

TODAY IS THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

JANUARY 4, 2009



Scripture Readings for Today

1st Reading: Isaiah 60:1-6

2nd Reading: Ephesians 3:2-3a, 5-6

Gospel: Matthew 2:1-12

Scripture Readings for January 11th

1st Reading: Isaiah 42:1-4, 6-7

2nd Reading: Acts 10:34-38

Gospel: Mark 1:7-11

Dear Parishioners,

Today is the first Sunday in 2009 and the Feast of the Epiphany. What will happen in our lives this year is not known. However, if we imitate the example of the Magi in today's Gospel we know it will bring us closer to God. Visiting Christ in the Blessed Sacrament and attending Mass on Sunday, or more often, will help to make one's life peaceful. The Magi brought gifts to the child Jesus. The Magi's gold recognized the child's *Kingship*; the frankincense acknowledges Jesus' *Divinity*; and the myrrh refers to Jesus' future *Suffering* for our sins. When we visit Jesus our presence before God should reflect the meaning of these gifts. Jesus must be the King of our lives where all we say and do is for Him. Jesus' divine resurrection from the dead represents our hope to rise with Christ on the last day. Yet living for Christ on this earth may involve suffering. Remember when we live by God's grace our lives become a treasure for the Christ Child. The Magi's treasure for the baby Jesus tells us the most important gift we can give to Christ in 2009 is our hearts, our minds and our souls.

Deacon Jack

THE COLLECTION FOR DECEMBER 20-21ST

Envelopes	\$13,023.25
Loose	\$1,167.76
Poor Boxes	\$437.42
Children's	\$40.75

THE MASS COUNT FOR DECEMBER 20-21ST

5 PM – 300	7:30 AM – 99	9 AM – 132
10:30 AM – 350	12 PM – 369	Total – 1250



The three wise men who came from the East to pay homage to the infant Jesus brought Him rich gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh as part of their worship.

What gifts have I brought to this celebration to offer to the newborn Savior? My time? My talent? My treasure?

Stewardship is a way of holiness. It means to follow faithfully, live responsibly and share gratefully.

Children's Stewardship

Nine year old D.B. writes on his envelope:

Time: helping my Grandmom

Talent: dancing

Treasure: \$1.00

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE REPOSE OF THE SOULS of Mary MacDaniel and Elaine Flannagan.

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR SICK PARISHIONERS, especially those in hospitals – Dottie Lappe, Dolores Weber, Leo Bukowinski, Concetta Glorioso Fowler, William Donovan, Shirley Hartge, Joseph Hallameyer, Miriam Schindler, Maribelle Jane Kursch, and Audie Murphy.

PRAYERS ARE REQUESTED for all those recovering from surgeries and illness and for: Milton Getka, Lou Kaminski, Mary Van Dusen, Charles & Jacque Harris, John Joseph, Mr. and Mrs. William Lang, Noreen Newcomb, and Robert Nelson.

PRAYER FOR OUR SERVICE PEOPLE: We ask



you to remember the parishioners, family & friends serving in the military: USMC – Pvt. Harry Harrison Bruns, Cpl. Joseph Bytella, LCpl. Sean Fitzpatrick, LCpl. Alex Webb, LCpl.

John J. Cohee, Jr., Sgt. David Burton; Nat'l Guard – Pfc. Ryan Kamauff, David Parker; Army – Timothy Muhl, Sgt. Joshua Callow, Specialist Stephen Grenfell, 1st Lt. Stephen Winter, 1st Lt. Sheldon Broedel, Recon Scout Matt Lambert.

Mass Intentions**MASSES FOR THE WEEK OF JAN 5 - 11th**

MONDAY 1/5	6:30 a.m. – John S. Molner 8:00 a.m. – Villamor Kayas
TUESDAY 1/6	6:30 a.m. – Carmelina Lotz 8:00 a.m. – Kay Seiler
WED. 1/7	6:30 a.m. – Rose LaMartina 8:00 a.m. – Basilio Anonuevo
THURSDAY 1/8	6:30 a.m.– Raymond L. Hoffman 8:00a.m. – Gertrude Grabowski
FRIDAY 1/9	6:30 a.m.– William Hauf 8:00 a.m.– Robert Bockmiller
SAT. 1/10	8:00 a.m.– Bahia El Bayadi 5:00 p.m.– Leo Garvey
SUNDAY 1/11	7:30 a.m.– Joseph Ryan 9:00 a.m.– Jim Nash 10:30 a.m.– Jennie Hale 12:00 p.m.– For the Parishioners

DAILY READINGS

Monday 1/5	<i>St. John Neumann, Bishop</i> Reading: 1 John 3:22 – 4:6 Gospel: Matthew 4:12-17, 23-25
Tuesday 1/6	<i>Bl. André Bessette</i> Reading: 1 John 4:7-10 Gospel: Mark 6:34-44
Wednesday 1/7	<i>St. Raymond of Peñafort</i> Reading: 1 John 4:11-18 Gospel: Mark 6:45-52
Thursday 1/8	<i>Weekday</i> Reading: 1 John 4:19 — 5:4 Gospel: Luke 4:14-22
Friday 1/9	<i>Weekday</i> Reading: 1 John 5:5-13 Gospel: Luke 5:12-16
Saturday 1/10	<i>Weekday</i> Reading: 1 John 5:14-21 Gospel: John 3:22-30

FAMILY ROSARY: Please join us for the Family Rosary on Wednesday, January 7th at 6:30 pm in the church. We will be praying the Joyful Mysteries to thank God for sending His Son to save us!

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS on our Altars are also in memory of Earl J. Brushwiler, Katherine Gorschboth, Myra Zeller, The Snello Family, Henry Muller, Brenda Bonarrigo, John Seybold, Jean Ledwith, , John Guassardo, Becky Shaw, Al Herrmann, Bob Mellendick, Edward D. Devanny, Ella & Leslie Miller, Emilie & Charles Melka, Dorothy & Frank Melka, Betty & Jim Melka, Marie K. W. Rehubaek, Patricia M. Connolly, Frank P. Zieba, Francis & Clara Zieba, Sr., Margaret & Pierre Carlin, and Robert & Nancy Miller.

CONGRATULATIONS to Grace Redding, this month's Silver Circle winner.

THANK YOU! A special word of 'Thanks' to those parishioners who donated to 'Deacon Jack's Turkeys'. The amount collected well exceeded the cost of Christmas turkeys; the excess funds were used for home heating and electric needs of the poor. Also, we were able to help our sister parish, St. Peter and St. Paul in Desdunes, Haiti to provide for their most needed resources. Your generosity is a sign of Jesus' love for all His children. May the peace of the Christ child be in your hearts throughout the New Year.

SPECIAL REQUEST: Due to our recent financial audit by the Archdiocese, beginning January 2009, we will be unable to record a check designated for more than 1 purpose in the offertory collection. If you wish to make donations to two or more collections, please include separate checks in your envelope. As a reminder, we cannot record loose checks put in the collection basket. Please use an envelope for all donations. Thank you.

LONGABERGER BASKET BINGO sponsored by St. Agnes Men's Club will be held on **Friday, January 23rd**, 2009 beginning at 7:00 p.m. in the Old School Cafeteria. Mark your calendar now!

ST. AGNES YOUTH MINISTRY — Sunday, January 4 New Beginnings
Let's ring in the New Year by focusing on our ability as Catholics to start fresh in the Sacrament of Reconciliation!

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION — Tuesday, January 6
First Reconciliation 7 p.m.

RESPECT LIFE CORNER

Did you know that the Freedom of Choice Act (S.1173, H.R.1964) would create federal funding for abortion? (Planned Parenthood, the largest abortion provider in the US, had a profit of \$ 55.8million dollars in 2006.)

Please call or e-mail your representatives and President-elect Obama's transition team to voice your opinion.

www.mikulski.senate.gov 202-224-4654

www.cardin.senate.gov 202-224-4524

www.change.gov

RIGHT TO LIFE MARCH will be held on Mon., Jan. 22nd; in Washington D.C. St. Agnes plans to sponsor a bus. If interested in attending, please call Lois Nejfelt at 410-788-9414 for details and to reserve a spot on the bus.

RESPECT LIFE SYMPOSIUM - will be held Monday, January 19 from 7 – 9 pm at the Church of the Ascension in Halethorpe. Join us to learn why the Church teaches what it does about abortion, stem cells, euthanasia, and capital punishment.

ST. AGNES SCHOOL NEWS!

Catholic Schools Week is coming! This year we will celebrate our Catholic schools from January 25th – 30th. This year's theme is "Celebrating Service", and that is especially true here at St. Agnes. Watch this space for details about our week-long activities.

Re-registration forms will be sent home with your child on January 14th. Please return them promptly to ensure your child's place for the 2009-10 year.

Dates To Remember:

January 5, 2009 8:05 am School in session
January 6: First Reconciliation 7:00 pm
January 8: STAND Training 6:30 pm in the New School

MEMORY VERSE

PSALM 72:11

All kings will bow down to Him, all nations will serve Him.



Epiphany Blessing

The family gathers together by the doorway to the home.

All make the Sign of the Cross as the leader begins.

Leader: Peace be with this house and all who live here. Blessed be the name of the Lord.

All: Now and forever.

Leader: During these days of the Christmas season, we keep this feast of Epiphany, celebrating the manifestation of Christ to the Magi, to John in the River Jordan, and to the disciples at the wedding in Cana. Today Christ is manifest to us! Today this home is a holy place.

A family member proclaims the Gospel of John 1:1-3, 14.

Reader: The Gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Leader: Lord our God, bless this household. May we be blessed with health, goodness of heart, gentleness and the keeping of your law. We give thanks to you, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and forever.

All: Amen

A member of the family marks the inside of the front door with the year and the initials CMB.

20+C+M+B+09

PLEASE SEND ME A COPY OF MY 2008 CONTRIBUTIONS.

NAME: _____

ENVELOPE #: _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE: _____