

The Epiphany of the Lord



Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.

**ST. JOHN BOSCO
CATHOLIC CHURCH**

January 2, 2022

The Pastor Jots It Down

Dear Parishioners and Friends of St. Rosalie and St. John Bosco Parishes and School,

Happy New Year! Happy Feast of the Epiphany!

Last Sunday, we celebrated the Feast of the Holy Family! I hope you all read *The Pastor Jots It Down* which had some good suggestions for New Year's resolutions as well as the article on the Importance of Family Time ... three pages of very worthwhile reading.

This week as we celebrate, the Feast of the Epiphany, we have in this week's bulletin, a coloring page for our children as well as an article about the 4th Wise Man – the story of Ataban. This beautiful story by Henry Van Dyke was made into a feature film starring Martin Sheen and Alan Arkin. It would be a great movie for family viewing as we celebrate the Epiphany. The full length movie is available for free on Youtube.

You can search on Youtube for *The Fourth Wise Man (1985) Full Movie* or use the following link <https://bit.ly/3p6pTBc>

The Westbank Salesian Family Christmas Party was simply beautiful. Many and sincere thanks to all involved in the planning, funding and execution of that grand gathering. I hope it will become an annual event in the life of the Salesian Family on the Westbank.

With deep gratitude for all those in attendance and in your expressions of love for Fr. George and myself on the occasions of our religious and priestly anniversaries, and of Fr. Steve's and yours truly's birthdays. Sincere thanks for your presence, greetings, cards and gifts!



I am looking forward to this New Year of 2022 and all the great adventures that we will encounter as we seek to grow together in holiness and happiness and eventually share the joy of being with God, our Blessed Mother and all the angels and saints in Heaven.

God loves you!

F. Mark





The Fourth Wise Man

Perhaps this year we can be that fourth wise man imagined by Henry Van Dyke. His name was Artaban. He had planned to travel along with his fellow kings. However, he delayed assisting a woman who was dying. So, he missed the march west. As gifts, he carried a precious sapphire, a rare ruby, and an exquisite pearl. He had to give up his sapphire to help a starving family. When finally, he found the stable, it was deserted. Mary and Joseph had scooped up the Child and escaped into Egypt. Artaban gave the ruby to secure the life of a babe destined to be destroyed by the mad King Herod.

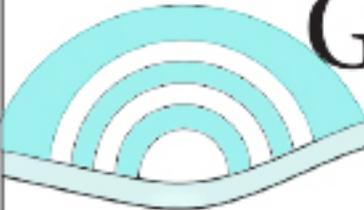
His search for the King of kings continued for thirty-three long years. When he learned of the events on Calvary, he rushed there to ransom Jesus with the priceless pearl. But on the way he met a man about to be sold into slavery. To his master he gave his pearl as ransom. At that moment, the earthquake struck. He was critically wounded by falling debris. The man he had just rescued held his head in his lap. He whispered into his ear, "Because you did it for one of these, you did it for me." Artaban had found his King. Van Dyke's fourth wise man throws a high intensity light on all of us.

Every one of us should be a point of light for those around us. It is always better to light a candle for those around us than to condemn the darkness. The same spirit that prompted Artaban to help the dying woman, the family, the infant, and the slave should motivate us to move out of our comfort zone for those in need and do something similar. Far too many of us, as one author writes, we kept the Bible on our dusty shelves rather than in our hearts and spirits. Dorothy Day said no one of us has the right to sit down and feel hopeless. There is simply too much work to do. For the New Year here are five gift suggestions from Sr. Melannie Svoboda: the gift of listening, the gift of affection, the gift of a note, the gift of a compliment, and the gift of a prayer. Allow your Christian life to be a perfume that ascends to God like incense.

Family Activities for Epiphany

Epiphany Coloring Page in this bulletin.

The Fourth Wise Man Video: <https://bit.ly/3p6pTBc> on Youtube. The Fourth Wise Man (1985) | Full Movie | Martin Sheen | Alan Arkin | Eileen Brennan



Growing in FAITH™

Discovering hope and joy in the Catholic faith.

January 2022

Fr. Mark Hyde, sdb
Pastor



One Minute Meditations

Laying our gifts at the feet of the King

The three Wise Men gave Jesus gifts worthy of a king. We can also present Him with our own royal gifts. While ours may not be actual gold, frankincense, and myrrh, we can still give to Him the best we have. Give God the first and the best of what you have and He will give you more than you can imagine in return.

Fall in love with God

From the moment God created you, he has been deeply in love with you. He made you deliberately so he could love you. “Before I formed you in the womb I knew you” (Jeremiah 1:5). He waits for you like a parent anticipates the return of a beloved child. Don’t let Him wait long.

“But God, who is rich in mercy, because of the great love he had for us, even when we were dead in our transgressions, brought us to life with Christ” (Ephesians 2:4-5).

Three tips to boost your prayer

Prayer fuels our spiritual life, but praying effectively can be challenging. Even the saints had dry spells. Among these was the mystic and Carmelite reformer, **St. Teresa of Avila**. Try these suggestions from her to enliven your prayer:

Become aware of God’s presence. It may feel as if God is distant, but He is so close. St. Teresa began by enjoying God’s nearness. Know that He is with you and wants your company.

Bring a good book. St. Teresa, who struggled with dryness in prayer, kept a book with her. Scripture, Lives of the Saints, or a book about the Faith can help us focus and spark conversation with Him.

Be honest. It is said that St. Teresa once fell into the mud and told God bluntly, “If this is how you treat your friends, no wonder you have so few of them!” God wants you to share all your experiences with Him – good and bad. Entrust your cares to Him and “*Do whatever he tells you*” (John 2:5).

Can you suggest a New Year’s resolution to grow in Holiness?

All Christians are called to holiness. “*Be perfect, as your heavenly Father is perfect*” (Matthew 5:48). There are three tools on which every Catholic can rely to attain greater holiness.

Daily prayer. God meets us in a very real and present way when we come to him in prayer. Start in the morning and pray throughout the day.

Weekly Mass. The Mass is a sacrifice and a meal. We receive Jesus’ body and blood as real food for our souls. He said, “For my flesh is food indeed, and my blood is drink indeed. He who eats my flesh and drinks my blood abides in me, and I in him” (John 6:55-56). That’s why we call it, “Communion.”

Monthly Confession. Jesus created the Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation (Confession) because he knew we would stray. He also knew we would want to come back. Frequent participation in this Sacrament sharpens our sense of sin, holds us accountable for our errors, and gives us the grace to keep trying for holiness.

Announcements



Deacon Kevin Steel Celebrates 13 years Ordained

"I've always felt called to serve in Ministry and Diaconate fit perfectly." Ordained in 2008, Deacon Kevin Steel graduated from Archbishop Shaw in 1981, University of New Orleans in 1989, and Loyola University Law School in 1998. Kevin was appointed to, and sat as, Judge 2nd Parish Court. He has also been appointed to Magistrate Court in Harahan and appointed as City Prosecutor in both Gretna and Westwego Magistrate Courts.

Married to Carolyn Daigle Steel for the last 36 years, they have two sons, Matthew and Michael, who are both Archbishop Shaw and University of New Orleans graduates. Kevin and Carolyn are enjoying being grandparents to their three beautiful grandchildren, Olivia, Julie, and Dominic Savio Steel.

Once ordained, Kevin spent the first two years at neighboring Christ the King Parish and has spent the last 11 years filling the ministry needs of St. John Bosco and St. Rosalie Parishes.

Congratulations Deacon Kevin and thank you for your service!

Br. Jerry Meegan, SDB



My first ever Salesian Retreat was an event that changed my life forever. I have Brother Jerry to thank for this experience. Not only did I begin my journey at Shaw without any religion in my life, I hardly knew anyone on campus. Brother Jerry was a central figure that believed in me and guided me in my first two years. Without his presence in my life, I may never have been deeply compelled and called to become Catholic. Thank you, Brother Jerry, for all of the support and prayers you have given my family and me over the years. Rest In Peace.

Josh Mitchell

"Do not put off till tomorrow
the good you can do today
You may not have a tomorrow."

-St. John Bosco



Adoration Chapel Re-opening

**The Adoration Chapel will resume following the
7am Mass January 3, 2022.**

If you are scheduled and need a substitute please
make arrangements at least three weeks in advance.
Hour Captains, call adorers of your hour.

**For more information email
stjohnbosco@adorationservants.org.**

Announcements

Knights of Columbus



The Knights of Columbus congratulates **Billy DiMarco** as the winner of the Nativity Tree. Thank you to everyone in the parish for supporting the organization.

Second Collection

Next weekend, January 8-9, there will be a second collection for the Church in Latin America. Your support for the collection provides lay leadership training, catechesis, priestly and religious formation, and other programs to share our Catholic faith with those who long to hear the Good News of Christ

Mens Club

The next Mens Club meeting will be **Thursday, January 6, 2022** beginning at 6:30pm. All men in the parish are invited to attend.



Sanctuary Candle

In Memory of
Veronica Nguyen Thi Tin
Anniversary of Death 1/14

Bread & Wine

In Memory of
Veronica Nguyen Thi Tin
Anniversary of Death 1/14

St. John Bosco Catholic Church

Served by the Salesians of Don Bosco

2114 Oakmere Dr. Harvey, LA 70058

office@saintjohnboscochurch.org

504.340.0444

Fr. Mark Hyde, SDB

Pastor

Fr. George Hanna, SDB

Fr. Wilgintz Polynice, SDB

Parochial Vicars

Kevin Steel

Deacon

Mass Intentions

Saturday, January 1

8:00am Parishioners of St. John Bosco

5:30pm +Doug Trauth, Sr.

+Jacqueline Guillot

+Wayne Delaune

+Joyce Sonnier

+Peter John Paul Nguyen

+Joseph Lai Duc Anh

+Jim McKenna

+Neil J. Folse, Sr. & Jr.

+Mary Ann Ramos

+Dolores R. Suarez

+Ramos Family

+Ford Family

Sunday, January 2

9:00am +William DeBlanc

Noon Happy Birthday Hanh Hoang Vuong

8:00pm Needs of Parish

Monday, January 3

7:00am +Louise LeBlanc, AOD

Happy Anniv. Neil & Hannah Jordan

Tuesday, January 4

7:00am Happy Birthday Blake Katicich

Wednesday, January 5

7:00am +Kimble Baughman, MOA

Thursday, January 6

7:00am Happy Anniv. Jeff & Mary Nguyen

Friday, January 7

7:00am Happy Birthday Sadie Ducote

Saturday, January 8

8:00am Parishioners of St. John Bosco

5:30pm +Jacqueline Guillot

+Mack Perry, Sr.

+Joyce Sonnier

+Peter John Paul Nguyen

Thanksgiving to St. Jude

+Jim McKenna

+Raymond & Helen Saulino

Sunday, January 9

9:00am +Rosario "Boogie" Termine

+Peggy & Anthony DiMarco, Sr.

+Estelle & William Allen

+Vernon Guillot

+Derek & Billy, Jr. DiMarco

+Hilda Miller

Happy Birthday Barbara Kuenz

Martin & Benedetto Families

All Souls in Purgatory

Noon +J.D. Spano

8:00pm Needs of Parish