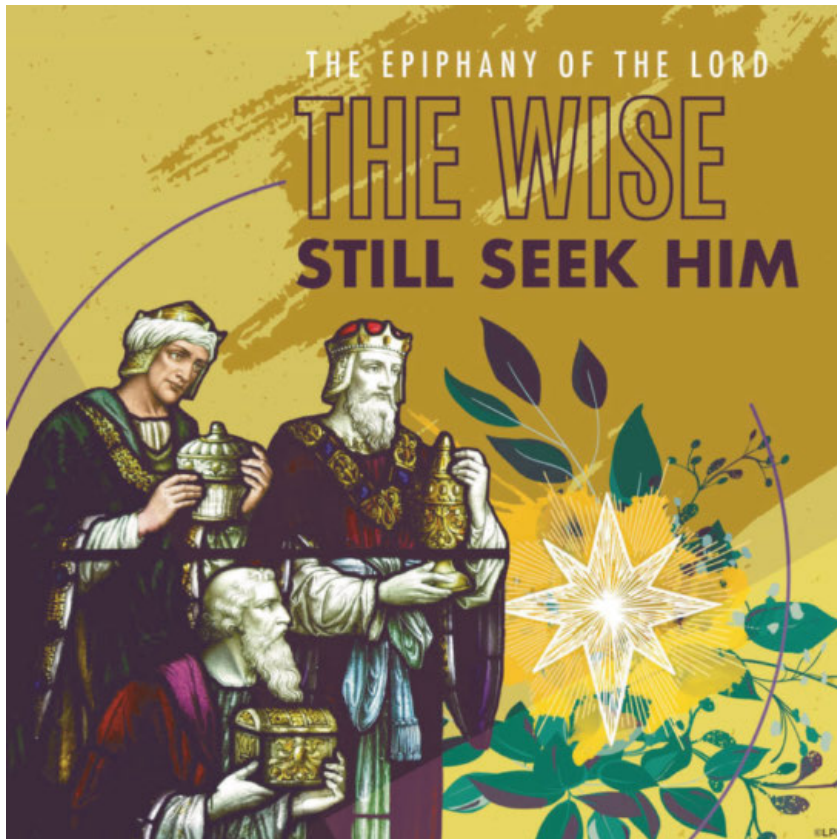




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www.stignatiusmn.com



Father John Meyer, Pastor
Father Kevin Magner, Parochial Vicar



Mardi Gras Event and Cash Raffle Tickets
Available Now!

Tickets will be available for purchase this weekend and will be sold each weekend until the event on February 10th or we are sold out. If you are ready for a spectacular evening that includes social time, a delicious authentic Mardi Gras dinner, games with prizes and our yearly cash raffle then you'll want to purchase your tickets early to guarantee a spot! Tickets are \$45 per person and there will be limited seating to this adult only event. Our yearly cash raffle tickets are also available to purchase so be sure to stop in the gathering space to purchase dinner tickets and a raffle ticket or two. Come join in the fun while helping support our fundraiser to purchase new tables and chairs for the dining hall!



Weekly Meditation

They prostrated themselves and did him homage. (Matthew 2:11)

In your high school English class, you might have learned that an “epiphany” is the moment when a character is struck with a life-changing realization that changes the rest of the story. Every good novel has one. That’s one way to think about the feast we’re celebrating today. God revealed himself to the Gentiles, and that moment changed everything.

There had been hints of God welcoming the Gentiles throughout the Old Testament. But Matthew’s Gospel shows us this pivotal moment: pagan astrologers from the East came to worship Jesus, the newborn king of the Jews (2:11). They are the first of the “nations” whom Isaiah prophesied would walk by the Lord’s light (Isaiah 60:3). They are the first of those Paul says will be “coheirs . . . in Christ Jesus through the gospel” (Ephesians 3:6).

Why is this event so important? Because it reveals to us that God’s love is far more expansive than anyone had ever thought. We begin to see that in Christ, a loving relationship with God is open to *everyone* who comes to him, Jew or Gentile.

That includes you! And your annoying cousin. And the notorious criminal on death row. And the atheist on that YouTube channel. The invitation to come to Jesus extends to everyone. Because God’s loving desire to draw all people to himself cannot be contained; no one is excluded from it. And that’s a life-changing realization!

Today, as you celebrate this great feast, give thanks to God who loves so extravagantly that he opens his arms wide to welcome everyone who believes. Pray, too, that all people will come to the Lord.

“Lord God, your revelation to the Gentiles has changed the course of history! Thank you for your love that reaches out to everyone!”

WEEKEND MINISTRY SCHEDULE

Saturday, January 13th @ 5:00 pm

Celebrant: Fr. Kevin Magner

Altar Servers: Anneliese & Isabelle Dingmann

Eucharistic Ministers: Jerry & Deb Goodale

Greeter: Ann Waldschmidt

Lector: Jessica Magrum

Sacristan: Connie Nelson

Ushers: Tim Waldschmidt, Fred Schlafke, Cliff Zimmermann & Mark Logeais

Sunday, December 14th @ 8:30 am

Celebrant: Fr. Kevin Magner

Altar Servers: Caleb Danzeisen & Alex Millner

Eucharistic Ministers: Michael Holthaus & Pat Athman

Greeter: Jen Holte

Lector: Angie Manuel

Live Stream: Tom Gay

Sacristan: Diane Fournier

Ushers: Brad Holte, Jerry Elsenpeter, Joe Martin & Doug Zachman

Sunday, December 14th @ 10:30 am

Celebrant: Fr. Kevin Magner

Altar Servers: Presley Dwenger & Rylan Mackedanz

Eucharistic Ministers: Roy Martin & Shelly Naaktgoren

Greeter: Heather Ergen

Lector: Jessica Chapman

Sacristan: Jerry Polaschek

Ushers: Bob Guck, Al Guck, Craig & Traci Arends

Thank you
Ministry Volunteers

Thank you to everyone that was able to attend the Christmas Program. We would also like to express our gratitude to Anastacia Schnabel, our director of Faith Formation and the many other volunteers that helped with the program.



Homebound Ministry

If you or someone you know would like one of our home visitors to stop by your residence for companionship, prayer, or have Holy Communion brought to you, please call or email the parish office to make arrangements.

St. Ignatius Membership

Are you or someone you know interested in becoming a member of St. Ignatius? We offer online registration on our website, or you are welcome to contact our Parish Office at 320-274-8828 to speak with someone regarding registration or to answer any questions you may have. Becoming a registered member allows us to better understand your needs and helps us to connect with you!

If you are a current member of the parish, please remember to update us with changes to your address, phone number, or email. Updates can be made on the website or by contacting the Parish Office.

Parents, Are you ready for Tax Day?

The Minnesota Catholic Conference is excited to remind you about the new MN Child Tax Credit. Getting money back to our Minnesota families through this tax credit was an integral goal achieved by the Catholic Conference's Families First Project last year. The credit encourages and supports strong families by providing a tax break to eligible families. To ensure you don't miss out, visit www.FamiliesFirstProject.com/CTC, where you can learn more about the child tax credit and access additional tax resources. Tell every parent you know to file their taxes to receive this credit. Together we will support and strengthen the families in our communities.

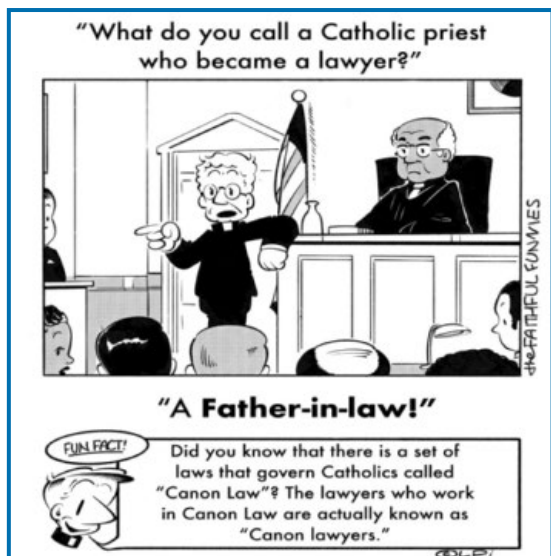
Back to "Ordinary" Time

Ordinary time is the longest season of the liturgical year. It begins after the Epiphany, and goes until the Tuesday before Ash Wednesday, the beginning of Lent. That period can last anywhere from five to eight weeks, depending on when Easter is celebrated. Ordinary time picks up again the Monday after Pentecost Sunday and lasts from twenty-three to twenty-seven weeks, until the end of the liturgical year, the Saturday before Advent begins.

Why the name ordinary? "Ordinary" is not in contrast to "extraordinary" or "special" but rather stresses the Latin language notion of "ordinal" or numbered Sundays. The Latin title for the season, *tempus ordinarium*, conveys the sense that this time of the year is measured or numbered time. Measured time can allude simply to the numbered Sundays, or the notion that these Sundays are a "measured" time to deepen and immerse ourselves completely in the realities of Jesus' incarnation, ministry, passion, death, and resurrection. Ordinary time offers us the opportunity to connect the ordinary lived experiences of our lives with those of Jesus, who modeled for us how to live a truly human existence. ©LPI

2024 Liturgical Year:

January 9, 2024 – February 13, 2024: Ordinary Time
February 14 – May 19, 2024: Lent, Triduum, Easter
May 20, 2024 – November 30, 2024: Ordinary Time
December 1, 2024 – January 12, 2025: Advent, Christmas



Retreat Opportunities

Central Minnesota Koinonia Retreat

A weekend Catholic retreat program sponsored by the St Cloud Diocese and is designed for adults to help you on your faith journey. Retreats are held at the TEC Center north of Little Falls, Minnesota. The next English retreat will be held **March 1-3, 2024**, more info at www.centralmnkoinonia.org

Demontreville Jesuit Retreat

A men's three-day silent retreat on the beautiful grounds of Lake DeMontreville guided by the Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius. The retreat begins **Thursday evening January 18, 2024, and ends Sunday evening, January 21, 2024**. More info at www.demontrevilleretreat.com

Twin Cities Retrouvaille

A lifeline for troubled marriages. Couples learn the tools to rediscover each other and heal their marriage **February 2-4, 2024** at the Best Western Hotel, Eagan, MN. More info at www.helpourmarriage.org

Live the Liturgy

Though the magi did not know where the star of Bethlehem would lead, they trusted that God would be with them along the way. Let us all embrace that same faith as we go about the journey God has planned for us this year. ©LPi

Personal Reflection

First Reading: Isaiah foresaw a future when the Lord would use Israel as His instrument to shine His glory into the world. What could you do this week to show God's glory to others?

Second Reading: Paul met a lot of resistance when he spoke of God's "revelation" that Gentiles are "coheirs" and "copartners" with Jews in the divine promise fulfilled in Christ Jesus. How welcoming are you to outsiders?

Gospel: In the story of the magi's visit, we see the prophecies of Isaiah (our first reading) fulfilled with the treasures of gold, frankincense, and myrrh given to the Holy Family. What gift do you give to the Lord? ©LPi

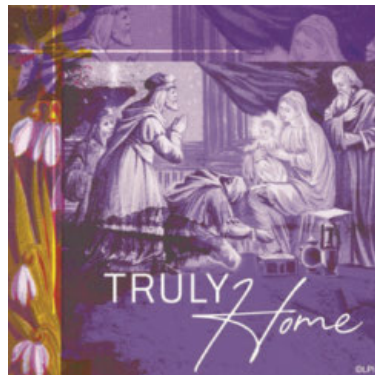
Gospel Meditation

A stranger in a foreign land, I was exhausted and homesick as my summer Spanish immersion ended in Guatemala. The rusty minivan arriving outside my small residence filled me with joyful hope. I was flying home to the U.S. and would be, at long last, completely happy. Or so I thought. After about half an hour of being home, I thought to myself, "This place is boring. I want to go somewhere." So, I hopped in my car and left to see my friends. As I drove, I wistfully wondered, "Where am I truly at home?"

The feast of Epiphany has a lot to do with our notion of home. Where is our origin? Where are we going? When is our wandering done? Saint Matthew tells us of the Magi, "They were overjoyed at seeing the star." This star will bring them home, to a place where their questing will end, and they will be satisfied. Their real home is neither in the East nor in the earthly Jerusalem. Somehow, their home is wherever this boy and his parents are.

If you're a teenager or older, you probably know by now that every physical home we have is temporary. So, we look up at the countless stars in our proverbial skies: things which bedazzle and beckon us to follow toward peace. The Gospel invites us to behold that — at long last — God has sent us a star to follow home, one that whispers, "Follow me! I will take you home!" Perhaps that star is your spouse. A friend. An opportunity. A cause. An intuition about a new direction. A prayer group. What is it for you? How will you know? It will lead you to Mary and Joseph and their son, and you will be home.

— Father John Muir



Remember in your prayers:

Larry Oberg	Jaden Hanson
Joseph Niznik	Wayne Dearing
Mike Meyer	Ronda O'Brien
Lynnea Stay	Russ Fortner
Katelyn Busch	James Utecht
Herman Wittsack	Mary Malachuk
Mary Wittsack	Jason Mitchell
Mary Danielson	Deb Cole
Mark Johnson	John Holker
Paul DeMars	Marlene Niewind
Julie Pelarski	Karen Sommers
Sally Phenow	Loren Frappier
Reanna Braun	Monsignor Callaghan
Lynnae Frappier	Janet Aretz
Dan Schultz	Leon Zachman
Louise Borstad	Nicki Wilson
Nick Mares	Tanya Anderson

Mass Intentions:

Saturday, January 6th

5:00 pm † John Anderson

Sunday, January 7th

8:30 am Parishioners of St. Ignatius

10:30 am The living and deceased members of the Brennan & Fraber Families

Monday, January 8th

8:00 am Parishioners of St. Ignatius

Tuesday, January 9th

8:00 am Parishioners of St. Ignatius

Wednesday, January 10th

8:00 am † Valerian "Larry" Luetmer

Thursday, January 11th

8:00 am Parishioners of St. Ignatius

Friday, January 12th

No daily Mass on Fridays

8:00 am Mass available at St. Timothy

Saturday, January 13th

5:00 pm † Donna Schumann

Sunday, January 14th

8:30 am † Marilyn & Jack Driste

10:30 am Parishioners of St. Ignatius

Stewardship:

Projected weekly giving.....\$5,890.00
494 parish families

4th Weekend of Advent, December 24th

Envelopes.....\$7,129.50
Plate.....\$342.75
Auto Deposits.....\$1,330.00
Total.....\$8,802.25

Christmas Collection

Envelopes.....\$10,630.00
Plate.....\$1,725.47
Total.....\$12,355.47

DIRECTORY

Father John Meyer, Pastor

FrMeyer@stignatiusmn.com

Father Kevin Magner, Parochial Vicar

FrMagner@stignatiusmn.com

35 Birch Street East • PO Box 126 • Annandale, MN 55302

Phone: 274-8828 **Fax:** 274-3961

Email: parishoffice@stignatiusmn.com

Website: www.stignatiusmn.com

Office hours:

Mondays 8am - 12pm and 1pm - 4pm

Tuesdays 8:30am - 3:30pm

Wednesdays & Thursdays 8:30am - 12:00pm

Fridays 8am - 12pm and 1pm - 4pm

Bookkeeper: Tom Gay

tom@stignatiusmn.com

Phone: 274-8828 ext: 101

Secretary & Safe Environment Coordinator: Julie Petersen

julie@stignatiusmn.com

Phone: 274-8828 ext: 100

Custodians: Chad Ferris & Doug Zachman

Director of Faith Formation: Anastacia Schnabel

anastacia@stignatiusmn.com

Phone: 320-274-8828 ext. 105

Youth Minister: Bernie Gauthé

bernie@stignatiusmn.com

Parish Pastoral Council

Council member information and meeting minutes are available on our website or by requesting a copy from the parish office. On the website, use the "Ministries" menu at the top of the page, and then select "Pastoral Council" on the drop down menu.

Mass Schedule

Saturday Mass - 5:00 pm

Sunday Masses - 8:30 am and 10:30 am

8:30 Mass is live streamed on the parish Facebook page and You Tube channel

Daily Mass

Mondays 6:00pm

Tuesdays, Wednesdays, & Thursdays 8:00am

(No Daily Mass on Fridays)

Reconciliation

5:30 pm Monday (one-half hour prior to Mass)

4:30 pm Saturday (one-half hour prior to Mass)

Adoration of The Blessed Sacrament

Last Thursday of the month, 8:30 am - 7:00 pm

Sacraments

Baptisms

Please contact the parish at least two months in advance of the Baptism. Parents are required to attend a Baptism class prior to the Baptism. Baptisms are scheduled through the parish office, and are held following the 10:30 am Mass.

Marriage

Please contact the pastor at least six months in advance of the desired wedding date.

**Bulletin submission deadline is Tuesdays at noon
unless an early deadline notice is posted here:**

January 7, 2024 - Past

Monday, January 8th

FEAST OF THE



BAPTISM OF THE LORD

**How are the feasts of the Baptism of Jesus
and the account of the wedding feast of Cana
related to the Epiphany celebration?**

The Epiphany season focuses on revealing Jesus to the world. Following the Christmas celebration, the liturgical year lays out a series of manifestation points in which Jesus is made publicly known. From its very beginning, the Christian community highlighted three events in the life of Jesus. These are the Epiphany, the Baptism of the Lord and the wedding feast at Cana.

The Epiphany discloses Jesus to the world of the Gentiles, represented by the magi from the East. The accounts of Jesus' baptism reveal his identity and mission, along with exposing him to those to whom he was sent to minister. The miracle of turning water to wine at the wedding feast of Cana, unique to John's Gospel, is the first public sign that Jesus performs, thus manifesting his public identity and his powers.

Today in the Roman Church, these are usually celebrated on three successive Sundays: Epiphany, the Baptism of the Lord which is usually the next Sunday, and the wedding feast of Cana, which is proclaimed on the 2nd Sunday of Ordinary Time in lectionary year C.

These feasts connect around the concept of epiphany, public manifestation of Jesus to the world. They help us get to know more intimately who Jesus is and what he is about. Spend some time delving more deeply into your understanding of who Jesus is. Continue to cultivate these "epiphany" moments in your life.

©LPi

Calendar of **EVENTS**

Sunday, January 7: The Epiphany of the Lord

Monday, January 8: Feast of the Baptism of the Lord

Sunday, January 14: 7th Grade Mass

Thursday, January 25: Eucharistic Adoration

8:30 am - 7:00 pm

Sunday, January 28: Donut Sunday following

8:30 & 10:30 am Masses

Tuesday, February 6: Care Center Mass 10:30 am

Saturday, February 10: Mardi Gras Event

Wednesday, February 14: Ash Wednesday

Masses 8:00 am & 7:00 pm

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