

January 2, 2022



Church of the Nativity

at St. Leo's • St. Joseph's • St. Patrick's • Immaculate Conception

Administrator: Rev. James H. Carey Weekend Associate: Msgr. James O'Brien
Website: <https://southernhillscatholic.org>

Parish Staff

Parish Office:

Ann Christmas, Immaculate Conception
Linda Swan, St. Leo's
Peg Sutton, St. Joseph's and St. Patrick's

Religious Education:

Shelley Benjamin, St. Joseph's
Pete Cardamone, St. Leo's (696-5599)
Colleen Tracy, St. Patrick's (515-9877)
Robert Gallerani, Imm. Conception (609-915-2890)

Outreach:

Fabius-Pompey Outreach 677-3590
LaFayette Outreach: 677-5221
St. Leo's/St. Patrick's Outreach: 696-5092

Liturgy:

Linda Swan, St. Leo's 696-5092
Ann Derr, Immaculate Conception 683-9415

SACRAMENTS:

Please call the Parish Office at the Church you attend for the Sacraments of Baptism and Marriage and also for Hospital visits.

RECONCILIATION:

St. Leo's: Saturdays at 4 p.m.
Immaculate Conception: after the 9:30 a.m. Mass

Prayer List is available online at:

<https://southernhillscatholic.org>

St. Joseph's Office: (315) 677-3439
website: www.stjosephslafayette.org
email: parish@stjosephslafayette.org

Immaculate Conception Office: (315) 677-3061
website: icpompey.org
email: parish@icpompey.org
Cemetery Questions: Terry Christmas at 315-427-6492

St. Leo's Office: (315) 696-5092
website: www.stleostully.org
email: parish@stleostully.org

St. Patrick's Office: (315) 696-5140
Website: stpatrickstotisco.org
Email: parish@stpatrickstotisco.org

Schedule of Masses

Saturday Masses:

4:30 p.m. St. Leo's, Tully

Sunday Masses:

8 a.m. St. Leo's, Tully
9 a.m. St. Joseph's, LaFayette
9:30 a.m. Immaculate Conception, Pompey
10:30 a.m. St. Patrick's, Otisco

Read the bulletin online at:

<http://www.seekandfind.com/find/immaculate-conception-church-13138/download>

Baby Jesus Meets the Public

This Week's Readings at Mass

- ▶ Isaiah 60:1-6 - Glory of the new Zion
- ▶ Ephesians 3:2-3a, 5-6 - Commission to preach God's plan
- ▶ Matthew 2:1-12 - The visit of the magi

In the ancient world, an epiphany referred to the appearance of a god among humans. For the church, the Feast of the Epiphany celebrates the public recognition of Jesus by the outside world when the magi found the newborn in Bethlehem. The connection between the first reading from Isaiah and the Gospel could not be more clear. Matthew picks up on Isaiah's prophecy of a guiding light (the star), travelers coming from afar (the magi), and extravagant gifts (gold and frankincense) to show that Jesus is the promised savior.

Over the centuries, many legends have told of the magi who followed the star to discover Jesus. All scripture tells us about their identity, however, is that they were "from the east," which Matthew's readers would have known meant that they were Gentiles—not Jews. This was significant because Matthew was writing for a primarily Jewish audience, trying to convince them that Jesus was their long-awaited savior. At the same time, Matthew wanted his readers to hear that people *outside* of their religion also recognized this baby as worthy of their homage. In effect, Matthew is telling them that Jesus came for anyone and everyone, regardless of where they come from or what their religious background is.

Today we celebrate the Feast of the Epiphany, the public "coming out" of Jesus to the wider



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

Sheepish Question:
What personal and spiritual gifts can I offer as Christ's light?

world. Although Jesus was born into a specific religion and culture in a particular time in history, the Epiphany reminds us that he is not limited to being a savior to the Jewish people. He is available to everyone, as Mary demonstrated by welcoming the foreign travelers "from the east."

Questions of the Week

- 1 In some cultures, the Feast of the Epiphany is celebrated more than Christmas. Does your family have any Epiphany traditions? What would be an appropriate way to celebrate?
- 2 Were you taught that salvation is limited to a set population of chosen people, or did you grow up with the belief that Jesus came for all people, regardless of their religion? How did that affect how you related to others outside of your church?

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MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, January 1st—New Year's Day; Mary, The Holy Mother of God; World Day of Peace

10 a.m. Immaculate Conception—Parishioners

Sunday, January 2nd—The Epiphany of the Lord; Sts. Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzen, Bishops and Doctors of the Church

8 a.m. St. Leo's—

9 a.m. St. Joseph's—Patricia Elenz/Martha Scofield

9:30 a.m. Immaculate Conception—Bill Clark/Family; Susan Winchell/Jack & Jane Smyth; Rev. Paul Carey/Pat and Tom Rouse

10:30 a.m. St. Patrick's—Daniel Bronchetti/Doreen Bronchetti

Monday, January 3rd—The Most Holy Name of Jesus

8:30 a.m. St. Leo's—

Tuesday, January 4th—St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, Religious

8:30 a.m. St. Leo's—

Wednesday, January 5th—St. John Neumann, Bishop

8:30 a.m. St. Leo's—

Thursday, January 6th—St. André Bessette, Religious

8:30 a.m. St. Leo's—

Friday, January 7th—St. Raymond of Penyafort, Priest

NO MASS

Saturday, January 8th—Christmas Weekday

4:30 p.m. St. Leo's—

Sunday, January 9th—The Baptism of the Lord

8 a.m. St. Leo's—

9 a.m. St. Joseph's—William Gottheld/Tom & Carole Scofield

9:30 a.m. Immaculate Conception—Ken Derr (10th Anniversary)/Ann Derr; Linda McCrystal/Peter Schlicht

10:30 a.m. St. Leo's—Beverly & George Kulick/Marvin Family

A Note regarding email solicitations:

There have been reports from parishioners across our diocese who have received emails and texts from individuals claiming to be their pastor. Usually the content of the message will include some form of request for money that is outside of the normal channels of giving, for example electronic gift cards for amazon or iTunes. These messages usually include some sense of urgency and may span over several emails, beginning with an inquiry like "Hi are you available? I have a quick request." Some of these fraudulent attempts have gone so far as to create email accounts which look very much like an official address. Please be aware that neither our parish nor father will ever reach out to you directly via email text or social media for direct solicitation of gift cards, wire transfers or other electronic monetary transactions. If you suspect you may have received a fraudulent request, or would like to confirm the genuineness of a message, please contact our parish office. To report a fraudulent request please forward the message to: stop-fraud@syrdio.org

Miscellaneous Announcement

FOOD SENSE - Food Sense order forms are out, pick one up and drop off your order by Saturday January 8 at St Leo's Church Hall between 10:00-2:00 pm. Pick up food orders at the Church Hall on Thu January 20 between 3:00-5:00 pm. Any questions, please call Jeannie at (315) 696-5092. Thank you!

EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP - RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

The Light of the Moon

If you own a television that has been turned on at any point in the last month or so, chances are you've caught at least a scene or two of the 1946 classic film "It's a Wonderful Life."

If you're not familiar with the movie, it follows the life of George Bailey from childhood through adulthood. A dreamer by nature, George has big plans for himself that involve world exploration and adventure — but family and community obligations keep him tethered to the same spot on the map, leading an altogether ordinary life.

One of the most memorable scenes from that movie is of George dancing with his sweetheart Mary while they sing "Buffalo Gals — Won't you come out tonight/And dance by the light of the moon?"

That lyric always catches my ear. Of course, the moon doesn't have any light of its own. All the moon has is the ability to reflect the light that shines upon it.

The same holds for us, doesn't it? Our stewardship is purely a reflection of the grace granted to us by another. "Upon you the LORD shines," writes Isaiah, "and over you appears his glory." Every good action we will ever take begins in the mind of God. The fact that we have the honor of carrying it out on His behalf is a beautiful gift. It is God that makes our ordinary lives extraordinary.

In the end of the movie, George Bailey realizes that he had a far greater life because, instead of being the hero of his own story, he allowed himself to reflect goodness onto others.

Remember — the magi didn't chart their own course. They merely followed the star.

Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS
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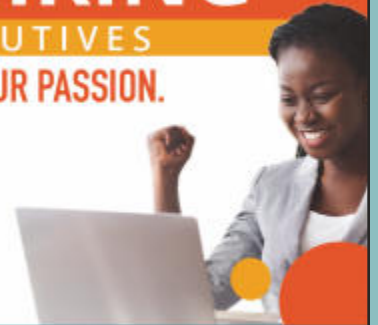
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