

The poster features a vibrant night sky with a deep purple and blue gradient, filled with numerous stars and a prominent, bright star with a multi-pointed halo at the top center. The Milky Way galaxy is visible as a glowing band of light across the lower half of the sky. In the bottom foreground, the dark silhouettes of three camels with riders are shown walking across a desert dune. The overall theme is the Epiphany season, specifically the journey of the Three Kings.

SAINT
AIDAN

Catholic Church & School

WISE MEN STILL

Seek Him

January 3, 2021

**THE CHURCH OF
ST. AIDAN**
505 Willis Ave.
Williston Park
New York 11596-1727

516-746-6585
516-746-6055 (Fax)
www.staidanparish.org
lynnp@staidanparish.org
516-404-2746 (After Hours Cell)

Pastor
Rev. Adrian McHugh

Associate Pastors
Rev. Solomon Odinukwe
Rev. Ken Grooms

Deacons
Rev. Rudy Martin
Rev. Jerry Magaldi
Rev. Salvatore B. Villani

St. Aidan School
ext. 202, 203 Grades Nursery-2
ext. 302, 303 Grades 3-8
Principal
Mrs. Julie O'Connell
Assistant Principal
Ms. Barbara Graham

Faith Formation
ext. 404, 405
Director ext. 406
Mrs. Elaine Smith,

Youth Ministry
ext. 403
Mr. Stephen Loewenthal

Music Director
Mr. Drago Bubalo ext. 130
drago.bubalo@gmail.com

Social Ministry, Director
ext. 410, 408
Ms. Rosemarie Cavallaro

Parish Facilities Manager
Mr. Pat Perez

Business Manager
Ms. Maria Peluso ext. 107

**We invite
everyone to walk
with Jesus
and experience
His healing
power and love**

RECTORY OFFICE 516-746-6585

HOURS MONDAY TO FRIDAY

9:00 AM TO 12:00 PM

1:00 PM TO 4:00 PM

SATURDAY & SUNDAY

9:00 AM TO 12:00 PM

PLEASE WEAR A MASK

DAILY MASS

Catholics are dispensed from their obligation to attend Sunday Mass. Daily Mass can be viewed on staidanparish.org and on Facebook. Masks or cloth facial coverings must be worn by all present.

MASS CHANGE

Beginning Monday, January 4, 2021, the Monday to Friday 12:30 PM Mass at the Church of St. Aidan, will be moved to the Church of Corpus Christi. The 9:00 AM Mass at Corpus Christi will discontinue. This change is approved by the Diocese who encourage neighboring parishes to cooperate in serving the pastoral needs of the area. St. Aidan will continue to celebrate three daily Masses, Monday to Friday, at 6:30 AM, 9:00 AM and 5:30 PM. Few churches in the area offer an evening daily Mass, so we were encouraged to keep the 5:30 PM Mass. Three priests currently serve at St. Aidan. Two priests are available each day for Masses, funerals, duty etc.



BAPTISM

Baptisms are held on the 1st Sunday and 3rd Sunday at 1:30 PM.

BAPTISM CLASS FOR NEW PARENTS

The required Baptism class for new parents is held the second Sunday of each month beginning with the 12:00 Mass. Parents are asked to gather at St. Joseph's statue to the right of the main altar.

MARRIAGE

Arrangements are to be made at the Rectory office at least 9 months in advance. Pre-Cana and FOCCUS registrations must be arranged through the parish.

CONFESSION

Confessions are available in the church, screen only, on Saturday from 12:30 PM to 1:30 PM and 4:00 PM to 5:00 PM. You can also make a confession appointment with a priest by calling the rectory office.

ANointing & COMMUNION

The anointing of the sick takes place after the 12:00 PM Mass on the 4th Sunday of each month. Anyone who is homebound may receive Holy Communion at home on a regular basis. Call the rectory - ext. 1.

505 WILLIS AVE. WILLISTON PARK,
NEW YORK 11596-1727

516-746-6585
516-404-2746 (AFTER HOURS CELL)
516-746-6055 (FAX)

WWW.STAIDANPARISH.ORG
LYNNP@STAIDANPARISH.ORG



MONDAY, JANUARY 4

Fr. Adrian 6:30 AM
Fr. Ken 9:00 AM
Bishop Andrzej 5:30 PM

TUESDAY, JANUARY 5

Fr. Ken 6:30 AM

Fr. Solomon 9:00 AM
Fr. Solomon 5:30 PM

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 6

Fr. Solomon 6:30 AM

Fr. Adrian 9:00 AM
Fr. Ken 5:30 PM

THURSDAY, JANUARY 7

Fr. Ken 6:30 AM
Fr. Ken 9:00 AM
Fr. Adrian 5:30 PM

FRIDAY, JANUARY 8

Fr. Adrian 6:30 AM
Fr. Adrian 9:00 AM
Fr. Solomon 5:30 PM

SATURDAY, JANUARY 9

Fr. Solomon 9:00 AM
Fr. Ken 5:00 PM

Fr. Adrian 7:30 PM

SUNDAY, JANUARY 10

Fr. Adrian 7:30 AM
Fr. Ken 9:00 AM
Fr. Solomon 10:30 PM
Fr. Ken 12:00 PM

Fr. Solomon 5:00 PM

ST. ELIZABETH ANN SETON

Lv. Ints. of Jerry Sanders
Lv. Ints. of David Park (Birthday)
Daniel Colelli, Sr. (Anniversary Rem.)

ST. JOHN NEUMANN

Donato, Giannetto, Giufurta
& Giuliano Family
Andrew Kerzner
John & Gregg Fiore

CHRISTMAS WEEKDAY

Dunne, Dooley, Jordan
& Kelly Family
Leo Han (Birthday Rem.)
Victor Ferriggi (Anniversary Rem.)

CHRISTMAS WEEKDAY

Mary Difazio (Birthday Rem.)
Manny Abad (20th Anniversary Rem.)
Harriet Parendo (Birthday Rem.)

CHRISTMAS WEEKDAY

John J. McElroy, Jr.
Paul Bianco
John McCormick

CHRISTMAS WEEKDAY

Alanna McDermott
Virginia Starkes
(3rd Anniversary Rem.)
Raymond Prucha
James Bob McEnroe
Joan Plachcinski

BAPTISM OF THE LORD

Parishioners of St. Aidan
Diana Maciag (4th anniversary Rem.)
Maureen Amabile
Jan Bochoue
Frances & Edmund Niemczyk
Bridie & Huge McCarey
Thomas Joseph Tosano

THEY WERE
OVERJOYED
AT SEEING
THE STAR

ON
ENTERING
THE HOUSE
THEY SAW
THE CHILD
WITH MARY
HIS MOTHER

THEY
PROSTRATED
THEMSELVES
AND DID
HIM
HOMAGE



What's Pastor Thinking

Gift-giving season is over for another year. What was the best gift you received this Christmas?

Perhaps it's the thoughtful one, or maybe the expensive one. What about that practical gift? Ever gotten that kind of gift? Sometimes the most practical gifts are not always the best gifts to give. Married couples know that truth. What woman here truly enjoys getting a brand new multi-purpose mop or one of those 'Lose Weight in Twenty Days' kinds of books? Or still what man likes to receive the nose attachment that helps you to stop snoring?

So today we come to the magi who show up from the East bearing gifts for the child. 'They opened their treasures and offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.' Pretty strange gifts aren't they? Especially for a baby. A more practical gift might have been food, clothing, or tickets out of town to escape Herod, some diapers, a blue blanket maybe. But not a two-ounce nugget and two bottles of perfume. What silly, pointless,

useless gifts the magi laid before this poor baby! So what do we give God? Mostly practical things perhaps. Like prayer and our weekly offering in the collection, we give God our voice during the hymns. A smile or two. We show up and give God an hour of our time at Mass. Do we need to give such gifts? Absolutely.

But we can also offer God a seemingly unpredictable, spontaneous, gift. Give God something of yourself. That's what the magi tell us. 'No, I've never been in a small group before, but I want to begin.' 'I've never really taught before but I want to help children who attend Religious Education.' 'I'm retired and have attended this church faithfully for many years; I don't have much to give you, God, but I'll give what I can-I'll give myself to volunteer.'

The only true gift, Ralph Waldo Emerson once said, is a portion of yourself. From oldest to youngest, we are the magi invited to give God the gift of ourselves.

WE PRAY FOR OUR DECEASED

ANGELINA MARANGONI
 STACEY P. CULLEN
 FRANCESCO EMANUELE
 LLEW SMITH

WE PRAY FOR OUR SICK

Jill Ohl
 Lily O'Rourke
 John Joseph Mulrooney
 Steve Pomticello
 Kay Perro
 Mark Cristello
 Maryann Katkowsky
 Sean Anderson
 Francesca Caccavale
 Thomas Yorke
 Judy Kostovick
 Jack Groothuis
 Sharon Devis
 Agnes Chun
 Blaise DeCario Webber
 Virginia Fallon
 Kathleen Donnelly
 Frank Keenan

Isabella Mueller
 Eileen Fitzgerald
 Richard Arcario
 Janet Stemberger
 Jho Martin
 Mercy Velasco
 Anthony Bosco
 Tony Sigonolsi
 Shirley Aguirre
 Daniel Kozak
 Vittoria Fellin
 Peter Testani
 Ambrose Donnelly
 Siobhan O'Keeffe
 Christine Adelman
 Alicia Zumbrunn
 Anthony Siconolfi
 Rob Clarkin
 Geraldine Massey
 Ann McGarry
 Dominic Caccavale
 Greg Sasso
 Baby Nolan Shelley
 Noel Mcpartland
 Dana Cavanaugh

Flavia Marino
 Florence & Paul Simmons
 Mary Mone
 Jonathan Viola
 Christine O'Gara
 Juliana Kim
 Rosie Bischoff
 Kathleen Donato
 Rebecca Ross
 Michael Horowitz
 Robert Marino
 Helen Burns
 Deanna Tadej
 Grace Marie Devaney
 & Family
 Joseph Nolan
 Dahlina Paul
 Edward Dirrane
 John Hayes
 Paul Orlando
 Margaret Sullivan
 Arthur Pennisi
 Linda & Michael Hayes
 Nina & Charles Proc Accini
 Maureen Salzano

STEWARDSHIP

STEWARDSHIP, CHRISTMAS AND
 MARY MOTHER OF GOD
 COLLECTIONS WILL BE REPORTED
 IN THE JANUARY 10TH BULLETIN.

ONLINE GIVING

Over 350 parishioners are donating
 online. Go to staidanparish.org.
 Click DONATE.

CATHOLIC MINISTRIES**APPEAL**

Parish Goal \$150,000.00
 Pledges \$109,395.15 Donors 454
 Payments \$108,353.90

SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE

Saturday, January 9, 3:00 PM
 EMILY KAREN
 & JAMES SEIGER

BANNS OF MARRIAGE**THIRD WEEK**

EMILY KAREN, St. Aidan
 JAMES SEIGER,
 St. Bartholomew,
 Philadelphia, PA



AFTER the WISE MEN LEFT, THERE CAME the THREE POLITICALLY CORRECT GUYS

MUSIC FOR TODAY'S MASS

The First Noel

"NOEL"

THE ENGLISH CAROL

The first Noel the angel did say
Was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they
in fields where they lay keeping their sheep
on a cold winter's night that was so deep.

Refrain:

Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel,
born is the King of Israel.

They looked up and saw a star
shining in the east, beyond them far;
and to the earth it gave great light,
and so it continued both day and night. **[Refrain]**



We Three Kings

"KINGS OF ORIENT"

JOHN H. HOPKINS

We three kings of Orient are;
bearing gifts we traverse afar,
and fountain, moor and mountain,
following yonder star.

Refrain:

O star of wonder, star of light,
star with royal beauty bright,
westward leading, still proceeding,
guide us to thy perfect light.

Born a King on Bethlehem's plain,
gold I bring to crown him again,
King forever, ceasing never,
over us all to reign. **[Refrain]**

Frankincense to offer have I,
incense owns a Deity nigh;
prayer and praising, voices raising,
worshiping God on high. **[Refrain]**

Myrrh is mine; its bitter perfume
breathes a life of gathering gloom;
sorrowing, sighing, bleeding, dying,
sealed in the stone-cold tomb. **[Refrain]**

Psalm

PS 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13

R. Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

We saw his star at its rising
and have come to do him homage.

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

Songs of Thankfulness and Praise

"ST. EDMUND"

CHRISTOPHER WORDSWORTH

Songs of thankfulness and praise,
Jesus, Lord, to you we raise,
manifested by the star
to the sages from afar;
Branch of royal David's stem,
in your birth at Bethlehem;

Refrain:

"You are Christ," by us confessed,
God in flesh made manifest.

Manifest at Jordan's stream,
Prophet, Priest, and King supreme;
and at Cana, wedding guest,
in your Godhead manifest,
you revealed your pow'r divine,
changing water into wine; **[Refrain]**

Manifest in making whole
palsied limbs and fainting soul;
manifest in valiant fight,
quelling all the devil's might;
manifest in gracious will,
ever bringing good from ill; **[Refrain]**



What Child Is This

"GREENSLEEVES"

WILLIAM DIX

What Child is this, who, laid to rest,
On Mary's lap is sleeping?
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet,
While shepherds watch are keeping?

Chorus:

This, this is Christ, the King,
Whom shepherds guard and angels sing:
Haste, haste to bring Him laud,
The Babe, the Son of Mary!

Why lies He in such mean estate,
Where ox and ass are feeding?
Good Christian, fear: for sinners here
The silent Word is pleading. **[Chorus]**

Joy to the World

"ANTIOCH"

GEORG FREDERICH HANDEL

Joy to the world, the Lord is come!
Let earth receive its King.
Let ev'ry heart prepare him room,
and heav'n and nature sing,
and heav'n and nature sing,
and heav'n and nature sing.

He rules the world with truth and grace,
and makes the nations prove
the glories of his righteousness,
and wonders of his love,
and wonders of his love,
and wonders of his love.



share the joy

The Epiphany of the Lord

JANUARY 3, 2021



CNS Photo

"As we begin the New Year, may we discover anew that faith demands worship. If we can fall on our knees before Jesus, we will overcome the temptation to set off on our own path." ~ (Pope Francis, Jan. 6, 2020)

On this Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord, we remember that God came to earth for everyone, every nation, every people.

January is Poverty Awareness Month!

Poverty does not strike all demographics equally. For example, in 2018, 10.6% of men, and 12.9% of women lived in Poverty USA. Along the same lines, the poverty rate for married couples in 2018 was only 4.7% - but the poverty rate for single-parent families with no wife present was 12.7%, and for single-parent families with no husband present was 24.9%.

In 2018, the poverty rate for people living with a disability was 25.7%. That's nearly 4 million people living with a disability—in poverty.

Visit [PovertyUSA](https://PovertyUSA.org) for education on economic justice, resources for prayer, and key conduits for action.



- **TO PLACE A NEWS ITEM IN THE BULLETIN EMAIL**
LYNNP@ST AidanPARISH.ORG
- **TO PLACE AN ADVERTISEMENT ON THE COVER, CONTACT THE CHURCH BULLETIN 631-249-4994. THE COST OF OUR BULLETIN IS COVERED BY OUR SPONSORS.**
- **JOIN US FOR DAILY MASS FROM THE CHURCH OF ST. AIDAN AT ST AidanPARISH.ORG AND ON FACEBOOK**

ACT OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You.

SOCIAL MINISTRY

As Pope Benedict XVI said in his Encyclical, Deus Caritas Est, "Everything has its origin in God's love, everything is shaped by it, everything is directed towards it. Love is God's greatest gift to humanity; it is his promise and our hope."

WISHING EVERYONE A SAFE, PEACEFUL & HAPPY NEW YEAR!

FOOD PANTRY: Please bring all non-perishable food/ personal hygiene items to the Parish Social Ministry office. Coming soon, we will have a new food box where you can drop off your food donations. It will be located next to the St. Vincent de Paul clothing box.

Toothbrushes, dove soap, frozen pizza, chicken cutlets and chopped meat

PLEASE NOTE: The Parish Social Ministry office hours are: Monday-Friday, 9:00-3:00. Please use the Finamore Parish Center entrance (across from the church on Willis Avenue).

COAT COLLECTION

It's that time again. Keep the homeless warm this winter. Please donate a coat or jacket to a soup kitchen that feeds 185 million meals a year. Please call Tecky at

(516) 655-9755 or Cathy comayu27 @gmail.com for drop off point. Coats will be collected until February.

RCIA, RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION FOR ADULTS,

RCIA is a process that assists, instructs, and accompanies adults seeking to enter the Catholic Church. The process has five stages. Our parish family congratulates Conor Rood, who has completed a Period of Inquiry and has entered the Catechumenate through the Rite of Acceptance. A catechumen is one who is in direct preparation for the Sacraments of Initiation: Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist. Please keep Conor in your prayers as he prepares to become one with us at the Easter Vigil.

ARE YOU SEARCHING?

Do you know someone searching for a spiritual home? Our "no strings" inquiry is open to anyone searching that you may know. This is ideal for learning about Catholicism and for Catholics who have not yet received the Eucharist and/or Confirmation. There is no obligation to continue. To set up an appointment to speak to someone please call the rectory at 516-746-6585.

HOLY WATER

If you need Holy Water for your home please bring a bottle of regular water to Mass and ask the priest to bless it as you leave church.

THE ROSARY ALTAR SOCIETY

The Corporate Mass of the Rosary Altar Society will be on Sunday, Jan. 3, 2021. This Mass will be offered in memory of Mary Duffy and Veronica Fillipone.

The Mass can also be viewed online at staidanparish.org. We wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and a Happy Healthy 2021.

There will not be a meeting in January. Please continue to say the Rosary daily and pray for peace and good health. Stay Safe.

MONDAY NOVENA

Please join us every Monday morning after the 9:00 AM Mass for a Novena to the Immaculate Conception of the Virgin Mary. Rosary will follow.

ANOINTING OF THE SICK

Sunday, January 24th after the 12:00 PM Mass.

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Friday, January 15th from 1:00-3:00 PM

CHARISMATIC PRAISE AND WORSHIP WITH BLD GROUP

Every Friday from 7:15 PM to 9:30 PM. Healing Mass on the first Friday of the month.

JOIN THE COLUMBIETTES

Would you like to join a Catholic group in 2020? The Columbiettes, from Corpus Christi Council 2502, invite you to join our group. We are Catholic women 18 years and over. We meet at the Knights of Columbus 186 Jericho Turnpike, Mineola NY. RSVP to Ruth Ann at 516-221-6105 or Marge at 516-269-9178

JUNIOR CATHOLIC DAUGHTERS

Thank you to everyone who dropped off gift cards and holiday cards. Through your efforts Junior Catholic Daughters was able to send over 440 holiday cards to the residents of Parker Nursing Home and we sent over \$200 worth of gift cards to St. Aidan's Social Ministry. Thank you for demonstrating the true meaning of Christmas.

ATTENTION HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS

Are you the son, daughter, grandson, granddaughter, great grandson/daughter of a Veteran who served in the Military or is presently serving? American Legion Auxiliary Unit 144 has scholarship applications available. Applications can be downloaded, please contact Dianne Karl,

email dianneli@optimum.net, or call 516-746-2625 or text 516-778-0006. We have had scholarship winners for the past 6 years and this past year we had two winners from our Unit 144.

RELIGION AND ROCK

Tune into "Religion and Rock" with Msgr. Jim Vlaun on Sunday from 7:00 AM- 8:00 AM on WBAB 102.3 FM or 95.3 FM on Long Island's East End. Listen on Saturdays at 11:00 PM on Sirius Radio, Channel 159, the Catholic Channel and at 11:00 PM on XM Satellite, Channel 117.



Holy Name Society 9th Annual Super Bowl Raffle



Four "Super" Prizes

1st Quarter: \$250
2nd Quarter: \$500
3rd Quarter: \$250
Final: \$1,500

Here's How it Works:

- ♦ Only 100 Boxes Will Be Sold
- ♦ Cost: \$50 Per Box
- ♦ Boxes Will be Picked Randomly
- ♦ You'll be Notified of Box Number by E-mail or Phone
- ♦ Drop off the Below Form to Either the Rectory or Fred Pacher at 174 Primrose Road, Williston Park
- ♦ Make Checks Payable to St Aidan's Holy Name Society
- ♦ Act Quickly, Boxes Sell Out!

Holy Name 2021 Super Bowl Raffle

(Please Write Clearly)

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Any Questions Call
Fred Pacher 294.3104
fpacher@optimum.net

Tom Kelly 741-2874
trkelly33@gmail.com

**Good Luck
&**

**Thank You for Your Support of the
Holy Name Society Mission!**

Sunday's theme for January 3
 Being Excited. 1/10 Life's
 Struggles . 1/17 Unity . 1/24
 Searching for a Meaning . 1/ 31
 Spirituality
 Don't miss it! To listen online or
 receive more information
 regarding Religion and Rock go
 to www.ReligionandRock.com or
 at "Religion & Rock" on ITUNES.
 Don't forget to tune into
 CATHOLIC FAITH NETWORK,
 Cablevision Channel 29/137 or
 Verizon FIOS 296 or visit
www.cfntv.org ! To receive this
 announcement electronically,
 please email aayroso@cfntv.org

ESTATE PLANNING

When preparing your estate
 plan, please consider a bequest
 to the parish of St. Aidan. You
 can make a contribution to
 support ongoing operations of
 the church, school or contribute
 to a particular project. Your
 legal counsel can help you refine
 the bequest language to suit
 your specific wishes for the
 Church of St. Aidan. Thank you.

BAPTISM

If you wish to arrange a baptism, please contact the
 rectory at 516-746-6585. Once your request is received
 you will be invited to set the date. Forms need to be
 completed giving information on the parents, child's
 date and place of birth, as well as the names and
 religious affiliation of the sponsors. At least one
 sponsor must be a practicing Catholic.
 Baptisms are held on the 1st Sunday and 3rd Sunday at
 1:30 PM. If you wish to hold a private baptism you must
 make arrangements with a priest to perform the
 baptism service. Private baptisms may be held on
 Saturday or Sunday when the church is available.
 First time parents are required to attend a Baptism
 Class. Classes are held in the church on the second
 Sunday of the month after the 12 Noon Mass. Crying



**Thank you for your generous support of the
 2020 Catholic Ministries Appeal.**

**Completing your 2020 pledge ensures that our Parish
 will benefit by receiving our full rebate.**

**If you have not yet had the opportunity to give, please
 prayerfully consider making a donation to the Appeal.**

***Pledges can be accepted until December 31, 2020
 and payments can be made through January 31, 2021!***

Self-Mailers are provided in the back of the church.

Join us as we join together as *One Family in Mission!*

Thank You!

✂

Please make checks payable to *Catholic Ministries Appeal*.

Parish: _____	Total Pledge: \$ _____
Name: _____	Down payment: \$ _____
Address: _____	
City, State, Zip: _____	
Email: _____	
Phone: _____	Signature: _____ Date: _____

babies and noisy children are welcome. The next class
 is on Sunday January 10th at 1:00 PM in the church.
 Please contact the rectory office.

ADVOCACY IN THE PALM OF YOUR HAND

You now have the tools to make your voice heard to
 your elected officials right in the palm of your hand. The
 Catholic Action Network (CAN) can text critical
 advocacy alerts directly to your smartphone, with links
 to quickly send messages to your elected officials on
 urgent issues of the day. To sign up, just text the word
 CAN to 50457. You'll receive a one-time link to complete
 your registration, which is free. Please consider signing
 up today.

YOUTH GROUP 2021 SCHEDULE

JANUARY

- January 3 – No Meeting
- January 10 - Meeting @ Luigi's Pizzeria from 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM
- January 17 – No Meeting
- January 24 – Meeting in the Saint Aidan School Gym and Smore's Cookout in the Parking Lot from 6:00 PM – 7:30 PM
- January 31 – Meeting in the Saint Aidan School Gym from 6:00 PM – 7:30 PM

FEBRUARY

- February 7 – No Meeting
- February 14 – No Meeting
- February 17 – Ash Wednesday
- February 21 – Meeting @ Luigi's Pizzeria from 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM
- February 28 - Meeting in the Saint Aidan School Gym from 6:00 PM – 7:30 PM

MARCH

- March 7 – Lenten Prayer Service in the Saint Aidan Church and Smore's Cookout in the Parking Lot from 6:00 PM – 7:30 PM
- March 14 – Easter Basket Making for Social Ministry location TBD from 6:00 PM – 7:30 PM
- March 21 – Lenten Stations of the Cross Service in the Saint Aidan Church and meeting in the Gym from 6:00 PM – 7:30 PM
- March 28 - Meeting @ Luigi's Pizzeria from 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM

APRIL

- April 4 – Easter (No Meeting)
- April 11 - Meeting @ Luigi's Pizzeria from 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM
- April 18 – No Meeting
- April 25 – No Meeting

MAY

- May 2 - Meeting @ Luigi's Pizzeria from 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM
- May 9 – Mother's Day (No Meeting)
- May 16 – Meeting from 6:00 PM – 7:30 PM location TBD
- May 23 – Pentecost Prayer Service from 6:30 PM – 7:30 PM location TBD
- May 30 – No Meeting

JUNE

- June 6 – Meeting from 6:00 PM – 7:30 PM location TBD
- June 13 - @ Luigi's Pizzeria from 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM
- June 20 – Father's Day (No Meeting)
- June 27 – End of School Year BBQ and Smore's Cookout in Parking Lot from 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM

Please follow the Saint Aidan Youth Group on Instagram @Saint_Aidan_Youth_Group. New Members are Always Welcome! Youth Group is open to anyone in 8th - 12th Grade. For more information, please contact Steve Loewenthal at SaintAidanYouthGroup@gmail.com or at (516) 410 – 6461. Please note schedule is subject to change.

FRIENDS FOR LIFE

Every January since 1973, by participating in the annual March for Life, we remember the fateful day that Roe vs. Wade changed this country. To accommodate COVID-19 related restrictions this year, we will not be marching in Washington, D.C. on Friday, January 29, 2021, but that does not mean we will be sidelined. As we continue to accommodate COVID-related restrictions and other associated uncertainties in the coming months, the Office of Human Life, Family and Bioethics has decided that, on a diocesan level, we will promote the March for Life 2021 as a virtual pilgrimage with local events, rather than a bus pilgrimage to Washington, D.C. on January 29, 2021. As we prepare to commemorate this day, we are seeking out those in our parish where, instead of sponsoring a bus, there may be interest in hosting alternative activities such as a few hours of Adoration, a parish commitment to pray. To assist us with planning and promoting events in our parish, please let us know if your group would like to organize a prayer event for "March for Life." We ask the leader of your group to please contact the rectory to schedule a prayer event in the church. We are happy to coordinate with you.



WHAT'S HAPPENING AT ST. AIDAN SCHOOL

The Christmas Season would not be complete
without our Kindergarten Christmas Play!



ST. AIDAN'S "JUST WE TWO"

St. Aidan School will host a weekly "Just We Two" program for children between the ages of two and three years accompanied by his/her parent or caregiver.

The program will introduce your child to the idea of a school setting in a preschool classroom and allows bonding time for you and your child in a fun environment. There will be an age appropriate craft, free play, snack time (provided by parent for your own child), story and simple songs and finger plays. Please note, adults will be required to wear a mask. Limited space is available.

January 2021 Session:

Tuesdays 11:30 AM-1:00 PM

OR

Thursdays 11:30 AM-1:00 PM

Tuesday and Thursday activities are the same - please only register for ONE day.

Begins: Tuesday, January 19, 2021 - May 25, 2021

Thursday, January 21, 2021 - May 27, 2021

Cost: \$150.00

Location: St. Aidan Convent~ 16 Pembroke Street Williston Park

If you are interested, please mail completed form and payment to Saint Aidan School

525 Willis Avenue Williston Park, NY 11596 Attn: Just We Two.

If you have any questions, please call us at 516-746-6585 ext. 202

or email dvitale5547@staidanschool.org.



JUST WE TWO PROGRAM JANUARY 2021 REGISTRATION SHEET

Please indicate

1st and 2nd and 3rd choice

Tuesday

____ 11:30-1:00

Thursday

____ 11:30-1:00

(Tuesday and Thursday activities are the same)

Child's Name

Child's Date of Birth:

Parents' Names

Address:

Email:

Phone:

Cell:

Person Attending Class with Child:

Relationship:

Phone:

If you would like to register for the Just We Two program please return completed form with check payable to St. Aidan School. Cost \$150.00.

Mail to Saint Aidan School Attn: Just We Two 525 Willis Avenue Williston Park, NY 11596

Thank you.

St. Aidan's Church Blood Drive



Sunday, January 10, 2021
Williston Park Village Hall
494 Willis Ave., Williston Park
8:00am-2:00pm ~

- One pint of blood can save up to 3 lives
- You must be between the ages of 16-75 years old to donate blood (16 yr olds need parental consent & over 75 yrs need Dr.'s note)
- You must weigh at least 110 pounds to donate
- It is perfectly safe to donate blood every 56 days
- You will need DONOR CARD or ID w/ photo or signature
- Eat well and drink plenty of fluids before donating

Remember, Blood is Life... Pass It On !

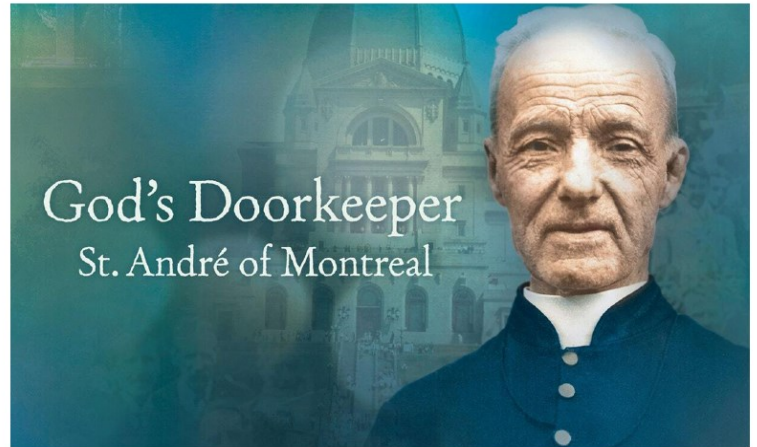
 **New York** Blood Center

January 3, 2021

WATCH

GOD'S DOORKEEPER: ST. ANDRÉ OF MONTREAL

This week, we celebrate the memorial of a humble doorkeeper, St. André of Montreal. Learn how this man became a great saint through his small acts of love!



FORMED® *Now!*

How to Pray

with Dr. Tim Gray & Dr. Elizabeth Klein

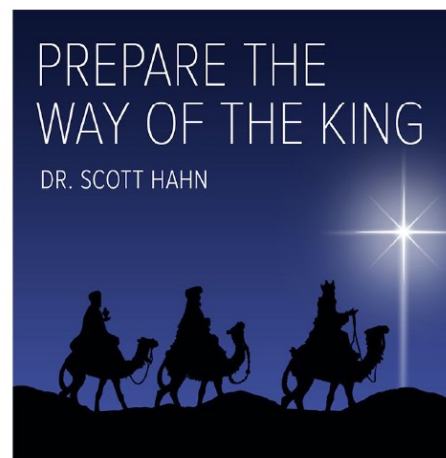
FORMED NOW! HOW TO PRAY

Whether you are a veteran in the spiritual life or are just beginning, start this year off right by recommitting yourself to prayer! Join Drs. Tim Gray and Elizabeth Klein as they discuss ways to kickstart your prayer life this year!

LEARN

PREPARE THE WAY OF THE KING BY DR. SCOTT HAHN

As we celebrate the Epiphany, Dr. Scott Hahn explains how we should understand the three Magi and their gifts to the Lord!



LISTEN

Our parish has a FORMED subscription.

To set up your free account visit formed.org/signup and select our parish.

On-going Communication!

FAITH FORMATION HAS ITS OWN PAGE ON THE PARISH WEBSITE: staidanparish.org/ff. Please visit this webpage throughout the year for updates and information.



2020-2021 School Year: Due to the current pandemic, the Faith Formation program is a blended program for the 2020-2021 school year, which includes children working at home under the direction of their parents supported by the Faith Formation Office plus small Church Gatherings where children will come together in the church while remaining socially distant. Children must be registered to participate. Children attending public schools are expected to participate in Religious Education classes every school year from grade 1 through grade 8. Please contact the Faith Formation Office for more information.

Multisensory Religious

Education: Children and Catechists assigned to Schedule "B" will meet on Thursday, January 7th at 4:30 or 5:45PM.

Reminder for Grades 7 and 8:

Church Gathering homework project assignments were due on October 26th for grade 7 and November 2nd for 8th grade students. Please submit all overdue assignments as soon as possible. The first group of Confirmation Packet Projects and Mass Reflections are due on January 15th.

Attention Grade 2 Parents: The Second Church Gathering in preparation for the Sacrament of Reconciliation will be on Monday, January 4th and Tuesday, January 5th at 4PM and 6:30PM in the church. Please have your children attend the session on the day and at the time signed up for at registration. Please contact the Faith Formation Office regarding any concerns you may have. Children are expected to arrive on time. The session will last for one hour.

Attention Grade 3 Parents:

There will be a Church Gathering for all registered 3rd grade children on Tuesday, January 12th and Wednesday, January 13th in the church at either 4PM or 6:30PM. Please have your child attend at the day and time that was selected at registration because attendance will be taken. Please call the Faith Formation Office with any questions and/or concerns you may have. Children are expected to arrive on time. The session will last for one hour.

Helpful Websites: During this time of pandemic precautions, the following websites may be helpful. Google usccb.org (United States

Catholic Conference of Bishops) which provides the Scripture readings for Mass.

Catholicmom.com, which ordinarily has many of the Mass worksheets made available to the children at the Family Mass, is providing videos and articles about how to celebrate the Faith at home in the "domestic church."

Loyolapress.com and religion.sadlierconnect.com have some family activities and informative articles.

Contact Us: The Faith Formation Webpage includes direct contact information for each member of the Faith Formation Office Team. During this time of phasing into a more "normal" schedule, the office is open on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Wednesdays from 1:30 to 6:30PM and on Thursdays and Fridays by appointment only. Please contact us with your questions and concerns. We welcome your phone calls and emails during this challenging time. If you have paperwork to submit, there is a Drop Box outside the building for your convenience. If you want to stop by the office, please call ahead of time.



During this time of transition, the Family Mass will continue to provide some limited materials each week. The Magnifikids magazines are available on a weekly basis along with the Children's Worship Bulletins for ages 3 to 7 and ages 7 to 12. They are located in the Children's Corner racks in the main lobby of the church. Even if you are not yet returning to Mass due to pandemic concerns, these materials can be used at home. Take a few minutes to stop by the church to pick them up for home use. Please do not leave them in the church.

Today the Church celebrates The Epiphany of the Lord. The liturgical color is white, the color throughout the Church's Christmas season. Each week we have been focusing on a Word, phrase, or Short Sentence of the Week to help link the gospel to family life. This week's short Sentence of the Week is: FOLLOW THE STAR! Place the Sentence of the Week on the refrigerator as a reminder during the week.

Today's gospel, (Matthew 2:1-12), is the story of the Three Wise Men, often referred to as the Three Kings or Magi. The gospel begins with a question asked by these foreigners, "Where is the newborn king of the Jews?" These wealthy kings came from foreign lands after recognizing the unusually large bright star dancing in the sky. Upon arrival in the city of

Jerusalem, the Wise Men attracted King Herod's attention by asking about the newborn king. Herod became worried about a potential threat to his power as the reigning Jewish King. Herod assembled all the Jewish chief priests and teachers to find out what they knew regarding the long-awaited Messiah. They told Herod about the foretelling of the ancient prophet that the Messiah would be born in Bethlehem. Herod secretly spoke to the Wise Men telling them to go to Bethlehem to find the child and return to him so he may also worship this newborn king. The Wise Men continued to FOLLOW THE STAR until they found the Christ Child. They offered Him gifts and worshipped him. The Wise Men were later warned in a dream not to return to Herod.

The Epiphany is our day! Jesus came for all people, not just for the Jews. He came the first time so that all people can know and receive the salvation God gives us. Today's feast reveals Jesus' gentle but mighty presence to all the corners of the earth. The Wise Men in a sense represent us. They studied, observed, and ultimately accepted this newborn King, the long awaited Messiah promised and foretold by the prophets. We should be seeking and recognizing Jesus throughout our lives. This is a great part of the Christmas message: that Jesus is the Savior of all people!

Children enjoy the story of the Wise Men because it is graphic. They understand that stars are bright and provide light. They

understand that sometimes we need to search until we find something or someone. They readily accept the idea of gifts being given and gifts received. What is more challenging is to really unfold in practical, everyday ways, how to truly FOLLOW THE STAR or follow the light. One of the first titles most religion textbooks give to Jesus is that Jesus is the Light of the World. Children can learn the importance of responding to that light; however, they can also learn with repetition to become a light to others because Jesus is within them.

This week, as a family discuss how each person can FOLLOW THE STAR OR FOLLOW THE LIGHT of Jesus in their life. Since parents know their children best, don't be afraid to make some suggestions that are specific and individualized for each child. Draw up a plan of the week that includes opportunities for children to become more generous, more inclusive, and more tolerant of those who "annoy" them. These are tiny, little steps that can increase children's awareness of the light of Jesus' presence in and around them. Light a candle during dinner this week and remind everyone that Jesus is the Light. Encourage children to include someone who seems to be left out in school. Understanding Jesus as our light naturally flows into an understanding about becoming a light for others. What a great family New Year's Resolution: to focus on bringing the light of Jesus to others!

Blessing of the Home and Household on Epiphany

The traditional date of Epiphany is January 6, but in the United States it is celebrated on the Sunday between January 2 and January 8.

When all have gathered, a suitable song may be sung. The leader makes the sign of the cross, and all reply, "Amen."

The leader greets those present in the following words:

Let us praise God, who fills our hearts and homes with peace.

Blessed be God forever.

R/. Blessed be God forever.

In the following or similar words, the leader prepares those present for the blessing:

The Word became flesh and made his dwelling place among us. It is Christ who enlightens our hearts and homes with his love. May all who enter this home find Christ's light and love.

One of those present or the leader reads a text of sacred Scripture, for example, Luke 19:1-9:

Listen to the words of the holy Gospel according to Luke:

Jesus came to Jericho and intended to pass through the town. Now a man there named Zacchaeus, who was a chief tax collector and also a wealthy man, was seeking to see who Jesus was; but he could not see him because of the crowd, for he was short in stature. So he ran ahead and climbed a sycamore tree in order to see Jesus, who was about to pass that way.> When he reached the place, Jesus looked up and said to him, "Zacchaeus, come down quickly,



for today I must stay at your house." And he came down quickly and received him with joy. When they all saw this, they began to grumble, saying, "He has gone to stay at the house of a sinner." But Zacchaeus stood there and said to the Lord, "Behold, half of my possessions, Lord, I shall give to the poor, and if I have extorted anything from anyone I shall repay it four times over." And Jesus said to him, "Today salvation has come to this house because this man too is a descendant of Abraham."

The intercessions are then said:

Leader: The Son of God made his home among us. With thanks and praise let us call upon him. R/. Stay with us, Lord.

Leader: Lord Jesus Christ, with Mary and Joseph you formed the Holy Family: remain in our home, that we may know you as our guest and honor you as our Head.

We pray:

R/. Stay with us, Lord.

Leader: Lord Jesus Christ, you had no place to lay your head, but in the spirit of poverty accepted the hospitality of your friends: grant that through our help the homeless may obtain proper housing.

We pray:

R/. Stay with us, Lord.

Leader: Lord Jesus Christ, the three kings presented their gifts to you in praise and adoration: grant that those living in this house may use their talents and abilities to your greater glory.

We pray:

R/. Stay with us, Lord.

After the intercessions the leader invites all present to say the Lord's Prayer.

The leader says the prayer of blessing with hands joined:

Lord God of heaven and earth,
you revealed your only-begotten Son to every nation

by the guidance of a star.

Bless this house
and all who inhabit it.

Fill them (us) with the light of Christ,
that their (our) concern for others may reflect your love.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

R/. Amen.

The leader concludes the rite by signing himself or herself with the sign of the cross and saying:

May Christ Jesus dwell with us,
keep us from all harm,
and make us one in mind and heart,
now and forever.

R/. Amen.

It is preferable to end the celebration with a suitable song, for example, "O Come, All Ye Faithful" or "We Three Kings."

—From *Catholic Household Blessings & Prayers*

CHALKING THE DOORS

If you're a Catholic, you've probably seen it: a mysterious series of letters and numbers, looking for all the world like an equation, inscribed in chalk over a doorway at your parish, or at the home of a friend. Epiphany marks the occasion of a time-honored Christian tradition of "chalking the doors."



The formula for the ritual — adapted for 2021 — is simple: take chalk of any color and write the following above the entrance of your home: 20 + C+M + B + 21.

The letters have two meanings. First, they represent the initials of the Magi — Caspar, Malchior, and Balthazar — who came to visit Jesus in His first home. They also abbreviate the Latin phrase, *Christus mansionem benedicat*: "May Christ bless the house."

The "+" signs represent the cross, and the "20" at the beginning and the "21" at the end mark the year.

Taken together, this inscription is performed as a request that Christ bless those homes so marked and that He stay with those who dwell therein throughout the entire year.



www.

Focus on
Religious
Freedom

www.cffor.org

Our Story: Religious Freedom in Peril

In 1775, Paul Revere rode through the streets of towns and villages, country roads and dirt paths, calling out to his countrymen and neighbors to wake up, and prepare for an imminent attack on their freedoms.

In 2012, a group of Catholics came together bound by a common concern: the federal government's denial of freedom of conscience. Much like Paul Revere, they recognized the urgent need to alert their friends and neighbors to an attack on our foundational freedom – our freedom of religion.

"The constitutional freedom of religion is the most inalienable and sacred of all human rights."
Thomas Jefferson

The group was roused by the government's mandate that forced all employers, except churches, to provide abortion-inducing drugs, contraception and sterilization as part of their health insurance. These Catholics recognized that this was an extreme denial of religious freedom – and it was unconstitutional. The federal government was claiming the ability to deny First Amendment rights through regulations and excessive fines.

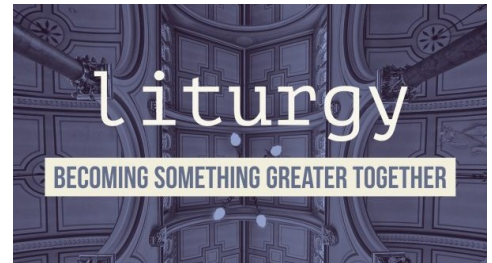
The Catholics – who were retired professionals, enjoying time with their families, and volunteering in their communities – saw that this information was not reaching Catholics in the halls of their schools and the vestibules of their churches, and they felt compelled to act. Their mission was clear: to draw attention to the ongoing erosion of religious freedom in the US and around the world.

"It's the duty of everyone to defend religious freedom and promote it for all people."
Pope Francis

It was clear that secularism was being hard pressed on the heart of one of the most basic conscientiously-held beliefs – the sacredness of human life. The group knew from the world's history of religious intolerance and persecution that all Americans were in great jeopardy, particularly since religious freedom, the right of conscience, is the first of all our inalienable rights including life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.

The group ultimately decided to mobilize and the Catholics for Freedom of Religion (CFFR) nonprofit organization was formed, embodying the group's commitment to grassroots action. This has involved nine years of building resources and expanding volunteers to reach more fellow lay Catholics and bring attention to denials of religious freedom. Together, we continue to educate our fellow Americans about the facts and importance of religious freedom, how dearly it was purchased for us and how easily it is diminished and denied when we are not vigilant. To learn more and to get involved, visit www.cffor.org.

"I am only one, but I am one. I cannot do everything, but I can do something. And I will not let what I cannot do interfere with what I can do."
Edward Everett Hale



This Sunday in the United States we celebrate the feast of The Epiphany of the Lord, which commemorates the visit of the Magi to the newborn Baby Jesus. But just exactly what does this mean for us?

The word "Epiphany" means "manifestation." It comes from Greek words which mean "to show" or "to display" and "to". The word has several other similar meanings today, but in the sense of the original Greek, especially when capitalized, it tells us that something important is being shown to an audience, and to some extent, that audience also has a significance. The specific audience we see are the Magi, which is the plural of "Magus" which refers to a member of the Zoroastrian priestly caste of the Medes and Persians. In the Hellenistic culture at the time, Magi were viewed as religious leaders in their particular faith, but their religious ideas contained a lot of philosophy, which attracted the Greek philosophers to some of their teachings and indicates their importance beyond their eastern homeland at the time. Among other things, such men would have studied the stars to interpret signs indicating important events, which is what brings us to the star of Bethlehem. There has been a great deal of discussion about

this star, notably this year when we were treated to a conjunction of Jupiter and Saturn which might have been something that the Magi would take as a sign sent by the stars (what we know as the visible planets were considered to be special stars at that time; the concept of planet that we know was unknown then). Some people have doubted the entire story of the star, saying that it seems to lead the Magi to Jerusalem, disappear, and then reappear and stop over the house in Bethlehem. But that is not what Matthew's Gospel says. It doesn't say that the star led them to Jerusalem. It says that they had seen the new king's star "at its rising" (Matthew 2:2) before they began their journey. But that is why they came to Jerusalem. After speaking with Herod concerning this newborn king, whom they assumed he would be aware of since he was the local king, what Matthew does say next is: "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." [Matthew 2:9]. This does not necessarily mean that the star appeared to move in the sky in a way that stars don't ordinarily act. It just means that it pointed them in the right direction. Think of how the North Star has been used for millennia to do just that for much of humanity. And if we follow it far enough, we end up under it at the North Pole.

So the Magi came to Jerusalem to pay homage to the newborn king of the Jews. But why? Did the Jews have any special meaning to these non-Jews? They may have been motivated to come see this king of the Jews since there was an expectation at the time that a universal ruler would shortly come from Israel. Pope Benedict

explained some of this as follows: we know from the Roman historians Tacitus and Suetonius that speculation was rife at the time that the ruler of the world would emerge from Judah - an expectation that the Jewish historian Flavius Josephus applied to the Roman emperor Vespasian, consequently finding his way into the latter's favor. So what they were seeking in Israel might be the one who they felt would fulfill this prophecy and will be king of the nations, not just the Jews. Hold that thought.

We also refer to the Magi as the three kings. That is a bit more difficult to track down, but it does lead to an understanding of the importance of the audience, as well as the gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh, all of which were expensive gifts, worthy of a King. And, by the way, there is a long story about the significance of the particular nature of the gifts and what they signified, but that understanding came much later. Also coming later was the tradition which has even given us names for Magi, Gaspar, Balthasar, and Melchior, although there is no Biblical source for this. So what were they really, and why is their visit in the Bible? Well Bishop Andrzej sometimes refers to these three men as the three wise guys. And maybe that's a great answer if we think of them as wise in the sense of smart. They were non-Jews, but they recognized something the Jewish people did not. And they represent something that we do not see until much later in Church history. And it is interesting that it is Matthew's Gospel, the one primarily oriented to a Jewish audience, that tells us of the Magi, for this is the first time Gentiles see the Christ, the Jewish Messiah, and our Savior. The Gentiles did not get involved in the new faith until St. Paul started travelling around

Asia Minor and began converting them. Yes, there are a few stories recounted in the Gospels that involve Gentiles, but they are exceptions. And it was not until Paul spread the news of this God become man that He was manifested to the Gentiles as a whole. But here, right at the beginning of His life on earth, Matthew's story of The Epiphany covers all the issues required for the capitalization. The Epiphany is the most important manifestation of all time, and the Audience is not just the three Magi, whomever they were, but the initial introduction of the Savior of the world to the Gentiles, and not just the Jewish Messiah, but the Messiah to the whole world. And it occurs years before His manifestation to the Jews. That doesn't happen until the Baptism in the Jordan, thirty years later. Which, by the way, we will celebrate next Sunday.

Now to put this all together, the visit of the Magi means that all people, Gentiles, pagans, everyone, can discover Jesus Who is the Christ (Messiah) and worship him as Son of God and Savior of the world. But they do so by turning towards the Jews and receiving from them the messianic promise of the Old Testament. As is stated in the Catechism of the Catholic Church:

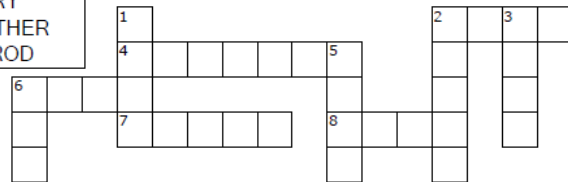
The Epiphany shows that "the full number of the nations" now takes its "place in the family of the patriarchs", and acquires *Israelitica dignitas* (is made "worthy of the heritage of Israel") [CCC 528].

And one final note - we used to celebrate Epiphany on January 6, and much of the world, especially the Eastern Rites, still do. Epiphany night on that date is the twelfth night of tradition.

Y W A Y L X P H C H H M Q D H
 K N N T Y I G R Q V O E G M B
 W I U A W C N N I R U W R Y R
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PRIESTS	MYRRH	BETHLEHEM	KING	CHRIST
GOD	CHILD	HOUSE	INCENSE	MARY
STAR	MAGI	TEACHERS	WORSHIP	MOTHER
WORSHIPED	EAST	SEARCH	BORN	HEROD



ACROSS

- The wise men who visited Jesus and Mary and Joseph shortly after Jesus was born
- A substance that is burned to produce a sweet smell
- To come into existence by birth
- Presents which are given without cost to the one receiving them
- A twinkling point of light in the night sky

DOWN

- A male ruler of a country
- A sticky substance with a strong smell which is used in making perfume
- A valuable, shiny, yellow metal used to make coins and jewellery
- The direction which is opposite to west
- To kneel or bend the head or body forward as a show of respect

MAGI	BOW	STAR	GOLD	KING
GIFTS	EAST	BORN	MYRRH	INCENSE



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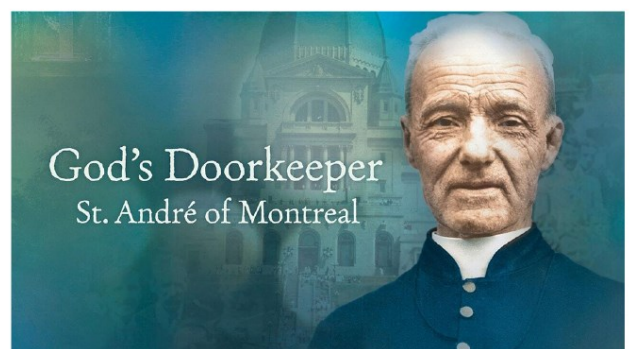
PICK OF THE WEEK

January 3, 2021

WATCH

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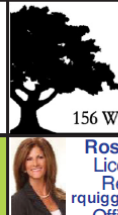


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