

# Epiphany of Our Lord Church

10893 SISSON HWY.  
NORTH COLLINS, NY 14111



EPIPHANY OF OUR LORD

JANUARY 2ND AND 3RD

337-2686 • Fax: 337-0028

www.epiphanyofourlordrc.com

Email: epiphanyparish@gmail.com

Facebook: Epiphany of Our Lord R.C. Parish Community

### Parish Office Hours:

Monday, Wednesday, Friday: 9am-12pm

Tuesdays and Thursday: 9am-12pm and 2pm-4pm

Please call the office if you need to make an appointment outside of Office Hours.

Saturday Vigil Mass- 4:00pm

Sunday Masses— 8:30am & 11:00am

Daily Mass: 8:30am

Monday-Friday and First Saturdays

### CONFESSIONS

Every Day after each Mass and by appointment (703-4066).  
Please speak with Father if you would like to receive the sacrament of reconciliation.

To listen to Mass on the Radio from the Church Parking Lot:  
88.5FM

### PARISH STAFF

Pastor.....Rev. Mitch Byeck (703-4066)

Deacon .....Roy Dibb

Parish Business Manager .....Sarah Jo Schmitt

Faith Formation Coord. .... Tracy Tremblay

Music Director .....

Cantor/Leader of Song .....

Facility Coord. (Volunteer) ..... Mary Ann Gabel

Maintenance (Volunteer) ..... Roger Powenski

PARISH LAY TRUSTEES..Daniel Gabel • Bonnie Hohman

### PASTORAL COUNCIL OFFICERS

Chairperson ..... Roger Powenski

Secretary ..... Bonnie Hohman

Vicariate Council Representative ..... Marty Ptak

Vicariate Council Representative ..... Mary Richmond

### PARISH MINISTRIES

Baptismal Prep Formation .....Tina Kron

Finance Committee ..... Robin Hohman

Liturgy Committee..... Annette Noto

### OUTREACH MINISTRIES

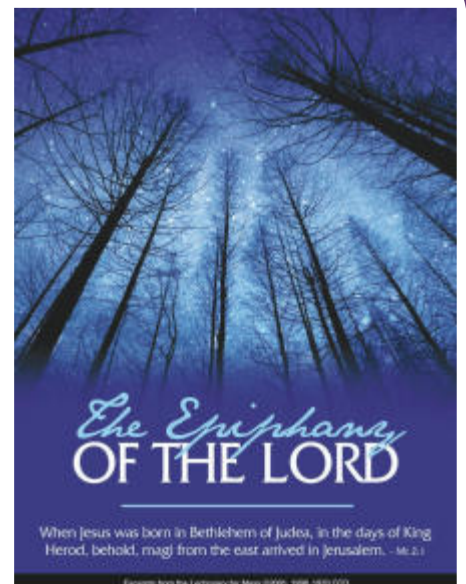
Compassion Ministry..... Anne Schmitz

Bereavement ..... Contact Parish Office, 337-2686

PARISH HALL RENTAL: To reserve the hall for a function, please contact Mary Gattie at 337-3150.

For Information on Baptisms, Weddings, Faith Formation, Parish Registration, and other Church Activities, please call the Parish Office.

The eternal gifts of joy, hope, and peace are bestowed on those who choose to live in the light of Christ. The voices of the prophet Isaiah, the Apostle Paul, and the three kings— Balthazar, Caspar, and Melchior— resound today in one joyful chorus. They are reminding us that Christ, our Light, has come to dispel the darkness of sin and death and to remain with us forever.



**Mass Intentions  
For the Week of December 27th  
(C) Church**

**Sat., Jan. 2nd** *Vigil of the Epiphany of the Lord*  
4:00pm (C) +Rita Gross  
By Pastoral Council

**Sun, Jan. 3rd:** *The Epiphany of the Lord*  
8:30am (C) +Walter & Katy Geiger  
By The Family  
11:00am (C) +Dana Albrect  
By Bern and the Folts Family

**Monday, Jan. 4th:** *St. Elizabeth Ann Seton*  
8:30am (C) +Walter Wielgus  
By Hilde Werneth

**Tues, Jan. 5th:** *St. John Neumann*  
8:30am (C) +Bobby McNerney  
By Aunt Janie

**Wed, Jan. 6th:** *Christmas Weekday*  
8:30am (C) + All Souls  
By Parish All Souls Intentions

**Thur. Jan. 7th:** *Christmas Weekday*  
8:30am (C) All Epiphany of Our Lord Parishioners  
By Father Mitch Byeck

**Friday, Jan. 8th:** *Christmas Weekday*  
8:30am (C) The Healing of Mary Gattie  
By Her Friends

**Sat, Jan. 9th:** *Vigil of the Baptism of the Lord*  
4:00pm (C) +Chuck Richmond  
By Janet Eimiller & Ben Hintz

**Sun, Jan. 10th:** *The Baptism of the Lord*  
8:30am (C) +Betty Dole  
By Pete & Cindy Renaldo  
11:00am (C) +Rick Jemison  
By Roger & Kathy Powenski

*The Sanctuary Candle in Church is lit for Bobby  
McNerney as requested by Aunt Janie.*

*The Sanctuary Candle in the Rectory Chapel is lit for  
Father Mitch's Birthday as requested by Toni and Elane  
Wittmeyer.*

**Readings for the Week of January 3rd**

Sunday: Is 60:1-6/Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6/Mt 2:1-12  
Monday: 1 Jn 3:22-4:6/Mt 4:12-17, 23-25  
Tuesday: 1 Jn 4:7-10/Mk 6:34-44  
Wednesday: 1 Jn 4:11-18/Mk 6:45-52  
Thursday: 1 Jn 4:19-5:4/Lk 4:14-22  
Friday: 1 Jn 5:5-13/Lk 5:12-16  
Saturday: 1 Jn 5:14-21/Jn 3:22-30



Weekly Collection (12/27): \$2,776.00  
Christmas Collections (12/25): \$1702.00  
Collection Total for this Fiscal Year: \$41,492.60

**2021 Collection Envelopes**

The 2021 Collection Envelopes are available in the back of Church. If you do not currently receive collection envelopes and would like to, please contact the Parish Office.

**Compassion Ministry**

To place someone on the prayer list, please complete and return a card available at the entrances of the church, or call the rectory. Individuals will remain on the list for 4 weeks unless the rectory is notified otherwise. *If you have a loved one on our list and they pass away, please let the parish office know.*

Vicky (Achtly) Alessi, Lena Anzalone, Cindy Gabel Amacher, Ann Andzel, Elaine Bauer, Romie Lee Bettinger, Ernest Bracikowski, Christine Brown, Mary Jane Butzer, Joey Crocker, Paula Czora, Esther Dittenhofer, Norie Donhauser, John Duggan, Otto Duggan, Anne Edwards, Mary Gattie, Art Gernatt, Norm Grapes, Patrick Grapes, Sylvia Grapes, Mark Grugel, Ashley Haettich, Bob Holbrook, Robert Hogan, Jeanne Hutchings, Daniel Kozub, Rose Kohn, Irma Martin, Sara Mackey Dunn, Andrew Marconi, Diane May, Bob McNerney, Millie Muehlbauer, Marty Niefergold, Jean Ott, Holly Pearce, Andrew Remero, Pat Ricotta, Levi Rothfuss, Patricia and Wesley Schmitt, Kathy Smith, Sr. Lucina Stang, Danielle Stark, Lorraine Stark, Donelle Thomas, Trisha Weiss, Ed Urban, Gary Wentland, Mike Winter.



**2021 Grand Raffle**

Our 13th Annual Grand Raffle will take place on Tuesday, March 23rd 2021. Each ticket is \$20; there will be 30 winners and the prizes are:

1st Prize: \$4,000  
2nd Prize: \$1,000 3rd Prize: \$1,000  
4th-6th Prizes: \$500 7th-10th Prizes: \$250  
11th-20th Prizes: \$100 21st-30th Prizes: \$50

Our goal is to sell 1,000 tickets to make the Grand Raffle a success. That means we need everyone to help. Tickets have been mailed out to all registered parishioners. If you need more tickets, they are available at Church or in the Rectory. They can make great Christmas gifts! Please return any tickets you are unable to sell.

Due to the ongoing pandemic, we will not be having the reception this year. We will draw the tickets with a small audience, possibly at a Pastoral Council Meeting, and all winners will be posted in the parish bulletin as well as on our Parish Facebook Page.

*So Far 112 Have been sold!*

**Mass Intentions and Sanctuary Candle Requests**

To schedule a mass please contact the parish office!  
A Mass is a sacrifice of Jesus on the cross, brought forward in time to the present. At Mass you could say that a "time warp" is opened in which the sacrifice of Jesus is mystically brought forward to be present to us. When we are present at a celebration of the Eucharist, we are not merely turning our attention to the past, we are actually bringing forward into the present the most pivotal moment of human history.

Masses can be offered for a number of intentions: for the deceased, to invoke the Lord's special graces for a friend or loved one, for a successful surgery and recovery, or for an anniversary. A \$15 donation is asked for each Mass requested.

If you would like to request the Sanctuary Candle to be lit, please contact the Parish Office. A \$10 donation is asked per week of the Sanctuary Candle being lit.

**Bishop Michael W. Fisher's Installation**

Bishop Fisher's Installation into the Diocese of Buffalo will take place on Friday January 15th, 2021 at 2pm in St. Joseph's Cathedral.

The Installation will be live-streamed on the Cathedral's Page: <https://www.youtube.com/SaintJosephCathedral>



### Youth Ministry Pizza Sale

It's that time of year again for our Youth Ministry Pizza Sale! Pizzas can be preordered before January 25th.

- Prices:
- One: \$8
- Two: \$15
- Three: \$23
- Four: \$30
- Five: \$37

Pre-ordered pizzas will be available for pick-up January 30th and 31st following Masses. There will be a limited number of pizza available that are not pre-ordered. Pre-payment is not required on pre-orders, but encouraged. To pre-order, contact the parish office, or fill out an order form located at the entrances of Church and from the Rectory.

### Tri-County Crisis Pregnancy Center News

If you or anyone you now has children or grandchildren that are in need please contact Alexandria Reid at the Tri-County Crisis Pregnancy Center, located in Gowanda, NY. The pregnancy center has many things to offer ranging from diapers and clothes to car seats and pack N plays. You can make an appointment by calling 716-532-9738 or messaging the "Tri-County Crisis Pregnancy Center" directly on Facebook.



*Thank you everyone for the Christmas cards, Birthday cards, gifts, and well wishes.  
May you all have a Blessed New Year!  
-Fr. Mitch*

### The Chalking of the Doors: An Epiphany Tradition Explained

Epiphany (also known as Twelfth Night, *Theophany*, or Three Kings day) marks the occasion of a time-honored Christian tradition of "chalking the doors." The formula for the ritual— adapted for 2021— is simple: take chalk in any color and write the following about the entrance of your home: 20+C+M+B+21.

The letters have two meanings. First, they represent the initials of the Magi— Caspar, Melchior, and Balthazar— who came to visit Jesus in His first home. They also abbreviate the Latin phrase, *Christus mansionem benedicat*: "May Christ bless the house." The "+" signs represent the cross, and the "20" at the beginning and the "20" at the end mark the year. Taken together, this inscription is performed as a request for Christ to bless those homes so marked and that He stay with those who dwell therein throughout the entire year.

The timing for the chalking of the doors varies somewhat in practice. In some places, it is done on New Year's Day. More commonly, it is performed on the traditional Feast of the Epiphany— the Twelfth Day of Christmas. Most often the chalking takes place after Epiphany Mass, and can be done at any church, home, or dwelling. Traditionally a blessing is done by either a priest or the father of the family. This blessing can be performed simply by just writing the inscription and offering a short prayer, or more elaborately, including songs, prayers, processions, the burning of incense, and the sprinkling of holy water.

### The Epiphany of Our Lord Homily

St. Matthew's Gospel provides a fair amount of information about Jesus' life. His first chapter begins our Christmas season, as we read his genealogy account at the Christmas Vigil Mass.

This genealogy links Jesus to the patriarchs— as the fulfillment of the great promise of one to come, the Messiah. Matthew structured the genealogy into three blocks of figures that correspond to epochs of Israel's history: From Abraham to David, from David to the exile in Babylon, and from the exile in Babylon to the Christ (1:17).

Today's feast of the Epiphany is a major event in Jesus' life story, and in our own salvation history. The magi, men from the east— that is, not from the Israelite people— followed the star to find... *the newborn king of the Jews!* What a startling thing. They knew something profound had happened in the world, even if it had not been part of their own heritage to expect such a thing. Yet, they were *overjoyed at seeing the star*, and upon finding Jesus, *they prostrated themselves and did him homage*. To this baby they offer gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh, and we see the connection to what is foretold in today's first reading. *Rise up in splendor! Your light has come, the glory of the Lord shines upon you... All from Sheba shall come bearing gold and frankincense, and proclaiming the praises of the Lord.*

It is also in this moment of God leading non-Israelites to seek out this baby and acknowledge his reign that we see the connection to us: The Son of God has come for all people, Jews and Gentiles alike.

Saint Paul explains this in our second reading today, saying, *the Gentiles are coheirs, members of the same body, and copartners in the promise in Christ Jesus*. The light of Christ beckons all, and all are welcome to follow it to where Christ may be found. For those of us baptized into this light, we— like the magi— bring gifts, in this case the gifts of our lives and our faith. We offer our very selves for Christ in honor of his kingship. Priesthood, and sacrifice. And we are to go out into the world that still needs that light, and direct others to it. The feast of Epiphany reminds us that the glory of the Lord indeed shines upon us. Jesus has come into the world. We should all bow and do him homage.

### How to use the incense and chalk

(In the Back of Church and from the Rectory you will find Blessing packets)

Gather your family during the feast of epiphany, burn the incense; using the chalk, the current year and the initials of the legendary names of the Magi, Gaspar, Melchior, Balthazar are marked on the doorway as follows:  
20+C+M+B+21

While this is being done another family member says:  
*"May all who come to our home this year rejoice to find Christ living among us: and may we seek and serve, in everyone we meet, that same Jesus who is your incarnate Word, now and forever. Amen.*

With this custom we are able to link the prayer of the Church with the prayer of your family as we bring the Christmas season to a close.

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