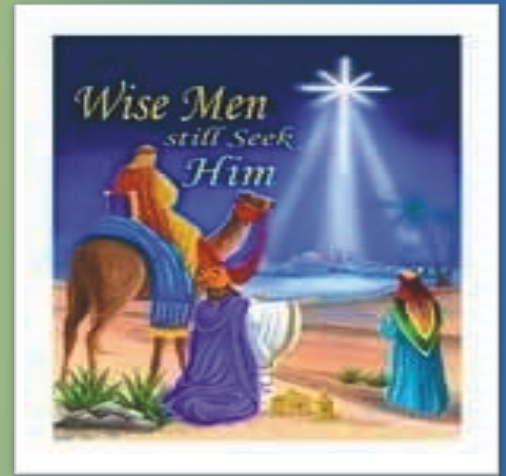


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Rev. John E. Stanton, Pastor
Jennifer Lang, *Director of Faith Formation*
Toni Drzewiecki, *Executive Assistant*
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January 3, 2021



THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

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

Masses: Sat. 4:00pm (Vigil), Sun. 8:30am & 10:30am
Weekday: 8:30am (M-F) Reconciliation: Sat. 3:00pm



From the Desk of Fr. John

Welcome to St. John XXIII as we celebrate Epiphany Sunday. The Epiphany continues the celebration of the astonishing mystery of God's revelation to the ends of the Earth. Epiphany itself means "manifestation" or "showing." Christ is our Light, through whom we are renewed and remade in His image and likeness. As we begin a New Year, think about all your own Epiphany moments with God, and how can you be an extension of God's light to others.

Epiphany also celebrates the three Kings who traveled from the East. They symbolize the extent of God's salvation as it unfolds — to outsiders and people from every land. Christmas is a time to welcome the stranger and invite them. We are all one Body of Christ, and today's Solemnity reminds us that Jesus came for all. May we also take the message of the Nativity into our homes and workplaces.

On a personnel note, our Music Director, Bill Fay, has elected to retire from our Parish as of last Friday. We wish him every blessing in retirement and his contribution to the Parish is greatly appreciated. Thank you Bill Fay!

As we begin a new year, it can be a time of renewing your faith life. COVID-19 may stop you in many ways — but it can be a time to open a door into expanding your trust in God. Try a new spiritual devotion, read a book, or join us more regularly at daily Mass, in person or through our Facebook page or YouTube Channel. We also keep our website page updated with new spiritual resources. Check it all out.

Christmas blessings, Fr. John.

frjohn@stjohn23.com

DONATION UPDATE! THANKS TO ALL WHO HAVE MAILED OR DROPPED OFF THEIR WEEKLY DONATIONS. WE ARE GRATEFUL. PLEASE HELP US.



JANUARY FUEL COLLECTION

Please be sure to help with our January Fuel Collection. It greatly helps in paying winter costs. Please use your envelope or write on a blank envelope "fuel." Thanks for your generosity!

JESUS, I TRUST IN YOU IN THIS NEW YEAR.



LIVE-STREAM MASSES & EVENTS:
FACEBOOK.COM/ST.JOHN XXIII PARISH



Many Thanks Bill Fay

Thanks to Bill Fay, our long-time organist who is retiring from St. John XXIII. Music enriches our liturgies and we thank you for your contributions to our Masses, including our Choir, extra musicians and special events. We are really grateful. May God bless you.

Stewardship in Faith:

For the week December 27, 2020:

Regular: \$ 5,732.00



Help Us! Without Sunday Mass for several months, our annual collections have been affected. Would you help us? As you know, our collection revenue is down overall, and without regular contributions, we will experience problems with bills. *Please prayerfully consider increasing your contribution if you are able.* Help us help you. God's generosity can't be outdone.



"Dustbusters, Inc." ... Team #4 will clean the Church the week of January 3rd. Thanks!



**JOIN THE BINGO FUN ... WE'RE READY!!!
SATURDAYS 7:00 PM**

Sat. Purple Progressive No. 56 – Guarantee \$ 1,000.

Sat. Black Progressive No. 55 - Starting \$ 706.



PRAY FOR YOUR DECEASED LOVED ONES
Consider 2021 Mass Intentions for your loved ones. \$15. It is a great way to pray & love them.

A Christmas Blessing

This Christmas may the Lord that slept in a manger provide for your rest. May the God that gives many gifts to all bless you abundantly. And may the Prince of Peace help you to find true gratitude for the gift of life. May you and yours feel the joy of the Season.

Thursday Morning Prayer Group

Suspended for the Winter & COVID-19



Open Up To The Epiphany

An *Epiphany* enables you to sense "creation" not as something completed — but as constantly becoming, evolving, ascending. This *Epiphany* transports you from a place where there is "nothing new" to a place where there is "nothing old," where everything renews itself, where Heaven and Earth rejoice at the moment of creation. What's your Epiphany?

We pray through the power of Christ for the healing of ... Robert Rath, Eileen Coughlin, Stephen Boryszewski, Leo Schiffhaer, Alice Morrisley, Jeanette Watkins, Judy Kelly, Michael Weishaupt, Lynn McKenna, Grace Lord, Fred Postolese, James Hogan, Rosalie Diaspara, Marian Spoor, Patricia Walczak, Pat Jerard, Mary Perillo, Thomas Lavelle, Marge Dutka, JoAnne Hahn, Max Wojciechowski, Tony Peters, Christopher Travis, Rick Stoddard, Joseph Gallagher, Kaylin Kline, Elizabeth Fay, Rick McEvoy, Cheryl Lane, James Ruggiero, Gladys Roche, Norman Dailey, Mary Laubenthal, Heidi Sheehan, Karen Helt, Beverly Smith, Harry Gray, Sharon Quinn, Hugh Bondanza, Andrew Dodges, Phyllis Elbers, Mary Lou Moebius, Alice Kowalewski, Patti Catanzaro, Judy Bondanza, David Smith, Eleanor Szeffler & Samuel LoVullo.

We pray for the faithful departed ...

Kathy Dolan, Eleonore M. Rusek and Robert C. Trimper
"May the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in Peace. Amen."



From the Desk of Jennifer Lang, Director of Faith Formation

Today the Church celebrates the Solemnity of the Epiphany or the arrival of the three Kings at Bethlehem to pay homage to the Christ child. This is one of the great celebrations that proclaim the divinity of Jesus. I think it also is a sign of the humanity of Jesus. Today, we celebrate the people, here and now, who celebrate His birth and life. I like the informal name of "Little Christmas" for this Solemnity, because it continues the joyous celebration of so great a night.

Jennifer Lang, Director of Faith Formation

Email: faithformation@stjohn23.com



Catechetical Corner A Weekly Faith Growing Bulletin Corner

EPIPHANY

The Solemnity of the Epiphany, though traditionally January 6th (12 days after Christmas), is celebrated as the Second Sunday of Christmas. It commemorates that the young Messiah is revealed as the Light of the nations. Three mysteries are encompassed in this Solemnity: the adoration of the Christ Child by the Magi; the Baptism of Christ; and the wedding feast at Cana. Epiphany means *manifestation*. What the Church celebrates on this Solemnity is the manifestation of Our Lord to the world. After being made known to the shepherds, He is revealed to the Magi who have come from the East to adore Him. Christian tradition has always seen in the Magi the first fruits of the Gentiles; they lead in their wake all the peoples of the Earth — thus the Epiphany is an affirmation of universal salvation. Balthasar, Caspar, and Melchior — their minds were prepared to receive a greater truth. May we see in them an example of holy curiosity, of pilgrimage by light to light. When they discovered the treasure, they laid their gifts in homage. May our pilgrimage also end in truth followed by love.



Open The Door Of Thy Heart

God says, "Dear Heart, Do you know how much I love you? How I long for you to open the door of your heart, that I may come in? I chose the cold stable in Bethlehem for this very reason, that you would be forced to invite Me into the warmth of your heart? I have been waiting an eternity for you to say these sweet words: '*Jesus, I love You, I give you my heart. Make it Thy own.*' I am waiting."

USE THE Light of God

The light has come into the world in the person of Jesus Christ! We no longer have to fumble in the darkness. We have been gifted with the illumination we need to see our way through things and find what we really are looking for. All these years later, however, so many are still reluctant to accept Him. Perhaps they are unconvinced, disinterested, preoccupied, stubborn, apprehensive, or all of the above. Everyone has their own reason for not wanting to turn on the switch. We have a lot of Good News to share, not just with a privileged few but with all the world. All races and creeds can receive God's healing word. God continues to manifest Himself even now! Use the light to find what you are really looking for!



FAMILY MOMENT. Instead of writing a long list of New Year's resolutions, choose two. Then work hard to keep them.

Words of the Saints...

"You aspire to great things? Begin with little ones."
— St. Augustine



Some Thoughts On The New Year

Here's a friendly challenge for the New Year: try some of these 12 checklist items. How many relate to YOUR life? Here they are: (1) This Year Hang On To Your Truth And Respect The Truth Of Others; (2) Choose To Be Happy; (3) Forgive Those That You Can Forgive And Seek The Forgiveness Of Someone Who Deserves It; (4) Do Something Outside Your Comfort Zone; (5) Be The Voice For Someone Who Has No Voice; (6) Be Quiet Strength; (7) Be The Type Of Kindness That Is Strength; (8) Remember That Love Is A Verb; (9) Choose Healthy Foods, Activities, And People; (10) Fall Six Times Get Up Again Seven – Persevere; (11) Wish People A Lovely Day; (12) Live Honestly, Truly, And With Integrity.



Pray About This...

As we celebrate the Epiphany, consider this statement: "God has a plan for your life. The enemy has a plan for your life. Be ready for both. Just be wise enough to know which one to battle and which one to embrace." The Magi were lucky enough to have the right plan spelled out for them in a dream, but for the rest of us, it's enough to remember this: God's plan is often the one that leads us to places of great simplicity, great humility and great love. Let's have the wisdom to view power with suspicion, and innocence with admiration.

This New Year, Break One Bad Habit Of Yours, Even An Insignificant One. Bring On 2021!

Lectio Divina. Scripture and prayer are interrelated. For some great biblical meditations on the Epiphany in today's Gospel, visit our website at www.stjohn23.com.

LITURGICAL SCHEDULE FOR THE WEEK

Saturday, January 2, 2021, The Epiphany of the Lord

4:00pm. Brigid O'Leary - *by Family*

AND: Casimir Zawadzki - *by Daughter, Kathy*

Sunday, January 3, 2021, The Epiphany of the Lord

8:30am. Jay Carbeck - *by St. Francis Class of 1986*

AND: Sam Ruggiero - *by Chuck & Lee Herrmann*

10:30am. Agnes Cox - *by Jim Barrett & Shannon*

AND: Brian Bracikowski

- *by Grandma, Grandpa, Mom & Bryson*

Monday, January 4, 2021, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton

8:30am. Thomas E. Bauer - *by Ginny Antos*

AND: Rick Stoddard - *by Wife, Dayna*

Tuesday, January 5, 2021, St. John Neumann

8:30am. Deceased Neenan Family - *by Estate of Mary Higgins*

AND: Parishioners of St. John XXIII Parish

Wednesday, January 6, 2021, St. Andre Bessette

8:30am. Mary Rektorik - *by Estate*

AND: Parishioners of St. John XXIII Parish

Thursday, January 7, 2021, St. Raymond of Penyafort

8:30am. Rev. Msgr. William G. Stanton - *by Family*

AND: All Souls' Intentions

Friday, January 8, 2021, Christmas Weekday

8:30am. Rev. Msgr. Kevin O'Neill - *by Estate*

AND: All Souls' Intentions

Saturday, January 9, 2021, The Baptism of the Lord

4:00pm. Edmund J. & Mary Zadzilka - *by John Zadzilka*

AND: John & Judy Starr - *by Family*

Sunday, January 10, 2021, The Baptism of the Lord

8:30am. Hazel & George Cook - *by Charlie & Sheryl*

AND: Donald R. Spencer - *by Wife, Rosemary*

10:30am. Sr. M. Christinette Lojewski, CSSF - *by Gail Smith*

AND: Sam Ruggiero - *by Classic Citizens*



Scriptures for Next Sunday

First Reading: Is 55:1-11

Psalm: Is 12:2-3, 4bcd, 5-6

Second Reading: 1 Jn 5:1-9

Gospel: Mk 1:7-11

The Sanctuary Light will shine this week for Thomas E. Bauer, by Family.



ST. JOHN NEUMANN (JAN. 5TH)

Born in Bohemia, St. John Neumann (1811-1860) emigrated as a missionary to America. Three weeks later, the Bishop of New York ordained him. St. John's first work was with the German-speaking people in mission parishes near Buffalo, New York. He felt the need for community life, so St. John entered the Redemptorist Order. He was the first Redemptorist to make vows in the United States. When he was forty-one years old, he became the fourth Bishop of Philadelphia. He published two Catechisms and many articles. Throughout his life, St. John Neumann went about his work quietly and humbly. No special honors were given him. He was even unpopular. Only after his death did people begin to talk about their humble, good Bishop who worked so hard for God. He was canonized in 1977.

This Week at St. John's

Sunday Mass. We're Open: Saturday 4:00 p.m. Vigil, Sunday 8:30 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. Also view Mass live on Facebook and online at www.stjohn23.com.

Faith Formation. Sunday at 9:30 a.m.

Healthy Living: Fun low-impact exercises while sitting with Kathy Zawadzki. Monday at 9:30 a.m.

Rosary. Wednesday at 9:00 a.m.

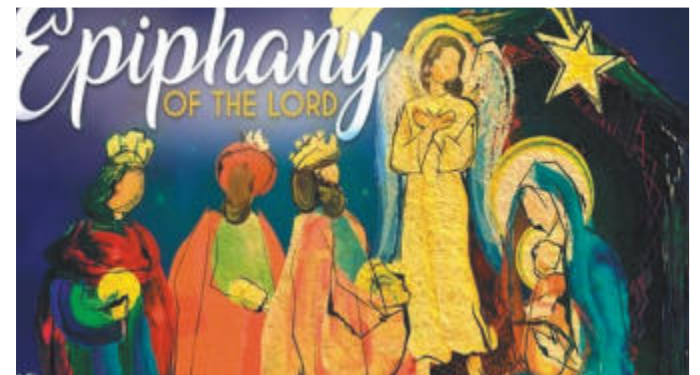
Boy Scouts. Thursday at 6:30 p.m.

Faith Formation. Saturday at 10:00 a.m.

Bingo (To Be Determined). Saturday at 7:00 p.m.



Attend Mass & View Online
View Mass & Prayers
www.stjohn23.com



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AND JOIN
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BY KATHY ZAWADZKI**

MONDAYS AT 9:30 a.m.



**Act of Spiritual
Communion**

My Jesus, I believe that you are present
in the Most Holy Sacrament.
I love you above all things and I desire
to receive you in my soul.
Since I cannot at this moment receive
you sacramentally,
Come at least spiritually into my heart.
I embrace you as if you were already
there and unite myself wholly to you.
Never permit me to be separated from
you. Amen.



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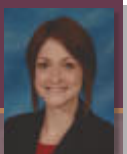
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