

January 8, 2023 | *The Epiphany of the Lord*



PRINCE of PEACE

CATHOLIC PARISH



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THE HOPE OF THE WISE MEN

MATTHEW 2:1-12

Epiphany



MASS SCHEDULE

Lord's Day Masses

Saturday 4:30pm
Sunday 8:30 & 10:30am

Daily Masses

Monday – Friday 8:30am
Rosary prayed every weekday at 8:00am

Holy Days/Feast Days

8:30am & 7:00pm

RECONCILIATION

Saturday at 3:30pm (In the church)
or by appointment

OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Wednesday: 9am - 2pm

STAFF

Pastor

Rev. H. Edward Chalmers

Business Manager

Bill Lawton

Religious Ed Coordinator

Sharon Bushway

Secretary

Deborah Harding

Musicians

Denis and Priscilla Coughlin

Finance Council Chairperson

Gerald Gates

SACRAMENTS / OTHER

Baptism

Instruction is required for all parents seeking baptism of their child. Please contact the Rectory.

Marriage

Please contact the Rectory at least one year in advance.

Care of the Sick

Please advise us of parishioners who are sick so that we may keep them in prayer and bring the Eucharist to those who cannot attend Mass.

Confidential Prayer Line

To add intentions please call Ellen Calamari at 978-660-3818 or the Rectory at 978-464-2871.

Adult Bible Study

Please contact the Rectory for schedule

Alcoholics Anonymous Meetings

Wednesdays at 8:00pm in the Parish Hall



*Please pray to end
Abortion
and Infanticide*

Sat	1/7	3:30pm 4:30pm	<i>Confessions</i> Mark Lemoine by Sue & Paul Schmitt
Sun	1/8	8:30am 10:30am	Special Intention Prince of Peace Parish and all Parishioners
Mon	1/9	8:30am	Holy Souls in Purgatory
Tue	1/10	8:30am	Pauline Bissonnette
Wed	1/11	8:30am	Intentions of our Prayer Line and Prayer Intention Book
Thu	1/12	8:30am	Special Intention
Fri	1/13	8:30am	unrequested
Sat	1/14	3:30pm 4:30pm	<i>Confessions</i> unrequested
Sun	1/15	8:30am 10:30am	unrequested unrequested

Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.



DAILY MEDITATION: MATTHEW 2:1-12

The star . . . stopped over the place where the child was. (Matthew 2:9)

Imagine how difficult the Magi's journey was. If they came from Persia, as most scholars believe, they would have had to travel nearly one thousand miles. That's four months on the road. Traveling all that time with treasures like gold, frankincense, and myrrh would have made them ripe targets for brigands and highway robbers. And then there were the general conditions, "the ways deep and the weather sharp," as the poet T. S. Eliot put it. How many times do you think they were tempted to turn around and return home?

To add insult to injury, when they came to Jerusalem, they discovered there was no "newborn king of the Jews" to be found (Matthew 2:2). They had to go to Bethlehem and "search diligently" for him there (2:8).

What a model of faithfulness and perseverance! And these were pagans who didn't even worship the God of Israel!

On this day, when we celebrate the first Gentiles to worship the Lord Jesus, let's follow their example on our own journey toward Jesus.

When the way of discipleship seems too deep and the weather too sharp, picture the Magi trudging over miles and miles, determined to get to Jesus.

When the lies of the devil or the allure of the world tries to rob you of your faith, picture the Magi guarding their treasures.

When the road to holiness turns out to be longer than you thought it would be, or when it takes an unexpected turn, picture the Magi pressing on to Bethlehem to seek the Christ child.

The Magi were "overjoyed" when they found the Lord (Matthew 2:10). Similarly, your perseverance will be rewarded with the deep-down joy that comes from knowing the overflowing love of Jesus. Surely this is a journey worth taking! "Jesus, help me to persevere so that I can behold your glory!"

Finally, the Magi returned to their home country by way of another route. As Fulton Sheen commented so magnificently: "Of course they did; for no one comes to Christ and goes back the same way he came!"

*The Epiphany of the Lord
January 8, 2023*



Dear Friends,

With the celebration of the Epiphany, we remember that three men followed a star and found, "the Light of the world." Upon coming to the infant Jesus, they adored Him while offering gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. This beautiful event whereby Jesus is revealed to the world ends in tragedy as Herod saw the infant Jesus as a threat to his power. Jesus, Mary and Joseph flee to Egypt as all the male children up to two years old in the area of Bethlehem are slaughtered by the order of Herod.

During this year, as we deal with the many challenges of daily life, may we find fulfillment in our faith. God has revealed Himself as Father, Son and Holy Spirit providing us with the gift of faith to personally respond to that revelation.

Through prayer, worship and acts of charity, we can continue to strengthen our relationship with God. In this process, may we seek out holiness, allowing ourselves to make a personal commitment to God. We can begin this endeavor by accepting the ways of Jesus. By being humble and loving people unconditionally, we can overcome pride, ego, arrogance, greed, jealousy, anger, resentment, revenge and lust. May we always be aware of these realities that drive us away from God and lead into sin.

Again, our belief in Jesus challenges us to be more like the Lord. I wonder, are we willing to do so? Be well and be safe!

*God's love and prayers always,
Fr. Ed*

Weekend Collection - Dec. 25, 2022

Sunday Offertory:	\$3966.00
Maintenance:	\$10.00
Christmas:	\$1815.00
Camp. Human Dev:	\$50.00
Retirement for Religious:	\$5.00
Total Collection:	\$5,846.00

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Weekend Collection - Jan. 1, 2023

Sunday Offertory:	\$1006.00
Monthly:	\$350.00
Make-up:	\$85.00
Maintenance:	\$250.00
High Energy Costs:	\$45.00
Christmas Flowers:	\$50.00
Christmas:	\$20.00
Solemnity of Mary:	\$225.00
Total Collection:	\$2,031.00

Thank
you
for
your
kind
support

Don't Let Others Set Your Day

By: Michael Brown - Spiritdaily.com

Don't let others affect you negatively. Don't let others, or little things, set the mood for your day. It's easier said than done, but it can be accomplished by focusing on Jesus and a direct relationship with Him more than focusing on fellow humans or situations.

For instance, someone goes roaring by you, in a car, with anger you can feel, or even gives a loud honk; smile. Pray for the well-being of the person: not just a quick insincere prayer, but with the heart. The person may be in debt, perhaps hit with a huge car repair bill. Or he or she may be in a difficult marital spot. Perhaps there is the worry in his or her home of serious illness. Who knows what is going through the heads of those we brush by in life?

But here's the point: If they honk a horn, why let that affect you? Why let it or anything like this give you a "bad day"? Is God in control — are you — or are random strangers (for that matter anyone)? Set out to have a good day no matter the challenges and tests and have a good day appreciating Christ in everything.

Demonstrate your trust by sitting quietly in His Presence. Set aside anything waiting to be done until you communicate with Him. Refuse to worry. Only pray. This sacred time strengthens you and prepares you to face whatever or whoever the day will bring.

A test of faith this is and a good resolution: waiting before working, going to Him before forging ahead.

When we do that, notes a Christian writer, Sarah Young, the world of spir- its notices; trust weakens principalities and powers.

The most fruitful means of resisting evil is to draw close to Christ. Make it direct and up close. Make it personal. He is not in some distant place but closer than your own shadow.

He will guide you through the Bible. Read it and let it talk to you.

The world? It is overpowering. Overstimulating. It "hypes" us up. We need pills for blood pressure.

Instead of prayer, we fret or complain. Not complaining — and not reacting to the negative others do — is a sacrifice that reaches Heaven and another step in purifying your soul.

In the noise of the world, we can lose all sense of direction. Not so with Jesus. Not so with Bible open. Doing countless unnecessary activities will dissipate your energy. When you spend time with Jesus, He restores your sense of direction. "As you look for Me for guidance," says a word of knowledge, "I enable you to do less but accomplish more."

Diocese of Worcester

January 8, 2022 - The Epiphany of the Lord



"Then they opened their treasures and offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh." (MATTHEW 2:11)

The image of the Magi kneeling before the infant Jesus and opening their treasure chests for Him is an image that we should all try to follow each day. In gratitude for all that we have been given, we are called to generously share all of our gifts, not just the ones we pick and choose. God wants us to be generous with everything, but especially that one thing that means the most to you.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Winter 2023 Schedule for Grades 1-10

January

Sun 1/22 9:30 - 10:15am

Sun 1/29 9:30 - 10:15am

February

Sun 2/5 9:30 - 10:15am

Sun 2/12 9:30 - 10:15am

Sun 2/19 *No Class (February school vacation)*

Sun 2/26 9:30 - 10:15am

March

Sun 3/5 9:30 - 10:15am

Sun 3/12 9:30 - 10:15am

Sun 3/19 *No Class*

Sun 3/27 9:30 - 10:15am

BUILDING A STRONG FOUNDATION

"Let the children come to me"
Mathew 19:14



As The Clock Ticks Into A New Year

By: Michael Brown - spiritdaily.com

As the clock ticks away, bringing us into 2023, perhaps it is opportune to meditate on the "gift of time."

That's right: in the current age, time is a gift. We seem to have so very little of it that it has become a rare commodity. Think about how little time we set aside for relatives and friends. We're so caught up in work or computers or television (or all of the above) that we can't seem to spare a moment. Sometimes it nearly seems like God has sped up time (do you ever feel that way?). Something very strange is going on. But really, we may also made things pass so fast. Everyone is suddenly too "busy." There is no time for what they used to call "smelling the roses." There's no time for a human to answer a phone. We rush from one day and week and month to another with no real goal — and no real end in sight. Years flash.

In the age of computers, things move that much faster and life becomes almost breathless. And yet spare a moment we must. It's important to find balance in our lives. We all need to make sure we have full personal lives. And time is one of the best things you can give someone: setting aside moments to talk with others, to visit, to help. Unrushed. Make this one of your New Year's resolution: to have spare time. It's one of the best gifts for others — and also one of the best things you can give yourself.



Holy Hour to Pray for Priests

On Friday, Jan. 13 from 7 - 8 pm a holy hour to pray for priests will take place at Immaculate Conception Church on 353 Grove St., Worcester. The holy hour consists of time for silent adoration, a short reflection, the rosary, and benediction. Please join us to pray for our priests.