



# ST. CHRISTOPHER

## CATHOLIC CHURCH



### 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.

GLP

#### WEEKEND MASS

Sunday

8:00 am, 11:00 am,  
5:30 pm

#### WEEKDAY MASS

Monday, Tuesday,  
Thursday, Friday  
9:00 am

#### CONFESSIONS

Saturday

3:00 pm - 4:00pm  
or by appointment

#### ADORATION WITH CONFESSIONS

Third Thursday of  
Every Month at  
7:00 pm

#### LOCAL PARISHES WEEKDAY MASS

ST. MARY, ST. CLAIR  
Mon., Tues., Wed, Fri., 9am  
Thurs., - 6:30 pm

ST. STEPHEN, PORT HURON  
Tues., Wed., Fri., - 8:30am

ST. MARY, PORT HURON  
Wed., Thur., Friday 8:15am  
Tues., - 7pm

ST. EDWARD, LAKEPORT  
Mon., Tues., Wed.,  
& Fri., - 8am, Thur., - 7pm





***Pope Francis' Mission Statement:  
To Become a Band of Joyful Missionary Disciples.  
Archdiocese of Detroit's Mission Statement: To Unleash the Gospel.  
Saint Christopher's Parish Mission Statement: Transform Lives in Jesus Christ Through the  
Power and Freedom of the Gospel.  
Parish Vision Statement: Foster a Personal Encounter with Jesus.***

***Pastor's Ponderings.*** Greetings and the Father's Blessing be upon you, my dear spiritual children. On November 18, 2021, beginning at 7:00 PM (our usual time – third Thursdays of the month), we had a Holy Hour of Eucharistic Adoration and Benediction with Confessions that went a little long due to the number of penitents who needed reconciliation with God, which is a very, very good thing. I am always willing (and pleased) to sit as long as needed for confessions, especially since God told me to do just that very thing when I addressed Him with, “Lord, we have to end soon because of the time – how many more?” as I too noticed how long confessions were requiring. God said, “No, you are right where you need to be; what if I want them to sit with me a little longer.” Then I relaxed and no longer was nervous about many people waiting for me to come out of the confessional. God was doing what God wanted to do.

Nonetheless, a month later, in our Worship Commission meeting, it was brought up that people may not know what to do, unsure if they could leave, and some became restless since the Holy Hour was continuing past the usual end time of 8:00 or 8:10 PM. Hence, the reason for this writing of this simple note to let people know that a person who attends Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament of the Eucharist can come and go as they please. They do not need to stay for the whole time. Ideally, one would want to stay for the blessing (“benediction”) that occurs at the end, with the Host in the monstrance, but one does not have to. From a spiritual and relational perspective, I would say, if confessions go longer, perhaps God wants you to stay there with Him a little longer. But if you need to leave, then feel free to do so. You will not be sinning or breaking any rules or disappointing God; just do so quietly and reverently for the sake of courtesy. May God bless your prayer time with Him.

***Musical Note.*** As of the writing of this bulletin article (December 20) in time for an early publication deadline due to the holiday, we do not yet have any musician scheduled for morning Masses today or January 30<sup>th</sup> (this includes both 8:00 AM and 11:00 AM). Perhaps something will change before we arrive at that day, but if you are reading this in print, then chances are we are going to sing an opening and closing hymn acapella and recite the remaining parts of the Mass. It will be our “quiet” or “reflective” Mass experience. It could be a brand-new experience for many of us, and in the end, if we are surrendering to God's Will, maybe He does have something very special planned for us – who knows? The Spirit blows where it wills, and no one knows from where it comes or where it goes. I just know that we should trust in God in events that are beyond our control. After all, life goes on – forever by the way – and there are much, much worse things than not having musical accompaniment for a Mass or two (or four). Plus, if everyone sings, then this will sound pretty good. The human voice is the preferred instrument for Church worship and “he who sings well, prays twice.”

***Helpful Prayers.*** Several people ask me, “what were those prayers you said during your homily?” When I was speaking about spirits and lies that oppress us, or when we have difficulty forgiving and we are still experiencing hurt from others' offense, there are some simple, yet powerful and strategic prayers we can often pray for healing and self-deliverance, but they will require from us repentance of our own sins and faith, and a willingness to forgive all if the prayers are going to be effective. They are:

- In the Name of Jesus Christ I command \_\_\_\_\_ (depression, doubt, fear, N., N. (or spirit of N., N.) etc.) to depart from me right now and I declare null and void any and all of its/their effects in my life in the Name of the + Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

*(Continued on page 3)*

(Continued from page 2)

- In the Name of Jesus Christ I renounce the lie that \_\_\_\_\_ (I am not worthy, I have no meaning, the fear of disappointing others, I am alone, I'm dirty, the fear of not being loved, the fear of not being forgiven, the fear that ..., N., etc.) and I declare null and void any and all its effects in my life in the Name of the + Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- In the Name of Jesus Christ I forgive \_\_\_\_\_ (name of person) for \_\_\_\_\_ (what they did) and I declare null and void any and all of its/their effects in my life in the Name of the + Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**Catechism of the Catholic Church Preface for this weekend's readings to ponder.** "The *Epiphany* is the manifestation of Jesus as Messiah of Israel, Son of God and Savior of the world. The great feast of Epiphany celebrates the adoration of Jesus by the wise men (*magi*) from the East, together with his baptism in the Jordan and the wedding feast at Cana in Galilee. In the magi, representatives of the neighboring pagan religions, the Gospel sees the first-fruits of the nations, who welcome the good news of salvation through the Incarnation. 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. The Epiphany shows that 'the full number of the nations' now takes its 'place in the family of the patriarchs,' and acquires *Israelitica dignitas* (are made 'worthy of the heritage of Israel')" (*Catechism of the Catholic Church, paragraph 528*).

*Blessed Epiphany!*  
Fr. James



**WEEKLY SCHEDULE**

**Sunday, January 2**  
 8:00 am Mass  
 11:00 am Mass  
 11:00 am Children's Church/Babysitting  
 5:30 pm Mass

**Monday, January 3**  
 9:00 am No Mass

**Tuesday, January 4**  
 9:00 am No Mass

**Wednesday, January 5**  
 10:30 am Small Church Community 3  
 7:00 pm Small Church Community 4

**Thursday, January 6**  
 9:00 am No Mass

**Friday, January 7**  
 6:00 am That Man is You  
 9:00 am No Mass

**Saturday, January 8**  
 9:00 am Protecting God's Children Workshop  
 3:00 pm Confessions

**REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS**

Frank Behn	Nancy Hubbard	Iris Miguel
Colleen Berry	James Jagger	Mike Murphy
Mary Bixler	Linda King	Natalie Lech Parent
Elizabeth Bolton	Sondra Kota	Greg Porrett
Linda Bowman	Donna Landschoot	Chuck Roehl
Marilyn Bromberger	Judy Landschoot	Dorothy Shafran
Christine Cairns	Alan Langolf	Michael Slowski
William Cairns	Barbara Letzgus	Heather Stadler
Mary Deising	Edward Letzgus	Dorothy Vanlerberghe
Denise Gawronski	Kim McConnell	Michael J. Ward
Karen Goodmen	Kalvert	Robert Wawrzyniak
Sharon Goulet	Mark Meier	Sara Wawrzyniak



**Sunday, January 9**  
 8:00 am Mass  
 9:30 am RCIA  
 9:30 am Religious Education  
 11:00 am Mass  
 11:00 am Children's Church/Babysitting  
 5:30 pm Mass



## GROWING WITH THE Gospel

CYCLE C

### COLOR

Read the Gospel of the week and color the image.



Epiphany of the Lord • Matthew 2:1-12

### PUZZLE

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    | — — — — —  |
| wrsophi  | — — — — —  |
| Mrya     | — — — — —  |
| gfsti    | — — — — —  |
| srta     | — — — — —  |

### MISSION

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



- Lectors
- Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion
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- Altar Sacristans

- Musicians
  - Homebound Ministers
- Please contact the Parish Office at (810) 364-4100 if you are interested in joining one of these ministries.



One year ago, in January 2021, I committed to listening to the Bible-in-a-year podcast with Fr. Mike Schmitz. This **daily podcast** walks us through the entire Bible starting with Genesis and ending

with Revelation. Fr. Mike (who also has a very nice voice to listen to) reads the designated chapters of the day, speaks to God through prayer, then gives a brief unpacking of what we just heard/read. Not only are these sessions enlightening and enjoyable to listen to, but they only take about 20 minutes a day. I would re-listen to some at times because there is so much richness packed into these segments.

Here we are one year later in **January 2022** (Happy New Year!) and I'm grateful to say that I have just completed Day 365 of this journey! As with any journey, there were times I got behind (at one point, I was 3+ weeks behind), times that were boring (but I'm glad I pushed through), and fascinating times of cliffhangers and lots of action (worthwhile moments). Yet, at the end of this journey, I feel like I have a deeper sense of peace and hope than I did at the start of this journey.

I found it comforting to know that the Israelites in the Old Testament and later the early Christians in the New Testament encountered trials and challenges just like I do today. I found it hopeful that people in the Bible mess up just like I do. Time and again, the people who repented turned back to God and would do amazing things, but those who stayed in their sinful ways were destined for ruin.

I understand not only the stories in the Bible better, but feel a deeper connection with the people in the stories because I can relate to them. These are my spiritual ancestors - brothers and sisters in the faith.

This journey has given me a more eternal perspective. It has clarified that God's loving voice is the most important for me to hear and has helped me to ignore the voices of media, society and culture that shout for my attention every day.

**2022 begins this week.** Might I encourage you to listen to God's voice throughout this new year?

Might I suggest you steep yourself in God's Word by committing to the Bible in a Year podcast? It is available on the Hallow app (for free) and YouTube (among other places that I'm not aware of). It doesn't matter if you finish it all in 365 days or it takes you three years, it's the journey that counts.



Happy New Year,  
Suzy DeVeney

## UPCOMING QUEST CALENDAR (Grades 9-12):

\***Human Foosball** is Sunday, Jan 9 @ 7-8:30pm in the Social Hall. Invite a friend!

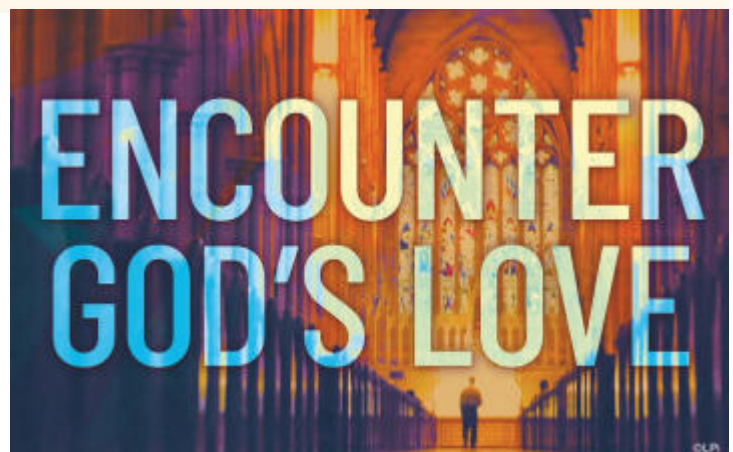
\***Boys/Girls Night** is Sunday, Jan 16 @ 7-8:30pm in the Social Hall. The boys will plan the details of an evening for the girls and the girls will plan the details of an evening for the boys. Sure to be fun!

## Confirmation Prep

\*Confirmation Conversations will be January 2 with Suzy & January 4 with Kristi. Please call the office to verify your date and time.

## \*WE HAVE A DATE!

The new **Confirmation Prep group (current 8<sup>th</sup> graders)** will have their first session (for parents & teens) January 27, 2022 from 6:30-8:30pm in the Social Hall.



## PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR MILITARY

**MK1 EJ Anglebrandt, U.S.C.G.**  
**Major Clayton Cruickshank,**  
**U.S.A.F.**

**Lt. Mark Cruickshank, U.S.A.F.**  
**CPL Nicolas Deland, U.S.**  
**Marines**

**A1C Marshall Eckert, U.S.A.F.**  
**SPC Jordan Garijo, U.S. Army**  
**Pvt. Nathaniel Nelson**  
**Hohf, MI N'tl Grd**

**Sgt Joe Kilbourne, U.S. Army**  
**Cpl Michael Knowles, U.S. Army**  
**Sgt Mario Nowicki, U.S. Army**  
**PO2 David Patchel, U.S. Navy**  
**Capt Chelsea Patino, U.S.A.F.**  
**Capt Taque Patino, U.S.A.F.**  
**CPT Lt Eric Reder, U.S. Army**  
**C4 Jacob Redlawski, U.S.A.F.**  
**LCpl John Russ, U.S. Marines**  
**Sgt Curtis Senyk, U.S. Marines**  
**CPL Randy Washburn,**  
**U.S. Marines**



### Protecting God's Children for Adults

St. Christopher's Social hall  
 Saturday, January 8, 2022  
 8:30 AM (light refreshments)  
 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM session

Attendance is required for anyone who may interact with minors, the elderly, or the handicapped. This free three-hour workshop is mandated through the Archdiocese of Detroit and is for persons 18 years of age and older. This workshop builds awareness and empowers attendees to intervene and prevent potentially harmful situations or behavior. Participants are taught to identify situations that could leave a child, the elderly or the handicapped vulnerable. All participants must register online at [www.virtusonline.org](http://www.virtusonline.org). Be sure to select the Diocese of Detroit and the location that you will be attending: St. Christopher Parish (Marysville) Seating is limited so register now! **The session begins at 9:00 AM, no late arrivals will be admitted.**

*If you do not have online access, please contact the Parish Office at 810-364-4100*

## Join a Small Church Community

Small Church Communities are an opportunity for Catholic adults to come together for faith sharing through proclamation of the Gospel and thoughtful reflection on God's Spirit moving within us through His Word. God does not speak to us only as individuals, but He speaks to us and through us as His Church. If you have never been part of a Small Church Community before, or if it's been awhile since you could be part of one, give yourself a chance to grow in faith with your fellow parishioners here at St. Christopher! This is not a Bible study or a class, this is real people coming together to share the Gospel with each other and be companions with each other on the journey to a deeper faith in Christ by preparing ourselves to receive all of God's blessings before coming to Mass each week. We remind each other that we are Catholics every day, not just on Sunday!

If you want to find out more about Small Church Communities or how to join, please call the parish office or visit the St. Christopher website at [www.stchrismi.org/smallchurchcommunities](http://www.stchrismi.org/smallchurchcommunities). Fill out the form at the bottom of the page, and someone will reach out to you.



EPIPHANY



**WEEKEND LITURGY FOR JANUARY 9, 2022**

DAY / TIME	SUNDAY 8:00 AM	SUNDAY 11:00 AM	SUNDAY 5:30 PM
<b>MASS INTENTIONS</b>	†Janet Borgne by Anne & Steve Arendt †Dr. Jennifer Pavlov Askew by Mike & Linda King †Sam Serra by the family	†Gerald Huber by Mike, Sandy & Matt Spanich †Darold Walker by the Severini Family Jackie Falecki (special intention)	Parishioners and Territorial Souls of St. Christopher's Parish
<b>CELEBRANT</b>	Rev. James F. Arwady	Rev. James F. Arwady	Rev. James F. Arwady
<b>LECTOR</b>	Maggie St. John	Kim Kozlowski	John Gomola
<b>MUSICIAN</b>	Therese Oldani	Therese Oldani	Brandon Byrne
<b>CANTORS/ CHOIR</b>	Mark Privette Cheryl O'Neill	Erin Bockhausen Evelyn Carl Judy Garijo Marilyn Taylor	Marianna Ranshaw Jeremy Ranshaw Heidi Tenyer Greg Kobe
<b>HOSPITALITY MINISTERS</b>	Jacque Schwehofer Selina Schwehofer	Terry & Evelyn Carl	Bruce & Marianne Rinke Paul Urben
<b>EMHC *MASS SACRIS- TAN</b>	Marilynn Pavlov* Sue O'Brien Sarah Voight	Monica Myers Kristin Tunich Irene Huber*	Jill Measel Elizabeth Moore Debbie Gomola*
<b>ALTAR SERVER</b>	Cooper Buset Gavin Stadler Graysen Stadler	Evan O'Connor Jacob Tunich Leah Ureel	Jerry Measel Jack Curley

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for your generosity

**DECEMBER 21, 2021**

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 Envelopes ..... \$ 6,579.00  
 Christmas.....\$ 23,945.00  
 Online .....\$ 190.00  
**Total Collection \$ 31,145.00**  
**Weekly Budget \$ 7,795.00**  
 (amount needed to pay expenses)

**Parishioner Summary**

Registered Families.....705  
 Envelopes Received.....165  
 Contributing Families.....23%



**2021 GOAL \$65,062**

Total Pledges..\$61,625  
**Contributions Received**  
**\$52,766.84**

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**2021 CONTRIBUTION STATEMENT REQUEST**

Thank you for your contributions for 2021! If you would like a statement, please fill out this form and submit it to the parish office.

Please check:  Email  US Postal Mail

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Envelope#: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Request forms can also be dropped in the collection slot.



**Make a Charitable Gift  
from your IRA**

If you are over the age of 70 1/2, you must take a required minimum distribution from your IRA. Normally, the amount of this distribution is taxed as ordinary income. Recently enacted federal legislation allows you to make a direct distribution from your IRA to a qualified charity that will not be subject to income tax and still counts toward filling your required minimum distribution. The Office of Planned Giving encourages you to consider making a donation to your Parish. For more information on how you and the Church can benefit from an IRA charitable rollover, contact your financial advisor or the Office of Planned Giving at 313-883-8771



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