

# 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.

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## LaCuesta's Quest

You know, there's a phrase I am hearing more and more these days. At least, I think people are using it more. Most often I hear it in conversation. I'll be talking to someone when all of a sudden they get a strange look on their face, almost as if they've drifted off and have stopped paying attention. But then I realize they are actually thinking deeply about something, and some kind of light bulb has gone off. And what often comes out of their mouth immediately afterward is the phrase, "*I just had an epiphany!*"

Do you hear that a lot? It's one of those words that, once a person hears it used and understands its meaning, is quickly adopted by the person who just learned it. It's just THAT useful. And the reason is simple: So often in our lives we find ourselves having these bursts of understanding or meaning or discovery. And they almost seem to come out of nowhere, as if some sort of light is being shone on something that was once in darkness. Epiphanies can be wonderful things.

The word *epiphany* comes from a Greek word meaning "reveal" Its first use in English was in connection to the feast we are celebrating today. It's such an incredible story. *Who were those Magi? What was this star? Why did they follow it? HOW did they follow it? What did they think they would find?* And the most important question of all: *What ultimately DID they find?* There is a lot to be gleaned from this story. We could talk about the trust and courage it takes to let God lead us to where we need to be. We could talk about how following the Light will lead us to the Light and enable us to be light for the world. We could talk about how each of us needs to discover what treasure lies within. But I want to focus on that one simple word, the meaning behind the name we give to this story. Reveal.

Often we understand this story simply as an important one from long ago. We like to imagine what it would have been like to be there and witness the events unfolding. We like to think about how this story inspired Christians through the centuries, assuring them of the "importance" of this person we call Jesus Christ—the one we are called to devote our lives to. And we like to think about how these events are all part of God's incredible plan to save us. Yet, is that all the Epiphany is? Is it just a story that simply captures our imagination? Is it just like some kind of movie we can watch over and over again (even though we know it backwards and forwards)? Or is it more?

It's funny how most of us have no trouble enjoying the little epiphanies that come our way from our daily

(Continued on page 3...)

## Pray for our Sick

Please pray for the sick of our parish especially: G.P.A, Bruce & Kathy Anderson, Alicia & Tim, Anderson, Christine Anne, Chloe Arnold, John Barber, Beth Bartja, Dave Beutler, Larry & Susan Bialecki, Rich Brenner, Ava Burkey, S.C., Mike Chambers, Sue Chitwood, Seth Clark, Howard Cook, Dcn. George Cousino, Patricia Davis, Tom Dieter, Bob & Ruth Drudge, Ron DuVall, D. & A. E., Charles Esteves, Jim Etts, Caroline Flaczynski, J. Flanagan, Tom & Joanne Foster, Carollee Gilmore, Florence Grandowicz, David Greer, Gayle Grove, Sharon Grycza, A.L.H., Nan Hankenhof, Doris Hervieux, Gerogianne Hobson, Shannon Huber, Thelma Humphrys, Jessica Jenkins, Virginia Johnson, Eugenia Jones, Jacob Kahn, Gloria Karczewski, C. & M. Kehoe, Thomas Kern, David Kolar, Rich & Lexie Kopas, Dick Laurell, Vicki LaValle, Josh LaVigne, Loren LaVoy, Madeline & Mary Lemerand, Laura Lorenzo, Katie M., Ed McCormick, Nick McCoy, Regina Meszaros, Betty Miller, Joseph Mitchell, Rick & Madeline Mitchell, Amanda Moore, Ken & Lynn Muntz, Pat Myers, Patricia Novembre, James Nyhan IV, Carita Pakulski, David Perry, Margie Perzynski, Lucille Pirrone, Jamie Poupard, Marie Rakolta, Crystal Regnier, Lu Rosser, Mary Russell, Joe Rutkowski, G.S., Joan Salisbury, Pat Schoenrad, Paul Schornack, Joe Seager, Midge Sherman, Ernestine Slaviero, Tracy Smith, Jill Stoll, Barbara Szczurek, Christy Szymanski, Tenney Family, Alice Truna, Erick Urbaniak, Cheryl Usery, Cindy Vebenstad, Andy Vebenstad Jr., L.W., M. Walentowski, Walter, Pat Webber, Ralph Wenski, Roberta Wesolowski, Dana Willi, Hazel Young, and Tom Zoldowski.

### Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic Church

**\*Weekend Masses:** Saturday, 4:30 PM;  
Sunday, 9:00 AM & 11:00 AM

**\*Daily Mass:** Mon, Tues, Wed, Fri & Sat, 9:00AM.  
*Church open daily until 2:00PM (no Thurs & Sat).*

**Confession:** Saturdays, in Room 1, 9:45-10:30AM;  
3:00-3:45PM; weekdays by appointment—call the Parish Office.

**Baptism and weddings:** Prearrangement required.  
Call the Parish Office for details.

|                                      |                             |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Rev. Don A. LaCuesta .....           | Pastor                      |
| Rev. Mr. Marty Selmek .....          | Deacon                      |
| Rev. Mr. George Cousino .....        | Deacon, <i>retired</i>      |
| TBD .....                            | Director of Faith Formation |
| Linda Moeltner .....                 | Business Office             |
| Chris Knudsen .....                  | Director of Music Ministry  |
| Kelly Schmidt .....                  | olmc.kelly@bex.net          |
| Jane Czapich, Parish Secretary ..... | olmc@bex.net                |
| Parish Office .....                  | 734.847.2805                |
| Fax .....                            | 734.847.8970                |
| Email .....                          | olmc@bex.net                |
| Faith Formation Office .....         | 734.847.1725                |
| Email .....                          | olmc.dre@bex.net            |
| Website .....                        | mountcarmeltemperance.org   |
| Office Hours .....                   | M-F, 9AM to 5PM             |

## Sign up for FLOCKNOTES!

You can easily stay connected to the parish by signing up for FLOCKNOTES. You'll be notified about special events, Holy Day Mass times, ministry updates (if applicable), and more.

To sign up, simply text **OLMC1** to **84576** or sign-up online: [ourladyofmountcarmel19.flocknote.com](http://ourladyofmountcarmel19.flocknote.com)

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### Your Envelope Speaks...

#### December 18/19:

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|-----------------|-------------|
| Budgeted Weekly | \$ 10,400   |
| Actual          | \$ 8,595    |
| Over/Under      | \$ - 1,805  |
| Budget YTD      | \$ 260,000  |
| Actual YTD      | \$ 226,388  |
| Over/Under YTD  | \$ - 33,612 |

Due to bulletin deadlines, Christmas and 12/26 will be reported in the next bulletin.

**Thank you for your support at Christmas and throughout the year!**

### Remember our deceased

Please remember in prayer Nancy Hamman, who was buried recently from our parish.

*Eternal rest grant unto her O Lord, and let your perpetual light shine upon her.*

### Flowers for Our Lady

The flowers donated in honor of Our Lady of Mount Carmel were provided Christmas weekend (12/25 & 26) by the **Hoffman Family** in memory of **Dianna Hoffman**.

This weekend, the flowers are provided by **Frank & Maria Esposito** in memory of **Pietro & Giuliana Ialacci**.

To donate flowers and have your intentions lifted in prayer, sign up at the church bulletin board, or call the Parish Office, 734-847-2805; [olmc@bex.net](mailto:olmc@bex.net)

### Holy Hour Monastery of the Visitation

1745 Parkside Blvd., Toledo

**Sunday, January 9  
4:00 PM**

Vespers, Rosary, Homily & Benediction

## Thank you, thank you!

It's hard to believe that another Christmas has come and gone. For whatever you did to help make Christmas happen here at OLMC, we thank you:

... to all who helped decorate the church and gym. Thanks for taking time to make everything beautiful.

... to the Sacristans, Readers, Altar Servers, Ushers, EMEs, the Choir and musicians thanks for your help with the liturgies and music... not only at Christmas, but throughout the year.

... to the "elves" who wrapped books, and those who passed them out at Christmas Masses, we thank you.

... to all who made a donation to our parish at Christmas, bought a gift or donated toys, and anyone we may have overlooked, thank you, thank you, thank you!

May God bless you and keep you safe in the New Year!

Fr. LaCuesta  
& OLMC Staff

*(LaCuesta's Quest continued...)*

experiences. We suddenly see a friend in a new light. Or we finally understand what our math teacher has been saying for months. We suddenly understand the perspective of someone we've been disagreeing with. Or we finally understand a joke we heard 3 days ago. We hear about some heartbreaking things from an acquaintance's past and now understand why he acts the way he does. Or we find ourselves battling an addiction and for the first time we don't judge others who are struggling with addictions of their own.

But do we have epiphanies when it comes to God? Maybe we think that God doesn't reveal himself as he once did, that he's been "taking a break" for a very long time. Maybe we think there isn't any more to understand about God or know about God or believe about God? Maybe we feel that the stories from long ago are the end of the novel, that God has said all he wants to say, that God has nothing else to tell us, or show, or reveal to us. Are epiphanies from God over? We know the answer. But do we believe it? Do we truly believe that God wants us to come to ever-greater understanding? Do we believe that there are discoveries of wonder, truth, joy and amazement that God wants to lead us to?

You see, none of those things will happen if we don't believe they CAN happen. But if we do believe, if we do trust, if we do have courage then there is no telling what incredible realizations and revelations might be right around the corner...if we stay on the journey. May the Magi inspire us to keep searching, keep wondering what the Light will reveal to us.

My friends, where will each of us encounter God in 2022? Only God knows.

— Fr. Don A. LaCuesta

## Pickle Ball

### New for 2022!

Adult pickle ball nights.  
Wednesday evenings, from 7:00 to 9:00 PM, starting January 12 in the OLMC gym.

Bring your own paddle.  
No charge, no registration ... just come check it out!

Please direct questions to:  
Dave Kowalski, 419-343-2576.  
Hope to see you there!

## 2022 Envelopes

You should have received your 2022 offertory envelopes in the mail. If you did not, please let us know.

If you are giving electronically, and do not wish to receive envelopes through the mail, please also let us know.

Please be patient as we work through this new process.

Direct any questions or concerns to: [olmc@bex.net](mailto:olmc@bex.net); 734-847-2805.

Thank you!

## Mass Intentions

### Monday, January 3

9:00 AM † Bernadine Cisarik

### Tuesday, January 4

9:00 AM Intentions of Denise Toepfer

### Wednesday, January 5

9:00 AM † Alfred J. Miller

9:30 AM **Eucharistic Adoration**

4:00 PM Benediction

### Thursday, January 6

No Mass

### Friday, January 7

9:00 AM † Karen Buchelt-Montri

### Saturday, January 8

9:00 AM † Patrick Dillon

4:30 PM

† Lisa Benore

† Tom Karczewski

### Sunday, January 9—Baptism of the Lord

9:00 AM

† Sue Bomyea

† Bob LaVoy

11:00 AM

† Maryann Fisher

† Gilbert Hebert



## Readings for the Week

January 3

Mon: 1 Jn 3:22—4:6/Mt 4:12-17, 23-25

Tue: 1 Jn 4:7-10/Mk 6:34-44

Wed: 1 Jn 4:11-18/Mk 6:45-52

Thu: 1 Jn 4:19—5:4/Lk 4:14-22a

Fri: 1 Jn 5:5-13/Lk 5:12-16

Sat: 1 Jn 5:14-21/Jn 3:22-30

Sun: Is 42:1-4, 6-7/Acts 10:34-38/  
Lk 3:15-16, 21-22



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**[OLMC-Temperance, MI](#)**



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