

JANUARY 8, 2023



THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

They were overjoyed at seeing the star, and on entering the house they saw the child with Mary his mother. They prostrated themselves and did him homage. - Mt 2:10-11a



January 8, 2023

Merry Christmas! May the Lord bless you and your families with the joy, peace, and comfort of His presence during this grace-filled season. Perhaps you had the chance to visit some family or friends over the Christmas break. I'm writing this while on the road myself and it got me thinking about all the preparations that go into making a trip happen.

When we travel for an extended period of time, we must prepare everything we need for survival ahead of time. We need to make sure we have time available with our work, school, or other commitments. Our clothes must be washed and packed along with the necessary hygiene items, with fluids being under three ounces for carry-on items in planes! The means of transportation to our destination, whether plane, train, car, cruise ship, and the required transportation when we arrive, are necessary. So, we need clothes, transportation, and reasonable accommodations.

The planning for a vacation is incomplete without some consideration about food. This can be the highlight of some people's vacations with fancy restaurants or quaint café's filling up the itinerary or some prefer to eat simply to allow more time, energy, and money to be focused on why the trip was planned to begin with, recreation, entertainment, sightseeing, activities, rest.... whatever we think is fun! Lastly, if we're visiting those we love, we might bring a gift beyond ourselves which may require some added creativity, storage, and expense. Our planning for a trip in modern times is complicated enough, one wonders what the adventure in ancient times must have been like for the Magi!

Today is the beginning of the end of the Christmas season and is celebrated by the Church as the feast of the Epiphany. Epiphany is a Greek word meaning manifestation or showing forth because today, the infant Christ-child, is manifested as the Son of God and Savior of all nations. The peoples of the world are represented by the mysterious figures we encounter today, the Magi. Who were these figures who left their homes and risked their lives to pay homage to Jesus Christ?

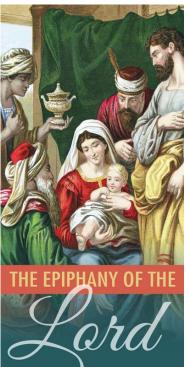
It has always been presumed that there were three wisemen who visited the Lord because they ended up offering three different gifts, although their total number is not given to us directly. Their names are not mentioned either in Scripture, but the names most often attributed to them are Balthazar, Melchior, and Kaspar.

The gifts the Magi offer are gold, frankincense, and myrrh. Gold was offered as fitting for a king. Frankincense is an incense which is fitting for the worship of God and for sanctifying. God commanded Moses to have Aaron, for example, burn a specific mixture of incense with an equal part of frankincense on an altar before the veil covering the ark of the covenant and God's presence.

The myrrh was a resin-like incense but added to oil was more associated with burials and was given to the Christ-child who is God, but also fully man. After the Lord died, Nicodemus and Joseph of Arimathea brought oil mixed with myrrh to wrap Jesus' body with. So, the Magi brought gold for a king, incense for a God, and myrrh for His burial.

Perhaps the most important thing we can learn from the Magi is that after their long journey they were "*overjoyed at seeing the star... and encountering the child with Mary his mother.*" We no longer need to search the night sky to find Jesus, but we too must seek the Lord if we wish to share the joy of the Magi.

May we, as diverse as the Magi were, journey to Christ together, not counting the cost.





Today we celebrate the feast of the Epiphany, where the Magi find the newborn king and offer Him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

In the spirit of the Magi, please put your gift in the St. Vincent de Paul Poor Box so that comfort and peace can once again be given to a newborn child.

Announcement of Easter and the Moveable Feasts for the year 2023

Know, dear brothers and sisters, that, as we have rejoiced at the Nativity of our Lord Jesus Christ, so by leave of God's mercy we announce to you also the joy of his Resurrection, who is our Savior.

On the twenty-second day of February will fall Ash Wednesday,

and the beginning of the fast of the most sacred Lenten season.

On the ninth day of April, you will celebrate with joy Easter Day,

the Paschal feast of our Lord Jesus Christ.

On the twenty-first day of May will be the Ascension of our Lord Jesus Christ.

On the twenty-eighth day of May, the feast of Pentecost.

On the eleventh day of June, the feast of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ.

On the third day of December, the First Sunday of the Advent of our Lord Jesus Christ, to whom is honor and glory for ever and ever. Amen.



St. Elizabeth of the Trinity Holy Name Society / Men's Club Championship Sunday Party Sunday, January 29, 2023 Doors open at 1:00 p.m. in the school auditorium Tables are \$250 (seat 10) \$30 entry fee at the door for same day walk-ins Email <u>st.elizabethhns@gmail.com</u> to reserve a table.



EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

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GOSPEL MEDITATION - January 8, 2023 – The Epiphany of the Lord

A friend of mine is a young priest who teaches high school physics at a Catholic boys' prep school. Like many today, the boys often think science and religion are enemies. So, he delights in their raised eyebrows when he reminds them his first full-time job as a priest was to be an astrophysicist. He cataloged the size, shape, and matter of distant stars. He tells them, "Science gave me more love for God, not less."

The Magi were something like scientist-astronomers. Like today's scientists, they employed disciplined methods of discovering dependable patterns in the world. Their rigorous commitment to the truth led them to the joy of discovering Jesus. Their love for knowledge leads them to worship the Source of all knowledge. Luke says of them, "They were overjoyed at seeing the star."

We may see the universe as cold and empty and feel sad. But why should we do that? The

Magi, like my priest-friend, show us there is another way to experience the world. We use our intelligence to discover the beautiful patterns in the world — in mathematics, physics, astronomy, biology, neuroscience, and so on — and allow this to lead us to greater love for God. So, my fellow Magi: the world needs us to be overjoyed at finding God in science and, finally and fully, in Jesus.

— Father John Muir



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SICK LIST

Michele Schmidt—Maria Szumski—Gary Sowell—Jeffrey Lalowski—Jadwija Chudzynski— Amy Grudzinski—Bernadette Bannach—Patricia Newell—Guzman family—Angela Ross— Kasia Worth—Nicholas Guerrieri—Cathy Minnick—Marie Brasher—Molly Morris—Paola Estrada— Judy Biala—Eva Anderson—Elise Fernandez—Emery Tanski—Fr. Dan Fallon— Cary Muldoon-Pauly—John Morrison—Sr. Kelly Masdat MSHT—Darlene Russo— Constance Anderson—Dolores Nano—Diane Dudek—Roberto Drueca— Doreen Ciesla-Hugglung—Steve Hovde—Helzing Aguilar—Flavia Langan—Dennis Cresco— Roger Doering—Eugene Chmielowski (Call the rectory office to have your name added or removed) O God,

father and shepherd of humanity,

look upon your family gathered in prayer,

and grant that your servant and our pope, Benedict XVI, who has presided over the Church in the love of Christ,

may enjoy, with the flock he led, the reward promised to faithful ministers of the Gospel. We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever.

Amen.

They were overjoyed at seeing the star, and on entering the house they saw the child with Mary his mother. They prostrated themselves and did him homage. Then they opened their treasures and offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. - Mt 2:10-11



Save the Date... CASINO NIGHT-2023 Saturday, February 25, 2023. Details in upcoming bulletins.









ST. ELIZABETH of the Trinity Parish

Food Pantry



Food Pantry Distribution: We are open for anyone in the community who needs our support Tuesdays: 9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. • Lower level of Social Center/ Gym

Questions: food-pantry@stelizabethtrinityschool.org



During the month of December, kindergarten students were very busy with learning. In religion, we learned about the Advent Wreath and the true meaning of Christmas. We enjoyed singing songs about Baby Jesus being born on Christmas Day and our 7th grade Faith Partners helped us decorate gifts for our families. In math, we used ordinal numbers to make a "Five Days of Christmas Book". We also enjoyed visiting Santa and decorating Christmas craft projects at the Holiday Festival hosted by our school. We are excited about celebrating Catholic Schools Week at the end of this month!



THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD



Tomorrow the Church will celebrate the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord and with it the end of the liturgical season of Christmas. Normally, this is celebrated on a Sunday, but because Christmas fell on a Sunday this year this feast is moved to a Monday. On Tuesday we will return to Ordinary Time. This will continue until Ash Wednesday, which begins the season of Lent. This year, Ash Wednesday is on February 22.

As in many things He did, Jesus was baptized to set an example for us. But why did Jesus want us to be baptized and what exactly is baptism?

I would like to turn to the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* for some of these answers.

1213 "Holy Baptism is the basis of the whole Christian life, the gateway to life in the Spirit and the door which gives access to the other sacraments. Through Baptism we are freed from sin and reborn as sons of God; we become members of Christ, are incorporated into the Church and made sharers in her mission: "Baptism is the sacrament of regeneration through water and in the word."

1224 "Our Lord voluntarily submitted himself to the baptism of St. John, intended for sinners, in order to "fulfill all righteousness." Jesus' gesture is a manifestation of his self-emptying. The Spirit who had hovered over the waters of the first creation descended then on the Christ as a prelude of the new creation, and the Father revealed Jesus as his "beloved Son."

1226 "From the very day of Pentecost the Church has celebrated and administered holy Baptism. Indeed St. Peter declares to the crowd astounded by his preaching: "Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of you sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit." The apostles and their collaborators offer Baptism to anyone who believed in Jesus: Jews, the Godfearing, pagans. Always, Baptism is seen as connected with faith...."

1239 "...Baptism properly speaking...brings about death to sin and entry into the life of the Most Holy Trinity through configuration to the Paschal mystery of Christ. Baptism is performed in the most expressive way by triple immersion in the baptismal water. However, from ancient times it has also been able to be conferred by pouring the water three times over the candidate's head."

1253 "Baptism is the sacrament of faith. But faith needs the community of believers. It is only within the faith of the Church that each of the faithful can believe. The faith required for Baptism is not a perfect and mature faith, but a beginning that is called to develop. The catechumen or the godparent is asked: "What do you ask of God's Church?" The response is: "Faith!"

1255 "For the grace of Baptism to unfold, the parents' help is important. So too is the role of the *godfather* and *godmother*, who must be firm believers, able and ready to help the newly baptized—child or adult—on the road of Christian life. Their task is a truly ecclesial function The whole ecclesial community bears some responsibility for the development and safeguarding of the grace given at Baptism."

1257 "The Lord himself affirms that Baptism is necessary for salvation. He also commands his disciples to proclaim the Gospel to all nations and to baptize them. Baptism is necessary for salvation for those to whom the Gospel has been proclaimed and who have had the possibility of asking for this sacrament. The Church does not know of any means other than Baptism that assures entry into eternal beatitude; this is why she takes care not to neglect the mission she has received from the Lord to see that all who can be baptized are "reborn of water and the Spirit."

1263 "By Baptism *all sins* are forgiven, original sin and all personal sins, as well as all punishment for sin. In those who have been reborn nothing remains that would impede their entry into the Kingdom of God, neither Adam's sin, nor personal sin, nor the consequences of sin, the gravest of which is separation from God."

1269 "Having become a member of the Church, the person baptized belongs no longer to himself, but to him who died and rose for us. From now on, he is called to be subject to others, to serve them in the communion of the Church, and to "obey and submit" to the Church's leaders, holding them in respect and affection. Just as Baptism is the source of responsibilities and duties, the baptized person also enjoys rights within the Church: to receive the sacraments, to be nourished with the Word of God and to be sustained by the other spiritual helps of the Church."

1280 "Baptism imprints on the soul an indelible spiritual sign, the character, which consecrates the baptized person for Christian worship. Because of the character Baptism cannot be repeated."



Watch St. Elizabeth of the Trinity 9:00 a.m. Sunday Mass live on You Tube - search for St. Elizabeth of the Trinity Parish channel.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 7, 2023

5:00 PM — deceased members of the Ognibene family

SUNDAY, JANUARY 8, 2023

7:30 AM — Helen & Alexander Kolinski, Walter Dyjak (36th anniversary), Rose Dyjak (birthday), Anna, Estelle & Joseph Dyjak, Jo & Ed Sanborn

- 9:00 AM Joseph & Sally Gleeson
- 11:00 AM Mary Coffman
- 1:00 PM (Spanish) Cesar Hernandez Marin, Eva Guadalupe Montes Castro, Maria Ritter, Evangelina Rubio

MONDAY, JANUARY 9, 2023

8:30 AM — Eva Guadalupe Montes Castro, Gonsalves & D'Souza families

TUESDAY, JANUARY 10, 2023

8:30 AM — Eleanor, Sam, Grace & Joseph Holden 11:00 - 6:00 PM - Adoration / Benediction at 6:00 5:30 - 6:00 PM - CONFESSION 6:30 PM — for peace in Ukraine

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 11, 2023

8:30 AM — Pryst children & grandchildren's birthdays, Mary Iacullo

THURSDAY, JANUARY 12, 2023

- 8:30 AM for our school community
- 6:30 PM (bilingual Confessions)

FRIDAY, JANUARY 13, 2023

8:30 AM — for the homebound of the parish

SATURDAY, JANUARY 14, 2023

8:30 AM — for our parishioners

5:00 PM — Don Love, Joe Gleeson (1st anniversary), Malachy Byrne, Irene Fontana, Martin & Monica Hawkins, John & Peter Quirk, William & Mary Frances O'Mara, Robert & Jeanne Luby

SUNDAY, JANUARY 15, 2023

7:30 AM — Lucy A. De Fili

9:00 AM — Tom & Ginny McManus, souls in purgatory 11:00 AM — Clare Rooney, Jozefa Mocarski 1:00 PM — (Spanish) Cesar Hernandez Marin, Maria

5:00 p.m. — Fr. McCarthy / Guitar Ensemble

- 7:30 a.m. Fr. Grisolano
- 9:00 a.m. Fr. Sepulveda / Parish Choir
- 11:00 a.m. Fr. Fallon
- 1:00 p.m. (Spanish) Fr. Sepulveda



Presider Schedule - January 14 & 15



Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI Carmella Nigro

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday:	The Epiphany of the Lord
Monday:	The Baptism of the Lord
Tuesday:	
Wednesday:	
Thursday:	
Friday:	St. Hilary, Bishop and Doctor of the Church
Saturday:	
Next Sunday:	2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

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THIS WEEK'S READINGS

Sunday:	Is 60:1-6/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13
	(see 11)/Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6/Mt 2:1-12
Monday:	Is 42:1-4, 6-7 or Acts 10:34-38/Ps 29:1
	-2, 3-4, 3, 9-10 (11b)/Mt 3:13-17
Tuesday:	Heb 2:5-12/Ps 8:2ab and 5, 6-7, 8-9/
-	Mk 1:21-28 or Heb 1:1-6 and 2:5-12/
	Mk 1:14-20 and 1:21-28
Wednesday:	Heb 2:14-18Ps 105:1-2, 3-4, 6-7, 8-9//
-	Mk 1:29-39
Thursday:	Heb 3:7-14/Ps 95:6-7c, 8-9, 10-11/Mk
	1:40-45
Friday:	Heb 4:1-5, 11/Ps 78:3 and 4bc, 6c-7, 8/
	Mk 2:1-12
Saturday:	Heb 4:12-16/Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 15/Mk
-	2:13-17
Next Sunday:	Is 49:3, 5-6/Ps 40:2, 4, 7-8, 8-9, 10/1
	Cor 1:1-3/Jn 1:29-34

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ST. ELIZABETH OF THE TRINITY PARISH

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Pastor Emeritus Rev. Daniel P. McCarthy

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Coordinator of Religious Education Mrs. Peggy Bradley pbradley@archchicago.org

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SERVICES

Weekend Mass Schedule: Saturday: 5:00 p.m. & Sunday: 7:30, 9:00 & 11:00 a.m. (English) and 1:00 p.m. (Spanish)

Daily Mass Schedule:

Monday through Saturday: 8:30 a.m., Tuesday: 6:30 p.m. and First Thursday: 7:00 p.m. (Spanish)

Rosary:

Prayed daily immediately following the 8:30 a.m. Mass Church is open daily for private prayer until 5:00 p.m. Confession:

Tuesday: 5:30 - 6:00 p.m., Thursday: 6:30 to 7:00 p.m. (bilingual) Saturday: 3:30 to 4:30 p.m.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament Tuesday: 11:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. (Benediction at 6:00 p.m.) Last Thursday from 6:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. (Benediction at 7:30 p.m.) Rectory (Parish Office) Hours - Monday - Friday. 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. and Saturday - 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Baptism:

Please contact Deacon Greg Bzdon to make arrangements: <u>gbzdon@archchicago.org</u>

Becoming a Catholic:

Would you like to learn more about what it means to be a Catholic? The Church calls this process *The Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA)*. It is a small group forum where interested people learn more about initiation and membership in the Catholic Church. Please call the parish office for more information.

Marriage:

Must be arranged six months prior to the ceremony. Please contact a priest to make arrangements.

Religious Education for Public Grade School Students: Contact Peggy Bradley for more information.

Parish Registration: New parishioners are asked to register at the Rectory. Forms are also available on our website under the Our Parish tab or in the rear of church.

Communion Visits: Ministers of Care bring Communion to the homebound. Contact Tony Lupinski through the rectory office to make arrangements.

Food Pantry: Open Tuesdays - 9:00 - 10:00 a.m. in the lower level of the gym For more Info email us at: food-pantry@stelizabethtrinityschool.org

Bulletin Deadline: Noon on Fridays (9 days prior to bulletin date)

"It seems to me that I have found my heaven on earth, because my heaven is You, my God, and You are in my soul. You in me, and I in You – may this be my motto." St. Eligabeth of the Trinity