

**The Epiphany of the Lord  
January 3, 2016**

Rise up in splendor, Jerusalem!  
Your light has come,  
the glory of the Lord shines upon you.

— Isaiah 60:1

Masses for  
the Week



**T H I S W E E K**

**SUNDAY - January 3 - The Epiphany of the Lord**  
7:30 am - Our Lady of Lourdes Parish Family - *Clergy*  
10:00 am - Abel M. De Leon Sr †  
11:30 am - *Vietnamese Community*- Fr. Phi Nguyen, *Celebrant*

**MONDAY - January 4 - St Elizabeth Ann Seton, Religious**  
8:00 am - Eunice Morkovsky †

**TUESDAY - January 5 - St John Neumann, Bishop**  
8:00 am - Margie Brosch †

**WEDNESDAY - January 6 - St André Bessette, Religious**  
8:00 am - Dennis Baros †

**THURSDAY - January 7 - St Raymond of Penyafort, Priest**  
8:00 am - J. D. Tomas, Sr †

**FRIDAY - January 8**  
8:00 am - Gene Jolly †

**SATURDAY - January 9**  
8:00 am - Allison Koenig †  
5:00 pm - Don Gisler †

**SUNDAY - January 10 - The Baptism of the Lord**  
7:30 am - Our Lady of Lourdes Parish Family - *Clergy*  
10:00 am - Felix Sandelovic

**READINGS FOR THE WEEK**

*Sun: Is 60:1-6; Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-13; Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6; Mt 2:1-12*  
*Mon: 1 Jn 3:22 — 4:6; Ps 2:7bc-8, 10-12a; Mt 4:12-17, 23-25*  
*Tue: 1 Jn 4:7-10; Ps 72:1-4, 7-8; Mk 6:34-44*  
*Wed: 1 Jn 4:11-18; Ps 72:1-2, 10, 12-13; Mk 6:45-52*  
*Thu: 1 Jn 4:19 — 5:4; Ps 72:1-2, 14, 15bc, 17; Lk 4:14-22a*  
*Fri: 1 Jn 5:5-13; Ps 147:12-15, 19-20; Lk 5:12-16*  
*Sat: 1 Jn 5:14-21; Ps 149:1-6a, 9b; Jn 3:22-30*  
*Sun: Is 42:1-4, 6-7 or Is 40:1-5, 9-11; Ps 29:1-4, 3, 9-10 or Ps 104:1b-4, 24-25, 27-30; Acts 10:34-38 or Ti 2:11-14; 3:4-7; Lk 3:15-16,*

**NEXT WEEKEND - January 9 & 10**

**EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS  
of HOLY COMMUNION and LECTORS**

**Sat. 5:00 pm - Lillian Berger, Harvin Suggs**  
**Mary Bianchi, Volunteer**  
**Sun. 7:30 am - Sherry Kainer, Dennis Boehm**  
**Joy Loest, Volunteer**  
**Sun. 10:00 am - April Nunley, Jeff Nunley**  
**Alvin/Claudia Schoener**

**ALTAR SERVERS:**

**Sat 5:00 pm - Lacie Linam, Suzie Ryan, Volunteer**  
**Sun 7:30 am - Austin Kainer, Nicole Easley, Clayton Easley**  
**Sun 10:00am - Allison & Ross Nunley, Eric/Reice Tibiletti**

**USHERS:**

**5:00 pm- James Hill, Norman Schoener, Volunteer**  
**7:30 am - Gary Pribyl, Patrick Pribyl, Volunteer**  
**10:00 am - Howard Bludau, Volunteers**

**ALTAR CLEANER(S):**

**Debbie Sullivan & Volunteer**

**SUNDAY- The Epiphany of the Lord**  
*ExtraEnvlColl: Building Reprs Fund & Initial Offering*

**11:30 am -Vietnamese Community Mass - Fr. Phi Nguyen**

**WEDNESDAY - R.C.I.A. - 7:00 pm - Rel. Ed. Bldg.**

**FRIDAY: ADORATION of the BLESSED SACRAMENT**  
Celebrating *World Day of Prayer for Peace* at this Parish

**Parish Social Night - 7:00 pm - Church Hall**

**SATURDAY - Confessions - 4:00 - 4:30 pm**

**SUNDAY - The Baptism of the Lord**

*ExtraEnvlColl: D. S. A.*

**Jubilee Year of Mercy**

January 3, 2016

**The Epiphany of the Lord**

In this *Jubilee Year of Mercy*, Epiphany celebrates God's mercy shining on the magi from a guiding star. Their kingdoms were far from Jerusalem, their religions far from God's covenant with Israel. At first the star led the magi to Jerusalem, where they could "recalculate" their quest with the help of God's own "GPS," the Jewish scriptures. How challenging and humbling for the magi to discover that they would find the world's Messiah not in a palace but with a poor couple in an insignificant village. That's where God's mercy, shining in the star, led the magi to worship Jesus, the Prince of Peace. Today the magi invite us to "recalculate" our life's journey during this Jubilee Year—to follow the star of God's mercy along the way of humble love, to discover a renewed personal relationship with Jesus ourselves and so become "guiding stars" leading other seekers to find Jesus, too.

—Peter Scagnelli, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co., Inc.



THANK YOU ..... *Your Generosity is Appreciated*

**WEEKEND of 12-19/20-15 Count - 454**  
Envelopes..... \$ 2,312.50  
Loose..... 1,015.00  
Other Donations..... 560.00  
**Total Operating Income..... \$ 3,887.50**  
*ExtrColl Env:*.....(D. S. A.).....\$ 313.00  
*ExtrColl Env:*.....(AltrServrEducFnd.).....\$ 194.00  
**Christmas Flowers.....\$ 120.00**

**Please Pray for Our Sick**

*Tina Moya, Virgie Henry, Shirley Coghlan, Betty Echeveste, Carolyn Goldman, Kite Bomersbach, Cheryl Barker, Luke Wenske, Bob Bochat, Irene Matula & Brad Blanton*



**Generations of Faith ~ GOF**  
**Religious Education Classes**

Jan 3 - GOF Class  
 Jan 10 - GOF Class  
 Jan 17 - GOF Class  
 Jan 24 - GOF Class



**TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION**

Over the next few weeks, if you were to stroll around Prague or Budapest or Kraków, you might see curious graffiti scratched in chalk over some doorways: “20 + C + M + B + 16.” The families dwelling behind those doors have celebrated the Epiphany door blessing. They have gathered before the feast-day meal, probably after Mass, and the head of the family has traced the sign of the cross on the piece of chalk. Standing on a ladder, the leader traces the numbers for the new year, and the letters C M B for *Christus Mansionem Benedicat*, Latin for “May Christ bless this house.” The letters also point to the names that tradition has assigned to the mysterious magi, Caspar, Melchior, and Balthasar—although scripture tells us nothing of their number, their country, or their names.

The blessing speaks of journeys ended and journeys begun at the doorway, and prays that all journeys be as satisfying as was the magi’s. It prays that the house beyond the door have the quality of love and peace that the magi marveled at when they at last arrived in Bethlehem. In some countries where the Soviet Union tried to impose a harsh atheism, the vigor of this household custom survived all efforts to erase Christian customs. In the years of struggle, the chalked blessings were a pervasive sign of defiance, and now in the light of new freedoms, they are a sign of the resilience of our tradition and the fulfillment of the magi’s quest for meaning and peace. —Rev. James Field, © J. S. Paluch Co.



**RCIA**

**Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults**  
**RCIA meets each Wednesday**  
 7 pm - 9pm ~ in the Rel Ed Bldg.

For more info, please contact: Bob/Laurie Bautista-573-9561  
 laurie.bautista@gmail.com, or Rectory -575-3813

**PASTORAL INSTITUTE - EXTENDED PROGRAM**  
**Sacraments of Initiation**

Instructor for the Course will be: Fr. Bob Knippenberg

**Tuesdays: January 5 through February 9, 2016**

**Morning 9:15 – 11:30 am or Evening 7:00 – 9:15 pm**

(Course is once a week for six weeks)

**Extended Program will be at Holy Family Church in Wharton and via Distance Learning at: Sacred Heart Church in Hallettsville, St. Roch in Mentz and the Chancery in Victoria.**

To register online go to:

**[victoriadiocese.org/extended-online-registration](http://victoriadiocese.org/extended-online-registration)**  
 or call Chris Alvarez at 361-573-0828 ext. 2225

If a parishioner would like to receive *The Catholic Lighthouse*, call 573-0828, e-mail [lighthouse@victoriadiocese.org](mailto:lighthouse@victoriadiocese.org), or visit [www.victoriadiocese.org](http://www.victoriadiocese.org). Click on Subscription under *TCL* tab to submit an online form.

**FIRST FRIDAY ADORATION**  
**OF THE**  
**BLESSED SACRAMENT**

Beginning in this Jubilee Year of Mercy we will reopen *Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament* from First Fridays. **This will begin on Fri. January 8<sup>th</sup>**  
 If you wish to sign up for it please call Leona Sedlar at 575-3160 or place your name and contact number on the sign-up sheet on the table at the front of the church.

*Special Thanks...*

Janice Bittlebrun and the family of our recently departed Paul Bittlebrun would like to express a big “Thank You” for all the love and many blessings the congregation of Our Lady of Lourdes has bestowed on us during this time of grief. “God Bless All of You” -----Janice Bittlebrun

*News Around Town*

**CDA, Court St. Ann #369** invites all Catholic women from the Victoria parishes who are 18 and over to join us on Monday, January 4th at the KC Hall. Prayer begins at 6:10 and meeting at 6:30 PM. Come share the joy of being a Catholic Daughter.

**Quarterly BUNCO PARTY** hosted by the Altar Society of Holy Family Church will be **January 13, 2016 from 9:30 to Noon**. It will be held at St. Peter Parish Hall. Lunch will be served. For information and reservations contact Olivia Blanchard, 570-7107; Ginger Wagner, 578-2037; or Betty Frederick, 573-5850.

**BENEFIT DINNER for the Missionary Catechists of the Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary** will be held on **Sunday, January 17, 2016 at the CWV Hall, 1007 S. Main St. Victoria**. BBQ Chicken & Sausage w/Trimmings, \$9. Live Auction 11:45am. **Please support the work of our Sisters.**

**Amor Meus Spirituality Center**, 1101 N.E. Water St, Victoria is offering a **Guided One Day Retreat: “Becoming Who You Already Are: Living with the Heart of a Mystic”** on **January 16, from 9:30 am - 3:30 pm**.

For more information or to register call 361-575-7111. **Taizé Prayer** will be held on **Tues. January 19th 7-8 pm**.

**Holy Family Men’s ACTS Retreat** will be **January 21-24, 2016**. An ACTS weekend gives you the opportunity to deepen your relationship with Jesus Christ to renew yourself spiritually. The retreat is hosted by Catholic men, with spiritual direction from a priest. For more info go to website <http://www.hfccvic.org/mens-retreats-1>. You may also register online or contact Larry Olsolvsky, 576-2623

**FREE ...** Our Sunday Visitor now has a **FREE APP** for your phone for the **YEAR OF MERCY**. The app includes Daily reflections on mercy, **YEAR OF MERCY** resources, and many more. Visit the iTunes or Google Play Stores to install the app today!!