



## *The Epiphany of the Lord*

**January 7 / 8, 2023**

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### MASS SCHEDULE

**St. Boniface:**

***Saturday***

**5:00 pm**

**Our Lady of Perpetual Help**

***Sunday:***

**8:00 am-8:45 am Rosary**

**8:30 am Confession**

**9:00 am Mass**

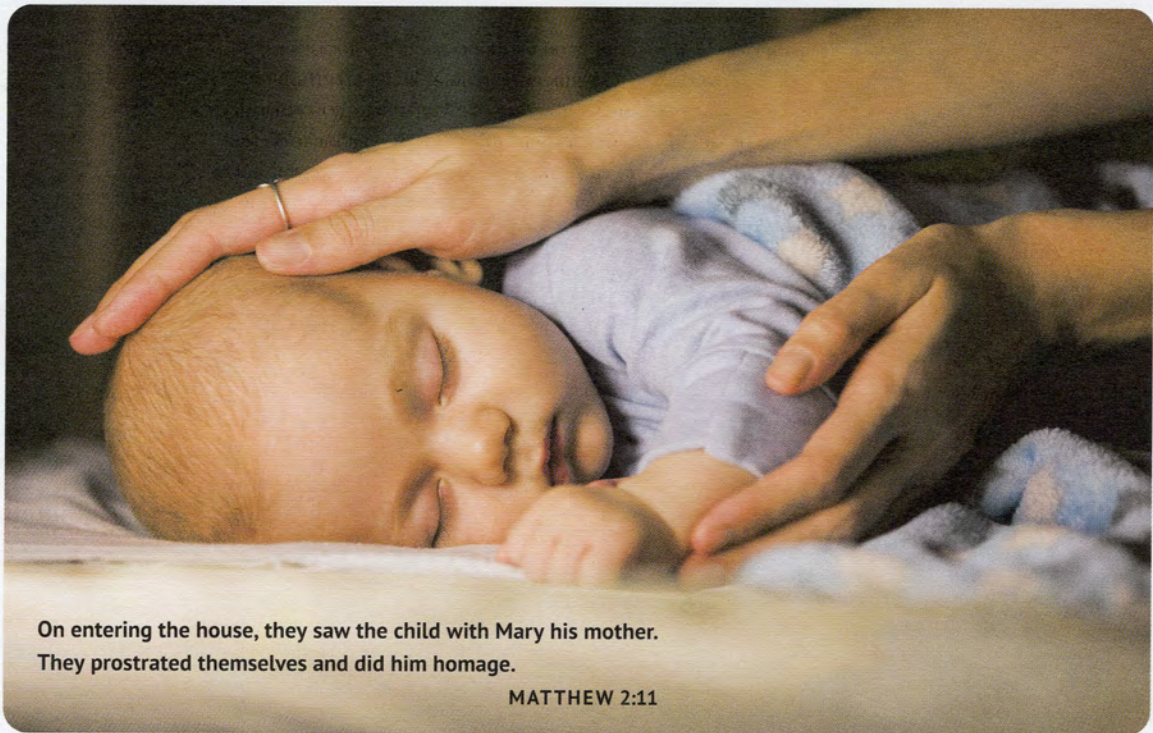
***Tuesday & Thursday:***

**5:30 pm**

***Bible Study***

**Thursday 8:00 pm**

**Mission Statement:** We are a welcoming parish of Roman Catholic Christians with diverse roots deep in Appalachia and beyond. We are committed to growing in our faith and community through our worship and celebrations, with particular attention to the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass and The Holy Eucharist. We are a community gathered together by the Holy Spirit, filled with hope, to love and serve God and neighbor in the name of Jesus Christ; and through our sharing of Good News in word and deed, we seek to live and reveal to all the grace and peace of Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the unity of the Holy Spirit.



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

MATTHEW 2:11

## A Trip Called Life

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

**O**ne way to pray with sacred Scripture is to ask, "How is this biblical story my story?" So then, how is the story of the *Magi* our story?

Like those journeyers from the East, we may sense there is more to our lives than what is now. Some inner angst can send us on a life search without really knowing where it will take us or even what we are really seeking. Yet through it all we are led by an inner star that lures us on. Some might call it a spiritual journey.

Like the *Magi* who stopped in Jerusalem and asked if anyone knew something about what they were seeking, we begin asking around. Some people we ask aren't sure what we are asking, like Herod. Others seem able to offer suggestions, but for our purposes it is not an answer but only points the way.

Then one day we happen to stumble on what we've been looking for all along. Some people call it a religious experience. To describe it to someone else, we might be at a loss for words. Yet it touches us so deeply that it seems to change our lives. We begin to let go of what we once thought was so important—the gold, frankincense, and myrrh of our lives. And like the Wise Men, we journey on with our lives, except by a different route, sensing that the path we had thus far traveled was no longer a safe journey home. ●

### Reflect

**Is anything of the *Magi* story also your story?  
If so, reflect on yours.**

<i>Date</i>	<i>OLPH</i>	<i>Saint Boniface</i>
<b>The Epiphany of the Lord Solemnity</b>	8:00 – 8:45 am Adoration & Rosary 8:30 am ~ Confession 9:00 am ~ Mass <i>Novena Prayer</i>	5:00 pm ~ Mass
<i>Tuesday</i>	5:30 pm ~ Mass	
<i>Thursday</i>	5:30 pm ~ Mass 8:00 pm ~ Bible Study	
<b>Second Sunday in Ordinary Time</b>	8:00 – 8:45 am Adoration & Rosary 8:30 am ~ Confession 9:00 am ~ Mass <i>Novena Prayer</i>	5:00 pm ~ Mass

	<i>OLPH</i> <i>Mass 9:00 am</i>		<i>ST. BONIFACE</i> <i>Mass 5:00 pm</i>	
<b>Date</b>	<b>January 8</b>	<b>January 15</b>	<b>January 7</b>	<b>January 14</b>
<b>Lector</b>	Joe McNaughton	Creed Farthing	Jerry Nowak	Mary Jo Leygraaf

<b>Mass Intentions</b>	<b>OLPH</b>	<b>St. Boniface</b>
<b>January 7 / 8</b>	Intentions of Parishioners	† Lorenzo (Lawrence) Comparoni Jr.
<b>January 14 / 15</b>	Intentions of Parishioners	† Lorenzo (Lawrence) Comparoni Jr.

<b>Our Gifts</b>	<b>OLPH</b>	<b>St. Boniface</b>
<b>December 31 January 1</b>	\$330.00	\$ 70.00

*May God bless you for your generous contributions to our Church.*



Next weekend there will be a ***second collection*** for the Opportunities for Life ~ Please give generously

**We have obtained an estimate to refinish the Tabernacle at OLPH. The estimated cost to refinish is \$1,600.00 to \$1,800.00, plus shipping. Your financial support for the restoration will be greatly appreciated.**

## **Reading I**

Is 60:1-6

Rise up in splendor, Jerusalem! Your light has come,  
the glory of the Lord shines upon you.  
See, darkness covers the earth,  
and thick clouds cover the peoples;  
but upon you the LORD shines,  
and over you appears his glory.  
Nations shall walk by your light,  
and kings by your shining radiance.  
Raise your eyes and look about;  
they all gather and come to you:  
your sons come from afar,  
and your daughters in the arms of their nurses.

Then you shall be radiant at what you see,  
your heart shall throb and overflow,  
for the riches of the sea shall be emptied out before you,  
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  
bearing gold and frankincense,  
and proclaiming the praises of the LORD.

## **Responsorial Psalm**

Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13

*Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.*

O God, with your judgment endow the king,  
and with your justice, the king's son;  
He shall govern your people with justice  
and your afflicted ones with judgment.

*Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.*

Justice shall flower in his days,  
and profound peace, till the moon be no more.  
May he rule from sea to sea,  
and from the River to the ends of the earth.

*Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.*

The kings of Tarshish and the Isles shall offer gifts;  
the kings of Arabia and Seba shall bring tribute.  
All kings shall pay him homage,  
all nations shall serve him.

*Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.*

For he shall rescue the poor when he cries out,  
and the afflicted when he has no one to help him.  
He shall have pity for the lowly and the poor;  
the lives of the poor he shall save.

*Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.*

## **Reading II**

Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6

Brothers and sisters:

You have heard of the stewardship of God's grace

that was given to me for your benefit,  
namely, that the mystery was made known to me by revelation.  
It was not made known to people in other generations  
as it has now been revealed  
to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit:  
that the Gentiles are coheirs, members of the same body,  
and copartners in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel.

## **Alleluia**

Mt 2:2

*Alleluia, alleluia.*

We saw his star at its rising  
and have come to do him homage.

*Alleluia, alleluia.*

## **Gospel**

Mt 2:1-12

When Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea,  
in the days of King Herod,  
behold, magi from the east arrived in Jerusalem, saying,  
"Where is the newborn king of the Jews?  
We saw his star at its rising  
and have come to do him homage."  
When King Herod heard this,  
he was greatly troubled,  
and all Jerusalem with him.  
Assembling all the chief priests and the scribes of the people,  
He inquired of them where the Christ was to be born.  
They said to him, "In Bethlehem of Judea,  
for thus it has been written through the prophet:  
*And you, Bethlehem, land of Judah,  
are by no means least among the rulers of Judah;  
since from you shall come a ruler,  
who is to shepherd my people Israel.*"

Then Herod called the magi secretly  
and ascertained from them the time of the star's appearance.  
He sent them to Bethlehem and said,  
"Go and search diligently for the child.  
When you have found him, bring me word,  
that I too may go and do him homage."  
After their audience with the king they set out.  
And behold, the star that they had seen at its rising preceded them,  
until it came and stopped over the place where the child was.  
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.  
And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod,  
they departed for their country by another way.

## **REFLECTION**

Once in a small town there lived a man by himself who couldn't see. He was blind. Strange quality of this man was, to carry a lighted lamp at night. he carried a lighted lamp with him whenever he went out at night. People just thought he is gone crazy since they knew that he was blind and yet carried the light. There were no streetlights. And since people were familiar with the roads they were not much worried to travel at night. And with stars and moon lit up in the sky it was probably a bit visible but noticing others coming on the opposite side was quite difficult.

One night as he was going outside, he came across a group of young travelers. They knew that he was blind, yet carrying a lighted lamp. They started passing comments on him and made a fun of him. One of them asked him, "Hey Man! You are blind and can't see anything! Why do you carry the lamp then?!" The blind man replied, "Yes, unfortunately, I am blind and I can't see anything but a lighted lamp which I am carrying is for the people like you who can see. You may not see the blind man coming and end up bumping into me. That is why

I carry a lighted lamp". The travelers felt ashamed of their behavior, without recognizing the wisdom of this old man.

Light may not illumine the darkness of a blind person, but it does illumine even the darkest place on this universe. That is the power of the light. The thought of the blind person was wonderful. Even though it doesn't lead him, the presence of darkness shouldn't be an obstacle for others to bump into him. A great thought...Where did this blind man get this wisdom. He might have realized this initially when he tried to walk at night and people bumped into him. He used light as the means to keep safe himself and other. Just because we are not blind there is no guarantee that we will not fall. Just because we have light too there is not guarantee that we will not bump into another person. Not falling and not bumping into others depends on how careful we are as we travel. The blind man to a certain extent was careful than other's.

Likewise, today we come across the careful travelers who were led by a small Light - the Bethlehem star. They followed the light saw Jesus and worshiped him. Let us be wise to take a nice step. That leads us to Jesus. First we need to see what is blocking me from going to Jesus. Darkness? Darkness is our problem. Pride, hatred, frustration, evil desires, Pleasure of this world etc.,

Light has come into the world, but people loved darkness instead of light because their deeds were evil. John 3:19

- ☐ Our Desire to go to Jesus can lead us to him.
- ☐ Right direction that we take can lead us to him.
- ☐ Proper guidance of prudent people can lead us to him.

We need to take every possible step that can direct us to our lord.

Let us be guided by the light of Christ. Amen.





**We will be praying the Novena Prayer at conclusion of Mass each weekend. The Prayer is as follows (copies are available in the Church)**

### *Mother of Perpetual Succour*

*O Mother of Perpetual Succour, behold me a miserable sinner at thy feet. I have recourse to thee and put my trust in thee O Mother of Mercy have pity upon me. I hear thee called by all the refuge and the hope of sinners; be then my refuge and my hope Succour me for the love of Jesus Christ; stretch forth thy hand to me a poor sinner, who recommend and dedicate myself to thee as thy perpetual servant. I bless and thank God for having in His Mercy given me this confidence in Thee. the pledge, as I believe of my eternal salvation. Alas, too often in past times have I miserably fallen because I had not recourse to thee. I know that with thy help I shall conquer, I know that thou will help me if I recommend myself to thee, but I fear lest in the occasion of falling I should cease to call upon thee and so should lose my soul. This then is the grace I seek from thee, and I beg of thee as far as you know how and can, to obtain it for me namely, in the assaults of hell, always to have recourse to thee and to say to thee; O Mary, help me. Mother of Perpetual Succour, suffer me not to lose my God, Amen.*

**THREE HAIL MARY.**

## UPCOMING SAINTS AND FEASTS

### *The Baptism of the Lord ~ Feast*

January 9

### *Saint Hilary, Bishop and Doctor of the Church*

January 13

### *BVM*

January 14

## PRAYER REQUESTS

Pray to end Abortion, Russell Brooks, Cassie & Clifton Centers, Maere Tekanene, Bill Moses, Jerry Roberts, Donna Blevins, Norma Wilson, Dennis Parks & Family, Erica Davis, Chris & Amanda Decker, Debbie Moses Haggins, Rose Grant, Sandy Hurts, Dominic Cureton, Todd Morris, Alex Woods, Christopher Braden, Bonnie (Warfield) Bishop, Sister Alice, Curt and LeeAnn Hall, Jay Baird, Gail Willis, Mr. & Mrs. Bill Bisceglia, loved ones who are ill, Brody Beavers and family, Shawn Lee Day, Judy Delisle, Dal Macon, Linda Mills, Judy Patrick, Bob and Marie Alvaro, JoAnn Brown, Cathy Sims, Robert Moses, Kristina Neitsch, Danny Ezell, Jean Sharp and Iva Lee Hamblin.

If you know of someone that needs added or removed from the Prayer Requests, please notify the office by email or by calling the office.

*We would like to remove the Christmas Decorations after Mass this weekend. Assistance will be greatly appreciated.*

# Dear Padre,

***I've been asked to be a godparent. I'm honored but also a little hesitant. What does a godparent have to do?***

Congratulations. It is an honor to be a godparent. Hesitancy is appropriate, too, as it is also a responsibility. The Church takes baptism very seriously. As a godparent/sponsor, you represent the larger Catholic community into which the child is being received. Church law requires several qualifications for being a godparent/sponsor. As a Catholic, you should have been baptized, confirmed, and received the Eucharist. You must be a practicing Catholic and at least sixteen years old (though some dioceses may have other age requirements). You should understand the meaning of baptism and the responsibilities that you will undertake on behalf of the Church.

Parishes often include godparents in the baptismal preparation programs they offer to parents. This baptismal instruction might challenge you to examine your life. The power of your good example cannot be emphasized enough. A child may not understand the behavior of adults, but the child sees their actions. You cannot tell a child to pray if you yourself don't pray.

Don't be scared off by all this. You are being invited to participate in the most important day of this child's life and to continue being involved as the child lives and grows. Don't let it be just a day of pictures and a party. If you let it, this day may change your life, too. ●



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**The Redemptorists / DearPadre.org**

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
January 9	January 10	January 11	January 12	January 13	January 14	January 15
Baptism of the Lord	Weekday	Weekday	Weekday	Weekday	Weekday	Second Sunday in Ordinary Time
Is 42:1-4, 6-7 or Acts 10:34-38	Heb 2:5-12	Heb 2:14-18	Heb 3:7-14	Heb 4:1-5, 11	Heb 4:12-16	Is 49:3, 5-6
Mt 3:13-17	Mk 1:21-28	Mk 1:29-39	Mk 1:40-45	Mk 2:1-12	Mk 2:13-17	1 Cor 1:1-3
						Jn 1:29-34

**Daybreaks inspires during our Church's holiest seasons.**

Leading Catholic voices inspire the faithful with daily reflections & prayers for Advent and Lent. Including: Fr. Ron Rolheiser, Dr. Mary Katharine Deeley, Sr. Dianne Bergant, Fr. Paul Turner, and more at Liguori.org.



CNS PHOTO/PAUL HARRIS

## A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

***How many foreigners, including persons of other religions, give us an example of values that we sometimes forget or set aside! Those living beside us, who may be scorned and sidelined because they are foreigners, can instead teach us how to walk on the path that the Lord wishes.***

**HOMILY, ST. PETER'S SQUARE, OCTOBER 9, 2016**