

the flame

ST. BLASE CATHOLIC CHURCH
ignite your faith | fan the flame

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

JANUARY 2ND, 2022

They were overjoyed at seeing the star,
and on entering the house they saw
the child with Mary his mother.

Matthew 2: 10-11



what we're about

THE LOVE OF
JESUS CHRIST

LEARN
LIVE
SING
SHARE **IT.**

find out more

 stblase.org

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 [saintblasechurch](https://www.youtube.com/saintblasechurch)

WHAT'S GOING ON AT BLASE

January 8 | Knights of Columbus' Wild
Game Dinner

January 9 | Create a Cover Submissions Due

January 15 | Memorial Garden Orders Due

January 24 | Coffee, Tea, & Theology

OFFICE HOURS

Week of Jan. 2nd

Mon - Thurs: 9am-4pm

Friday: 9am-12pm

Saturday: 9am-4pm

Closed for lunch: 12-1

Sunday: 8:30am-12:30pm

MASS TIMES

Week of January 2nd

Weekday Mass: 9:30am

Monday, Tuesday, & Friday

Saturday: 4:00pm

*Saturday's mass is livestreamed

Sunday: 9:00am & 11:00am

Confessions: Saturday at 3:00pm

586.268.2244 | stblase.org | office@stblase.org

12151 E. 15 Mile Road, Sterling Heights, MI 48312

MASS Intentions



PRAYER Requests



SATURDAY, JANUARY 1 | Solemnity of Mary, The Holy Mother of God
NO MASS

SUNDAY, JANUARY 2 | **THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD**

9:00 AM Roy W. DeRoche
Edward and Marian Gray
Genevieve Fabian
Jean Taylor
Shirley Horten
Maria Humphrey
Robert D. Cabble
Ilene Karasiewicz
Carol Palazzolo

11:00 AM Edward and Marian Gray
Tony Badalamente
Erik Szydowski, 8 yr. anniversary
Ingrid Ost, sister of Horst Ludwig
Treza Shimon Samo
Isho Goro
Isho Rihana

MONDAY, JANUARY 3 | The Most Holy Name of Jesus
9:30 AM Parishioners of St. Blase

TUESDAY, JANUARY 4 | Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton
9:30 AM Parishioners of St. Blase

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 5 | Saint John Neumann
NO MASS

THURSDAY, JANUARY 6 | Saint Andre Bessette
NO MASS

FRIDAY, JANUARY 7 | Saint Raymond Penafort
9:30 AM Parishioners of St. Blase

SATURDAY, JANUARY 8 | Christmas Weekday
4:00 PM Eleanor Iwankowski
Raymond Iwankowski, Sr.
Ray Iwankowski, Jr.
Sr. Mary Finn, HVM, 1 yr. anniversary
Sr. Joan Butkiewicz

SUNDAY, JANUARY 9 | **THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD**

9:00 AM Marie and Mel Rossman
Stan Karasiewicz
Carol Palazzolo

11:00 AM Mr. and Mrs. Ahmed and Niloufer Khaled

HOSPICE
Genoveffa Todaro

HOSPITAL
Claire Smith

EXTENDED CARE

June Dupuis
Kathleen Stephens
Barbara Ritter
Mary Cameron

Dorothy "Babe" Paolino
Edward Farquhar
Pauline Farquhar

AT HOME

Luella Amato
Josephine Armstrong
Josie Bauman
Stephen Beresh
Robert Bergen
Kermith Billette
Linda Billette
Yvonne Bova
Renee Browning
Colette Carroll
Jerry Colzani
Sam Criscenti
Anna Curtis
Norbert J. Dara
Linda Diegel
Marilyn Filipp
Ethan Gehrke
Fran Gross
Phyllis Guzick
Rosalie House
Barbara Jarema
Robert Jarema
Ronald Johnson
Michael Kovak

Nancy Kramer
Josephine Kuhlman
Lorenzo Lia
Mary Ann Mann
Phyllis Marek
Lena Rose Marlow
Anna Masakowski
Agnes McGartland
Robert E. Newcomb
Julia Perna
Sharon Petkoski
Robert Priskey
Alberto Ramos
Helen Rocca
Sue Ruvolo
Sarah Serra
Kathleen Tiano
Brody Trombley
Sharon Turnas
Eleanor Williams
Joann Zelenak
Libby Zelenak
Pat Ziola

IN MEMORIAM



Thaddeus Imielowski
April 2, 1950 - December 12, 2021



RUMINATIONS



MERRY CHRISTMAS. The Time of Christmas is brief this year. Today is already The Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord. To allow more of the faithful to observe the Epiphany, it is observed on a Sunday. This makes it a moveable feast. However, the traditional date of the Epiphany is January 6th. Thus, Epiphany becomes the “Twelfth Day of Christmas”, also known as “Twelfth Night.”

We have begun a new calendar year. So, for the second time in six weeks, HAPPY NEW YEAR. Nice of the calendar year to be caught up with the Church Year. A New Year may bring some unexpected and unforeseen developments. Yet, for the most part, it continues and develops what is already in process. Entering 2022, we can surmise that Covid-19 will likely become a way of life. It is unlikely to be eradicated. The best hope we have to lessen its effects on our health, medical professionals and hospitals is vaccination. It is painfully clear that a certain percentage of the population simply will not roll up their sleeve. So barring the unforeseen medical breakthrough, the pandemic becomes something that becomes part of our life – and death.

Another on-going development in the New Year will be Family of Parishes. Our family (St. Martin de Porres, St. Ephrem, St. Michael, and St. Blase) will launch at the beginning of July. There will be a great deal of planning and preparation in the first six months of this year. This Tuesday, we four pastors, together with staff of the Archdiocese will be meeting so we can hit the ground running (or skating, depending on the weather!)

I extend a heartfelt THANK YOU to all who remembered me at Christmas. Your thoughtfulness, kind words and generous gifts serve as an affirmation of my vocation and ministry. It is humbling to be on the receiving end of such abundant support. Please accept my appreciation and prayers for your thoughtfulness.

I also thank all who gave so generously at Christmas. There is still time to do so. Please indicate either on your check or envelope your explicit intention for your contribution to be included as part of the Christmas collection. In the weeks ahead, we will inform you the total amount of the Christmas collection.

Memorial brick pavers continue to be available for purchase until January 15th. If you have not placed your order, please do so soon. Time will not move any more slowly in 2022 than it did in 2021 - - we can be certain of that. The bricks will be part of our labyrinth and prayer garden. We had the labyrinth created a

couple years ago. The Gospel of Luke is structured around Jesus’ journey from Galilee to Jerusalem. This gives us impetus to reflect on our own life’s journey.

The labyrinth and prayer garden will give us yet another outdoor prayer space and one that is readily available to parishioners and the public passing by. As we begin to landscape and install the pavers this spring, there will be more information to remind you what a labyrinth is; how to walk and pray a labyrinth; and the details / plan of this space. The pavers will not only be a memorial, but in their own way, will tell our story and become a call to prayer for those who pause to pray or walk the labyrinth. Together with the Magi, may you have a safe and grace filled journey through 2022.

Rev. Randy Clabby

LITTLE ROCK SCRIPTURE STUDY

Please fill out this form to RSVP for the next Little Rock Scripture Study and drop it in the collection basket or return it to the Parish Office. (You may also call the Parish Office to RSVP).

Check the session(s) you wish to attend:

The Sermon on the Mount (Jan. 10 - Feb. 7)

The Passion & Resurrection Narratives (Feb. 21 - April 4)

NAME _____

PHONE _____

Create a Cover

for the flame!

For children & teens: Create a Cover is back! This upcoming year for the 7 weekends in Winter Ordinary Time, we are letting you design the bulletin cover. To enter, draw on a sheet of paper (8.5 x 11 inch sheet) **how you follow Jesus.** Please bring your drawing in to the Parish Office by **Sunday, January 9th, 2022** with your name on the back or on a sticky note. *Drawings will be revealed in no particular order.*

Art Theme: How do you follow Jesus?

Submit by January 9th, 2022



Memorial Garden

brick size 4" x 8": \$160-

14 characters/spaces per line - 3 lines maximum

brick size 8" x 8": \$225-

14 characters/spaces per line - 6 lines maximum

brick size 12" x 12": \$350-

22 characters/spaces per line - 10 lines maximum

Remember loved ones and mark their place in time. St. Blase is breaking ground on a new outdoor Memorial Garden, right next to the Labyrinth Prayer Garden. Order a personalized brick paver to be placed in the garden to commemorate them.

Please use this form to reserve your commemorative brick paver. One order form is needed per each individual brick paver. Select from 3 sizes and enter desired message in the appropriate boxes. The inscription on each brick paver is limited to the number of characters and spaces shown. Layout, font, and font size will be consistent on each to ensure overall balance.

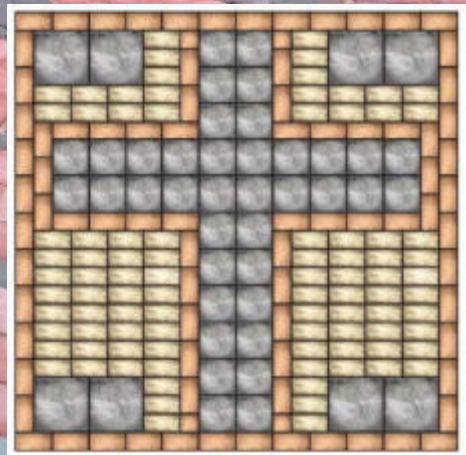
Ordered by: _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____

Brick Size: _____

Order by: January 15, 2022
Questions: Contact Parish Office (586) 268-2244



*Limited number of 8x8 and 12x12 paver bricks



Warming Center

January 9th -15th

This year, we will not be housing our guests in our building again because of Covid-19 restrictions.

The Macomb County Warming Center has partnered with MCREST and will be housing our homeless brothers and sisters in local hotels during the winter months. We will be handling things the same way as we did for our MCREST guests this past summer.

We will be providing breakfast and lunch for 120 people per day and delivering these food items to the MCREST office for them to distribute.

All donations will be used to buy the necessary items to feed our guests during our host week.

To donate, please visit our website at: stblase.org and click on the donation link.

Donations will also be accepted in the Parish Office. Make check payable to St. Blase Parish.



Thank you for your generosity!!



UPCOMING *events*



PLASTIC WITH A PURPOSE

Monday, January 3rd
1:30 pm

K OF C WILD GAME DINNER

Saturday, January 8th
More details on pg. 7...

COFFEE, TEA & THEOLOGY

Monday, January 24th

COFFEE, TEA, & THEOLOGY

What do you want to know about the Catholic faith? Have you ever wondered why or how something is done? Now is your time to ask! Bring your questions to our next Adult Faith Formation session. We will have a panel discussion about Catholic teachings and other topics that the group wants to learn about.

Panelists: Fr. Randy Phillips, Dr. Mary Dumm, Deacon Ed McLeod, and Steve Petrunak

Join us at 7 PM on January 24th for this fun Adult Faith Formation session!

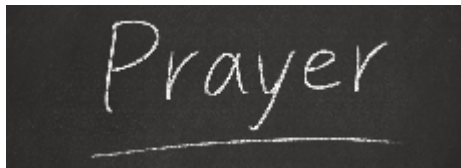
WINTER MEIJER SIMPLY GIVE

January 2nd - April 2nd

Donations Cards are available on the Information Counter in the Gathering Space for your convenience.

How it Works: "Simply" take a \$10 Donation card and bring it to any checkout at the Meijer store on Van Dyke and 16 Mile Road. The money that is donated will come directly back to St. Blase in the form of gift cards to help restock our pantry with the needed food items necessary to continue our mission of serving those in our community that need it most. The cards are also available inside the store at the check-out lanes.

Bonus Days Saturday, March 5, 2022 and Saturday, March 26, 2022 Meijer will generously match whatever amount we bring in during this Double Match Days!



Tuesday, January 4th

MEN'S PRAYER GROUP

Our Men's Prayer Group led by Deacon Ed meets Tuesday, Jan. 4th at 6:30 PM in the Thomas Merton Room. We will discuss, "The Liturgy of the Hours." Discover new ways to pray throughout the sessions.

WARMING CENTER

Starts January 9th | pg. 5

MEMORIAL GARDEN

Due January 15th
More details on pg. 4...



Starts January 10th

LITTLE ROCK SCRIPTURE STUDY

Our next Little Rock topic is "The Sermon on the Mount." In this five week session, we will hear the Sermon again as Christ intended, as our call to follow him and as a constant call to renewal. **Please register** for the class in the Parish Office or by filling out the form on pg. 3. Book price to be determined. Little Rock meets Mondays at 10 AM and this session begins January 10th through February 7th, 2022. We hope you'll join!

JOIN US FOR OUR MONTHLY

BRIDGE CLUB GAME

Tuesday, January 4th

BRIDGE CLUB MEETING

Our next game is on Tuesday, January 4th from 11 AM - 2 PM. Those not vaccinated will arrange an offsite game on the website Bridge Base Online. If you need a partner or have questions, please call Neville and Doreen D'Souza (248) 689-4148



Thursday, January 6th

FRIENDLY BLASERS


This group meets the first and third Thursday of the month in the Social Center. We get together to have lunch, chat, and sometimes play bingo. Our next meeting starts at 11:30 AM on January 6th. We love seeing new faces, so if your Thursdays are free, we'd love to see you there!



Saturday, January 22nd

MONTHLY GAME NIGHT

Game Night is back! Invite your friends! Bring your own games or use ours. Admission is \$5 per person and includes pizza, salad, dessert, and beverages. We'll start around 5:30 PM after the 4:00 PM Mass. **Please RSVP** by calling Don Rogowski at (586) 604-3952 or emailing Don at drogowski@yahoo.com. Thank you!



**The Knights of Columbus'
WILD GAME
DINNER**

January 8th, 2022 | 5:30 PM

Save the date for the Knights of Columbus' Wild Game Dinner! Join us in the Social Center for a delicious meal prepared by professional chefs, along with raffles and prizes.

Purchase tickets in the parish office. Tickets are \$35 each for adults and \$10 each for children.

Merry Christmas! You may have noticed that today's Gospel is from Matthew and not from Luke. This is the beauty of our Gospel writers; they all have different perspectives in revealing Jesus to us all and today's reading is a prime example. Luke tells us about the census, but that is not mentioned in Matthew, and Matthew tells us of the visit of the Magi, which is not found in any other Gospel. The visit of the Magi is such an important part of Jesus' birth, but we don't know much about them, however their part of the story is filled with symbols and lessons to be learned.

The Magi were journeying to Bethlehem, following a star, so we believe them to be astrologers. Let's pause for just a moment and think about them following a star; God's own creation was leading them to Him. The Magi were from the East and not of the local faith, culture, or race. God led them by the light of a star showing us that everyone can come to God and there is no exclusion of anyone by anybody. The Magi represent everyone, and shows us that everyone should be seeking Jesus; our light in the darkness!

The bible doesn't tell us the Magi's names, but centuries later the legend of their names were written down by a historian. Where this legend came from, no one really knows, and we can't even be sure of how many Magi were present. We've assumed there were three Magi based on the number of gifts, but there could have been many more traversing to see the newborn King. The gifts are important in the telling of Jesus' birth, not because we currently exchange gifts, but what they represent in foreshadowing of Jesus' role in salvation. Gold represents Jesus' kingship; Frankincense represents His divinity since priests burn that incense in the Temple, and Myrrh represents Jesus' death as that is used to prepare the deceased for burial. (Remember the women going to Jesus' tomb on Easter morning, what were they bringing?)

We have so much to learn from Epiphany. How do you seek Jesus? Do you help others to seek Jesus? What gifts do you offer to Jesus? There is one more lesson to be learned from the Magi; realizing they were being manipulated by Herod, the Magi returned by a different route. Do you turn away from those that would keep you from Jesus? May you have continual epiphanies of God's unconditional love! God is good!

Gospel Reflection

FAITH FORMATION

corner



Home Blessing

Epiphany Home Blessing

The Feast of Epiphany is celebrated on the 12th Day of Christmas, January 6th, but in the United States is moved to the Sunday between January 2nd-8th. On Epiphany, it is traditional for families to bless their homes, remembering the hospitality of the Holy Family to the Wise Men and asking for protection and blessing on the home and all who enter. The home blessing is done by writing on the door or door frame with chalk the symbols 20+C+M+B+22. The 20 and 22 represent the current year. The + reminds us of the cross on which our Savior died. The C, M, and B stand for the traditional names of the Wise Men, Caspar, Melchior, and Balthasar, as well as an abbreviation for the Latin phrase "Christus mansionem benedicat" which means "Christ bless this house." Writing on the door also brings to mind the Passover of the Jews during the final plague in Exodus, when the blood of the lamb protected the inhabitants within.

Pray Together:

Make the Sign of the Cross. • Read an Epiphany Scripture passage from today's readings. • Pray: "Lord God of heaven and earth, you revealed your only-begotten Son to every nation by the guidance of a star. Bless this house and all who inhabit it. Fill us with the light of Christ, that our concern for others may reflect your love. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen." (from usccb.org) • Chalk the door, door frame, or plaque with 20+C+M+B+22 (or current year) • Pray the Our Father. • Make the Sign of the Cross.

Upcoming Events

Tuesday, Jan. 4 | Faith Formation Pre- K - Grade 6

Wednesday, Jan. 5 | Faith Formation Grade 7

Thursday, Jan. 6 | Faith Formation Grade 8

PARISH OFFICE

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Spiritual Director
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Angelica Ramirez
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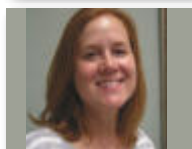


Alicia Bryson
Director of Youth Music Ministry
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RELIGIOUS EDUCATION



Diann Chase.....X206
Director of Religious Education;
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Grades 7-8, & Confirmation
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Kelly Sakorafos.....X227
P3 - K5 Early Childhood Coordinator
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Anthony Howell.....X227
1st Eucharist, and 1st Reconciliation



Christina Willson.....X227
1st Eucharist, and 1st Reconciliation
cwillson54@gmail.com

BULLETIN SUBMISSION

Mass Intentions and Prayer Requests

If you are interested in adding a mass intention or prayer request to the bulletin, please contact the parish office directly. The deadline for these requests is Sunday at 12:30pm, or at least 7 days before the Sunday of Publication.

Bulletin Announcements and Ads

Requests for new announcements, or edits to recurring announcements must be submitted **at least 7 days before the Sunday of publication**. To submit a request for a bulletin announcement, please contact Sarah.

Announcements may be edited or redesigned. Recurring announcements will be included for up to two weeks unless otherwise specified.



Sarah Richard.....X219
Media & Communications
sarah.richard@stblase.org

THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD							
	Presider	Coordinator	Lector	Altar Servers	Greeters	Musicians	Sacristan
Sat. Jan 08	Father Ken Deacon Ed	Kathy Tate	Diane Fisher Mark Fisher	Volunteer	Carolyn Agrusa Ian Fisher	Voices in Praise	Ceil Toepel
Sun. Jan 09 9am	Father Randy	Matt Orlando	Samantha Willson Parker Willson	Volunteer	Betty Nawrocki Eileen Rogowski Cindy Willman	Remnant Music Ministry	Connie Connell
Sun. Jan 09 11am	Father Randy	Matt Tunesi	Donovan Kelley Matthew Tunesi	Volunteer	Cathie Kovak	Karen Michalski Mike Radyko Barb Tess Ria Perez	Mary Pernicano

CRISIS SUPPORT NUMBERS

Alcoholics Anonymous (AA).....	877-337-0611
Compassion Pregnancy Center.....	586-783-9620
Catholic Charities of Southeast Michigan.....	248-338-4250
Domestic Violence – Turning Point.....	586-463-6990
Drug Addiction Support, Clinton Twp.....	1-800-558-0175
Problem Gambling Hotline.....	1-800-270-7117
Poison Control Hotline.....	800-222-1222
Suicide Prevention Hotline (24 hours).....	586-307-9100 or 800-273-TALK(8255)
Employment Services.....	800-285-WORKS (9675)
Free Legal Advice by Phone.....	1-800-ATTORNEY
Grief Counseling.....	www.griefshare.org
Hospice Services.....	888-247-5701
Immigration Services.....	800-375-5283
Meals on Wheels (Macomb County).....	586-469-5228
Michigan Department of Health and Human Services, Macomb.....	586-254-1500 (Offers numerous support services including: Food Assistance Hotline, Gamblers Anonymous, Urgent Care for Mental Health Conditions, Counseling for Survivors of Sexual Assault, Anxiety/Depression Support Groups, & Refugee Assistance)
Project Rachel (Post Abortion Counseling).....	888-722-4355
Interfaith Caregivers (assist with grocery shopping and other daily tasks).....	586-757-5551
Senior Services in Macomb County (Lawn mowing, snow removal, transportation, etc.).....	586-469-6999
Good Shepherd Coalition (for eviction assistance, disconnected utilities, and other resources, Open Mon-Thurs).....	586-307-8888
THAW (The Heat & Warmth Fund) (for utility bill assistance).....	1-800-866-8429
Pope Francis Center (for food and other support services).....	313-963-5134

Note from Interfaith Volunteer Caregivers: All our "snowbirds" are heading South for the Winter! Won't you please help fill in for them? Many of our regular drivers take a couple months off this time of year, but the need for transportation does not lessen. The Interfaith Volunteer Caregivers program needs drivers who can provide rides for our older and disabled neighbors so that they can get to doctor appointments and essential errands. Just a couple hours of your time can make a huge difference in someone's life. You pick your own area & your own times. Drive as often or as little as you like in the comfort of your own car. Even one more ride a year might get someone to an appointment that could save their life! Day-time drivers especially needed! Please call IVC today at (586) 757-5551 for more information.

STEWARDSHIP



Month of November

Budgeted Offertory:	\$55,428.00
Actual Offertory:	\$43,724.20
2021-2022 YTD Budget	\$281,391.00
2021-2022 YTD Actual	\$247,380.00

Annual Budget

2021-22 Offertory:	\$655,590.00
Christmas Offertory:	\$150,000.00
Total 2021-22 Budget	\$805,590.00

Catholic Services Appeal

Our Goal:	\$107,763.00
Total Pledged:	\$100,178.00
Total Number of Pledges:	427

Please consider donating to this year's CSA 2021. If we do not meet our target, we must pay the shortfall. Thank you.

Christmas Collection Information

To be considered a Christmas Donation, an offertory gift must be clearly marked "Christmas," and received by the parish within 2 weeks before or after Christmas Day. This year, those dates are from December 11th, 2021 through January 8th, 2022. Gifts received outside of that time will be considered part of the regular offertory collection.

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 Christina Willson, Parishioner

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