



January 8, 2023

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

FROM OUR PASTOR

The communion antiphon for the Mass of the day of Epiphany reads "We have seen his star in the East, and have come with gifts to adore the Lord."

From that one line there is much to unpack and consider. All this refers to the Magi. They were paying attention to the natural world and it brought them to God, baby Jesus. The Church is not opposed to science as our secular media wishes to present it. Some of the early astronomers were priests and even today the Vatican has a number of observatories around the world for research. So the Magi give us a great example of being attentive to our surroundings. Of course they take it another step to actually follow the star. They would most likely not be the only ones to see it. But they found a deeper meaning to it.

They then come with gifts. They have not met Jesus and yet they are calling Him Lord. We are to bring gifts to God. In the ancient world it had the sense of placating the gods so they didn't come against you or mess with your fate. Yet at Mass we bring forward the gifts so that we can enter the salvific offering of Jesus Himself on the Cross. Those gifts are transformed so to transform us into the image of Jesus.

They call Him Lord. We take that for granted and yet the power of such a title in the ancient world would set you for or against something that would change your life. You give your entire life and all you have to your Lord. Perhaps we are too removed from the idea of declaring Jesus as Lord would cost us anything. Yet we see many of our brothers and sisters in the faith suffering because they bear the name of Christian.

They came to adore the Lord. We use the word 'adore' in many ways in being very fond of something or someone. For the Magi it was adoration. The true form of adoration is given to God. That is the power of our time each week of having adoration in the parish. That we can come right to the Lord, see Him and give Him our life; ask for what we need and give Him thanks for all the blessings that we have received. This is a good time to start a new routine of going to adoration here at the parish on Fridays. It is a great opportunity to open our hearts to God knowing that He wants to invite us into His heart.

The feast of Epiphany and the one phrase of scripture has a lot to reveal to our hearts. Consider the gift of time in prayer that you can give the Lord in this new year. Or in His name the gift of yourself that you can give in service to those who are in need in our community.

I was asked to bring a smile to his face by one of our young parishioners, so I am ending with some humor. Hopefully your New Year is filled with joy!

- Which fish is best at performing surgery? A sturgeon.
- What do you call a horse that likes arts and crafts? A hobby horse.
- What do you call cheese that's all by itself? Provolone.
- I don't trust stairs. They're always up to something.
- I've been losing my memory so I started taking ballet lessons. It keeps me on my toes.
- Archaeology really is a career in ruins....
- My little sister keeps annoying me with bird puns. Well, toucan play at that game.

Father John

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WEEKEND MASSES

Saturdays ~ 5 PM
Sundays ~ 8 AM & 10 AM

WEEKDAY MASSES

Tuesday 5:30 PM
Wednesday, Thursday & Friday 8:00 AM
First Saturdays 8:00 AM

DAILY ROSARY

Before 8 AM Mass at 7:25 AM

CONFESSIONS

Saturdays ~ 4 PM—4:45 PM
& Following 1st Saturday 8 AM Mass

EXPOSITION & BENEDICTION

First Fridays following 8 AM Mass
Benediction at 4:00 PM
All other Fridays beginning at 3:00 PM
Benediction at 4:00 PM

Mass Intentions for the week of January 8, 2023

Sat. Jan. 7	5:00 PM	For <i>our Parishioners</i>
Sun. Jan. 8	8:00 AM	For the repose of the souls of <i>Frank & Agnes LaBudda</i>
	10:00 AM	For the repose of the souls of <i>Art, Don & Christopher Vinopal</i>
Tues. Jan. 10	5:30 PM	For the repose of the soul of <i>Edna O'Brien Buretta</i>
Wed. Jan. 11	8:00 AM	For the repose of the souls of <i>Louis & Genevieve Vinopal</i>
Thu. Jan. 12	8:00 AM	For the repose of the soul of <i>Mary Buttner</i>
Fri. Jan. 13	8:00 AM	For the repose of the soul of <i>John E. Walsh</i>
Sat. Jan. 14	5:00 PM	For <i>our Parishioners</i>
Sun. Jan. 15	8:00 AM	For the repose of the soul of <i>Don Strack</i>
	10:00 AM	For the repose of the soul of <i>Gene Hersil</i>

Pray for the health of Max Teumer, Ben Reynebeau, Julie (Watry) Stoner, Rosemary Lehnen, Vivian G., Russell Fairchild, Deb Beyer, Diana Hunt, Jessie Norton, Bill Chase, Kiley Hackel, Shari Randall, Helen Eucolono, Ethel Passer, Sid Mead, Becky Fredrickson, Bob W., Therese, Audrey Gillen, Rita Kueppers, Cindy Mueller, George Gabay, Jim Smith, Sadie Ravenscroft, Anne Nancolas, RM, Payton, Veronica, Kathryn Doughty, Patricia, JM, Carl Wier, Carole Hayes, Tillie Schumacher, Millie Hovde, Bill Eisch, Marie Boehm, Marsha Hamil, MMB, AAB, EMM, Brenna, Barb Gardner, Patrick Moore, Karen Patton, Therese Severson, Fran Skalak, Tina Moore, Eric, Tony Berns, Jeanne Allen, Randy Czaplewski, Anna Madden, Steve Connor, Joe Wolf, Phil S., Janel and Randy Mullenberg.

Pray for those in the military serving our country: Janie Asberry, Andrei Klika-Sampe, Will Post, Zachary Bader, Bailey Granger, Alex Ericson, Samuel Levandoski and Ethan Jasinski.

Eternal Rest, Grant Unto Them, O Lord. We offer our prayers and condolences to the families and friends of Rosemary Wier and Tricia Demmin who passed away this week. May perpetual light shine upon them.

For those whose who gave memorials for their loved ones for Christmas, you may stop in the gathering area and pick up your cardinals with your loved ones names on them.

A Sharing of Time and Talent ~ As we begin the new year, we would like to thank Deb Cook and Deanna Vieth for their year round care of our church and its decorating. It is a task that requires many hours of time and talent. Thank you to Jeri Kolba for decorating the rectory for the Christmas season. And a special shout out to the many volunteers who spent a Sunday afternoon decorating the church for Christmas, including John Hersil, Clinton, Lisa, Garrett and Weston Pouillie, Terry and Gail Fleming, Connie and Rod Walhovd, Joe Clary, Barb Nicksic, Ann Benz, Larry Moore and all the school children. We very much appreciate your willingness to share your time and talent with our parish.

Gala 2023—Save the Date! Saturday, February 18th—This year's theme **~MARDI GRAS!!** Cocktails at 6 PM and dinner at 7 PM. Musical entertainment provided by Pat McCurdy. Raffles, silent auction, drawings and more! Tickets are available at the rectory (\$70 per person).

Stewardship Corner ~ December 24th & 25th, 2022 (506 Registered Families)

**WKLY BUDGETED GIVING		ACTUAL
Adult Envelopes	\$8,653.85	\$ 6,252.00
Christmas		\$ 2,815.00
On-Line Giving		\$ 7,309.00
Children's Envelopes	9.61	\$ 21.00
Loose Offering	385.00	\$ 1,463.00
Total Weekly Offering:	\$ 9,048.46	\$17,860.00

Stewardship Corner ~ Dec. 31st & Jan. 1st (506 Registered Families)

**WKLY BUDGETED GIVING		ACTUAL
Adult Envelopes	\$8,653.85	\$ 4,043.00
On-Line Giving		\$ 1,261.00
Children's Envelopes	9.61	\$ 3.00
Loose Offering	385.00	\$ 739.00
Total Weekly Offering:	\$ 9,048.46	\$ 6,046.00

Year-to-date* budget requirement	\$ 244,308.42
Year-to-date amount contributed	\$ 239,676.55

*Fiscal Year July 1, 2022 to current date

** Budgeted Weekly Giving Amount based on pledges made. We anticipate a total budgeted income deficit of \$ 42,539.00 for this fiscal year.

We ask you to join us in praying sincerely for guidance and success in helping to meet the temporal needs of our Church so that we can carry on our spiritual mission.

Weekly Calendar

Tuesday	Jan. 10	3:00 PM	Hour of Mercy in Church
Wednesday	Jan. 11		RELIGIOUS ED CLASSES
Thursday	Jan. 12	12:00 PM	Rosary Makers—RH
Friday	Jan. 13	8:45 AM	Friday Folders

The Feast of Epiphany is celebrated this Sunday, Jan. 8, 2023. Epiphany means "manifestation." The first Epiphany was the visit of the Magi to adore the Christ Child. The Magi's gifts reveal this holy Child's identity; gold for Christ's Kingship - King of Heaven and earth, incense for His divinity - Son of God, and myrrh for His sacrifice on the Cross - our Savior. **The blessing of homes on Epiphany revives the beautiful custom of making our homes sacramentals. If you would like to bless your home, fliers with the blessing and chalk are available on the table in the gathering area.** What a great tradition to start with your family!

Please join fellow parishioners and the children of the 6th grade St. Patrick's class after Mass on Sunday, January 15th for a pancake breakfast in Reardon Hall. The K of C and the St. Pat's 6th graders are hosting a Pancake Breakfast with sausage, juice and fresh cut fruit. Funds raised from the breakfast will go towards a fun class event at the end of the year for the 6th graders. The breakfast is open to all parishioners and the community. Please feel free to invite others to come with you on Sunday January 15th anytime between 8:30 and noon.

March for Life—Sunday, January 22nd at 1:00 PM at the Juneau County Courthouse. Please join with other Life Marchers to walk around the courthouse, peacefully and prayerfully, for 50 minutes (one minute for each year since Roe v. Wade—January 22, 1973) holding signs or carrying candles. This is a simple, yet effective way for all those who call on the name of the Lord to show that they oppose abortion. A reception will follow the March here in Reardon Hall.

MINISTRY SCHEDULE—Weekend of January 7th & 8th

Saturday, 5:00 PM

Lector: Steve Hesprich

Eucharistic Minister: Carrol Kaiser

Servers: Owen & Aedyn Lubinski, Jack Vinopal

Musicians:

Greeters: Danelle Lubinski, Anita Lubinski

Ushers: Matt Schwab, Kevin Quist, Mike and Matt Lubinski

Gift Bearer: Rich & Natalie Schwab

Scrip Seller: Laura Vinopal

Sunday, 8:00 AM

Lector: Melissa Schanke

Eucharistic Minister: Vicki Boehm

Servers: Cody Komiskey, Carson Demaske

Musicians:

Greeters: Donna Miller, Joe Buttner, Vicki Boehm

Ushers: John and Jeanne Walsh & Jim and Mary Ann Allaby

Gift Bearers: Chris & Bonnie Clark

Scrip Seller: Therese Gunther

Sunday, 10:00 AM

Lector: Naome Pouillie

Eucharistic Minister: Gina Boppart

Servers: Hudson Randall, Cooper Thayer, Johann Wolf

Musicians: Peg Schmitz, Choir

Greeters: Bill Thill, Jane Powers

Ushers: Steve Powers, Tom Jodarski, Adam Pouillie, Bill Thill

Gift Bearers: The Vinopal Family

Scrip Seller: Gina Boppart

MINISTRY SCHEDULE—Weekend of January 14th & 15th

Saturday, 5:00 PM

Lector: Jeri Kolba

Eucharistic Minister: Rita Hamm

Servers: Ryleigh Vinopal, Gracey Kobylski

Musicians: Peg Schmitz, John & Nancy Noga, Terri Walling

Greeters: Kevin Quist

Ushers: Matt Schwab, Kevin Quist, Mike and Matt Lubinski

Gift Bearer: Rita Hamm, Dorothy Bugenhagen

Scrip Seller: Kerry Randall

Sunday, 8:00 AM

Lector: Mark Becker

Eucharistic Minister: Marion Koca

Servers: Seth Schwedrsky, Canaan Becker

Musicians: Ann Benz

Greeters: Therese, Bridget, Amelia Gunther

Ushers: John and Jeanne Walsh & Jim and Mary Ann Allaby

Gift Bearers: Mary Ann Strack

Scrip Seller: Connie Walhovd

Sunday, 10:00 AM

Lector: Eli Boppart

Eucharistic Minister: Julie Whitney

Servers: Caroline Marien, Leia Kocyan

Musicians:

Greeters: Kris Mazur, Nancy Horabik

Ushers: Steve Powers, Tom Jodarski, Adam Pouillie, Bill Thill

Gift Bearers: John & Ann Hersil

Scrip Seller: Julie Whitney

Eucharistic Revival: A Minute with Jesus for January 8th Wise men came to worship Jesus

Wise men from far away saw an incredibly bright star moving across the sky. They followed the star to see where it would take them. It led them to the Infant Jesus. The wise men gave precious gifts to the Savior, gifts for a king: gold, frankincense and myrrh. They knew that Jesus was a great king, even though He looked like a small Child. Jesus gives us the greatest Gift – the Gift of Himself in the Eucharist again and again in a life-giving encounter. Let's pray this right now and every day this week: "*Jesus, the wise man brought You precious gifts. But, thank You for giving us the most precious Gift of Yourself in the Eucharist*". This week, read how the wise men came to worship Jesus and bring Him gifts in Matthew 2:1-12

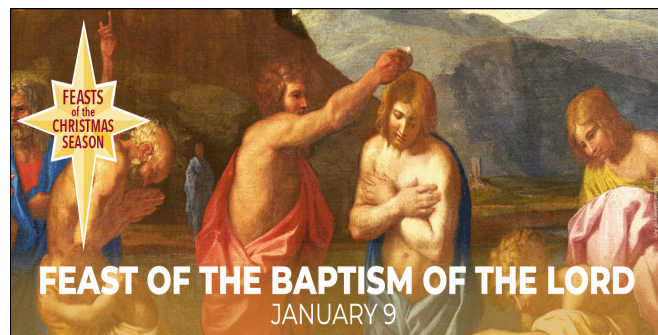
Culture of Life Summit - Jan. 21, 2023 ~ The Diocese of La Crosse is excited to partner with the Diocese of Superior to hold a Culture of Life Summit. This will take the place of our Pilgrimage for Life. This will be a day of live music, speakers and a time where you can discuss the issues that pertain to respecting the dignity of life. The event will be held at Regis Catholic High School. To register please visit: <https://diolc.org/yva/youth-opportunities/culture-of-life/>

GIVEN Retreat - Jan. 28, 2023 ~ GIVEN is a short, powerful retreat for couples who are married, dating and engaged. It is an opportunity to share, learn and celebrate marriage with other couples through engaging talks, and adoration, prayer and reconciliation. GIVEN retreats help couples foster a deeper relationship that is rooted in Jesus Christ and His Church. This mini retreat will:

- ◆ Encourage a greater devotion to the Sacrament of Reconciliation and the Eucharist
- ◆ Develop a deeper understanding of the Sacrament of Marriage through Theology of the Body
- ◆ Provide couples the encouragement to live the vocation of marriage well in a culture that is increasingly more hostile to the sacrament.

Married, Engaged and Seriously Dating Couples are invited to attend. Speakers will be Ted and Julie Imgrund and Michael and Jacqueline Van Hemmert. Cost: \$45 per couple. For more information, contact Chris Rogers at crogers@diolc.org

In preparation for the repainting on the church interior beginning May 1st, we are looking for a place to store our pews and other items from the church. They will need to be stored until approximately September 1st. If you know of or have a space that we can use where they will be dry and safe, please give the rectory a call or let one of our Building & Grounds Committee members know. Thanks for your help!



Prayer Opportunities

Hour of Mercy: Tuesdays from 3 PM to 4 PM—time of prayer, litany and chaplet on behalf of our Church and the world.

Holy Hour: Each Friday we have Holy Hour from 3 PM to 4 PM. On First Fridays, we have Exposition and Adoration following morning Mass until benediction at 4 PM.

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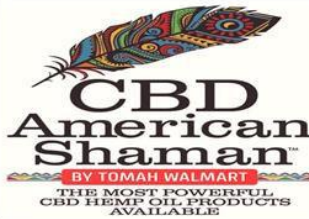
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