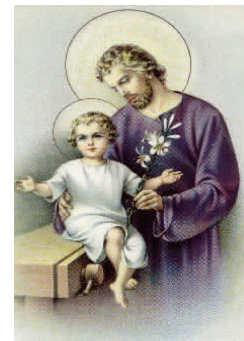


# St. Joseph Catholic Community

## Epiphany of the Lord - January 7, 2018



**St. Joseph Catholic Church**  
1300 N. Main, Bluffton 46714  
260-824-1380

email: [stjosephchurch@adamswells.com](mailto:stjosephchurch@adamswells.com)  
website: [stjosephchurchbluffton.org](http://stjosephchurchbluffton.org)

**Pastor:** Rev. Msgr. Pius N. Ilechukwu

**Msgr. Pius' direct email:** [stjosephchurch1875@gmail.com](mailto:stjosephchurch1875@gmail.com)

**Director of Liturgical Music:** Sr. Rose Clare Ehrlich, CSA

**Administrative Assistant/DRE:** Michelle Paxton

**Director of Youth Ministry:** Steve Higgins

**Steve's email:** [sehiggins78@yahoo.com](mailto:sehiggins78@yahoo.com)

### **Finance Committee Members:**

Doug Lehman- 824-0367 / Rick Singer- 824-8009  
Becky Biberstein- 565-4143 / Jim Yonker- 824-0651

### **Parish Council Members:**

Barb Ault- 638-4725 / John Horn- 433-5544  
Monica Harris- 450-9818 / Dave Huss- 622-7531  
Mike Lautzenheiser- 820-0316 / Sue Singer- 824-8009

### **Social Committee Members:**

Jessica Seago, Chairperson- 273-3475  
Ann Reifsteck- 824-1044 / Carrie Onweller- 273-9734  
Jenny Esmond- 824-4312 / Missy Huss- 820-0411  
Tori Emrah- 622-1241 / Mary Ann Flowers- 824-1132  
Rebecca Anderson- 273-3353

### **Building Board Committee Members:**

Oscar Heyne- 273-1415 / Doral Smith- 824-1484  
Joe Baur- 824-1760 / Dan Sudhoff- (317)-654-2075

**Welcome! We extend our hearts and hands to all who celebrate with us at St. Josephs. We would like to invite any guest to fill out the form below, if interested in becoming a registered member of this Parish.**

**Thank you for worshipping with us! Again Welcome, Bienvenidos, Benvenuto, Willkommen, Nno-nu, Byenveni!**

----- (cut here) -----

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
e-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_

[ ] New Parishioners, please send a Parish Registration Form [ ] We've Moved, here is our new information

## MASS INTENTIONS

### Saturday, January 6

4:00 p.m. Confessions

4:35 p.m. Rosary

5:00 p.m. Ray Smith Family by Don & Mary Lou Smith

### Sunday, January 7

#### - The Epiphany of the Lord -

7:10 a.m. Rosary

7:30 a.m. Parish Family

9:40 a.m. Rosary

10:00 a.m. Marcella Quinn + by Mike & Debbie Lautzenheiser

**Msgr. Pius N. Iechukwu will be out of town until February 1, 2018. There will be not be weekday Mass here in our Parish; However,**

**Monsignor Pius will celebrate these intentions while he is away in Nigeria:**

Monday, January 8— Evelyn Morrissey & Jeannette Leitz + by Larry & Nancy Leitz

Tuesday, January 9— Living & Deceased Family & Friends of Diane Humphrey by Diane Humphrey

Wednesday, January 10— Hildegard Schaefer + by Diane Humphrey

Thursday, January 11— Trent Patterson + by Doral & Helen Smith

Friday, January 12— Edward J. Schaefer + by Diane Humphrey

Saturday, January 13— Robert Bauman + by Dan & Linda Felger

Sunday, January 14— Living & Deceased Priests of St. Joseph Parish, Bluffton by Parish Family

### Saturday, January 13

4:00 p.m. Confessions

4:35 p.m. Rosary

5:00 p.m. Julie Johnson + by Tom & Becky Jackson

### Sunday, January 14

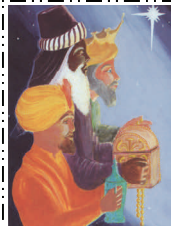
#### - Second Sunday in Ordinary Time -

7:10 a.m. Rosary

7:30 a.m. Parish Family

9:40 a.m. Rosary

10:00 a.m. Beatrice Hickert + by Joel & Patty Makowski



## Homily of His Holiness Pope Francis Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord - 6 January 2015

That child, born in Bethlehem of the Virgin Mary, came not only for the people of Israel, represented by the shepherds of Bethlehem, but also for all humanity, represented today by the wise men from the East. It is on the Magi and their journey in search of the Messiah that the Church today invites us to meditate and to pray.

These wise men from the East were the first in that great procession of which the prophet Isaiah spoke in today's first reading (cf. 60:1-6): a procession which from that time on has continued uninterrupted; in every age it hears the message of the star and finds the Child who reveals the tenderness of God. New persons are always being enlightened by that star; they find the way and come into his presence.

According to tradition, the wise men were sages, watchers of the constellations, observers of the heavens, in a cultural and religious context which saw the stars as having significance and power over human affairs. The wise men represent men and woman *who seek God in the world's religions and philosophies*: an unending quest.

The wise men point out to us the path of our journey through life. They sought the true Light. As a liturgical hymn of Epiphany which speaks of their experience puts it: "*Lumen requirunt lumine*"; by following *a* light, they sought *the* light. They set out in search of God. Having seen the sign of the star, they grasped its message and set off on a long journey.

It is *the Holy Spirit* who called them and prompted them to set out; during their journey they were also to have a *personal encounter* with the true God.

Along the way, the wise men encountered *many difficulties*. Once they reached Jerusalem, they went to the palace of the king, for they thought it obvious that the new king would be born in the royal palace. There they lost sight of the star and met with *a temptation*, placed there by the devil: it was the deception of Herod. King Herod was interested in the child, not to worship him but to eliminate him. Herod is the powerful man who sees others only as rivals. Deep down, he also considers God a rival, indeed the most dangerous rival of all. In Herod's palace the wise men experience a moment of obscurity, of desolation, which they manage to overcome thanks to the prompting of the Holy Spirit, who speaks through the prophecies of sacred Scripture. These indicate that the Messiah is to be born in Bethlehem, the city of David.

At that point they resume their journey, and once more they see the star; the evangelist says that they "rejoiced exceedingly" (Mt 2:10). Coming to Bethlehem, they found "the child with Mary his mother" (Mt 2:11). After that of Jerusalem, this was their *second great temptation*: to reject this smallness. But instead, "they fell down and worshiped him", offering him their precious symbolic gifts. Again, it is *the grace of the Holy Spirit* which assists them. That grace, which through the star had called them and led them along the way, now *lets them enter into the mystery*. Led by the Spirit, they come to realize that God's criteria are quite different from those of men, that God does not manifest himself in the power of this world, but speaks to us in the humbleness of his love. The wise men are thus models of conversion to the true faith, since they believed more in the goodness of God than in the apparent splendour of power.

And so we can ask ourselves: what is *the mystery in which God is hidden*? Where can I find him? All around us we see wars, the exploitation of children, torture, trafficking in arms, trafficking in persons... In all these realities, in these, the least of our brothers and sisters who are enduring these difficult situations, there is Jesus (cf. Mt 25:40,45). The crib points us to a different path from the one cherished by the thinking of this world: it is the path of *God's self-abasement*, his glory concealed in the manger of Bethlehem, on the cross upon Calvary, in each of our suffering brothers and sisters.

The wise men *entered into the mystery*. They passed from human calculations to the mystery: this was their conversion. And our own? Let us ask the Lord to let us undergo that same journey of conversion experienced by the wise men. Let us ask him to protect us and to set us free from the temptations which hide the star. To let us always feel the troubling question: "Where is the star?", whenever – amid the deceptions of this world – we lose sight of it. To let us know ever anew God's mystery, and not to be scandalized by the "sign" which points to "a babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger" (Lk 2:12), and to have the humility to ask the Mother, our Mother, to show him to us. To find the courage to be liberated from our illusions, our presumptions, our "lights", and to seek this courage in the humility of faith and in this way to encounter the Light, *Lumen*, like the holy wise men. Amen.

## Priests who will be helping with Masses while Msgr. Pius is away; WELCOME!

Jan., 6/7— Fr. Jose Panamattathil

Jan., 13/14— Fr. Vincent Joseph

Jan., 20/21— Fr. Vincent Joseph

Jan., 27/28— Fr. Gus Gordon (Food for the Poor Priest)

*The best and most beautiful things in the world cannot be seen or even touched. They must be felt with the heart. - Helen Keller*



## Please remember in your prayers...

Bud & Sharon Miller, Ramon Villamil, Genevieve Lohmuller, Becky Biberstein, Fern Britton, James A. Yonker, Sr., Evelyn Morrissey, Betty Meyer, Ron Payne, David Carr, Ronnie & Bonnie Burns, Michael Green, Dorothy 'Dottie' Marbach and Rick Cotterman.





### ASH WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 14, 2018

Please bring in your old palms any time between now and February 7, 2018. The old palms will become ashes for the Ash Wednesday Masses here at St. Joseph's.



### HELPING HANDS PREGNANCY RESOURCE CENTER Baby Bottle Campaign

Baby Bottles will be passed out at all the Masses on the weekend of Jan. 6<sup>th</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup> for donations to Helping Hands Pregnancy Resource Center. Please take one home and fill it with change, dollar bills, or checks made out to "Helping Hands Pregnancy Resource Center." Please donate and help Women, Men and their Families make Life-Affirming decisions that will benefit our Community.

### SCRIPTURE/MASS READINGS FOR THE WEEK

**Mon., Jan. 8 - The Baptism of the Lord** - Is 55:1-11 or 1 Jn 5:1-9/ Mk 1:7-11

**Tues., Jan. 9 - First Week in Ordinary Time** - 1 Sm 1:9-20/ Mk 1:21-28

**Wed., Jan. 10** - 1 Sm 3:1-10, 19-20/ Mk 1:29-39

**Thurs., Jan. 11** - 1 Sm 4:1-11/ Mk 1:40-45

**Fri., Jan. 12** - 1 Sm 8:4-7, 10-22a/ Mk 2:1-12

**Sat., Jan. 13 - St. Hilary, Bishop and Doctor of the Church** - 1 Sm 9:1-4, 17-19; 10:1/ Mk 2:13-17

**Sun., Jan. 14 - Second Sunday in Ordinary Time** - 1 Sm 3:3b-10, 19/ 1 Cor 6:13c-15a, 17-20/ Jn 1:35-42

### REKINDLE THE FIRE

**8th Annual Diocesan Men's Conference—*Fully* ALIVE**

**Saturday, February 24, 2018 at the  
Allen County War Memorial Coliseum**

Registration Forms are on the bulletin board in the narthex, please help yourself to one!

**Please note: I will be out of the office on Thursday,  
January 11, 2018. Thank you! Michelle**

### ST. JOSEPH'S 2017/18 PARISH CALENDAR

- Sun., Jan. 21— Coffee and Donuts after 7:30 & 10:00 a.m. Masses hosted by St. Joseph Youth Group
- Sun., Jan. 28— Knights of Columbus Blood Drive— 7:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. (see bulletin for more information).
- Sat./Sun., Feb. 3/4— Blessing of the Throats at all Masses
- Wed., Feb. 7— Parish Council Mtg.— 7:30 p.m. (after Mass)
- Wed., Feb. 14— Ash Wednesday Masses 7:00 a.m. & 7:00 p.m.
- Sat., Feb. 17— Student's Mass— 5:00 p.m.
- Sun., Feb. 18— Coffee & Donuts after 7:30 & 10:00 a.m. Masses hosted by St. Joseph CCW.
- Sun., Mar. 18— Coffee & Donuts after 7:30 & 10:00 a.m. Masses hosted by St. Joseph Social Group
- Sun., Apr. 1— Easter Sunday
- Tues., April 3— Confirmation Mass at St. Mary's, Decatur— 7:00 p.m.
- Sun., April 15— Student's Mass— 10:00 a.m.

### WEEKEND OF JANUARY 13/14, 2018

#### CANTORS:

**5:00** Nancy Leitz  
**7:30** Tammy Horn  
**10:00** Nichole Decker

#### LECTORS:

**5:00** Ginny Fenstermaker  
**7:30** Barb Ault  
**10:00** Marita Crawfis

#### EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS:

**5:00** Joe Baur, Linda Huseman, Janette Minch  
**7:30** Dave or Margie Huss, John Horn, Sherry Makowski  
**10:00** Diana Cole, Ann Reifsteck, Monica Harris, Steve Higgins, Kathy Marshall

#### MINISTERS OF HOSPITALITY:

**5:00** Volunteers  
**7:30** Al/Mary Porrata  
**10:00** Mike Painter, Brad/Susan Poper, Volunteer

#### SERVERS:

**5:00** Darren or Corey or Brooklynn Huss, Emma Roembke, McKenna McNabb  
**7:30** Mitchel/Justin Mayer  
**10:00** Quinn Dreiband, Catherine Crawfis, Kody Coyne

#### Collection for Weekend of December 30 & 31 and Solemnity of Mary, Jan. 1 2018

Adult Envelopes- \$7,461.00  
Child Envelopes- \$3.75  
Loose- \$146.00  
Solemnity of the Blessed Virgin Mary- \$110.00  
Christmas Offering- \$10.00  
Religious Ed. Fund- \$0  
Repair/Rainy Day Fund- \$0

**Total- \$7,730.75**

#### The amount needed each week to make budget is \$5,116.40

We are \$2,719.35 ahead of budget from last week and \$6,780.51 ahead of budget for the month of December.

#### Other Collections within our Parish—

**Diocesan Special Collections:**  
Catholic Charities; Christmas- \$105.00

*Thank you for your gifts  
to St. Joseph's!*



#### KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Red Cross Blood Drive  
Sunday, January 28, 2018  
7:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Sign up sheet in the narthex to donate or online at [redcrossblood.org](http://redcrossblood.org), sponsor code "stjccbluf".

**God looks at the world through the eyes of love. If we, therefore, as human beings made in the image of God also want to see reality rationally, that is, as it truly is, then we, too, must learn to look at what we see with love. - ROBERTA BONDI**

### STEWARDSHIP CORNER

*Time is given equally to everyone,  
but how we use it determines its true value.*

**"Teach us to number our days aright,  
that we may gain a heart of wisdom" (Psalm 90:12).**

**St. Joseph Council  
Of Catholic Women**



*NCCW Affiliate*

**DUNWIDDIE, HEATING,  
PLUMBING & A/C  
824-1999**

Over 25 yrs. Experience  
Commercial & Residential  
Armstrong Furnaces & A/C  
Geo- Open & Close Loops  
Boilers & Floor Heat Systems  
Duct Work & Sheet Metal  
Well & Sump Pumps  
**Doug Dunwiddie, Parishioner**

**Sam Haiflich**  
Auctioneer/Broker

**BKM**  
Real Estate

Sam@bkmauction.com  
Cell: 260-740-7299  
260-824-3982  
260-622-1000



**Sam Haiflich, Parishioner**  
St. Aloysius Parish, Yoder, IN

**FAIRWAY FLOOR COVERING**  
Residential and Commercial  
1503 W. Lancaster St., Bluffton



Charles Thompson  
Kris & Kent  
260-824-3049  
Open by Appointment  
Home: 260-824-0003  
Kris Thompson Cell # 820-2333  
Kent Thompson Cell # 307-6584  
**Kris Thompson, Parishioner**



It's a child, not a  
choice...  
Abortion does not make  
you "un-pregnant", it  
makes you the mother  
of a dead child.

**GORDON & ASSOCIATES,  
P.C.**  
Attorneys

Dan Gordon, Tony Crowell  
Michelle Adler, David Anthony,  
And Matt Hayes

260-824-9377  
**Dan Gordon, Parishioner**



Awesome Hair  
122 N. Johnson St.  
Bluffton, IN  
**Carmie Anderson,  
parishioner**

**The Grover Company**

Property Management  
Fully Licensed and Insured

260-820-0638  
**Bret Grover**



218 S. Main St., Bluffton, IN  
260-824-8112  
**Chuck & Sue Kristek**

Auto & Upholstery Insured / Certified  
Pet Odor Control Free Estimates

**CARPET PLUS**  
**CARPET CLEANING**  
260-824-0821

Residential & Commercial

Gary Mann  
Owner/Operator



2155 N Main St (260) 824-9643  
Interurban Park  
Bluffton, IN 46714

**Daniel's**  
**JEWELERS**

Dan Geimer, Gemologist(GIA)

www.daniels-jewelers.net  
Dan & Jane Geimer Parishioners



**Goodwin - Cale & Harnish**  
**Memorial Chapel**  
3320 East State Road 124  
Bluffton, IN 46714

Carl P. Goodwin - (1922-2008)  
David L. Goodwin  
Douglas L. Cale  
Mitch Harnish

**El Camino Real**

Authentic Mexican Food  
2185 Commerce Dr.,  
Bluffton - 565-3300

Juan & Rosa Ortiz,  
Parishioners



**Creative Threads**  
EMBROIDERY & MORE

KERRY & TRACY COYNE  
Parishioners

3155 S. State Rd.  
Bluffton, Indiana 46714

**CARTER**  
**HEARING CLINICS**

Orchard Crossing  
4716 Illinois Rd., Suite 102  
Fort Wayne, IN 46804

- Hearing Evaluations
- Hearing Aids
- Assistive Listening Devices
- Hearing Protection Devices
- Specialty Hearing Services

Phone: 260-436-6400 • Toll-free number: 877-436-6401  
www.carterhearingclinics.com

Jennifer L. Wagner, AuD  
Doctor of Audiology  
Board Certified in Audiology

LEARN from yesterday  
LIVE for today  
HOPE for tomorrow

**Helping Hands**  
Pregnancy Resource Center

116 E. Dustman Road, Bluffton  
260-824-4263 or  
admin@helpinghandscpc.org  
www.helpinghandscpc.org  
Monday, Tuesday & Thursday from 9-5

109 E. Huntington St., Montpelier  
765-209-4614  
Wednesday & Friday from 10-4

**LARRY E. MOCK**

Attorney at Law  
Wells County Public Defender  
Criminal Law/Family Law  
*Se Habla Espanol*

201 West Market Street  
Bluffton, IN 46714  
(260) 820-2671  
zitros@msn.com  
**Larry E. Mock, Parishioner**

**Knights of Columbus**  
Father Aloysius Phillips Council 7555



**HOTT**  
FAMILY DENTISTRY

Hott Family Dentistry LLC  
Bartholomew L. Hott DDS

706 N Main St  
Bluffton, IN 46714

P: 260-824-2442  
F: 260-824-8101

**Bluffton**  
Family Eye Care

**New Patients Welcome**  
105 West Harvest Road, Bluffton IN  
South Main across from Kroger  
260-824-3424

**Dr. Julayne Miller, Parishioner**

Don't cry because  
it's over  
**Smile**  
because it happened.

**Thoma/Rich, Lemler**  
Funeral Home



*Serving families in  
Wells County for 162 years!*  
308 W. Washington Street • 260-824-3850

**TYEGER'S**  
**PIZZA PARLOUR**

827-  
0700



931 N. MAIN ST.  
BLUFFTON, IN  
(NEXT TO SUBWAY)

WWW.TYEGERSPIZZA.COM

To our men and women  
in uniform...  
past, present and future,



Thank you and  
God Bless You!

Before you speak...

**THINK!**

T - is it true?  
h - is it helpful?  
i - is it inspiring?  
n - is it necessary?  
k - is it kind?



*Guiding You Back On Course*

Email: [Horn.John.Sr@gmail.com](mailto:Horn.John.Sr@gmail.com)  
Phone: 260-433-5544  
Website: HornMediation.com

John Horn MS, MBA- Parishioner

- \* Listed on Indiana Registry of Approved Court Mediators
- \* Member of the Indiana Association of Mediators
- \* No fee for initial consultation

Spread *love*  
everywhere you go.  
Let no one ever  
come to you  
without leaving  
*happier.*

-Mother Teresa