



Saint John XXIII University Parish/Catholic Center

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The Paulist Fathers Serving the University of Tennessee

The Epiphany of the Lord

January 7, 2024

*Is 60:1-6
Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6
Mt 2:1-12*

WEEKDAY MASS SCHEDULE

Monday-Thursday at 5:05 pm

WEEKEND MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday: 5:30 pm

Sunday: 9 am and 11:15 am

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Monday and Thursday - 4:00 pm to 4:45 pm
or by appointment

MARRIAGE PREPARATION

Congratulations!

Please call the office at least 4 months before
your planned wedding date.

WANT TO BE CATHOLIC?

Please contact Fr. Rich at
(865) 523-7931 or frich@john23rd.org

Martin Luther King Day

The building and office will be
closed this **Monday, January 15th**
in observance of Martin Luther King
Day. There will be no mass
or confessions.

We hope you all have a safe and
happy holiday!

Thoughts on Today's Readings

The wise men were lifelong students tracking the stars, studying holy books, and motivated to action by the inner wisdom of their dreams. It is amazing to count the ways in which Matthew's Christmas story happens because of people's dreams. However, scholarly study and attention to dreams comes to nothing if it is not accompanied by action.

Dreams and action! Our thoughts developing what to do and the following actions which make the future happen. Joseph was a gentle and kind man who followed his gut deciding not to divorce Mary because she was pregnant. On his own, he decided that. Then came the dream, overcoming his fears, and so, when he awoke, he married Mary as the angel directed him to do. So a good man decides NOT to do something by taking time to reflect, and then, due to a dream, he decides to ACT.

What about the chief priests and scholars? How did they combine study, knowledge, and action? Herod ordered them to find where the Messiah was to be born. Collectively, they agreed upon the answer. "Tell the wise men to go to Bethlehem." And that was it! They didn't follow up at all. No action. Can our scripture study end up like that?

Now watch a man of action, Herod, welcoming the wise men and listening carefully. He asked scholars for help. All the while, he planned evil. He asked the wise men to return to share what they found. When they didn't, he went on a killing spree – action informed by fear and self-preservation rather than holy dreams.

When unscrupulous people, centered on what they seek for themselves act, and good people passively watch, peace can be shattered. May we combine head, heart, dreams, and action in finding our path in today's world as peacemakers.



Aleck Van Hook

William Alexander “Aleck” Van Hook, age 87, of Knoxville, TN passed away unexpectedly on Monday, December 18, 2023.

Born in Patterson, N.J. on January 14, 1936, he lived in many different states before the family settled near Worcester, Massachusetts.

Born in Patterson, N.J. on January 14, 1936, he lived in many different states before the family settled near Worcester, Massachusetts. He graduated from the College of the Holy Cross with degrees in Philosophy and Chemistry and from Johns Hopkins University with a Ph.D. in Physical Chemistry. While working at Brookhaven National Laboratory, he met his wife, Nancy Ashton, and married in 1962. He accepted a professorship in Physical Chemistry at the University of Tennessee where he had a long and distinguished career as a teacher and researcher. He was a Fulbright scholar, NAS scholar, Senate Faculty President, and a member of Phi Beta Kappa, the American Association for the Advancement of Science, and the American Chemical Society.

Aleck and his wife shared a love of adventure to many parts of the world and his work allowed him to travel extensively through North America, Europe, and Asia. As an outdoor enthusiast, he enjoyed boating, golfing, and snow skiing. He was also an avid reader, loved the opera, and was an active member of Saint John XXIII University Parish where he fostered many long-lasting friendships.

He is preceded in death by his parents, Andrew and Leonora Van Hook, and his daughter, Anne Marie. He is survived by his wife of 62 years, Nancy, his sons Mark with wife Cheri and Jonathan with wife Tracey, and his 4 grandchildren, James and his wife Ruby, Caroline, Eleanor, and Andrew. He is also survived by his siblings, Jane, Andrew “Buck”, Sue, Leonora, all of whom live in New England, and their families.

A Funeral Mass was held at Saint John XXIII University Parish on Thursday, December 28, 2023, at 3:00 p.m. with receiving of friends at 2:00 p.m.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Knoxville Catholic Charities.

Christmas Flower Donations

Dennis J, and Sarah Beth Roeder
for *Fred and Helen Roeder*

Vincent J. D’Innocenzo and Joann Whitfield
for *Helen M. D’Innocenzo*

Scripture Readings for the Week of January 7, 2024

Sunday	The Epiphany of the Lord Is 60:1-6; Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13; Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6; Mt 2:1-12
Monday	Baptism of the Lord Is 42:1-4, 6-7 or Is 55:1-11 or Acts 10:34-38 or 1 Jn 5:1-9; Ps 29:1-2, 3-4, 3, 9-10 or Is 12:2-3, 4bcd, 5-6 Mk 1:7-11
Tuesday	1 Sm 1:9-20; 1 Sm 2:1, 4-5, 6-7, 8abcd; Mk 1:21-28
Wednesday	1 Sm 3:1-10, 19-20; Ps 40:2 and 5, 7-8a, 8b-9, 10; Mk 1:29-39
Thursday	1 Sm 4:1-11; Ps 44:10-11, 14-15, 24-25; Mk 1:40-45
Friday	1 Sm 8:4-7, 10-22a; Ps 89:16-17, 18-19; Mk 2:1-12
Saturday	Memorial of Saint Hilary, Bishop and Doctor of the Church 1 Sm 9:1-4, 17-19; 10:1; Ps 21:2-3, 4-5, 6-7; Mk 2:13-17
Sunday	Second Sunday in Ordinary Time 1 Sm 3:3b-10, 19; Ps 40:2, 4, 7-8, 8-9, 10; 1 Cor 6:13c-15a, 17-20; Jn 1:35-42

Epiphany

The word “epiphany” comes from the Greek *epiphainen*, a verb that means “to shine upon,” “to manifest,” or “to make known.”

Thus, the feast of the Epiphany celebrates the many ways that Christ has made Himself known to the world, mainly the three events that manifested the mission and divinity of Christ: the visit of the Magi (Matthew 2:1-12), the baptism of Jesus (Mark 1:9-11), and the miracle at Cana (John 2:1-11).

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**Insights and Awareness
Topic 107 - Synodality**



India's Cardinal Oswald Gracias shares his views from attending the Synod on Synodality.

You can view this topic at:

<https://www.john23rd.org/insights>

(Sponsored by the Social Concerns Committee)



NEXT WEEK'S EVENTS

January 8-14

Monday: 4:00 pm - Confessions
5:05 pm - Daily Mass

Tuesday: 5:05 pm - Daily Mass

Wednesday: 5:05 pm - Daily Mass

Thursday: 4:00 pm - Confessions
5:05 pm - Daily Mass

Friday: No Daily Mass

Saturday: 5:30 pm - Mass

Sunday: 9:00 am - Mass
11:15 am - Mass
12:30 pm - Parish Council Meeting

Prayer Requests

Let us pray for peace and justice throughout the world.

Other prayers are needed for Jo Andrews, Vic Kaminsky, Erin Kirkpatrick, Scott Hernandez, Kylie Hemphill, Dominic Mackey, Chance Adams, Jeyden, Peg Hart, John Fox, Karen Pearson Rich, Connie Beeler, Christine Wade, Jerry Carney, V. J. D'Innocenzo and his family, Beth Long, the family of Mufide Rende, Ellen Wavrek, Emilian, Charles, Betty Ann Daniell, Donald, the Hoffstetler family, Jane Snenski, Patty Murphy, Carlos, Michel, Fernando, Esteban, Sebastian, Margaret Dusichka, Diane Dusichka, Ray Bieniek, Geneva Stewart, Anna Platfoot, Brendan Barry, Ernst Edel, displaced tenants of Walker Springs Apartments, the Acheampong family, the Odoi family, the Bentil family, the Thompson family, the Deku family, Tom Mulligan, Tom Walsh, residents of Serene Manor, those serving in the military, and for any too reserved to let us know.



Pope Francis' 2024 Peace Day Message

For his 2024 World Day of Peace message, Pope Francis has chosen to reflect on the theme "Artificial Intelligence and Peace".

"New digital tools are even now changing the face of communications, public administration, education, consumption, personal interactions, and countless other aspects of our daily lives," he notes.

The Pope also urges world leaders to put in place policies that ensure AI development will "ultimately serve the cause of human fraternity and peace."

"It is my prayer at the start of the New Year that the rapid development of forms of artificial intelligence will not increase cases of inequality and injustice all too present in today's world, but will help put an end to wars and conflicts, and alleviate many forms of suffering that afflict our human family," he said.

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John 1



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