

Sunday, Jan 06, 2019

SOLEMNITY OF THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

We bow to a higher authority

From the first moment of his papacy, Pope Francis impressed the world with his humility. The newly minted pope bowed his head and invited us, the church, to bless him. How rare it is for leaders on the world stage to approach their role with humility and reverence! The typical response to the bestowal of power is a rising spirit of arrogance and aggression. We observe the contrast between the Magi who prostrate themselves before an infant, while King Herod snarls and plots violence with his yes-men. How do we wield the authority we hold in our hands?

TODAY'S READINGS: Isaiah 60:1-6; Ephesians 3:2-3a, 5-6; Matthew 2:1-12 (20). "They prostrated themselves and did him homage."

Monday, Jan 07, 2019

MEMORIAL OF RAYMOND OF PEÑAFORT, PRIEST

And for your penance . . .

What if you went to Confession and for your penance the priest assigned you a book to write? This actually happened to Raymond of Peñafort (1175-1275), who felt that his life as a university teacher had been too soft and easy. When he asked his Dominican superiors to give him a harsh penance in retribution, they asked for a book to guide confessors. Later, in the "creative confessions" department, Raymond found himself the pope's own confessor. He assigned the pope the penance of swiftly hearing and expediting all petitions of the poor! Be creative in repenting, and be sure to do it whenever needed (more often than we like to admit).

TODAY'S READINGS: 1 John 3:22—4:6; Matthew 4:12-17, 23-25 (212). "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near."

Tuesday, Jan 08, 2019

CHRISTMAS WEEKDAY

See God and love

No one, scripture says, has seen God and lived. But of course scripture also tells of numerous encounters with God in which someone came away without being reduced to a pair of smoking sandals. Today it's not impossible to see God either: in other people, who are made in the image and likeness of God and carry God's spirit in them like a temple, to use Saint Paul's metaphor; in the sacraments, which make God present in a special way, especially in the Eucharist; in prayer, where we give expression to our relationship to God. Perhaps the most powerful way to pick up on the presence of God, though, is through love—in particular the kind of self-giving love that God has for creation, that Jesus has for the world. Where there is that kind of love, there God is.

TODAY'S READINGS: 1 John 4:7-10; Mark 6:34-44 (213). "Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love."

Wednesday, Jan 09, 2019

CHRISTMAS WEEKDAY

Walk on

The disciples were terrified at the sight of Jesus walking on water. Indeed, God's power as evidenced in Jesus' miracles may seem terrifying, perhaps because the display of mastery over the forces of nature reminds us of our own limitations. None of us would last a minute trying to walk on water—but is that because of our physical limitations or because of our faith limitations? In the

gospel story, Peter actually does manage to take a few steps across the water toward Jesus, until he focuses on his own fears instead of Jesus' invitation. Bad move for Peter—and for us.

TODAY'S READINGS: 1 John 4:11-18; Mark 6:45-52 (214). "But immediately Jesus spoke to them, 'Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid.' "

Thursday, Jan 10, 2019

CHRISTMAS WEEKDAY

Keep your Christmas present

You remember Christmas—"May your days be merry and bright" and all that? Often we think of "getting through the holidays" rather than savoring, like fine wine, the implications of "God with us." What Christmas celebrates is nothing less than the most radical moment in human history: the leap from the divine to the human, piercing the veil, God taking root in skin and bone and changing our destiny forever. The lights may be packed away, the gifts exchanged, but that's the small stuff. How have I been changed by these days?

TODAY'S READINGS: 1 John 4:19—5:4; Luke 4:14-22a (215). "News of him spread throughout the whole region."

Friday, Jan 11, 2019

CHRISTMAS WEEKDAY

Count on God's mercy

Can any of us doubt that Jesus would choose the welfare of suffering people who come to him? Still, we often pray—and live—as if we doubt that God has our best intentions at heart. God's mercy is so clear and tangible, at the crèche and at the cross! If we ever find ourselves wondering if God really cares about the likes of us, we might bow and contemplate Jesus in the straw or nailed to wood.

TODAY'S READINGS: 1 John 5:5-13; Luke 5:12-16 (216). "The leper bowed and begged Jesus, 'Lord, if you choose, you can make me clean.' "

Saturday, Jan 12, 2019

CHRISTMAS WEEKDAY

Back to the future

The month of January is named after Janus, the Roman god of portals and doorways, of endings and beginnings. He is traditionally pictured with two faces: one looking back to the past, the other forward to the future. Tomorrow we celebrate the Baptism of the Jesus, which marks the end of the Christmas season and the beginning of ordinary time. That means today is a good day to look back over the Christmas season now ending and ask ourselves: What were some of the highs and lows? What could I do differently next year? Then look forward into the future: What must I let go of to embrace more fully the present moment? How do I want to live?

TODAY'S READINGS: 1 John 5:14-21; John 3:22-30 (217). "He must increase; I must decrease."



Nations shall walk  
by your light,  
and kings by your  
shining radiance.

Isaiah 60:3



Saint Anthony Church

15 Church Street

White River Jct. Vermont 05001

The Epiphany of the Lord – January 6, 2019

Father Charles R. Danielson, Pastor

Deacon John P. Guarino

Bishop of Burlington: Most Rev. Christopher J. Coyne

Parish Office

Hours

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday  
11:00 AM – 4:30 PM  
Closed on Wednesday

Secretary: Ms. Joanne Collins  
Telephone: 802-295-2225, ext. 3  
Office e-mail: Info@SaintAnthonyChurchWRJ.org  
Website: www.stanthonysvt.org

Mass Schedule

Weekend: Saturday 4:00 PM  
Sunday 8:30 AM  
Weekday: Monday & Friday 9:00 AM  
Holy Days: Consult the parish bulletin

Rectory Chapel

Adoration of the Most Blessed Sacrament  
Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday from 11:00 AM – 4:00 PM

Religious Education

Coordinator: Mrs. Julie Hamilton, 295-3989, juliehamilton130@comcast.net

Sacraments

Reconciliation: Saturday from 3:15 – 3:45 PM  
Baptism: Parents must come to the rectory to get the necessary forms at least a month in advance.  
Marriage: Couples must contact the parish at least 6 months in advance.

Invest just five minutes a day, and your faith will deepen and grow—a day at a time



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## Mass Intentions

<b>Saturday, January 5</b>	<b>4:00 P.M.</b>	<b>Ruth Guarino 55<sup>th</sup> anniversary by family</b>
<b>Sunday, January 6</b>	<b>8:30 A.M.</b>	<b>The People of Saint Anthony Parish</b>
Monday, January 7	9:00 A.M.	<b>In thanksgiving to Saint Anthony</b> by JLD
Friday, January 11	9:00 A.M.	<b>Dominic Digilio</b> by Mr. & Mrs. Eugene Boisvert
<b>Saturday, January 12</b>	<b>4:00 P.M.</b>	<b>The People of Saint Anthony Parish</b>
<b>Sunday, January 13</b>	<b>8:30 A.M.</b>	<b>Mary Gempka</b> by Third Order of Mary



Sister Alice Vincent  
Peter Dailey  
Patrick Kendall  
Richard Temple  
Mike Temple  
Frank Klymn

Please also remember others who are in need of our prayers.

Names will be published in our bulletin for one month. If you would like to renew your prayer request after one month, please contact the parish office.

Sanctuary Lamps  
will burn for:

Saint Anthony  
Parishioners  
& friends



## Sacrificial Giving Report

To meet our expenses we need:	\$ 3,610.00
Offertory collection December 29-30:	\$ 3,229.00
Christmas:	\$ 5,556.00

**Thank You for Your Support  
of Saint Anthony Church!**

## Message from Father Rick:

### *The Epiphany of the Lord*

Astronomers debate whether the “star” that guides the Magi to the Christ Child was in fact an actual star, or, perhaps a comet, or a super nova or perhaps a rare celestial conjunction of Jupiter and Saturn. Some skeptics point to the fact that only St. Matthew’s Gospel, includes this episode in the very early life of Our Lord.

For St. Paul the essential message in this mysterious event remains the same:  
The revelation, the “epiphany” or revealing of the Great Mystery of the universal salvation offered to all peoples in Jesus, The Word made Flesh!

Fr. Rick

**Low Gluten Altar Bread:** If you require a low gluten host for communion, come to the altar with the Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion. The celebrant will give you the consecrated low gluten host from a separate paten.

Please pray for the repose of the soul of **James A. Sheehan**, a parishioner, who died last week and whose funeral was held here on Monday. May his loved ones find solace in their faith and in the promise of eternal life with our heavenly Father.

**RCIA:** After several weeks off for the Christmas holiday, our parish R.C.I.A. program will resume Monday, January 7<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 PM. Let us keep those in the program, candidates and leaders in our prayers.

**Pot Lucky Bingo:** Pot Lucky Bingo time is fast approaching! On Saturday, January 26<sup>th</sup> after the 4 o'clock Mass, the church hall will be a hopping! Everyone is invited to join us for fun, food, fellowship and most of all chocolate! This event is hosted by our Religious Ed students. Please join us!

**Third Order of Mary:** The next meeting is this Sunday, January 6<sup>th</sup> at noon at the home of Marilyn White, 35 Stacy Lane, White River Jct. You are cordially invited to join us. Please call Marilyn White (802) 295-3507 with questions.

**A Note About Cold and Flu Season:** The Sign of Peace has been an integral and valued part of the worship of the church for centuries in the form of a kiss of peace or handshake. As we enter this cold and flu season, it is important to recognize that some people are especially susceptible to the viruses that can be spread by contact and that some immune systems are very sensitive. Please understand that some people may choose not to shake hands during the Sign of Peace, but might simply greet you with a smile.

Also, please use common sense and good judgment concerning Mass attendance if you are ill. If you do decide to come to church for Mass, please remember that frequent and thorough hand-washing, refraining from physical contact during the Sign of Peace, and refraining from receiving communion from the Chalice can help prevent the spread of germs.

**Annual Diocesan Respect Life Mass:** Mass will be celebrated Saturday, January 26, 2019, at 9:30 am at St. Augustine Parish in Montpelier with Bishop Coyne as Celebrant. Reception to follow. VT Right to Life will then sponsor a prayerful walk to the Statehouse with program to follow inside.

**World Marriage Day:** The celebration of World Marriage Day in the Diocese of Burlington will take place Sunday, February 3, 2019, at the 10:00 AM Mass at St. Joseph's Cathedral with Burlington Bishop Coyne as Celebrant. Recognition will be given to those couples celebrating their milestone anniversaries in the year 2019 (5, 10, 15 etc...) Couples can also choose to be recognized in their parish and receive a certificate on the following Sunday, February 10th. Please register through the Office of Evangelization & Catechesis, Marriage and Family Life at [www.vermontcatholic.org](http://www.vermontcatholic.org) or by emailing Lori Daudelin at [ldaudelin@vermontcatholic.org](mailto:ldaudelin@vermontcatholic.org) or contact the parish office ASAP.

**Divorce/Separation Hope & Healing Workshop:** The November 8th workshop with Lisa Duffy was recorded and is now available online. Video sessions include the keynote, a short testimony from a Vermont Catholic woman, and a presentation on the basics of the annulment process with Father Luke Austin, J.C.L., Judicial Vicar. You may view the video at <https://www.vermontcatholic.org/ministries-programs/marriage-family/separated-or-divorced/>.

**Haven:** The most needed items this week are peanut butter, tuna, canned fruits/vegetables, cranberry sauce and cereal. Other needs include winter coats for adults and children, and ponchos/raincoats for adults. Any non-perishable items may be left in the basket at the top of the stairs. Thank you!

**St. Anthony Parish would like to welcome all those who are visiting with us this weekend.**