



The Epiphany of the Lord * January 7, 2018

"Then they opened their treasures and offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh." What a wonderful example the Magi give us in their visit to the infant Jesus. First of all, they demonstrate profound faith in God's word, spoken through the prophet Micah: "And you, Bethlehem ... from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel" (cf. 5:2). Embarking on a long and difficult journey, they trust that they will find this newborn king of the Jews in Bethlehem as the prophecy announced. On their arrival at the home of the Holy Family, the Magi also give us an example of profound humility. These important men, to whom kings look for guidance and advice, do not hesitate to bow down, to "prostrate themselves" and give homage to a tiny babe. Putting their own position out of their minds, they reverently worship the infant Lord even as he sits on the lap of his mother.

The generosity of these three "kings" is also evident as they open their treasure boxes and give to the poor child the richest of gifts. Traditionally, we understand the gold to symbolize the earthly kingship of Christ, the frankincense to represent his divinity, and the myrrh to stand as a symbol of the anointing he will receive upon his death.

Finally, the wisdom of these men is evident in their decision to return to their country "by another way." Understanding the threat that King Herod posed to Jesus, they followed a plan that would help keep the divine child safe even though it meant inconvenience to themselves.

Faith, humility, generosity, and wisdom. These gifts are the real legacy of the Three Kings. Today, let us ask God for the blessing of having these gifts in our lives.

St. Francis of Assisi Parish

3609 Washington Avenue, Finleyville, PA 15332-1395

Rectory: 724-348-7145 • Fax: 724-348-7522 • Religious Ed. Office: 724-348-6190 • Finley Hall: 724-348-0803
E-mail: stfran1893@comcast.net Website: stfranchischurch.net

Rev. Robert J. Boyle, Retired

Rev. Robert M. Miller, Administrator
724-941-9406, Ext. 290, fr.bob@sbapeters.org

Rev. Richard J. Tusky, Senior Parochial Vicar
412-759-5343, 321tjr@comcast.net

Rev. Adam C. Potter, Parochial Vicar
724-941-9406, Ext. 291 fr.adam@sbapeters.org

Victor P. Satter, Deacon
724-348-9649, vsatter1@comcast.net

Mary E. Parish, Parish Secretary

Carol Cicci, Director of Religious Education

Jenifer T. Bublak, High School Ministry

Mary J. Jurofcik, Safe Environment Coordinator

Weekend Mass Schedule

Saturday: 6:00 p.m. (Vigil)

Sunday: 8:00 a.m., 11:00 a.m.

Holy Day Mass Schedule: Refer to bulletin

Weekday Mass Schedule: Monday-Saturday 8:30 a.m.

Sacrament of Reconciliation: Daily: 9:00 a.m.

Saturday: 12:30 p.m. - 1:00 p.m. or by appointment

Sacrament of Baptism: Baptism is celebrated any Sunday at 12:15 p.m. Parents are required to attend a Preparation Class prior to the Baptism.

Sick Calls: Notify the Rectory for hospital visits or Communion to the sick or shut-ins.

Bulletin deadline: Monday at Noon

Child Abuse Line: 1-888-808-1235



On January 6th, Fr. Boyle left the Parish for his new life at the Diocesan Retirement Center. He has served St. Francis of Assisi Parish and St. Isaac Jogues parishes faithfully, humbly, and nobly for the past 18 years.

Additionally, he has served the Diocese of Pittsburgh for 54 years. What an accomplishment; What a Priest; What a Remarkable Servant of the Lord! Our hats are off to you, "Good and Faithful Servant." You will be in our hearts forever.

Fr. Boyle's new address is:
 Rev. Robert J. Boyle
 St. John Vianney Manor
 2600 Morange Rd. Room 206
 Pittsburgh, PA 15205
 Phone #412-458-1850

A Family Perspective - The Magi in today's gospel were led to Jesus by a star. Who are the stars your children follow? Don't let it be the tabloid stars. Resolve in this new Year to be the guiding star in the life of your children.

Marriage Moments - It's the season of New Year's Resolutions. This can be good, but it can also turn your focus away from your beloved to self-improvement. Today, make 1 specific Resolution to deepen your love.

Parenting Pointers - January 6th is the feast of the Epiphany when Christians celebrate the 3 wise men's (foreigners) search for God. Legend has it that they followed a star. Gazing at Stars can be a mystical experience. Look up at the sky with your child tonight. Hopefully you will see stars. Ponder the universe together.

Bingo - Join us Tuesday for Bingo in Finley Hall. The Jack-pot will be \$1,175.00 in 55 numbers. The Magic Number will \$250.00, and a 2nd Magic Number will be started. The 'All Nighter' game will be \$1,190.00 until it is won. Early Birds begin at 7:15 p.m., regular games at 7:30 p.m. Great way to start the new year!

The Christmas Season ends with the Baptism of the Lord, January 8th. We will begin taking down our decorations after 11:00 mass today. Please stop by and give us a hand. Help! Please! If you made a donation for Christmas Flowers, you may take a plant home with you this Sunday, January 7th.

Thank you, again, for all the donations for the Poinsettias, they truly made the Church beautiful for the Christmas Season.

The Christian Mothers & Ladies Guild Meeting for Thursday, January 11th, has been cancelled.

The Flower Calendar for 2018 is almost full. The following dates are still available. One vase on each day: January 21, 28; August 12, 19; September 23, 30. Please call the Parish Office 724-348-7145 if you would like one of these dates.

Knights of Columbus - Any Catholic man age 18 or older who would like to join other Catholic men in charity, unity, and fraternity are welcome to be a part of this organization. If you have any questions or would like to join, call Frank Kovscek at 724-348-6537.

For all members of our Parish - If you are very sick or know that you have an easily communicable disease you are not bound by the obligation to participate in Mass on Sundays. Stay at home and return to church when you are well. (For longer illnesses, contact the rectory so that arrangements can be made to have someone visit you with Holy Communion, please call 724-348-7145.)

Safe Environment Procedure - If you volunteer in our parish, you are required to have clearances to comply with our Diocesan Safe Environment Policy. The following people need to be compliant and have clearances. Adult Servers, Lectors, Ushers, Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist, Choir members, Bingo workers, CCD teacher, parish picnic workers, anyone who comes in contact with children. Contact Mary Jane at 724-344-2444.

Ministry Schedule January 13/14**6:00 p.m. Saturday**

Ministers: Foster, Weisdack, D. & B. Lewis,
Thropp, Wardle, Hoover

Lector: K. Lewis

Servers: N. Wardle, Please Volunteer

8:00 a.m. Sunday

Ministers: H. & M. A. Lassige, Durost, Gallo,
Combes, Parish, Drahnak

Lector: J. Valecko

Servers: A. Kolano, J. & I. Gallo

11:00 a.m. Sunday

Ministers: Kims, C. & J. Patterson, Trovato, Greco,
Bublak, Hamilton

Lector: C. McAnich

Servers: Z. & Z. Bublak, G. Mucci



CCD Closing will appear on all three TV stations. There will be no phone chain.

Prayer for Epiphany

Dear Jesus, though a newborn, the wise men knew your greatness.

On a hint from the heavens, they traveled far from their places of comfort so that they could honor you.

From their belief in your divinity, they gave amazing gifts, offerings that symbolized your life, power, and even your death.

And because of a dream in the night, they altered their well-laid plans to return home in order to protect you.

May we be so willing to honor, sacrifice, and obey, all for love of you, as we meditate on the meaning of this day. Amen.

The Power of Prayer - St. Francis Prayer Chain consists of parishioners who pray for the needs of others. If you have any prayer requests or would like to be a link in the prayer chain, please call Kathy at (724) 941-0347. Never underestimate the power of prayer.

Offertory Procession - If a Mass is for your intention or at your request, please inform the ushers before Mass begins that you will take up the Offertory Gifts (Bread & Wine) during Mass. Many times the ushers do not know who you are, especially if the intention is for a person by a different name.

Today, January 7, The Epiphany of the Lord

Is 60:1-6/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13 [cf. 11]/Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6/Mt 2:1-12

6:00 p.m. (Sat.) Luigi Rigano - Family

8:00 a.m. For the People of the Parish

11:00 a.m. Joe Polacek - Rich & Judy Trypus

Monday, January 8, The Baptism of the Lord

Is 42:1-4, 6-7 or Is 55:1-11 or Acts 10:34-38 or 1 Jn 5:1-9/ Is 12:2-3, 4bcd, 5-6 [3]/Mk 1:7-11

8:30 a.m. Rich Kriston - Rose & Janie Batchelor

Tuesday, January 9, Weekday Mass

1 Sm 1:9-20/1 Sm 2:1, 4-5, 6-7, 8abcd [cf. 1]/Mk 1:21-28

8:30 a.m. Mary Brinda - Hostovich Family

Wednesday, January 10, No 8:30 a.m. Mass**Thursday, January 11, Weekday Mass**

1 Sm 4:1-11/Ps 44:10-11, 14-15, 24-25 [27b]/Mk 1:40-45

8:30 a.m. Mary, 'Bud' Hudock, Johanna, Ruth & Eugene - Donna Spalla

Friday, January 12, Weekday Mass

1 Sm 8:4-7, 10-22a/Ps 89:16-17, 18-19 [2]/Mk 2:1-12

8:30 a.m. Helen Bores - Ed Towers

Saturday, January 13, Weekday Mass

1 Sm 9:1-4, 17-19; 10:1a/Ps 21:2-3, 4-5, 6-7 [2a]/Mk 2:13-17

8:30 a.m. Brandon Wright - Patrick & Jean McHugh

Confessions after 8:30 a.m. Mass daily**Sunday, January 14, Second Sunday in Ordinary Time**

1 Sm 3:3b-10, 19/Ps 40:2, 4, 7-8, 8-9, 10 [8a, 9a]/1 Cor 6:13c-15a, 17-20/Jn 1:35-42

6:00 p.m. (Sat.) Diane DiPiazza - Kathy Vercoe

8:00 a.m. Gloria Petrone - Rick & Mary Jane Jurfocik

11:00 a.m. Bill Miller - Henry & Mary Ann Lassige & Family

Sanctuary Candle - The Sanctuary Candle burns before the Blessed Sacrament 24 hours a day. It is a symbol of the presence of Christ in the Eucharist.

If you wish to have the Sanctuary Candle burn for a special intention, please pick up the special envelope in the vestibule of the Church. Please mark the envelope with the name(s) you would like to be remembered, or a special intention and return it with a \$10.00 donation. Each week we will publish in the bulletin the intention for that week. We cannot honor a particular week, but as the envelopes come in on a first come, first serve basis.

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James W. Haines, Jr.
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