



MUSIC FOR THE LITURGY

Sunday, January 6, 2019
The Epiphany Of The Lord

4:00 PM
8:00 AM

Gathering: As With Gladness Men Of Old BB 109
Responsorial Psalm (Psalm 98)

*All the ends of the earth have seen
the power of God. (2x)*

Preparation: What Child Is This BB 105
Mass Parts: Mass of Christ the Savior
Communion: It Came Upon A Midnight Clear BB 87
Bread For The World BB 344
Recessional: The First Nowell BB 110

10:00 AM

Gathering: Canticle Of The Sun BB 425
Dismissal: You Have Called Us BB 644
Responsorial Psalm (Psalm 98)

*All the ends of the earth have seen
the power of God. (2x)*

Preparation: Beyond The Moon And Stars BB 46
Away In A Manger BB 94
Mass Parts: Mass of Joy and Peace
Communion: God's Holy Gifts BB 343
The Supper Of The Lord BB 351
Recessional: All The Ends Of The Earth BB 549



Find us on:
facebook®

St. Luke the Evangelist is now on Facebook! Go to www.facebook.com/stlukenh.org/ or St. Luke the Evangelist Parish – Newton/Plaistow and give us a Like! Please invite fellow parishioners and friends to do the same.

✠ PARISH TITHING ✠

Our Parish needs to take in \$7,000.00 each week in order to make ends meet. Thank you for your generosity to our parish! Your weekly contribution helps ensure that the parish remains a vibrant community. Please remember to submit your weekly gift even if you will be away. We depend upon your support!

**COLLECTION AMOUNTS FOR
DECEMBER 23, 25, 30, 2018 and
JANUARY 1, 6, 2019
WILL APPEAR IN THE JANUARY 13 BULLETIN**

PARISH GIVING

Saint Luke the Evangelist Parish has engaged *Parish Giving* to provide parishioners with an opportunity to make your offertory and other contributions through Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT). Parish Giving is a simple, secure, and convenient way to manage your stewardship without weekly envelopes and without worries. It allows you to select contribution amounts and special collections right from your own computer or smart phone. You can be a good steward for the Parish even when you are away from the area on a weekend. Parish Giving allows you to print out a report detailing your contributions for the year. This program is available to parishioners at no cost. Log on to the St. Luke the Evangelist Parish website at <http://stlukenh.org>, click on the Parish Giving logo, and follow the easy registration instructions.

UPCOMING SECOND & SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

January 6, 2019 Property Management
January 13, 2019 Seminarian Fund
January 20, 2019 Fuel

Out of respect, please remember to
silence or turn off
your cell phones during Mass.
Thank you!



Suggested Weekly Contribution Based on Income

Annual Income	5% Commitment annually/weekly	3% Commitment annually/weekly
\$100,000	\$5,000/\$100	\$3,000/\$60
\$75,000	\$3,750/\$75	\$2,250/\$45
\$60,000	\$3,000/\$60	\$1,800/\$36
\$50,000	\$2,500/\$50	\$1,500/\$30
\$40,000	\$2,000/\$40	\$1,200/\$24
\$30,000	\$1,500/\$30	\$900/\$18
\$25,000	\$1,250/\$25	\$750/\$15
\$15,000	\$750/\$15	\$450/\$9

Suggested Weekly Contribution Based on a Percentage Increase

Your Current Offertory Contribution	25% Increase	30% Increase	40% Increase
\$75.00	\$93.75	\$97.50	\$105.00
\$50.00	\$62.50	\$65.00	\$70.00
\$40.00	\$50.00	\$52.00	\$56.00
\$35.00	\$43.75	\$45.50	\$49.00
\$30.00	\$37.50	\$39.00	\$42.00
\$25.00	\$31.25	\$32.50	\$35.00
\$20.00	\$25.00	\$26.00	\$28.00
\$15.00	\$18.75	\$19.50	\$21.00
\$10.00	\$12.50	\$13.00	\$14.00
\$5.00	\$6.25	\$6.50	\$7.00

✠ PARISH NEWS ✠

PAINT THE TOWN!

THE CAPITAL CAMPAIGN FOR SAINT LUKE THE EVANGELIST PARISH

Our Parish community continues with our Capital Campaign. Our next projects include exterior painting for the church and Parish house in Newton. We'd also like to paint the interior sanctuary of the church in Newton and complete some electrical upgrades to the church.

Other possible projects include work on our Plaistow and Newton parking lots, and ramp access to the church in Plaistow.

Can you help?

Any contribution is welcome. Make checks payable to
Saint Luke the Evangelist – Capital Campaign.

TAI CHI

Tai Chi is the ancient Chinese martial art that is used for meditation, exercise, balance, and mind and body wellness. St. Luke the Evangelist Parish is offering this form of graceful, slow movement to help parishioners to gain strength, to improve their balance, flexibility, and range-of-motion, and to relieve stress. Classes are taught by members of the Oriental Healing Arts Association – a Senior Friendly and Senior Safe Tai Chi Program with the purpose of bringing Tai Chi to all age groups. Classes are on **Mondays at 9:00 AM** and **Thursdays at 3:00 PM and 6:30 PM** in the Plaistow Church Hall. The cost is \$5.00 per class, and for seniors on a fixed income, the cost is \$3.00 per class.

FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTION STATEMENT

If you would like an "end of year" financial statement of your contributions to the parish for 2018, please call the Parish Office at 382-8324. **Financial Statements are issued on a request only basis.**

ST. LUKE'S WEBSITE! <http://stlukenh.org>

From the Pastor's Desk

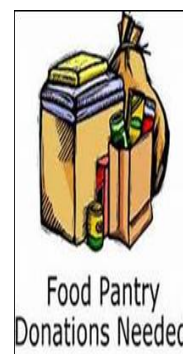


HOLY ANGELS CEMETERY CLOSING

Holy Angels Cemetery in Plaistow is now closed until Spring 2019. This decision comes as result of the real dangers of snow and ice in the Cemetery and the costs to Parishioners to inter during the winter months. Please contact the Parish Office with any questions.

ST. LUKE THE EVANGELIST FOOD PANTRY

Food or care items are always needed – donations can be dropped off at Church or are welcome at the Parish Office during regular business hours. Cash donations for food are always welcome – make checks payable to **St. Luke the Evangelist Food Pantry**. All donations to the Food Pantry go toward helping the needy of our communities.



FOOD PANTRY HOURS

Wednesday from 10:00 AM to 12:00 Noon

Thursday from 6:00 PM to 7:00 PM

Friday from 10:00 AM to 12:00 Noon

For more information, call the St. Luke Food Pantry at **603-819-4949**.

WHILE AWAY THIS WINTER...

We appreciate all of you who remember to send in your Parish Offertory during the Winter even when on vacation or visiting other parishes. Thank you for remembering that our expenses also continue through the Winter months. We invite others to consider doing the same before or even after you return home.

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

✠ WEEKLY CALENDAR ✠

Sunday, January 6
10:00 AM Religious Ed – PreK to 8 *Plaistow*
11:00 AM Baptism Catechesis *Plaistow*
12:00 PM Clothing Drive *Plaistow*
6:00 PM Vespers *Newton*

Monday, January 7
7:00 PM Knights of Columbus *Plaistow*

Wednesday, January 9
HOLY ANGELS CHURCH OPEN
ALL DAY FOR PRAYER

Thursday, January 10
8:30 AM Adoration Begins *Newton*
9:00 AM Intercessory Prayer *Plaistow*
8:30 PM Adoration Ends *Newton*

Saturday, January 12
3:00 PM Sacrament of Reconciliation *Plaistow*

Sunday, January 13
10:00 AM Religious Ed – PreK to 8 *Plaistow*
11:00 AM Grade 2 Reconciliation Retreat
 and First Reconciliation
 (Parents and Students) *Plaistow*
6:00 PM Vespers *Newton*

PRAYER LINE

St. Luke's offers a prayer line as a resource for those seeking prayer assistance. To submit your prayer request please call Cathy Smith at 603-382-8324, ext. 314 or email her at csmith@stluketheevangelist.net.

**St. Vincent
de Paul
Society**



Thank You!

Thank you, dear parishioners!!! Our Annual Bake Sale was "sweetly" successful and the Walk for the Poor went above and beyond our highest expectations with the funds raised. Your continued support, including your "Dropped Dollars," helps us with our mission to keep giving a "hand up" to the poor and forgotten in our community. Keep it up - we're counting on you! Thank you for stopping by our table at the Craft Fair for some yummy fudge and handmade items.

Our next meeting on **Wednesday, January 16 at 7:00 PM**. We meet downstairs in the Church Hall in Plaistow. **New members are always welcome!**

If you seek assistance or need information about the St. Vincent de Paul Society, call 603-382-8324 x315.

**Hear, OH LORD, and answer me
for I am poor and needy.**

✠ MASS INTENTIONS ✠

Saturday, January 5 ~ Vigil / Epiphany of the Lord

Is 60:1-6; Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6; Mt 2:1-12

4:00 PM John Hofbauer by Ann Marie & Joseph Sheehan
Plaistow

Sunday, January 6 ~ The Epiphany of the Lord

Is 60:1-6; Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6; Mt 2:1-12

8:00 AM Deb Caron by Jim and Mary Ann Downs
Newton

10:00 AM Bill Lueders (15th Anniversary)
by his wife, Carole
Plaistow

Monday, January 7 ~ Raymond of Peñafort, Priest

1 Jn 3:22—4:6; Mk 4:12-17, 23-25

8:00 AM Intentions of Paul Fournier by Dan & Jean Lloyd
Newton

Tuesday, January 8 ~ Christmas Weekday

1 Jn 4:7-10; Mk 6:34-44

8:00 AM Martin & Florence Fogel and Frank Kelcourse
by Elaine Kelcourse
Plaistow

Wednesday, January 9 ~ Christmas Weekday

1 Jn 4:11-18; Mk 6:45-52

6:30 PM Dottie Haas by Joe and Ann Marie Sheehan
Plaistow

Thursday, January 10 ~ Christmas Weekday

1 Jn 4:19—5:4; Lk 4:14-22

8:00 AM Noah and Nathan Shoemaker (27th Anniversary)
by their family
Newton

Friday, January 11 ~ Christmas Weekday

1 Jn 5:5-13; Lk 5:12-16

No Mass

Saturday, January 12 ~ Christmas Weekday

1 Jn 5:14-21; Jn 3:22-30 (Day)

Is 40:1-5, 9-11; Ti 2:11-14, 3:4-7; Lk 3:15-16, 21-22 (Vigil)

4:00 PM Mary Safka (Birthday Remembrance)
by Joe and Ann Marie Sheehan
Plaistow

Sunday, January 13 ~ The Baptism of the Lord

Is 40:1-5, 9-11; Ti 2:11-14, 3:4-7; Lk 3:15-16, 21-22

8:00 AM Betty Shea by Jim and Mary Anne Downs
Newton

10:00 AM Paul O'Leary by Mark and Colleen Hammond
Plaistow



The Sanctuary Candle in
Holy Angels Church
will burn this week
in loving memory of
Paul O'Leary
by Colleen and Mark Hammond

✠ FAITH FORMATION & PARISH INFORMATION ✠

CATECHUMEN

Please continue to pray for our Catechumen,
Brent MacKenzie.

RCIA

The **Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults** is the process by which people become members of the Roman Catholic Church. If you or someone you know is interested in inquiring about becoming a member of the Roman Catholic Church, call Cathy Smith at 603-382-8324, ext. 305 or email her at csmith@stluketheevangelist.net.

ADULT CONFIRMATION

Are you an adult who has been Baptized and received Eucharist, but has not celebrated the sacrament of Confirmation? The adult Confirmation process is an opportunity to complete the Sacraments of Initiation. If you would like to prepare for Confirmation, or if you have questions, call Cathy Smith at 603-382-8324, ext. 305 or email her at csmith@stluketheevangelist.net.

PARENTS BAPTISM PREPARATION SESSION

The monthly preparation session for infant Baptism will be held after the 10:00 AM Liturgy on **Sunday, January 6, 2019** in the Parish Office living room. All parents planning to celebrate the Sacrament of Baptism are welcome.

Families wishing to celebrate Baptism in the Church must be registered (according to Church Canon Law) and practicing (attending Sunday Mass) for 3 full months before a Baptism can be scheduled. The use of the envelope system is always optional; however, it does guarantee a manner of accountability. For most families, the Pastor or staff can easily verify attendance during these three months. Church Canon Law also regulates baptismal sponsors (godparents). Sponsors must be at least 16, fully initiated (having received Baptism, Eucharist, and Confirmation), and be practicing Catholics living Christian lives consistent with the Church's teaching.

Please see Fr. Albert with questions.

PILGRIMAGE TO ST. JOSEPH ORATORY

JESUS aCROSS the Border will be joining with various Catholic young adult groups throughout New England and beyond for its 3rd Annual Montreal Pilgrimage.

They will be visiting Saint Joseph's Oratory of Mount Royal, as well as many other beautiful places throughout the city, including: Holy Sacrament Shrine (the first Adoration Shrine in North America), Notre Dame Basilica, and Old Montreal.

There will be time for Mass, Confession, communal prayers, and fellowship through a Lord's Day dinner, and plenty of free time!

\$125 cost includes: 2-night stay at Airbnb; Driver/Car Wear and Tear Reimbursement, Saturday Breakfast, Saturday Dinner (Lord's Day Dinner – cooked family style), Sunday Breakfast, and ticket for tour of St. Joseph Oratory.

There are ONLY 35 spots available! For more information, email info@JESUSaCROSStheBorder.org.

ADORATION

We are truly blessed to have times for Adoration of Our Lord in our Parish. This time of prayer and intercession is not only a source of great grace for the individual, but it is a great source of grace for us as a parish family, as well.

We have many who have made the commitment to spend an hour each week with our Eucharistic Lord, **but** we need more people so there will be at least two people at each hour. We are also looking for people who would be able to substitute.

**Newton – Thursday
8:30 AM – 8:30 PM**

If you can commit to one hour a week in Adoration of our Lord, or if you can be a substitute, please contact Cathy Smith at 603-382-8324, ext. 305 or email her at csmith@stluketheevangelist.net.

The Church in Plaistow is open all day on Wednesdays for people to stop by and pray before the presence of Jesus in the tabernacle.

✠ PARISH DIRECTORY ✠

Parish Office	382-8324
Parish Prayer Line	382-8324 x 314
St. Vincent de Paul Society	382-8324 x 315
St. Luke's Food Pantry	819-4949
Preschool	382-9783
Presentation of Mary Convent	382-2744

Fr. Albert Tremblay	fr.albert@stluketheevangelist.net
Cathy Smith	csmith@stluketheevangelist.net
Joyce Szapa	jszczapa@stluketheevangelist.net
Jackie Tremblay	jtremblay@stluketheevangelist.net
Thomas Kondel	tkondel@stluketheevangelist.net
Val Barczak	mvmbarczak@comcast.net
Youth Ministry	youth@stluketheevangelist.net
Parish Council	parishcouncil@stluketheevangelist.net

✠ Parish News ~ Youth News ~ Around The Diocese ✠

CAMPS FATIMA AND BERNADETTE

Camp Fatima for boys and Camp Bernadette for girls are now accepting registrations for the 2019 summer season. The camps, located in the Lakes Region on NH, offer 2-week overnight sessions for children aged 6-15. To request a brochure and DVD, contact Michael Drumm at 603-364-5851 or mdrumm@bfcamp.com. Please don't wait as sessions fill up quickly!

CHRISTIAN SPIRITUALITY COURSE

Take your first course in *Christian Spirituality* with Fr. Ray Dlugos, OSA, Ph.D. beginning **Tuesday, January 22 from 6:30 to 9:30 PM**. This course could be your First Step in a Masters and/or a Certificate in Spirituality or Spiritual Direction. Merrimack College is conveniently located in the Merrimack Valley for those on the north shore of Boston and for those in Southern New Hampshire. An Information Session will be held on **Saturday, January 19 at 12:00 Noon**. For more information, contact Jennifer Greenwood at 978-837-5219.

WINTER WEATHER CLOSINGS

Saint Luke the Evangelist Parish Office, Holy Angels Cemetery Office, Saint Luke Food Pantry and the Parish Liturgical schedule complies with the long-standing inclement weather policy of Saint Luke Religious Education Program and Holy Angels Pre-School-Kindergarten: **If the Timberlane and/or Sanborn regional school districts close because of inclement weather, ALL Parish Offices and Parish programs will be closed or suspended. All activities by any Parish or non-Parish groups will be cancelled for that day/evening on both campuses.**

In the event of a weather related closing, the scheduled weekday Liturgy will not be held and the intention (if any) will be moved to a conveniently available date. During winter time storms and the clean up associated with major snowfall, access to the campuses in Newton and Plaistow will be restricted. Public notification of the closure will be accomplished through the Office of Religious Education and the Holy Angels Pre-School-Kindergarten as in the past; Parishioners need only to look for indications of Timberlane or Sanborn school districts closure to assume that Saint Luke the Evangelist Parish is also closed.

The Parish Office and Liturgical schedule will typically be observed as usual even if school districts post a delay in their opening times.

In the event of winter events on a weekend, the Pastor, Facilities Director and Religious Education Coordinator will continue to work together to determine whether or not to cancel class meetings, Parish events or outside group activities. Sunday (or Saturday evening) liturgies can never be cancelled, but all are advised to use prudence when deciding to travel to Church during winter storms.

CLOTHING DRIVE

Kimberly's 13th Annual Holiday Give Away!

It's time again to clean your closets and start fresh!!! We all have clothes taking up space in our homes while there are people on the streets who are cold. Because of this, Kimberly Andrade is holding her 13th Annual Clothing/Coat/Canned Food Drive at **St. Luke the Evangelist Parish** in Plaistow, NH from **12:00 to 4:00 PM on January 5 and 6, 2019**. Items that will be collected include, but are not limited to: winter jackets, new and used clothing from any season and any decade, non-perishable food items, business clothing, blankets, sheets, hats, gloves, and unused socks and underwear (*preferably in their packages*). **All clothing must be cleaned prior to donation.** Clothing received will be donated to organizations such as Ruth's House, Emmaus House, and Catie's Closet. Non-perishable food items will be brought to St. Luke's Food Pantry. If there are any questions, or individuals interested in volunteering, please contact Kimberly at kimberly-andrade@comcast.net. Thank you so much for your generosity!

ST. ANDREW DINNERS

St. Andrew was the first of the Apostles to hear Jesus' call to follow him. We would like to invite men in our diocese who are considering a vocation to the priesthood or would simply like some help hearing the Lord's call for their life, to an evening of prayer, conversation with the Vocations Team, and dinner. These evenings will take place for different age groups on Fridays from 6:00 to 8:00 PM at the Joseph House (279 Cartier Street) in Manchester, NH.

February 8: High School, Age 14-18

February 15: Young Men, Age 19-24

February 22: Older Men, Age 25+

Please RSVP to Becky Vinson at vinson@rcbm.org or 663-0153 if you would like to attend.

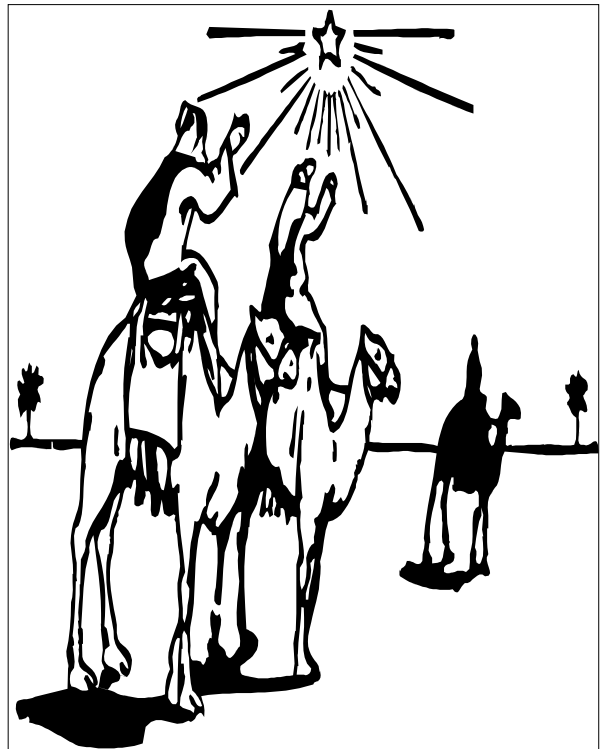
**BRIDGES OF MERCY FOR
HEALING AFTER ABORTION**

Maria, Vanessa, Li, Jennifer, and Darryl are among the tens of millions of Americans whose lives have been directly touched by abortion. Like so many others, they have experienced regret, guilt, and grief. But, as they have also experienced, God's healing love and mercy are always possible. Many Catholics want to help women and men who have experienced abortion, but some don't know how to begin. Visit usccb.org/bridges-of-mercy to learn how people from various walks of life can assist friends, family members, fellow parishioners, clients, or perhaps even themselves. Also, be aware that the U.S. Church's Project Rachel Ministry for healing after abortion offers confidential, compassionate help. Visit HopeAfterAbortion.org.

The Epiphany Proclamation, traditionally read on the Solemnity of the Epiphany, is proclaimed to announce the most important dates in the Church calendar. It is proclaimed today to announce the living Christ revealed to us in the Liturgy of the Church.

Brothers and sisters, the glory of the Lord has shone upon us, and shall ever be manifest among us, until the day of his return. Through the rhythms of times and seasons, let us celebrate the mysteries of salvation.

Let us recall together the year's culmination, the Easter Triduum of the Lord: his last supper, his crucifixion, his burial, and his rising to be celebrated between the evening of the 18th and the evening of the 21st of April.



Each Easter - as on each Sunday, the Holy Church makes present the great and saving deed by which Christ has forever conquered sin and death.

From Easter are reckoned all the days we keep holy:

Ash Wednesday, the beginning of holy Lent, will occur on the 6th day of March. The Ascension of the Lord will be commemorated in the Churches of the Boston Metropolitan on the 30th of May. Pentecost, the joyful conclusion of the Great season of Easter, will be celebrated on the 9th of June; and this year the First Sunday of Advent will be on the 1st of December.

Likewise the pilgrim Church proclaims the Passover of Christ in the feasts of the holy Mother of God, in the feasts of the Apostles and Saints; our patron Luke on October 18, and in the commemoration of the faithful departed.

To Jesus Christ, who was, who is, and who is to come, the Lord of time and history, be endless praise, forever and ever. AMEN.

What are...

Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist

*Bishop Thomas J. Tobin
Diocese of Youngstown in Ohio*

THEOLOGICAL/HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE

In 1971 extraordinary ministers of the Eucharist were first permitted in the United States. At that time the Congregation of the Sacraments responded to a request of the American bishops to allow laypersons to assist priests in giving Holy Communion.

In January 1973, Pope Paul VI, in the instruction “*Immensae Caritatis*,” extended this permission to the universal Church. He wrote: “Present-day conditions demand that greater access to Holy Communion should be made possible so that the faithful, by sharing more fully in the fruits of the sacrifice of the Mass, might dedicate themselves more readily and effectively to God and to the good of the Church. First of all, provision must be made lest reception become impossible or difficult owing to a lack of a sufficient number of ministers.”

The institution of this ministry responds to the condition in the Church today whereby Catholics are encouraged to share in communion at every Eucharist in which they participate, and under both species, and the large number of persons who are coming forward to partake of the body and blood of Christ.

In any parish, qualified persons who have been nominated for service as extraordinary ministers of the Eucharist must receive mandate from the Diocesan bishop. The pastor forwards the names of the persons to the bishop asking that they be named for service as extraordinary ministers. This requirement distinguishes the extraordinary minister of the Eucharist from other liturgical ministers and emphasizes the extraordinary nature of this ministry.

Extraordinary ministers are commissioned to function within their own parish for a period of three years. The commission expires after three years or if the person moves away from his or her parish. The commission is

renewable by again requesting the endorsement from the bishop. Commissioning should take place during a parish celebration according to the rite provided in the Book of Blessings. The commission may be revoked by the pastor if the individual no longer fulfills the requirements for this ministry established below.

RESPONSIBILITY/PURPOSE

“Extraordinary ministers may distribute Holy Communion at Eucharistic celebrations only when there are no ordained ministers present or when those ordained ministers present at a liturgical celebration are truly unable to distribute Holy Communion. They may also exercise this function at Eucharistic celebrations where there are particularly large numbers of the faithful and which would be excessively prolonged because of an insufficient number of ordained ministers to distribute Holy Communion.” (Instruction on Certain Questions Regarding the Collaboration of the Non-Ordained Faithful in the Sacred Ministry of Priests)

Extraordinary ministers are also used in order that the sick or homebound may receive communion with the frequency recommended in the revised rite for the *Pastoral Care of the Sick*. Any person who regularly takes communion to the sick is to be trained and commissioned. An individual may be commissioned for only this aspect of the ministry or may perform this service within the Eucharistic assembly. To establish the connection between the Sunday assembly and the homebound and sick of the parish, extraordinary ministers ideally are sent from the Sunday celebration of the Eucharist to take communion to them.

SELECTION/DISCERNMENT

Extraordinary ministers are to be fully initiated Catholics (having received Baptism, Eucharist & Confirmation, be at least 16 years of age, and lead lives in harmony with the undertaking of this ministry including participating in the sacramental life of the Church. If married, a Minister must have been married validly in the Catholic Church. The Pastor, Parish staff, and Pastoral Council assist in discerning parishioners to fulfill this ministry.



Where is the newborn King of the Jews?
We observed his star at its rising

EPIPHANY HOUSE BLESSING

20 + C + M + B + 18

It is an ancient custom for Christians to bless their homes on Epiphany each year. With chalk, they put an inscription on the inside lintel above the front door. The series of numbers, letters and crosses changes only slightly from year to year. For example, at the start of the year 2018, the line will read as follows: 20+C+M+B+18.

Because Epiphany comes so near the beginning of the New Year, the numbers represent an annual renewal of God's blessing.

The letters have two meanings. They are the initials of the traditional names of the magi: Caspar, Melchior and Balthasar. They also abbreviate the Latin words "*Christus mansionem benedicat.*" "*May Christ bless the house.*" The letters recall the day on which the inscription is made, as well as the purpose of blessing.

The crosses represent Christ, whom we invoke, and the saintliness of the magi. The inscription is made above the front door, so that all who enter and depart this year may enjoy God's blessing. The month of January still bears the name of the Roman god Janus, the doorkeeper of heaven, and patron of the beginning and end of things. This blessing adds a Christian dimension to the traditional observance of the first month. The inscription is made of chalk, a product of clay, which recalls the human nature taken by God's eternal word in this holy season.

If you want to bless your home this Epiphany, read the opening verses of John's Gospel, pray the Lord's Prayer, then write the inscription for this year above your front door with chalk.

Head of Household: Let us praise God, who fills our hearts and homes with peace. Blessed be God for ever and ever.

All: Amen.

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke. *Luke 19:1-9*

Jesus came to Jericho and intended to pass through the town. Now a man there named Zacchaeus, who was a chief tax collector and also a wealthy man, was seeking to see who Jesus was; but he could not see him because of the crowd, for he was short in height. So he ran ahead and climbed a sycamore tree in order to see Jesus, who was about to pass that way. When he reached the place, Jesus looked up and said to him, "Zacchaeus, come down quickly, for today I must stay at your house." And he came down quickly and received him with joy. When they all saw this, they began to grumble, saying, "Jesus has gone to stay at the house of a sinner." But Zacchaeus stood there and said to the Lord, "Behold, half of my possessions, Lord, I shall give to the poor, and if I have extorted anything from anyone I shall repay it four times over." And Jesus said to him, "Today salvation has come to this house because this man too is a descendant of Abraham.

The word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Head of Household: Lord God of heaven and earth, you revealed your only-begotten Son to every nation by the guidance of a star. Bless this house and all who live here. Fill us with the light of Christ. that our concern for others may reflect the light of your love. We pray through Christ our Lord. *All:* Amen.

Head of Household: May Christ Jesus dwell with us, keep us from all harm, and make us one in mind and heart, now and for ever.

All: Amen.

Blessed 2018 to all!

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD



A Light for All Nations

God of light,
on the first day of creation
you filled the world with your light;
you created humans in your image
and likeness
and gave them this place of light for
their home.
But they chose darkness, so you
sent prophets
with the promise of a great Light.
You gave us your Son, the Light
of the World,
a Light so radiant that all nations
would be drawn to him for all ages,
bringing gifts and offering praise.
May we always walk by his light
and never lose sight of him.
May we bring him the best we have,
a total offering of ourselves,
as Jesus offered himself completely for us.
We pray through his Most Holy Name.
Amen.

Sunday, January 6, 2019
A Revelation to the Gentiles



Today's Readings: Isaiah 60:1–6; Psalm 72:1–2, 7–8, 10–11, 12–13; Ephesians 3:2–3a, 5–6; Matthew 2:1–12. The message of Christ's birth comes first to poor Jewish shepherds in the nearby countryside. They find Jesus just as the angel had said and return home praising and glorifying the Lord. Later, mysterious Magi from distant lands, following a star, come to see the newborn king to do him homage and give him precious gifts.

This pattern of revelation—first to the Jews and then to the Gentiles—is repeated during Jesus' lifetime and the early days of the Church. During his ministry, Jesus says, "I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel" (Matthew 15:24); but he heals others who have great faith. After his Resurrection, he tells the Apostles to "make dis-

ciples of all nations" (Matthew 28:19a); but at first much of their time is spent preaching the Gospel to Jews. When Paul, a persecutor of Christians, meets Jesus on the road to Damascus, he becomes a zealous Apostle. Jesus calms the fears of a disciple who is afraid of Paul by reassuring him that Paul "is a chosen instrument of mine to carry my name before Gentiles, kings, and Israelites" (Acts 9:15). With the tireless travels and preaching of Paul, and the eventual acceptance of the Gentiles by the other Apostles, the Church is established in communities far from Jerusalem.

The visit of the Magi foreshadows the spread of Christianity to the entire world. The birth of Jesus is indeed "good news of great joy that will be for all the people" (Luke 2:10).



THIS WEEK AT HOME

Monday, January 7 The Kingdom of God

After forty days in the desert, Jesus begins his public ministry, announcing “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.” He will preach tirelessly the kingdom of heaven, speaking in parables—stories with everyday people and familiar events for us to ponder. What is the kingdom? Where is it? When is it? If we listen carefully to the parables, we may begin to penetrate this mystery. *Today’s Readings: 1 John 3:22—4:6; Psalm 2: 7bc–8, 10–12a; Matthew 4:12–17, 23–25.*

Tuesday, January 8 Jesus Feeds Us

Jesus first teaches the five thousand and then feeds them. He calls them “sheep without a shepherd,” and his heart is moved with pity. Luke uses similar words to describe the Good Samaritan’s response to the injured man of the parable. When one’s heart is moved with pity, compassionate acts follow. Jesus shows us compassion every time we attend Mass: first he gives us the Word, and then he feeds us with his Body and Blood. What more could we want? *Today’s Readings: 1 John 4:7–10; Psalm 72:1–2, 3–4, 7–8; Mark 6:34–44.*

Wednesday, January 9 The Cry of the Poor

John continues his treatise on love: “If God so loved us, we also must love one another.” For the people of Israel, love must be shown especially to the poor. Psalm 72 speaks of the king: “He rescues the poor when they cry out, / the oppressed who have no one to help. / He shows pity to the needy and the poor / and saves the lives of the poor.” Do we look for these same traits in our leaders? In ourselves? How can we show concern for the poor during these cold days of winter? *Today’s Readings: 1 John 4:11–18; Psalm 72:1–2, 10, 12–13; Mark 6:45–52.*

Thursday, January 10 God’s Purpose

After forty days of prayer and fasting, Jesus visits his hometown synagogue in Nazareth, reads from the scroll, and declares that he is the fulfillment of the prophetic passage. He then travels to other towns to “proclaim the good news of the kingdom of God, because for this purpose I have been sent” (Luke 5:43). Some of us may remain in our hometown, but some need to leave to fulfill God’s purpose. Prayer is essential so we can know God’s will and what we must do to accomplish it. *Today’s Readings: 1 John 4:19—5:4; Psalm 72:1–2, 14 and 15bc, 17; Luke 4:14–22a.*

Friday, January 11 Thy Will Be Done

Luke’s Gospel account highlights the posture of a leper asking Jesus for a cure: “he fell prostrate.” To fall is to lose control; to be prostrate is to make oneself little before another who is great. In this gesture, the leper shows both his complete dependence on Jesus and his complete faith in his ability to heal. The leper adds the words “if you wish”; Jesus responds, “I do will it.” In our prayer, do we humble ourselves before God, trusting that his will is what is best for us? *Today’s Readings: 1 John 5:5–13; Psalm 147:12–13, 14–15, 19–20; Luke 5:12–16.*

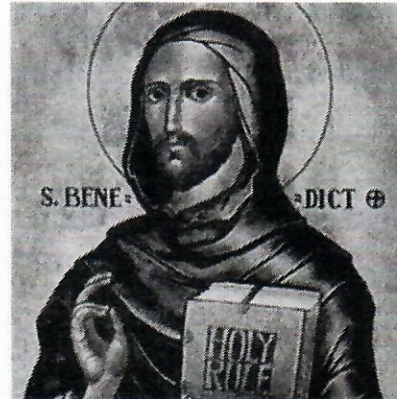
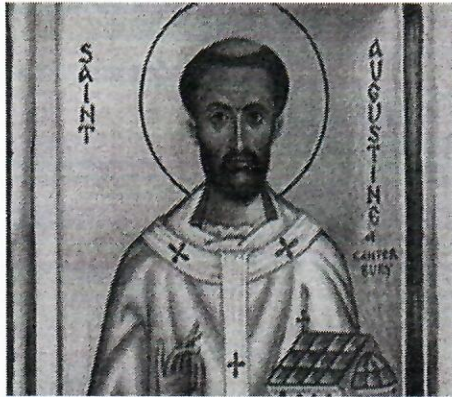
Saturday, January 12 I Must Decrease

The world would have us believe that increasing our wealth and fame will lead to happiness. Yet here is John the Baptist, whose call has been to prepare the way for the Savior, saying, “he must increase; I must decrease” once Jesus comes on the scene. As we age, retire from work, and lose our health, our active life decreases. If we have raised children, our interaction with them decreases when they leave home and make their own home. May we be gracious like John the Baptist, strong in prayer and desiring only that Christ increase. *Today’s Readings: 1 John 5:14–21; Psalm 149:1–2, 3–4, 5–6a and 9b; John 3:22–30.*



ADULT FAITH FORMATION

CATHOLICISM: THE PIVOTAL PLAYERS SAINT AUGUSTINE & SAINT BENEDICT



Join us for two weeks as Bishop Barron traces the lives and contributions of Saint Augustine and Saint Benedict; two pivotal saints. Bishop Barron states that “Saint Augustine, the teacher, is possibly the best example of how faith in Christ changed a person.”

The Bishop further states, “that many would argue that Saint Benedict, the Monk, contributed more to saving western Christian culture than anyone else. Benedict founded the religious community that would, in time, preserve the best of the old and allow for the emergence of an authentic, Christian way of life.”

The first film on Saint Augustine with discussion following will be shown on Wednesday, January 16, at 7 p.m., and on Thursday, January 17, at 1:30 p.m., in the Church hall.

The second film on Saint Benedict with discussion following will be shown on Wednesday, January 23, at 7 p.m., and on Thursday, January 24, at 1:30 p.m., in the Church hall.

If you are interested in attending one or both of these films, please contact Cathy Smith at 382-8324, Ext. 305 or csmith@stluketheevangelist.net

The Gospel for All Ages

Family Catechesis

Gathering Ritual

Nativity of the Lord—Christmas • December 25, 2018 • Jesus is Born!

The Epiphany of the Lord • January 6, 2019 • Foreign Kings Come to See Jesus

Christmas Readings: Isaiah 9:1–6; Titus 2:11–14; Luke 2:1–14

Epiphany Readings: Isaiah 60:1–6; Ephesians 3:2–3a, 5–6; Matthew 2:1–12

🎵 **Play and Sing:** “Night of Silence/Silent Night” from the *Venture/Visions Music CD*, CD-1, #8, Lyrics are available to download and print at gospelweeklies.com/lyrics.

Leader: We begin in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Holy God, you have called us to be holy as you are. Help us to follow the light Jesus shines in our lives and live out our journey to you in peace and love.

All: Let us walk in your light.

First Reading: Daniel, 7:13–14

Reader: A reading from the Prophet Isaiah. (Isaiah 60:1–6) *Nations shall walk by your light, and kings by your shining radiance. The wealth of nations shall be brought to you. Caravans of camels shall fill you, dromedaries from Midian and Ephah; all from Sheba shall come, bringing gold and frankincense and proclaiming the praises of God.*

Gospel Reading

Leader: Let us prepare to listen to the Gospel. Loving God, open our ears to hear your call.

All: Open our eyes to see the Spirit in our lives.

Leader: Open our hearts to live the Gospel.

All: Open our hands to reach out to others like Jesus.

Reader: A reading from the holy Gospel, according to Matthew (2:1–12). *Use the Gospel in reader parts from Venture or Visions.*

Gospel Reflection

This Sunday’s readings picture people from all nations seeking out Jesus and show us that God sends Jesus for all people. In the First Reading, people from countries to the south, such as Midian and Sheba, travel to the Temple in Jerusalem to worship God. In the Responsorial Psalm, people come from the south and west to Jerusalem. In the Gospel, the Magi come from the east to seek Jesus in Bethlehem.

Who comes to our gathering from the south? Please stand. Who comes from the north? Please stand. From the east? Stand. From the west? Stand. Today, we celebrate how people came from all over the world, from every direction to believe in Jesus and walk in his light.

Like the Magi, we are all searchers and explorers. Like the Magi, we are searching for God in our lives. In our sessions, we will explore ways we are searching for God in our lives and the signs that may guide us along the way. *At this time, dismiss the children to their classes. Make sure that the catechists know the time to return to the large group for the concluding prayer and dismissal.*

Closing Prayer

Leader: We are gathered in Jesus’ name. We come to praise him.

All: Come, let us adore him.

Leader: When Jesus was born, visitors from far away came to worship him.

All: Come, let us adore him.

Leader: People all over the world believe in Jesus.

All: Come, let us adore him.

Leader: Like the shepherds and the Magi, we are invited to come to Jesus.

All: Come, let us adore him.

Leader: Our whole parish and Christians from all countries join together on this Epiphany of the Lord. We thank you, Jesus, for coming to be with us.

All: Come, let us adore him.

🎵 **Play and Sing:** “Christmas Star” from the *Venture/Visions Music CD*, CD-1, #9.

GospelWeeklies
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Bringing Home the Word +

The Epiphany of the Lord
January 6, 2019

Our Undeserved Inheritance

By Janel Esker

Several years ago, our family's longtime neighbor died. She had no children. My mom had helped her in her later years, so we weren't surprised when she received some money from the estate. What was shocking was that a check arrived at my house as well. I hadn't done anything to deserve this money. I had always been polite and kind to our neighbor and had visited her sometimes, but I was amazed at her generosity. Without knowing it, I had become an heir to this lovely woman.

Sunday Readings

Isaiah 60:1-6

Arise! Shine, for your light has come, the glory of the LORD has dawned upon you.

Ephesians 3:2-3a, 5-6

The Gentiles are coheirs, members of the same body, and copartners in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel.

Matthew 2:1-12

On entering the house they saw the child with Mary his mother. They prostrated themselves and did him homage.

On this Solemnity of the Epiphany, we celebrate our own unexpected inheritance—the quite undeserved gift of Jesus. Saint Paul writes that the Gentiles are “coheirs” to this great gift, but what have we done to deserve such grace? Our culture tells us how much we “deserve” (clothes and so on). But from the simplest of places—the tiniest of towns, this little hamlet of Bethlehem—comes a gift we could never do enough to deserve. The Magi recognized this; they prostrated themselves in homage and were changed by their encounter with Jesus. They went home “by another way,” not just physically but spiritually.

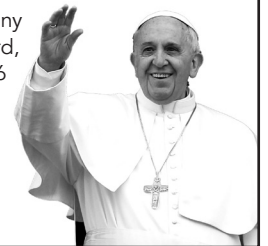
As the Christmas season winds down and the long-awaited gifts are unwrapped and put away, maybe we can look at the gift of Jesus with Epiphany eyes. May we welcome Jesus today like an unexpected inheritance check—with delighted hearts, humble spirits, and grateful souls. +

*From the simplest of places,
this hamlet of Bethlehem,
comes a gift we could never
do enough to deserve.*

A Word from Pope Francis

How many stars there are in the sky! And yet the Magi followed a new and different star, which for them shone all the more brightly....They listened to a voice deep within, which led them to follow that light. It was the voice of the Holy Spirit, who works in all people.

—Homily, Epiphany
of the Lord,
January 6, 2016



REFLECTION QUESTIONS

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION

- What are some of the undeserved gifts that God has given to me?
- Do I remember to thank God for the gift of his Son, and do I share Jesus' good news with others?



Called to Be Peacemakers

By Kathy Coffey

Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God (Matthew 5:9).

Forging peace is an arduous job that takes time. As we know from family squabbles, genuine peacemaking doesn't simply gloss over differences. If those aren't addressed, they will surface again like dandelions on a lawn. Instead, peacemaking explores areas of disagreement and seeks common ground.

We who prefer a quick fix may discover that creating peace is a slow process that some compare to the building of medieval cathedrals. Chartres or Notre Dame took about 400 years, sixteen generations in medieval lifespans. Those who laid the foundations never expected to see the final arches. Yet they knew their children and grandchildren would continue their work. In the same way, peacemakers know they may never see the outcome, but they encourage the next generations to seize the baton.

So we look over the centuries to Jesus our model. He came into a country brutally ruled by Caesar, a world that worshiped the power of the sword. Boldly, he offered two different kinds of power. He told the oppressed they are God's children who will inherit the kingdom. To those who can bring about change, he proposed a way of living that would make them happier than privilege ever had.

He asked them to do what they could for overpowering need, as he did—not run away, as we might be tempted. He suggested they spend time figuring out what was bothering the difficult child—not just ignore him. He wanted them to listen through the family conflict—not turn away because it's so draining. He told them to look at unrest and try to discover the underlying neglect or injustice.

Splendid Balance

Jesus didn't just talk peacemaking; he lived it. He began by making peace with himself. Jesus had the internal tensions we all have. When he wanted to preach, people demanded healing. When he wanted solitude, Peter and his companions interrupted. When he sought time apart with his disciples, the crowds surrounded him.

Yet he never exploded in rage. Despite the turmoil surging around him, he left a legacy of peace. Jesus forged within himself a splendid balance between meeting his own needs and relativizing them for God's work. He took time for prayer. But he could also be so moved by the crowds that he set aside his original intent in order to teach and feed them. While criticizing the Pharisees, he also guided Nicodemus, a member of that group.

Jesus teaches: If you want world peace, begin with yourself. We resist people who attempt leadership but carry loaded guns in their hearts. We respect people who name their grievance, then forget it. If we're honest, we admit we should quit carrying angry burdens best abandoned in high school. We also know that the more time we spend quieting ourselves in prayer, the less we're inclined to furious outbursts.

Step by Step

One step toward making peace might be to find examples that we can admire: skipping the perfect opportunity for a put-down; attempting to understand another person's values; finding ways to resolve conflict without guns; becoming more educated about our "enemies"; voting for candidates who seek alternatives to military solutions.

The way Jesus proposes is no easier than it was in the Roman world. Power and prestige are still enshrined; might is still revered today. We spend billions on destructive weapons. Yet Jesus offers an alternative: a way of living that will make us happy now and ultimately. Beneath the sometimes-weary exterior of the peacemaker, he points to the gleam of God's child. +

PRAYER

*Lord, your light gives us strength
and shows us the way to God.
Remove my blindness that I may
see the light of goodness, peace,
and love within myself and others.*

—From *Joyful Meditations for Every Day of Advent
and the 12 Days of Christmas*,
Rev. Warren J. Savage and Mary Ann McSweeney

WEEKDAY READINGS

January 7-12

Monday, Christmas Weekday:
1 Jn 3:22—4:6 / Mt 4:12–17, 23–25
Tuesday, Christmas Weekday:
1 Jn 4:7–10 / Mk 6:34–44
Wednesday, Christmas Weekday:
1 Jn 4:11–18 / Mk 6:45–52

Thursday, Christmas Weekday:
1 Jn 4:19—5:4 / Lk 4:14–22a
Friday, Christmas Weekday:
1 Jn 5:5–13 / Lk 5:12–16
Saturday, Christmas Weekday:
1 Jn 5:14–21 / Jn 3:22–30