



THE EPIPHANY *of the Lord*

*"Since from you shall come a ruler,
who is to shepherd my people Israel." - Mt 2:6b*

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

MASS INTENTIONS

Friday, Dec. 31 St. Sylvester I, pope
4 pm Vigil +Richard Macek 1st ann. by Parish
Deceased Members of the Fron Family

**Saturday, Jan. 1 Solemnity of Mary, the
Mother of God**

9 am Living & Deceased Parishioners

11 am Living & Deceased Parishioners

Sunday, Jan. 2 Epiphany of the Lord

8 am +Joseph Galea 1st ann. By Parish
+Sal & Dee Rodriguez by family

10 am +Robert Betts 1st ann. By Parish
+Jim Cayley by Betty Cayley
+Pearl Dube by family
+Alice Comport by family
+Frank Leszczewicz by Deacon Regis & Ann
Buckley

5 pm People of the Parish

Monday, Jan. 3 Christmas Weekday

8 am +George Johnson

6:30 pm +Denise Kushner 1st ann. By Parish
+Colton Ahonen by family
+Josephine Bellottie (bday) by Bellottie Family

Tuesday, Jan. 4 St. Elizabeth Ann Seton

8 am +Aidan Morrow

Wednesday, Jan. 5 St. John Neumann

8 am +Ed & Mary Schatzline

Thursday, Jan. 6 St. Andre Bessette, relig.

8 am +William & Joanne Thomas

First Friday, Jan. 7 St. Raymond Penafort

8 am +Fr. George Charnley

12 pm +Jo-an Mazur

Saturday, Jan. 8 Christmas Weekday

4 pm People of the Parish
+Dorothy Indelecato 89th bday by family

Sunday, Jan. 9 Baptism of the Lord

8 am +Mary Gardia by Kathy & John
+Stella Schultz by family

10 am +People of the Parish
5 pm +Feliks & Mary Turek by Sons
+Jeff Pawelek by Helen Majewski

SANCTUARY LAMP



The Sanctuary Lamp burns brightly this week in remembrance of:

†Fred Berry

by Family



Wedding Feast & Epiphany

Question: How are the feasts of the baptism of Jesus and the account of the wedding feast of Cana related to the Epiphany celebration?

Answer: The Epiphany season focuses on revealing Jesus to the world. Following the Christmas celebration, the liturgical year lays out a series of manifestation points in which Jesus is made publicly known. From its very beginning, the Christian community highlighted three events in the life of Jesus. These are the Epiphany, the Baptism of the Lord and the wedding feast at Cana.

The Epiphany discloses Jesus to the world of the Gentiles, represented by the magi from the East. The accounts of Jesus' baptism reveal his identity and mission, along with exposing him to those to whom he was sent to minister. The miracle of turning water to wine at the wedding feast of Cana, unique to John's Gospel, is the first public sign that Jesus performs, thus manifesting his public identity and his powers. Today in the Roman Church, these are usually celebrated on three successive Sundays: Epiphany, the Baptism of the Lord which is usually the next Sunday, and the wedding feast of Cana, which is proclaimed on the 2nd Sunday of Ordinary Time in lectionary year C.

These feasts connect around the concept of epiphany, public manifestation of Jesus to the world. They help us get to know more intimately who Jesus is and what he is about. Spend some time delving more deeply into your understanding of who Jesus is. Continue to cultivate these "epiphany" moments in your life. ©LPi

Epiphany of the Lord

The song "We Three Kings" details the gifts of the Magi, but do you know what you're singing? "Born a king on Bethlehem's plan, gold I bring to crown Him again." This one is the most straightforward - gold symbolizes the Kingship of Christ.



"Myrrh is mine: its bitter perfume breathes a life of gathering gloom." Myrrh is an embalming spice. Already at Christ's birth, we have the symbolic reminder of his death.

"Frankincense to offer have I. Incense owns a deity nigh." In many religious traditions, incense symbolizes prayers rising to heaven. In some pagan traditions, it is thought to help "call down" the deity. The gift of frankincense symbolizes Jesus' role as the Great High Priest, sanctifying the world through his sacrifice.



GOSPEL MEDITATION - ENCOURAGE DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE

The Epiphany of the Lord

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.

©LPi



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. ©LPi

QUESTIONS OF THE WEEK - REFLECT AND RESPOND TO SCRIPTURE

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? ©LPi

Happy New Year!!!!



I hope you had a Blessed Christmas and experienced the Joy and Peace of this most sacred season when Our Lord became man in order to free us from the power of sin! I'm wishing you all a Happy and Prosperous New Year! It's hard to believe that it's 2022. If you're like me, it'll be at least a month before I'll remember to write 2022 when I have to date things. It reminds me that we are creatures of habit ... some good and some bad!

Speaking of habits, I was reflecting on when to take down our Christmas decorations. It might be me, but it seems like more and more families are sadly taking down their Christmas decorations on December 26th, or at the latest, January 2nd. When I was growing up, we wouldn't think of taking down our decorations until after the Feast of the Three Kings on January 6th. In many cases, our tree was almost bare of needles when we took it down; but it was TRADITION!!!

January 6th is "Twelfth Night", the twelfth day of Christmas like the song; which, by the way was composed as a mini-catechism during the Elizabethan persecution of Catholics in England. Being of Irish descent, that was very important to us. We referred to January 6th as "Little Christmas"

As we wrote last week, The Christmas Season doesn't end until the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord, which, this year, falls on January 7th. Many ethnic traditions leave Christmas up until that date. But wait. that's not all. Some ethnic Traditions leave Christmas up until February 2nd, or Candlemas Day, which is the Feast of the Presentation of Our Lord. It's also the day that we bless new beeswax candles for our homes for the year; thus, the name, CANDLEMAS. I love it when a plan comes together.

My wife and I usually take down our Christmas on January 6th in keeping with our families' traditions. This year I think we're going to leave them up until February 2nd to remind us of the Incarnation when God became man so that we could share in His Divinity. We hope that it extends the Peace and Joy of Christmas in the hearts of all who visit our home.

So, when will you take down your Christmas decorations this Year?

God is good all the time; All the time God is good!

Don't forget, join us this Friday and every Friday at 3PM to pray the Divine Mercy Chaplet on ZOOM. See the ad in our bulletin or on the parish website for details on how to join in. Hope to see you there!

Chastisement vs. Punishment

Question: What is the difference between a chastisement and a punishment?

Answer: The distinction between chastisement and punishment is, in many ways, a subtle one, but which is still relevant in our Catholic tradition.

First, chastisement is a concept that is grounded in Sacred Scripture. Here, we see chastisement as a response by God to people's actions that is intended to teach a lesson. As St. John Paul II observed, "chastisement appears to be ... a kind of divine pedagogy, in which the last word is reserved to mercy: He scourges and then shows mercy, casts down to the depths of the nether world, and he brings up from the great abyss" (Tobit 13:2). The idea here is that in order to capture our attention or to highlight how we have not lived out our covenant-relationship with God as we should, there are times when God uses events in life to draw us back to the quality of relationship or faith that we should have.

The concept of punishment, however, has a different sense. The Catechism of the Church observes that punishment is the consequence of a damaging action that "has the primary aim of redressing the disorder" and to protect the community and the common good from further damage or harm (see no. 2266). Although we always hope that someone who is being punished for a crime or some other harmful action will learn from their actions, punishment isn't necessarily intended to teach a lesson in the same way that a chastisement is.

Ultimately, how we make the distinction between chastisement and punishment is a matter of discernment. As with almost everything in life, our experiences can be an opportunity for grace — or for something less — depending on how open we are to recognizing the movement of God's Spirit within them. ©LPi

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

Answer: This 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.

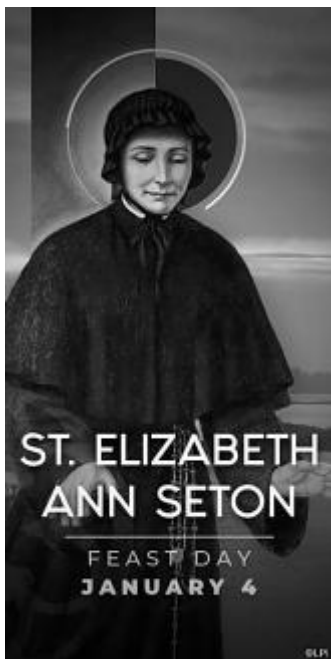
Another question we might ask is: How should the ministers respond if the Eucharist is dropped or spilled? If this happens, the priest, deacon, or extraordinary minister of holy Communion should immediately pick up the dropped host and consume it. If it is a case of the Precious Blood being spilled, 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.). ©LPi

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton | January 4

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.” ©LPi

**EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP -
RECOGNIZE GOD
IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS
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.

Remember — the magi didn’t chart their own course. They merely followed the star.

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS ©LPi



Please
Pray
for...



Norm Abramczyk
Louise Ames
Anna Axe
Joyce Babosh
Harry Bacalia
Sue Bacalia
Norma Bak
Violet Barrette
Bob Behmer
Bob Bellottie
Jim Bellottie
Vincent Bellottie
Judy Bennett
Sharon Bieniek
Cynthia Blaha
Marilyn Block
Evelyn Boettger
Aaron Boyless
Thomas J. Brennan, Jr.
Ken Butler
Joan Buzo
Jacob Cassar

Michaeline Chwastek
Richard Cline
Zoe Cossin
Betty Ann Crawford
Sylvia Cyncewicz
Tina Doney
Jason Dull & Family
Marsha Farmer
Geraldine Filippi
Cecil Fernandez
Tina Fernandez
Lisa Foster
Rose Fraley
Duane Glossa
Roseann Gomez
Bob & Lori Gonzales
Gary Graham Jr
Abigail Graves
Jennifer Hanna Green
Charlotte Gutierrez
Eileen Halpin
Annie Hapunowicz
Ronald Hetner
Tina Hovis
Sue Jagodka
Joanne Kacher
Norman Kaletto
Brenda Kaletto
Jeanine Kemp
Fr. Terry Kerner
Phyllis Kinnell

Evelyn Kisell
Joan Klimchalk
Chris Kovac
John Kovac
Jenene Kozinski
George Kramar
Patrica Lacopelli
Jennifer Lasky & Family
Joseph Lasky
Margaret :Lasky
Henry Lemmens
Guadalupe Madrigal
Phyllis Mareck
Donald Martin
Erin Martin
Patricia MCoy
Larry & Carol McGrew
Frank & Jane Mellnick
Linda Molek
Steven Monroe
Pat Mozdzen
Suzanne Nicholas
Gigi Novak
Daniel O'Connor
Diane Owens
John Palmer
Mary Pellegrini
Helen Petroski
Jimmy Piche
Kathleen Pietras
Mary Pike

Jeff Pingilley
Jess Pingilley
Linda Pingilley
Robert Pingilley
Sam Pingilley
Wayne Pingilley
Carol Regnier
Whitney Regnier
Noemia Reid
Linda Robb
Richard Roberts
Laura Salazar
Fred Sanscrainte
Matt Sanscrainte
Joann Sanscrainte
Dennis Scanland
Darlene Shannon
Phil Shannon
Rose Shannon
Jaxon Shubik
Margaret Smith
Jimmy Stecki
Gerald Stevens
Jim Tokarczyk
Laurie Trupp
Michael Wheelock
Eileen Winnie
The Wirick Family
Frank Wojcik
Stephen Zelle



Air Force

Matthew Thornton, Nicole Thornton,
Michelle Thornton, Brittany Mack,
Tiffany Kay Smith (Ladd), husband, Don Smith

Army

Josh Harpster, Zachary Robbins,
Robert Truchan, Anthony Lemieux,
Bryce Bieniek, Tony Pernicano, Jacob Grzebienik,
Matthew Hapunowicz

Marines

Joseph Krawzyk, 1st Lieutenant, Joseph McGinnis,
Corporal, Andrew Clark, 1st Lieutenant,
Cody S. Pratt, Luke Cohen, PFC 1st Class

Navy

Ryan Detlor, Patrick Hanosh

Army National Guard

Vincent Nowak, Michael Dunne

EPIPHANY



EPIPHANY OF THE LORD COME TO THE STABLE, THEN COME TO THE TABLE

Today, in Matthew's Gospel, the evangelist examines the Magi tracking a star to Bethlehem, meeting the infant Jesus, and presenting him offerings of gold, frankincense and myrrh. St. Matthew proclaims that the Magi prostrated themselves and did him homage before presenting these gifts. In other words, these kings lay face down, respectfully praising and glorifying our Lord. What a tremendous sign of humility and reverence!

As faithful stewards, we should follow the Magi's example and approach the Holy Eucharist humbly and reverently at Mass, recognizing the consecrated bread and wine as the true Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity of our Lord and Savior.

Consider coming before the Lord in Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament when your parish offers it. Examine your own heart how you show reverence when you come up at Mass to receive Holy Communion.



TAX ADVANTAGED WAYS TO GIVE TO OUR PARISH

Parishioners may consider these two tax-advantaged ways to make charitable gifts to our parish at the year end.

Gifts of Appreciated Securities continue to be beneficial for donors since they offer significant tax advantages including income tax deductions and avoidance of tax on capital gains if the donor were to sell the highly appreciated securities. Through a gift of appreciated securities to benefit our parish, including to the Catholic Services Appeal, parishioners who itemize may receive an income tax deduction up to the full market value of the securities and can also avoid capital gains tax on the appreciation. In essence, you may save twice—on income tax and capital gains tax.

IRA Rollover --Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD) provides a way for donors 70 ½ and older to receive a tax benefit for their generosity. It is beneficial because the QCD will not be included in adjusted gross income and is therefore not subject to tax. This is now more beneficial in view of the increased standard deduction in the new tax law. A donor can make a QCD of up to \$100,000 annually directly from the IRA to a charity, and as an added benefit, if the donor is age 72, the QCD satisfies the donor's required minimum distribution. Parishioners 70 ½ or older should consult with their IRA administrator for the procedure to make a QCD to our parish.

For More Information, contact the Parish Office, or Archdiocese of Detroit Department of Development –Mission Advancement 313-596-7408 Development@aod.org

Please consult your tax or financial advisor. Our parish and the Archdiocese of Detroit are not engaged in legal or tax advisory service. The examples listed above are intended to provide useful information of a general character only. For specific advice and assistance please consult a qualified tax or financial advisor.



Lighter Side

Divine Delivery

A businessman ordered flowers to be sent to the opening of his friend's new branch office. When the businessman got to the event, he was shocked to see the flowers with the inscription "Rest in Peace." He was so outraged that he stopped at the florist to complain.

"It could be worse," the florist said, "Just think: Today someone was buried beneath a floral arrangement with the inscription 'Congratulations on Your New Location!'"

One for Every Room

One Sunday our priest announced he was passing out miniature crosses made of palm leaves. "Put this cross in the room where your family argues most," he advised. "When you look at it, the cross will remind you that God is watching."

As I was leaving church, the woman in front of me walked up to the priest, shook his hand, and said, "I'll take five."

Confession

En route to church to make his first confession, my nervous seven-year-old grandson asked me what he could expect.

"Confession is where you tell all the bad things you've done to the priest," I told him. He looked relieved.

"Good. I haven't done anything bad to the priest." ©LPi

St. Vincent de Paul



Food Pantry

St. Maria Goretti Parish

Please drop off your donations on
Mondays and Wednesdays between 12:00 and 2:00pm or
call Matt at 313-595-1317

Here is the current list of needs for our pantry:

Coffee (No decaf please) Peanut Butter
Paper Towels and Toilet Paper
Coffee Filters **Ketchup**
Strawberry Jelly **Spaghetti Sauce in a Jar**
Cooking Oil **Mayonnaise**
Pancake Syrup (Need Badly)

All of us here at the Pantry are so grateful for all of the help we've been receiving on our list of needed food. We have been serving 22-29 families per week, which is only 2 days, four hours per week. When I have a total of our Simply Give Program, I will let everyone know how well we did. I am expecting to surpass our \$22,000 amount from our last program we were in.

Thank you all in advance. We would like to wish everyone a very happy and healthy New Year.

LECTORS SCHEDULE

Fri. Dec. 31

4 pm Richard Fron

Sat. January 1

9 am Chris Bergeron

11 am Pat Woodby

Sun. January 2

8 am Tom Koselka

10 am Gary Schoenherr

5 pm Francis Tofil

Sat. January 8

4 pm Dave Griswack

Sunday, January 9

8 am Mary Ellen Sobczak

10 am Richard Fron

5 pm M J Favot

Sat. January 15

4 pm Marge Taylor

Sunday, January 16

8 am Pat Wallace

10 am Kathy Munoz

5 pm Francis Tofil

Sat. January 22

4 pm Chris Bergeron

Sunday, January 23

8 am Tom Koselka

10 am Michael Munoz

5 pm M J Favot

Mary, the Holy Mother of God

This solemnity is a rather recent addition to the cycle of seasons, Sundays, and feasts in our liturgical year. We have Pope Paul VI to thank for the 1974 enshrining of the devotion to Mary into our calendar on January 1. It is also a day in our calendar as a World Day for Peace.



Let us pray...

God of heaven and earth, you came to us and took our earthly flesh through the gift of Mary's yes. She is our Mother in faith, as she is your earthly mother.

We are thankful beyond our ability to thank you for the gift of her Son as our brother and savior. Through her self-giving, we have been reconciled to you.

Bless us as we begin this New Year and endow us with the desire and ability to create a world of peace.

BULLETIN EDITOR

** bulletin@smgoretti.com **

All submissions are due 10 days before publication date.

The deadline for bulletin submissions is **2:00pm on Thursday, 10 days before the bulletin date.**

Exceptions occur when the bulletin is required to be sent early due to holidays.

Please plan ahead as submissions received past the deadline will be published in the following week's bulletin.

Submissions should be sent as a Word document (single spaced), PDF or photo format (JPEG, TIFF, GIF, PNG), attached to or in the body of an email

give online

Online giving makes it easy to give! You never have to bring envelopes, cash or checks to church. Giving electronically also helps the church save money and plan its budget.

There are no fees for on-line giving.

- ★ Visit the St. Maria Goretti website at www.stmariagorettiparish.com
- ★ Click on the Online Giving link on the left side of the home page.
- ★ Complete the registration form

Please feel free to call the Parish Office if you should have any questions or want to know more about Online Giving.

Your donations are vital to the success of our Parish community.

DIVINE MERCY CHAPLET

with Deacon Regis

Join us on

*Fridays at 3:00pm to pray the
Divine Mercy Chaplet on ZOOM.*

*To connect by computer use this link:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85478055945>*

*To connect by smart phone call
1 (312) 626 6799*

PARISH COMMISSIONS, COUNCILS AND GROUPS

Parish Council

Chairperson: Richard Fron

Co-Chairperson: Chris Bergeron

Secretary: Thomas Koselka

Members at Large: Barbara Balnius Mario Ferrante
Pat Wallace David Griswack Valerie Koselka
John O'Callaghan Marge Taylor Sandy VanAssche
Linda Wielkopolan

Worship Commission: David Griswack

Education/Formation Comm: Marge Taylor

Christian Svc. Commission: Cathy Nagle

Finance Council: Dianna Dunne

Ushers President: Dave Griswack
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Matt Kulczyk Direct Number: 313.563.3970

WEEKEND MASSES:

Saturday: 4 p.m.

Sunday: 8 a.m., 10 a.m. & 5 p.m.

DAILY MASSES:

Monday through Friday: 8 a.m.

Monday Evening: 6:30pm

First Friday: 8 a.m. & 12 Noon

First Saturday: 8 a.m.

CONFESSIONS Saturday: 3 - 3:30 p.m. or by request

HOLYDAYS TIMES TO BE DETERMINED

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT Each Monday,
beginning at Noon, ending prior to 6:30pm Mass

BAPTISMS Contact Parish Office for arrangements.
Pre-Baptism Class required.

MARRIAGES Please contact Parish Office at least six (6)
months in advance.

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

*Calls after hours should be limited to emergencies
only.*

Monday - Thursday: 9 am - 4 pm

(The office is closed daily for lunch Noon - 1 pm)

Friday: CLOSED for the time being

If you need to contact the parish office,
please call during regular business hours.
You can also reach the parish office by email:
parishoffice@smgoretti.com



Sunday, Jan 02, 2022 SOLEMNITY OF THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD **The sanctity of home** "Home is where the heart is" is an ancient proverb. Many folks find their deepest level of satisfaction and fulfillment in family life. But home is also where the hearth is: the place to which we come in from the cold to restore ourselves, where we put up our feet, sigh, and relax. Our homes are sacred to us; why not commend them to God? On Epiphany, we're invited to gather with our loved ones to bless the door, walls, and table of our dwelling. Compose your own blessing together or visit the USCCB's Blessing of the Home and Household on Epiphany for the rite of home blessing. TODAY'S READINGS: Isaiah 60:1-6; Ephesians 3:2-3a, 5-6; Matthew 2:1-12 (20). "The star they had seen at its rising preceded them, until it came and stopped over the place where the child was."

Monday, Jan 03, 2022 MEMORIAL OF THE MOST HOLY NAME OF JESUS **Initial reflections** Do you have anything monogrammed with your initials, perhaps towels or clothing? While monogramming is decorative, it also marks your belongings as yours. Jesus has a monogram too: "IHS," which stands for the first three letters of the Greek spelling of the name of Jesus. Later the monogram was associated with the Latin phrase *Iesus Hominum Salvator* (Jesus Humankind's Savior). There is power in the very name of Jesus and so Catholics venerate it. Perhaps you've seen this monogram on altars or vestments. Jesuits use the IHS monogram as the emblem of their society. You can bear his monogram too—by calling on his name and showing to the world that you belong to him. TODAY'S READINGS: 1 John 3:22-4:6; Matthew 4:12-17, 23-25 (212). "And great crowds from Galilee, the Decapolis, Jerusalem, and Judea, and from beyond the Jordan followed him."

Tuesday, Jan 04, 2022 MEMORIAL OF ELIZABETH ANN SETON, RELIGIOUS **Fed by the bread of life** Raised Episcopalian, Elizabeth Ann Seton knew about Jesus multiplying loaves. On Sundays, she was a devout communicant at historic Trinity Church on Wall Street. But it wasn't until Elizabeth went to Italy with her children and husband in 1803, attending Mass with Catholic friends, that she was drawn to the Real Presence in the Eucharist. "How happy would we be, if we believed what these dear souls believe," she wrote, "that they possess God in the sacrament, and that He remains in their churches and is carried to them when they are sick!" In honor of Mother Seton, the first U.S.-born saint, resolve to receive Communion more often this year. TODAY'S READINGS: 1 John 4:7-10; Mark 6:34-44 (213). "He said the blessing, broke the loaves, and gave them to his disciples to set before the people."

Wednesday, Jan 05, 2022 MEMORIAL OF JOHN NEUMANN, BISHOP **Get to know your neighbors** Today we celebrate the feast of Saint John Neuman, the first Redemptorist priest ordained in the United States and the first male U.S. citizen named a saint. Neumann, who emigrated to the United States from Bohemia as a young man desirous of being a missionary, is revered for his tireless work among immigrants in the Northeast. He had a talent for understanding people and knowing what would bring them peace and comfort. Seek to emulate this holy man, who one of his fellow bishops observed, "had a solution for every question posed," and an "unruffled composure, which betokened deep humility and perfect self-control. I always regarded him as a saint." TODAY'S READINGS: 1 John 4:11-18; Mark 6:45-52 (214). "If we love one another, God remains in us, and [God's] love is brought to perfection in us."

Thursday, Jan 06, 2022 MEMORIAL OF ANDRÉ BESSETTE, RELIGIOUS **The comeback kid of Québec** Saint André Bessette's remarkable life began when he was born into poverty in 1845. Orphaned by age 12, considered a failure in school, he practiced unskilled trades until his pastor encouraged him to join the Congregation of the Holy Cross. The congregation reluctantly admitted him, concerned about his frail health. Brother André defied expectations, living to age 91 and becoming famous throughout Québec for the many healings people experienced after visiting him in his role as a humble doorkeeper. Why not ask Brother André for his intercession, be it for mental, spiritual, relational, or physical healing? TODAY'S READINGS: 1 John 4:19-5:4; Luke 4:14-22 (215). "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring glad tidings to the poor."

Friday, Jan 07, 2022 MEMORIAL OF RAYMOND OF PEÑAFORT, PRIEST **Make straight your path** Through its long history, the church has been careful to make a distinction between the canons, or rules, of the church and the laws of the state. The canons, from the Greek *kanon* for "straight," were meant to

guide Catholics toward the mission of the church— to keep them on the straight and narrow of faith, so to speak. There are 1,752 canons, many that pertain to all of us. For example, Canon 210: “All the Christian faithful must direct their efforts to lead a holy life and to promote the growth of the church and its continual sanctification, according to their own condition.” In honor of the patron saint of canon lawyers, Saint Raymond of Peñafort, do your best to follow the rules of the church and give witness to God’s saving love. TODAY’S READINGS: 1 John 5:5-13; Luke 5:12-16 (216). “God gave us eternal life, and this life is in his Son.”



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Saturday, Jan 08, 2022 SATURDAY AFTER EPIPHANY
Increasing Christ Tomorrow, the Baptism of the Lord, marks the end of the Christmas season and the beginning of Ordinary Time. The days, dates, and seasons of the church’s liturgical calendar focus the whole People of God on the same celebrations. During Advent we prepare. In Christmas we welcome. Lent is a time of reflection and repentance. Easter is new life. In Ordinary Time we celebrate the ongoing effects of God’s grace. So when “Silent Night” or “We Three Kings” is sung throughout the world, the air fills with the grace generated by God in our hearts. Sing a Christmas hymn today and know that the stars are singing with you. TODAY’S READINGS: 1 John 5:14-21; John 3:22-30 (217). “He must increase; I must decrease.”

1. Visited extended family this Christmas? Consider proactively scheduling in time for a date with your spouse. Parents will have free and willing babysitters, and all spouses benefit from a brief time of reconnecting with each other.
2. Advent was a time of waiting, and waiting is hard! Sometimes we wait for something that may never come (restored health, financial security, a child, reconciliation). As Advent showed, what we are really waiting for is Christ, who never disappoints.

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