

*Holy Cross Catholic Church*

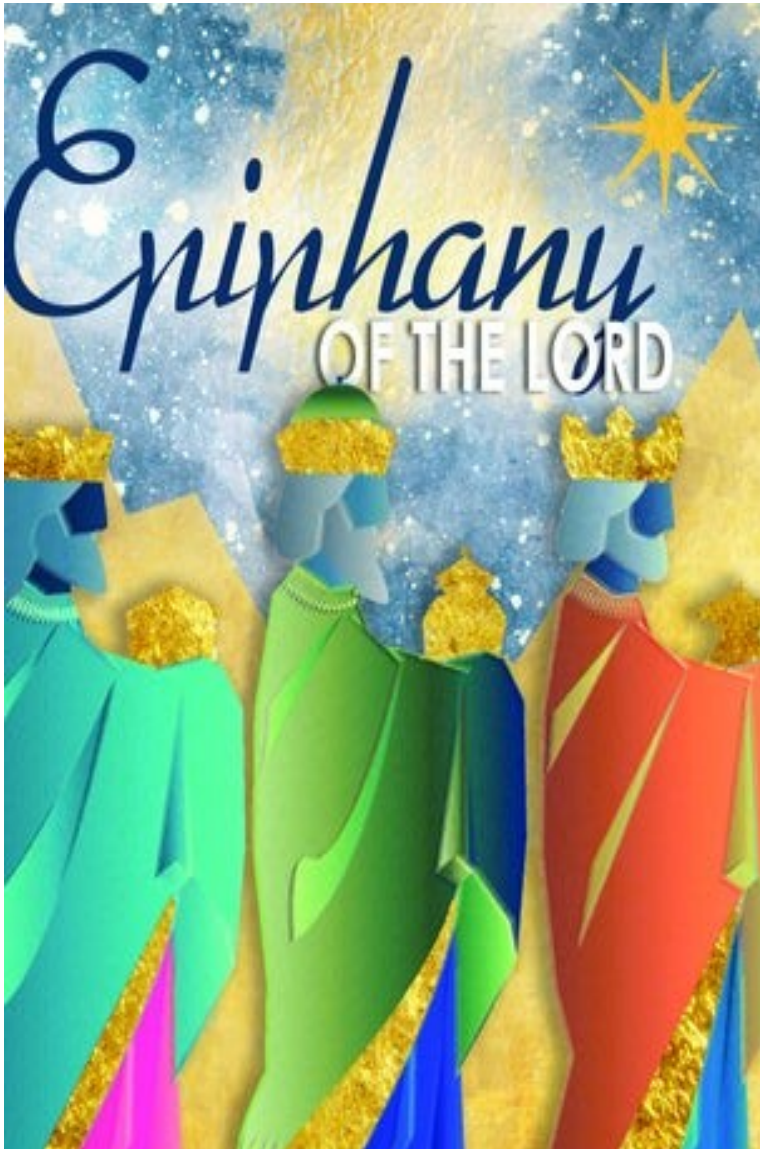


*St Martin's Catholic Church*



*St Mary's Catholic Church*

**EPIPHANY OF THE LORD—JANUARY 3, 2021**



*Catholic Parishes of  
Lake Vermilion and  
Pelican Lake*

[www.stmmhc.com](http://www.stmmhc.com)

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**Mlaker**  
**Funeral Home**  
 27 S 1st St SE, PO Box 15, Cook, MN  
 218-666-5298 | [mlakerfuneralhome.com](http://mlakerfuneralhome.com)

*Baptisms, Marriages, Communion,  
and Anointing for the sick and  
homebound, please contact the ap-  
propriate parish office.*

## Mass Schedules

**Thursday, Dec 24**

**Saturday, January 2**

Holy Cross

5:30 pm Mass—**David Glowski**

**Sunday, January 3**

St Mary's

8:00 am Mass—**Steve Kries**

St Martin's

10:30 am Mass—**Parish Families**

**Monday, January 4**

St Martin's

2:00—8:00 pm Adoration of the Blessed Eucharist

**Tuesday, January 5**

St Mary's

8:00 am Adoration

9:00 am Mass—**Sue Wolfe**

St Martin's

6:30 pm Women's Bible Study

**Wednesday, January 6**

St Martin's

8:00 am Adoration

9:00 am Mass—**Raymond & Johanna Schaeftbauer**

**Thursday, January 7**

St Mary's

7:00 am Adoration

8:00 am Mass—**Gary Hauta**

2:00—8:00 pm Adoration of the Blessed Eucharist

Holy Cross

4:30 pm Adoration

5:00 pm Confessions

5:30 pm Mass—**Special Intention**

**Friday, January 8**

St Martin's

7:00 am Adoration

8:00 am Mass—**Larry Donald**

**Saturday, January 9**

Holy Cross

5:30 pm Mass—**Madeline Udovich**

**Sunday, January 10**

St Mary's

8:00 am Mass—**Parish Families**

St Martin's

10:30 am Mass—**Shannon Driscoll Williams**

## Readings for the Week

©LPI

### MONDAY

1 John 3:22-4:6

Psalms 2:7bc-8, 10-12a

Matthew 4:12-17, 23-25

### TUESDAY

1 John 4:7-10

Psalms 72:1-2, 3-4, 7-8

Mark 6:34-44

### WEDNESDAY

1 John 4:11-18

Psalms 72:1-2, 10, 12-13

Mark 6:45-52

### THURSDAY

1 John 4:19-5:4

Psalms 72:1-2, 14 & 15bc, 17

Luke 4:14-22a

### FRIDAY

1 John 5:5-13

Psalms 147:12-13, 14-15, 19-20

Luke 5:12-16

### SATURDAY

1 John 5:14-21

Psalms 149:1-2, 3-4, 5-6a, 9b

**John 3:22-30**

### SUNDAY

Isaiah 55:1-11

Isaiah 12:2-3, 4bcd, 5-6

1 John 5:1-9

Mark 1:7-11

### January 3—SERVING

St Mary's

No information received

St Martin's

Servers: Thomas Aldrich and Alex Lanari

Lector: Dave Lanari

Ushers: Rick Athmann

Dave Ferrian

George Stefanich

Tony Luczak

*From the Desk of Father Nick:*

**At this time, Missing Mass is not a Mortal Sin**

In order to receive Holy Communion we need to be Catholic and in a state of grace. That means we can't have any mortal sins that we haven't confessed in Confession. For a sin to be mortal, there are three conditions and all three need to be met.

Serious Matter- the sin itself needs to be serious

You have to know that it is sinful-

You have to freely consent to the sin-

Usually, not going to Mass on a Sunday or a Holy Day is serious matter and if you knowingly and freely choose not to go, it is a mortal sin. You are rejecting God's love and his sanctifying grace ceases to be in you. But currently in our diocese and most dioceses, the obligation to attend Sunday Mass and Holy Day Masses has been removed.

Therefore, it is not serious matter to miss Sunday Mass and therefore at this time it cannot be a mortal sin.

Consequently, if you missed Mass during the pandemic, or haven't gone at all and you finally do come to Mass, and provided you do not have other unconfessed mortal sins, you are free to receive Holy Communion without prior Sacramental Confession.

I have had numerous people come to confession and confess missing Mass. Which is a good thing to do even at this time! As I believe it still may be sinful for most people not to attend Mass on Sunday and Holy Days as the risk is very minimal to them. But it can't be a mortal sin to miss Mass at this time because there is no obligation to attend. It would only be a venial sin and they would be free to receive Holy Communion even without prior

Confession.

I am not trying to give you excuses not to come as you probably know me well by now. I just want people to know the truth and not be overly scrupulous at this time. I do want people going to Mass as often as possible as I think the risks are very minimal and our spiritual needs are more important than our physical needs. So please do come to Mass even if it isn't a mortal sin not to.

I do pray our bishops reinstate the obligation soon. Because, it has always been the case before that if you are sick or if the risk is too great for you, you don't need to come. I think without the obligation many people that could be at Mass have chosen not to come because there is no obligation. Obligations actually help us to do good. Obligations are a good thing!

We want to do good and avoid sin, but not just because we fear hell. We want to do good because we love God. We want to go to Mass because he desires us to worship him, because it is good for us.

At Mass we glorify him by offering ourselves united to living Christ on the altar and through that offering, God sanctifies us. He makes us holy. Then the bonus is hopefully to be edified and challenged to live the gospel more faithfully and even more gracious on the part of God is to receive him Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity in Holy Communion—to have the most intimate encounter, communion with God, this side of heaven.

Please keep coming. God delights in you and is pleased with you!

-Father Nick

**PRAYER CHAIN:**

Holy Cross: Mary (757-0191)  
Judy (757-3170)  
St Martin's: Bette (753-4111)  
Helen (753-6220)  
St Mary's: Mary (666-5771)  
Cleo (666-2715)

**REL ED CONTACTS**

All Elementary:  
Emily Koch (218-235-9113)  
emmeson.orr@gmail.com  
  
All High School:  
Debbie Nelson (218-393-9153)  
debnel@frontier.com

**CONFESSIONS:**

Holy Cross: 1/2 hour before Mass  
St Mary's: 1/2 hour before Mass  
St Martin's: 1/2 hour before Mass

Please note: If these times do not work for you—please contact Father!

## *General:*

Today we welcome Father Stephen Solors to celebrate Mass with us!

**FORMED recommendation** for this week:

Watch: **God's Doorkeeper: St Andre of Montreal**; Learn: **FORMED NOW: How to Pray**

**Book Study:** We will be reading/discussing the book ***Church in Crisis*** by Ralph Martin. The book may be purchased at Amazon.com or at Renewalministries.net If you would like Father to order a book for you let him know as soon as possible. More details will follow. (We will alternate meetings between St Mary's and St Martin's, as well as allowing people to tune into the meeting virtually.)

## *Holy Cross:*

**2021 Giving Envelopes are available in the front of the church. Please be sure to grab yours. If you are not currently an envelope holder, but would like to be, contact Jennifer at St Mary's.**

## *St Martin's:*

Thank you to all the volunteers who came in and decorated the church for the Christmas Season!

Women's Bible Study resumes this week—Tuesday evening at 6:30 pm.

## *St Mary's:*

Good news; We have met our UCA Assessment for 2020! Thank you for your generosity!

Congratulations to the winners of the St Mary's Bazaar! Becky Shermer won the quilt; Bernie Kantola won \$100; and Doris Johnson won the canned goods basket.

There will be a CCW meeting on January 12th at 10:00 am. Fr Nick will be giving a presentation prior to the meeting.

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**New Year's Resolution—Pray the rosary every day**

**Stewardship Dec 19/20**

## *Holy Cross:*

Adult: \$200.00

Plate: \$177.00

UCA: \$20.00

## *St Martin's:*

Adult: \$1200.00

Plate: \$378.00

UCA: \$110.00

Immaculate Conception: \$45.00

Retirement for Religious: \$80.00

Christmas: \$325.00

Donation: \$500.00

## *St Mary's:*

Adult: \$1080.00

Plate: \$123.00

UCA: \$335.00

Retirement for Religious: \$150.00

NOTE: Due to early due date for this bulletin—collection totals for December 25-27 will be listed in the January 10 bulletin.