

SAINT LUKE THE EVANGELIST PARISH

Westborough, MA

EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

January 5, 2025

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. Matthew 2:9-12



Today's painting is by one of the truly great Spanish masters, Diego Velázquez. Originally from Seville, he became the official royal court painter to the King of Spain in Madrid and is still considered one of the greatest portraitists of all time. We celebrate the Epiphany today, which highlights the visit by the three Magi (or "Three Kings"). Velázquez, a Baroque painter, prepared a dynamic composition establishing a diagonal from the lower left corner to the upper right for what was likely an altarpiece due to its large size (6'8"x4'1"). On the left we see the three Magi wearing contemporary Spanish clothing: Balthasar wears a red mantle (with an unknown youth behind him), Caspar kneels wearing black, and Melchior kneels before the Christ child in the foreground. All three offer their gifts of gold (symbolizing Christ's Kingship), frankincense (symbolizing his divinity) and myrrh (symbolizing his humanity). Joseph kneels to the right of the Blessed Virgin. All figures are based on real models and Velázquez highlights Christ's divinity by allowing only his face to be free of any shade or shadows. On the bottom right there is a plant with thorns foreshadowing Christ's Passion.

**GATHER HYMNAL
PAGE 1011
EPIPHANY OF THE LORD**

MASS INTENTIONS

- Saturday, January 4**
4:00pm **Harvey Hodsdon**
by family
- 6:00pm Spanish
- Sunday, January 5**
7:30am **Ernest & Alice Jalbert**
by Savoie family
- 9:00am **Claude Papp**
by Nancy Papp & family
- 11:00am **Joseph Fournier**
by his wife
- Monday, January 6**
9:00am **Harvey Hodsdon**
by family
- Tuesday, January 7**
9:00am **Ron Brady**
by Pat & Kenny Gagnon
- Wednesday, January 8**
9:00am Louise Bernieri
by Dorothy Green
- Thursday, January 9**
9:00am **Kim Dullea**
by Maureen & Ian Johnson
- Friday, January 10**
9:00am **Souls in Purgatory**
by the Horrigans
- Saturday, January 11**
4:00pm **Joan & Bill Finnerty**
by family
- 6:00pm Spanish
- Sunday, January 12**
7:30am **Thomas Despres**
by Patrick family
- 9:00am **Anthony Putnam (1st Anniv)**
by Anne & Kevin Egan
- 11:00am **Joseph Fournier**
by his wife



Please Pray for...

Nicole Bates, Susan Bailey, Jonathan Tomashefsky, Brian Howland, Sharon Wilkins, Michael LeBlanc, Mary Mahan, Becky Rawson, Ella Walker, Joan Sanders, Bev Longime, James Wright, Evelyn Croteau, Annabelle Duvane, Shirley DePalma, Agnes Limberger, Zachary Collins, Kupaa Keiley, Tiffany Kelley, Margie Morcone, Sharon Beaulieu, Mildred Raymond, Stephen & Kimberly Bankcroft, Toby Claufon, Joe Smith, Dawn Haight, Carol Aloisi, Teresa Putnam, Carmelia Potenti, Charles Arkle, Leanne McCann, Ellie Carlson, Jane Burke, Hayleigh Scott, Kellan Keough, Dorothy Clinton, Sr. Pamela Philbin, Karen Mooney, Sandy Thatcher Kerr, Sarah McMenemy, Helen Galica, Erik Olsen, Brendon Crowley, Richard Kane, Grace Roche, Jack Curtin, Jim Bennett, Kathleen Farrar, Kirolos Gergis, Gregg Merloni, Tome Valadao, Lynn St. Jean, Gene Buffo, Christine, Patrick, Robert & Coutinho family, Maryann Bisco, Susan Garry, Melvin Boucher, T.J. Bautz, Joan Fallon, Edward Hubbell, Nancy Camp, David Perry, John Durnan, Linda Darby, Louis Yuknavich, Annie Mason, Nancy Santory, Laconya Mobley, Gary Wilson, Jr., Debbie Giroux, Kevin & Donna Brennan, Luz Chavez, Debbie Krikler, Dalene Stephens, Vicki Foley, Joel Rivera, James Thomas, Jack Walker, Rich Reynolds, Thomas Houde, Ann Martin, Michael Berthuime, Joan Sanders, Sofia Shahin, Sarah Cox, Hailie McLatchey, Barbara Auger, George Cabana, Beverly Taylor, Jeanne Amendola, Jack Walker, Daniel Baker, Rebecca Coax, Robert Trant, Michael McAndless, Michael Del Pozzo, Paola Amorelli, David Sawyer, Madison Knopf, Claire Kennedy, Frank Sannelli, Pat & John Lusek, Michael Zancewicz, Kristy Cautello, Judy Melfa, Neil Kenny, Joseph Malzone, Lois Kerbel, Michael Turpin, Frank Murphy, Jr. Nick Johnson, Patricia Amorelli, Connor Blaney, William Fargelli, Demetrius Mobley, Erin Magrane, George Beecher, Susanne Ollman, Christina Narensky, Chloe Nascimento, Gary Shults,

Let us remember to pray for all our military men and women who are over seas in harm's way.

We remember those who have died

**EXPOSITION OF THE
BLESSED SACRAMENT & ADORATION
TUESDAY 9:30AM TO 6:00PM
Divine Mercy Chaplet 3:00pm
Prayers For Sanctity of Life 5:00pm
BENEDICTION AT 6:00PM**



NEW TO ST. LUKE'S?
A heartfelt welcome to new members of our parish family! Whether this is your first visit or you're joining us weekly, we are thrilled to welcome you to your new parish home. Be sure to visit <https://stlukes-parish.org/newcomers> or easy sign-up as a parish member with QR .
We look forward to meeting you soon!



Cover Image: Diego Velázquez, The Adoration of the Magi, 1619.
Source: By Diego Velázquez - Own work, Public Domain,
<https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=39124> Text © Christian A. Hedrick

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Explore faith together.

Alpha is a series of group conversations that explore the basics of the Christian faith in a friendly environment.

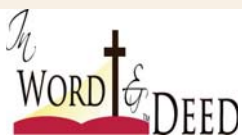
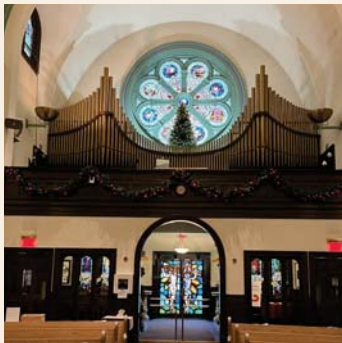
**12 Sessions Thursdays,
January 16—April 3
6:30pm—8:30pm**



Celebrating Christ's Birth



In the Church, at the Children's Pageant, and in the Parish Center Hall



A Global Positioning System (GPS) is a great device to have on a journey. It gives accurate directions and helps the driver navigate unfamiliar territory. With some models, however, it is important to use your computer to update its maps. Otherwise, you might end up short of your destination or taking a very long route to get there—if you get there at all.

The Magi undertake a long and difficult journey because they are convinced that the star they see is of Divine origin. Their GPS is the Glorious Power of a Star and it serves to lead them to Bethlehem where they see the Holy Infant. By their actions, they acknowledge this special Child and leave their gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. Theirs was a successful journey.

We're all on a journey of faith and in need of guidance. Our GPS is the Great Power of our Savior. He becomes the Way, the Truth and the Light, leading us on the path to eternal life. Make sure you update frequently. Prayer, Scripture, Sacraments and good deeds will keep us in contact with Him, enabling us to recognize Him wherever He may lead us.

~James Gaffney

FAITH FORMATION

**SUNDAY CLASSES for PreK to 6
RESUME January 12**

**TUESDAY CLASSES for PreK to 6
RESUME January 14**

**CLASSES for Grades 7-10
RESUME January 12**

**CONFIRMATION RETREAT
Saturday, January 11**

In case of inclement weather and cancelled classes, parents will be notified by email, through Flocknote, and on our Saint Luke's website.



Looking for Volunteers



Driver Needed! A parishioner who lives at the Willows on Lyman St is in need of a ride to Mass on the weekends. Any Mass works for her and she is able bodied. Please contact Julie Basque at pastoralassociate@stlukes-parish.org or call 508-366-8509 x 15 for more information. Thank you!



Calling All Cooks!

We are looking for people willing to *make a meal once a month* for a parishioner in need starting in January. Our meal ministry **coordinates** meals to be delivered weekly

to a parishioner in need of a home cooked meal. A group of four cooks each take one Wednesday per month to make their meal for the parishioner.

These meals are greatly appreciated. If you would be able to help us or would like more information please contact Julie Basque at pastoralassociate@stlukes-parish.org or call 508-366-8509 x 15.



Do you have travel plans?

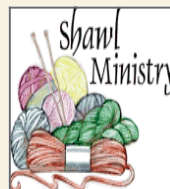
There is no need to miss Mass!

Use the website below to find a Mass
wherever you happen to be:

Together in Spirit

Please join us for our next gathering...

Wednesday, January 8th at 7:00pm



The Prayer Shawl Ministry will meet Tuesday January 14th from 1:00 – 2:30 PM in Room 23 of the Parish Center. This ministry is open to all interested in knitting or crocheting prayer shawls, lap robes or afghans for the sick and suffering. We also makes hats and mittens for the Giving Tree at Christmas. If you would like to participate but can't make the monthly meetings, please e-mail/call Carol Mulcahy at cmmulcahy@live.com/508-898-0409 for more information about patterns and yarn. We would love to have new members to fill the many requests for the handmade items. Yarn is available at the Parish Center.



St. Luke's Christian Initiation for Adults inquiry sessions continue. For more information, please contact Bob Thompson at 508-341-7677. We welcome all inquirers.

STAY CONNECTED! Be sure to sign up to receive "Flocknotes" from St. Luke's Parish

Text the word STLUKES to the number 84576 or sign up online: flocknote.com/StLukesWestborough



My dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

On Christmas Eve, Pope Francis will open and enter the Holy Door of Saint Peter's Basilica to celebrate Christmas Mass and begin a Jubilee Year.

A Jubilee Year is a special time of remission of sin and punishment due to sin. It involves pilgrimages, prayer, and works of mercy and penance. Jubilee Years awaken in us a profound awareness of the depth of God's love, mercy and solicitude for each one of us. That deepened awareness leads to a greater hope of sharing in the glory of God (Romans 5:2).

At Christmas, the glory of God briefly shone down on quaking shepherds tending their flocks as angels announced good news of great joy: God's Eternal Son was born of the Virgin Mary. Through the Holy Spirit, He took on our lowly humanity that we might forever share in the glory of His divinity. As Jesus was fully God and fully man, no one can claim that God is distant from us, or unaware of our trials. He walked among us and died for us. He is that close. He cares that much. This gives us hope throughout life and in every circumstance of life. Pope Francis has called us "Pilgrims of Hope" as the theme for this year's Jubilee. It is a hope that will not disappoint because it is based in Jesus Christ who is the Eternal Word of God made flesh.

The New Year 2025 is not only a Jubilee Year, but an anniversary year. It is the 1900th anniversary of the Council of Nicaea, which defined the dogma of the divinity of Jesus Christ as true God and true man. It is also the 75th Anniversary of the founding of the Diocese of Worcester, for which we give thanks. 2025 will be a year full of opportunities for grace, hope and joy. They all stem from the Son of God and Son of Mary who was born in Bethlehem. I pray that you and your loved ones will have a blessed Christmas and that the observances and celebrations of 2025 will prolong those joys, deepen your faith and strengthen your hope.

With every prayerful best wish for a Merry Christmas, I remain

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Reverend Robert J. McManus, S.T.D.
Bishop of Worcester

St Luke's Grand Annual Update

As Father Diego and Father Sagar shared at Mass, the 2024 Grand Annual Fundraiser for facility repairs was a tremendous success with total collections exceeding \$150,000!

The most pressing project, the repair/renovation of our leaking Church roof, is underway. With support from the Worcester Diocese, we have hired a professional engineering firm to evaluate the condition of the building and work with potential contractors to identify our options. We expect the results back from this process in January.

Progress on two other projects is being made. First, as many of you are aware, we have had several incidents at our Church and on the Parish Center grounds recently. Installation of a video overwatch system in the Parish Center is complete and we expect to install a similar system for our Church in January. These systems will enable us to remotely monitor building entrances/exits 24 hours a day and in real-time. Second, a group of parish volunteers has been working for some months with the Town of Westborough to design new, conforming, Church building signage that will both identify the building for emergency personnel as well provide up-to-date information about Church Masses.

To everyone who has supported our 2024 Grand Annual fundraiser, thank you for your generosity!

SAINT LUKE THE EVANGELIST CHURCH

ST. LUKE THE EVANGELIST CHURCH

70 West Main Street, Westborough



PARISH CENTER OFFICES

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Office 508-366-5502

www.stlukes-parish.org

PARISH STAFF:

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Fr. Sagar Gundiga, Associate Pastor

Contact: 508-366-5502

Email: frsagar@stlukes-parish.org

Craig Stine, Director of Music

email: music@stlukes-parish.org

Denise Pelkey, Rel. Ed. Coord. Jr/HS, EXT 17

e-mail dpelkey@stlukes-parish.org

Melissa Baril Lower, Rel. Ed Coord. PreK-6, X 16

email: mbarillower@stlukes-parish.org

Nan Ford, Parish Outreach, EXT 18

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Maria Gasser, Parish Secretary, EXT 10

e-mail office@stlukes-parish.org

Linda Underwood, Finance Manager, EXT 19

e-mail financeoffice@stlukes-parish.org

Lawrence Orlando, Building and Grounds

Patrick Malone, Building and Grounds

ST. LUKE'S PASTORAL COUNCIL

EMAIL: pastoralcouncil@stlukes-parish.org

Ellen Gualtieri, Chair

Colin Murphy, Secretary

Julie Basque

Cristian Carrasco

Jaime Gomez

Christian Hedrick

Kevin Hsu

Tom Kieler

Silvia Pinto

Judy Savoie

Mass Schedule

Saturday: 4PM, in Spanish 6PM

Sunday: 7:30AM, 9:00AM, 11:00AM

Weekday Masses

**Monday through Friday,
9:00 AM**

**NEW TO THE PARISH
WELCOME**

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

*Please call Maria at 508-366-5502
for information*

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

*Saturday from 3:00 to 3:45PM ~ also by personal
request. Reconciliation Room is handicapped
accessible*

SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE

*Please contact a Priest at least six months
in advance*

RCIA

*Contact the parish secretary if interested
in becoming Christian in the Catholic faith
tradition.*

VISITATION OF THE SICK

*Our extraordinary ministers are always pleased
to bring the Eucharist to parishioners who are
unable to join us for weekly worship. If you or a
family member would like to receive Commun-
ion, please call Julie at 508-366-8509. If you
know of someone from the parish who is in the
hospital, please let us know.*

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