

JANUARY 2, 2022

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

SAINT FRANCIS OF ASSISI CATHOLIC CHURCH



MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday Vigil Mass: 5:00 p.m.

Sunday Mass: 10:30 a.m.

Text to Give: (833) 938-2034

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturday: 4:00 p.m. or by appointment.

PARISH STAFF

Pastor: Fr. Rob Adams

Deacon: Dcn. Joe Jacobs

Administrative Assistant: Becky Griffith

Custodian: Lisa Scalf

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Pikeville, Kentucky 41501
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THE EPIPHANY *of the Lord*

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

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



From the Pastor's Desk....

Sunday Offertory

12-19-2021.....\$2,211
 12-26-2021.....**UPDATE LATER**
 Weekly Budget.....\$2,700
 Surplus/Deficit.....\$489

YTD Offertory.....\$64,876
 Budget.....\$67,500
 Surplus/Deficit.....\$2,624

12-19-2021 Building Fund.....\$315

BUILDING FUND UPDATE: We currently owe **\$55,973** on the new church building. Thank you for your continued support of the Church Building Fund.



Isaiah 60:1-6
Ephesians 3:2-3a, 5-6
Matthew 2:1-12

All nations are invited to sing the Lord's praises for they have been called to hear the good news and worship the long awaited Messiah and King with the gift of their lives.

Readings may be found in the Saint Augustine Hymnal Number 928

Hi everyone!

Not too much to announce this week! Just a reminder that Bible Study starts up again this Wednesday. We will also need some volunteers to help take the Christmas decorations down next week after the Sunday Mass.

In the next few weeks, we will have an outreach meeting to debrief about our Christmas giveaway this year and look at our activities in the coming quarter. Please feel free to come and share your ideas!

Fr. Rob

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church is a Eucharistic family of Catholic Christians. Nourished by the sacraments and guided by the Holy Spirit, we proclaim Jesus Christ and the Good News of salvation. Following the spirit of the Gospel, St. Francis parish provides continuous religious education and spiritual growth for all parishioners, varied opportunities for social enrichment, and support for the needs of families in Pike County, our nation and the world.

Mass Schedule & Intentions

Saturday, January 1	Noon Mass 5:00 pm Mass	For the People +Dr. Max Tan
Sunday, January 2	10:30 am Mass	For the People
Monday, January 3	No Mass	
Tuesday, January 4	Noon Mass	+Nanette Schmidt
Wednesday, January 5	Noon Mass	+Nanette Schmidt
Thursday, January 6	Noon Mass	+Covie Joseph Schmidt
Friday, January 7	Mass at Jenkins	
Saturday, January 8	5:00 pm Vigil Mass	+Dr. Max Tax
Sunday, January 9	10:30 am Mass	For the People

Parish Calendar & Announcements

MESSAGE FROM THE DIOCESE OF

LEXINGTON: "Our brothers and sisters in the Diocese of Owensboro could use our help as the western part of the state of Kentucky recovers from Fridays violent storms. The state of Kentucky experienced extreme weather events including a devastating tornado that resulted in a high number of fatalities and destruction in areas served by the Diocese of Owensboro including Mayfield and Bowling Green. A second collection will be taken today and next weekend for Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Owensboro to offer help and services for those displaced or who have immediate needs as a result of the storms. Please be generous to support the emergency needs in our state and pray of those affected especially for the many lives lost.. Thank you for your kind support"

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.

POPE FRANCIS' PRAYER INTENTIONS FOR JANUARY 2022 - Human Fraternity

- May the Lord give us the grace to live in full fellowship with our brothers and sisters of other religions, praying for one another, open to all.

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

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



Deacon Dirck Curry, healing

Sister Kathy Avery

Barbara Kiser

Tim Deskins, cancer

Sandy Lowe, cancer

Jerry and Ann Bilicek

Gloria Wagner (Mother of Linda Justice and Susan Chafin)

Ron Saros

Cindy and Christy Hedinger

Rita Scheuer

Kenny Blackburn

Alpha Carroll, Signature Health Care

Dr. Harry and Helen Altman

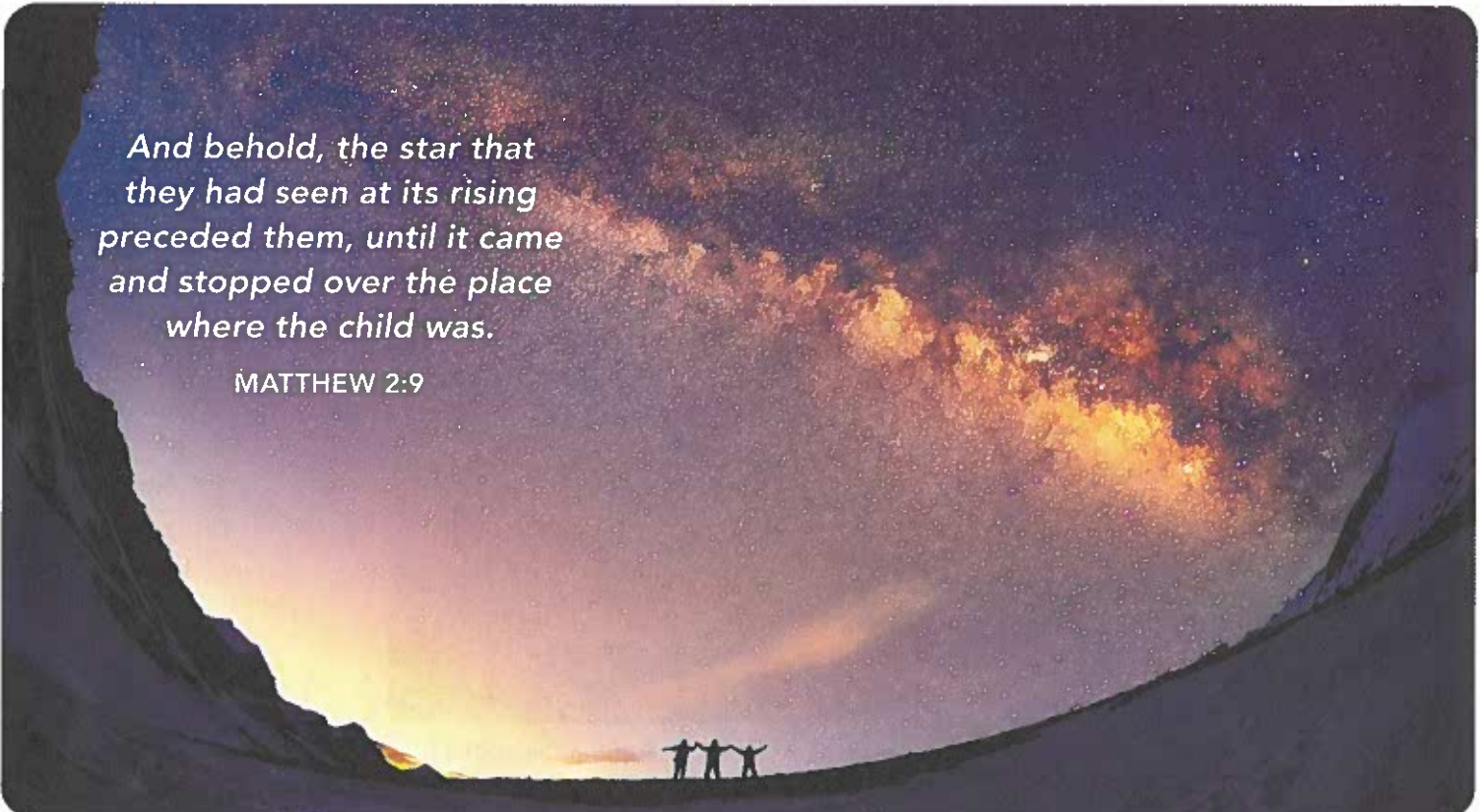
Carol Rashella

Margarita Gomez

Fran Sykes

VOTIVE CANDLES:

Suggested donation: Large votives \$3.00 and small votives \$0.50



And behold, the star that they had seen at its rising preceded them, until it came and stopped over the place where the child was.

MATTHEW 2:9

ANTON JANKOVY / SHUTTERSTOCK

Your Light has Come!

Many traditional religions have in some way ascribed divinity to light—either they claim that light emanates from a god or that light itself is divine. This is probably because light is a primal necessity, essential for life. We find such thinking in today’s readings.

“Your light has come” (Isaiah 60:1) says today’s Old Testament reading. This is Isaiah’s glorious message for the people of Jerusalem. The city had been destroyed; the people scattered; the future looked bleak. This message must have filled the people with hope. Not only does light bring them hope, but the light actually streams from their God. It is the Lord who shines, bestowing his radiance upon them. This light is filled with promise.

The story of the Magi is not meant primarily for children who delight in moving figurines of the three kings a bit closer to the stable every day. This is an adult story about inner darkness and enlightenment. The strangers, ignorant of ancient Israel’s traditions, were able to read the signs of the times. Because of their openness, they found the Light of the World. The learned men of Jerusalem were well-schooled in the ancient promises, for they knew where to send the strangers. However, they felt threatened by these signs. They closed their minds and hearts to any omens that might imperil their positions of privilege. They had a chance to benefit from this new light, but they turned their backs on it.

Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA

FOR *Reflection*

- * *What is your attitude toward new ways of understanding your faith?*
- * *Pray that all people will be open to read the signs of the times.*

Dear Padre,

How is Twelfth Night related to Christmas?

Twelfth Night is another name for the Epiphany, which traditionally occurred on January 6, the twelfth day after Christmas. Since the 1980s, United States Catholics have celebrated the Epiphany on the first Sunday after January 1, which is why we're celebrating it today instead of Thursday.

Liturgical celebrations are distinguished as solemnities, feasts, and memorials according to their importance. The two greatest solemnities, Easter and Christmas, continue for an octave (eight days). Since the octave of Christmas runs from December 25 through January 1 (the solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God), it's not affected by the transfer of the Epiphany celebration.

Christmas is the great gift-giving day in the United States. In other cultures—for example, the Latino community—the anticipation and excitement of gift-giving is saved for Epiphany, the day the Magi brought their gifts to Jesus.

We often complain about how frenzied Christmas is—how much shopping, wrapping, and baking there is to do. But Christmas should be a time of worship and acknowledging the gift God gave us by sending his Son.

Epiphany, on the other hand, is made for celebration, gift-giving, going all out. Perhaps someday we can return to the traditions of Epiphany and restore Christmas as a day of rejoicing and worship.



A woman holds a figurine of the Christ Child during Mass on the feast of the Epiphany.

CNS/DANIEL MARCHAND, REUTERS

The Redemptorists

Sundaybulletin@Liguori.org

A WORD FROM *Pope Francis*

[The Lord] is our light: a light that does not dazzle but accompanies and bestows a unique joy. This light is for everyone, and it calls each one of us....At the beginning of each day we can welcome this invitation: arise, shine, and follow today—among the many shooting stars in the world—the bright star of Jesus!

ANGELUS ON EPIPHANY SUNDAY, JANUARY 6, 2017



Calendar

Monday

JANUARY 3

Christmas Weekday

1 Jn 3:22—4:6

Mt 4:12—17, 23—25

Tuesday

JANUARY 4

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton,

Religious

1 Jn 4:7—10

Mk 6:34—44

Wednesday

JANUARY 5

St. John Neumann,

Bishop

1 Jn 4:11—18

Mk 6:45—52

Thursday

JANUARY 6

Christmas Weekday

1 Jn 4:19—5:4

Lk 4:14—22a

Friday

JANUARY 7

Christmas Weekday

1 Jn 5:5—13

Lk 5:12—16

Saturday

JANUARY 8

Christmas Weekday

1 Jn 5:14—21

Jn 3:22—30

Sunday

JANUARY 9

The Baptism of the Lord

Is 42:1—4, 6—7

or Is 40:1—5, 9—11

Acts 10:34—38

or Ti 2:11—14; 3:4—7

Lk 3:15—16, 21—22