THE PARISH COMMUNITY OF SAINT KATERI TEKAKWITHA

427 Stanhope Road Sparta New Jersey 07871

973-729-1682

www.saintkateri.org email: office@saintkateri.org

LOVE GOD, LOVE OTHERS AND MAKE DISCIPLES OF JESUS CHRIST

The Epiphany of the Lord

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Deacon Bruce Olsen

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* * *

Cathy Pivowar
Robert Medina
Trustees

Parish Office Closed
December 24 , 2020 to January 4, 2021

Sacrament of Baptism: Baptism will be celebrated every 1st Sunday & 3rd Sunday of the month at 1:00pm. Please call eight weeks in advance of the date of baptism or email: jennd@saintkateri.org.

Sacrament of Marriage: Arrangement should be made one year in advance of the marriage date. Please call the office.

Eucahristic Adoration: Every first Friday of the month from 2:00pm. Ending with evening prayer, prayer novena to St. Kateri and benediction at 7:00pm.

Mass Intentions For the Week

Jan. 2, - Sat. 5:00	**+Santo Scaglione**
Jan. 3 , - Sunday	**THEEPIPHANY OF THE LORD**
7:30 am	**+ Hortencia Dimzon**
9:00 am	**+Anthony Tasco**
10:30 am	**+People of the Parish**
12:00 nn	**+Barbara Schulman**
Jan. 9, - Sat. 5:00 pm	**+Elizabeth Schmidt Holdsworth**
Jan. 10 , - Sunday	**THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD**
7:30 am	**+Thomas Murphy**
9:00 am	**+Anthony Bonanni**
10:30 am	**+Joyce Lake**
12:00 nn	**Sis. Edyth Fitzsimmons**

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

First Reading: Isaiah 60:1-6 : Isaiah speaks poetically of the coming of the Lord. He describes how "darkness covers the earth" but light and glory appear over God's chosen people.

Second Reading: Ephesians 3:2-3a, 5-6 : Paul tells the Ephesians that the Jews and Gentiles are now co-heirs of the promises God has made. He explains that both groups are now members of one body through Jesus Christ.

Gospel: Matthew 2:1-12 : After Jesus' birth, three astrologers from the east came to Jerusalem and inquired about the newborn king of the Jews. King Herod became greatly angered, and asked the astrologers to bring him more information about the child once they had found him, so that he too could pay homage to the infant. However, Herod's true plan was to kill Jesus. The wise men were warned in a dream not to return to him and they took a different route to return home.

Epiphany of the Lord

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

Monday: 1 Jn 3:22-4:6; Mt 4:12-17, 23-25

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

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

Thursday: 1 Jn 4:19-5:4; Lk 4:14-22

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

Saturday: 1 Jn 5:14-21; Jn 3:22-30

We are grateful to all those who have signed up for Electronic Giving and those who continue to mail in or drop off weekly donations. We truly appreciate your ongoing support and want to let you know we're here for you. You are a valued members of our church family. Thank you for all the notes we receive in with your offerings that carry messages of kindness and hope. Your Sunday offering Even though our church is quiet, facility utilities do not go away. Needs of our community, ministry, and families still remain as well. We cannot meet such needs without your help. As we are not able to serve in large groups or in person, our gifts of prayer and treasure are ever so important, even crucial to get us through this difficult time. If you haven't already, please consider setting up a recurring gift online. It takes two simple steps and the rest is seamless, automatic, and very flexible. Please visit our donation page at: www.saintkateri.org/electronic-giving You can also continue to mail your gifts and envelopes to the parish at: 427 Stanhope Rd, Sparta, NJ 07871.

May God bless you and your loved ones.

	Weekly	Month of Dec.
Regular Collections		$17, 798
Week Ending 12/06/2020		
Regular Collection	10,114	
Maintenance	198	
Snow Removal	278	
Week Ending 12/13/2020		
Regular Collection	7,684	
Immaculate Conception	1,056	
Debt Reduction	365	

Week Ending 12/20/2020	NOT AVAILABLE
Dec. 25- Christmas Day	AT TIME OF
Week Ending 01/03/2021	PRINTING

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY

EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

WELCOME:

New parishioners are asked to register by calling or visiting the parish office or by speaking to one of the parish staff. You can also visit our website and register.

WHY A CATHOLIC CHRISTIAN SHOULD BE A REGISTERED PARISHIONER

The precepts of the Church explained that: we need to belong to a parish (your parish is the Church in the City where you are domiciled) and to contribute to its support. Everyone should do this (Canon 107).

To identify yourself with a worshipping community of faith. Salvation comes to us by God in community. Religion is not meant to be individualistic. Membership in a parish community is the norm.

To allow the priest of the parish to know you so that Letters of Recommendation can be given when needed. (Sponsorship/certificates)

ACTIVE MILITARY LIST

Please pray for our Active Military: Sean Schoch, Infantry Second Lieutenant, SSgt Daniel Joseph (DJ) Duguay, US Air Force; James Schoch, Infantry Second Lieutenant; Frank Cutrone, First Lieutenant, US Army; LtCol Dan Murphy, US Marine Corps; LTJG Katherine Garza, US Navy; LTJG David Garza, US Navy; LCpl Josh Jackson US Marine Corps.

May God keep them safe and protect them from all harm. If you would like a love ones name added to the prayer list for the military, please call the parish center, 873-729-1682.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS THOSE WHO ARE SICK

We pray for: Taylor Donnelly, Pat Kane, Kathy Hartwick, Rob McGuirren, Brian Naccarelli, Bill McCrossan, Carol Mohr, Graydon McVicker, Edward Wallace, MaryAnn Eifler, Christopher Robak, Margie Frazier, Al Saveriano, Henry Schubert, Patrick Dillsworth, Chris Auger, Margaret Brennan, Brittany Johnson, Lanita Ramos, Anita Sarong, Michael Cordero.

REFLECTION

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. Matthew 2:11

"Epiphany" means manifestation. And the "Epiphany of the Lord" is Jesus' manifestation not only to these three Magi from the East, but it's also a symbolic but real manifestation of the Christ to the whole world. These Magi, traveling from a foreign and non-Jewish nation, reveal that Jesus came for all people and all are called to adore Him.

These Magi were "wise men" who studied the stars and were aware of the Jewish belief that a Messiah was coming. They would have been versed in much of the wisdom of the day and would have been intrigued by the Jewish belief in the Messiah.

God used what they were familiar with to call them to adore the Christ. He used a star. They understood the stars and when they saw this new and unique star over Bethlehem they realized that something special was happening. So the first lesson we take from this for our own lives is that God will use what is familiar to us to call us to Himself. Look for the "star" that God is using to call you. It's closer than you may think.

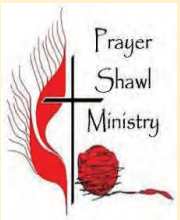
A second thing to note is that the Magi fell prostrate before the Christ Child. They laid their lives down before Him in complete surrender and adoration. They set a perfect example for us. If these astrologers from a foreign land could come and adore Christ in such a profound way, we must do the same. Perhaps you could try literally lying down prostrate in prayer this day, in imitation of the Magi, or at least do so in your heart through prayer. Adore Him with a complete surrender of your life.

Lastly, the Magi bring gold, frankincense, and myrrh. These three gifts, presented to our Lord, show that they acknowledged this Child as the Divine King who would die to save us from sin. Gold is for a King, frankincense is a burnt offering to God, and myrrh is used for one who would die. Thus, their adoration is grounded in the truths of who this Child is. If we are to adore Christ properly, we must also honor Him in this threefold way.

Reflect, today, upon these Magi and see them as a symbol of what you are called to do. You are called from the foreign place of this world to seek out the Messiah. What is God using to call you to Himself? When you discover Him, do not hesitate to acknowledge the full truth of who He is, lying prostrate before Him in complete and humble submission.

Lord, I love You and adore You. I lay my life before You and surrender all. You are my Divine King and Savior. My life is Yours. Jesus, I trust in You.

Bereavement Ministry
Contact:
Laura Entwistle
973-726-8978



Wrap yourself in a prayer shawl drenched in prayers and made with love.
Contact:
Sandy Cangemi
973-726-3549

Do you or a loved one need private prayers?
Contact:
Sue Weaver
prayerteam@saintkateri.org

Saint Kateri Faith Formation

Congratulations to our First Communion Students who made their First Reconciliation this Advent! It was so wonderful to see you and your parents in church for this special sacrament. May the light of Christ continue to shine through you this Advent and always!

Our Family/Home Mass & Bible Lessons continue:

- All registered SK Faith Formation families attend any (Sat/Sun) Mass each weekend, and then,
- All registered Faith Formation Families visit our SK Faith Formation of Sparta, NJ Facebook Page, and our website, for the Family/Home Mass Lesson each week.

Additionally:

- Those enrolled in Sacramental Preparation (1st and 2nd Grade Communion Prep, and 7th and 8th Confirmation Prep): 1st and 2nd Graders complete sacramental assignments in their grade-specific workbooks. 7th and 8th (and above) Grades must follow the links on our SK FFormation Facebook Page for materials and instructional videos (from Father Vidal and our catechetical team) specific to their preparation.

***Please make sure to pick up your Magnifikid! Mass booklet pamphlets for the months of December & January! It will help your children to be more engaged in Mass, and it will help your family to practice the proper Mass responses.

God bless you and your families, and have a blessed and beautiful Advent and Christmas.

Cheryl Wallace - Director of Religious Education and Pastoral Associate Saint Kateri Tekakwitha Parish, 427 Stanhope Road Sparta, NJ 07871
(973) 729-3021 - cherylw@saintkateri.org

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God, thank you for a new year. May everyone in our family be willing to begin anew with a clean slate. We know that you are always ready to forgive us. Help us to be willing to forgive ourselves and to forgive one another.

As we begin a new year, remind us of our truest values and our deepest desires. Help us to live in the goodness that comes from doing what you want us to do. Help us to put aside anxiety about the future and the past, so that we might live in peace with you now, one day at a time.

HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL

Announcement of Easter and the Moveable Feasts

(for the year 2021)

Know, dear brethren (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 **seventeenth** day of **February** will fall Ash Wednesday, and the beginning of the fast of the most sacred Lenten season.

On the **fourth** day of **April** you will celebrate with joy Easter Day, the Paschal feast of our Lord Jesus Christ.

[In those places where the Ascension is observed on Thursday:

On the **thirteenth** day of **May** will be the Ascension of our Lord Jesus Christ.*]*

[In those places where the Ascension is transferred to the Seventh Sunday of Easter:

On the **sixteenth** day of **May** will be the Ascension of our Lord Jesus Christ.*]*

On the **twenty-third** day of **May**, the feast of Pentecost.

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

On the **twenty-eighth** day of **November,** the First Sunday of the Advent of our Lord Jesus Christ,

to whom is honor and glory for ever and ever. Amen.

KID'S KORNER

Year B

Gospel Today

The Epiphany of the Lord | Matthew 2:1-12

The 3 are called **wise men**, **kings**, or **magi** - they saw and understood that the baby Jesus was truly God. They took a different route home and did not go back to Herod.

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The Feast of the Epiphany celebrates God's revealing Himself to us in the baby Jesus.

CELEBRATE WITH A KING CAKE!

King Cake season goes from the Feast of the Epiphany through Shrove Tuesday *(Mardi Gras)*. This round "crown" cake, represents the journey of the 3 kings, and is decorated in purple *(justice)*, green *(faith)* and gold *(power)* icing or sugar. Some cakes have a hidden bean or tiny plastic baby hidden inside and the one who finds it is "crowned", or responsible for the next cake.

-INGREDIENTS-

small bowl	small bowl	small bowl	large bowl
1 cup milk *(scalded)* 1/3 cup butter *(melted in milk)*	1/4 cup warm water 1 package yeast 1 tsp. sugar	2 eggs beaten 1/2 cup sugar pinch salt	Let all ingredients sit about 15 minutes, add to flour - mix well 4 cups flour

-DIRECTIONS-

Knead on floured surface, 10 minutes *(add more flour if needed)*. Rub dough ball with vegetable oil and place in covered oiled bowl in warm place to rise, 1 hour or double in size. Roll flat into rectangle and brush on oil or melted butter, sprinkle with sugar cinnamon. Roll into log starting on long edge. Form into ring (crown), pinch edges together and let rise on baking tray. Bake 350° for 15 - 20 minutes or until golden brown.

Colored sugar: In a jar add 1/2 cup sugar, 1-2 drops food color… green or yellow or red/blue *(purple)* and shake well. Decorate with green, purple & yellow *(gold)* cake icing and colored sugar. *This cake does not include a bean or baby, as in some traditions, due to choking hazard.*

SWEET as HONEY

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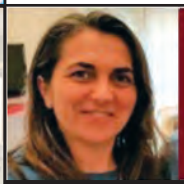
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