

## Welcome to St. Joseph — Clayton, Missouri

### *Notes From The Pastor's Pen*

Hello,

As we celebrate the feast of the Epiphany maybe we can consider what that means. I was glad to see when I first looked it up in the dictionary that they referenced today's feast day, but then after that it said the following: "a moment in which you suddenly see or understand something in a new or very clear way." In the context of this feast day, the magi were gentiles coming from distant lands and we might consider that they saw this star and it led them to Jesus, leading them to a new understanding of God and thus also themselves. But I think the Epiphany can also be seen in how the magi come to honor Jesus, and how this tells everyone else about this little baby and how they need to see him in a new way. Herod would take it as a threat to his power. Mary and Joseph may take it probably as further affirmation of what had been revealed to them so far, and the gifts giving them further things to think about. What type of epiphanies have we had?

Having just celebrated the feast of the Holy Family last week, and most of us having visited with family over the holidays we might have had an epiphany this year or recall one from another about certain relationships in our family. Like when you first see your parents or grandparents as real people, not just Mom and Dad or Grandma and Grandpa and of course they are there and take care of you and provide for you, what else would they do? But recognizing challenges and difficulties they have or had in their lives. The sacrifices and choices they have made for you, that they were young once too. Not only do these type of epiphanies help us to understand and know these other people in our lives, but hopefully they also help us to understand our own lives and the importance of the decisions we make, how it shapes our lives as well as the affect it can have on those around us.

Maybe we had an epiphany about presents. What were the really most important or most appreciated ones that we received or that we gave and what made them that way. Whether it was the hoped for that had been clearly desired, or the unexpected that showed some real thought about the other person beyond what they had even considered themselves, or the very personal that was so important simply because of the emotion or thought it expressed. Consider the epiphanies this can give us about what is really most important for ourselves and others, and maybe to consider if our values in our day to day lives are where they should be or not?

Maybe the epiphany was about God. That through this Christmas season we gained a new or clearer understanding about God and his love for us or our love for Him. The vulnerability He expressed by being born as a helpless child, the response that can elicit. I hope you have all had a blessed Christmas season, and are open to the epiphanies that may come in this New Year.

Peace,

Fr. Nick

### Mass Intentions

**Monday, Jan. 6**  
**6:30 am**  
Helene Schweitzer  
**12:00 pm**  
Stephan B. Topping

**Tuesday, Jan. 7**  
**8:00 am**  
Benefactors of  
St Vincent de Paul  
**12:00 pm**  
Ann Averill Miller

**Wednesday, Jan. 8**  
**6:30 am**  
Jim Laflin  
**12:00 pm**  
Jane Byrne

**Thursday, Jan. 9**  
**8:00 am**  
Special Intention (PS)  
**12:00 pm**  
Jolly Nouss

**Friday, Jan. 10**  
**6:30 am**  
Poor Souls  
**12:00 pm**  
Ann Ryan

**Saturday, Jan. 11**  
**8:00 am**  
Prudencia P. Arribas  
**5:00 pm**  
Dr. Francis Burns

**Sunday, Jan. 12**  
**The Baptism of  
The Lord**  
**7:30 am**  
Francis C. Flynn  
and Family  
**9:00 am**  
St. Joseph Parishioners  
**11:00 am**  
Albertina Pierce

# The Epiphany Of The Lord

January 5, 2014

## We Pray For Our Loved Ones

*May God provide health and comfort to:*

Eugene Shalhoob  
John Saner Voelker  
Barbara Lindsay  
Connie Josse  
Maria Guehlstorf  
Patrick Hale  
Angela Coor  
Drenna Muldoon  
Shirley Toon  
Paul Watson  
Clifford Parr  
Mary Jane Zoernig  
Mary Lee Rovira  
Lucille Bommarito  
Bob Wilson  
Sr. Eleanor  
Madelyn Ibeling  
Elizabeth O'Connor  
Michael Phelps  
Malik Williams  
Colleen Woodard  
Lynn Burch

### Communion to the Sick or Homebound

We are happy to bring communion to those confined to their homes. Please contact the Parish Office for arrangements.

### Anointing of the Sick

If you or a loved one seeks the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick, contact the Parish Office to make arrangements.

### THE LIGHT OF FAITH

The first reading today is charged with the glory of the Lord. Everyone who can come to the holy city does come—whole caravans of people of all ages on foot and on dromedaries and camels.

This description of an irresistible light-filled city prepares us for the story of the magi. They are guided by their own lights—their study of astronomy and astrology—and by the light of a peculiar star. Their study tells them that an unusual event in the heavens is a sign of an extraordinary birth on earth. They mean to find out about this, and they set out with gifts worthy of a king. They are welcomed into an insignificant house in Bethlehem, offer gifts befitting a king, and receive the gift of faith.

Paul reinforces the great gift of faith available to the Gentiles, whom the magi represent. What they have seen has changed them, just as it changed Paul and all who heeded his proclamation. Like the magi and like Paul, we are invited to receive this life that is filled with the light of faith.

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### *Roses for Life*

Sponsored by St. Joseph Knights of Columbus

This weekend we will again provide "Roses for Life." Please take a rose from the baskets at entrances to church for the Roses for Life. Sign your name and address and drop it back in the basket, the Knights will make sure they are delivered to our Senators in Washington. It is very important that we continue to make our Pro-Life commitment known. We must raise our voices for those innocents whose voices cannot have yet be heard. Donations to help defray the cost of this program are gratefully accepted. Drop it in the basket with your rose.

### GOD'S WORD TODAY

Today's celebration of the Epiphany of the Lord serves as a reminder of the true meaning of the liturgy. The story of the visit of the magi from the east has been depicted in Christian art for centuries. We have invented names for these three mysterious figures. We have ascribed race and ethnic origin to each of them. Some traditions claim that there were up to twelve magi. The only evidence we have of these magi is from just one of the four Gospels, the account we hear from Matthew today. The Church's liturgy asks us to look beyond the words and the traditions that have grown up around this story. The liturgy is for today—it is not a sentimental recalling of past events. At the heart of this celebration is the fact that Jesus is manifested to all people. This is what Epiphany celebrates. Today, the Lord Jesus is manifested to you, to your worshipping community, indeed to the very ends of the earth. If the liturgy celebrates the now, how does this manifestation of the Lord occur? We believe that Christ is made present in word and sacrament, right here, right now. This is the miracle of Epiphany that occurs each and every time we gather to give praise to God. Looking past the folklore that has developed about the Gospel story, you can focus instead on how the Lord is manifested to you today. Take the Epiphany challenge and find ways that you can share Christ with others, creating an endless circle of epiphanies. From Saint Margaret Sunday Missal, copyright © J. S. Paluch Company

### 2nd Tuesday Lunch Bunch:

The 2nd Tuesday lunch bunch will meet on January 14th. For this month only we will brown bag lunch, and drinks and desserts will be provided. If you would like to stay after lunch to "Rob Your Neighbor", bring a gift to share. RSVP 726-1221.

### Rest in Peace

Let us, as a parish family, pray for all of our deceased parishioners, relatives, benefactors and friends. We remember all of our loved ones who have gone before us and pray that they are celebrating with our Lord in heaven. When you go to Mass, please note who the Mass Intention is for and say an extra prayer for them.

## Mark Your Calendar

### Epiphany Open House

Everyone is invited to the Parish House after all masses on Sunday, January 5<sup>th</sup>

Fr. Kastenholz and Fr. Schaab



The March for Life commemorating the 41st year since Roe v. Wade will take place Wednesday, January 22nd. Just like years prior, a big contingent of St. Louis faithful is making the trek to our nation's capitol to protest this unjust law.

The Office of Youth Ministry is leading the charge with nearly 1,700 young people going this year. All together, more than 2,000 people will represent St. Louis on the 2014 March for Life in Washington, D.C. \*\*If you would like to go on the March for Life, it's not too late! Some groups still have room on their bus, but you need to contact our office ASAP: [prolife@archstl.org](mailto:prolife@archstl.org), or (314) 792-7555.

January Bride at St. Joseph will be Thursday, January 9<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. in the Centennial Rm. See You There!

#### READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: I Jn 3:22 -- 4:6; Ps 2:7bc-8, 10-12a; Mt 4:12-17, 23-25

Tuesday: I Jn 4:7-10; Ps 72:1-4, 7-8; Mk 6:34-44

Wednesday: I Jn 4:11-18; Ps 72:1-2, 10, 12-13; Mk 6:45-52

Thursday: I Jn 4:19 — 5:4; Ps 72:1-2, 14, 15bc, 17; Lk 4:14-22a

Friday: I Jn 5:5-13; Ps 147:12-15, 19-20; Lk 5:12-16

Saturday: I Jn 5:14-21; Ps 149:1-6a, 9b; Jn 3:22-30

Sunday: Is 42:1-4, 6-7; Ps 29:1-4, 3, 9-10; Acts 10:34-38; Mt 3:13-17

#### Christmas Eve Pageant

We wish to thank the following families for making the program possible: Pratl, Beimdick, Griffey, Auffenberg, Rose, McCormick, Vetter, Stahl and the St. Joseph choir. A special thank you to our director J.J. Pratl!

#### Signatures needed to have the Children's Educational Initiative place on the November Ballot

A special thank you to our parish members who collected signatures to have the Children's Educational Initiative on the November ballot. If you did not get a chance to sign the petition we will be gathering signatures in January.

Call Terri Venneman for more information about the initiative 314-727-9059 or check the flyers on the bulletin boards in church.

#### Sunday Worship

January 11-12, 2014

#### 5:00 pm

Altar Servers  
Marley Betty

Lectors

**Volunteer Needed**

Ministers of Communion  
Barb Gill  
Chris Gill

**Volunteer Needed**

#### 7:30 am

Altar Servers  
Liam & Kieran Mulligan

Lectors

Frank Hackmann

Ministers of Communion  
Raymond Chiostrri  
Thom Schwetye

**Volunteer Needed**

#### 9:00 am

Altar Servers  
Emily Looby

Lectors

Mary Joan Woods

Ministers of Communion  
John Gillis  
Marcella Leonardo  
Deacon Del Leonardo

#### 11:00 am

Altar Servers  
Caitlyn Lee  
Madie Schue

Lectors

Joe Dickmann

Ministers of Communion  
Julie Gerwitz  
Carolyn Dickmann  
Deacon Al Williams

To become a minister call the Rectory 726-1221.

**SAVE THE DATE:  
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 2013  
ST. JOSEPH'S TRIVIA IN CLAYTON**

**Doors Open:** 6:30 p.m.

**Start Time:** 7:00 p.m. (promptly)

**Finish Time:** Usually around 10:00

**Tables:** 8 players

**Cost:** \$20 per player

**Food:** Light beverages and Snacks provided;  
Bring your own food too!

**Prizes:** Top 3 tables

**Questions:** Some easy, some challenging, all fun!

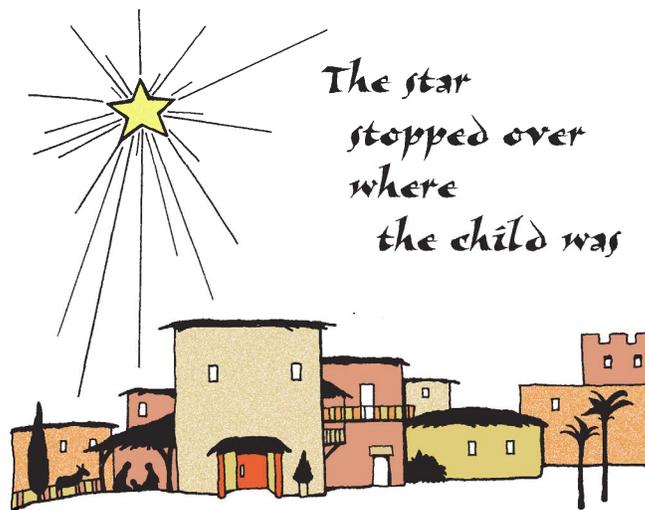
**To Register:** Call Joe & Carolyn Dickmann  
314-781-8650 Or 314-727-9059

**We Can Always Use Help?**

We need a committee of 4-6 volunteers to help us plan and to gather donations for prizes for winners and for door prizes. Call number above.

**Catholic Mass for homebound to debut on St. Louis's WRBU-TV 46 later this month**

Heart of the Nation's "My Sunday Mass" made its debut in St. Louis on December 22, 2013, at 7:30 a.m. on WRBU My46. The weekly TV Mass serves homebound and other Catholics unable to participate in a parish liturgy. "My Sunday Mass" is celebrated in the 19th-century chapel at Saint Francis de Sales Seminary, one of the oldest Roman Catholic seminaries in the country. In addition to using closed-captioning for the TV Mass, Heart of the Nation offers free subscriptions to the large-print Prayer & Worship Guide for use during "My Sunday Mass" on TV and in prayer throughout the week. To subscribe to the free, large-print Prayer & Worship Guide or request a gift subscription for someone else, contact Heart of the Nation toll-free at 1-(855) 855-MASS (6277) or send an e-mail to [Mail@HeartoftheNation.org](mailto:Mail@HeartoftheNation.org). Include the name and postal address for the subscription recipient.



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**God's Precious Infants**

Consider taking a stand for life on the third Saturday of each Month at the Helpers of God's Precious Infants at 8 a.m. at the Cathedral Basilica. A group of faithful pro-life people from throughout the archdiocese comes together on the 3rd Sat. of each month for mass and a peaceful procession to the nearby Planned Parenthood facility reciting the rosary along the way. This powerful pro-life statement is a wonderful way that you can become more involved in the growing pro-life movement and involve your family in meaningful action.