

January 7, 2024: Epiphany of the Lord

Background on the Gospel Reading

The visit of the Magi occurs directly before the story of the Holy Family's flight into Egypt. Matthew's Gospel tells a version of Jesus' birth that is different than the one in Luke. Of the actual birth of Jesus, Matthew tells us little more than, "When Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, in the days of King Herod . . ." The story of the census is found only in Luke's Gospel, but we hear about the visit of the Magi only in Matthew's Gospel.

We know little about the Magi. They come from the East and journey to Bethlehem, following an astrological sign, so we believe them to be astrologers. We assume that there were three Magi based upon the naming of their three gifts. The Gospel does not say how many Magi paid homage to Jesus. In Matthew's Gospel, they represent the Gentiles' search for a savior. Because the Magi represent the entire world, they also represent our search for Jesus.

We have come to consider the gifts they bring as a foreshadowing of Jesus' role in salvation. We believe the meaning of the gifts to be Christological. Gold is presented as representative of Jesus' kingship. Frankincense is a symbol of his divinity because priests burned the substance in the Temple. Myrrh, which was used to prepare the dead for burial, is offered in anticipation of Jesus' death.

The word Epiphany means "manifestation" or "showing forth." Historically several moments in Christ's early life and ministry have been celebrated as "epiphanies," including his birth in Bethlehem, the visit of the Magi, his baptism by John, and his first miracle at Cana.

www.loyolapress.com

January 7, 2024
Epiphany of the Lord

Sacred Heart Parish

A Stewardship Parish in Union with Christ

Parish Information

Pastor: **Fr. Lee Lainey**

Office Administrator: **Roseann Janes**

Office Hours: **Monday to Friday 9:00 am - 1:00 pm**

465 Curling Street
Corner Brook, NL, A2H 3K8
Tel: (709) 785-5025
curlingparish@hotmail.com

e-transfers:
sacredheartrcparish@hotmail.com
Password "Church"
Note: include your envelope #
www.sacredheartrcparish.ca

Diocesan website: rcchurch.com



Weekend Masses:

Saturday 4:30 p.m., Sunday 11 a.m.

Weekday Mass:

NEW HOURS:

10a.m. - Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday*.

Daily mass is cancelled any day schools are closed due to bad weather.

*Lohnes Complex

First Friday of each month - 2 pm at the Lohnes Complex.

***Note: No mass at the church on this day.**

Bible Study:

Thursday January 11 at 7pm.

Holy Hour of Adoration:

Postponed until further notice.

Reconciliation:

By request.

Marriages:

Six months' notice required. A year's notice is recommended.

Baptisms:

Please call the Parish Office to schedule preparation session.

Family Connections:

At www.rcchurch.com you will find a link to family connections.

St. Vincent de Paul:

To assist those in need. Call 709-638-9010.

RECEIVED WITH THANKS

December 30/31, 2023 & January 1, 2024

Regular Sunday	1625.00
Loose Offering	70.00
Parish Dues	560.00
Envelope Cost	145.00
Building Fund	85.00
New Years Day	813.75
Christmas	30.00
Advent Folders	20.00
Votive Candles	57.00
Sunday Missals	7.00
Mass Stipends	40.00

MASS INTENTIONS

Tues. 10am	Parish Community
Wed. 10am	Parish Community
Thrus. 10am	Late Mary and Joe Gallant
Fri. 10am	Parish Community
Sat. 4:30pm	Late Nora Wray Late Betty Bruce
Sun. 11am	Parish Community

LITURGICAL MINISTERS

January 13	
Reader	Eucharistic Minister
Art Hall	Don Gallant
January 14	
Reader	Eucharistic Minister
Mike Leonard	Brian Sparkes
Communion to the sick – John Carroll	

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING RESCHEDULED:

Tuesday January 9 meeting is rescheduled for Tuesday January 16th at 6pm at Sacred Heart Parish Church Meeting Room.

BIBLE STUDY: The next bible study will be held on Thursday January 11, 2024 at 7pm.

WEEKDAY MASS: Starting **Tuesday January 9th, 2024** weekday mass will be at 10a.m. each morning and held in the Meeting Room. The weekend masses will remain the same.

SACRED HEART BINGO: Bingo will start again on the last Sunday of each month and the next one is on January 28, 2024. Doors will open at 1pm and bingo will start at 2pm. Names beginning A to J can continue to donate cash or merchandise towards the bingo.

LADIES GROUP MEETING: The next ladies group meeting will be held on Wednesday, January 17, 2024 at 1:30pm. Please bring a friend and join us for some fun.

DONATED IN MEMORY: Thank you to the Griffin family for donating our new wireless microphone in memory of Thomas(Sr.), Annie & Brian Griffin and George Hynes.

Dear Parish:

I regret to inform you that Sr. Carmelita MacNeil, pbvm, died on December 23rd. Sr. Carmelita ministered in a number of our parishes, most recently in Pasadena and Deer Lake. She retired to St. John's as a result of ailing health. Please join me in praying for the repose of her soul, her family, her Presentation Sister Community and for the many people whose lives she impacted with her joy-filled ministry.

*Fraternally in Christ,
Bishop Bart van Roijen*

THE SEARCH: This is an innovative video series that tackles the key questions of every human heart. In seven beautifully filmed episodes, experts from multiple fields of science, medicine, psychology, art, and religion examine our place in the larger story of existence.

Whether you're a practiced inquirer or a skeptic, THE SEARCH will speak to you. You may be reassured by some parts, and challenged by others. Either way, you'll find a lot here to think about. Life's questions demand to be answered. We will have fellowship and small group discussions each week in addition to the video series.

The SEARCH is from the Augustine Institute that serves the formation of Catholics intellectually, spiritually, and pastorally to renew the Church and transform the world for Christ.

This will be held for 7 Wednesday evenings from 7pm – 8:15pm, Starting January 24th - March 13th (Ash Wednesday excluded) at Sacred Heart Parish Church.

This is FREE and open to All Adults.

For registration and information please contact the parish office by email (curlingparish@hotmail.com) or telephone during office hours at 709-785-5025.

CHURCH ENVELOPES: Please pick up your 2024 donation envelopes that are located at the back of the church. New members requiring envelopes can call the office during regular hours or fill out the address form at the back of the church, and add that you would like envelopes.

PARISH OUTREACH: This committee is offering to bring communions and provide a pastoral visit to those who wish to have this ongoing contact. To anyone needing a pastoral visit or communion to the sick please call the parish office at 709-785-5025 and you will be directed to a committee member.

Reflection

The Star of Bethlehem

Gordon Wilson's daughter was killed by a bomb in Enniskillen on Remembrance Day 1987. Instead of calling for revenge, he forgave her killers and began a campaign for peace and reconciliation.

He said:

'I am a very ordinary sort of man. I have few personal ambitions and no political aspirations. I just want to live and let live.

Life has been kind to me in the main, and I have tried to live by the Good Book.

I do not profess to be a good man, but I aim to be.

I would like to leave the world a better place than I found it, but I have no exaggerated ideas of my ability to do so.

I have hitched my wagon to a star, a star of hope, the star of Bethlehem.'

Flor McCarthy, New Sunday and Holy Day Liturgies – Year B, Dominican Publications, Dublin (Ireland), 1999, p.59