

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.”

MATTHEW 2:1-2



THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

JANUARY 3, 2021

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When I tell a story, I have a friend who prefers the “nutshell version” first. After that she’ll listen to me ramble, but she wants to know the main point right off the bat. When reading and hearing Sunday scriptures one may often find the nutshell by looking at the responsorial psalm or the Gospel acclamation. From Psalm 72 we hear “Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.” The verse for the Gospel acclamation is Matthew 2:2

“We saw his star at its rising and have come to do him homage.” As a weary world, we need to see the light, to follow with our actions and our words. This is the same hope that is echoed in Isaiah 60:2:

*See, darkness covers the earth,
and thick clouds cover the peoples;
but upon you the LORD shines,
and over you appears his glory.
Don’t give up, friends. You must shine!*

SAINT PATRICK
CHURCH
14936 W. PEOTONE RD.
MANHATTAN, ILLINOIS 60442



THE EPIPHANY OF
THE LORD
JANUARY 3, 2021

FR. SEBASTIAN GARGOL PASTOR
Email: fr.sebastiangargol@gmail.com
Website: www.stpatrickwiltoncenter.org

PHONE: RECTORY 478-3440
FAX: 478-4186

Facebook: St. Patrick Church of Wilton Center

SIGN UP FOR ALL CHUCH SERVICES AT:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/904054FAEAE2FA3F58-stpatricks>

Mass Intentions

Saturday, January 2, 2021 – 5:45pm

+Dorothy "Dot" McGrath – req. by Ed & Judy Phelan

Sunday, January 3, 2021 – 9:00 am

Parish Family of St. Patrick

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday – NO MASS

Thursday, January 7, 2021 – 9:00am

+Sandra & +Richard Gotlund

Friday, January 8, 2021 - 9:00 am - Adoration

Saturday, January 9, 2021 – 5:45pm

+Poor Souls – req. by Ed & Judy Phelan

Sunday, January 10, 2021 – 9:00 am

Parish Family of St. Patrick

DATE	USHER/GREETER	LECTOR
SATURDAY, January 9 - 5:45pm	Mike & Katie Horath	Jim Kreske
SUNDAY, January 10 - 9:00am	Dan & Tricia Knowles	Lisa Price

COUNTERS FOR JANUARY 10, 2021 – Mooi

The Epiphany of the Lord
All kings shall pay him homage,
all nations shall serve him.
– Psalm 72:11

STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE

For the new fiscal year beginning July 1, 2019, the weekly Sunday collection goal is \$2,090.37

Sunday, December 21.....\$1,391.00

Christmas.....\$5,374.00

Thank you for your support of our Parish

St. Patrick Parish depends on offertory donations for on-going expenses. Please visit our parish website to set up online giving, if you have not already done so. Our parish website can be found at: www.stpatrickwiltoncenter.org –

Online Giving is simple, convenient, and secure. Thank you



*Please Participate!
Your Gift Makes a Difference!*

Parish Goal:	\$ 10,200.00
Amount Pledged:	\$ 10,837.00
Amount Paid:	\$ 10,462.00
Balance Due	\$ 375.00
2020 Rebate	\$ 183.00

Thank you for your generous response.

Catholic Ministries Annual Appeal - 2021 – SHINING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST

The Catholic Ministries Annual Appeal is the annual fundraising campaign that supports the ministries, agencies, programs and schools that serve the spiritual, physical and educational needs of the people of the Diocese of Joliet. The CMAA also serves people worldwide without regard for religious affiliation, serving the poorest of the poor. Every Catholic family is asked for their financial and prayerful support. This year St. Patrick's' goal has been reduced to \$9,600.00 . Thank you for your continued generous support of the Catholic Ministries Appeal.

2021 Offering Envelopes are available to those who would like them.

If you would like a boxed set, please call the office. Thank You.

A limited number of 2021 Calendars donated by the Forsythe Funeral Home are available in the Church.

Thank You!

FEAST OF FAITH - The Liturgy of Emmanuel

The assembly has gathered from near and far, on foot, by bus, by car, by subway, singly and by twos and threes: single people, couples, families. Now that movement is ritualized and made visible in the liturgy's entrance procession.

We are not alone on this journey; Christ is with us. The procession is led by the cross, with the image of Christ upon it. Candles, signs of a living presence, are carried around the cross. Candles also accompany the Book of the Gospels, another sign of Emmanuel, God-with-us. The priest presider is likewise a sign of Christ's presence in our assembly; he will act in persona Christi, in the person of Christ, who presides at every Eucharist.

As the procession begins, we stand and sing together in our first act as a community. The joining of our voices begins to turn many into one. The songs we sing range from ancient chants to contemporary hymns, but they have the same purpose, to foster our unity and turn our thoughts to the mysteries we gather to celebrate. We may feel that we can't sing well, but "Christ always invites us to enter into song, to rise above our own preoccupations, and to give our entire selves to the hymn of his Paschal Sacrifice" (USCCB, *Sing to the Lord*, 14).

—Corinna Laughlin, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

PROMISE FULFILLED

Isaiah reminds the people of God that the land shall be restored to their possession, they shall rejoice to see their people return from the bondage of exile, and they shall be a light to the nations. In other words, through the people of Israel, the Savior shall come to all people who seek God with a sincere heart. This brings joy and the radiance of God's glory to all the world and to all people everywhere. Through the fidelity of the people of God, and through God's fidelity to them, all people shall become God's children and rejoice in the fulfillment of God's promise to Israel.

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PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

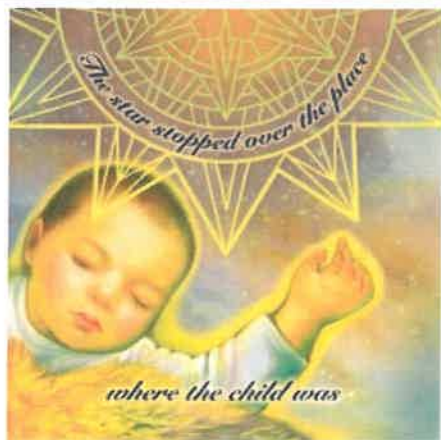
Marge Flint; Nancee Long,
Shay Phelan, Lisa Bernhard,
Cecelia Mundt; Fr. Jim Lennon

Beginning the New Year will start a new prayer list. Please call the office to be included on the new list. Thank You.

Intention of the Holy Father MONTH JANUARY

- May the Lord give us the grace to live in full fellowship with our brothers and sisters of other religions, praying for one another, open to all.

If you or a loved one would like to be put on the prayer list because of illness, rehab, or living at a health care center please let the office know. If there is an emergency and you need a priest, Fr. Sebastian will be available and can be reached at : 1 (815) 478-3440 ex. 102 or 815-476-7491 and then press 1.



READINGS FOR THE WEEK January 3, 2021



Monday: 1 Jn 3:22 – 4:6;
Ps 2:7bc-8, 10-12a; Mt 4:12-17,
23-25

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

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

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

Friday: 1 Jn 5:5-13; Ps 147:12-15, 19-
20; Lk 5:12-16

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

Sunday: Is 42:1-4, 6-7 or Is 55:1-11; Ps
29:1-4, 3, 9-10 or Is 12:2-3,
4bcd-6; Acts 10:34-38 or
1 Jn 5:1-9; Mk 1:7-11

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCE

Sunday: The Epiphany of the Lord;
Monday: St. Elizabeth Ann Seton
Tuesday: St. John Neumann
Wednesday: St. André Bessette
Thursday: St. Raymond of Penyafort

THE HOLY STAR

O Father, may that holy star
Grow every year more bright
And send its glorious beams afar
To fill the world with light.
— William Cullen Bryant

SEARCHING



In Matthew's Gospel today we see two extremely different perspectives, two different reasons for searching for Jesus. In some ways, this resembles the polarization of our nation in today's time. What one group sees as good for the nation, those with opposing views think will wreck the country. The Magi were astrologers who saw a vision in the sky and were trying to find a way to follow it and discover the new king of the Jews. Herod heard about this king, and his reaction was dark and negative. He saw the birth of such a king as a threat to his power as the Roman leader of the country and wanted the Magi to pass on to him what they knew about this Christ child. Similarly, on a more personal level, we can either feel threatened or excited by changes that may come, depending on our perspective.

GIVING HOMAGE

In our minds, it is easy to mix up bits and pieces from Luke's account of the shepherds coming to see Jesus in the stable and the story of the magi. Clearly, it has taken the magi time to get here, and the reading speaks of them coming to the house where the star led them. Nevertheless, they "prostrated themselves and did him homage. Then they opened their treasures . . ."

How do we do this? Do we continue looking for Jesus, even if it takes a while and he is not where we expect to see him? Are we paying attention to the signs showing us the way? What gifts do we have with which to pay him homage? After seeing him, the Magi were warned in a dream not to go back the way they came. But if we have seen the Christ child, how can we go back to where we were? We must continue to respond to God's call to move forward and grow in our lives. We must seek the right and just path and turn away from the "Herods" and inherent evils in our life.

Nutshell: Seek God. Pay homage. Amen.

Today's Readings: Is 60:1-6; Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13; Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6; Mt 2:1-12

1/3/2021