

SAINT ANDREW

THE APOSTLE PARISH



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

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

6LP

Prayer to Saint Andrew the Apostle

O Glorious Saint Andrew, you were the first to recognize and follow the Lamb of God. With your friend Saint John, you remained with Jesus for that day, for your entire life, and now throughout eternity. As you led your brother Saint Peter to Christ and many others after Him, draw us also to Him. Teach us to lead others to Christ solely out of love for Him and dedication in His service. Help us to learn the lesson of the cross and to carry our daily crosses without complaint so that they may carry us to Jesus.

Amen.

JANUARY 3, 2021 - THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

ST. ANDREW THE APOSTLE

CLERGY TEAM

Pastor: Reverend Kevin Dominik

Senior Parochial Vicar: Reverend Patrick Barkey

Permanent Deacon/Pastoral Associate: Deacon Alex Poroda
deaconal611@gmail.com (724) 258-7742 *Option #7*

Retired In Residence: Reverend Gerald Mikonis
Pastoral Year: Seminarian Thomas Kadlick

PARISH STAFF

Business Manager - Joe Caruso
Director of Liturgy - Fr. Patrick Barkey
Faith Formation Director - Kathy Miller
Faith Formation Moderator - Jean Alcorn

RCIA - Fr. Kevin, Fr. Pat & Deacon Al
Mystagogia - Joe Smith
Safe Environment - Helena Glaneman & Deacon Al
Pre Cana - Deacon Al & RaeAnn Poroda

Accompanists - Patty Baker, Aaron Benney, Patty Forsyth, Art Fronzaglio

Monongahela

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Secretary - Phyllis DeMedio
Secretary - Peggy Romeo
Maintenance - Aaron Leezer

Donora

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Donora, PA 15033
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Social Hall: 724-379-7559 & 724-379-5659
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Secretary/Bookkeeper - Heidi Cramer
Parish Share Accounting - Judy Bartley
Maintenance - Phil & Vera Klein, Ryan Madden

Charleroi

624 Washington Ave.
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Marian Hall: 724-483-2455
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Secretary - Jean Alcorn
Maintenance - Sharon Zelenick
Becky Weightman
Tony Valkanas

ST. ANDREW THE APOSTLE WEBSITE

Have a look!! Saintandrewmidmon.org.



Reconciliation

Monday Evenings in Charleroi, during the Holy hour (6-7pm).
Wednesdays in Monongahela, during the Holy Hour (6-7pm).
Saturdays before the 4pm Evening Mass (3-3:45pm).
First Friday of the Month in Donora (11am-12pm).

Reporting Child Abuse

Diocesan Victim Assistance Coordinator
412-456-3093 (Office)

Hot Line 1-888-808-1235 **PA Child Line** 1-800-932-0313

Call 911 immediately if a child is in imminent danger.

AFTER OFFICE HOURS EMERGENCY

Please call one of the Parish offices and listen for the Emergency Prompt

MASS SCHEDULE

DAY/DATE	TIME	SITE	INTENTION	REQUESTED BY	PRIEST
Saturday, Jan. 2, 2021	8:30am	Charleroi	Fr. Ed Litavec	M/M Frank Grande	Fr. Kevin
	4:00pm	Donora	Margaret M. Mavrovich	Mary Mavrovich	Fr. Pat & Seminarian Tom
	5:00pm	Charleroi	People of the Parish		Fr. Kevin & Deacon Al
	6:00pm	Monongahela	Mr. & Mrs. John Filipic	The Filipic Family	Fr. Pat & Seminarian Tom
Sunday, Jan. 3, 2021	8:30am	Donora	Harry Bellora	Patricia Bellora & Family	Fr. Kevin & Deacon Al
	9:00am	Charleroi	Elaine Ulens	Don Ulens & Family	Fr. Pat & Seminarian Tom
	11:00am	Monongahela	James Pust	Lorraine & John Harlack	Fr. Kevin & Deacon Al
Monday, Jan. 4, 2021	8:30am	Charleroi	Virginia Pro	Johnna Pro	Fr. Pat
Tuesday, Jan. 5, 2021	8:30am	Donora	Mike & Elizabeth Haniqosky	Family	Fr. Kevin
Wednesday, Jan. 6, 2021	7:00pm	Monongahela	Jerry Pellegrini	Wife, Peggy & Children	Fr. Pat
Thursday, Jan. 7, 2021	8:30am	Donora	Don Pietroboni	Don & June Kudas	Fr. Pat
Friday, Jan. 8, 2021	8:30am	Monongahela	Mary Ann Ghilani	Rick Ghilani	Fr. Pat
Saturday, Jan. 9, 2021	8:30am	Charleroi	Carol Claybaugh	Steve & Claudia Hornack	Fr. Pat
	4:00pm	Donora	People of the Parish		Fr. Kevin
	5:00pm	Charleroi	Ken Fusina	Faculty & Staff of Madonna Catholic	Fr. Jerry
	6:00pm	Monongahela	Frank & Julia Conti	Lillian Conti	Fr. Kevin
Sunday, Jan. 10, 2021	8:30am	Donora	Ralph & Cecelia Koskoski	Cheryl & Donna Koskoski	Fr. Pat
	9:00am	Charleroi	Liz McGinley	Mark & Patty McGinley	Fr. Kevin
	11:00am	Monongahela	Donald Pietroboni	Betty Bailey	Fr. Pat

Entrance: *We Three Kings*

We three kings of Orient are,
Bearing gifts we traverse afar
Field and fountain, Moor and mountain,
Following yonder star.

O star of wonder, star of night,
Star with royal beauty bright,
Westward leading, Still proceeding,
Guide us to the perfect light.

Psalm: Lord, ever nation on Earth will praise you

Offertory: *O little town of Bethlehem*

O little town of Bethlehem,
How still we see thee lie!
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep
The silent stars go by;
Yet in thy dark streets shineth
The everlasting Light;
The hopes and fears of all the years
Are met in thee tonight.

Communion: *The First Noel*

The first Noel, the angel did say,
Was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay;
In fields where they lay keeping their sheep,
On a cold winter's night that was so deep.

Refrain

Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel,
Born is the King of Israel.

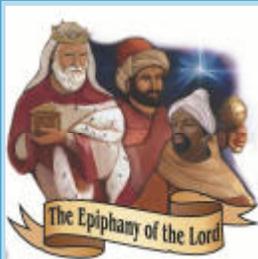
Closing: *The First Noel 2nd verse*

They looked up and saw a star
Shining in the east, beyond them far;
And to the earth it gave great light,
And so it continued both day and night.

Refrain

Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel,
Born is the King of Israel.

PARISH EVENTS



THE SOLEMNITY OF THE EPIPHANY OF OUR LORD

The Epiphany of our Lord celebrates the wondrous manifestation of God's Holy presence made visible to us in Jesus Christ. In this Sunday's Gospel we discover that the Magi are led to the house to pay homage and offer gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. The whole narrative takes place under the journey motif of astrologers who follow the star. The Magi come to honor and pay homage to the newborn King of the Jews. This week's readings make known to us that the promise of salvation, originally made to the house of David, has also been given to the Gentiles. The Epiphany reveals the wonder of God's love made known to all humankind. Today we are called to be like the Magi of Matthew's Gospel who recognize, pay homage and bring gifts to the Lord. May we have the willingness, courage and strength to follow the signs that God reveals to us in our everyday lives.

Donora Knights of Columbus Council #1941

The Donora Knights of Columbus is hosting a Galiffa's hoagie, Pizza and flatbread (new item) fundraiser. All orders are due to the St. Andrew the Apostle Donora parish office by Thursday, January 28th. Pick up will be Thursday, February 4th from 9:00am till 12:00noon at the Donora Social Hall. Order forms will be available in the back of any of the 3 churches.



Baptism Congratulations Congratulations to the Family of

Jax Patrick & Everly Jo Matinko

whose baptism was recently celebrated. May she remain close to the Lord Jesus all the days of his life and may she be blessed with good health, much happiness, and the wisdom of the Lord.

St. Andrew the Apostle would like to extend a very big thank you to this weeks bulletin ad sponsor. We have chosen:



ADVANCED ORTHOPEDICS & REHABILITATION
www.advancedorthopedics.net

Thank You for your continued support to our Parish!

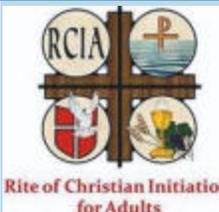
Check out Mass from St. Andrew online. We are filming one of the Saturday Vigil masses each week from one of our three churches, for those who do not yet feel comfortable coming back to mass.

Go to [youtube.com](https://www.youtube.com) and search for "**Grouping 326**" or go to our parish website and follow the link on our home page!

The Link will be up each Sunday!



Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults



Each year, Instruction is held for those who would like to learn more about the Catholic faith or begin their Journey to become Catholic.

Our Parish of St Andrew the Apostle will begin instruction in October 2020. We are asking those who may be interested in taking the classes to further your knowledge of our Faith, or begin their Journey to join the Catholic faith, to begin discerning in prayer of how God maybe placing a call on your heart and how you can respond to the Catholic Faith.

Any questions on the RCIA process, please see any of the Priests, Deacon Al, or Tom, the Seminararian. RCIA, Pre-Registration is required. Please call any of the parish offices to register.

ST. ANDREW THE APOSTLE

Thoughts by: REV KEV

Epiphany means manifestation. What the Church celebrates today is the manifestation of our Lord to the whole world; after being made known to the shepherds of Bethlehem he is revealed to the Magi who have come from the East to adore Him. Christian tradition has ever seen in the Magi the first fruits of the Gentiles; they lead in their wake all the peoples of the earth, and thus the Epiphany is an affirmation of universal salvation. St. Leo brings out this point admirably in a sermon read at Matins, in which he shows in the adoration of the Magi the beginnings of Christian faith, the time when the great mass of the heathen sets off to follow the star which summons it to seek its Savior.

Epiphany is a large celebration, especially in Spanish speaking countries. Things look different around the household: the infant Jesus in the manger now has a small gold crown and is wearing regal robes. The figures of the wise men have reached Bethlehem, completing the nativity scene.

The Church extends itself on Epiphany to the homes of the faithful. The custom of blessing the homes on this day probably originated from these words in the Gospel, "And entering into the house, they found the Child with Mary, His Mother and falling down they adored Him." The priest blesses the house if he can be present, but if not, the father of the family may do so.

Perhaps a small tradition could be to celebrate within your family and friends the KING CAKE! Typically, king cake is made of a rich, brioche dough and a wide array of fillings, such as cinnamon, chocolate, and cream cheese. But the rainbow magic is found in the glaze and sprinkles which are usually gold, green and purple. Even the colors of the icing (and royal colors of Mardi Gras) have a deeper meaning. Gold represents power, green is associated with faith, and purple illustrates justice. King cake is baked without a center, like your average Bundt cake, except buried inside the batter is a tiny plastic baby figurine. The use of the King cake begins on Epiphany and lasts until Mardi Gras.

Ruminations by: Fr. Pat

A few weeks ago I gave a homily about Heralding. A herald's job was three-fold. The first job of the herald is to announce to whatever country, town, etc. that a dignitary was coming. The herald would clear up any logistics that would need to be fulfilled. In Scripture, this herald was a Prophet. He (or she) would announce that the Lord was about to "arrive" and that Israel should prepare. So, we have, for example, the story of Moses and the burning bush. God told Moses: *I have witnessed the affliction of my people in Egypt and have heard their cry against their taskmasters. Therefore, I have come down to rescue them from the power of the Egyptians...Now, go! I am sending you to Pharaoh to bring my people, the Israelites, out of Egypt.*

The second job of the herald was to physically prepare the people for the dignitary. So, we have John the Baptist preaching a baptism of forgiveness. *[John] went throughout [the] whole region of the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah: A voice of one crying out in the desert: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths.'*

The third job of the herald would actually tell the people that the dignitary was nearby. John will tell the people *Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world. He is the one of whom I said, 'A man is coming after me who ranks ahead of me because he existed before me.'*

We now come to the point where the Epiphany comes into play. It deals with the third job of heralding. The word "Epiphany" means "manifestation" Jesus was manifested in many ways. The first manifestation was to Israel, when the angels met the shepherds in the fields. *For behold, I proclaim to you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. For today in the city of David a savior has been born for you who is Christ and Lord.*

The second manifestation, which concerns us today, is that Jesus was manifested to the world, by the coming of the three wise men. The star led them to the child Jesus, and they presented their gifts to the newborn king, gold (for His Kingship), Frankincense (for His Divinity), and Myrrh (for His burial). This manifestation represents salvation for the whole world. The *Catechism* states: "The magi's coming to Jerusalem in order to pay homage to the king of the Jews shows that they seek in Israel, in the messianic light of the star of David, the one who will be king of the nations. Their coming means that pagans can discover Jesus and worship him as Son of God and Savior of the world only by turning towards the Jews and receiving from them the messianic promise as contained in the Old Testament."

PARISH EVENTS

Year of Saint Joseph

Pope Francis has called this year to be the Year of St. Joseph—To you, O blessed Joseph (ad te, beate Ioseph) - Pope Leo XIII wrote in his 1889 encyclical, Quamquam Pluris.

The Holy Father asked that it be added to the end of the Rosary especially during October, the month of the Holy Rosary. This prayer is enriched with a partial Indulgence. To you, O blessed Joseph (Ad te, beate Ioseph)

To you, O blessed Joseph, do we come in our afflictions, and having implored the help of your most holy Spouse, we confidently invoke your patronage also.

Through that charity which bound you to the Immaculate Virgin Mother of God and through the paternal love with which you embraced the Child Jesus, we humbly beg you graciously to regard the inheritance which Jesus Christ; O most loving Father, ward off from us every contagion of error and corrupting influence; O most mighty protector, be kind to us and from heaven assist us in our struggle with the power of darkness.

As once you rescued the Child Jesus from deadly peril, so now protect God's Holy Church from the snares of the enemy and from all adversity; shield, too, each one of us by your constant protection, so that, we are supported by your example and your aid, we may be able to live piously, to die in holiness, and to obtain eternal happiness in heaven. Amen.

2021 Sanctuary Candle Dates

All three worship sites are reserving Sanctuary Candle dates for 2021. Just call the Parish Office of the Church where you want the candle to burn.

If you missed the Christmas Charities 2nd collection on Christmas it is not too late to make a donation.

The proceeds from this collections are used to support a number of programs in our diocese which serve many children and young people who depend on our generosity and our loving concern for them. We remind parishioners that the total of all donations made to Christmas Charities is also applied toward our **Parish Share Goal**.

The weekend of **January 16-17** has been designated for the special collection to benefit **St. Anthony School Programs and DePaul School for Hearing and Speech**.

St. Anthony's and DePaul both fill a necessary role for special education within the Diocese of Pittsburgh. St. Anthony School Programs offers an inclusive education to children ages 5-21 years with special needs and DePaul School for Hearing and Speech teaches children, birth to 14 years, who are deaf or hard of hearing to listen, speak, and learn. Both programs empower students to become active and contributing members of their respective communities.

Any help you can give is deeply appreciated and makes a tremendous impact on the students we serve, as well as their families. Our fundraising efforts have been greatly impacted by the pandemic, so again, any support you are able to give means so much.

Every dollar donated through this collection is credited toward your Parish Share.

PARISH EVENTS

As we continue to face the ongoing Coronavirus Pandemic, please take a moment to review the steps taken by St. Andrew the Apostle Parish.

These are the protocols mandated by the CDC, Commonwealth of PA, and the Diocese of Pittsburgh:

All individuals who enter the Church for any reason (such as private prayer, the Celebrations of Mass or Confession), **MUST WEAR A MASK, covering their nose and mouth**. Masks are available at all entrances.

All are asked to **PLEASE USE HAND SANITIZER** upon entering the church building.

All are asked to be attentive to the seating restrictions, sitting at least 6 feet from anyone else in the pew, the exception being that you can sit in closer proximity to the people you came with (i.e. spouses, family members, etc.). **We are allowed to seat 25% of our seating capacity**. Be attentive to those pews taped off.

Additional steps we are facilitating here at St. Andrew the Apostle:

We have instituted Pandemic Porters, who help the parish ensure Safety Compliance and Accountability.

All clergy have been wearing masks to distribute Communion.

While you may exit the church by any door, you will find that each church will only have ONE set of doors opened:

Charleroi - please use the main doors with the handicap ramp.

Monongahela - please use the side door with the handicap ramp.

Donora - please use the front door of the Church.

To assist in the safety of everyone in the congregation, if you choose to receive Holy Communion on the tongue, please wait until everyone in the Congregation has received Communion. Afterward, you may come to the priest or deacon so that he may sanitize properly. **PLEASE WHEN LEAVING USE ALL DOORS, AND DO NOT CONGREGATE!!**

Finally, we are still providing an Online Mass for the Weekend, as noted in the bulletin. Check the parish website at <https://saintandrewmidmon.org>.

All Doors to the offices will be locked during business hours, you must either ring the door bells at the Monongahela and Charleroi sites or call the office in Donora and someone will answer the door. The offices are closed to the Public.

PLEASE !!!!

**IF YOU FEEL SICK,
WE ASK THAT YOU STAY AT
HOME.**

PARISH EVENTS



Pictured, Deacon Al Poroda receiving a check from John Gagliardi representing the Elks club in Monongahela.

Mr Gagliardi worked with Aaron Benny, also a member of the Elks Club, and both being members of St Andrews, put in a grant through the Elks for the food bank and it was approved. Thank you to the Elks for their support in helping us to continue helping those in need!

Food Bank Needs

Our Food Banks needs for those in our three communities is making a difference in the lives of those in need. Whether it be due to the pandemic, loss of income or those just needing a hand to make it to the end of the month, you' re making it happen.

Planning from our Food Bank committee is on-going, as many times we get calls throughout the week for those folks who have run out of food.

With than in mind, and of course your generosity which keeps us going, please consider donating the items below for the upcoming Holiday Season:

Peanut butter and Jelly, Pasta & Sauce, Instant potatoes & stuffing mix, cereal, canned vegetables, cranberry sauce, gravy mix, yams.

Hygiene essentials, bar soap, paper towels and toilet paper.

Snacks for children are also needed as we have been assisting with afterschool programs for the children in the Mid Mon Valley.

May our Lord continue to Bless our parish of St Andrew, as we continue to follow Jesus' command "Feed my Sheep."

The Epiphany of the Lord by: Seminarian Tom

On January 1, the Church celebrates the *Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God*. At first glance, our 2020 mindset thinks nothing of this title “Mother of God”, yet in the early church and for many many years, this was a point of huge contention theologically. Until the Third Ecumenical Council of Ephesus in 431, there were some in the Church, (namely the heretical Patriarch Nestorius) who argued that She should be called *Christotokos* (Christ-Bearer) rather than *Theotokos* (God-Bearer). This was based on a Christological dispute on the nature and divinity of Christ. The Third Ecumenical Council in 431, inspired by the Holy Spirit and in keeping with the magisterium of the Church, affirmed the true and complete divinity of Christ, and anathematized Nestorius and his followers. This affirmation of Christ’s “fully God and fully man” affirmed the title of Mary as *Theotokos*, God-Bearer, Mother of God. In this doing, the Church fully affirmed the belief that Our Lady is the Mother of God and mother to us all. This was later affirmed by St. Paul VI in his Apostolic Letter *Marialis Cultus* where he said

“This celebration, placed on January 1 ...is meant to commemorate the part played by Mary in this mystery of salvation. It is meant also to exalt the singular dignity which this mystery brings to the holy Mother...through whom we were found worthy to receive the Author of life. It is likewise a fitting occasion for renewing adoration of the newborn Prince of Peace, for listening once more to the glad tidings of the angels (cf. Lk. 2:14), and for imploring from God, through the Queen of Peace, the supreme gift of peace.”

PARISH EVENTS



Heavenly Father, thank you that we are celebrating the First Anniversary of Saint Andrew the Apostle Parish, January 6th. We thank you that we are all One in Christ, and we pray that as members of Your Body, and Your Holy Spirit would knit us together in the bonds of unity and love.

Lord, You have promised that You are the One that would build Your Church and we ask that You would continue to equip each of us, both individually and coporately with the talents and gifts that may be used to Your praise and Honor You!

CONTRIBUTION STATEMENTS

Any parishioner who would like a 2020 contribution statement are asked to call the parish office to request one.

Donora	724-379-4777
Charleroi	724-483-5533
Monongahela	724-258-7742

Christus mansionem benedicat (May Christ bless [this] house)

It is an ancient tradition in the Church to have one's house blessed during the Christmas Season, especially near the Feast of the Epiphany. There is no particular time that it started, and it was performed differently in different cultures, but it was there – originally celebrated to ward off evil spirits.

While that aspect of cleansing the home of evil may still be present in people's minds, there are other things to consider. Let's start with candles in the windows. Originally (at least from the American perspective) candles in the windows were put there by the Irish. At one time in Ireland, Catholicism was highly persecuted by the English; priests were outlawed and banished. The priests went underground and continued to Minister in secret. By seeing a candle in the window, the priest knew where to go to have Mass and celebrate the Sacraments for the Faithful. The door was left unlocked, and the home became a sacred place where God would be welcomed and where they would be safe. When questioned by the English, the answer was that they were welcoming Jesus into their homes (which was no lie).

This tradition continued in Colonial times in America. Especially when homes were at a distance, a candle in the window was a sign of welcome, since one can see light over a long distance. Like the Christmas star, it was a signal for family members travelling home, so that they could find their way. It was also a signal for travelers that this was a safe place to rest.

When we celebrate the Christmas Season, especially the Epiphany, we are celebrating our desire to have Jesus in our homes. Jesus, who had no home at His birth, would be welcomed and given some place safe to lay His head. Jesus would be welcomed into the home's family, where there would be love and fellowship and protection. The home would, also, be where travelers like the Magi would find the end of their quest, the Lord.

We honor the traveling Magi (and anyone on the road) and welcome them into our homes by chalking above doors the traditional 20+C+M+B+20. The letters have two meanings. First, they represent the initials of the Magi – Caspar, Malchior, and Balthazar – who came to visit Jesus in His first home. They also abbreviate the Latin phrase, *Christus mansionem benedicat*: "May Christ bless [this] 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 homes so marked and that He stay with those who dwell within throughout the entire year. When we cross the threshold, we are rest-assured that within those walls Jesus is there to welcome us and protect us and be with us forever.

ANOINTING OF THE SICK During the COVID –19 PANDEMIC

Since the Pandemic started last Spring, society has seen not only an uptake in physical sickness but an increase in emotional uncertainties. There are many people who are afraid, for the welfare of others and for themselves. There are some who may also be affected spiritually.

In these troublesome times, there are a couple of things that remain constant - the love and the mercy of God. He is the calming agent that is the foundation of our fears and anxieties. Uncertain of the trials of life, people find peace through prayer and through the reception of the Holy Communion. The Sacraments have been, and will continue to be, the foundations of our life in Christ. They bring us healing and strength.

Because of the serenity that the Sacraments bring, we, the clergy team at St. Andrew, have decided to offer to anyone who desires the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick. The reception of the Sacrament unites us to the Cross of Christ. Through Christ we suffer, die and rise again. We are made one with the Divine Healer, who forgives us of our sins.

The Sacrament is intended for anyone who is in need of healing - physical, emotional and spiritual. Remember, the Sacrament is a life - giving Sacrament for those in need of Solace and is referred to the Healing Sacrament meant for the living, to bring Christ into their lives.

Therefore, at each of the Parish Sites, we will be offering the Sacrament of the Sick after the daily Mass for those who are in need. Young or old, physically sick or emotionally/spiritually in need, the Sacrament is there for you, Christ is there for you. If the Sacrament helps relieve any anxieties that the pandemic brings, let it. Christ is there for us all. Within time we will offer this once a week in the new year.

Through this holy anointing, may the Lord in his love and mercy help you with the grace of the Holy Spirit. May the Lord who frees you from sin save you and raise you up.



Madonna Catholic Regional School

www.madonnacatholic.com

731 Chess Street

Monongahela, PA 15063

It is the mission of Madonna Catholic Regional School to provide a Christ-centered community focused on Gospel values, service, and academic excellence to foster a lifelong relationship with God and the Church and to develop leaders that carry their success with kindness, respect, responsibility and compassion.



A special **thank you** to all those who participated in our Cheplic Meat & Cash ticket which goes off on Thursday, December 31st. We will not return to school until Monday, January 4th at which time the winning number will be verified and the lucky winner contacted.

FAITH FORMATION/FAMILY CONNECTION/KIDS CORNER

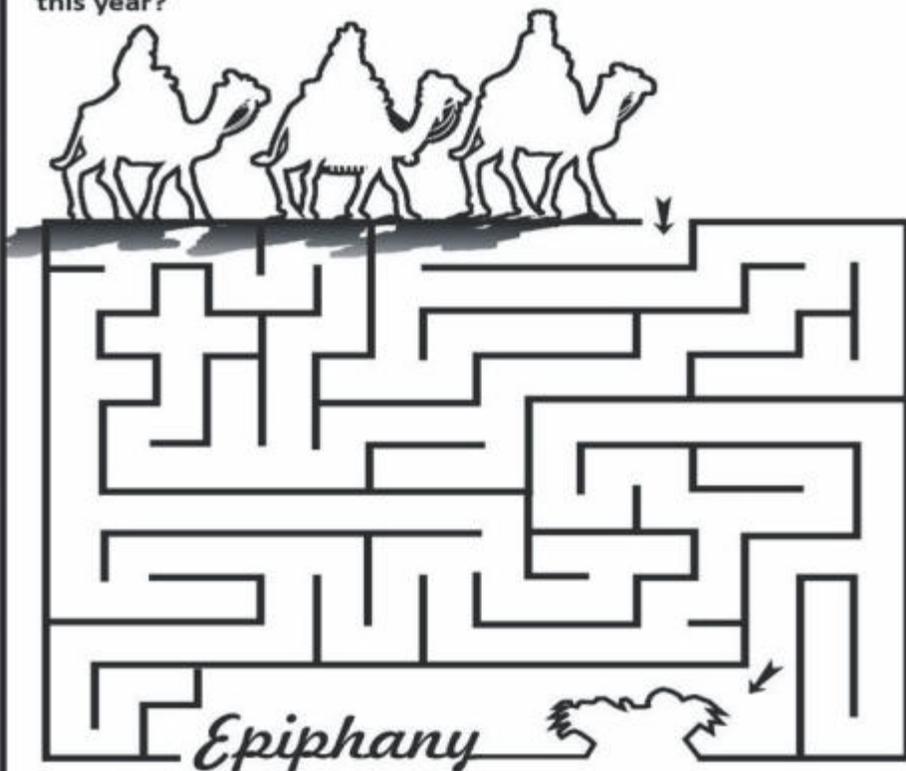
Family Connection

The tradition of giving gifts at Christmas is thought by some to be rooted in the gift giving of the Magi. In many cultures, gifts are not exchanged at Christmas, but rather on the feast of the Epiphany. Whenever you exchange your Christmas gifts, take some time to reflect on this tradition of gift giving at Christmas. Think of the best gift you have received. What was it? What made it special? Was it the gift itself, the thought that went into it, or the person who gave it to you?

Read today's Gospel, Matthew 2:1-12. The gifts of the Magi—gold, frankincense, and myrrh—have come to be understood as symbols of Christ's royalty, divinity, and eventual suffering and death. They are special because in giving them, the Magi acknowledge who Jesus was to be our Savior. We pray that we will acknowledge Jesus as Savior in all that we do and say.

Epiphany, Mt 2:1-12

Three wise men were searching for Jesus. They traveled from very far away to meet him. They followed a star and finally found him in Bethlehem. They adored him and gave him special gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. **What gift would you like to give to Jesus this year?**



**OFFERTORY FOR THE WEEK OF
December 20th, 2020**

December 20th Offertory

OFFERTORY: \$ 10,650.00

VANCO: \$ 2,876.00

The offertory collection for December 27th & January 3rd will be published in the January 10th Bulletin.

2020 PARISH SHARE

**Diocesan Goal: \$143,172.00
Current PSP: \$114,751.00
(80% of the Goal Collected)**

It's not too late to sign up for our ON LINE GIVING with VANCO. You can find the directions on our website. We encourage you to use this very efficient tool for your giving.



**WEEKLY READINGS - ENGAGE PARISHIONERS IN
DAILY MASS AND PRAYER**

Readings for the week of January 3, 2021

Sunday: Is 60:1-6/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 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 [8ab]/Mt 4:12-17, 23-25
Tuesday: 1 Jn 4:7-10/Ps 72:1-2, 3-4, 7-8 [cf. 11]/Mk 6:34-44
Wednesday: 1 Jn 4:11-18/Ps 72:1-2, 10, 12-13 [cf. 11]/Mk 6:45-52
Thursday: 1 Jn 4:19—5:4/Ps 72:1-2, 14 and 15bc, 17 [cf. 11]/Lk 4:14-22a
Friday: 1 Jn 5:5-13/Ps 147:12-13, 14-15, 19-20 [12a]/Lk 5:12-16
Saturday: 1 Jn 5:14-21/Ps 149:1-2, 3-4, 5 and 6a and 9b [cf. 4a]/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/Mk 1:7-11 or Is 55:1-11/Is 12:2-3, 4bcd, 5-6 [3])/1 Jn 5:1-9/Mk 1:7-11

REST IN PEACE



In the charity of your prayers we kindly ask that you please pray for the repose of the souls of **Catherine Amoro, William “Bill” Lee, Tish Cardis, Cecilia Vignoli, Mary Tirpak and Marie Keeling.** May Perpetual Light shine upon their souls. And may all the souls of the Faithful Departed, through the mercy of God, Rest in Peace.

SANCTUARY CANDLES



*The SANCTUARY LIGHT burns this week at
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