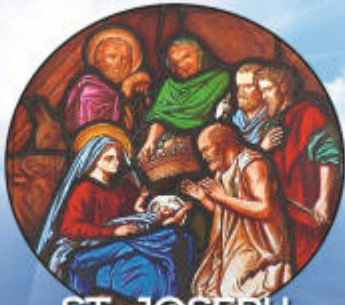


# THE CATHOLIC CHURCH IN EAST ST. JAMES PARISH



ST. JOSEPH

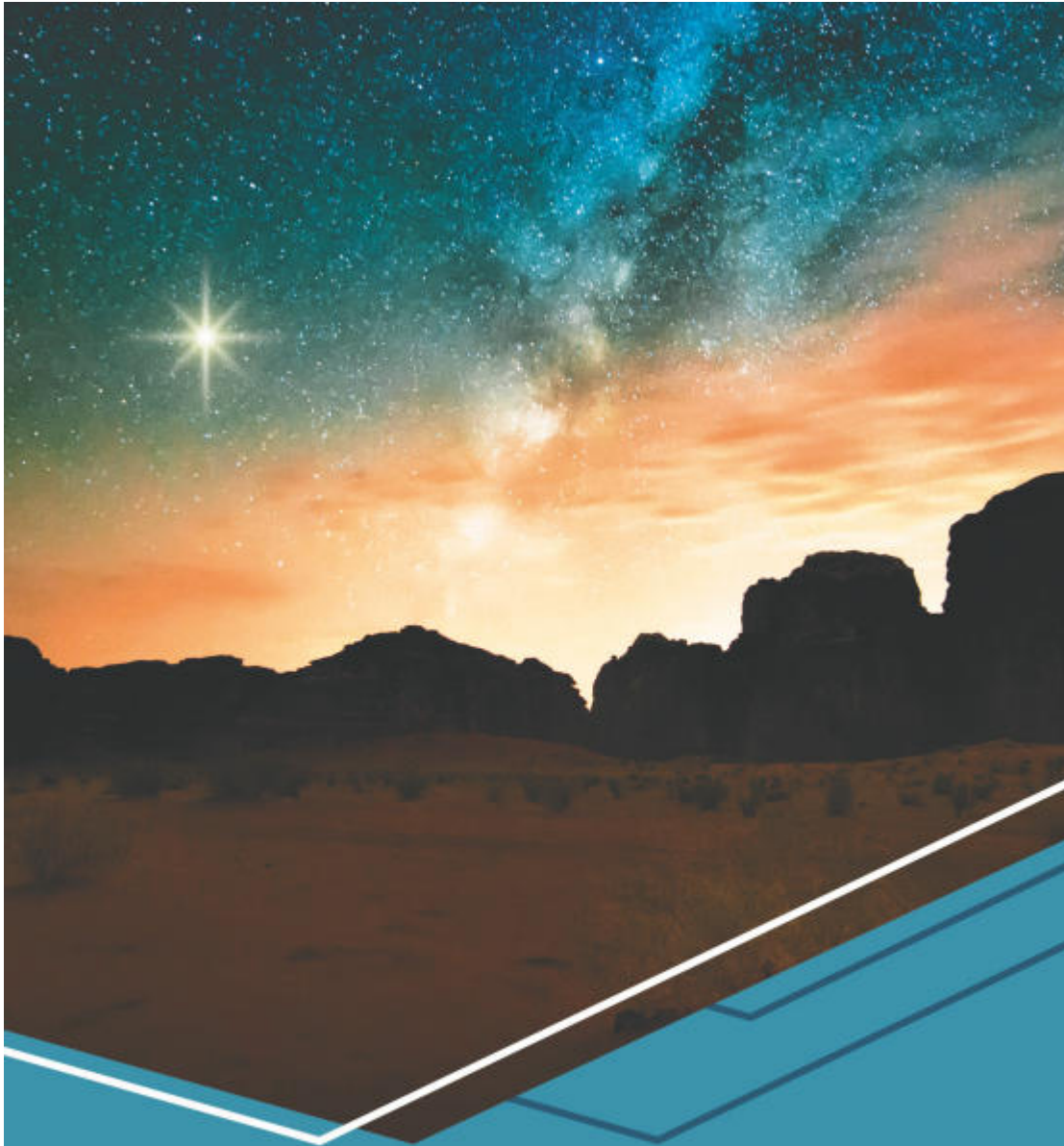


ST. MICHAEL



SACRED HEART

Volume 20 Issue 06 January 02, 2022



## 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.

© LPI

### THE WORD

#### First Reading:

Rise up in splendor, Jerusalem!  
Your light has come, the glory of  
the Lord shines upon you.

(Is 60:1)

#### Psalm:

Lord, every nation on earth will  
adore you.

(Ps 72)

#### Second Reading:

It was not made known to people  
in other generations as it has now  
been revealed to his holy apostles  
and prophets by the Spirit: that the  
Gentiles are coheirs, members of  
the same body, and copartners in  
the promise in Christ Jesus  
through the gospel.

(Eph 3:5-6)

#### Gospel:

“Where is the newborn king of  
the Jews? We saw his star at its  
rising and have come to do him  
homage.”

(Mt 2:2)



From Fr. Vincent and the  
Pastoral Staff of the Catholic  
Church in East St. James Parish!

**CHURCH DIRECTORY**

**Pastor:**  
Fr. Vincent J. Dufresne

**Deacons:**  
Alfred Adams &  
Mario (Sam) Sammartino

**School Principal:**  
Mrs. Paula Poche

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**Fax:** 225-869-4166  
**Website:** www.nivrdcat.org  
**Email:** office@nivrdcat.org  
bulletineditor@nivrdcat.org

**St. Michael the Archangel**  
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**Fax:** 225-562-3255

**Deacon Adams:** -225-562-3255

**St. Joseph**  
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225-869-5751

**Most Sacred Heart of Jesus**  
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225-869-5324

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**St. Peter Chanel Elementary School**  
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**Office:** 225-869-5778  
**Fax:** 225-869-8131

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Allison Badaeux

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**Maintenance Supervisor:** Gordon Jenkins

**Cemeteries:**  
Deacon Alfred or Gordon Jenkins

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Marriage Prep, Lay Ministry Coordinator

**Melissa Laurent-DRE;** Youth Ministry, HS  
PSR, Lay Ministry Coordinator & Baptism  
Prep

**Harriet Melancon-DRE;** SJ Elementary  
PSR, & Bulletin Editor

**Carol Ann Rome-DRE** SM Elementary

**Donna Waguespack-DRE** SJ Elementary

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Roussel, Spencer Chauvin, Jane Poche &  
Laurie Roussel

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Tim Detillier, Garland Poche,  
David Richard & Emery Forsythe

**Sacred Heart Pastoral Council**  
Earl Deroche, Jr., Joelynn Hebert, Jody  
Ordeneaux, Donna Rochon &  
Connie Loupe

**Mass & Reconciliation Times**

Sunday, January 2nd: 8:00 A.M. (C); 10:00 A.M. (P); 5:00 P.M. (G)

**Reconciliation 7:00-7:50 A.M. (C) & 4:00-4:50 P.M. (G)**

Monday, January 3rd: 7:00 A.M. (L) **Reconciliation** before 7:00 A.M. Mass

Tuesday, January 4th: 7:00 A.M. (L) **Reconciliation** before 7:00 A.M. Mass

Wednesday, January 5th: 5:30 P.M. (L)

Thursday, January 6th: 7:00 A.M. (L) **Reconciliation** before 7:00 A.M. Mass

Friday, January 7th: 7:00 A.M. (L) **Reconciliation** before 7:00 A.M. Mass

Saturday, January 8th: 4:00 P.M. (P); 6:00 P.M. (G)

**Reconciliation 3:00-3:50 P.M. (P)**

**WEEKLY PRAYER**

**READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF JANUARY 2, 2022**

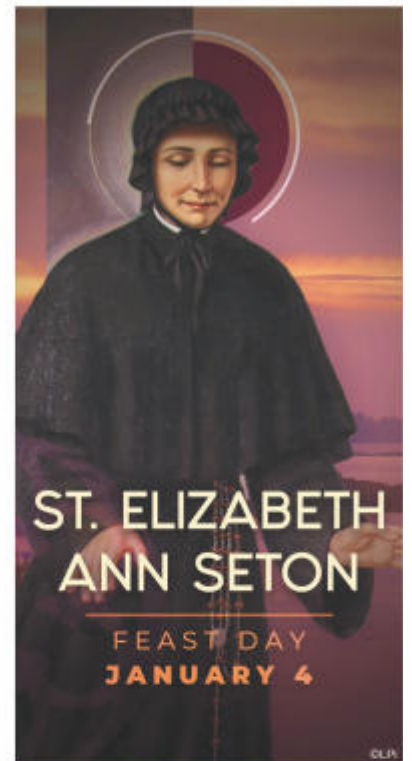
- Sunday:** Is 60:1-6/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13 [cf.11]/Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6/  
Mt 2:1-12
- Monday:** 1 Jn 3:22-4:6/Ps 2:7bc-8, 10-12a/Mt 4:12-17, 23-25
- Tuesday:** 1 Jn 4:7-10/Ps 72:1-2, 3-4, 7-8/Mk 6:34-44
- Wednesday:** 1 Jn 4:11-18/Ps 72:1-2, 10, 12-13/Mk 6:45-52
- Thursday:** 1 Jn 4:19-5:4/Ps 72:1-2, 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 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

**OBSERVANCES FOR THE WEEK OF JANUARY 2, 2022**

- Sunday:** The Epiphany of the Lord; Sts. Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzen, Bishops and Doctors of the Church
- Monday:** The Most Holy Name of Jesus
- Tuesday:** St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, Religious
- Wednesday:** St. John Neumann, Bishop
- Thursday:** St. André Bessette, Religious
- Friday:** St. Raymond of Penyafort, Priest
- Next Sunday:** The Baptism of the Lord

**LIVE THE LITURGY**  
**Inspiration for the week**

Human beings easily get bored. Life's routines can become so predictable that there is often little time for excitement or freshness. Today is all about the new and the wonderful. In celebrating the beauty and simplicity of the Epiphany, we see in tangible ways God's creative, redemptive, and restorative power. This refreshment and revitalization is offered not only to a select few but to everyone throughout the world. There is nothing routine or static about God. Surprises, wonders, miracles, opportunities, healings, and joy without measure are available to those who believe. There are never any endings, just beginnings. And, when darkness, boredom, and gloom seem to be the order of the day, a bright new light now shines pointing us to truth and reminding us that we are loved.



**SAINT OF THE WEEK**

The patron saint of Catholic schools, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton (August 28, 1774 - January 4, 1821) was born in New York City to a prominent family of the Episcopal faith. When she turned 19, she married a wealthy businessman with whom she had five children. He later died of tuberculosis in 1803, leaving her a young widow. After discovering the Catholic faith in Italy, where her husband had died, she returned to New York and converted to Catholicism in 1805.

After several years struggling as a single mother, Elizabeth moved in 1809 to Emmitsburg, Maryland, where she founded the Sisters of Charity of St. Joseph, the first community for religious women established in the United States. She also began St. Joseph's Academy and Free School, which started a chain reaction of Catholic-based education in the United States that continues today.

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton was canonized September 14, 1975 in St. Peter's Square by Pope Paul VI and was the first citizen born in the United States to be given the title of "saint."

## Apostleship of Prayer Intentions of Pope Francis



**Pope's Worldwide  
Prayer Network**



Each year, the Holy Father asks for our prayers for a specific intention monthly. You are invited to answer the Holy Father's request and to join with many worldwide in praying for this intention each month.

**For: True Human Fraternity**

We pray for all those suffering from religious discrimination and persecution; may their own rights and dignity be recognized, which originate from being brothers and sisters in the human family.

**Sunday:** *For Francis, our Pope, Michael, our Bishop, Vincent, our Pastor, Alfred & Sam, our deacons, that they may be strengthened by the Holy Spirit.*

**Monday:** *Spirit of meekness and humility.*

**Tuesday:** *Spirit of Faith.*

**Wednesday:** *Spirit of Charity.*

**Thursday:** *Love of the Holy Eucharist.*

**Friday:** *For peace within our country.*

**Saturday:** *Love of chastity & the Blessed Virgin Mary.*

## Expectant Mothers Prayer Corner

Please pray for all expectant mothers especially those listed:

- Traci Hymel
- Michaela M. Sisson
- Kristin Sweeney
- Ashley Montz
- Emily Duebler
- Elisabeth Laurent
- Hailey P. Waguespack

Lord Jesus, we thank you for your protection of these mothers-to-be and their babies. Thank you for keeping their babies safe and secure in their mother's womb and in your love. Thank you for strengthening these precious babies, keeping them healthy, and preparing them for the plans you have set before them. For as long as their pregnancy lasts, we pray that you will be doing the mighty and marvelous work that only you can do, creating life and bringing beauty into the world through your creations. Amen.



**Traveling Chalice & Statue of Our Lady of Fatima**  
Host family: Lola Mahler Jan. 5th-12th Interested in becoming a host family?  
Call: Cheryl Louque, 225-206-2929


**Our Lady of Fatima Statue with Rosary**  
Host family Jan. 2nd-8th Jackie Copponex (St. Michael); Betty Brignac (St. Mary) Call: Geraldine Hoover, 225-562-7129

**Prayer Line: Praying for parishioners needs:**  
To join this ministry or add someone to the prayer list contact: Nancy Cashio, 225-869-8124; Geraldine Hoover, 225-562-7129; Etta Ruiz, 225-869-8425 or Marcy St. Pierre, 225-869-9820.

### Those In Need of Our Prayers:

Robert "Bear" Montelius	Cathy Nosacka
Braylee Lambert	Diane Rome
Damien Powers	John Lowman
Kathleen Canatella	Elsie Batiste
Betty Brignac	

### Sanctuary Candle In Memory of:



Grace St. Pierre (SJ)  
Percy M. Brignac (SM)  
Myrtis & Ernest Lambert (SH)  
Nathan Louque (AC)  
Alyse Hope Volion (LC)

### In Loving Remembrance

**Rita Lorraine "Lully" Arceneaux Giardina**  
**August 01, 1932-December 18, 2021**

A Mass of Christian burial was held in her honor on Tuesday, December 21, 2021 at Most Sacred Heart of Jesus Church. Burial followed at St. Joseph Cemetery.

*May her soul, and all the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God rest in peace. Amen.*

## Sacraments & Services

**BAPTISM:**  
You must be registered parishioners to request baptism in one of the cluster churches. Baptisms are celebrated on the 1<sup>st</sup> Sun.-St. Michael, 2<sup>nd</sup> Sun.-St. Joseph & 3<sup>rd</sup> Sun.-Sacred Heart. Parents & Godparents are required to attend baptismal prep seminar, or complete on-line course now offered. REGISTER at least two weeks before the seminar by calling Missy Laurent (869-5751).

**RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults and Children):**  
If you are interested in becoming a Catholic, contact Ernie or Lisa Sieber @ 266-0569, or Fr. Vincent Dufresne for more information about the RCIA process.

**MATRIMONY:**  
Couples planning a wedding are asked to contact Deacon Alfred Adams at

562-3255 at least six months prior to their planned wedding date. **No tentative wedding date can be confirmed before initial meeting with the priest.**

**PASTORAL CARE OF THE SICK:**  
For emergency sick calls, please contact the Pastoral Center for a priest. If it is after hours follow the phone prompts to contact a priest.

**RECONCILIATION:**  
Reconciliation available in churches before 7:00 A.M. daily Mass: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday and weekend Masses as scheduled.

**CHRISTIAN BURIAL:**  
Please contact the Pastoral Center as soon as possible prior to making funeral arrangements.

## GOSPEL MEDITATION ENCOURAGE DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE

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.”

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.




### A Call To Reflect & Respond

**First Reading:**  
The prophet Isaiah foresaw a time of great joy for Israel when nations and kings would come to Israel praising the Lord. *How do you show gratitude to the Lord for the great joys of your life?*

**Second Reading:**  
It was revealed to Paul that God intended to save all people (Jews and Gentiles) through his Son, Jesus Christ. Paul tried to convey the significance of this revelation to the Ephesians by using the language of “coheirs” and “copartners.” *What does this language signal to you?*

**Gospel:**  
The visit of the magi is one of the most well-known stories from the Gospel infancy narratives. It was an event that manifested God’s revelation of His newborn Son to the world. It also foreshadowed the threat that some would experience because of Jesus. *How does Jesus challenge the status quo even today?*



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Principal  
Susan Weidert  
Bookkeeper

*Email: [secretary@stpchanel.org](mailto:secretary@stpchanel.org)*

**SPC Christmas Break**  
Monday, December 20th - Monday, January 3rd

**Classes Resume on Tuesday, January 4th**

*Merry Christmas & Happy New Year from the Faculty & Staff of SPC.*

# Make 2022 YOUR YEAR!

KIDS CORNER



**MASS  
INTENTIONS**

Sunday, January 2, 2022:

8:00 a.m. (C) For the Parishioners of St. Michael Parish  
 10:00 a.m. (P) For the Parishioners of St. Joseph Parish  
 5:00 p.m. (G) For the Parishioners of Sacred Heart Parish

Monday, January 3, 2022:

7:00 a.m. (L)

Leonard & Julia White & Family, Genevieve Norman & Richard Leonard; Aaron, Pedro, Rose & Dalton Berthelot; John T. & Elsie Levet; John, Ruth & Joseph (JT) Minvielle; L.J. Hymel Sr., Souls in Purgatory

Tuesday, January 4, 2022:

7:00 a.m. (L)

Myrrh Poche

Wednesday, January 5, 2022:

5:30 p.m. (L)

Milton & Elda Keller, Dale Petit, Kenny Pham, Doris L. Martin & Family, Derek Zimmer, Joseph & Scott Accardo, Ewell & Georgina Poirier & Family, Claude & Melda Petit & Sons, LtCol Joseph A. Lucia III & Joseph A. Lucia Jr., Lawrence & Delia Lambert, Grady Poche & Richard Roussel, Alyse Hope Volion, Bradley & Jason Bourgeois, Harold Lee & Jewel Bourgeois, Emile & Isabel Bourgeois, Leonard & Julia White & Family, Dennis Paul Matherne, Souls in Purgatory

Thursday, January 6, 2022:

7:00 a.m. (L)

Donald & Odile Brignac

Friday, January 7, 2022:

7:00 a.m. (L)

M/M Daniel Laroze, Donna Wescovich, Lawrence & Delia Lambert, Richard & Charmaine Zeringue, Kenneth Pelham, Leonard & Julia White & Family, L.J. Hymel Sr., Myrrh H. Poche, Souls in Purgatory

Saturday, January 8, 2022:

4:00 p.m. (P)

Verlin Simon, Mary Arceneaux, Grace St. Pierre, Nathan Louque, Geet & Benny Roussel, Randall Bourgeois Jr., Emile Roussel Family, Souls in Purgatory

6:00 p.m. (G)

Rita & Amedee Boe, Yvonne & Scotty Bourgeois, N.J. & Byron Madere, Anna Mae & Joe Bourgeois, Brandi Forsyth, Staci Champagne Lambert, Allie M. Bourgeois, Souls in Purgatory

READ THE  
GOSPEL AND  
COMPLETE A  
PUZZLE!

SHARING THE GOSPEL

Isn't God amazing? He made all the stars and planets to move, so every night the sky looks a little different. When God created the world, he planned exactly when the wise men would see the star. He wanted them to find Jesus.

PRAYER

Dear God, thank you for making the planets and stars so the wise men could find Jesus.

MISSION

FOR THE WEEK

Visit a planetarium to learn more about the star of Bethlehem.

Unscramble these words from today's Gospel:

wise-men	king	Mary
child	star	gifts
born	worship	dream
wsie mne	<u>W</u> <u>i</u> <u>s</u> <u>e</u> <u>m</u> <u>e</u> <u>n</u>	
brno	— — — —	
knig	— — — —	
derma	— — — —	
cildh	— — — —	
wrsohpi	— — — —	
Mrya	— — — —	
gfsti	— — — —	
srta	— — — —	



Called to Love Virtual Retreat

Saturday, January 15, 2022

The Office of Marriage and Family Life of the Diocese of Baton Rouge will offer a Called to Love virtual retreat for engaged couples Saturday, Jan. 15 – Sunday, Jan. 16. The retreat includes a full-day scheduled on Saturday, from 9 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. and a morning session on Sunday, from 9 a.m. – 11:30 a.m., followed by a pre-recorded Mass. Cost is \$100 per couple. For more information, visit [diobr.org/programs-for-engaged-couples](http://diobr.org/programs-for-engaged-couples) or call the Office of Marriage and Family Life at 225-387-0561.



March for Life Pilgrimage

Monday, January 17, 2022

On average our Diocese takes nine buses of students from throughout the Diocese on a spiritual journey like no other. These buses are full of students, priests, seminarians and religious Sisters as they journey to spiritual and historical sights during the six-day trip. This pilgrimage allows students to see the beauty of the Catholic faith and the dignity of each and every human life – even their own!

LITURGICAL LIFE

RESPONDING to the Call

EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP  
Recognize God In Your Ordinary Moments  
The Daily Examen of Stewardship

The Light of the Moon

If you own a television that has been turned on at any point in the last month or so, chances are you've caught at least a scene or two of the 1946 classic film "It's a Wonderful Life."

If you're not familiar with the movie, it follows the life of George Bailey from childhood through adulthood. A dreamer by nature, George has big plans for himself that involve world exploration and adventure — but family and community obligations keep him tethered to the same spot on the map, leading an altogether ordinary life.

One of the most memorable scenes from that movie is of George dancing with his sweetheart Mary while they sing "Buffalo Gals — Won't you come out tonight/And dance by the light of the moon?"

That lyric always catches my ear. Of course, the moon doesn't have any light of its own. All the moon has is the ability to reflect the light that shines upon it.

The same holds for us, doesn't it? Our stewardship is purely a reflection of the grace granted to us by another. "Upon you the LORD shines," writes Isaiah, "and over you appears his glory." Every good action we will ever take begins in the mind of God. The fact that we have the honor of carrying it out on His behalf is a beautiful gift. It is God that makes our ordinary lives extraordinary.

In the end of the movie, George Bailey realizes that he had a far greater life because, instead of being the hero of his own story, he allowed himself to reflect goodness onto others.

WHY DO WE DO THAT?



CATHOLIC LIFE EXPLAINED

**Question:** What happens to a consecrated host if it accidentally falls to the ground?

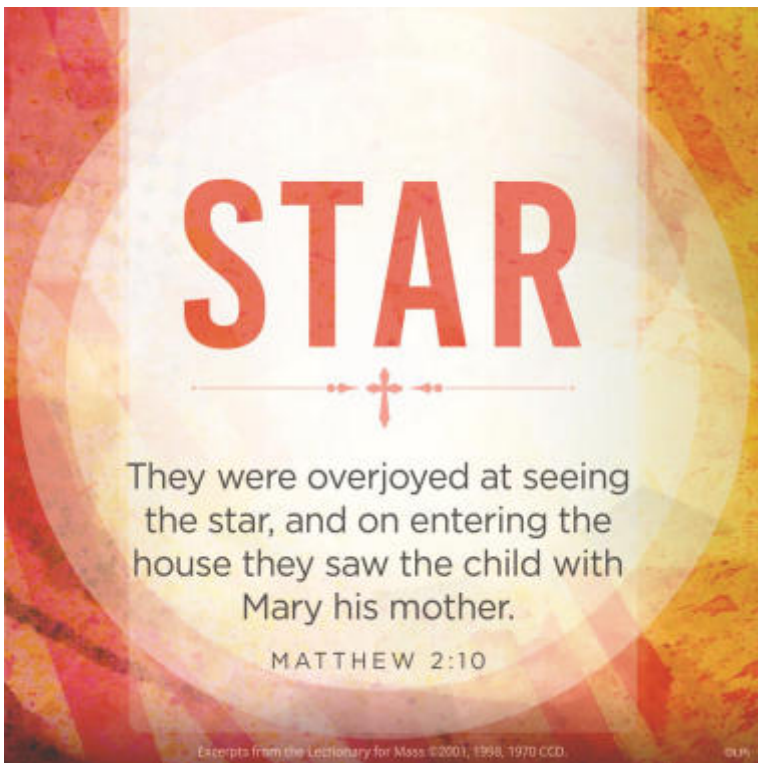
**Answer:** This is a very practical question because, as we all know, accidents happen, even during the most careful celebration of the liturgy. The short answer to this question is that nothing happens to the consecrated host. The Real Presence of Jesus remains in the consecrated host or any consecrated wine that might accidentally be spilled.

Another question we might ask is: *How should the ministers respond if the Eucharist is dropped or spilled?* If this happens, the priest, deacon, or extraordinary minister of holy Communion should immediately pick up the dropped host and consume it. If it is a case of the Precious Blood being spilled, the minister would use the purificator (and additional purificators if needed) to clean the spill and then the area should be reverently washed as soon as the Mass is over and the water poured into the sacrarium (a special sink that is located in church sacristies for reverently disposing of holy water, the water used to clean sacred vessels, etc.).



The glory of the Lord is revealed to us every day by the ministry of our priests, religious sisters and brothers. Would you consider helping other people to walk in

the Light of the Lord? If God is calling you, call or email Father Joshua Johnson at (225) 336-8778, [jjohnson@diobr.org](mailto:jjohnson@diobr.org), or visit [www.diobr.org/vocations](http://www.diobr.org/vocations).



“And you, Bethlehem, land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; since from you shall come a ruler, who is to shepherd my people Israel.”

— Mt. 2:6

DONATIONS

Dec. 19, 2021	(SM)	(SJ)	(SH)
Offertory	\$2,556.00	\$6,694.00	\$2,180.00
On-line	unavailable	\$4,770.00	\$1,695.00
Retirement for Religious	\$442.00	\$3,155.00	\$1,197.00

The three kings in today's Gospel traveled a great distance at considerable cost to offer their richest gifts to the Infant Jesus. How far will I go and what will I offer to do homage to this newborn King and Savior?

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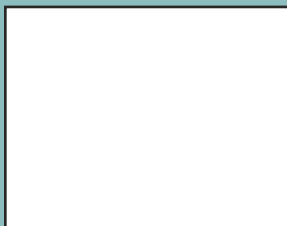
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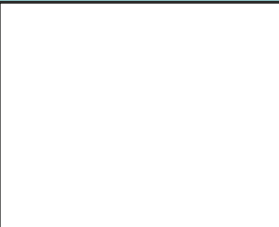
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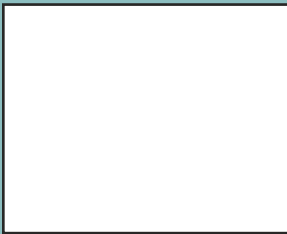


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