



They prostrated themselves and did him homage

January 6, 2019 • The Epiphany of the Lord

Tradition, poetry, and literature have long reflected upon the story of the magi. The journey of the magi indeed resonates with journeys in our own lives. The journey is a search for a “king,” for what or who is of primary importance in life. The seekers lose direction and encounter obstacles and dangers. Searching for a king, the magi first come upon a false king, Herod. The reappearance of the star shows them the true path and leads to the true king.

For Matthew, the journey culminates in the magi’s worship of Jesus. They discover a king not clothed in grandeur, but wrapped in humility and simplicity. They begin to re-imagine what true royal power really is. Transformed by the journey, they embrace the humble king, Jesus.

INSIDERS AND OUTSIDERS

An epiphany is a manifestation, a revelation of what was hidden, and often a challenge to change. For Matthew’s community, the story of the magi challenged these new Christians, from both Jewish and Gentile origin. The insiders, those rooted in the Jewish scriptures and traditions, might be

uncomfortable with the magi, and with God working within Gentile culture to draw them toward God. The outsiders, the Gentiles, would rejoice that God calls them from within their own roots. But they knew that they too were called to their own journey of transformation.

Who are insiders and outsiders today? Some might see strangers as threats to accustomed ways of honoring and serving God. Others might believe that they themselves are too distant, concluding that they cannot be accepted in Christian community, and perhaps tune out God’s activity in their lives. Still others might think that belief in Christ serves as another dividing line between people, preventing them from seeing all persons as God’s children. The story of the Epiphany reminds us that classifying insiders and outsiders is an illusion, a falsehood arising from a separation from God. When we are united with God, we can only see others as sisters and brothers.

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

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ST. ISIDORE CHURCH Laingsburg, Michigan

Pastoral Administrator: Rev. Robert C. Bacik
Rectory: 651-6617 – E-Mail: frbob@stisidorechurch.org
Parish Secretary: Sharon Gillespie
Office: 651-6722 – E-Mail: parishhq1@juno.com
Office Hours: Wed. & Fri. 8:00 – 3:00
R.C.I.A. Dir.: Nancy Kienitz –nk1001927@gmail.com
Religious Ed. Formation (REF) – Mary Stevens-
 marystevens@stisidorechurch.org
Outreach Ministry:- Jesse Anguiano – 517-881-2227
Web Address: <http://stisidorechurch.org>
Saturday Mass: 5:30 pm - **Sunday Mass:** 9:00 am
Confession: Saturdays 4:00 to 4:30 pm

HOLY FAMILY CHURCH Ovid, Michigan

Sr. Priest in Residence: Rev. Raymond J. Urbanek
Phone: 989-834-5855
Parish Secretary: Sharon Gillespie
Office: 989-834-5855
E-Mail: holyfamilyovid@gmail.com
Office Hours: Tues. 8:00 – 3:00
Religious Ed. Formation (REF) Ginger Kusnier
R.C.I.A. Dir.: Vivian Durling
Web Address: <http://stisidorechurch.org/hf/>
Saturday Mass: 4:00 pm - **Sunday Mass:** 11:00 am
Confession: Saturdays 4:00 to 4:30 pm

MASS SCHEDULE FOR THIS WEEK

Saturday—January 5	5:30 PM	† Don Smith by the Wesa Family
Sunday— January 6	9:00 AM	† Harold & Mary Doyle / Dorothy Donaldson by the Family
Monday	NO MASS	
Tuesday	NO MASS	
Wednesday	6:30 PM	† Sheila Doyle by the Family
Thursday	8:30 AM	People of the Parish
Friday	8:30 AM	† Souls in Purgatory
Saturday—January 12	5:30 PM	† Don Smith by Mary Lou Smith
Sunday— January 13	9:00 AM	† David Ferland by the Knights of Columbus

PRAYERS: PLEASE PRAY FOR MELVIN PAMMENT, - JIM CARBARY, (FATHER OF MAGGIE SAYLES), - KEVIN PLATTE, OLIVER WASHINGTON, - LINDSEY KING (GRANDDAUGHTER OF GEORGENE KING), - GERRY PACE, - PAT SIMPSON, - RAY DOYLE, - BEN SINIARSKI, - KYLE WALLER, - TYLER KING (GRANDSON OF GEORGENE KING) - JUDITH MARTELL (MOTHER OF TERESA PICKENS), - TERRY MILLER, - JIM (MAYO) HURST, - CHARLES OLENICZAK (BROTHER OF BARB WRIGHT), - PAT ROWLEY (SISTER OF JIM ROWLEY), - BRUCE CHANDLER (BROTHER OF MARTI ROWLEY), - JIM OLENICZAK (BROTHER OF BARB WRIGHT), - NICHOLAS SCOTT (SON OF VERONICA SCOTT), - ROSE MORRILL, - JULIE STONER (DAUGHTER OF GENE & BARB STONER), - JOHN MARTINEZ, - FRANK LUNDIE, - JANET ARTHUR, - KIM (KOONTER) BALCARCEL, - PAM DELONG, - SUSAN DELONG, - MARY CHADWICK, - LEAH ZAMARIPA, (COUSIN OF JESSE ANGUIANO), THERESA HEEG (DAUGHTER OF JOHN & SANDY VANGEERTRUY), - BETH MUSELLA (COUSIN OF ANITA LEATHERS), - ALBERTO ZAMARRIPA (RELATIVE OF JESSE ANGUIANO).—PATRICK MCMONAGLE (SON OF BOB & TERRY)

THANK YOU !

Many thanks from the O'Reilly Family for the well wishes during our mother's hospitalization. Yvonne is now home recovering. Special thanks to Fr. Bob and Terry McMonagle

ELECTRONIC OFFERTORY ONLINE

Don't forget St. Isidore Church offers Electronic Offertory. All systems are safe, secure and confidential. Gift amounts will be withdrawn from your account twice per month. Electronic Offering Enrollment & Authorization Forms will be available in the back of church or by contacting the office.



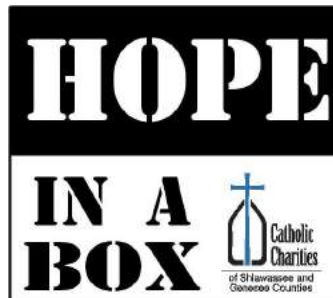
OFFERTORY Dec. 29 & 30, 2018

43 Adult Envelopes	\$2,267
Loose Collection	\$348
1 Children's Envelopes	\$1
Building Fund Envelopes	\$265
Total Weekly Offertory	\$2,881

2019 OFFERTORY ENVELOPES

Please be sure to pick up your new offertory envelopes. They have been relocated to the main entryway of the church. If you do not find your envelopes, contact Sharon in the office.

2019 Contributions Reports will be ready for pick up soon.



**JANUARY NEED
OF MONTH THE MONTH**
Toilet Paper and Mouthwash



PARISH WIDE

Jan. 6 -Cooking Club—(During REF) 10:15-11:15

High School Youth Group

Sunday, January 6th, 10:15 – 11:30 AM

- FORMED – Session 5: Engaging Moral Relativism

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION FORMATION (REF)

Sundays—10:15 AM—11:15 AM

Jan. 6—REF Sessions Resume

Jan. 13—REF Sessions

Jan. 27—REF Sessions

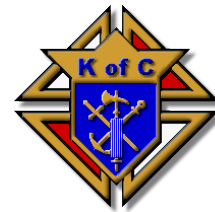
More REF details contact:

Mary Stevens—marystevens@stisidorechurch.org



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Jan. 9—Business Meeting—7:00 pm



MITTENS FOR THE HOMELESS

Monday, January 7

Large Hall—9 am to 2 pm

All ladies are welcome to join us. No sewing skills needed. **Donations needed:**

Sweaters and Polar Fleece

Please leave donations near office door.

At this time we really need sweater donations to continue.

Donated 602 pairs of mittens so far this winter



**Annual Men's Retreat -
February 8-10, 2019**

**St. Francis Retreat Center in DeWitt, MI
"From Chaos to Order: A Scriptural Guide"**

Join us to gain new scriptural insights on ways to bring order into your own life and community. The suggested donation for the weekend is \$175 - retreat begins with check in at 6:00 pm on Friday and ends after lunch on Sunday. Men of all ages are welcome! Register with St. Francis at 517-669-8321; registration is also available online at www.stfrancis.ws. Please prayerfully consider if God is calling you to set aside time for this encounter opportunity!

**HOLY FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT
Monday—Jan. 7 at 6:30 pm**

The movie this month is on the life of Oscar Romero, our newest saint. We will be serving popcorn along with two kinds of water! It's all free so come out and join us on Jan. 7 at Holy Family in Ovid.



NOTES FROM FR. BOB BACIK

I hope all of us had a joyful and safe holiday season. We still have another week to celebrate the Season of Christmas, so let's enjoy it! As we return to work and as school resumes, let us not forget the true meaning of Christmas.

Today we celebrate The Epiphany of the Lord. The magi from the east followed a star to the house where they found the child Jesus with Mary his mother. As the magi gave the Christ child gifts that spoke to His identity, in some parts of the world this is the time when gifts are given.

This week we also introduce another old tradition of the Church—the blessing of our homes with blessed chalk asking God to bestow gifts of peace, safety and good will for the New Year. Family members gather at the main entrance and pray the following prayer:

**May we who live in this home
Guard the sacredness of this doorway.
May God protect all who enter and leave
from this doorway.
May we welcome all at this door in the
name of Christ.
May the blessing of God and His Peace
and Grace
Rest upon all who shall pass across it.
Amen.**

Upon saying this prayer, use the blessed chalk to mark the entrance:

20+C+M+B+19

The numbers stand for the current Year of Grace; the letters identify the names tradition gives to the Three Wisemen—Casper, Melchior and Balthasar. The initials of the Wisemen also abbreviate the Latin phrase:

Christus mansionem benedicat — May Christ bless this house! The blessed chalk can then be respectfully discarded in your yard or garden.

Several women from our parish will be on retreat this weekend at St. Francis Retreat Center in DeWitt. We are very blessed to live so close to this wonderful retreat center that offers so many opportunities for men, women, couples and youth throughout the year. Pay attention to the bulletin for upcoming happenings or visit <http://www.stfrancis.ws>.

On a personal note, thank you for your many kindnesses at Christmas—the gifts, cards, treats and faith-filled prayers and kind words. How humbling and overwhelming! I would like to drop each of you a personal note or phone call. But my poverty of time prevents me. Be assured of my sincere thanks and grateful prayers.

As the star guided the Magi to Christ, let us allow the Holy Spirit to guide our hearts, minds, and souls throughout this new year of grace as we strive for holiness and the Kingdom of Heaven.

Have a blessed week!
Fr. Bob Bacik

frbob@stisidorechurch.org
517-651-6722

