



# St. Mary Great Mother of God Catholic Church

## We welcome you!

### January 2, 2022

St. Mary  
Great Mother of God  
Catholic Church

402 Amity St.,  
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The Parish Office is open  
Monday-Thursday  
8:00 am to 4:30 pm  
Closed for lunch 12-1pm

Daily Mass: 7:45 am  
No Mass on Tuesdays  
Weekend Masses:  
Saturday 8:30 am  
Saturday 5:00 pm  
Sunday 10:30 am

Adoration:  
Wednesdays  
8:15 a.m. to 6:45 p.m.

**Confession:**  
Wednesdays 5-6p.m.  
Saturdays **3-4:30 p.m.**  
Or by appointment

For other Sacraments  
please call the office



## 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 Lictionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD

## Masses for the week of January 3, 2022


Mon	Jan 3	7:45 am	Mass -for the repose of the soul of Julia Rasch
Tue	Jan 4		<b>No Mass Today</b>
Wed	Jan 5	7:45 am	Mass—for the repose of the soul of Peter Pisciotta
Thur	Jan 6	7:45 am	Mass—for Henry Forbush Jr.
Fri	Jan 7	7:45 am	Mass— for the repose of the soul of Sir David Amess
Sat	Jan 8	8:30am	Mass— for the perseverance of all priests and religious
		5:00pm	Mass— for the repose of the soul of JoAnn Aronne
Sun	Jan 9	10:30 am	Mass— for all parishioners

**“Our God and King has come forth from the temple of the Virgin.”**

**—Saint Peter Chrysologus**

### MINISTRY SCHEDULE FOR WEEKEND OF January 8 & 9

	<u>Saturday 5:00 pm</u>	<u>Sunday 10:30 am</u>
<b>Lectors</b>	<b>Dr. Jim Reagan</b>	<b>Christie Huhn</b>
<b>Ex. Ministers of Holy Communion</b>	<b>Jim Pfaller</b>	<b>Denise Dommer</b>
<b>Green Acres/Homebound</b>	<b>Denise Dommer</b>	
<b>Flower Schedule</b>	<b>Janice O'Neill</b>	




Knights of Columbus Council 7719 invites all members of the parish and their guests to join us for free pizza following the 6:45 p.m. Benediction on Wednesday evenings after Adoration. Pizza will be served in the PLC until 8pm. All are welcome!

Deposit for 12/26, 2021 will appear later  
 Deposit for 12/19/2021

Adult Envelopes:	\$ 5,042.00
Loose collection:	\$ 590.00
Children's:	\$ 0.00
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$ 5,632.00</b>

**Needed for Budget \$5500.00**



**Happy New Year!**


We made it through 2021. What a year it was! As always there were joyous times and sad times, moments of success and moments of failure. In all of them, of course, the Lord has been with us.

As we begin this New Year, let us rest in the confidence that the Lord has been with us and He will be with us. We have no idea what this year will bring. We know it will bring joyous times and sad times, successes and failures, but we don't know the specifics. What we do know, what we can be confident in every day, is that the Lord will be with us whatever this year will bring.


--Fr. Ferris

**Happy Birthday to You!**

1/4	Sydney Munson, Christopher Nelson
1/6	Scott Engerson
1/7	Melissa Gast
1/8	AnaSophia Schmitz
1/9	Dan Brzezinski, Heidi Munson



**Rest in Peace-for our deceased & their loved ones;** All of our fallen heroes and the faithful departed. **Support Prayer for comfort & healing to those who are ill or injured, for the homebound & for caregivers and those in the Military;** All those affected by Covid-19 and natural disasters, Kathy Noskey, Rhonda Fitzpatrick, Susan Serne, Bob Graham, Mary DeLiefde, Lisa Zigmont, Vee Sarb, Bob & Barb Hess, Pat O'Connor, Jim Roskamp, Jeff Bowles, Betsy Davidson, Noah Langlois, Donna Roskamp, Dave & Martha Roskamp, Gertrude Zygaj, Anna Organek, the unemployed, Michigan's economy, and war wounded, justice and peace in the world, and for all priests and religious, and the Holy Catholic Church.



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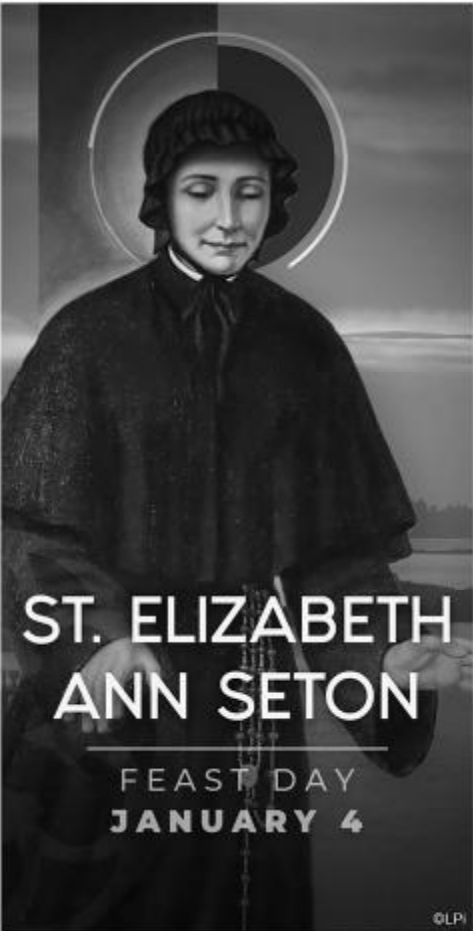
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Thank you to all who participated in the SCRIP program in December. We earned \$210 *at no additional cost to you!* **Our next order weekend is next weekend.** To see all the retailers that participate in the program, go to [Shop-withscrip.com](http://Shop-withscrip.com); at the bottom of the opening page click on "Brand List". In 2021 we earned \$2,085 through this program. God bless you for participating in this fund-raising endeavor for our parish!

**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."



# WORSHIP & MEDITATION



## **First** 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)

*Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001,  
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## 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.

# LITURGICAL LIFE

## RESPONDING *to the Call*

### 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



The Youth Group, led by Jennie Forney, making Christmas cards for our area nursing home residents and homebound.



### 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.).

OF THE LORD



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