The Epiphany of the Lord

When Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, in the days of King Herod, behold, 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.”

Mt 2: 1-2
No Gifts Needed: Oh Yes They Are !!!

Well I just hit the big “60” on New Year’s Eve. Some friends came to visit from some of the other parishes I had been pastor of. They joined some of our parishioners and we shared our Vigil mass for the Holy Day, and then shared in a meal, with cake and candles. As folks told me they were coming to see me, I told them “No gifts needed” Just being able to share the night at mass and at a meal together is a special gift. As you get older, yes you learn that it is not about gifts, but about friendship; not about material stuff, but about caring and loving one another. I am glad to have learned that lesson. I don’t need more to have to pack when I retire and move into a convalescent center.

Now having said that, I now turn to today’s feast day of the “Epiphany”. This day was all about gifts. The 3 wise men followed the star and went to find the place where Jesus lay, and they presented Him the three symbolic gifts of gold, myrrh, and frankincense. The true gift was their willingness to travel far, following a star, hoping to find the Messiah, the Son of God. Their efforts and sacrifices to seek Him, brought forth success as they found Him. They put their life in jeopardy, yet God through the Holy Spirit spoke to them encouraging them to take another route home to avoid Herod.

Jesus really did not have any need for gold, frankincense or Myrrh, but for those to be able to know the Messiah had arrived was important. You and I have had that opportunity to claim Jesus as our “Lord and Savior”, the “King of Kings”, the “Prince of Peace”….. and to make HIM the center of our lives.

Christ handed the Church over to Peter by giving him the “keys” to the Kingdom. Peter and the rest of the apostles, and early disciples were entrusted the mission to “go out to all the nations” and evangelize. With the Spirit of Pentecost they finally had the courage to unlock the room, and go out with their many gifts, especially the Holy Spirit, and to evangelize the story of Jesus.

Well today we need this to happen even more than ever before. What gifts do you possess? What gifts has the Lord blessed you with to become an evangelizing disciple? Your strong gifts maybe different that mine or others, but TOGETHER, we are Christ’s hands, his feet, his voice, his heart. Yes the Church cries out for YOUR GIFTS, and MINE to be shared to build up the kingdom here now on earth, and in the life to come. What is the ONE MAIN GIFT you have to OFFER back to the Lord for all He has done for you???? Name it, and with courage Share it to make the Church strong, and vibrant. If all of us respond in some fashion, WOW how strong and effective our church could be. Together, let us receive Him as a Gift, and then in gratitude return our gift, to strengthen the Church’ mission to “Share the Good News”…..AMEN !!!

- Peace Fr. Chuck
Mass Intentions

Monday, January 7:
6:30 a.m. Mass: CCW Members
8:30 a.m. Mass: Jim & Rita Mahon Family; Magdalen Meyer Anniversary

Tuesday, January 8:
6:30 a.m. Mass: Kenny Koenig Family
8:30 a.m. Mass: Mark Kenter

Wednesday, January 9:
6:30 a.m. Mass: Mary West Faircloth
7:15 a.m. Mass at St. Mary’s, Shumway: Mary Jane Hardiek

Thursday, January 10:
6:30 a.m. Mass: Joe, Elizabeth, Harold & Maurice Metten
8:30 a.m. Mass: Margaret Hanfland

Friday, January 11:
6:30 a.m. Mass: Marie C Dust
8:30 a.m. Mass: William F Meyer Anniversary

Saturday, January 12:
4:30 p.m. Mass: Robert Reiss Anniversary

Sunday, January 13:
7:30 a.m. Mass: Parishioners of St. Anthony
9:15 a.m. Mass: Geraldine “Gerry” Clough
11:00 a.m. Mass: Special Intention

Parish Town Hall Meeting
Tuesday, January 15th at 6:30pm in the Parish Center
Fr. Chuck would like to discuss plans for the parish rectory. Please make plans to attend.

Wedding Banns
Adam Meyer/Kameran Kabbes
January 19, 2019 (II)

Thank You! Thank You!
Fr. Chuck, Fr. Mark, Fr. Carl, Deacon Joe and our office staff would like to say THANK YOU! As our Christmas season has come to a close, our thoughts turn toward you for remembering the priests & staff with your goodies, gifts, cards and generosity. Your thoughtfulness over Christmas was greatly appreciated. Thank You to each of you for your kindness and we pray that God continues to bless each and every one of you as we enter this new year. May God, Peace and Joy surround you and your loved ones in the New Year.

Christmas Decorations/Donations
- For the Lawrence & Helen Waldhoff and the Oliver & Maxine Westendorf Families by Larry & Barbara Waldhoff
- In Loving Memory of Urban & Helen Merkel and Robert Meder by John & Deborah Merkel family

Calendar of Events

Sunday, January 6
10:00am Radio Mass AM 1090 or FM 99.5 & 96.3
10:15am - Coffee & Donuts in the Parish Center

Monday, January 7
6:30am - Coffee & Donuts in the Parish Center

Tuesday, January 8
9am to 1pm - Scrip Sales in the Parish Center
6:15pm Grief Support in the Parish Center

Wednesday, January 9
9am to 1pm - Scrip Sales in the Parish Center
6:30pm - Kate Weber’s Bible Study

Thursday, January 10
9am to 1pm - Scrip Sales in the Parish Center

Friday, January 11
6am - SonRise Men's Group
9am to 1pm - Scrip Sales in the Parish Center

Saturday, January 12
9am to 11am - Scrip Sales in the Parish Center

Sunday, January 13
7:30am - Coffee & Donuts in the Parish Center
9:15am Mass: Geraldine “Gerry” Clough
11:00am Mass: Special Intention

Protecting God's Children Workshop
St. Isidore Parish, St. Aloysius Hall
Monday, February 4th at 6:30pm
Call 217-925-5788 to register

Kate Weber’s Bible Study
Bible study will resume on Thursday, January 10th at 6:30pm in the St. Anthony Parish Center. We will be studying the Acts of the Apostles. Please call the Parish Office to enroll 347-7129

St. Anthony Schools are currently seeking applications for the following position:
- **School Cook**

   For a description of this position and for information on how to apply, visit www.stanthony.com/church/about/employment.

We extend our sympathy to the family and friends of Hilma Goeckner. May she enjoy eternal peace and happiness in Heaven.

Feeding the Poor
Thank you for your very generous support of the Feeding The Poor program in December! With your help, we collected more than 150 boxes of pancake mix which Catholic Charities was completely out of, so thank you! For the January collection, CC has requested regular size boxes of spaghetti, crackers and oatmeal. Collection dates will be January 5th/6th during the weekend masses, Tuesday, January 8th during the junior high mass and Thursday, January 10th during the grade school mass. Thank you for continuing to bless those in most need!
Church Cleaning for January
Cleaning is done Saturday morning from 8:30-9:30. If you are unable to clean, please call a replacement.

Lectors
- Rita Devore
- Bob Mette
- Greg Dust
- Ann Platt
- Bernie Blanchette
- Kim Koester
- Jeff & Adelaide Anderson
- Robin Anderson
- Christ & Michelle Andrews
- Dana Antrim
- Mary Beth Stuckey
- More Needed
- David & Mary Antrim
- Dana Antrim
- Julie Schuette
- Mary Beth Stuckey
- More Needed
- Dana Antrim
- David & Mary Antrim
- Jamie Schuette
- Valerie Wohltman
- Kevin Roewe
- More Needed
- Brenda Jansen
- Jennifer Arnold
- Laura Arnold
- Michael & Brenda Avery
- Sharon Babbs
- More Needed
- Blake & Laura Bahns
- Michael & Kristie Bailey
- More Needed
- Stephen & Natalie Bailey
- Beverley Baker

Eucharistic Ministers
- Cathy Bierman
- Jane Brunner
- David Emmerich*
- BJ Kortte*
- Jamie Schuette
- Mary Beth Stuckey
- More Needed
- Sue Bushur
- Alice Dust
- Richard Feldhake*
- Carla Koerner*
- Lisa Koerner
- Valerie Wohltman
- Jacob Emmerich
- Mandy Henning
- Sr. Jane Hotze*
- Brenda Jansen*
- Tom Murphy
- Kevin Roewe
- More Needed
- Kim Ashton
- Mary Jane Day*
- Joshua Hanner*
- Larry Masengale
- Theresa Masengale
- More Needed

Servers
- Carrie Goenker
- Emily Kolawale
- Vivyona Vaultonburg
- Mary Louise Hoene
- Will Hoene
- Brian Westendorf
- Anna Faber
- Elliot Frisbie
- Ben Roewe
- Peyton Quandt
- Emma Ashton
- Liv Hoene

Ushers
- Jeff Dust
- Don Niebrugge
- Dan Ritz
- Ken Stuckey
- Phil Koerner
- Ralph Kortte
- Louis Thies
- Bill Hoene
- Troy Greene
- Joe Jansen
- Nick Jansen
- Vic Jansen
- Preston Barr
- Chris Quandt
- Bart Wiedman
- More Needed

Church Cleaning for January
Cleaning is done Saturday morning from 8:30-9:30. If you are unable to clean, please call a replacement.

St. Anthony Adult Choir
The Adult Choir will resume rehearsals on Wednesday, January 16, 2019 from 7pm to 8pm in the church balcony. New members are always welcome as we prepare for the Sundays in Ordinary Time, Lent, and the Easter Season. Contact Irene Koester at the church office (347-7129), or simply join us on Wednesday evenings.

Sacrament of Marriage: Please contact our office at least 9 months before your anticipated wedding date to begin your spiritual preparation. One or both persons must be registered and actively living their faith at St. Anthony Church for at least 6 months to celebrate their wedding here. All couples planning to be married at our parishes must attend a Pre-Cana program, Natural Family Planning program and FOCCUS evaluation. For those who were former members here, they must be registered and actively living their faith at the parish where they reside. The latest a wedding can begin is 1pm.

Liturgical Ministers for January 12/13

Radio Mass
Recorder for the month of January: Gary Hanner

Natural Family Planning Class
2019 Sessions:
- Saturday, January 26th 2:30pm - St. Francis, Teutopolis
- Saturday, March 9th 9:00am - St. Isidore, Bishop Creek
- Friday, April 26th 6:00pm - St. Anthony, Effingham
- Saturday, June 1st 2:00pm - Sacred Heart, Effingham
- Saturday, July 13th 10:00am - St. Anthony, Effingham
- Friday, August 23rd 6:30pm - St. Francis, Teutopolis
- Saturday, September 28th 9:30am - Sacred Heart, Effingham

To register Contact Kate Pruemer at 217-821-1840 or kpruemer@gmail.com.

Luminaries for Life
“Luminaries for Life”, a public display of our pro-life beliefs, will be held on January 26 and 27 in commemoration of the tragic Supreme Court decision, Roe v. Wade. In 1973, this court decision led to the legalization of abortion throughout all nine months of a pregnancy. Please pray for inspiration for the students creating the luminaries, and for all those who will view the display.

Sacrament of Baptism: Baptisms are celebrated during Mass on Saturdays & Sundays (not during Lent or Advent). A family must be registered & actively living their faith at St. Anthony Church for 6 months to assure faith will be shared with the new born child. Godparents must also be registered in a Catholic parish or other Christian church & actively living their faith. A Baptism Class is held and is required for all parents. We ask that both parents attend this class together. Godparents are also encouraged and welcome to attend. For more information, please call the parish office.
Mass for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children will be held at St Francis Church, Teutopolis, on Tuesday, January 22nd, at 7:00 PM, with Rosary at 6:30 PM. Jan 22 is a day of prayer for the full restoration of the legal guarantee of the right to life and in penance for acts of abortion. All are welcome to attend on this 46th anniversary of Roe v. Wade. Please also offer prayers and sacrifices throughout the day.

Right to Life Breakfast will be held on Sunday, January 13, 201, from 7am to 12:30pm at the Teutopolis Grade School Auditorium in Teutopolis. A free will offering will be taken. For additional information call: Liz Kremer (217) 273-9677 or email: liz.kremer1957@hotmail.com.

Men, Looking for a New Years resolution that will bring an amazing result?
- Us at the SonRise men’s group invite you to join us each Friday morning in the St. Anthony Parish Center as we gather for breakfast, prayer, and a spiritual exercise for our daily lives.
- Coffee is on at 6 AM, breakfast at 6:10, and we start our spiritual journey at 6:25.
- We reserve time for discussion and conclude at 7:30.
- 6 AM seem early? Sacrifice brings results.

Nursing & Homebound Ministry
If you have a loved one or friend who has recently moved into a nursing home, assisted living, rehab facility, or is homebound and they would like to receive Holy Communion weekly, please contact Peggy at 217-347-7129 to schedule a visit.

Curious Curios of Creation
Brother Marc Scheckells, OFM, a Franciscan friar, will present a program on Saturday, Jan. 12, beginning at 9:00am, at St. Clare Hall, at St. Francis Church, Teutopolis. This event will allow you to revisit your childhood toys and find out how our playthings continue to shape and even rekindle our Gospel mission. There will be coffee & donuts to start the morning. Lunch will be provided at 11:30am and then the day will conclude with prayer at 2:00pm. This event is sponsored by the Secular Franciscans of St. Francis. RSVP via email to st.francisofs@gmail.com or please call Gene Drees at 217-821-4196. This is open and free to everyone; however, RSVP so there is plenty of food prepared.

Companions on the Journey is the name of the lunch-time for seniors that is held on the first Monday of each month. Our hope is to promote positive social connections, offer an array of speakers on relevant spiritual topics and to encourage people to enjoy the beautiful spaces at the Chiara Center. A delicious lunch is served at 11:30 a.m. and followed by a presentation and discussion. Our presenter for January 7th is Sr. Anita Cleary, OP who serves out at Jubilee Farm; a Dominican center for ecology and spirituality in New Berlin. Sr. Anita recently returned from El Paso, Texas to assist those who were awaiting asylum hearings in the U.S. Following the presentation, participants are welcome to stay for the duration of the afternoon to walk the grounds or for some quiet reflection. We ask for a $20.00 fee to honor the support given by the Hospital Sisters of St. Francis who sponsor the Chiara Center. Reservations are required and can be made by calling 217-523-0901 or sending an e-mail to info@chiaracenter.org. To learn more about the Chiara Center, visit www.chiaracenter.org.

CCW News
We want to thank all of our members who gave graciously baked desserts for funeral dinners over the years. Families really appreciate your efforts in their time of need. As we get ready to start 2019, we trust that you will continue to support CCW in this ministry. If you get a call asking you to supply a funeral dessert and you do not have time to bake one yourself, CCW will gladly accept a pie or cake that you’ve purchased from one of our local groceries, bakeries, or restaurants. Or you may rather consider donating money toward the purchase of a dessert. For our part, we will make every effort to invite more women from our parish to share in this ministry, making the load lighter for all. Thank you in advance to those of you who answer this call!

Pro-Life Corner
Looking for a worthy New Year’s resolution?
With physician-assisted suicide looming on the political horizon in Illinois and numerous other states, resolve to pray and work for the defeat of this movement. Become informed so you can be a voice for the weakest in our society. Read what the Catholic Church teaches about physician-assisted suicide.

Pray privately and watch for opportunities to join with others in prayer. Here’s a suggested daily prayer:

Prayer Against Physician-Assisted Suicide
Lord God, we pray earnestly that attempts to legalize physician-assisted suicide fail. For those opposed to physician-assisted suicide, please grant unity, wisdom and effective opportunities to speak the truth. Open the ears of those listening to their message and enable them to hear your truth and come to know the value, dignity and humanity in every person.

We pray that legislators will recognize that legalizing any form of euthanasia will have damaging consequences. Pray that pro-life legislators will exercise fortitude while opposing any law that legalizes physician-assisted suicide.

We pray for physicians and healthcare providers who care for the elderly, infirmed, and people with disabilities. May they not give into the temptation to administer medication or provide a means to hasten one’s death. Give them prudence to make decisions in the best interest of the patient’s needs - physically, emotionally and spiritually.

Father, we pray for the sick and incapacitated and their family members. In place of fear, despair and pain please pour out your love, hope and healing for body, mind, soul and spirit. In Jesus’s name. Amen.
### The Financial Corner

#### Income

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Weekly of Dec 17-23</th>
<th>Weekly of Dec 24-30</th>
<th>Year to Date Actual</th>
<th>Year to Date Budget</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Offering &amp; Holy Days</td>
<td>$46,644.00</td>
<td>$611,732.35</td>
<td>$707,486.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Loose &amp; Children’s</td>
<td>$1,117.00</td>
<td>$21,296.48</td>
<td>$19,999.98</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>$47,761.00</td>
<td>$633,028.83</td>
<td>$727,485.98</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Expenses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Weekly of Dec 17-23</th>
<th>Weekly of Dec 24-30</th>
<th>Year to Date Actual</th>
<th>Year to Date Budget</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Offering &amp; Holy Days</td>
<td>$71,477.66</td>
<td>$726,136.08</td>
<td>$734,697.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Loose &amp; Children’s</td>
<td>$828.75</td>
<td>$22,125.23</td>
<td>$20,769.21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>$72,306.41</td>
<td>$748,261.31</td>
<td>$755,466.21</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Annual Catholic Services Appeal

#### Annual Cathoic Services Appeal

The programs, services, & ministries supported by the Annual Catholic Services Appeal meet the larger diocesan needs of Catholics and others in the Diocese of Springfield.  

**As of Wednesday, January 2, 2019**

1,304 Parish Families  
229 Family Gifts (17.6%)  
$248 Average Gift Per Family  
$56,735 Total Pledge Gifts Received  
$94,051 ACSA Goal for 2018/2019 (60.4%)  

Simply make your check payable to ACSA (with St. Anthony of Padua, Effingham in the memo line), use the envelope provided by the diocese or write ACSA on an envelope and drop it in the collection.

---

### Annual Fund Update

#### St. Anthony Schools

**As of Wednesday, January 2, 2019**

- **81** $1,000 Challenge  
- **218** Family Gifts  
- **$262,200** Total Pledges  
- **$250,704** Total Cash Gifts Rec.  
- **$333,000** Goal for 2018/2019

Thank you to everyone who has Made a Difference in St. Anthony Schools!

---

### What’s your Mission from God?

Come with your spouse for an afternoon of learning, prayer, and discussion about how to determine the unique mission God has given your family. January 6, 2019 from 1:00 to 4:00pm at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, 524 E Lawrence Ave, Springfield. RSVP at www/dio.org/familylife/events or by calling 217-321-1132. Space is limited.

---

### Please submit written bulletin articles to:

bulletin@stanthony.com or mail to Bulletin, PO Box 764, Effingham, IL 62401.  
Articles must be in the office by noon Monday prior to publication.