



OUR MOTHER OF PERPETUAL HELP

ROMAN CATHOLIC PARISH

3 JANUARY 2020
FEAST OF THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD



2021 ENVELOPES AND CALENDARS

The 2021 contribution envelopes and calendars are available for pickup at the parish office in Oak Park. You may pick them up between 10am and 1pm on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays. Please wear a mask when you come to pick them up.

Rev. Paul F. Chateau, Pastor
*United in Faith, Love
and Service to Others*

*Oak Park Worship Location,
Rectory, and Parish Office
13500 Oak Park Blvd. • Oak Park, MI
48237*

*Ferndale Worship Location
241 Pearson St. • Ferndale, MI 48220*

Parish Office Phone Number
248.545.2310

Parish Fax 248.545.2312

Parish Email

omophparish@gmail.com

Parish Website

www.omoph.org

Mass Schedule

*Sunday 9:00 am in Oak Park
and 11:00 am in Ferndale*

**MASKS MUST BE WORN
CAPACITY LIMITED
TO 75 PEOPLE**

Please visit our website

www.omoph.org

for COVID 19 Guidelines

Sacraments:

*Baptism, Anointing of the Sick, and
Reconciliation*

Please call the parish office at 248.545.2310
Marriage—Must be active and registered
members of the parish (for at least 6 months
prior to scheduling)

call the parish office at 248.545.2310.

First Communion and Confirmation

Please contact Natalie LaCroix, DRE at
248.374.9045



Saturday, January 2, 2021
Vigil of the Epiphany of the Lord
 Msgr. Joseph V. Pfeffer (1975)

Sunday, January 3, 2021
The Epiphany of the Lord
9 am – Oak Park
 Rhoda Hurley by Cornelius Henderson
 Jim Podzikowski by Family
 In Thanksgiving by Rosa Maria Marquez
 Ronald Pellerito—Anniversary of Death—
 by Mary Beth Western
 Rev. Ferdinand A. Wolber (2009)

11 am – Ferndale
 Michael and Sara Rayis Family by Muneer Rayis
 Thanksgiving for healing of grandson Rhett
 by Ed and Judy Dupke
 Nancy by her children and their families

Monday, January 4, 2021
 Rev. Charles Ulenberg (1973)

Tuesday, January 5, 2021
 Msgr. Joseph V. Pfeffer (1975)

Wednesday, January 6, 2021
 Rev. Ferdinand A. Wolber (2009)

Thursday, January 7, 2021
 Rev. Edward J. Wilk (1999)

Friday, January 8, 2021
 Rev. Ralph E. Kowalski (2009)

Saturday, January 9, 2021
Vigil of the Baptism of the Lord
 Rev. William J. McGoldrick (2011)

Sunday, January 10, 2021
The Baptism of the Lord
9 am – Oak Park
 Rhoda Hurley by Cornelius Henderson
 Jim Podzikowski by Family
 Msgr. Edward J. Baldwin (2016)
11 am – Ferndale
 Michael and Sara Rayis Family by Muneer Rayis
 Allison Schapley by Ed and Judy Dupke
 Ben Evola by his children and their families

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT OUR PRAYER LISTS

The Church calls us to lift our brothers and sisters up in prayer when they are sick or struggling. The Parish continues to receive word about our parishioners who are ill, and we also receive requests about their well-being by others and ask why their names are not published. Since some of the members of our parish request that their names not be published when they are ill it becomes difficult. We strive to respect everyone's privacy along with trying to provide prayer support to all. We hope to list the members of our parish who are currently in need of our prayers, a visit, a note, or a phone call. To add a name to the listing, please contact the person first to make certain they want such information published and then contact the parish office at 248.545.2310. If you wish prayer during a time of illness or difficulty for yourself or for a family member, please contact the office by e-mail at omophparish@gamil.com or by phone at 248.545.2310. Names will be kept on the list for 4 weeks. Contact the parish office, at 248.545.2310, if you wish a name to remain on the prayer list for an additional four weeks.

Prayer REQUESTS

Pray for Our Sick, Their Families and Caregivers, and the Special Intentions of Our Parishioners

Jim Podzikowski, David Doig, Andy Doig, Euna Feschuk, Chuck Yodhes, Marilyn Serapiglia, Bernard Leke

Pray for Our Men and Women Serving in the Military

1st Lt Jacob Ashmore-USAF, Cpt Jonathon Ashmore-USMC, Sgt Cory Berry-US Army, LtCOL Thomas Goedert-USMC, Matthew Pelletier-USAF, Sgt Douglas Raven-US Army, COL David Rogers-US Army, COL Thomas Rogers-US Army, PFC Edy Silveira de Souza-USMC, Staff Sgt. John W. Tomassi-USAF, AB Ashley N. Vozel-USAF, SSG Noah Reiter-US Army, HM2 Maura Curtin—Navy, CPT Matthew Carey-USAF, HN Autumn-Kyoko Cushman--US Navy

UNITED IN FAITH, LOVE AND SERVICE TO OTHERS

OUR MISSION—*Our Mother of Perpetual Help Parish is a welcoming and nurturing Catholic community building up the Body of Christ through prayer and service.*

OUR VISION—*Our vision is to be an extraordinary spiritual gathering place where people of all backgrounds and ages are welcome to question and learn, pray, worship, and serve. In community through prayer and worship, we hope to continue to grow together in our understanding and appreciation of God's love. We strive to change and improve our lives and the lives of others.*

How do you live out our mission and vision?

FEAST OF THE EPIPHANY - AT OUR RISING

God of glory, at its rising, the star drew Magi who traveled to Jerusalem bearing gifts for your Son. At his rising, your Son appeared to his followers, who traveled to distant lands bearing the gift of salvation for everyone. At our rising each day may we, your people, move forward in faith and hope. May we become gifts for each other, gifts that enrich, that guide, heal, console, and uplift so that at our rising from the dead you may receive us into the light of your eternal glory. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 3, 2021 - ONE GOD, ONE PEOPLE

Today's Readings: Isaiah 60:1-6; Psalm 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13; Ephesians 3:2-3a, 5-6; Matthew 2:1-12. When God led his people out of Egypt, they believed in the existence of many gods. In the centuries that followed, they would come to know that there was only one God, the Lord of heaven and earth. The First Reading reveals that not only the Jews but all people come to believe in the Lord alone. People from all across the world bring gifts and sacrifices to Jerusalem to pay homage to the one true God.

The arrival of the Magi in Jerusalem fulfills Isaiah's prophecy. By undertaking the long journey to pay homage to the newborn king, these Gentiles venerate the God of Israel. They reveal that "the Gentiles are coheirs, members of the same body." In Christ, God invites all people to share in his divine life and glory.

The revelation we celebrate today is thus not only about who God is, it is also about the people God empowers us to become. The images in Isaiah's prophecy portray people acting in unity, in harmony, and with a common purpose. They praise God, which means they acknowledge all that God is and embrace all that God stands for: kindness, patience, compassion, truth, mercy, justice. As we pay homage to the newborn king and strive to imitate his selfless love, we become part of this epiphany, part of God's great love, and we help others who are lost in the darkness to find and follow the light.

THIS WEEK AT HOME

MONDAY, JANUARY 4 - STILL SHINING

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, whom we celebrate today, was the first person from the United States to be canonized. She also founded the first Catholic school for girls and the Sisters of Charity. St. Elizabeth found ways to participate in the ministry of Jesus, spread God's kingdom, and keep the light of Christ shining. Learn more about St. Elizabeth. Ask for her intercession as you discern how you can more fully receive and share the light of Christ. *Today's Readings: 1 John 3:22-4:6; Psalm 2:7bc-8, 10-12a; Matthew 4:12-17, 23-25.*

TUESDAY, JANUARY 5 - THIS IS LOVE

God's love is boundless and tireless. God loved us into existence. God incarnated his love in Jesus, who revealed God's love in every aspect of his ministry, from urging love for our enemies to healing and feeding people. Through Christ, God loves us into eternal life. If we have received this love, our lives will overflow with love for others. Share God's love today by volunteering at a soup kitchen or visiting someone who is sick or homebound. *Today's Readings: 1 John 4:7-10; Psalm 72:1-2, 3-4, 7-8; Mark 6:34-44.*

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 6 - PERFECTING LOVE

We're told that "there is no fear in love," and yet the disciples are terrified of Jesus as he strides toward them on the surface of the sea. We love God, and yet we are frightened of his power, his greatness, and even his love. The more we encounter God's love, the more imperfect we feel. Our fears will fade only when we accept God's love, when we welcome that love and remain in it every day, every hour, every moment of our lives. Meditate on a crucifix or other image of God's love. *Today's Readings: 1 John 4:11-18; Psalm 72:1-2, 10, 12-13; Mark 6:45-52.*

THURSDAY, JANUARY 7 - LOOK AROUND

St. John insists that our love for God, whom we do not see, must overflow into love for others, whom we do see. Too often, however, we don't see the people who most need our love. Jesus points them out in today's Gospel passage: they are people in prisons, homeless shelters, treatment centers, orphanages, and nursing homes. They live in the poorest part of town, the places we never see, the places we won't go. Look at a map of where you live. Who are all the "hidden" people in your area? *Today's Readings: 1 John 4:19-5:4; Psalm 72:1-2, 14 and 15bc, 17; Luke 4:14-22a.*

FRIDAY, JANUARY 8 - SHARING IN THE VICTORY

Eternal life flows from God the Father through his Son to the world. The leper who met Jesus experienced this new life. All that he suffered—physical pain, loneliness, hunger, sorrow—was lifted from him at the word and gentle touch of Jesus. What in your life needs to be healed, cleansed, and restored? Pray Psalm 130, and imitate the leper by prostrating yourself before the Lord. *Today's Readings: 1 John 5:5-13; Psalm 147:12-13, 14-15, 19-20; Luke 5:12-16.*

SATURDAY, JANUARY 9 - BELONG TO GOD

As we conclude our reading of the First Letter of John, we are reminded that sin and evil persist in our world. God's Son became human and shares his light and life with us, yet even we who are baptized in his name sometimes fall back into sin. We continue to need his light, his word, his Church. During the Sacrament of Reconciliation, celebrate all the ways God has incarnated his love in your life. Ask forgiveness for those times when you have failed to receive and to share this love. *Today's Readings: 1 John 5:14-21; Psalm 149:1-2, 3-4, 5 and 6a and 9b; John 3:22-30.*



FAITH FORMATION PERSPECTIVES JANUARY 3—FEAST OF THE EPIPHANY— GOLD, FRANKINCENSE, AND MYRRH

Epiphany Sunday's gospel (Mt 2:1-12) presents astrologers from the east going to Jerusalem after the birth of Jesus in Bethlehem. They ask, "Where is the newborn king of the Jews? We observed his star at its rising and have come to pay him homage." Herod, who was the king, heard of this news of a newborn king and was greatly disturbed by it. He called the chief priests and scribes to

find where the messiah was to be born. The chief priests and scribes informed Herod that this birth would be in Bethlehem in Judea. Herod also called on the astrologers and questioned them about the star's appearance they had seen and to report back to him of what they find. The astrologers after their audience with King Herod left Jerusalem and followed the star to a house in Bethlehem and found the child and his mother Mary. They prostrated themselves and did the child homage. They presented to the child gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. The astrologers after a dream did not return to Herod and took another route to their country.

At a former parish I was at I met a woman with a neuromuscular disorder she had from birth. Martha with the help of her parents and teachers was able to complete high school and attend a community college. Martha loved to attend Mass and spend time with her network of friends, neighbors, and fellow parishioners. As Martha grew older her conditioned worsened and she was unable to be employed. She lived with her parents until they died. Martha moved into a low-income subsidized apartment for the disabled and had a caretaker who came in and helped her with her daily life. When asked by anyone what she needed she would reply with please get me all different kinds of greeting cards and postage stamps. With the help of her caretakers Martha would send out cards to her network of friends, neighbors, and parishioners through the year. She would send birthday cards, anniversary cards, thinking of you cards, sympathy cards and always Christmas cards. In each card she sent she would always write a little personal note. Martha did this until she died. Martha recognized Jesus in everyone she met. Her gifts of a card, a personal note and a postage stamp were her gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh in homage to the newborn king.

THE CHALKING OF THE DOOR AND THE BLESSING OF A HOME

A tradition in some Catholic households is the blessing of the home each year and the chalking of the door at Epiphany. The chalking and the blessing takes place either on or immediately after Epiphany Sunday. At the entry door of the home the family would gather and with a stick of calk often blessed at Mass and a member of the household would write over the door a pattern stating the calendar year, crosses representing Christ, the letters; C, M, B, and the traditional names of the magi (Casper, Melchior, and Balthazar). These names of the magi are not found in Matthew's gospel passage (Mt 2:1-12). These three letters can also refer to an abbreviation of the Latin blessing "Christus mansionem benedicat" meaning "May Christ bless this house." For this year it would read "20+C+M+B+21." This blessing of the house calls to mind the feast of the Passover when the Israelites marked their door posts with the blood of a lamb to save their first born from the angel of death as they were preparing to leave Egypt found in the Ex 12:21-27. This blessing shows that this home is Christ-centered and with the presence of God.

The following is also a blessing of a home at Epiphany.

Make the sign of the cross

Leader: Blessed be the name of the Lord.

Resp: Now and for ever.

Read the following gospel account from Lk 19:1-9; the story of Zacchaeus.

Leader: Lord God of heaven and earth,
you revealed your only begotten Son to ever nation
by the guidance of a star.

Bless this house

and all who inhabit it.

Fill them with the light of Christ.

That their concern for others may reflect your love.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Resp. Amen.

(From the Book of Blessings)

By Leonard Piasta, Faith Formation Chairperson



SUPPORT OUR MOTHER OF PERPETUAL HELP PARISH

A BIG THANK YOU to all of those who have continued to support our parish. **Offertory is down and the COVID-19 pandemic continues to have a direct impact on our ability to pay our monthly bills.** Contributions may be mailed to the parish office at 13500 Oak Park Blvd., Oak Park, MI 48237. You may also securely and safely donate online via our website or from the parish mobile app. Call Chuck White, Finance Council Chair, at 734.635.2598, if you have any questions about online giving.

OFFERTORY FOR FY 2020-2021:

	Dec. TD	YTD
Offertory Amount	\$9,264	\$104,748
Over/(Under) Prior Year	(\$3,185)	(\$19,858)
Over/(Under) Budget	(\$736)	(\$15,252)
Week of 12-13-2020	Offertory: \$3,640	
On-line giving totaled \$3,010.00 and drop off, mailed in, and dropped in offertory basket envelopes totaled \$6,254.00 for a grand total for 2 weeks of December deposits is \$9,264.00.		

THE 2020 CSA GOAL FOR THE PARISH IS: \$33,695.00
 AS OF 12-14-2020: 104 PLEDGES RECEIVED;
 95 FULLY PAID
 TOTAL PLEDGED: \$45,280.00
 TOTAL PAID: \$42,113.34
 REFUND DUE PARISH: \$8,418.34

PLEASE CONSIDER MAKING FUTURE DONATIONS TO CSA TO AID OUR STRUGGLING PARISH

The Good News is that we made our 2020 CSA Goal. The bad news is that as a parish we are struggling to recover from the dire financial effects of the pandemic. To give you a snapshot please consider the following information:
 For this fiscal year, parish weekly donations are lower than last year (see above)
 lower than our budget (see above)

The Good News is that now that the CSA goal has been met, 100% of your future CSA donations will fully aid the parish. If you want to help the parish and get the biggest bang for your buck we ask that you consider making all future donations to CSA, instead of weekly or Christmas offertory. Checks must be made payable to the Archdiocese of Detroit – CSA or AOD – CSA.

BE ASSURED THAT THESE DONATIONS WILL BE DEPOSITED IN OUR PARISH SAVINGS ACCOUNT.

If you have questions or would like additional information please contact Chuck White, Finance Council Chair, at 734.635.2598 or Vicki Mazurek, Director of Finance, at 248.545.2310.

FAMILY OF PARISHES

OUR MOTHER OF PERPETUAL HELP PARISH IS PART OF WAVE 1 – JULY 1, 2021

SOUTH OAKLAND VICARIATE FAMILY 5

Our family consists of the following parishes:

Church of the Transfiguration Parish, Southfield
 Visit Transfiguration's website at <https://www.transfigsfld.org/>

Divine Providence Parish, Southfield
 Visit Divine Providence's website at <http://divineprovidencechurch.com/>

Our Lady of La Salette Parish, Berkley
 Visit La Salette's website at <https://www.lasalette-church.org/>

Our Mother of Perpetual Help Parish, Oak Park

THE GOAL—To renew our parishes so they become places where individuals and families encounter Jesus and grow as missionary disciples

THE PLAN—To respond in faith to the challenges we face and to take the necessary steps to better equip our parish communities for mission.

OUR RESOLVE—To advance with unshakable conviction of the truth of the Gospel and a love that compels us to share the good news with those around us.

For more information, frequently asked questions, what Family of Parishes means and how it will impact Our Mother of Perpetual Help please visit

<https://www.aod.org/families-of-parishes>

PRAYER FOR FAMILY OF PARISHES

Father in Heaven, renew your wonders in our time, as though by a new Pentecost.

Holy Spirit, increase your gifts in us to move boldly into Family of Parishes with confidence. Deepen our desire for every person to encounter Jesus anew, grow daily as his disciples and give witness to his love and mercy. This is our mission! And we embrace it anew.

Grant that your Holy Church in Detroit, praying perseveringly and insistently with one mind, together with Mary, the Mother of Jesus, and guided by St. Joseph, St. Anne and Blessed Solanus Casey, may increase the reign of the Divine Savior, the reign of truth and justice, the reign of love and peace.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

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