

The Work of the People

The Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord

Today we celebrate the event that the child born in the darkness of night in a lowly manger is revealed as the manifestation (meaning of *epiphany*) of God. Christ is revealed in many ways: as Lord, as King, as the one in whom God is present and acts. All of these manifestations are "lights" that shine on Christ, revealing a deeper understanding of who he is. All the readings for today reveal, in a way, a different manifestation of who Christ is for all who believe. Traditionally, three events in the life of Christ are remembered today as manifestations of God's presence and action through Christ: the visit of the Magi, the wedding feast of Cana, and the baptism of Jesus in the Jordan River.

Isaiah reminds us that the true wealth of the Jewish people lay in its children. No wealth compares: a lavish procession of camels bearing gold or all the riches of the seas cannot come close to the beloved face of one daughter or son. Poor and inferior in many ways, this people is radiant because of God's presence with her.

In St. Paul's letter to the Ephesians we come to understand that Christians who hadn't been born Jewish must have felt an enormous relief to hear this message. They are in no way second-class in the new Christian community. Rather, they are affirmed as co-heirs, members of Christ's body, sharers in the promise.

The story of the Magi following the star to find and worship the newborn King, stopping to ask Herod, then continuing to Bethlehem where, overjoyed, they find the child with his mother is deeply familiar. This story resonates with many not only because people have heard it so often but also because people pursue their own quests with varying degrees of success.

The reflection for this solemnity of the Epiphany is from Richard Gaillardetz who is the Joseph Professor of Catholic Systematic Theology at Boston College.

This liturgical feast has a rich and complicated history. It originated in the East where the feast celebrated the declaration of Jesus' divine identity at his baptism ("You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased"). Some other ancient traditions associated Epiphany with the performance of Jesus' first miracle at the wedding feast at Cana. In the Western Church the Feast of Epiphany celebrates the story we find in today's Gospel, the wise men's adoration of the infant Jesus. What all three of these biblical events share is a public "manifestation" (the Greek meaning of the word "epiphany") and acknowledgement of Jesus' true identity.

The feasts of the Nativity (Christmas) and Epiphany are bound together. Christmas invites our contemplation of the mystery of the Incarnation: God became human in Jesus of Nazareth. With the feast of Epiphany

responses to the Incarnation. Perhaps these epiphanies led the wise men, the witnesses to Jesus' baptism, and the wedding guests at Cana to recognize that they need not escape the world to find God; God had come to them.

If Christmas celebrates the Incarnation, Epiphany calls forth the spiritual habits of recognition. Do we have the spiritual vision to identify the humble and unexpected epiphanies occurring daily in our own lives? Are we as driven as the wise men to seek out the presence of God in the embrace of our spouse or child, in the face of an annoying coworker, in the panhandler on the street corner?

READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF JANUARY 5

Monday: 1 Jn. 3:22; 4:6/Mt. 4:12-17, 23-25

Tuesday: 1 Jn. 4:7-10/Mk. 6:34-44

Wednesday: 1 Jn. 4:11-18/Mk. 6:45-52

Thursday: 1 Jn. 4:19; 5:4/Lk. 4:14-22a

Friday: 1 Jn. 5:5-13/Lk. 5:12-16

Saturday: 1 Jn. 5:14-21/Jn. 3:22-30

Sunday: Is. 42:1-4, 6-7/Acts 10:34-38/Mt. 3:13-17

MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER

Give your spouse the gift of your time and love by signing up for Worldwide Marriage Encounter Feb. 14 - 16, 2020, at the Hampton Inn in Grove City. It's the best gift you'll ever give to each other, your family and your marriage. For more information, call 330 305-9963 or visit www.WWME.org

A FAMILY PERSPECTIVE

Today's gospel tells us "all Jerusalem" was upset because "King Herod was deeply troubled." A similar ripple effect happens in families; one person's negative attitude can affect the whole family. If you want a peaceful and joyful home, it must start with you. Be peaceful and joyful!

CHILD PROTECTION AND CREATING SAFE ENVIRONMENTS January is Human Trafficking Prevention Month

Trafficking of youth is a form of modern slavery. It includes both sex trafficking and forced labor. Any child under age 18 engaged in commercial sex is a victim of sex trafficking, even if the youth's participation is not forced or coerced. Be aware of recruiting tactics. Traffickers target victims through social media sites, telephone chat lines, afterschool programs, at shopping malls, bus depots clubs/bars or through friends and acquaintances. To help protect your child, ask questions about your child's friends, monitor their computer use and know where he/she hangs out.

For more information on protecting our youth from human trafficking or to report suspected trafficking visit: https://www.childwelfare.gov/pubPDFs/trafficking_tds_2019.pdf. Visit <https://www.eriecd.org/childprotection/> to see what the diocese is doing to help maintain safe environments for children and youth.

WORSHIP

Monday, January 6
8:00 am + Daniel Baker (M/M Nelson Allen, Jr.)
Tuesday, January 7
8:00 am + Robert A. Adams (Family)
Wednesday, January 8
8:00 am + NO MASS
Thursday, January 9
8:00 am + John Auer
Friday, January 10
8:00 am + Michael Tomko (Stacy Mott)
Saturday, January 11
4:30 pm + Patrick McCarthy (Maureen Peters)
Sunday, January 12
8:00 am + AT ST. BERNADETTE
Thomas Brunot (Joseph & Alice Johnson)
9:30 am + AT ST. ANTHONY
Living & Deceased Parishioners

PARISH EVENTS CALENDAR

Monday - Wednesday - Friday AT ST. BERNADETTE
(Except Holy Days)
7:00 am - Communion Service
Tuesday, January 7
After Mass - St. Anthony's Novena
Saturday, January 11
3:45 - 4:15 pm - Confessions
Sunday, January 12
Before Mass - Confessions AT ST. BERNADETTE
After Mass - Confessions AT ST. ANTHONY
NOTE: Latin Mass will be the last Sunday of every month
at 12:30 pm

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS

ST. ANTHONY OF PADUA SATURDAY, JANUARY 11 - 4:30 PM

Eucharistic Ministers: Tom Hobson/Judy Hermann/
Kathleen Lipkovich

Lector: Vicki Eckstein

Altar Servers: Robert Moats/Sydney Zilhaver

SUNDAY, JANUARY 12 - 9:30 AM

Eucharistic Ministers: Christine Krzysiak/Harriet McLaren/
Don Marteeny/Barb Milligan

Lector: Kathleen Lipkovich

Altar Servers: Sophia Mott/Andrea Walker

ST. BERNADETTE SUNDAY, JANUARY 12 - 8:00 AM

Eucharistic Ministers: C. Sada/G. Beisler/D. Nowak

Lector: D. Capell/Mrs. Greco (if needed)

Ushers: S. Sada, Jr.

Altar Servers: Greco/Levis

STEWARDSHIP

12/22/19

Offertory	\$528.00
Votives	6.00
Christmas	10.00
Flowers	<u>5.00</u>
TOTAL	\$549.00

*"Jesus, I stand in awe of who you are
and all you have done for me."*

CASH GIVEAWAY AND GAME NIGHT

Saturday, January 25, 2020
St. Anthony of Padua Parish Center
6:00 pm - 10:00 pm
FREE ADMISSION
Bingo, Instant Tickets, Games of Chance,
Food, Beverages
20 chances to win \$1,700 in Cash
from \$25.00 to \$500.00
Tickets are \$5 each or 5 for \$20
Tickets available after Mass in the Gathering Space
or at the door
or by calling 398-4234
Food and Beverages available
Beginning 5:00 pm

THEME BASKETS

Baskets are available for your use in the Gathering Space to provide a 'theme basket' for the upcoming Cash Giveaway and Game Night set for Saturday, January 25, 2020. Creating a basket is easy - just pick a theme, find items that fit your theme and place them in the basket. If you have questions please call Kathleen at 814 282-6700. Theme baskets need to be returned to the Gathering Space BY JANUARY 11, 2020. Thank you in advance!

MARRIAGE MOMENTS

The Epiphany is a feast of outreach and inclusion. The appearance of Jesus to the three wise men from the East reminds us that Jesus came for all humankind, not just the Jewish people. So too, married love is not a gift to be hoarded. Reach out to someone who is sad, in trouble, or from a different culture. Can you do it together?

*"Father, thank you for your love:
first, costly, and free.
Help me to love as you have loved me."*

BINGO - The next scheduled BINGO at St. Anthony's will be Monday, January 6, 2020. Early Bird BINGO starts at 6:00 pm and the regular BINGO starts at 6:30 pm. Doors and kitchen open at 5:00 pm.

UPCOMING EVENTS AT ST. BERNADETTE

Sun. Jan 12 - Holy Name Society Sunday

Sun. Jan. 19 - 10:30 am—Religious Education Class at St. Anthony

STEWARDSHIP

Offertory	\$911.00
Maintenance	482.00
Candles	11.00
Oplatki	3.00
Christmas Rolls	150.00
Rent	498.00
Altar Flowers	35.00
Christmas	1,452.50
Immaculate Conception	5.00
Retirement	15.00
Missionary Co-Op	<u>5.00</u>
TOTAL	\$3,467.50

Catholic Services Appeal
Pledged: \$23,997 Paid: \$23,407

CHURCH NAME: ST. ANTONY OF PADUA

CHURCH NO.:

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS:
