Website: www.assumptionchurch.com

Parish Trustees: Dolph Luciani, Karen T. Cusick

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MASS SCHEDULE

WEEKDAYS: 9:00 A.M. At the Mother Church
(1700 Litchfield Tpke, Rt. 69, Woodbridge)

(NO MASS ON THURSDAYS)

SATURDAY: 8:30 A.M. (Center Road)

WEEKEND MASSES: SAT. VIGIL 5:00 P.M.,
8:00 A.M. 9:30 A.M. 11:30 A.M. (Center Road)

CONFESSIONS: SATURDAY 4:00 TO 4:45 P.M.
OR BY APPOINTMENT

THANK YOU FATHER FORD!



**EXCERPTS OF "URBI ET ORBI" MESSAGE
OF HIS HOLINESS POPE FRANCIS
CHRISTMAS 2021**



Dear brothers and sisters, Happy Christmas!

The Word of God, who created the world and who gives meaning to history and to humanity's journey, became flesh and came to dwell among us. He came like a whisper, like the murmur of a gentle breeze, to fill with wonder the heart of every man and woman who is open to this mystery. The Word became flesh in order to dialogue with us. God does not desire to carry on a monologue, but a dialogue. For God himself, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, is dialogue, an eternal and infinite communion of love and life. By the coming of Jesus, the Person of the Word made flesh, into our world, God showed us the way of encounter and dialogue. Indeed, he made that way incarnate in himself, so that we might know it and follow it, in trust and hope.

Sisters and brothers, "what would our world be like without the patient dialogue of the many generous persons who keep families and communities together?" (*Fratelli Tutti*, 198). In this time of pandemic, we have come to realize this more and more. Our capacity for social relationships is sorely tried; there is a growing tendency to withdraw, to do it all by ourselves, to stop making an effort to encounter others and do things together. On the international level too, there is the risk of avoiding dialogue, the risk that this complex crisis will lead to taking shortcuts rather than setting out on the longer paths of dialogue. Yet only those paths can lead to the resolution of conflicts and to lasting benefits for all.

Indeed, even as the message of the birth of the Saviour, the source of true peace, resounds in our hearts and in the whole world, we continue to witness a great number of conflicts, crises and disagreements. These never seem to end; by now we hardly even notice them. We have become so used to them that immense tragedies are now being passed over in silence; we risk not hearing the cry of pain and distress of so many of our brothers and sisters.

Eternal Word become flesh, make us attentive to our common home, which is suffering from the carelessness with which we so often treat it. Inspire political leaders to reach effective agreements, so that future generations can live in an environment respectful of life.

God-with-us, grant health to the infirm and inspire all men and women of good will to seek the best ways possible to overcome the current health crisis and its effects. Open hearts to ensure that necessary medical care – and vaccines in particular – are provided to those peoples who need them most. Repay those who generously devote themselves to caring for family members, the sick and the most vulnerable in our midst.

Child of Bethlehem, grant that the many military and civilian prisoners of war and recent conflicts, and all those imprisoned for political reasons, may soon return home. Do not leave us indifferent before the tragic situation of migrants, displaced persons and refugees. Their eyes beg us not to look the other way, ignoring our common humanity, but instead to make their stories our own and to be mindful of their plight.

Dear brothers and sisters, amid all the many problems of our time, hope prevails, "for to us a child is born" (*Is 9:6*). He is the word of God, who became an infant, capable only of crying, and in need of help for everything. He wished to learn how to speak, like every other child, so that we might learn to listen to God, our Father, to listen to one another and to dialogue as brothers and sisters. O Christ, born for our sake, teach us to walk beside you on the paths of peace.

Happy Christmas to all! (*full text can be found at: vaticannews.va*)

THANK YOU TO ALL WHO DONATED FOR CHRISTMAS FLOWERS



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EPIPHANY WORD SEARCH

The Three Magi were distinguished foreigners in the Gospel of Matthew and Christian tradition. They are said to have visited Jesus after his birth, bearing gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh.



ADORATION
EPIPHANY
HEROD
JOURNEY
MARY
STAR
CHRISTCHILD
FRANKINCENSE



HOMAGE
JUDAH
MYRRH
THREEKINGS
DREAM
GOLD
JOSEPH
MAGI
SONOFGOD

THE ABC'S OF ANNULMENT

Father Philip Schulze, Pastor of Saint Margaret Parish, 24 Academy Street, Madison, Connecticut, in collaboration with Father George Mukuka, the Judicial Vicar of the Metropolitan Tribunal in Bloomfield, Connecticut, will host "The ABCs of Annulment" on Saturday of January 22nd, 2022, from 10 am to 12:00 pm, in the Church Hall at the address above.

Updates of the process initiated by Pope Francis as well as those made in the Archdiocese of Hartford will be presented by Br. Larry Lussier CSC, and Jim Tottenham.

Follow-up Annulment Workshops to help participants write their applications will be held at the same address on Saturday January 29th, and February 12th and 19th, from 10 am to 12:00 pm. Br. Larry, Jim Tottenham, and other members of the Annulment Team, will be present for the Workshops.

The "ABCs of Annulment" event is open to all at no cost. Participants will receive a folder with the required printed materials. No registration is required. For further information call Br. Larry @ 475-221-8464 or email him at brolarlus300@gmail.com.

POPE FRANCIS PRAYER INTENTION FOR JANUARY 2022

For true human fraternity

We pray for all those suffering from religious discrimination and persecution; may their own rights and dignity be recognized, which originate from being brothers and sisters in the human family.



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