



January 7, 2024
The Epiphany of the Lord

Sun	1/7	8:00 AM 10:00 AM	In Memory of Ryan Socha on his Birthday Love, Grandma Barb Mass at St John's Danelle Bluma & Deceased Members of Bluma & Rozmiarek Families
Tues	1/9	8:15 AM	Mass at St John's ~ Open
Wed	1/10	8:15 AM 9:00AM 9:30 AM	Mass at St John's ~ Open Communion Service Faith Formation
Thurs	1/11	8:15 AM	Mass at St John's ~ Open
Fri	1/12	8:15 AM	Jim Socha ~ 20th Anniversary of Death by Marilyn Socha
Sat	1/13	4:00 PM	Mass at St John's ~ Open
Sun	1/14	8:00 AM 10:00 AM	Martin & Kathryn Vande Corput on his 100th Birthday by Jill & Jake Hodkiewicz Mass at St John's Deceased Members of Pat & Anna Schadrie

GOSPEL MEDITATION -

The Epiphany of the Lord

— Father John Muir

A stranger in a foreign land, I was exhausted and homesick as my summer Spanish immersion ended in Guatemala. The rusty minivan arriving outside my small residence filled me with joyful hope. I was flying home to the U.S. and would be, at long last, completely happy. Or so I thought. After about half an hour of being home, I thought to myself, "This place is boring. I want to go somewhere." So, I hopped in my car and left to see my friends. As I drove, I wistfully wondered, "Where am I *truly* at home?"

The feast of Epiphany has a lot to do with our notion of home. Where is our origin? Where are we going? When is our wandering done? Saint Matthew tells us of the Magi, "**They were overjoyed at seeing the star.**" This star will bring them *home*, to a place where their questing will end, and they will be satisfied. Their real home is neither in the East nor in the earthly Jerusalem. Somehow, their home is wherever this boy and his parents are.

If you're a teenager or older, you probably know by now that every physical home we have is temporary. So, we look up at the countless stars in our proverbial skies: things which bedazzle and beckon us to follow toward peace. The Gospel invites us to behold that — at long last — God has sent us a star to follow home, one that whispers, "Follow me! I will take you home!" Perhaps that star is your spouse. A friend. An opportunity. A cause. An intuition about a new direction. A prayer group. What is it for you? How will you know? It will lead you to Mary and Joseph and their son, and you will be home.

(PRACTICING) CATHOLIC - RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

By Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

Step Into the Light

How strange it is to think that if not for Herod's directions, the magi would not have known where to find Jesus. They were not Jews, they knew nothing of the old prophecies. It was Herod who convened the scholars. It was Herod who pointed the way — for ulterior motives, certainly, but nonetheless, this is the part he played. It was Herod who made the Epiphany possible.

"Nations shall walk by your light, and kings by your shining radiance," writes the prophet (Isaiah 60:3). A king may keep to the shadows, suspicious of the light — he may foolishly imagine he can snatch it from the sky to keep as his own possession, and, upon finding the light cannot be governed, grow to loathe it, and even seek to extinguish it once and for all.

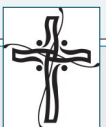
But all his grand designs will come to nothing because there is no king so powerful that he can see in the dark. And even a man like Herod — a man so jealous that he sought to kill God — cannot prevent the breaking of day.

The Epiphany marks the manifestation of Christ to the Gentiles. It is a celebration of truth reaching places it was not expected to reach, of brightness illuminating corners of the world long ago consigned to shadow. It is a reminder that the battle has already been won, the night is over. All that remains is for us to decide: will we step into the light?

**"See, darkness covers the earth, and thick clouds cover the peoples;
but upon you the LORD shines, and over you appears his glory." — Isaiah 60:2**



**Please keep the family of Clifford Dembroski in your prayers, as he recently passed away.
Eternal rest, grant unto him O Lord and let perpetual light shine upon him.**



DAY/TIME	LECTOR	DISTRIOTORS	SERVERS	USHERS
Sunday 8:00 AM	Chris Stedl	Georgian Rynish	Paden & Eloise Melchert	Rick Stedl
January 14			Brady VanderHeiden	Louis Rynish

INCOME FOR WEEK:

Church Support	\$ 1,545.00
Loose Collection	\$ 121.00
Votive Candles	\$ 24.00
Postage	\$ 70.00

DISBURSEMENTS FOR WEEK:

We Energies	\$ 824.65
AON Risk Insurance	\$ 731.41
St Therese of the Little Flower	\$ 709.48
St John's Cost Share	\$ 5,193.19
Community 2000 Christmas Donation	\$ 206.50
Emmanuel Lutheran *Inclusive Park Christmas Donation	\$ 206.50
RE Breakfast, Supplies, Teacher's Gifts	\$ 180.63
WeShare CC Fees	\$ 12.89

MEETING

The Christian Womens Society will be having a short meeting after Mass on January 14th. ALL parish ladies invited!

St. John Evangelist Homeless Shelter meal in Green Bay for supper is **January 18th**. We are in need of sliced hams, buns, milk, sliced cheese, assorted fruit, baked beans, and workers.

If you can help, there is a sign-up sheet in the lobby of church.

We appreciate anything you can do!



LIVE THE LITURGY

Though the magi did not know where the star of Bethlehem would lead, they trusted that God would be with them along the way. Let us all embrace that same faith as we go about the journey God has planned for us this year.

Wedding Feast & Epiphany

Question:

How are the feasts of the baptism of Jesus and the account of the wedding feast of Cana related to the Epiphany celebration?

Answer:

The Epiphany season focuses on revealing Jesus to the world. Following the Christmas celebration, the liturgical year lays out a series of manifestation points in which Jesus is made publicly known. From its very beginning, the Christian community highlighted three events in the life of Jesus. These are the Epiphany, the Baptism of the Lord and the wedding feast at Cana.

The Epiphany discloses Jesus to the world of the Gentiles, represented by the magi from the East. The accounts of Jesus' baptism reveal his identity and mission, along with exposing him to those to whom he was sent to minister. The miracle of turning water to wine at the wedding feast of Cana, unique to John's Gospel, is the first public sign that Jesus performs, thus manifesting his public identity and his powers.

Today in the Roman Church, these are usually celebrated on three successive Sundays: Epiphany, the Baptism of the Lord which is usually the next Sunday, and the wedding feast of Cana, which is proclaimed on the 2nd Sunday of Ordinary Time in lectionary year C.

These feasts connect around the concept of epiphany, public manifestation of Jesus to the world. They help us get to know more intimately who Jesus is and what he is about. Spend some time delving more deeply into your understanding of who Jesus is. Continue to cultivate these "epiphany" moments in your life.

THANK YOU!

The January Bulletin is sponsored in memory of Richard Johnson & Helen Hill.
Love, Family

Prayer for the New Year

Dear Lord,
With thanksgiving we entrust our year to You: whatever it holds, whoever we encounter, wherever we traverse.
What You supply is gift.
May our comings and goings be aligned with Your will.
Amen.

Wise Men Still Seek Him



Reporting Sexual Abuse

If you know of an incident of sexual abuse of a person who is **now under the age of 18** by a priest, deacon, employee or volunteer, **PLEASE IMMEDIATELY CALL THE CIVIL AUTHORITIES AND THEN THE DIOCESE.**

If the person was abused as a minor but is now an adult, please contact:

Office of Safe Environment
Diocese of Green Bay
920-272-8174
or 1-877-270-8174 (toll free)

We always encourage you to report the incident to civil authorities.

YOU MATTER TO US – THERE IS HOPE!



If you would like to request Mass Intentions and/or Sponsor the Bulletin, please contact the Parish Office.

Ministry of the Sick: Please notify the parish office if a member of your family is confined to their home or is hospitalized. Also, please inform the hospital of your affiliation with your parish.

Baptisms: Please call the parish office two months in advance.

Marriage: Please call St. John's parish office eight months in advance.

Funeral Arrangements: Please call St. John's parish office.

Anointing of the Sick and Dying: Please call St. John's parish office.

Fr. Sengole Dass
St. John Parish Office - 833-6140

DC. Richard Matuszak
833-2294 or 609-5292

St Sebastian Parish Office - 833-2558
Current Hours: Mon & Thurs 8:00 – 4:00
Wed: 8:30 - Noon, Closed: Tues & Fri