

The Epiphany of the Lord, January 4, 2026

“Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.” (Mt 2:11)

Referring to the Old Testament, it can be stated that the gifts offered by the Magi signify, above all, that the newly born Jesus is the Lord of the whole world and that all nations render Him due homage. In the time of the Fathers of the Church and in the centuries that followed, these gifts were interpreted symbolically. Irenaeus of Lyons and Origen saw in myrrh an indication of Christ’s death; gold belonged to Him as King, and frankincense as God. Maximus of Turin maintained that frankincense points to the priestly dignity of Christ.



People seek people. Some travel great distances in order to meet someone. They undertake many hardships to see a loved one. In a similar way acted the Magi whom we encounter in today’s Gospel. They were very persistent in seeking the Messiah.

Nothing interrupted their undertaking. “They entered the house and saw the Child with His mother Mary; and they fell down and paid Him homage. Then, opening their treasures, they offered Him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.”

What is this day, and what does it mean for us? It is the day of the manifestation to the whole world of God who became man. This truth suggests that we should know more about faith and about God.

On the Solemnity of the Epiphany, the Church gives thanks to God for the gift of faith that has become our share. Witnesses of this gift - its bearers - were precisely those three men from the East. In them, faith finds its expression as the acceptance of, and response to, God’s revelation.

On this day, we also witness the rites of the blessing of chalk, with which we mark the doors of our homes, and of incense. We also remember missions and missionaries who often risk their own lives while proclaiming Jesus Christ. Reflecting on all this, let us become people who seek the God who reveals Himself and pilgrims of hope.

Parish News

*2025 in numbers (2024 in brackets):

Sacrament of Baptism	14 (18) children
First Holy Communion	6 (12) children
Sacrament of Confirmation	4 (10) persons
Sacrament of Matrimony	9 (5) couples
Visits to the sick	121 (114) times
Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick	62 (21) times
Funerals	14 (13)

*In October, the counting of the faithful took place in the parishes of our diocese. The average Sunday attendance in our parish is as follows (2024 in brackets):

- 9:00 am Mass – 122 (107) persons
- 10:30 am Mass – 162 (158) persons
- 12:30 pm Mass – 140 (151) persons

*The Catholic Women’s League meeting will take place on Sunday, January 4, following the 12:30 pm. Mass.

*The closing of the Jubilee Year will take place on Tuesday, January 6.

*The Parish Christmas Lunch (Oplatek) will take place on Sunday, January 11, after the 12:30 p.m. Mass. Tickets available from Sunday, December 28: \$30 (children \$15), in the parish hall and at the Sisters’ house. The Oplatek is organized by the CWL and the Parish Council.

*Christmas Carols Concert “Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace...” will take place on Saturday, January 17, 2026. Holy Mass will be celebrated at 5:00 p.m., followed immediately by the Concert. Registration until January 11. Information and registration forms are available from Fr. Stan.

*Draw a patron saint for the year 2026 at:

<https://www.faustyna.pl/zmbm/patronowie> May the holy Patron Saints support us and help us participate ever more fully in the life and mission of Jesus, who reveals to the world the merciful love of God!

*Envelopes for the year 2026 are available for pickup in the parish hall.

*Donations: Dec. 24 \$ 3,810; Christmas \$ 7,375; KUL \$ 1,375; Dec. 28 \$ 18,840; Thanksgiving App \$50. Thank you!

C+M+B 2026

The custom of writing C+M+B 2026 with chalk on doors on the solemn of the Epiphany of the Lord has two main interpretations. First, they are the initials of the names of the Magi: Caspar, Melchior, and Balthasar. Second - and considered

by the Church to be the older interpretation - it is an abbreviation of the Latin phrase “Christus Mansionem Benedicat,” which means “May Christ bless this home.”

Home Blessing

Dear Parishioners, to request a home blessing, please fill out the invitation form and place it in the basket. Forms are available at the back of the church. Home blessings will begin after Christmas.

Thanksgiving

*Fr. Stanislaw and the Ursuline Sisters sincerely thank you for the Christmas and New Year wishes received, for your prayers, all offerings, and your kindness. May the good God bless you. We assure you of our remembrance in prayer.

Deceased

*Renata Koter. The funeral Mass took place on December 30, 2025. Our sincere condolences go out to her family.

Other announcements

*Preschool registration - Each year, schools belonging to the French Providence Catholic School Board organize Open House events for children and their parents. In 2026, all Open House events will take place on January 22 at 6:00 p.m. at the following schools: in Windsor - Georges P. Vanier, Monseigneur Jean-Noël, Saint-Edmond, and Saint-Thérèse; in Tecumseh - Saint-Antoine and Saint-Marguerite-d’Youville. Parents are asked to register at their local school. Additional information is available in the parish bulletin and at myfrenchschool.ca.

*Courses at St. Peter’s Seminary. Courses at St. Peter’s Seminary. Deepen your knowledge of the Catholic faith at St. Peter’s Seminary. Courses can be audited or taken for credit, mostly in person. Winter Semester offerings include:

Christology & Soteriology (5112B)

– Dr. John Dool, Tuesdays 9:30 am – 12:20 pm

Ecclesiology and Mariology (5411B)

– Dr. Heejung Cho, Wednesdays 7–8:50 pm

The Letters of Paul (5403B)

– Dr. Nick Meyer, Thursdays 9:30 am – 12:20 pm

The Pentateuch (5102B)

– Fr. Hervé Tremblay, Fridays 9:30 am – 12:20 pm

Online courses: Introduction to Catholic Liturgy (5141B)

– Fr. Pierre Robitaille, Tuesdays 7–10 pm (Zoom)

Spiritual Theology II (5461B)

– Fr. Stevan Wlusek, Fridays 10:30 am – 12:20 pm (Zoom)

Details about courses, class times, and instructors are available at: stpetersseminary.ca. For additional information and registration, contact Dr. Bernardine Ketelaars at bgketela@uwo.ca or by phone: 519-646-7152.

From the Diary of St. Faustina

“Carnival’s End. During these last two days of Carnival, I came to know a great flood of punishments and sins. The Lord allowed me, in a single moment, to see the sins of the whole world committed on that day. I fainted from terror, and although I know the entire depth of God’s mercy, I was astonished that God allows humanity to exist. And the Lord let me know who sustains the existence of this humanity: it is chosen souls. When the measure of the chosen is fulfilled, the world will cease to exist. During these two days I received Holy Communion in reparation and said to the Lord: ‘Jesus, today I offer everything for sinners; let the blows of Your justice strike me, and let the ocean of mercy envelop poor sinners.’ And the Lord heard my request; many souls returned to the Lord, but I was dying under the burden of God’s justice; I felt that I was the object of the wrath of the Most High God. In the evening my suffering reached such a state of profound inner abandonment that groans were torn from my chest against my will. I locked myself in my little cell and began adoration, that is, a holy hour. Inner abandonment and the felt justice of God - this was my prayer; and the groan and pain that burst forth from my soul took the place of a sweet conversation with the Lord.” (Diary, 926–927)

Prayer of Reparation for Our Sins and the Sins of the World - Divine Mercy Chaplet – St. Faustina

1.Begin with the Sign of the Cross: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

2. Opening Prayers: Our Father, Hail Mary, Apostles’ Creed.

3.On the large bead (before each decade): Eternal Father, I offer You the Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity of Your dearly beloved Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, in atonement for our sins and those of the whole world.

4. On each of the ten small beads of the decade: For His sorrowful Passion, have mercy on us and on the whole world. (Repeat this on all 10 small beads for each of the 5 decades.)

5.At the end of the chaplet, say three times: Holy God, Holy Mighty One, Holy Immortal One, have mercy on us and on the whole world.

Prayer for the New Year 2026

God, Creator and Father of all goodness, we thank You for the past year and all the graces that we received. We ask for Your blessing in the New Year 2026: may each day be filled with peace, joy, and health. Grant us the strength to do good, love our neighbors, and have faith in Your care. May Your presence guide our families, homes, and communities. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Happy New Year 2026

Szczęśliwego Nowego Roku 2026