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JANUARY

SECOND
2022



Fr. Aaron Damboise, Pastor

St. Athanasius/St. John

126 Maine Avenue
Rumford, Maine

Lord's Day Masses

Saturday 4:00pm
Sunday 9:30am (also online)

Weekday Mass

Mon, Tues, Thu, Fri 8:15am (also online)

Confessions

Saturday 3:00pm-3:45pm
Sunday 8:30am-9:15am

Our Lady of the Snows

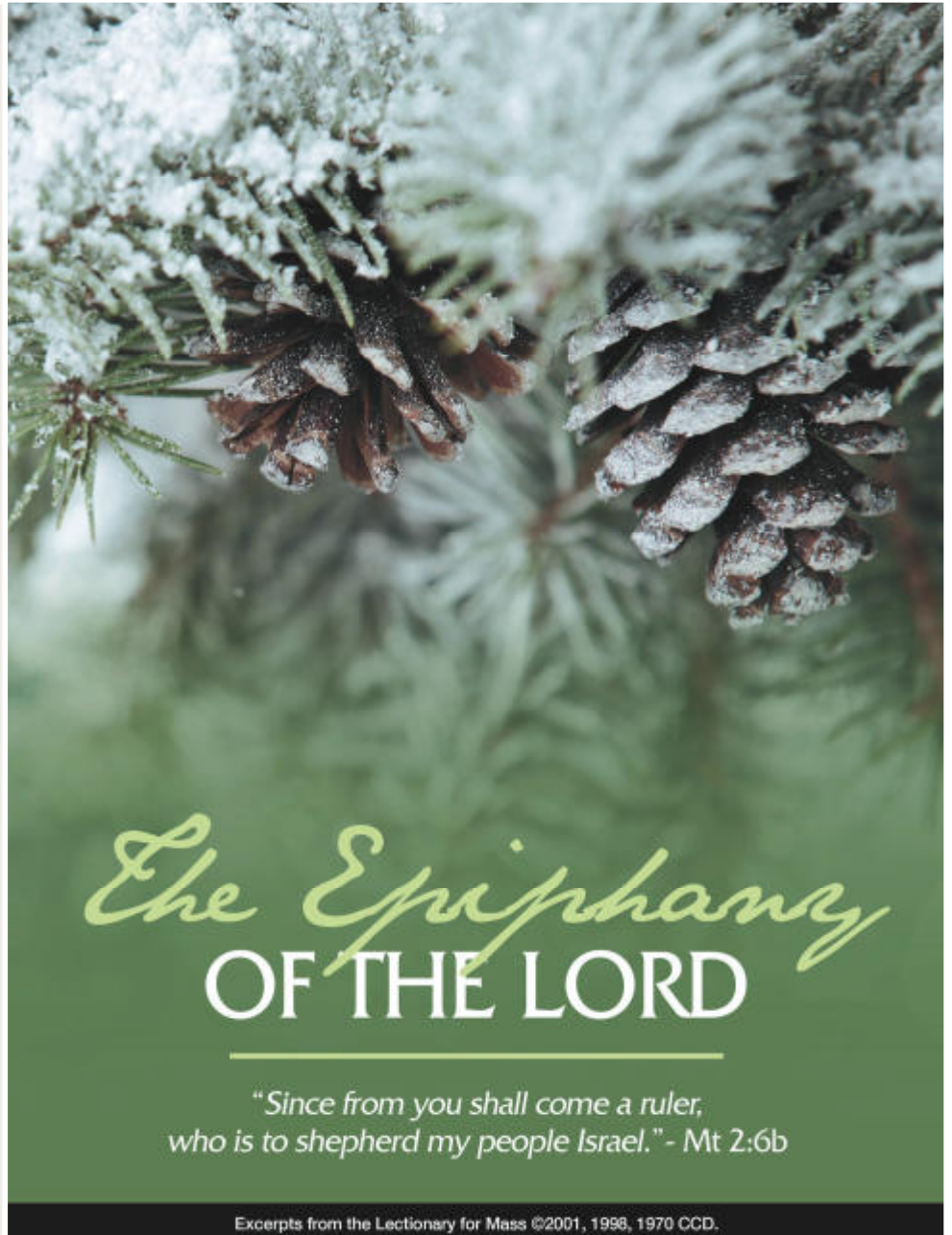
265 Walker's Mills Road (Route 26)
Bethel, ME

Lord's Day Mass

Saturday 6:00 pm



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The Epiphany OF THE LORD

*"Since from you shall come a ruler,
who is to shepherd my people Israel." - Mt 2:6b*

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

Parish Office

7 Brown Street | Mexico, ME 04257
(207) 364-4556

Monday—Thursday 9:00 am—1:00 pm

The Pastor's Corner

Who receives our homage?

The magi were astrologers—wise and influential advisors in the Persian Royal Court. Having read the signs in the stars, they came to Bethlehem to find the newborn king of the Jews. As we all know, the king that they will find is very different from the current king, Herod.

King Herod was a tyrant, a cruel and violent dictator. Like every bully, his ego was fragile. When the king was in the middle of a tantrum, he inflicted great suffering upon the people of Jerusalem. No one was safe from the violence Herod could unleash upon his people when his power was threatened.

The small child who was born in a stable and spent his first night sleeping in a feeding trough represents a different kind of king, one who will “govern [the] people with justice” (Ps. 72:2). This king will rescue “the poor when they cry out, the oppressed when they have no one to help” (Ps 72:12). This king is the kind who “shows pity to the needy and the poor and saves the lives of the poor” (Ps 72:13). That is the kind of ruler we need.

Jesus Christ, the King of Kings and Lord of Lords, is the only person worthy of our total allegiance. The magi, who were also foreigners, may not have fully understood who they were about to encounter, but they came to understand that the infant Jesus was the one before whom they were to bend their knees. They figured out that it was Jesus to whom they should offer their gifts. Realizing this, they disobeyed Herod and “returned to their country by another way” (Matt 2:12). This is an example of how we are called to

deal with cruelty and hate in others and in ourselves. Sometimes, we simply need to find another way.

During the last decade, we’ve been plagued by political conflict and animosity, fear and confusion in the face of a pandemic that has taken so many lives and the livelihoods of others. We might be tempted to give our allegiance to something other than God. We may be tempted to surrender our wills and offer our loyalty to a person or ideology in the hope this will solve all our problems. Friends, this has never worked.

Only God is worthy of our worship. No person, even me, is worthy of our unflinching loyalty. That belongs to God alone. As people of faith, however, we know that there are certain criteria that we should use to evaluate our leaders. Do their policies give relief to the poor? Do they work to protect life in all its stages from conception to natural death? Do they show compassion toward the afflicted, the disabled, immigrants, the imprisoned, and the elderly? As we evaluate our leaders, we must ask these questions of ourselves as well. Who receives our homage?

Peace and Good Will to all!

Fr. Aaron



UPCOMING PARISH EVENTS

Friday, December 31st—Solemnity of Mary Vigil

5:30pm Confessions at St. A & J
6:30pm Solemnity of Mary Vigil Mass /St. A & J

Saturday, January 1st—Solemnity of Mary

3:00pm Confessions at St. A & J
4:00pm Solemnity of Mary Mass at St. A & J
6:00pm Solemnity of Mary Mass at OLS/Bethel
7:00pm AA Meeting in the Church Hall

Sunday, January 2nd

8:30am Confessions at St. A & J
9:30am Sunday Mass at St. A & J

Monday, January 3rd

7:30am Rosary at St. A & J
8:15am Daily Mass at St. A & J
6:00pm Boy Scout Troop meeting in Church Hall

Tuesday, January 4th

7:30am Rosary at St. A & J
8:15am Daily Mass at St. A & J

Wednesday, January 5th

8:00am Rosary at St. A & J

Thursday, January 6th

7:30am Rosary at St. A & J
8:15am Daily Mass at St. A & J

Friday, January 7th

7:30am Rosary at St. A & J
8:15am Daily Mass at St. A & J
8:45am Friday Adoration

Saturday, January 8th

3:00pm Confessions at St. A & J
4:00pm Weekend Mass at St. A & J
6:00pm Weekend Mass at OLS
7:00pm AA Meeting in the Church Hall

Sunday, January 9th

8:30am Confessions at St. A & J
9:30am Weekend Mass at St. A & J
10:30am Faith Formation in Ministry Room

NO JANUARY BREAKFAST

Because it is New Year's weekend, there will not be a Knights of Columbus breakfast on the first Sunday of January. See you the first Sunday of February.



We are so thankful for the parents and children participating in our faith formation program this year and are aware of the sacrifice you are making to pass on the faith to your children.

Upcoming Faith Formation Schedule

January 9, 2022
January 23, 2022
January 30, 2022
February 6
February 13

No classes on January 2nd or January 16th or on February 20th or February 27th due to holiday weekends or winter vacation.



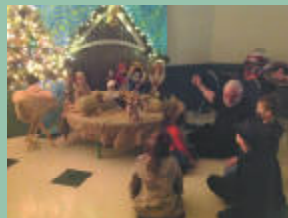
Sister B's Bible Class on Thursdays

No class on 1/6
Class will resume on January 13th, 2022.

FYI: The bible class is canceled when the school district is closed for snow storms.

Faith Formation Learning

On the weekend of December 19th, the faith formation group talked about the real meaning of Christmas—that it is Jesus birthday. They had the opportunity to celebrate Jesus birthday with a cake and discuss the manger scene. It was suggested that before gifts were opened, they should remember the real reason for Christmas—Jesus birthday!



Keep them all in your prayers!



WEEKLY READINGS

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

Next Sunday: Is 42:1-4, 6-7/Ps 29:1-2, 3-4, 3, 9-10
[11b]/Acts 10:34-38/Lk 3:15-16, 21-22

or

Is 40:1-5, 9-11/Ps 104:1b-2, 3-4, 24-25, 27-28, 29-30
[1]/Ti 2:11-14; 3:4-7/Lk 3:15-16, 21-22



We are still in need of more greeters and ushers at Mass. If you could help out in either of these ministries, please call the office at 364-4556 and we will direct your name to the proper person. Thank you for considering sharing the gifts God has given you on behalf of the Church!

WEEKLY MASS INTENTIONS

MONDAY, January 3rd—St. A & J

8:15am—Mary Jane Thorne by Mom

TUESDAY, January 4th—St. A & J

8:15am—Eugene Boivin by Gerry & family

WEDNESDAY, January 5th—NO MASS

THURSDAY, January 6th—St. A & J

8:15am—Marjorie Casey (9th Anniv) by the Casey family

FRIDAY, January 7th—St. A & J

8:15am—Nicholas Lavorgna, Sr. by Sons Nick, Jr. & John and grandson

SATURDAY, January 8th—St. A & J

4:00pm—St. A & J —All Parishioners

6:00pm—OLS—Margaret Roy by Theresa Fraser

SUNDAY, January 9th—St. A & J

9:30am—Normand Bourret by Doris



Old School Food Pantry

115 Maine Avenue

Wednesdays: 3:00pm to 5:00p
Every other Saturday: 9:00am-11:00am

Donations welcome. Items needed are outlined below. Feel free to leave items in the boxes at St. A & J. Any monetary donations should be made payable to Old School Food Pantry. Checks can be dropped at the parish office. We will get them over to the pantry. This is open to all, there are no income guidelines, so please feel free to come.

Snacks: chips, popcorn, cookies, crackers, and school snack items.

Baking supplies; sugar, flour, vanilla, baking soda and baking powder.

Personal items: shampoo, soap, dish soap, Q-tips and deodorant.

Infant care items: baby food, baby wipes, baby shampoo, baby powder, baby lotion and diaper cream.

Condiments: mustard, ketchup, pickles, mayonnaise, salt and pepper.

NO MASS CANCELLATIONS DUE TO SNOW STORMS

If we have a snow storm, Father Aaron is still planning on doing the scheduled Mass. He will not cancel due to weather. However, please use your discretion in attending, placing your safety first!

God Bless!



CEMETERY CLOSURE

The Cemetery is now closed for the season. Our Maintenance Staff has locked the gates, turned off the water, and picked up the grounds for winter. We'll see you in the Spring!



COVID-19

Update

Parish of the Holy Savior and the Diocese of Portland recommends that you wear a mask. At this time, the State of Maine does not have a mask mandate but the Bishop is encouraging mask wearing. Please be mindful that the Bishop is not mandating mask wearing for lay people or ordained ministers, they are able to wear masks at their discretion. Please respect fellow parishioners of their decision. Practice social distancing and use hand sanitizer.

PARISH COLLECTIONS

COLLECTIONS from Dec 14—Dec 20th, 2021

Offertory, including WeShare	\$9,908
Holy Days	\$400
Fuel Collection	\$275
Renovation Collection	\$382
Diocesan collection	\$197
Christmas Flowers	\$200
Total	\$11,362

Thank you for your continued support!

FORMED®

PICK OF THE WEEK

January 2, 2022

WATCH

GOD'S DOORKEEPER: ST. ANDRÉ OF MONTREAL

This week, we celebrate the memorial of a humble doorkeeper, St. André of Montreal. Learn how this man became a great saint through his small acts of love!



FORMED NOW! HOW TO PRAY

Whether you are a veteran in the spiritual life or are just beginning, start this year off right by recommitting yourself to prayer! Join Drs. Tim Gray and Elizabeth Klein as they discuss ways to kickstart your prayer life this year!

LEARN

LISTEN

PREPARE THE WAY OF THE KING BY DR. SCOTT HAHN

As we celebrate the Epiphany, Dr. Scott Hahn explains how we should understand the three Magi and their gifts to the Lord!



Our parish has a FORMED subscription.

To set up your free account visit formed.org/signup and select our parish.

2021-2022 Winter Parking

Do you or anyone you know need overnight off-street parking this winter in our overflow parking area?? If so, please contact the parish office at 364-4556 to obtain a parking permit. The cost for the 2021-2022 season is \$35.00 per vehicle.

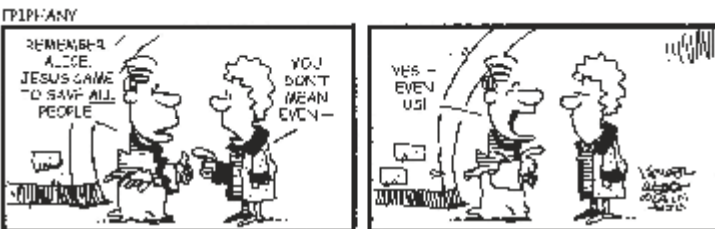


Our Lady of the Snows Extraordinary Ministers

If anyone is interested in serving as an Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion in Bethel on Saturdays at 6:00 pm in 2022, please contact the office.

I know there are limited opportunities to serve at St. Athanasius & St. John Church, so if you are an existing Extraordinary Minister and would like to attend mass in Bethel and serve during communion, please let the office know.

If you have never been an extraordinary minister of holy communion but would like to consider that ministry, let us know. There is training required and approval by the Bishop, but we'd be happy to work with you to get you qualified.



2021 Donations

After the first of the year, we will be preparing letters for parishioners summarizing their donations in 2021.

We are required by IRS laws to send letter to anyone who donated more than \$250 in a single donation, but we don't send out letters to everyone.

If you wish to receive a record of your donations to the church, please let us know after the first of the year (207-364-4556).

Daughters of Isabella Meeting

St. Timothy's Circle #504, Daughters of Isabella will meet Tuesday, January 11, 2022 at 6:00 pm in the Holy Savior Parish Hall. Luncheon committee members are: Doris Bourret, Jolene Lovejoy, Judy Collette & Catherine Ross.

The Daughters of Isabella would like to welcome Diane Roy as our newest member. Also, congratulations to the following members who are celebrating their 25 years plus membership with the Daughters of Isabella: Theresa Vaillancourt - 36 years, Joan LePage - 53 years & Rita Perry - 55 years.

Our Annual Christmas party was a huge success with great food and accommodations at 49 Franklin. We had lots of laughter, singing and presents. Yummy cookies & treats were made by Debbie, Sharon & Lisa.

Please remember our 2022 dues are to be paid in January in accordance with our by-laws.



Please contact the Parish Office at 364-4556 if you are interested in

- Sacraments of Baptism or Marriage
- Parish Mass and Prayer Requests
- Pastoral Ministry to the Sick and Homebound

We will put you in touch with the right person. If you wish to register, see form below.

BULLETIN/CHURCH BULLETIN BOARD

If you have items for the Bulletin, please send them to cheryl.cox@portlanddiocese.org no later than Monday morning.

To have items posted on the St. A & J bulletin board, please contact the office at 207-364-4556 or email holsaviorparish@portlanddiocese.org.

REGISTRATION/UPDATE FORM

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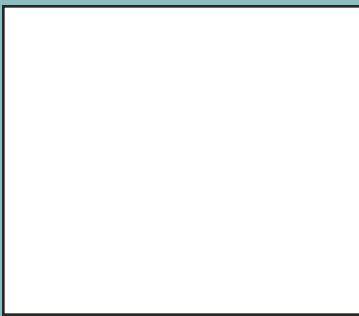
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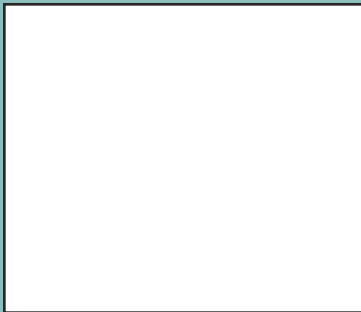
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