

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION PARISH JANUARY 7, 2024 THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

Saturday, January 6, 2024 8:30 a.m. Mass at Seton 4:30 p.m. Rev. Matthew Cirilli (Consuelo) Sunday, January 7, 2024 – The Epiphany of the Lord 8:00 a.m. Diane Ramsey (Friend Toni) 10:00 a.m. Melvyn Rasel (Ann) 11:30 a.m. Steven Milosvich (Wife & Children) Monday, January 8, 2024 7:45 a.m. Living & Deceased Members of the Salopek Family (Salopek Family) Tuesday, January 9, 2024 7:45 a.m. Our Parish Family 6:30 p.m. Michael Scott Borland (Barb) Wednesday, January 10, 2024 7:45 a.m. Bill Shiffler (Family) Thursday, January 11, 2024 7:45 a.m. Kathleen Sperling (Eugene) Friday, January 12, 2024 7:45 a.m. Vanessa Goldych (Meigs/Alvarez Families) Saturday, January 13, 2024 8:00 a.m. Sally Smetak (Balcerek Family) 4:30 a.m. John Kubacka (Dave & Marie Hammer) Sunday, January 14, 2024 8:00 a.m. Al, Mary Kay, & Mary Lou Lynn (Family) 10:00 a.m. Kay Mason (Paula) 11:30 a.m. Dorothy Thompson (Alvarez Family) PARISH STAFF CONTACTS

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THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

They were overjoyed at seeing the star, and on entering the house they saw the child with Mary his mother. - Mt 2:10

> Queen of Angels Catholic School Jennifer Filak, *Principal* 724-978-0144 jfilak@queenofangelssch.org www.queenofangelssch.org

Diocese of Greensburg www.dioceseofgreensburg.org

HELP LINES St. Vincent DePaul www.svdpgreensburg.org - 724-691-3711

Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Greensburg 724-837-1840

Parish Office Hours - 8am to 4pm Monday through Friday 308 Second Street - Irwin, Pa 15642 724-863-9550

HAPPENINGS ON THE CORNER & AROUND THE DIOCESE!

Thanks to everyone who took some time from their busy holiday schedules to help us decorate our church for Christmas...it looks beautiful! Of course, all things must come to an end. On Sunday, January 7,

after 11:30 Mass, we could use your help to disassemble and pack away the

decorations, trees and nativity to prepare for Ordinary Sunday. Hope to see you there!



Home blessing kits-will be available while supply lasts in the back of the church. The tradition is to bless your home on the Feast of the Epiphany which falls on Jan 7, 2024. The kits have been blessed and includes the instruction sheet, chalk, and holy water. The family will use the chalk to write 20 + C + M + B + 24. The letters represent the first initials of the three kings who visited the Christ child on Epiphany: Caspar, Melchior, & Balthazar. Those letters also signify the Latin phrase Christus Mansionem benedicat, which means, "May Christ bless the house".



MARK YOUR CALENDARS!!!

- ✤ IMG/IWG—Immaculata Men's and Women's Group will finish the sessions on "The Chosen" the following 4 weeks: 1/20, 1/27 2/3 & 2/10/2024 6:30 a.m.
- ✤ Journey to Scripture—Special Needs Faith Formation Meeting—January 17, 2024-7 pm to 8:30 pm—Our Lady's Plaza— Please contact Bernie Cymbor 724-864-0936 or waybern2@comcast.net
- ✤ Christian Mothers Women's Guild—CMWG The general membership meeting will be held on February 13th at 7 p.m. in Our Lady's Plaza (there is not a mass at 6:30 p.m.). All are welcome! For more information please call parish office at 724-863-9550.

PRAY FOR LIFE

If you are unable to join the March for Life in Washington, DC, please consider joining The Greensburg Diocesan Council of the National Women (DCCW) for a day of prayer (you may come and go as needed). When: Friday, January 19, 2024 Where: Christ Our Shepherd Center Greensburg, PA Schedule: 11:30 am–Rosary for priests Noon-Mass Rosary for Life Stations of the Cross for Life 3:00 pm—Divine Mercy Chaplet 3:30 pm –Litany for Life 4:00 pm –Closing Prayer

Knights of Columbus Donations for Vocations -St Jude 9019 Knights of Columbus will be collecting for Vocations this month. All monies collected for vocations are in support of the Bishops Project for Vocations, as well as Seminarians in the Greensburg Diocese. Last year we collected \$4,796 from the Parishes of Immaculate Conception, St Agnes, and St Elizabeth Ann Seton. From that total last year we gave \$2,500 to the Bishops Endowment for Vocations, and we donated \$1,000 directly to a Designated Seminarians studying for the Priesthood in our Diocese. This year we are supporting four seminarians, David Lusrick, Tyler Randolph, Ryan Scavnicky, and Matteo Arcara. Thank you for supporting this worthy cause!



CHILDREN'S ENVELOPES

ARE LOCATED IN THE BACK OF THE CHURCH IF YOU HAVE NOT TAKEN YOURS. EACH FAMILY IS ASSIGNED A NUMBER SO KINDLY SIGN THE SHEET SO WE KNOW THAT YOU HAVE RECEIVED YOURS FOR YOUR FAMILY. THANK YOU FOR YOUR HELP!

PASTOR'S NOTES CONTINUED

The Epiphany of the Lord

"Making the trip worthwhile"



How is your sense of direction? Do you ever ask for directions? When you go somewhere, do you always return the way you came?

Over the years, I have been assigned to parishes in several different cities and towns, every one of them have been riddled with major road construction. To find your way back to Greensburg, or local hospitals and nursing homes, it is helpful to have a good sense of direction, which is an important "tool" for getting around in unfamiliar surroundings.

Usually, cities are fairly logically laid out, and even with GPS, it is difficult to get around when the way is highlighted with "Road Closed" and "Detour" signs that isn't always the case. A simple cross-town ride becomes a

major maze. In my own case, because I have a lousy sense of direction, I tend to be more willing to ask directions, and I also play it safe by returning the way I came. After a while, though, I will risk, with a sense of adventure, deliberately taking a different, unfamiliar turn here and there, since this is the only way to really get to "know your way around."

Today's gospel tells us of three learned individuals who, while looking to the heavens for a sense of direction, were not afraid to ask for directions, and who, while making a trip they'd never been on before, were not afraid to return by a route other than the one by which they had come. In the tradition we have called them "wise" because they were searchers for truth, and a true searcher is one who knows that he or she still has much to learn, that there's more to life than meets the eye, and that one never outgrows the need to ask for help and direction.

Matthew teaches us a special lesson when he says that they "departed for their country by another way." Learning to be wise in our faith requires that we are willing to change our ways, points of reference, and direction in life after we have encountered the Lord. As Saint John Chrysostom puts it: "It was not possible that having come from Herod to Christ, they should return again to Herod." Saint Gregory the Great sees the whole human journey here: "Our true country is Paradise, to which, having now come to the knowledge of Jesus, we are forbidden to return by the path we left it."

For the Christian who is still learning, still searching, the way back home is going to be different because every encounter with the Lord takes us back changed, different, from where we were and whence we came.

How is your sense of direction? We saw his star at its rising and have come to do him homage.



The story of the wise men is almost always depicted with three people at the manger with their camels nearby. But the text in Matthew 2:1-12 doesn't mention a manger. In fact, it says Jesus was in a house. Neither does it say how many wise men there were, however, it does mention three gifts, but that does not mean each wise man only brought one gift. In other words, we've made a lot of additions to this story.

Is the story true? That question betrays a certain point of view. Most people approach the stories in the gospels as snapshots from the life of Christ. Like photographs, they capture a moment in time. Before digital cameras, a photograph was as good as being there. But I think the gospels are paintings from the life of Christ. A painting is different from a photograph. An artist is free to rearrange the scene, put different colors into the picture, and place the person in modern day surroundings. The reason an artist does so is to make a statement,

or to get us to look at a subject from a different point of view. Is a photograph truer than a painting? No. Both contain truth for us to see.

I think Matthew "painted" the story of Christ with words. He used themes, like a painter uses color, to give meaning to Jesus' life. Matthew repeatedly shows how Jesus fulfilled the Old Testament. Here he uses Isaiah 60:5-6 as the basis for this story. Visitors with gifts from the East were to be a sign of the messianic age. The painting of the wise men, by Matthew, teaches me the good news that the messianic reign has begun, but also it adds the sobering lesson that earthly powers will do all they can to destroy that kingdom. That's a truth worth pondering today.

PASTOR'S NOTES

NOTE: This year due to the way the Nativity of the Lord fell, the celebration of the Baptisms of the Lord will take place this coming Monday, January 8th. The feast is a very important reflection on our relationship with Christ's baptism and our own baptism. So, I thought I would share this meditation since we will not have the chance to do during the Sunday Liturgy.

THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD The Beginning of Jesus Priestly Ministry

This Monday, the Feast of the baptism of the Lord, brings the Christmas Season to a formal end. The readings these past weeks about Jesus' birth and infancy are followed with rather abruptly by an account that takes place thirty years later. What connects today with the other feasts of this season is that it celebrates another dimension of Jesus' manifestation to the world as "Eternal High Priest". On the feast of the Epiphany, the gift of Frankincense, the perfume of the temple which was given by Casper, symbolized the important role of Jesus' ministry as teacher, healer and bridge between man and God.

It was not necessary for Jesus to be baptized, for He was free from original sin, but He insisted that He be baptized for other reasons.

- 1) When John baptizes Jesus, it is the first time the two come into direct contact. The Evangelists Matthew, Mark and Luke begin Jesus' public ministry with the preaching of John the Baptist. It is a clear call to repentance. When Jesus encounters John the Baptist at the Jordan, it is as though Jesus received the torch from His fore runner. Jesus begins His preaching with the same theme: "Repent, the kingdom of God is near."
- 2) Jesus' Baptism not only marks the beginning of His priestly ministry, but reminds us of the perfect sacrifice in which this ministry would end... in His death. The water of baptism for Jesus, as well as, for us is a reminder that we die to this world so we can share in the heavenly Kingdom. As Jesus is immersed in the waters of the Jordan He dies to the simple notion that he is just a man. He ascends from the water with the epiphany of which the gift of myrrh calls to mind... He was born to die... to be the perfect and lasting sacrifice for sins... He is more than a man as the words of the Father proclaims: "This is my beloved Son".

These reasons of Jesus' baptism calls us to examine more deeply the meaning of our own Baptism. While our baptism is necessary for cleansing of original sin, it is only the beginning of what we are called to live. We too are expected to proclaim the Gospel and live as the Fathers' beloved, changed from earthly desires to Hope in the Eternal.

Remember our vocation is sanctified in Baptism. We must find our path through our calling in life. That may be as a single, religious, priest or a married person...but all in all, in the image of Christ and the hope of sharing forever with Him in Heaven.

BEING STEWARDS OF OUR BAPTISM

When we have died through the waters of Baptism we have died to the mundane things that hold us fast to the worldly desires and concerns. We participate in this truth by exhibiting acts of Faith, Hope and Charity. These virtues are the mainstream of our life in Christ.

CHARITY- I want to thank all for the incredible acts of charity that you have shown for and through our parish this past Advent and Christmas.

- Many people responded to the needs of the poor via the St. Vincent De Paul "Fuel Fund" the giving tree and
 other monetary gifts to aid the poor of our parish and the surrounding region.
- This charity continued in the offerings that were collected during our Christmas Celebration. Our Christmas collections were phenomenal.

These gifts show your trust in me as a steward of your treasures for the work of the Church. I promise they will be used to further the mission of Christ.

FAITH - Faith is a gift that must be nurtured and shared with others.

You are welcomed to share in the ongoing opportunities of devotion, study and prayer that the parish offers weekly. Consider:

- Tuesday Adoration, Confession and Evening Mass at Immaculate Conception. The 6:30 PM Mass on Tuesday
 evening is a great way to participate in a more intimate and quiet setting. Treat yourself to another opportunity to
 be renewed in the Word and Eucharist.
- Consider doing the podcast "The Bible in a Year" with Father Mike Schmitz or join the Catholic App "halo" which
 offers great pray opportunities
- For family experiences join the "Formed" Catholic Network that is available on line through our parish subscription. Go to <u>formed.org/subscribe</u> and choose parish tab and look for Immaculate Conception Catholic Church.

Pastor's Notes Continued

HOPE - Being stewards of Hope means that even in the face of difficulties, our eyes stay affixed on God.

- Consider watching the fabulous series "CHOSEN" which is beginning its 4th season! This show of Jesus' life with his apostles gives great "hope" to all of us that He called disciples who were ordinary, quirky and not highly educated in the ways of God to be his closest followers. The series can be down loaded on the chosen app or seen on Prime video! A must BINGE watch series!
- One of the great difficulties in the battle to end abortion. Prayer and presence are the vehicle to realize this victory.
- Many will go to Washington on January 19th to the "March for Life", others are called to support them through prayer. So make a special intention to pray the rosary and attend Mass or stop in the church for private prayer.

CATHOLIC TRADITION: DEVOTIONAL AND LITURGICAL CANDLES

The practice of lighting candles is an important tradition in Catholic churches, communities and families. Its origins may be traced back in the Old Testament times where an oil lamp is lit to "keep a flame burning perpetually" (Exodus 27:19-20) and as a "lamp stand in the Tent of Meeting...from generation to generation" (Exodus 30:7-8) "set up before the Lord as He has commanded Moses" (Exodus 40:24 -25).

The New Testament further highlights the sanctity of this light in Paul's Letter to the Hebrews. "A first tent was prepared with the lamp stand, the table and the bread of the presence; this is called the Holy Place" (Hebrews 9:2). In today's Catholic tradition, this light has a very special place because it symbolizes Christ who said, "I am the Light of the world; the one who follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have light and life" (John 8:12).

In most every part of Catholic celebrations and rituals, lighting of candles plays a very significant role. Candles are lit during the cele-



bration of the Mass, on liturgical and funeral processions and evening prayer ceremonies. Candles are lit before the Tabernacle to signify the Lord's presence in the Blessed Sacrament and to call for reverence on the part of the faithful.

In the Sacrament of Baptism, as a person is initiated into the Church, a candle is lit from the Paschal Candle, The symbol, His passion, His death and His resurrection. The person receives the Light of Christ that he—of Christ's Paschal Mystery may live and walk the path of God's children and keep the flame of faith burning alive in his heart. As he receives this indelible baptismal mark, he shall meet the Lord and be one with all the saints in Heaven when the right time comes.

Candles are lit before an image of our Lord and before the saints. Catholics practice this not to honor the image itself but the one it truly represents. The lit candle symbolizes

a prayer offering where we present our petitions to the Lord and ask the saints to pray with us and to pray for us during our most dire need. This light, as it is kept burning, also shows our desire to remain in God's presence as we go through our daily duties at home and in the workplace.

Candles lit before Christ's image also shows our reverence to Him who deserves our adoration and thanksgiving and who alone can forgive our sins and bring us back into deeper relationship with Him.

Let us then bear in mind that as we celebrate our sacred liturgies, our sacraments and our special prayers, Christ, the Source of all Light, shall come to us to be ever present to strengthen us, instruct us, inspire us hope that His Light will never burn out as long as we live in faith without a shadow of doubt that darkness will ever defeat us.

PASS ON THE TRADITION TO YOUR CHILDREN

Catholic Traditions of Sacramental's are so important to pass on to our children and participate in them as a family. Lighting candles at church...saying a prayer together and leaving knowing that it continues to be offered on your behalf was a great comfort to me as a child. That is why I make so many opportunities available in our church. Devotions to: the **Divine Mercy** of Jesus; **Mary** our Mother; **Saint Joseph** our family protector.

If you would like a candle lit in memory of a loved one, the following are available and will remain lit in that person's memory for a two-week period.

St. Joseph Candle, Sanctuary Candle, St. Peregrine Candle, Easter Flame Candle, and the Divine Mercy Candle. Please call the office at 724-863-9550 and we will be happy to help you with your request. There is a donation of \$25.

CANDLES

Sanctuary Candle: In Memory of Joann Barbour by Family

Divine Mercy Candle: In Memory of Joseph Balzer by Wife

St. Peregrine Candle: Special Intentions for Matthew Washil by Nancy Dupier

Easter Flame Candle: In Memory of Joann Barbour by Family

St. Joseph's Candle: In Memory of Month's Mind

Altar Candles for the Month of December: In Memory of Beverly J. Sporio by Matthew & Leah Pozzuto

Readings 💷 Wéëk

January 7, 2024 - The Epiphany of the Lord							
Isaiah	60:1-6						
Ephesians	3:2-3a, 5-6						
Matthew	2:1-12						
January 14, 2024 - Second Sunday in Ordinary Time							
1 Samuel	3:3b-10, 19						
1 Corinthians	6:13c-15a, 17-20						
John	1:35-42						



Please pray for the families of Charles McCright, Esther Wurzell, Jerry Urbani and all of our dearly departed. May they rest in peace and may perpetual light shine upon them.

Psalm 27:4-5

Heavenly Father, I look to You! One thing I ask of You is that I will dwell in Your house all the days of my life so that I may gaze upon Your beauty and seek You in Your temple. Lord, in the day of trouble You will keep me safe in Your dwelling; You will hide me in the shelter of Your tabernacle. Oh Lord, help me find my way to Your dwelling because the grief is overwhelming, Amen.

Homebound Ministry

If you know of any family, neighbors, or fellow parishioners who are homebound and would like to have a Homebound Minister bring them Holy Communion, please call Sharyn Gesmond at the Parish Office 724.863.9550 or

Email her at: sgesmond@dioceseofgreensburg.org



We have many opportunities to become involved:

If you are interested in volunteering or planning to resume volunteering for our parish ministries and parish activities please contact Sharyn Gesmond at sgesmond@dioceseofgreensburg.org OR

724-863-9550 to update and/or obtain your clearances.

SACRAMENTS

Anointing of the Sick

The sacrament is available during Confession hour and after each Mass per request.

Matrimony

Couples wishing to celebrate the Sacrament of Matrimony must contact the parish office one year in advance of the wedding.

Baptism

Families of our parish who wish to have their child baptized please email Susan Cheplic at skcheplic@dioceseofgreensburg.org to register for Baptism Preparation.

Confession

Tuesday 5:15 - 6:15 p.m. & Saturday 9-10 a.m.

Immaculate Conception Parish offers Online Giving For additional information visit our website at:

www.icirwin.org/ giving/funds or scan the QR Code



If you decide to switch to online giving and would like to discontinue your envelopes please contact the parish office. Thank you!



WEEKLY OFFERTORY: Sunday Offertory -12/23 & 24—\$20,575.65 Online Giving— 12/18-24-\$4,045.70 12/25-31-\$6,034.00 Christmas Offertory-(as of 12/28) -\$28,797.26

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY! MAY GOD BLESS YOU ALWAYS!

Matters of Sexual Misconduct Information

If you have any suspicion about the sexual abuse (or any other type of abuse) of a minor child by anyone — please contact PA ChildLine immediately at 800-932-0313. If the alleged abuser is functioning in a parish, school or diocesan position as clergy, religious, paid staff or volunteer you are also requested to contact the Bishop's Delegate for Matters of Sexual Misconduct after you have called the ChildLine number and made the report. The Bishop's Delegate may be reached at 724-837-0901, ext. 1221.

HAPPENING TODAY! Knights of Columbus Free Throw Championship -

All boys and girls ages 9 to 14 are invited to participate in the local competition for the Knights of Columbus Free Throw Championships. The local competition will be held Sunday, January 7, 2024 at Queen of Angels Gymnasium, and start time is 1:00 PM. Boys and girls will compete in their respective age divisions with winners progressing through Local, District, Regional and State Competitions. For questions or registration information please call or email Al Borgony at 724-864-3487 or email <u>a.borgony@comcast.net</u>, or Matt Cheplic at 412-736-9196 or email mcheplic@gmail.com.

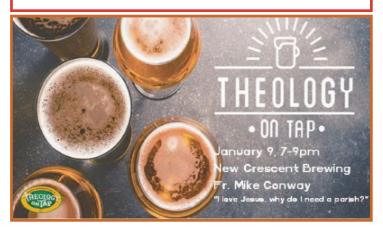


Cancer support group meets monthly at St. Barbara Parish, Harrison City

The St. Peregrine cancer support group meets monthly (usually the third Wednesday at 7 p.m.) at St. Barbara Parish, Harrison City. All cancer survivors and caregivers are welcome. The next meeting is Wednesday, Jan. 17.

PATHWAYS AT SAINT BARTHOLOMEW

Beginning on Saturday February 17 at 6:30 PM, at Saint Bartholomew Parish (2538 State Route 119, Crabtree, PA 15624) will be hosting a diocesan wide program called "Pathways". The purpose of the program is to offer an intense opportunity for attendees to deepen their walk with the Lord and enhance their lives as his disciples. After the initial program, a series of twenty evening encounters will follow. It is a time demanding program, but it is intended to help those interested to put Christ first and even support future evangelization efforts. You can find more information by calling St. Bartholomew's Parish Office at 724-834-0709.



ANGELS CORNER

At Queen of Angels Catholic School we practice the gift of our FAITH daily and especially during our weekly masses. It fills our hearts with JOY to grow in faith and watch our children practice their FAITH freely.

Registration for the school year 2024-2025 will begin early February. Please contact the school office at 724 978-0144 to schedule a tour! Please join our family!

Crosses on the Wall in the Chapel in memory of a loved one

The crosses on the wall are in memory of our recently deceased loved ones. The engraved crosses are placed on the wall until the next All Souls Mass. When we remove them, we let the loved ones know that they are welcome to take them to keep. If you think you may have forgotten to take yours, please call the office to let us know.

Parish Office: 724-863-9550



GOSIA'S PIEROGIES Sellers Phone Number: 724-863-9550 Order/Money Turn-In Date:

_____ SINCE 2001 _____

—— HANDMADE ——

Sellers Name: Immaculate Conception Parish

JANUARY 28 2024 Delivery Date: THURSDAY FEBRUARY 15 AFTER 3 PM

Delivery Location: OUR LADY'S PLAZA IN THE PARISH ADMINISTRATION BUILDING *Please complete this form and place in collection basket or drop off at parish office with a check made out to Immaculate Conception Parish Enter the amount you would like in box

	Name Phone & Email	Potato & Cheese Our most popular pierogi, filled with potato and savory cheddar cheese.	Potato & Feta Switch it up with the more contemporary flavor of our potato and feta pierogi.	Sweet Potato Add a Polish twist to your Thanksgiving tradition! Make it sweet with brown sugar & crushed pecans on top.	Saverkraut Stuffed with saverkraut, this favorite has a traditional Polish flavor.	Cottage Cheese An exquisite mix of dry cottage cheese and chives.	Potato, Cheese & Jalepeno Our most popular pierogi filled with potato, savory cheddar cheese and jalepeno.
1	<u>Name</u> Phone Email						
2	Name Phone Email						
3	<u>Name</u> Phone Email						
4	<u>Name</u> Phone Email						
5	Name Phone Email						
	Total						

ALL PIEROGIES ARE FROZEN \$10.00 EACH PACKAGED BY THE DOZEN

CASH or CHECKS Payable to: Immaculate Conception Parish

All pierogies will be frozen. Product should be frozen until ready to use. No need to boil, just sauté.



THE SOLEMNITY OF THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD January 7, 2024 - Order of the Mass

VOCATIONS PRAYER

Lord Jesus, raise up from our homes those called by the Father: courageous and humble men to the Priesthood, generous servants to the Permanent Diaconate, faithful people to Consecrated Life, and holy men and women to the Sacrament of Marriage. Holy Spirit, help us to live our universal vocation to holiness by listening to the Father's voice and responding with a sacrificial love. Holy Mary, Model of vocations, pray for us. Amen.

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

As With Gladness Men of Old



Text: William C. Dix, 1837-1898, alt.

Tune: DIX, 77 77 77; arr. from Conrad Kocher, 1786-1872, by William H. Monk, 1823-1889

A New Mass for Congregations Carroll Andrews



Text: ICEL, © 2010 Music: A New Mass for Congregations, Carroll T. Andrews, revised by Ronald F. Krisman © 1970, 2011, GIA Publications, Inc.

FIRST READING

Isaiah 60:1-6

Rise up in splendor, Jerusalem! Your light has come, the glory of the Lord shines upon vou. See, darkness covers the earth, and thick clouds cover the peoples; but upon you the LORD shines, and over you appears his glory. Nations shall walk by your light, and kings by your shining radiance. Raise your eyes and look about; they all gather and come to you: your sons come from afar, and your daughters in the arms of their nurses. Then you shall be radiant at what you see, your heart shall throb and overflow, for the riches of the sea shall be emptied out before you, the wealth of nations shall be brought to you. Caravans of camels shall fill you, dromedaries from Midian and Ephah; all from Sheba shall come bearing gold and frankincense, and proclaiming the praises of the LORD.

> The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 72 Michael Ioncas

Every nation on earth will adore you, Lord.

SECOND READING

Ephesians 3:2-3a, 5-6

Brothers and sisters: You have heard of the stewardship of God's grace that was given to me for your benefit, namely, that the mystery was made known to me by revelation. It was not made known to people in other generations as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit: that the Gentiles are coheirs, members of the same body, and copartners in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel.

> The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL READING

Matthew 2:1-12

When Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, in the days of King Herod, behold, magi from the east arrived in Jerusalem, saying, "Where is the newborn king of the Jews? We saw his star at its rising and have come to do him homage." When King Herod heard this, he was greatly troubled, and all Jerusalem with him. Assembling all the chief priests and the scribes of the people, He inquired of them where the Christ was to be born. They said to him, "In Bethlehem of Judea, for thus it has been written through the prophet: And you, Bethlehem, land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; since from you shall come a ruler, who is to shepherd my people Israel." Then Herod called the magi secretly and ascertained from them the time of the star's appearance. He sent them to Bethlehem and said, "Go and search diligently for the child. When you have found him, bring me word, that I too may go and do him homage." 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. They were overjoyed at seeing the star, and on entering the house they saw the child with Mary his mother. They prostrated themselves and did him homage. Then they opened their treasures and offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they departed for their country by another way.

The Gospel of the Lord. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.



Creed

I believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible. I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Only Begotten Son of God, born of the Father before all ages. God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father; through him all things were made. For us men and for our salvation he came down from heaven, and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate, he suffered death and was buried, and rose again on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead and his kingdom will have no end. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church. I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead and life of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

THE LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

PREPARATION OF GIFTS

We Three Kings

KINGS OF ORIENT



Text: 88 44 6 with refrain; based on Matthew 2:1–11. Text and music: Carols, Hymns and Songs, 1863; John H. Hopkins, Jr., 1820–1891, alt.

EUCHARISTIC ACCLAMATIONS

Mass for the City Richard Proulx



LAMB OF GOD



Holy Cross Mass David Clark Isele

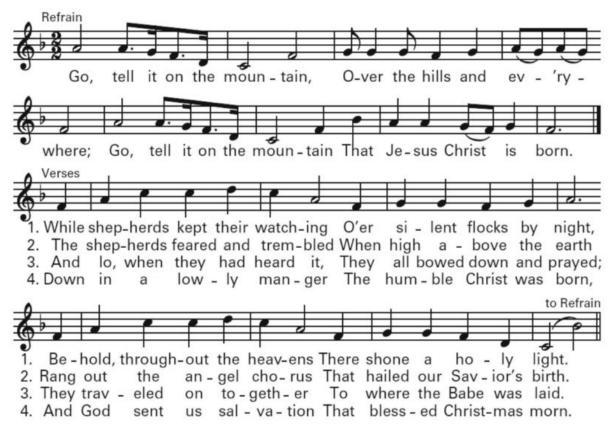
Music: Holy Cross Mass, David Clark Isele, © 1979, GIA Publications, Inc



Text: Irregular with refrain; trad. English Carol, 17th cent.; verse 6, alt. Music: Trad. English Carol, 17th cent.

RECESSIONAL HYMN

Go, Tell It on The Mountain



Text: 76 76 with refrain; fr. American Negro Songs and Spirituals, 1940; John W. Work, Jr., 1872–1925, alt. Music: Spiritual.

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