

# St. Cornelius Parish

SUNDAY BULLETIN

January 7, 2024



Adoration of the Magi  
Correggio (Antonio Allegri)  
c 1518

160 Ridge Rd  
Chadds Ford, PA 19317  
Phone: (610) 459-2502  
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Web: [www.saintcornelius.org](http://www.saintcornelius.org)

Email: [stcorn1@comcast.net](mailto:stcorn1@comcast.net) • Facebook: Like us on Facebook

**Msgr. David Diamond, Pastor**

Deacons: Harry Morris • John Todor (Ret.)

## Parish Council Members

Agnes Arkus  
Michael Brisgone

Anslem Cooray  
Chris Fahey

Michael Gidlewski  
John Guest

Jon Lippard  
Joanne Morris

Michelle Nardozzi  
David Ripsom

Jennifer Swetland

**Business Manager:** David Bauer

**Pastoral & Administrative Assistant:** Marie McGuigan

**Office Manager:** Douglas Kitson

**Parish Religious Education Program:** Julie Sullivan

**Director of Music:** Margie Melchiorre

## St. Cornelius Early Learning Center

Abbie McCusker, Director

Phone: (610) 459-8663

Website: [www.scornelius.org](http://www.scornelius.org)

## St. Cornelius Parish Office Hours

Monday thru Thursday 8:00 am to 3:00 pm

Friday 8:00 am to 12:00 pm Noon

**Saturday:** Confessions 2:30 - 3:30 Vigil Mass 4:00 pm

**Sunday:** 7:30 am, 9:00 am, 11:00 am, 4:00 pm

**Weekday Mass: 7:30 am**

**Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament:** Friday's after morning Mass to 4 pm

**LiveStream** [www.livestream.com/saintcornelius](http://www.livestream.com/saintcornelius)

## Thoughts from the Second Floor Front Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord

January 7, 2024

Our celebration of Christmas continues. Liturgically the Christmas season extends to the celebration of the Baptism of the Lord after which we enter into what is called Ordinary Time. It was a custom years ago to keep Christmas until the Feast of the Presentation – in February! In our contemporary culture it seems Christmas decorations go up on or around Halloween and are removed on the 26<sup>th</sup>. Keeping Christmas is evidently becoming more and more challenging. However, today we are given an opportunity to come to a deeper appreciation of what the world celebrates, too hurriedly, and what we are called to translate in our own unique way, regularly, even daily.

In his Infancy Narrative St. Matthew presents the Magi as the ones who alone recognize this marvelous birth and the extraordinary aspects of this baby's arrival. One of the most ironic aspects of the story is that the Jewish leadership, Herod and his community are thrown into absolute panic. *When King Herod heard this, he was greatly troubled, and all Jerusalem with him.* Matthew's gospel was written for a Jewish audience. Scholars speculate that his community is composed mostly of converts from Judaism. Matthew presents Jesus as the fulfillment of the prophecies concerning the Messiah which are found all throughout the Hebrew Scriptures.

The irony continues in that the Magi, Gentiles, are the only ones who see who Jesus is and they seek Him out. It is the Magi who have the Epiphany; it is they who see and understand what the event means. Herod is afraid and the community is confused. How about us? For the weeks of Advent, admittedly more brief than usual, we have been preparing and now throughout the Christmas season we celebrate His birth among us. Do we recognize Him now and beyond the Christmas scenes of greeting cards filled with good wishes and gifts given and received?

A lot of pious lore has risen about these mysterious figures. They are identified as three in number, probably because of the gifts presented when they meet the Christ Child. Even their names have been handed down through tradition: Melchior, Balthazar and Caspar. The gifts themselves are symbolic and represent a further recognition of who Jesus is and what his future holds. The gift of gold is appropriate for a King. The incense is in keeping with His role as Priest. The myrrh, used in that part of the world then and now to prepare bodies for burial, foreshadows eventually His passion and death. The shadow of the cross is never far in Matthew's account.

Despite Herod's deceptions and false promises of support, the magi, directed in a dream to avoid the King, elect to go home by a different route. We are told that they were warned not to return to Herod and that "they departed for their country by another way." I've seen that verse translated in another manner. The translation by Fr. Ronald Knox, an Anglican priest who converted to the Catholic faith was "... they returned to their country in a manner that was different." The connotation here that Knox is making is not that the route is different but the travelers are. They are different because of their encounter with the Christ Child.

Would that were also true of all of us. We have met the Christ, not as a child but in the profound encounter of Jesus in the Eucharist. Not as that baby in a manger but in the nameless face of the poor and those who have been marginalized. Not in the infant in Mary's arms but in the wrinkled hands, soft as flower petals with paper thin skin of the elderly who simply need a visit, a touch and a kind word.

As we exit church this weekend may what was said of the magi so long ago be true of us. Because of our encounter with Jesus may we return to our homes in a manner that is different.

Faithfully,

Msgr. Diamond





## WeShare Online Giving

Online Giving is an easy and convenient way to save time and support St. Cornelius Parish. Donating is **simple**, **safe**, and completely **secure**.

With **WeShare**, you can set up a recurring weekly or monthly transaction using your checking, savings, or credit card account. You can decide how much to give to the offertory and make changes any time, day or night. Plus, you can leave your checkbook at home on Sundays.

If you would like to enroll in Online Giving, please visit

<https://saintcornelius.weshareonline.org>



If you have any questions or concerns about the program or would like help setting up your account, please call our parish office at (610) 459-2502.

WeShare accepts the following means of contributing  
debit card • credit card • checking & savings account

We are happy to announce there is a new, easy way to help support St. Cornelius Early Learning Center! The new and improved app uses technology to scan your store receipt, find participating products and instantly add Box Tops to your school's earnings online. 1.To participate in the new digital program simply, download and use the Box Tops App! 2.Find St. Cornelius and connect your box tops app to our school. 3.Start scanning your paper or digital receipts and earn money for our school



## Pro-Life News January 19, 2024

'Tis the Season to do God's Will. Let us give the gift of a spiritual work of mercy for innocent unborn children.



In lieu of physically attending the March for Life in Washington, on **January 19**, our parish will pray all four *Mysteries of the Rosary* for the unborn and an end to abortion. Join us in prayer directly after Mass, during Adoration. Bring a friend.



## Church Contributions

Parishioners who would like a statement of their 2023 contributions must call the Parish Office during business hours at (610) 459-2502, or Email the office at [stcorn1@comcast.net](mailto:stcorn1@comcast.net).

December contributions made using WeShare will be posted by January 15th, 2024.



**YOUNG CATHOLIC PROFESSIONALS**  
*Working in Witness for Christ*

In a world that can be void of meaning and leave young adults restless and dissatisfied, Young Catholic Professionals Philadelphia brings together young professionals in their 20s and 30s into a community of belonging, support, and encouragement at all stages of your faith journey. Young Catholic Professionals empowers and equips you to live your Catholic faith through everyday work and to perform all work with excellence for the glory of God.

Our patron saint is Saint Joseph the Worker. Our mission calls upon the intercession of Saint Joseph the Worker, a simple carpenter who reminds us of the importance of stillness, reflection, and prayer.

Young Catholic Professionals mission is to challenge, train, and inspire young adults working in various professional careers to work in witness for Christ. For more information go to our local Philadelphia website at

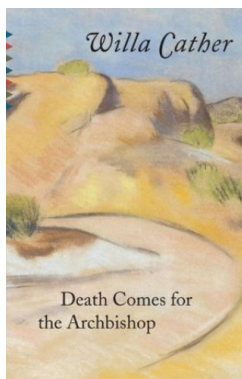
[www.ycpphiladelphia.org/cpages/home](http://www.ycpphiladelphia.org/cpages/home)

## The St. Cornelius Literary Society

The next read for our Bibliophiles is *Death Comes for the Archbishop* by Willa Cather.

In the year 1850, two horsemen ride through the New Mexico desert. Jean Marie Latour and Joseph Vaillant have been charged with establishing the first Catholic diocese in that uncharted land of red-rock mountains and waterless wilderness. Almost three centuries after the first Franciscan missionaries arrived in the country, the people are adrift from their religious moorings, their missions in ruins, their children uninstructed. Assisted by his dauntless and valorous vicar, Bishop Latour claims the land and the souls who live there “for the glory of God”: sowing the seeds of the Catholic faith in the shallow, the rocky, and the fertile soil of his immense and forbidding jurisdiction.

Bereft of artificiality and imbued with an unstressed spiritual assurance, *Death Comes for the Archbishop* attains the lofty heights and grand stature of legend. Thanks to Cather’s deeply imaginative skill, it does so without sacrificing the solid humanity of its characters or the stark severity of their time and place. The result, in the evocative words of Lee Wilson Dodd, is “a severe, purely designed chalice of hand-beaten silver, filled to the brim with the white essential wine of love—love of man to man, love of God to man, love of man to God.”



**Sunday  
January 21  
12:00 Noon**



Join our Parish Pro-Life Group in the church on Sunday, January 21, at noon, as we pray a Rosary and the Litany of Loreto for the unborn and an end to abortion. It is a perfect way to perform a spiritual work of mercy for the most vulnerable.

*This event is scheduled every 3rd Sunday so please mark your calendar now. Bring a friend.*

## PRAYER FOR THE NEW YEAR



Dear Lord,  
We pray that this New Year will  
bring us closer to You.  
May we take the time to get to know You.  
Help us to truly celebrate the gifts You have  
graciously given us  
and use them to serve You and spread Your word,  
May we also see and love you in all the people we  
meet, so that in turn, they can see You in us.  
We know that all human relations take time  
if they are to grow and deepen.  
This is also true of our relations with You,  
the Father and the Holy Spirit,  
which must grow over the course of our lives.  
In this new year,  
let us realize that every action of ours  
no matter how great or small  
enables us to be in touch with You.  
Let us accept You in our lives,  
in the way it pleases You,  
as Truth, to be spoken,  
as Life, to be lived,  
as Light, to be lighted,  
as Love, to be followed,  
as Joy, to be given,  
as Peace, to be spread about,  
as Sacrifice, to be offered among our relatives,  
friends, neighbors and all people.  
Amen.



**HEED THE CALL**  
VOCATION OFFICE FOR  
DIOCESAN PRIESTHOOD  
Visit our website  
[WWW.HeedTheCall.org](http://WWW.HeedTheCall.org)



# First Sunday Coffee

The St. Cornelius Council of the Knights of Columbus will be hosting a coffee reception in the Holy Family Portico after the 11:00 Mass on **Sunday, January 7** Nick Cappelli of Pronto Catering is again supplying us with the caffeine, cocoa and tea. This month we ask parishioners with last names beginning with A-M to help out by bringing a dozen or so baked goods to share with all our parishioners.

Please join us after Mass with your fellow parishioners.  
See you there!!



The Sunday collection is very important for us to maintain our fiscal responsibilities. So, if you are away on a Sunday, *ENJOY*; but remember *YOUR* church.

**December 31, 2023**

Offertory for December 31st was not available at the time of printing

**December 24, 2023**

WeShare eGiving	\$8,002.50
Envelope Offering	\$7,974.00
	<b>\$15,976.50</b>



*"For where your treasure is,  
there also will your heart be."*

Luke 12:34



"Help provide home cooked meals to neighbors in need! Caring for Friends (formerly Aid for Friends) is collecting frozen meals and soups for homebound seniors and food insecure individuals. Meal trays and soup containers can be found in the utility closet on the right of the side door of the narthex. Consider putting aside an extra dinner or soup portion, freeze it and then bring it to the freezer also located in the utility closet. PLEASE sign the meals and soup in on the list attached to the shelves next to the freezer. The food is distributed all over the Greater Philadelphia Area. This effort is on-going at our parish. We invite you to contribute what you can." If you have questions, please contact Nancy Todor 609-234-1193



## The Faith Community Nurse Holistic Health Ministry

On request, Faith Community Nurses are making home visits to families who may be experiencing medical or social difficulties. The nurses confidentially address the needs holistically through bringing with them prayers from the parish, a knowledge of the medical field and process for providing support. If you know of anyone in the parish or beyond who would benefit from these services, please email: [stfcfn@gmail.com](mailto:stfcfn@gmail.com). Contact person is Joan Holliday, RN/FCN at (610) 717-2180.

*Let us pray for our Men and Women  
serving in the Armed Forces. Especially for:*

SSG Ana Brunal	Sgt Jason Lyons
SPC Mike Canfield	2nd Lt. Kevin Malone
Cpl Michael Castle	Sgt Alexander Marlow
Lt. Connor Cleary	Pfc Zachary Marlow
Fr. Joseph Coffey (Chaplain)	Lt. Cmdr Daniel McCadden
Maj Robert B. Cusick, Jr.	CSM Sean McGlensey
Capt Joshua deFreitas	Capt Jonathan McGrath
SSGT Michael DiVernieri	LT Molly K. McGuckin
Cadet Emily Fanning	LCDR Ryan A. McGuckin
Lt. Ryan Gallagher	Maj. Sean P. Noll
2nd Lt. Nicholas Gallagher	Lt. Col Brian J. O'Shea
SSG. Eric Gardner	Lt. Cmdr Inga O'Shea
Capt Matthew Gibbons	Maj James O'Shea
Ens Patrick Gibbons	PFC L Roland
Ens John Paul Gibbons	LTJG Christian Samulewicz
Maj Rachel Gonzalez	2nd Lt. Olivia Samulewicz
SPC Logan Hannum	Capt. Neal F. Schubert
Sgt Andrew Hart	HM3 Charles Schwartz
Devin J. Hunt	Ens Nicholas Spadaccini
PO1 Nathan R. Keller	MSG Thomas Stone
1st Lt Lauren Kinnee	Cpl Mark Truex
Capt Daniel Kohli	Lt. Christopher Vish
Maj. Chris Love	Capt. Aidan Walsh
Maj. Megan Love	Capt Jennifer Wynn

## Holy Hour - Join Us!

**Monday, January 8, 8:00 am**

After the 7:30 Mass, the Pro-Life Group is hosting a Holy Hour. We will pray a rosary for the unborn, and an end to abortion. We will also pray the Miraculous Medal Novena for the unborn. There will be time for silent prayer. The hour will close at approximately 9:00 am.

Look for this event monthly on the first Monday of the month.



## The Epiphany of the Lord January 7, 2024

All kings shall pay him homage,  
all nations shall serve him.

— Psalm 72:11





## St. Cornelius Early Learning Center

The children gathered together for our first Breakfast with Santa this past week. There was delicious food, Christmas music, happy children and of course, Santa! We are so grateful to our parent volunteers and to Santa for taking time out of their busy schedules to spend the morning with us! It is the most wonderful



## Joyous Mysteries of the Rosary Saturday Mornings

Joyous Mysteries of the Rosary aims to facilitate an experience where participants can encounter, contemplate and discuss the key mysteries in the life of Jesus Christ as contained within the Rosary. The Rosary is simultaneously a contemplative prayer, a spiritual weapon and a catechetical tool. The goal is for each participant to encounter the person of Jesus Christ in the episodes, discussions and in their personal prayer. In doing so, Our Lord will teach them the art of Christian living as well as the art of Christian prayer.



MYSTERIES  
of the ROSARY

**Dates:** Saturdays, December 2, 2023 - January 27, 2024

Dec 2 - Series Introduction and Preview

Dec 9 - The Annunciation

Dec 16 - The Visitation

Dec 23 and 30 - Christmas Break (NO MEETING)

Jan 6 - The Birth of Jesus

Jan 13 - The Presentation

Jan 20 - The Finding in the Temple

Jan 27 - Series Conclusion and Review

**Time:** 9:00 am - 10:30 am

**Location:** Parish Life Center (PLC)

**Weekly Agenda:**

9:00 am Gathering, Food and Fellowship

9:30 am Video

10:00 am Discussion and Prayer

10:30 am Closing



Session sign up



## Helping Hands and Hearts

This ministry offers temporary help (meals, errands, etc.) to individuals and families in need! If you are aware of someone in need or would like to be a volunteer helper, please contact Marilyn Gustin at [mgustin05@gmail.com](mailto:mgustin05@gmail.com) (484) 732-8842.

## Get a Jump on Lent!

Each Lent, Catholic families across the country unite to put their faith into action through prayer, fasting and almsgiving. Through CRS Rice Bowl, families learn about how our sisters and brothers across the globe overcome hardships like hunger and climate change, and how through Lenten alms, we have the power to make the world a better place for all.





## CRS NATIONAL SPOTLIGHT

A report issued recently warns of potential famine in Gaza. In a piece for America Magazine, Catholic Relief Services's Rami Aljelda wrote about how finding basic supplies like food and clean water is becoming harder and harder. Please visit [www.crs.org](http://www.crs.org) for more information and to see how you can help!



*"We have to make sure that we have supplies that can last for a while because we don't know how long this will go on. We haven't eaten a single fruit or vegetable in more than 50 days. Every day that goes by is harder than the day before."*

~Rami Aljelda,  
Catholic Relief Services



### St Blaise Men's Weekend Retreat at Malvern Retreat House Feb 2 - 4, 2024.

Please join us for the annual St Blaise Men's Retreat at the Malvern Retreat House.

This is a great opportunity to deepen your relationship with the Lord, escape the busyness of everyday life and reflect on your journey to heaven. Fr Doug McKay, Rector of Malvern Retreat House, will lead us with 4 conferences throughout the weekend. Mass, the Sacrament of Reconciliation, adoration and the rosary will be offered.

Please contact David Santoleri at [dave@santoleri.net](mailto:dave@santoleri.net) for more information.



### CHOSEN FATHERS

*A ministry of Mutual Support for  
Fathers of Children with Special Needs*

Being a good dad day-in and day-out is not an easy task. Yet raising children with special needs can make fatherhood even more challenging.

We invite fathers of children with physical, mental, sensory, or emotional challenges to our monthly meetings aimed at enabling dads to follow Christ's example of love, patience, mercy and service in raising and supporting their children.

**3rd Tuesday of every month  
7:30 - 8:45 pm**

Please call the gentlemen below with questions about meeting location as it can change from month to month depending on group size.

Joe Howard (610) 458-7831; [jchoward72@aol.com](mailto:jchoward72@aol.com)  
or Liam Dempsey (610) 390-9076; [liam@LBdesigns.tv](mailto:liam@LBdesigns.tv)

## PRAY FOR THOSE WHO ARE ILL AND THOSE WHO CARE FOR THEM

Lillian Corbett, Eileen Kane, C. McCollum, Joshua Gidlewski, Denise Banta, Patty Burke, Tom Eno, Raul Gesmundo, Diana Duffy, Isaac Burks, Suzanne Agren, Gabe Grant, Nancy Cunningham, Jay Holland, Thomas Drane, Kara Ulatowski, Harold Von Brockdorff, Jeff Behm, Mary Harmes, Mary Helen Arthur, Anne Spetzer, Carolyn Duffy, Carleen Peters, Marian Short, Matthew Hess, Bryan Thompson, Cindy Ficca, Paul Lucas, Carla Santoleri, Richard Meccarrielli, Edward Field, Judy Field, Joyce Monaco, Matthew Hurst, Leonard Smith, Jr., Jim Waters, Kathie Buckley, Bernice & Arthur Hindle, Sean Mulvey, George Butler, Margaret Butler, Patricia Wells, Kathy Williams, Michael Gibbons, Shirley Masse, Ellen Brisgone, Laura O'Brien-Black, Elizabeth Kephart, Tina Landis, Bill & Theresa Sherwin, Michelle Dillione, Chris Roe, Frank Kuders, Kylee Dougherty, Dave and Ronnie Pryce, Rosemary Brennan, Ellie May McGrath, Vicki Wojdak, Andrea Bateman, Brandon Heacock, Brittany Lott, Nancy Young, Peyton Lott, Billy Lott, Nanci Ehmer, Ken Rudert, Ed Shell, Ellie McCreight, Ellie Griem, Gregory Varacchi, Michael McKinnen, Connie Carney, Luke Post, Jim Buckley, Jerome Lienhard



## The Ministry of Consolation

A St. Cornelius community response to the needs of people grieving the death of a significant person/persons in their lives, the ministry honors the words and example of the Lord Jesus:

*"Blessed are they who mourn; they shall be consoled"*

(Matthew 5:4).

A team of four St. Cornelius church members have been trained to set up and facilitate a Support Group for the Consolation Ministry.

On **January 20, 2024**, the Consolation Group will meet at the **Parish Life Center, Fr. Simon Room from 2:30pm to 3:30pm.**

Contact Joan Holliday for any questions  
[docholliv@aol.com](mailto:docholliv@aol.com) or call (610) 717-2180.



## Assisted Hearing Devices

We have 4 assisted hearing devices, which connect directly to the sound system that are available for use at each Mass. They are located on the table by the Sacristy entrance.

Easy to operate: put 2 batteries in and you are good to HEAR!

Comments from satisfied users:

*Wow - That is the first time in a long Time that I have heard everything at Mass.*



## Eucharistic Adoration

*Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament flows from the sacrifice of the Mass and serves to deepen our hunger for Communion with Christ and the rest of the Church.*

Join us for Adoration on Friday mornings after Mass. You are welcome to visit anytime during the day until we repose the Blessed Sacrament at 4:00 PM.

*If a funeral is scheduled for a Friday, there will be NO exposition.*



## PARISH RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROGRAM (PREP)

Saint Cornelius Parish

You can contact Mrs. Sullivan at [stcornprep@scornelius.org](mailto:stcornprep@scornelius.org) or by calling the PREP office (610) 459-7723

## PREP

As we close out 2023 everyone involved in our PREP program would like to wish all of our families a blessed 2024. We will return to class on Sunday January 7th at 10 am.

If you have a child making a sacrament this year, please make sure to have marked your calendars and check your emails for information on our upcoming Parent retreats.

If you have any questions, please contact Julie Sullivan at [stcornprep@scornelius.org](mailto:stcornprep@scornelius.org).

## YOUTH GROUP

We would like to wish all of our Youth Group members and their families a blessed 2024. We look forward to getting together more often in 2024.



## Children's Liturgy of the Word

We do not have a children's liturgy of the Word this Sunday. We would like to extend a Happy and Healthy New Year to all of the young families of the parish. We look forward to welcoming you all back on January 7, 2024 at the 9 am Mass.



## Charitable Giving Through Appreciated Stocks and Mutual Funds

If your investment portfolio has appreciated assets, a great way to reduce your taxes and donate to the church is to gift St. Cornelius appreciated investments. If you do have appreciated investments, Saint Cornelius is able to accept stocks and mutual funds as a charitable contribution through **TD Ameritrade**. For further information, please contact David P.

Bauer, the business manager for the church, at 610-459-2502.

*Thank you for your generous support of the parish.*



## Monsignor's Thursday Email

Msgr. Diamond's weekly Thursday Email is a popular weekly news letter for our parishioners. Currently there are **over 1055** people who receive his email each Thursday afternoon. If you would like to be on our distribution list, please call the office at (610) 459-2502 or send your request to be added to our distribution at

[Stcorn1@comcast.net](mailto:Stcorn1@comcast.net).

## Lending Library



You may not be aware of the Lending Library that exists in our ambulatory, near the large stain glass windows overlooking the family portico. The cart pictured to the left contains a variety of reading material that you are welcome to take with you. You may also find a variety of holy cards, prayer pamphlets and novenas. Please feel free to take what you like.





## Prayer Shawl Ministry... Come, Join US!



Did you know that each baby baptized at St. Cornelius receives a hand-made blanket made by our Prayer Shawl Ministry? You are welcome to join us in this rewarding ministry. We also make shawls, blankets, scarves, hats, mittens etc. for elderly homes, the Giving Tree and anyone looking for a comforting gift.

**Every 4th Monday of each month  
1:30pm to 3:00pm**

We find ourselves in need of white acrylic yarn or funding to help continue this wonderful ministry. Please prayerfully consider donating to our ministry or purchasing a "Pound of Love" or "Caron Pound" of white acrylic yarn. We have a basket set up in the narthex, below the large TV monitor, to offer our works and for your donations. Also, you are welcome to drop off any yarn donations to the Parish Life Center. Donations are greatly appreciated.

Shawls and blankets are available in the Bethany Room. If you have any questions, please contact

Mary Jo Shell, (610) 361-8198  
or Joanne Fonash, (610) 299-9694

## —BIBLE STUDY—

We are continuing our Bible Study with Monsignor Diamond. All women and men are invited to join us each Thursday morning from 10:00 to 11:00 am., in the PLC. The goal of this Scripture study will be to broaden our knowledge of Scripture, our church's teaching regarding the Scriptures, and how it can enhance our understanding and personal faith life.



If you have questions, please call  
Nancy Todor - cell 609-234-1193.

## Updating Our Prayer List

We are attempting to update our prayer list as it has grown over the years. If you know of a loved one listed whom you feel has been helped by our prayers and are now recovered, please email the office at [stcorn1@comcast.net](mailto:stcorn1@comcast.net) so we can remove their name.

## Sunday Mass Intentions

7:30 AM	Kevin Sullivan
9:00 AM	Angelo Capoferri
11:00 AM	Maria McNelly
4:00 PM	John J. Tucker

## Weekly Mass Schedule (Week of January 8 - January 12)

### Saturday Vigil / Sunday Morning

Intention: *Missa pro populo (Mass for the people)*

Reading: Is 60:1-6; Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-13;

Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6; Mt 2:1-12

### Monday 7:30 AM

#### The Baptism of the Lord

Intention: Elvera Felicione

Reading: Is 42:1-4, 6-7 or Is 55:1-11 or Acts 10:34-38

or 1 Jn 5:1-9; Ps 29:1-4, 3, 9-10 or

Is 12:2-3, 4bcd-6; Mk 1:7-11

### Tuesday 7:30 AM

#### First Week in Ordinary Time

Intention: Susan Reagoso

Reading: 1 Sm 1:9-20 or 1 Sm 1:1-8 and 1 Sm 1:9-20;

1 Sm 2:1, 4-8abcd; Mk 1:21-28 or

Mk 1:14-20 and Mk 1:21-28

### Wednesday 7:30 AM

Intention: Joan Flynn

Reading: 1 Sm 3:1-10, 19-20; Ps 40:2, 5, 7-10;

Mk 1:29-39

### Thursday 7:30 AM

Intention: Rosalie B. Celona

Reading: 1 Sm 4:1-11; Ps 44:10-11, 14-15, 24-25;

Mk 1:40-45

### Friday 7:30 AM

Intention: James B. Sullivan

Reading: 1 Sm 8:4-7, 10-22a; Ps 89:16-19; Mk 2:1-12

## PILGRIM STATUE

01 - 07 - 2024 Kathy Eno

01 - 14 - 2024 Nancy Montville

01 - 21 - 2024 Open

**The new sign up sheet for 2024 is now available. Feel free to pick your dates.**

Call Carla Santoleri at (610) 361-8447 for more information.



## The Epiphany of the Lord

January 7, 2024

### GOD'S PROMISE TO ALL PEOPLE

Today Isaiah reminds the people of God that the land shall be restored to their possession, they shall rejoice to see their people return from the bondage of exile, and that they shall be a light to the nations. In other words, through the people of Israel, the Savior shall come to all people who seek God with a sincere heart. This brings joy and the radiance of God's glory to all the world and to all people everywhere. Through the fidelity of the people of God, and through God's fidelity to them, all people shall become God's children and rejoice in the fulfillment of God's promise to Israel.

### TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

Where on earth would you go to honor the magi? Iran or Saudi Arabia, Tarshish or the Isles come to mind, but Cologne, Germany would be a good choice. There the Shrine of the Three Kings has been the centerpiece of the city's cathedral since the fourth century. Today it is the largest reliquary in the world: a gilded and ornamented triple casket gleaming high above the altar. In the fourth century, the supposed relics of the wise men were taken from Constantinople to Milan, where they remained until the German Emperor with the unlikely name Frederick Barbarossa (Red Beard) gave them to the Archbishop of Cologne. Ever since, pilgrims have

streamed into the city to honor the magi, the first of all pilgrims, and thus the heavenly patrons of all who have some holy wanderlust.

This largest Gothic cathedral in Europe today was begun in the mid-1200s to house the relics. In medieval times, the relics in a city's possession were often the key to a sound international economy. The reliquary was last opened in 1864, and the remains of three men were indeed discovered. The cathedral is well worth a visit, with enormous twin spires forming the largest façade of any church in the world (it is the model for St. Patrick's in New York). Construction began in 1248 and ended in 1880, a six-hundred-year project. Today, it is a World Heritage Site, described by the U.N. as "an exceptional work of human creative genius." This great treasure of our tradition suffered fourteen direct bomb hits in World War II but did not collapse. It survived while the city burned around it, preserved, the townspeople say, by three heavenly patrons.

—Rev. James Field



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## IT'S 2024, SO I'M EARLY

Vince Lombardi and Tom Hanks inspire  
a New Year's resolution.

January 7, 2024



Having read this excerpt found in the Wall Street Journal I thought that many of our parishioners could benefit by reading it. This is a time of year when it is easier to engage in self-reflection. You might think that I am writing about the famously failed New Year's Resolution. What I *am* doing is asking you to do some soul searching and ask yourself honestly "Is Diamond talking about me?" Arriving late for Mass is only matched or exceeded by those who leave Mass early. Remember the first person to leave Mass early was Judas Iscariot. I know you do not want to be counted as a companion of that one.

*If you are searching for a New Year's resolution that will lead you to success in life, it's not too late. In fact, not being late is the whole point. If you have driven down a certain street in Green Bay, Wis., you already understand this. The street is Lombardi Avenue, which runs directly past Lambeau Field, home of the Packers.*

*There is a large clock outside the football stadium. The clock may confuse or even startle people who don't know about it. Isn't it displaying the wrong time? That depends on how you define "wrong." The clock is set to run 15 minutes ahead. Your wristwatch or phone may say it's 3:15 p.m., but the clock on the stadium says 3:30. It's set to Lombardi Time, to honor a demand the late Packers coach Vince Lombardi insisted his players obey: If you're not 15 minutes early to practice, you're late. And you can expect to be fined.*

*His point was that people who want to succeed should have the discipline and courtesy not to keep others waiting. It's a matter of respect: respect for the people with whom you work, and respect for yourself. The way to guarantee that you're never late—that you're never in a flustered rush to begin a task—is to get there a quarter-hour early.*

*"I was like a lot of kids growing up in Green Bay," the Packers' official historian, Cliff Christl, told me. "Lombardi Time was brainwashed into us. Promptness is important. It leads to good things. I still get everywhere 15 minutes before the scheduled start time." You can't go wrong by being early. The actor Steve Zahn tells the story about his big break, being cast in the 1996 movie "That Thing You Do!," written and directed by Tom Hanks. He and three other young actors were hired to portray a rock band called the Wonders. They were on top of the world—they were going to co-star in a movie with Mr. Hanks.*

*Early in the filming, according to Mr. Zahn, the quartet arrived on the set a little late. The crew was waiting, as was Mr. Hanks. He gestured for them to join him in a trailer, out of earshot of the rest of the crew. His voice was calm and friendly, but his words were deadly serious. "Hey guys," Mr. Hanks said. "That's the last time that you guys show up late. Not just for this movie. But for the rest of your lives."*

*Mr. Zahn and the other young actors realized that Mr. Hanks was doing them a favor—he was letting them know that there's a right way and a wrong way to do your work. They got the message. And I can tell you that Mr. Hanks, as busy and celebrated as he is, practices what he preaches. If he invites you to meet him somewhere at a certain hour, he won't be even a second late.*

*It's an easy New Year's resolution to make, and it will never let you down. As 2023 ends and 2024 begins, keep that in mind at midnight. Or, to be safe, at 11:45.*

Faithfully,

Msgr. Diamond



WSJ, 12.28.2023: *It's 2024, So I'm Early* Bob Greene

