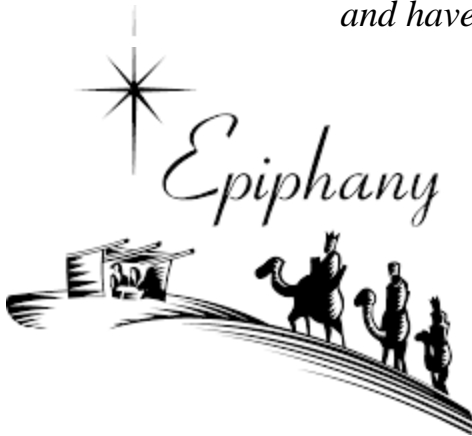


# Epiphany of the Lord– *January 3, 2021*

*"Where is the newborn king of the Jews? We saw his star at its rising  
and have come to do him homage." – Matthew 2:2*



## READINGS FOR THE WEEK

**Sun:** Is 60:1-6/Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6/Mt 2:1-12

**Mon:** Is 42:1-4, 6-7/Mk 1:7-11

**Tue:** 1 Sm 1:9-20/Mk 1:21-28

**Wed:** 1 Sm 3:1-10, 19-20/Mk 1:29-39

**Thu:** 1 Sm 4:1-11/Mk 1:40-45

**Fri:** 1 Sm 8:4-7, 10-22a/Mk 2:1-12

**Sat:** Sm 9:1-4, 17-19; 10:1a/Mk 2:13-17

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## MASSES FOR THE WEEK

|             |            |          |   |
|-------------|------------|----------|---|
| Saturday –  | January 2  | 4:00 PM  | Gary Briglo (Caesar Siedlecki)                        |
| Sunday –    | January 3  | 9:00 AM  | All Souls in Purgatory                                |
| Monday –    | January 4  | 12:00 PM | Christopher Arnone                                    |
| Tuesday –   | January 5  | 12:00 PM | Nicolo Scarfalloto (Angelo & Jackie Scarfalloto)      |
| Wednesday – | January 6  | 12:00 PM | Nicholas Pezak  |
| Thursday –  | January 7  | 12:00 PM | Paul Scanlon  |
| Friday –    | January 8  | 12:00 PM | Edward Benedict Vanisky                               |
| Saturday –  | January 9  | 4:00 PM  | Jean & Luke Farrell (Tom & Kathleen Kurosky & Family) |
| Sunday –    | January 10 | 9:00 AM  | All Souls in Purgatory                                |

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### 1<sup>st</sup> Reading: Isaiah 60:1-6

In this passage, not only have the exiles been returned to Jerusalem, but representatives from nations around the world are recognizing the triumph of Zion. This is very much the same sort of recognition as the Christ child receives from the Gentile world when the Magi visit. Once again, the roots of the new Church are found in the scripture of the older tradition.

### 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading: Ephesians 3:2-3a, 5-6

Paul here refers to the new Church recognizing Gentiles as well as Jews, and points to the prophets foreshadowing it. God's plan is unfolding and Paul wants the Church to understand that the plan isn't new, rather it has always been known by God and by those who spoke his words.

### Gospel Reading: Matthew 2:1-12

The gospel reading is clearly written with the intention of connecting up the Jewish traditions with the Christ event. It also seems to emphasize the importance of the Gentile acknowledgment of the Christ event. Matthew's gospel was no doubt written for (and possibly within) a Jewish-Christian community, so establishing linkage between Jewish prophecy and the larger Roman/Greek world would have been important. But in a larger sense, this story tells about the infant Jesus overcoming great odds with the help of strangers who were originally tasked with betraying him to a jealous King. These strangers, these dignitaries, lauded him instead and knew immediately who he really was.



**MEMBERS OF THE HOLY NAME OF MARY PRAYER CHAIN** are available to pray for you or your loved ones in need of prayer. Please call Maureen Van Nostrand at: 570-278-4590.

### LET US PRAY THIS MONTH:

We remember in prayer those who are ill & pained in body, heart & mind. We pray especially for Betsy Arnold, Richard Arnold, Frank Bayer, Anne Belles, Jerry Blodgett, Ralph Blodgett, Brad Bozzo, Al Breiner, Tanya Calafut, Katie Calvin, JoAnne Catlin, Becky Cole, Odessa Cornell, Wilma Daniels, Jeanne Falk, Larry Ferris, Mary Ferris, Harvey Fletcher, Geraldine Flynn, Brandy Golden, Brenda Hector, Wayne Hibbard, Byron Hilgner, Susan Jennings, Timothy Jones, Rosemary Kelly, Deb Kessler, Bill Kozerski, Ken Landes, Nancy Landes, Sue Landes, Josh Landis, Barry Markow, Walter Miller, Alexis Mock, Luis Muloski, Jamie Myers, Mike Rayias, Kimberley Richey, Luke Richey, Bob Roccia, Ann Paolucci, Debbie Rossi, Rob Rossi, Jack Rozanski, Lennas Russell, Dorothy Sergeant, Caesar Siedlecki, Edith Siedlecki, Kathleen Sitkowski, Delores Slatter, Jerry Stahl, Florence Trowbridge, Ruth Vandermark, Jesse Wells, and Rosemarie Whalen.



**LET US PRAY FOR THOSE WHO PROUDLY SERVE IN THE MILITARY:** Floyd Beamer, Thomas Butler, Daniel Daly, Christopher Jordan, James Kane, Mark Nowalk, Michael Pelicci, Nate Seymour, Julie Snyder, Aaron Taylor, Nancy Travis, and Travis Walter.

### PARISH FINANCES

**12/27/2020**

|                      |    |           |
|----------------------|----|-----------|
| (FY18/19 Budget)     | \$ | (4867.00) |
| Christmas Collection | \$ | 7448.77   |
| Sunday Collection    | \$ | 2,204.10  |

*Thank you for your generosity & support*



**Please remember that during these difficult times, Holy Name of Mary is relying on your continued support to meet our financial obligations. Thank you!!**

## CLERGY *Support*

**"At the Villa we have the comforts of home, and the spiritual comfort of being close to God in our beautiful chapel. I can say Mass, and sit with the Lord anytime... I am very grateful to people who give to the Appeal."**

FATHER JOSEPH HORANZY, RETIRED



For the past decade Father Horanzy drove from Villa St. Joseph Home for Retired Priests, Dunmore, to parishes in Pleasant Mount and Forest City offering Mass daily. Before retirement, he served Diocesan parishes in Friendsville, Avoca, Dunmore and Wilkes-Barre. Said Father regarding the Appeal, "I asked my parishioners to give what they could, that any amount is appreciated. We always made our goal...I remind people today to hope and do your best."

Retired priests continue to be a vital part of our Diocese. Before the COVID pandemic they assisted by offering Mass and administering the sacraments. From the most senior to the newly ordained, our priests selflessly serve us. We now ask you to support them through the Diocesan Annual Appeal.

Diocese of Scranton  
**2020 DIOCESAN ANNUAL APPEAL**  
BOUND TOGETHER IN *Hope*  
To make a gift visit [AnnualAppeal.org](http://AnnualAppeal.org)

### 2020 ANNUAL APPEAL UPDATE

Our Parish goal: **\$16,000**. Percentage of Goal pledged as of 12/30/2020 is 88%.

**PLEASE NOTE THAT THE ANNUAL APPEAL VIDEO IS NOW AVAILABLE FOR VIEWING ON THE HOLY NAME OF MARY WEBSITE:**  
**[www.holynameofmary.com](http://www.holynameofmary.com)**

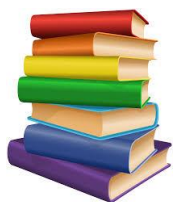


**ALTAR SERVERS NOT NEEDED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE**

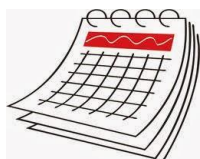
**Would you like to become an Altar Server?** If so, please contact Pam Tometchko at 570-278-0497 or speak to Fr. Philip directly.

## **PARISH EVENTS**

**Reservations are no longer needed  
for Masses at this time.**

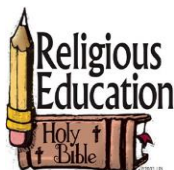


**All of the books in the  
back of the church are  
free for you to take. Add  
some faith-based read-  
ing to your day!**



**2021 Calendars are  
available in the back  
of the church for you  
to take.**

## **RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS**



Thank you to all the families who signed up for the Edmodo on-line classroom for Religious Education. We have successfully begun our program and we hope that your children are enjoying the on-line platform.

New materials for the program will be distributed in January. You will be contacted with details. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Fran Calafut at (570) 396-5879.

***Wishing you all a happy and  
Blessed New Year!***

## **Virtual Grief Support Group**

Winter and the post-holiday season can be difficult times to navigate grief, particularly during an ongoing period of social distancing. Please consider joining the virtual grief support group offered by Cathedral of Saint Peter Parish in Scranton. Anyone is welcome; you do not have to be a member of the parish to participate.

The group will convene online, Wednesday evenings 6:30 to 7:30. The dates of the virtual meetings will be January 6, 13, 20 and 27. For more information please contact Deacon Ed Shoener at 570-814-5133 or the parish office at 570-344-7231.

## **New Year's Prayer**

As the dawn breaks on a new year, let us give thanks for all we hold dear: our health, our family and our friends.

Let us release our grudges, our anger and our pains, for these are nothing but binding chains. Let us live each day in the most loving ways, the God-conscious way. Let us serve all who are in need, regardless of race, color or creed.

Let us keep God of our own understanding in our hearts and to chant God's name each day. Let us lead the world from darkness to light, from falsehood to truth and from wrong to right.

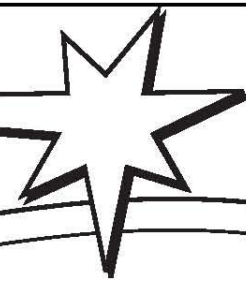
Let us remember that we are all one, embracing all, discriminating against none.

May your year be filled with peace, prosperity and love. May God's blessings shower upon you and bestow upon each of you a bright, healthy and peaceful new year.

*- Rev. Marcy Sheremetta*



# Partners in FAITH™



Helping our children grow in their Catholic faith.

January 2021

Holy Name of Mary Church

Fran Calafut, DRE



## Thoughtful Moments

### Pope Emeritus on joy

"The Holy Spirit gives us joy. And he is joy. Joy is the gift in which all the other gifts are included. It is the expression of happiness, of being in harmony with ourselves, that which can only come from being in harmony with God and with his creation." (Pope Benedict XVI)

### Kindness

In today's world, sharing kindness can make a difference. Remember how good it felt the last time someone showed you an unexpected favor? Look for ways to be kind, even when it's unexpected. It can be something simple, like holding the door for the person behind you or offering prayers for those who need them.

*"Have no anxiety about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which passes all understanding, will keep your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus"* (Philippians 4:6-7).



## Five family New Year resolutions

New Year's resolutions can be useful ways to improve family life. When reflecting on the past year, improvements or goals may suggest themselves. It's important to set realistic, measurable, and reasonable resolutions the entire family can embrace. Consider these ideas:

**Increase family time.** Even when we work from home, it can be difficult to find regular time to be together. Resolve to add family time to your week. Vary the activities, but not the company. Pick a convenient schedule – Friday, after dinner, for example – write it on the calendar, and don't let anything interfere.

**Get more sleep.** Getting enough sleep is critical for health, happiness, and

peace. Set a mandatory lights-out time for the entire family – parents, too.

**Exercise together.** The best way to teach healthy habits is to model them. Make more time for family bike rides, walks around your neighborhood, hikes in nature.

**Unplug.** Resolve to put down all devices at mealtime and during family time. Many schools are using computers to deliver instruction. Workplaces have become virtual.

Taking a break from screens to hold in-person conversations during the day can be a refreshing break.

**Worry less.** Resolve to avoid worrying about what may or may not happen. Add prayer, Eucharistic Adoration, Scripture reading, daily Mass to your family time to teach children to rely on God.



## Why Do Catholics Do That?

### Why do we praise God?

When the disciples asked Jesus how to pray, he began with "hallowed be thy name." But God doesn't need our praise; he knows he is perfect. We praise God because he loves us and

because he is good. In fact, when we realize the gratitude and praise that we owe God, we want to give him what he is due. *"It is good to give thanks to the Lord, to sing praises to thy name, O Most High"* (Psalm 92:1).





## Support children through difficult times

As the pandemic continues throughout the country, it can be challenging to reassure children that all is well. Try these tips to calm fears and manage stress.

**Keep routines in place.** Even if you're at home all day, sticking to a regular schedule is key. Try to make sure youngsters have some structure, like getting up, eating and going to bed around the same time every day. I have children dressed, breakfasted, and ready for class at the usual hour. Youngsters benefit from knowing what to expect and when.

**Add variety.** In the evenings, play a board game, put together a puzzle, bake desserts, take turns reading a new

book aloud.

**Share your confidence in God's care.** During family prayer, teach children to commit concerns to God. Together, read Bible stories that demonstrate how others have relied on God's care.

Joseph's confidence that God would deliver him from evil, Abraham's faith that God would give him and Sarah a son, the Israelites' reliance on God to deliver them from slavery.



### Scripture LESSON

#### Mark 1:21-28, More than just a teacher

In this Gospel reading, we read that Jesus entered the synagogue at Capernaum with his apostles to teach. Most teachers would draw from the writings of other scholars for authority, and would begin, "Thus says the Lord..." but Jesus said, "I tell you..." As God, he already knew what the Scriptures meant without leaning on someone else's teaching.

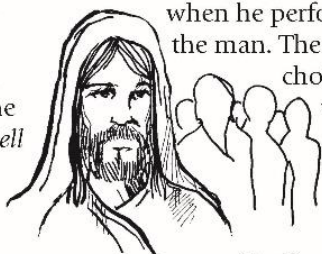
Jesus taught as one who had the authority of God and that astonished his listeners. Even the unclean spirits who were torturing a man at the synagogue recognized Jesus as "the

Holy One of Israel." Clearly, this was no ordinary teacher!

Jesus showed his authority again when he performed an exorcism on the man. The unclean spirits had no choice but to obey him when he commanded them to depart, despite their reluctance.

**What can a parent do?** Jesus shows us that

God's power and love are greater than any evil. Teach children that they can talk to Jesus about anything that happens, good or bad. At the same time, stress that Jesus is God and deserves to be worshipped and obeyed.



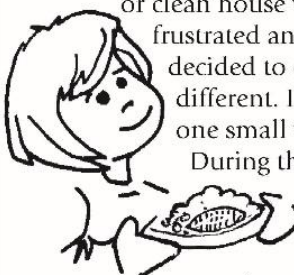
### Parent TALK

I stopped making New Year's resolutions a few years ago. I had trouble remembering to exercise daily or clean house weekly. Finally, frustrated and dissatisfied, I decided to do something different. I resolved to find one small way to serve.

During the pandemic, the Knights of Columbus have

continued to put notices in the parish bulletin asking for donations for their soup kitchen, and volunteers to cook meals. My husband and I decided to help out, and make it a family affair.

Now, once a month on a Wednesday afternoon, my daughters and I spend a few hours cooking and boxing up meals for our hungry neighbors. My youngest daughter, mask in place, plays "hostess" and welcomes people. Her older sister hands out Styrofoam containers with meals. It is a small contribution, but for the people we serve, it is an act of love. Finally, a resolution I can keep!



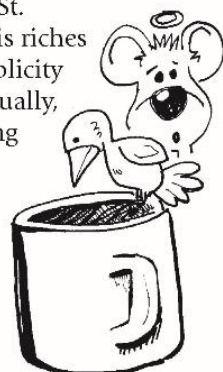
### Feasts & Celebrations

**Jan. 3 – Epiphany of Our Lord (1st Century).** Epiphany is Greek for manifestation. When they honored the infant Jesus with gold, frankincense and myrrh, the three wise men bore witness to the fulfillment of God's promise of a savior.

**Jan. 10 – Baptism of the Lord (1st Century).** Jesus began his public ministry by getting baptized by St. John the Baptist. Jesus was free of sin, but he allowed himself to be baptized in order to "fulfill all righteousness" (Matthew 3:15). By his baptism, Jesus declared his willingness to fulfill God's

saving plan. It is also at this time when God revealed Jesus as his "beloved Son" (Matthew 3:17).

**Jan. 17 – St. Anthony of Egypt (356).** Born to a rich family around 250 A.D. in Egypt, St. Anthony gave up his riches to live a life of simplicity in the desert. Eventually, other monks seeking the same lifestyle followed him into the desert and he founded a community of hermits. He is the founder of monasticism.



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