#### January 2, 2022 • Epiphany

22851 Lexington Ave, Eastpointe MI 48021

t. Basil the Great

Welcome to our Faith Community



#### Mary, the Holy Mother of God

This solemnity is a rather recent addition to the cycle of seasons, Sundays, and feasts in our liturgical year. We have Pope Paul VI to thank for the 1974 enshrining of the devotion to Mary into our calendar on January 1. It is also a day in our calendar as a World Day for Peace.

Let us pray...

God of heaven and earth, you came to us and took our earthly flesh through the gift of Mary's yes. She is our Mother in faith, as she is your earthly mother.

We are thankful beyond our ability to thank you for the gift of her Son as our brother and savior.

Through her self-giving, we have been reconciled to you.

Bless us as we begin this New Year and endow us with the desire and ability to create a world of peace.

We ask all this, through the intercession of Mary to you, one God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Amen.



## THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

610

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. - Mt 2:10-11



#### 2021 Faith Formation Christmas Play







St. Basil the Great continues to present the series: The CHOSEN – Season One On Sunday, January 2nd, 2022 12:00 in the Social Hall We are featuring: Episodes 3 and 4 If you have not seen any of the CHOSEN series,

you are in for a treat If you have seen some of them, they are worth seeing again!! Refreshments will be served



Please join us Saturday, January 8th after the morning Mass (10am) for an informal meeting to brainstorm for new fundraising and 'fun' raising ideas for the upcoming year. You won't be committed to join any groups or volunteer for anything at this meeting unless you want to. We are just looking for ideas!

We hope to see you then. **Rita Harning** 

#### The Epiphany of the Lord

In his Apostolic Exhortation, The Joy of the Gospel, Pope Francis references a thought from Pope Benedict XVI: "Being a Christian is not the result of an ethical choice or a lofty idea, but the encounter with an event, a person, which gives life a new horizon and a decisive direction." Today we celebrate an encounter with the Person of Jesus Christ! This simple but holy event in time dramatically changes human life, pointing it toward a new horizon and giving it a decisive direction. This is a message and truth that is not meant to be shared with only a select few who qualify but with the entire world. Pope Francis continues saying, "Thanks solely to this encounter or renewed encounter with God's love, which blossoms into an enriching friendship, we are liberated from our narrowness and self-absorption. We become fully human when we become more than human, when we let God bring us beyond ourselves in order to attain the fullest truth of our being."

I ENDAR

9.10

11 12 13 14 15 16 17

18 19 20 21 22 23 24

25 26 27 28 29 30 31

Look around at people. Where is life heading for them? What gives them direction? Even we who are people of faith can get distracted and lose our focus. God, in all of His fullness, is revealed in Jesus Christ and we can encounter Him! God is tangible, real, vulnerable, poor, and full of wonders, surprises, and opportunities. For those who are struggling and lost, today is a day of great joy. All they have to do is reach out and touch the truth of Christ. This presence is revealed in the poor, exploited, and vulnerable ones who cry out for compassion and love. But it is also found in the faithful ones who see in the Epiphany of God a liberation from structures and systems that hurt us, a narrowness of mind and heart that constricts us, and an absorption in our self-agenda that prevents us from seeing anything other than ourselves as important.

We have been given the charge of preaching this Good News. If only we could find a way to be more effective, it might stand a chance of doing what God intended it to do. There is always tomorrow and our memory of that bright new light that shone so brilliantly that Bethlehem night pointing us to truth and reminding us that we are loved. **©LPi** 



#### WEEKLY SCHEDULE

Monday, January 3, 2022 8:00am Reconciliation / C 8:30am Mass / C

Tuesday, January 4, 2022 12:00pm Adoration / C 2:00pm Reconciliation / C 5:30pm FF grades pre-K to 8 / S 6:20pm Reconciliation / C 6:30pm Rosarv & Benediction / C 7:00pm Mass / C

Wednesday, January 5, 2022 8:00am Reconciliation / C 8:30am Mass / C

Thursday, January 6, 2022 Luke Bible Study / SH 7:00pm

#### Friday, January 7, 2022

Reconciliation / C 8:00am 8:30am Mass / C 6:00pm Contemplative Rosary/C

#### Saturday, January 8, 2022

8:00am Reconciliation / C 8:30am Mass / C 10:00am Brainstorm meeting / SH 3:00pm Reconciliation / C 4:00pm Mass / C

#### Sunday, January 9, 2022

8:30am Mass / C 10:30am Mass / C



## Fr. Eric's Exposé:

## **Epiphany**

The Epiphany water blessing will take place after the 4pm Holy Mass this Saturday, January 1<sup>st</sup>. It involves the Litany of the Saints, chanting of a few psalms, the exorcism prayer over the salt and water, and the Te Deum. Although it will be all in Latin, there will be booklets with the English next to the Latin. Epiphany celebrates the visit of the three wise men to the baby Jesus

with the Blessed Virgin Mary and St. Joseph. This is partially where the idea of gift giving at Christmas came from, since the wise men brought the Holy Family gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh (cf. Mt. 2:11). These three wise men are venerated as saints with the names St. Caspar, St. Melchior, and St. Balthasar. Their relics are in the cathedral in Cologne, Germany in a large and beautiful reliquary above and behind the high altar. There is a tradition in the Church where a priest blesses the church entrance with blessed chalk by writing the dates of the year along with the initials of the three wise men and crosses in between. This year it looks like this: 20+C+M+B+22. The letter initials can also be interpreted as "Christus Mansionem Benedicat" or "Christ bless this house."

I will be doing this blessing shortly after the 10:30am Mass this Sunday the 2nd for the church. I will get the social hall/school building, offices and rectory later on. Join me as I invite Jesus to watch over these buildings with His powerful spiritual protection through the intercession of the three saintly wise men! There is also a tradition for the father (or mother or individual) of a household to ask Jesus to enter his family's house while he traces the numbers and letters with blessed chalk upon the door or above the door to the house. This is to protect the family during the year from the attacks of the devil and especially from the temptation to sin. I will have some blessed chalk to give out for use in your homes, which you can pick up after Mass. While there is a longer prayer that can be used for your house, here is a shorter one:

On entering the home:

Leader: Let us pray.

Bless, O Lord God almighty, this home, that in it there may be health, purity, the strength of victory, humility, goodness and mercy, the fulfillment of Thy law, the thanksgiving to God the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit. And may this blessing remain upon this home and upon all who dwell herein. Through Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

After the prayer of blessing is recited, the initials of the Magi are inscribed upon the doors with the blessed chalk.

Example: 20 + C + M + B + 22

God bless!

In Christ through Mary,

Fr. Eric Fedewa



hey 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. \_ Mt 2:10:11

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

### **Musings From Mary Kay**

Dear Ones,

I call you "DEAR" because each of you is dear to my heart. I pray for all the St. Basil parishioners daily. I hope you had a blessed Christmas and that 2022 brings **joy, peace, good health** and **many blessings** to you and your loved ones.

Christmas is not a "day" or even a "season". If we all lived the "Christmas Spirit" every day of our lives, what a different world we would have! I suggest we all bring the following words of St. Katharine Drexel to prayer so they become written on our hearts.

#### If we wish to serve God and love our neighbor well, we must manifest our joy in the service we render to God and our neighbor. Let us open wide our hearts. It is JOY which invites us.

Today's Gospel (Matthew 2:1-12) tells the story of the Three Kings – The Magi. Matthew does not tell details of Jesus' birth in a stable, or angels, or shepherds. Matthew's Gospel begins with the genealogy of Jesus. (The older Bibles used the word "begat" – remember those?). After the genealogy in chapter one, Matthew tells the story of the Magi and King Herod.

The first foreign visitors to the newborn Jesus are exotic characters from the East. The term "magi" originally referred to a caste of Persian priests, who served their king. They were not kings or wise men, but were adept at interpreting dreams. Here they appear to be astrologers who can interpret the movement of the stars. Matthew portrays them very favorably. These Gentiles who respond positively to Jesus stand in stark contrast to Herod, the chief priests and scribes, foreshadowing the inclusion of non-Jews in the Jesus movement and the rejection of Jesus by many Jews.

As Jesus' birthplace, Bethlehem is no longer "too small to be among the clans of Judah" (Matt 2:6). Just as God called David from Bethlehem to shepherd Israel, so Jesus is shepherd to God's people.

The text does not say how many magi there were or exactly from where they came. The traditional number of three probably comes from the three gifts that were given: gold – a symbol of kingship on Earth; frankincense (an incense) – symbol of deity; and myrrh (an embalming oil) – symbol of death.

The greatest love story is in the baby. Jesus is none other than God's only Son, the promised Messiah, the **light** to guide all of humankind out of darkness.

Have a glorious week following your STAR to Jesus, Sister Mary Kay Homan, OP

### Faith Formation

Happy New Year! We begin the year with the Feast of Mary, Mother of God. It is good to begin the year by reflecting on Mary's motherhood not only to Jesus, but as mother to us. As Mother of the Redeemer and Mother of the Redeemed, she loves and watches over all of us and she is our greatest intercessor before her son, Jesus. Hail, Holy Queen! Mother of Mercy, our life, our sweetness and our hope.

#### FAITH FORMATION IS NOW ON CHRISTMAS BREAK.

Our Faith Formation program serves the children of St. Basil and St. Veronica parishes. Classes are held on Tuesdays, 5:30 – 6:45 pm at St. Basil for children, pre-K through 8<sup>th</sup> grade. We offer Catechesis of the Good Shepherd for our younger children (Level I & II), and our children are confirmed in the 6<sup>th</sup> grade, followed by Discipleship classes. Please call the Faith Formation Office (after Jan 3<sup>rd</sup>) if you would like more information. <u>January 4th</u> Classes resume. Welcome back!

#### MISSED SACRAMENTS

We are happy to offer Sacramental Preparation for anyone who has missed a Sacrament: (Baptism, Reconciliation, 1<sup>st</sup> Communion or Confirmation). We have classes for children, teens, or adults. Please call the Religious Ed. office for information.

Mary Fortunate, Carolyn Mikula DRE 586 772-5434 stbasilreligioused@comcast.net

## UNLEASHING THE GOSPEL AT ST. BASIL THE GREAT

#### The intimate bond of Mary and Jesus

Excerpt from an article written by *Elise Ureneck*, published *October 29, 2021 in Discipleship* 

As a cradle Catholic, I remember Mary ... as a figure who was always around in images on our walls, in statues and stained-glass windows in our churches and imprinted on the many rosaries scattered on end tables and nightstands. She was close by, but not completely accessible, almost frozen in a downward, contemplative gaze. Emulating her felt like an impossible task, as did drawing close to her through prayer.

It wasn't until I became a mother that I began to more seriously engage in a relationship with Mary. To be sure, it wasn't the images of her holding the infant Jesus that did the trick — any mother of young children, especially those of boys, knows that they never sit as serenely in their mother's arms as Jesus did for Mary.

Instead, my deepening relationship with Mary was driven by something more primal, more biological in nature, ...— the physical, emotional and psychological transition to motherhood that a woman undergoes, and the accompanying re-orientation of her entire being in the world.

There is, undoubtedly, a kind of "hollowing out" of oneself that is attributed to virginity — a willingness to be sent where God asks and the forfeiting of natural goods for the sake of something greater. But motherhood, too, requires a hollowing out: first, the literal hollowing out of one's womb to make space for another; but also the lifelong process of shedding one's old self and putting on a new self for the sake of one's children. What is amazing is that in God's design, children help their mothers — both biologically and spiritually — to continually conform themselves to the mission and vocation to which God has called them.

The emerging science of motherhood sheds light on the biological connections between mothers and children ranging from the neurological changes that take place in a mother's brain to the interaction of their two bodies at the cellular level. And it has been these realities, studied and experienced firsthand in my own changing physiology and psychology, that have helped me to understand why it is that we Catholics draw close to Jesus through Mary, and what it means to consider her our own mother. Far from being a distant and impossible -to-emulate model of purity, contemplation, and prayer, Mary is deeply involved and invested in our protection, thriving and destiny.

Research reveals that fetal cells remain in a mother's body throughout her life, long after pregnancy and childbirth. Far from simply floating around, these cells get to work by providing health benefits to the mother, including helping her to heal from a caesarean section and warding off breast cancer. When I think about this reality in terms of Mary and Jesus, it drives home the intimacy they share as well as the idea that they work together in tandem. Mary is not only considered a tabernacle for the nine months that she carries Jesus; she is always carrying him in her body, even at the cellular level. What's even more fascinating about the science ... is that a special kind of healing by fetal cells takes place in mothers' hearts.

In her new book, Mom Genes: Inside the New Science of Our Ancient Maternal Instinct, Abigail Tucker explores the latest research into this phenomenon, particularly the ability of fetal cells to help some mothers recover from an often-fatal condition called "peripartum cardiomyopathy," which can strike just-delivered mothers. Researchers in New York City's Mount Sinai laboratory are trying to unlock the mystery as to why 50 percent of mothers spontaneously recover from the condition. Their best guess is that the fetal cells from the baby rush to the mother's heart, multiply and transform into cells that function like heart muscle cells.

What could be more helpful in understanding Mary's role as mother and mediatrix than this? We believe that Mary and Jesus speak "heart to heart," as Sts. Francis de Sales and John Henry Newman have characterized prayerful conversation. If this scientific theory of heart repair is true, we say with even greater confidence that Our Lady's pierced heart is truly healed by her son's saving act. And we can be assured that his Sacred Heart and her Immaculate Heart beat together as one, and they eternally heal and console one another in a mutual act of love.

As Catholics, we also say with confidence that Mary is our advocate, meaning that our prayers for her intercession have a real effect on her Son. This is often attributed to the idea that no child could ever refuse the requests of a mother he loved so much. But there is also scientific evidence that a mother's voice directly affects her child's brain and behavior. Maternal-fetal science has uncovered that as early as 16 weeks in utero, a developing baby can hear his mother's voice and that the sound of her voice is largely responsible for his subsequent linguistic development. In addition to being able to distinguish her voice from among others, a child's breathing, heart rate and the thickness of the auditory cortex in the brain are directly affected by the sound of his mother's voice. Given this evidence, how could we ever believe that Our Lord would hear his mother's voice and fail to respond? The Word is moved by the words of his mother. That dynamic has been written into his own incarnation.

How generous that in God's providence the mission of motherhood has built within it a mutual support system. We know this in faith through the relationship we see between the Blessed Mother and her son; we are now just beginning to understand how grace builds on nature, thanks to the emerging science of motherhood.

# Spiritual Tife Worship

Come and spend one hour adoring Christ's Presence in the Holy Eucharist every Tuesday from 12:00pm until 6:30pm. We now have a book for you to sign when spending time with the Lord. It would be good to have someone in the church at all times

during Adoration. At the conclusion of Adoration there is a Rosary, Perpetual Help Novena, Benediction then Mass.

#### Our Offertory Stewardship 12/19/2021 Collection



We received in gratitude to God

Total envelopes sent out	\$771.00 \$895.00 \$910.00
TOTAL COLLECTION RECEIVED	\$2,576.00

Marge Balek Janet Biernat Jeanne Chrisman Luke Joseph Convery Teresa D'Ippoliti Anna Gottler Donald Griak Diane Guappone

Nancy Guziak Mary Hamann Anna Kelly Rich Kelly Legato Family McLarnon Family Moussalli Family Harold Muzzi

REMEMBE

Cecilia Plotzke Theresa Rizzo Patricia Sills Sosnowski Family Taglione Family Thom Family Phyllis Thomas Marian Zabinski

St. Basil the Great is here to help you encounter Christ. We want you to experience His presence in your life. Our prayer and intercessory team is always interceding for our parish family. If you have any special intentions that you would like them to pray for, please fill out the following and drop it in the mail, at the parish office, or drop it in the offertory collection on Sunday.

Dear Prayer Team, I am so thankful that you are interceding for our parish family. I would like you to add my special intention(s) of \_\_\_\_\_\_

to your prayers. I entrust my intention to the Immaculate Heart of Mary and the Sacred Heart of Jesus. May God Bless you!

#### 2022 St Basil's Men's Retreat - January 28, 29, 30

I invite all St. Basil men and friends to join us at St. Paul of the Cross Retreat Center for a restful and spiritually renewing weekend retreat. The requested fee is *still* \$215 for the weekend. This includes a comfortable private room with bedding, towels and a private bathroom/shower and all meals (great food!), and an inspiring program of talks, private meditation and community worship.

Reservations: Please register directly on-line at St. Paul's: www.stpaulretreat.org go to Upcoming Events >Men's Retreats >Weekend #17 and be sure to designate that you are with the St. Basil's group at the end of the sign-up.

If you cannot register online, *PLEASE* call, text or e-mail me and I'll be sure to get you registered!

Contact me anytime with any other questions you may have.

Gary Pantelis – phone/text: (313) 515-8703 email to: gmapantelis@gmail.com

Sat., January 8	Lector
4:00pm	Pat Laux
Sun., January 9	
8:30am	Bea Ostrowski
10:30am	Linda Thom



## Readings for the Week of January 2, 2021

Sunday:	Is 60:1-6/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11,
ounday.	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
wienduy.	Mt 4:12-17, 23-25
Tuesday:	1 Jn 4:7-10/Ps 72:1-2, 3-4, 7-8
ruesday.	Mk 6:34-44
Wednesday:	1 Jn 4:11-18/Ps 72:1-2, 10, 12-13
() calles aug (	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
5	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
	5.7-77LK 5.15-10, 21-22



#### Weekday Mon., January 3 † Pete Furbacher, req. by Jonathon Zammit 8:30am + For the souls in purgatory, reg. by Helpers of Souls

#### Tues., January 4 St. Elizabeth Ann Seton

+ Maryellen Graham, req. by Family 7:00pm † Daniel Novak, reg. by Family

#### Wed., January 5 St. John Neumann

8:30am † Mike Goodell, req. by a Friend Special blessings for James Steelman, reg. by David Nunley

#### Fri., January 7 Weekday

8:30am † Anthony Tranchida-3rd Anniversary, req. by Family + Kathleen Novak, req. by Family + For the souls in purgatory, reg. by Helpers of Souls

#### Sat., January 8 Weekdav

8:30am + Betty Jean Scrivo, req. by Bob & Mary Fortunate Special blessings for Mary McCann, reg. by David Nunley

**†** Kelly, Laux & Shoemaker families, reg. by Pat Laux 4:00pm

#### Sun., January 9 **Baptism of the Lord**

† Gerry Zaglaniczny, req. by Family 8:30am For the recovery of Linda Lawrence, req. by the Zaglaniczny Family For the sanctity of life, req. by Elizabeth Aquilera

10:30am + For the souls in purgatory

Thank you for joining our parish family today to pray and share in the Eucharist. Our Pastoral Staff cares about you and wants to do OUR best to welcome you and to be a reflection of Christ's love to you and your loved ones. Please let us know how we may help you by contacting us at the office.

#### Saint Basil the Great Catholic Church **Parish Office Directory**

Bulletin article deadline is the Friday (the week before publication) by Noon

Parish Center Parish Office (586) 777-5610 22851 Lexington Ave Fax (586) 779-3341 Eastpointe, MI 48021 Faith Formation Office (586) 772-5434

Faith Formation Attendance Line (586) 773-3008 Parish Office hours:

Monday thru Wednesday 9:00am to 5:00pm (Closed 12-1pm for lunch) Thursday and Friday 9:00am to Noon

PASTOR:	Rev. Eric Fedewa	ext. 110
FAITH FORMATION	Mary Fortunate	ext. 150
	Carolyn Mikula	ext. 101
<b>MUSIC MINISTER:</b>	Nathaniel Weil	
SECRETARY:	Angela Moyers	ext. 100
<b>MAINTENANCE:</b>	Bill Ceccacci	
BOOKKEEPER	Nita Brown	ext. 180
ST. VINCENT de PAUL		ext. 104



Email: stbasileastpoint@comcast.net frericstbasil@comcast.net Facebook: @stbasileastpointe Website: www.stbasileastpointe.com

## **Sacramental Ministry**

#### SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Scheduled throughout the year. An interview and one session of Baptismal Catechesis for parents will be scheduled. Sponsors are invited to the session.

R.C.I.A.

People of different Christian traditions or Non-Christians are invited to explore our faith through the RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults.) Please call Faith Formation.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION Mon, Wed & Fri 8am, Tues 6:20pm and Saturday 3pm.

#### SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY

Arrangements are made at least six months in advance with the Pastor.

VISITATION OF THE SICK

A Priest or LPM will be available upon request. Parishioners are urged to take the Eucharist to their confined family after Mass.

SACRAMENT OF THE ANOINTING OF THE SICK

This sacrament is celebrated once a year at a special Mass or upon request.

If would like to receive the parish weekly bulletin via email, go to www.parishesonline.com to find our parish and sign yourself up for the bulletin email alert each week. The bulletin will automatically be emailed to you. If you do not have a computer and would like to receive a bulletin, contact the parish office and one can be mailed to you.

#### **Parish Organizations**

LADIES GUILD 

SAN LORENZO RUIZ GROUP Billie Go Belen ......(313) 690-3009

SENIOR CLUB Mary Accardo ......(586) 776-2471

ST. VINCENT de PAUL(586) 777-5610 ext 104

USHERS CLUB Ed Lempke......(586) 771-6893

#### **Commission Chairpersons**

PARISH OUTREACH

FINANCE

**EVANGELISM** Judy Williford......(586) 222-6872

#### **Parish Council**

**CHAIRPERSON** Marianne Schmitz......(586) 779-5571

#### VICE CHAIRPERSON

**RECORDING SECRETARY** Eileen McDonald......(586) 246-3747

#### **PARISH COUNCIL MEMBERS:**

Dennis Kulaszewski.....(586) 773-8237 



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