



Epiphany of the Lord
~ January 3, 2021 ~

Lord and Ruler ... Behold, the Lord, the Mighty One, has come; and kingship is in his grasp, and power and dominion. Mal 3: 1; 1 Chr 29: 12

Sunday (3)

8:00 AM Daniel Kasperkoski by M/M John McInerney
10:00 AM Florence Romanell by Joseph and Michelle Auld

Monday (4)

7:30 AM Antonio Guerreiro by wife Zulmira

Tuesday (5)

7:30 AM Julie Segreaves

Wednesday (6)

No Mass

Thursday (7)

No Mass

Friday (8)

No Mass

Saturday (9)

No Mass

5:00 PM In Loving Memory of Joseph and Olga Kash
by daughter Barbara and husband Bob Groegler

Sunday (10)

8:00 AM Jim Dolak by Frank and Mary Wiedl
10:00 AM Sacred Heart Holy Name Society

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Sunday, January 3, Readings:

➤ **First Reading:** Is 60: 1-6... (Glory of God's Church)
Jerusalem is favored by the Lord. Kings and peoples will come before you. The riches of the earth will be placed at the gates of Jerusalem.

➤ **Responsorial Psalm:** Ps 72... (The Messiah-King)
"Lord, every nation on earth will adore you."

➤ **Second Reading:** Eph 3: 2-3a, 5-6... (Good News for All)
Paul admits that God has revealed the divine plan of salvation to him. Not only the Jews, but also the whole Gentile world, will share in the Good News.

➤ **Gospel:** Mt 2: 1-12... (Magi with Gifts)
King Herod, being jealous of his earthly crown, was threatened by the coming of another king. The astrologers from the east followed the star to Bethlehem from which a ruler was to come.

- ▶ (4) **Monday:** St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, Religious
 - 1 Jn 3: 22—4: 6... Test the spirits to see whether they belong to God.
 - Ps 2: 7bc-8, 10-12a... I will give you all the nations for an inheritance.
 - Mt 4: 12-17, 23-25... The Kingdom of heaven is at hand.

- ▶ (5) **Tuesday:** St. John Neumann, Bishop
 - 1 Jn 4: 7-10... God is love.
 - Ps 72: 1-4, 7-8... Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.
 - Mk: 6: 34-44... Multiplying the loaves, Jesus shows himself as a prophet.
- ▶ (6) **Wednesday:** Christmas Weekday; St. André Bessette, Religious
 - 1 Jn 4: 11-18... If we love one another, God remains in us.
 - Ps 72: 1-2, 10, 12-13... Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.
 - Mk 6: 45-52... They saw Jesus walking on the sea.
- ▶ (7) **Thursday:** Christmas Weekday; St. Raymond of Penyafort, Priest
 - 1 Jn 4: 19—5: 4... Those who love God must also love their brother and sister.
 - Ps 72: 1-2, 14, 15bc, 17... Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.
 - Lk 4: 14-22a... Today this Scripture passage is fulfilled.
- ▶ (8) **Friday:** Christmas Weekday
 - 1 Jn 5: 5-13... The Spirit, the water, and the Blood.
 - Ps 147: 12-15, 19-20... Praise the Lord, Jerusalem.
 - Lk 5: 12-16... The leprosy left him immediately.
- ▶ (9) **Saturday:** Christmas Weekday
 - 1 Jn 5: 14-21... God hears us in regard to whatever we ask.
 - Ps 149: 1-6a, 9b... The Lord takes delight in his people.
 - Jn 3: 22-30... The friend of the bridegroom rejoices at the bridegroom's voice.

Diocesan Victim Assistance Co-ordinator:
Ms. Wendy S. Krisak M.A., NCC, LPC;
Direct Telephone: 1-800-791-9209
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Office of Safe Environment: Pamela J. Russo, MSW, MS;
Secretary, Youth Protection and Catholic Human Services;
P.O. Box F; Allentown, PA 18105-1538;
610-871-5200, Ext. 2204; (Fax): 610-871-5211; Email: prusso@allentowndiocese.org
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Diocese of Allentown Protection of Youth Policy:
www.allentowndiocese.org
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Catholic Bishop Abuse Reporting Service:
If you have an allegation of abuse against a bishop, please contact the Catholic Bishop Abuse Reporting Service at www.ReportBishopAbuse.org or by calling 1-800-276-1562.

*May God be gracious and bless us.
Let your face shed its light upon us.
So will your ways be known upon earth
and all nations learn your salvation.*

Ps 67

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O God, who on this day revealed your Only Begotten Son to the nations by the guidance of a star, grant in your mercy that we, who know you already by faith, may be brought to behold the beauty of your sublime glory.

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Act of Spiritual Communion

My Jesus, I believe that You are in the Blessed Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I long for You in my soul. Since I cannot now receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. As though You have already come, I embrace You and unite myself entirely to You; never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.



When you can't make it to Mass and are stuck at home, send your guardian angel to Church to intercede for you!

O HOLY ANGEL at my side, go to Church for me. Kneel in my place, at Holy Mass, where I desire to be. At Offertory, in my stead, take all I am and own, and place it as a sacrifice upon the Altar Throne. At Holy Consecration's Bell, adore with Seraph's love, my Jesus hidden in the Host, come down from Heaven above. Then pray for those I dearly love, and those who cause me grief, that Jesus' Blood may cleanse all hearts, and suffering souls relieve. When the priest Communion takes, bring my Lord to me, that His sweet Heart may rest on mine, and I His temple be. Pray that this Sacrifice Divine, may mankind's sins efface; then bring me Jesus' blessing home, the pledge of every grace. Amen.

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Today a light will shine upon us, for the Lord is born for us; and he will be called Wondrous God, Prince of peace, Father of future ages: and his reign will be without end.

Is 9: 1, 5; Lk 1: 33

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Sacred Heart Church Rectory Office... Due to COVID-19, access to the rectory office will be extremely limited!

▶ As much as possible, business will be conducted by phone, email,

and US mail. For all necessary secretarial busines available via phone, email, US mail:

- Mass Intentions
- Memorials
- Sanctuary Candles
- Sponsor Forms
- Sacramental Records
- Contribution Information
- Bulletin Information to Add/Delete

- 1) Phone: 610-865-5042 ext. 2 or
- 2) Email: sacredheartrectory1936@gmail.com or
- 3) US mail: Sacred Heart Church Rectory
1817 First St.
Bethlehem PA, 18020

Joanne will be in the office Tuesdays and Fridays from 9:30 AM – 12:30 PM, to answer the phone, return phone calls and respond to emails.

● Please **DO NOT** come to the rectory unless you first call and speak to someone. Most business transactions will not require anyone to enter the rectory!

▶ Drop-off and pick-up of items will be done with non-contact at the rectory front door.

➤ **Sunday Bulletins** are now available before/after Saturday/Sunday Mass in the Church vestibules.

➤ The **Sunday Bulletin** has also been available on the parish webpage:

www.sacredheartbethlehem.com

Father Bob can be reached at:

sacredheartbethlehem@gmail.com



The Feast of the Epiphany celebrates the arrival of the Magi to pay homage to baby Jesus. Epiphany means manifestation, for we are commemorating the day when the glory of God's Messiah was made manifest

to the pagans (in the person of the Magi).

Magi were astrologers. They were not kings (although that title is often used for them) nor does it say that there were three. (That is the number of gifts.) The account speaks of them coming from the east (possibly Persia or Babylon).

It is possible that the star that they saw was the elision of the three planets: Mars, Jupiter, and Saturn, which occurred around 7 B.C. The technical name for this type of elision is syzygy.

The Magi would naturally have gone to Jerusalem to inquire about the birth of a Jewish king. Herod, being a murderous paranoid, intends to use them to murder what he considers to be a rival to his throne.

Jewish scholars use a passage taken from Micah to determine that the Messiah was to be born in Bethlehem. This is typical of Matthew who always shows how Jesus fulfills the law and the prophets.

The Magi bring gold, frankincense, and myrrh. They would have brought these products because they were easy to carry and valuable. Later, authors found symbolic meaning in these gifts. They spoke of gold as a gift one would give a king, frankincense as an incense one would burn to honor a god, and myrrh as an ointment used in burials, foretelling how Jesus would save us.

This feast, with its stars and the arrival of the Magi, reminds us that God has a plan that is worked out in time— whether Biblical time or the time of our own lives. Rev. Jude Winkler, OFM

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May God be gracious and bless us.

Let your face shed its light upon us.

**So will your ways be known upon earth
and all nations learn your salvation.**

Ps 67

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Please pray for our sick, for all those homebound, in the hospital or nursing homes and especially those who care for them. We also ask prayers for those not listed and those we are not aware of that are ill.

Donna Miller, Joan Szemenyei, Joseph Ludrof, Susan G. Tinschmidt, David Cap, Lisa Dreher, A.J. Shuck, M. and D. Shuck, J.A. Rutkowski, Anthony

Viera, Bev Russell, Hank Straub, Albina DaSilva, Andrew Filbert, Christopher Brennan, Bill White, Jessica Hewitt, Joan Raymond, John and Charlotte Rzepliela, Lori Watts, Jacob Jarvis, James and Janet DeVaney, Beth Coleman, Mary Saraceno-Wright, Dorothea Saraceno-Atherholt, Mary Lou Schuler, Joe Field, Louis A. Gray, Gail Schneider, Molly Weidemoyer, James Lankford, Karen Hegedus, Patrick McBride, Jane Schreiber, Ron Rutkowski, Jamie Heston, Terry Macripo, Patrice Schwartzman, Leona Oberholtzer, Colleen Pinzon, Sanford Kravett, Jack Herzeg, Grandson, Sheri Radzelovage, Janet Zambo, Loretta Scurato, Theresa Mitchell, Emerson Davenport, Gina Teel, Nonna Frances, Charlotte Gazzana, Russell Gazzana, Rebecca Wasniewski, Larry Muzyka, Teresa Yatko, Pat Warminsky, Carmela Azzolina, JoAnn Connors, Frank Donchez, Carol Jacob, Manny Martinez, Ann Lester, Dorothy Fekula, Irene Nagy, Jackie Swartley, Bobby Ricks, George Treisner, Paul Micci, Janice Mitchell, John Witmer, Neal McNulty, Marion Gombocz, William Balliet, Lorraine Parton, Michael Stern, III, Eileen J. Kokosky, T. & E. Moskella, Julius Balogh, Kevin Jung, Al Nuckols, Gloria Negrete, Anna Mae Stern, Josephine Snow



"A time of war, and a time of peace": We pray for those that serve in our military: Michael O'Donnell; Jarrett Buchanan; Blair Holva; Nick Massari; John Flannigan; Joe Owens; Rob McGuire; Joseph Salmento; David Principato; David Colarusso, Jr.; Paul

K. Browne, II; Anthony T. Browne; LCpl Timothy F. Cassidy; Mark McNulty, Jr.; Master Sgt. Scotty W. Hasencz; Josh Brueningen; Sgt. Jared Steirer; Senior Chief Ian Hudak

Remember our Soldiers that can't be home for the holidays... the Best Gift is Prayer: Lord God, Almighty Father, thank you for the men and women that protect this nation! Father, as they protect us, protect them as well! Lord, you know where they will be today and I pray that You will be there with them to guide them through whatever challenges and trials they face this day. May they ever experience your firm support, gentle love and compassionate healing. Be their power and protector, leading them from darkness to light. To you be all glory, honor and praise, now and forever. Amen.

Home of the Free because of the Brave... Thank you!!

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Alleluia Verse: We saw his star at its rising and have come to do him homage. Mt 2: 2

The Magi saw a star rising in the sky and risked all to pay homage to the newborn king of the Jews. As we proclaim this Alleluia Verse, we promise to follow wherever God leads us.

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Winter Spirituality Weekend... God at Work. With Sr. Nancy lampietro, cps; Sr. Virginelle Makos, osf; Sr. Marguerite Stewart, osf. Offering: \$60; January 8-9, 2021.

On January 6, we celebrate the *Feast of the Three Kings*. To many, this feast is called "Little Christmas." As we envision the crèche, we join Mary as she studies the hands, feet

and heart of her Babe and ponders about Emmanuel with us.

What does St. Joseph — the solid yet quiet figure — teach us as he gazes upon Mary and the child, Jesus?

The three Kings come in earnest to seek out this child and worship. Join us as we open our hearts to the treasures awaiting us, as we reflect on God's love present in the persons of Jesus, Joseph and the Magi.

This retreat will be conducted entirely online through Zoom. Sessions are scheduled: January 8, 2021 - 7 p.m.; January 9, 2021 - 10 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. A unique link to join the meeting will be emailed to you within 48 hours of the program.

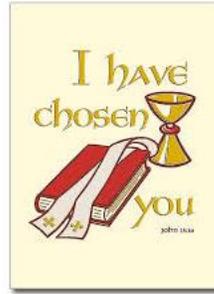
Facilitators: Sr. Nancy lampietro, Sr. Virginelle Makos and Sr. Marguerite Stewart.

► Note: If you prefer to pay by check, please call our office at 610-867-8890. Do not register online.

To register for this meeting, please use the following link:
<https://www.stfrancisctr.org/sfcr-store/p/womens-spirituality-retreat>

Prayer for Our Priests

Eternal God, please bless our priests, who represent you on this earth. Make them more greatly aware of the grace that you pour out through them when they minister the sacraments and help them to fall more deeply in love with you after each and every Mass that they celebrate. Please strengthen our priests, who shepherd your flock, when they are in doubt of their faith, that they may be examples of your Truth and guide us always on the path to you. We ask these things of you our Eternal Priest. Amen.



With Praise and Thanksgiving to Almighty God, the Diocese of Allentown has happily announced our Deacon Juan to be ordained to the Sacred Order of the Priesthood. Deacon Juan will be ordained January 6, 2021. Send your personal notes of praise and thanksgiving to: Deacon Juan Rodriguez, 1817 First St., Bethlehem PA 18020-5603.

Prayer for More Vocations

O Holy Spirit, Spirit of wisdom and divine love, impart your knowledge, understanding, and counsel to youth that they may know the vocation wherein they can best serve God. Give them courage and strength to follow God's holy will. Guide their uncertain steps, strengthen their resolutions, shield their chastity, fashion their minds, conquer their hearts, and lead them to the vineyards where they will labor in God's holy service. Amen.

Prayer for Putting On A Mask

Loving God, as I prepare to go into the world today, help me to see the wearing of this piece of cloth as a tangible and visible way of loving my neighbors as I love myself.

Since my lips will be covered, uncover my heart, that people may see my smile in the crinkles around my eyes.

Since my voice may be muffled, help me to speak clearly, not only with my words, but especially with my actions.

As the elastic touches my ears, remind me to listen carefully to all those I meet.

May this simple mask be shield and banner, and each breath that it holds be filled with your love.

Amen.

We continue to hold all of you in our prayers, asking God for your good health and safety.

Sincerely,

*Brother Mark, OFM
St. Francis Retreat House*

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2021 Sacred Heart "Little Lot":



Christmas and Easter: \$1,000; New Year's Day: \$500; Memorial Day: \$500; July 4th: \$500; Last day of the month: \$300; Fridays: \$100 (except when last day of the month); Every other night: \$50. \$25/Ticket and is good

for every day in 2021! Winning Number is the *Evening "Pick 4 PA Lottery"* exact match ONLY!

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► **Homeschool Family Virtual Gathering...** Homeschool Families of the Diocese of Allentown are invited to a "virtual" gathering on Sunday, January 10 at 7:00pm. We will join together in praying the rosary for the needs of the Church, the world, and our families. To participate, please email Father Kevin Bobbin, Chaplain to the Homeschool Community (kbobbin@allentowndiocese.org) before January 10 to receive the Zoom invitation.



Sanctuary Lights... Candles can be lit for 7 days (Saturday to Saturday) on the High Altar of the Tabernacle, Blessed Mother Altar, St. Joseph Altar, St. Anthony, St. Jude, and Sacred Heart of Jesus. The Sanctuary Candles can be lit for any intention, death remembrance or anniversary, birthday, wedding anniversary, thanksgiving for blessings from God, for those who are ill or having surgery, or any special intentions which someone would like

special prayers for. To have one of these Sanctuary Lights lit, drop a little note in the collection basket marked "Sanctuary Lights". A donation of \$12.00 is asked. The intention will appear in the bulletin, unless directed not to.

Week of January 2:

High Altar of the Tabernacle:

- **Wishing You Many Blessings throughout the New Year John, June and Taylor Lamana**
~ All my love, Mom and Grammy
- **Wishing You Many Blessings throughout the New Year Jim, Lisa, Dio and Labella Lauer**
~ All my love, Mom and Grammy
- **Wishing You Many Blessings throughout the New Year Jack and Jeanne Sobota**
~ All my love, Elaine
- **Wishing You Many Blessings throughout the New Year Michael, Allison, Ryan, Alex and Grace Sobota**
~ All my love, Aunt
- **Wishing You Many Blessings throughout the New Year Jonathan Sobota**
~ All my love, Aunt

Blessed Mother Altar:

✠ **In Loving Memory of John T. and Elizabeth Geldon**
~ Rest in Peace- Our Love, Your Family

St. Jude:

✠ **In Loving Memory of Neal A. Lamana: Husband, Father, Grand Pop...** Rest in Peace
~ Our Love, Your Family

Week of December 26:

Blessed Mother Altar:

- ✠ **In Loving Memory of Mom and Dad**
By: daughter Mary Ann
- ✠ **In Loving Memory of Verna Thear**
By: Mary Ann and Family

St. Joseph Altar:

✠ **In Loving Memory of Michael Thear**
By: wife Mary Ann and Family

Week of December 19:

High Altar of the Tabernacle:

✠ **In Loving Memory of Deacon McShane**
By: Wife and Family

Blessed Mother Altar:

- ✠ **In Loving Memory of Pop-Pop McShane**
By: Grandchildren
- ✠ **In Loving Memory of Great-Grand Pop McShane**
By: Great Grandchildren



Sacred Heart Memorial Society...

Those who are enrolled in the Memorial Society will have their names written in a special book. The Memorial Book will be on display by the St. Joseph Altar. An intention will also be included in the Sunday petitions for those enrolled in the Memorial Society. All donations from the Sacred Heart Memorial Society will be used for the purchasing of items needed to celebrate the

Sacraments. Suggested offering: \$20. A contribution has been made to the Sacred Heart Memorial Society:

✠ **In Memory of Sylvia Spirk**
By: Jim and Renee Reilly
By: Frank A. Scattene III

✠ **In Memory of Charles Schubert**
By: Deacon Joe and Mary Lou Juhasz
By: Mary E. Bicking

Rest in the Lord... Come to me, all you that labor and are burdened, and I will give you rest, says the Lord. Mt 11: 28

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There is an appointed time for everything, and a time for every affair under the heavens. Ecc 3

"A time to weep, mourn and die":

Robert Henry Hunsberger
Margaret M. Norder

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let the perpetual light shine upon them. And may the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.

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Mary Undoer of Knots ~ Pray for Us

Mother of fair love, I look to you.

Take into your hands the ribbon of my life and see the snarl of knots that keeps me bound to sin, anxiety, and hopelessness.

I beg you, Mother, by your powerful intercession, and loving fingers of love and grace, undo the knots in my heart and in my life.

Free me to love as Christ loves.

Amen.

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Thank you, to everyone for your help, support, and prayers. Whether you are dropping off your donation or mailing them to the rectory:

Sacred Heart Church Rectory
1817 First Street
Bethlehem, PA 18020

... or utilizing online giving, any donation is greatly appreciated!

The Diocese of Allentown Office of Temporal Affairs has set up an online giving site for every parish within the Diocese. The URL is:

<https://www.allentowndiocese.org/parish-support>

• If you decide to use it, please make sure you hit:

Sacred Heart – Bethlehem

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Gospel Reflection: This feast with its star and the arrival of the Magi reminds us that God has a plan that is worked out in time—whether Biblical time or the time of our own lives.