

A poster for Epiphany of the Lord. The background is a deep blue night sky filled with white stars and a large, bright yellow star in the upper right. In the foreground, three stylized figures of the Three Kings are depicted from the chest up, facing right. They are wearing colorful robes (teal, green, and red) and golden crowns. The figures are made of layered paper or cardstock. The title 'Epiphany' is written in a large, elegant, dark blue script font, and 'OF THE LORD' is written in a smaller, white, sans-serif font below it.

Epiphany OF THE LORD

3 JANUARY 2021

THE PARISH OF SAINT JUDE



SAINT JUDE PARISH

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David Barr
Principal

SAFE ENVIRONMENT REMINDER

Anyone who volunteers in the school or with the parish ministries is **REQUIRED** by the diocese to be compliant with all Safe Environment clearances. If you have not registered on the Diocesan database you may do so by visiting www.diopitt.org and following the links. Thank you for your service to the parish!

**Diocese Victim Assistance Abuse
Hotline: 1-888-808-1235**

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Epiphany brings God among us

This weekend we are celebrating the Epiphany. For us, this feast commemorates the visit of the wise men to Baby Jesus. In Matthew's Gospel we read that some kings followed a star in the East in order to find a baby in the manger. The word "epiphany" is drawn from the Greek and means "manifestation" or "revelation" because this holiday also celebrates the manifestation of God in Jesus in our world. Therefore, this feast shows us today, how close Christ is to us, even as a child.

When I was a child, my parents celebrated this feast by putting a bean in the dough and cooking it inside a cake that we called the Three Kings Cake. The one who found the bean received the title of King, or Queen for the day. What was the prize? Well, special treatments like no chores for the day. Either way I was very happy because it was a chance to love my siblings even more. As I was reflecting on that moment, I've realized it was the occasion of celebrating not only the coming of our heavenly King but to bring Him concretely down on earth.

The visit of the Wise Men is an important time because Jesus is infinitely important. Today, looking back, I understood that this day is here to help all of us deepen our appreciation of having the presence of God among us. It is a time for us to consider how Jesus fulfilled his destiny and how we can fulfill ours too. In this way, we can celebrate the Epiphany every day. May Epiphany bring God among us.



Manon

A Huge Step Forward: The Personal Gifts of Epiphany this Coming Year

I want to begin by thanking everyone in our parish for the overwhelming out-pouring of love and generosity at Christmas, particularly by the way so many ARE responding to the special appeal I made by way of my letter to the entire parish in December. I am touched by the loyalty and care that so many have for our parish even when times are tough for us all. This is the exceptional spirit of our people at Saint Raphael and Sacred Heart. I am grateful that this same commitment will carry over into our new parish of Saint Jude. It proves that when we love God the way we do, all good things flourish no matter what the challenges are that we face. I am also happy that so many parishioners volunteer and make a difference in the communities where we live. I always enjoy hearing about the tremendous projects so many from our parish are involved in beyond our churches.

Today's feast of the Epiphany recalls the Magi and the symbolic gifts by which they adored the Christ Child. Their gifts symbolize even more than theological mysteries. They represent all the gifts that God has given us as a parish that we freely set at his service and share with one another.

I look forward to writing about the many new volunteers that are stepping forward to help and work with all our long time, dedicated volunteers. We will publish a special commemorative edition of the bulletin on January 9 and 10 as we celebrate the first weekend Masses of Saint Jude Parish. At that time, I will also list specific ways even more people can help us. Many parishioners ask what specifically is needed? They say maybe I can help! I will list a clear picture of our needs.

At the same time, I want everyone to know what the benefits are by volunteering at Saint Jude Parish. You can make a difference for us. You will meet many wonderful people from diverse backgrounds. You will be working for a worthwhile cause that you can believe in because at Saint Jude we will all define that mission. Most of all, we all love helping others, right? I am sure if you consider joining our core of volunteers at Saint Jude, you will find exciting ways to help people.

Our first volume of the Saint Jude Parish bulletin will make it easy and nice to sign up to volunteer. I realize that not everyone has a lot of time to volunteer so for those that want some undertakings that require less of a commitment, our parish will provide those options too. All the opportunities are extremely important. I personally value them all.

The Magi of Epiphany certainly never regretted taking the first step towards the adventure that led to deeper fulfillment. I invite all our parishioners to consider taking the first step of becoming even more engaged than ever in our new parish family. I can guarantee you we will have lots of fun together as well.

Father Joe

Be ready for the opening of the Newly Established Saint Jude Parish

The honor of your presence is requested either in person or by way of live streaming at the opening of the Newly Established Saint Jude Parish on the weekend of January 9 and 10, 2021.

The Events are tentatively planned as follows:

- JR, our choir director, is gathering a small choir at the Principal Masses to enhance the liturgical music. This choir might include a few of our own parishioners as well as bringing in a few guest members as we did on the Feast of Christ the King and Christmas.
- All Masses that weekend will celebrate the Baptism of the Lord while at the same time honor in some appropriate way our new Patron, Saint Jude. The two Principal Masses will be the 4:00 PM Mass at Saint Raphael Church and the 11:30 AM Mass at Sacred Heart Church. The 11:30 AM Mass on January 10 at Sacred Heart Church will be a concelebrated Mass with both deacons assisting (social distanced and wearing Mask, of course). My rationale for making that decision is based on the larger church having the capacity to safely accommodate a larger congregation if that should happen under the circumstances. The Council accepted that decision. I am grateful for their support and wisdom.
- The Council also supported asking every parishioner to make a Solemn Nine Day Novena in honor of Saint Jude beginning on January 1 and leading up to the Opening Celebrations. They made several suggestions how the Novena would be conducted and how people would have access to the prayers as well as an explanation of what a Novena means for individuals that may not be familiar with a novena.
- Council members want to have a special holy card of Saint Jude for all the parishioners that would like one with a commemorative inscription on the back pertaining to the Establishment of Saint Jude Parish and the date.
- The Council also wants something to be available with a brief message that includes the Mission Statement of Saint Jude Parish as it currently reads in its draft form.
- Finally, the Councilors asked if the children of SHES and our Religious Ed could be involved in some way by submitting children's art.
- The Council enthusiastically supported the project of reaching out to all the neighborhoods of our new parish and inviting people we do not know yet to celebrate with us. Since we cannot host a celebratory banquet as we would have if it were not for COVID, we will keep it for a later date when weather will be better and the pandemic on the down side.
- Finally, the Council will produce a video announcing the new parish and briefly expressing their enthusiasm that all our parishioners and neighbors join us in some way to celebrate this exciting beginning.

Peace

Father Joe



Novena to Saint Jude

Here is a beautiful Novena that we can pray together beginning January 1st until the opening of our New Saint Jude Parish:

*Most holy apostle, Saint Jude, faithful servant and friend of Jesus,
the Church honors and invokes you universally, as the patron of hopeless cases, of things almost despaired of.
Pray for me, I am so helpless and alone.*

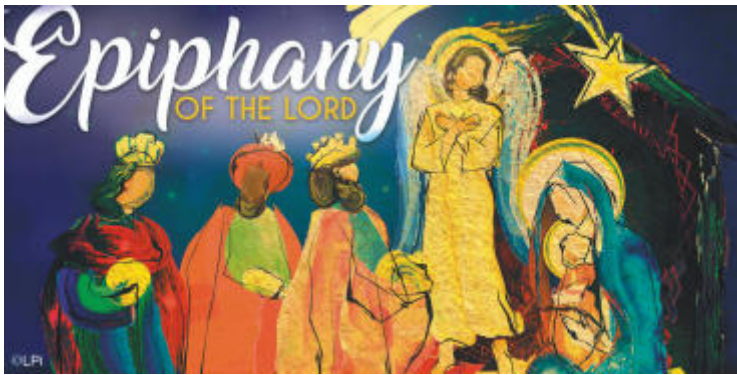
*Make use I implore you, to bring visible and speedy help where help is almost despaired of.
Come to my assistance in this great need that I may receive the consolation and help of heaven
in all my necessities, tribulations, and sufferings, particularly – (Here make your request)
and that I may praise God with you and all the elect forever.*

*I promise, O blessed St. Jude, to be ever mindful of this great favor,
to always honor you as my special and powerful patron, and to gratefully encourage devotion to you. Amen.*

Dear Parishioners:

At the time of the printing, we did not have available the Financials for the week of December 19-20, 2020. It will be available in a later bulletin together with the full Christmas report and the Christmas Flowers.

It is a new year, and we are a newly merged parish – **Saint Jude**. The diocese has directed us to cease using bank accounts entitled Sacred Heart and Saint Raphael. Please make out your donations to the new parish name going forward. Thank you again for your cooperation and above all for your continues generosity to our beautiful faith communities.



On Monday, January 4, our new parish, Saint Jude, officially begins. As we celebrate the Epiphany of the Lord, the manifestation of God's love for us in the person of Jesus Christ, let us pray that God will continue to pour out divine mercy upon us through our new parish. As the Magi brought their gifts to the new-born king, let us offer the gifts of ourselves, our time, talents, and treasure, for the success of our new parish. Let us pray that our united parish will be a joyful witness to the reality of divine love in our world today.

Special Thanks

Thank you to everyone who made Christmas so special despite the pandemic. On behalf of the Priests and the whole staff, thank you for the pastries, chocolates, gifts of all kind. You have been so generous to us and we are grateful to you.

Warm Gifts for Cold Mghts

*Saint Jude
Clothing Drive for the Homeless
& Those in Need*

*Epiphany Weekend, January 2 & 3, 2021 and
Through Friday January 8th*

*Gifts of Coats, Blankets, Mittens & Socks
Or any gently worn warm clothing*

Donations Will Go To:
*Catholic Charities of Pittsburgh
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**Place each Donated Clothing in a plastic bag
in Collection Bins located at the Front Church
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Volunteers at collection bins
will also accept monetary dona-
tions before all Masses of
Epiphany Weekend
Questions – Contact Jack Shaw
at 412-508-5383 or
shaw.jack@verizon.net

Churches decoration: Thank you!

Thank you to all those who helped decorating our two churches. They are absolutely fit for the birth of our Savior! Thank you also for the beautiful flowers and poinsettia.

Special thanks to the team: Mike Spik, Ed Lopresti, Dave

Sanchez,
Andy Par-
ker, Todd
Ernst, Joe &
Christine
Wingenfeld,
John Girata,
Nan and
Doug
Csupak.



Baptism

Congratulations to the family of
Adrien Angelo Napoleone
Charles John Carson
Eleanor Helene Kozlowski

*who were recently baptized! May God bless fami-
ly and friends as they share faith over the years!*

SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY

The Diocese requires a 6-month preparation period; a pre-marriage course is also required for each couple.

To **schedule a wedding**, please email weddings@bestpgpharish.org or call Margie at 412-661-3100 on Wednesdays between 4:00 PM and 7:00 PM.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

(25 people maximum, one baptism at the time)

For information or appointment, please call Barb Melick at 412-661-3100 ext 110.

Note that a **baptism preparation program** is required for parents who are presenting their first child for baptism.

ANOINTING OF THE SICK

For those seriously ill, preparing for surgery, or the elderly.

Please call Fr. Steven Palsa - Parish Chaplain at 412-720-3554

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturday, from 12:00 pm to 1:00 pm.

Priests and penitents are asked to wear a mask. Priest is 6 feet away from the penitent.

St. Raphael: Up front and center near the communion rail the following are in place:

A Screen and a chair for the priest

A floor marking for a person wanting face to face confession [no chair]

A floor marking for a person wanting to be anonymous
People waiting should stay behind the glass doors at the vestibule with 6 foot spacing

Sacred Heart: Sacred Heart Confessionals with open doors.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 2 - SAINTS BASIL THE GREAT & GREGORY NAZIANZEN, BISHOPS & DOCTORS OF THE CHURCH

4:00PM **SR** Thank you, St. Peregrine by Mary Ethel Pane
4:30PM **SH** Bishop John B. McDowell by friend

SUNDAY, JANUARY 3 - EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

9:00AM **SR** Lorraine Ciorra by Carol DeMasi
9:00AM **SH** Ward and Reifsnnyder Families by Margie Ward
11:00AM **SR** Irma Mazza by Doris Olinger
11:30AM **SH** Living and Deceased members of the Tonzig and Coraluppi Families by Luisa Coraluppi
7:45PM **SH** For the People of Saint Jude Parish

MONDAY, JANUARY 4 - Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton, Religious

9:00AM **SR** Edward Borczyk by Julia Morrissey
12:05PM **SH** Margaret Petruna by Family

TUESDAY, JANUARY 5 - Saint John Neumann, Bishop

9:00AM **SR** Rosaria Costa (Month's Mind) by Family
12:05PM **SH** John Meyers by friend

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 6 - SAINT ANDRÉ BESSETTE, RELIGIOUS

12:05PM **SH** For Spiritual and Wellbeing of Fitzgerald Family

6:30PM **SR** Thomas E. Exler, Jr. by Mary Exler and Family

THURSDAY, JANUARY 7 - SAINT RAYMOND OF PENAFORT, PRIEST

9:00AM **SR** Antonetta Zottola by August and Franca Costa
12:05PM **SH** Rose & Jack Mele by Family

FRIDAY, JANUARY 8 - CHRISTMAS WEEKDAY

9:00AM **SR** Thomas Albert Morrissey
12:05PM **SH** Dolores Cessar by Linda Bartolacci

SATURDAY, JANUARY 9 - CHRISTMAS WEEKDAY

4:00PM **SR** Rosaria (Imberlina) Costa by August and Franca Costa
4:30PM **SH** In Thanksgiving for Favor Granted

SUNDAY, JANUARY 10 - BAPTISM OF THE LORD

9:00AM **SR** For the People of Saint Jude Parish
9:00AM **SH** Craig Miller by friend
11:00AM **SR** John Coyne and deceased members of Coyne Family by June Coyne-Givens
11:30AM **SH** For Benefactors
7:45PM **SH** Fr. Bob McKnight by friend

Sanctuary Candles - January 3 - January 9

Saint Raphael Mark Borsody by Tom & Melissa DeiCas

**Readings for the week of January 3, 2021**

Sunday: Is 60:1-6/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13 [cf. 11]/ Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6/Mt 2:1-12
Monday: 1 Jn 3:22—4:6/Ps 2:7bc-8, 10-12a [8ab]/Mt 4:12-17, 23-25
Tuesday: 1 Jn 4:7-10/Ps 72:1-2, 3-4, 7-8 [cf. 11]/Mk 6:34-44
Wednesday: 1 Jn 4:11-18/Ps 72:1-2, 10, 12-13 [cf. 11]/Mk 6:45-52
Thursday: 1 Jn 4:19—5:4/Ps 72:1-2, 14 and 15bc, 17 [cf. 11]/Lk 4:14-22a
Friday: 1 Jn 5:5-13/Ps 147:12-13, 14-15, 19-20 [12a]/Lk 5:12-16
Saturday: 1 Jn 5:14-21/Ps 149:1-2, 3-4, 5 and 6a and 9b [cf. 4a]/Jn 3:22-30

Please pray for our  tly deceased and their beloved families
Carolyn Natoli
Francesantonio (Frank) Greco



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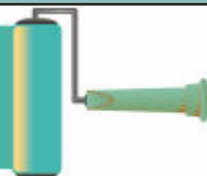
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