



## The Epiphany of the Lord January 3, 2016

### Mass Intentions

**Sunday**  
8:00 AM ✠ Robert Stallworth  
10:30 AM Living & Deceased of St. Joseph Parish

**Monday**  
8:00 AM ✠ John Popge / Peg Misztal

**Tuesday**  
8:00 AM ✠ Ted Geraets / Florence Wabnitz

**Wednesday**  
8:00 AM ✠ Souls in Purgatory / Florence Wabnitz

**Thursday**  
8:00 AM ✠ Gene Wabnitz / Florence Wabnitz

**Friday**  
8:00 AM Barbara Kunz / Johnnie & Theresa Bryant

**Saturday**  
5:00 PM Rose Hauser (Birthday) / Florence Wabnitz

**Sunday**  
8:00 AM Living & Deceased of St. Joseph Parish  
10:30 AM ✠ Ted Geraets / Helen Fonstad

Please contact the office for Mass intentions for a deceased loved one or for a special intention.

**Office Hours: 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM**

**Please welcome** visiting priests: Rev. Angel Paris will celebrate Mass this week, and Rev. Richard Altenbaugh will celebrate weekend Masses.

### PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR SICK

*Kindly pray for our parish family and all those who are journeying in a special way with Our Lord, Jesus Christ.*



Larry Bovat, Paul **Bruechner**, Patricia Caudill, Deacon Pat Clemens, Ginny Cook, Ed Dubin, Ed & Eleanor Feeney, **Harry Fletcher**, Jo Flynn, Antonietta Geronilla, **June Henderson**, **Dot Holman**, **Margie Kings**, Barbara Kuntz, Joe Lacoy, Cece LaManna, Germaine LaPlante, Mary Link, Monk Manning, Monroe Matheny, **Sara Manning**, Mary Miller, Bob & Margaret Nail, **Vera Patterson**, **Marvin Peterson**, Claire Patton, Marsha Porter, Sr. M. D. Richardson, **Babe Rohan**, **Anita Sanford**, Ruth Sas, Margaret Schaff, Kristie Toohey, **Rick Van Norden**, Bootsie Williams, Mary Woods

### ~ Prayer Requests ~

Terry Danson – 251-961-2165 or tsdanson@gmail.com

### First Friday Memorial Mass Association

Our Loved Ones – Bob & Margaret Nail	✠ James E. Link	Living & Deceased Kilday Family
Living & Deceased Kaiser, Klein & Murphy Families	✠ Deacon John Cartaro	Living & Deceased Chubb & Burns Families
Living & Deceased Scott & Weiss Families		Living & Deceased Fehn Family
Living & Deceased Bush, Alvarez & McAleer Families	✠ Anita Warriner	Living & Deceased Lacoy & Clancy Families
Living & Deceased Mullek & McCandless Families	✠ Joseph LaManna	Living & Deceased Kearns & Paterson Families
Living & Deceased Patton & Norton Families	✠ Doris Mullek	Living & Deceased Altar Society Members
Living & Deceased Shields & Self Families	Mignon Kilday	For the Baptized Who Do Not Practice Their Faith
Living & Deceased Cretaro Family		The Holy Souls in Purgatory

### This Week's Schedule

Sunday	9:00 AM	<b>"Coffee with the Padre"</b>
Sunday	2:00 PM	Benedictine Oblate Holy Hour for vocations – Church Followed by fellowship – IM Hall
Monday	8:30 AM	Rosary Cenacle
Tuesday	8:30 AM	SVdP Meeting – IM Hall
Wednesday	9:00 AM	Adult Faith Formation Bible Study – IM Hall
Wednesday	4:30 PM	Catechism Class – IM Hall
Thursday	8:30 AM	Altar Society Meeting – IM Hall All women are invited.
Thursday	8:00 PM	Knights of Columbus/Auxiliary Meeting at Council Home, Elberta. For more information, call Bill Patton at 850-607-7151 or Peg Slevin at 961-3055.



### ATTENDANCE LAST WEEKEND

5 PM = 56 8 AM = 60 10:30 AM = 115 Total = 231

### STEWARDSHIP

Offertory gift for December 27 = \$2,050.00  
Maintenance = \$125.00

Pray for Fr. Maria as he travels to his hometown in India. If anyone is in need of the Sacraments, please call the church office.

### Archdiocesan Council of Catholic Women (ACCW) Baldwin Deanery Quarterly Luncheon

January 20 – 9:30 AM – Christ the King Church, Daphne. Guest speaker will be Faustin Weber, the first principal of St. Michael's Catholic High School in Fairhope.

For more information and registration, please call Margie Schwieterman at 251-256-0123 by January 16.

### Welcome ~ Thank you for attending Mass with us today.

We welcome all our visitors and new members and invite you to join in the ministries of our parish by sharing your gifts and talents. If you are not currently a registered member and wish to be, please pick up a census card at the church entrances or contact the parish office.

*If you are ill or know someone who is ill, due to have surgery, or is in the hospital and would like a visit from the pastor, please call the rectory.*

## Gospel Reflections

### FINDING GOD

The splendid Magi, all sparkle and dash and solemnity, march right up off the pages of Matthew's Gospel and into our churches today. Matthew alone tells us this grand and seductive story so that we might see the light and know that the child these Magi visited is the fulfillment of prophecy, the king of the world who stretches to the Magi's home country and beyond, right down the ages to us.

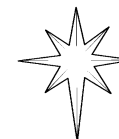
We too see and understand anew. Like the Magi, our patron saints for this day, we see in the newborn child the king of the universe and light of the world. Like the Magi, we find in ourselves a new faith and a new life. Like them, we return to our home by a new route.

We are asked to come away from this festive season ourselves renewed and awake to the presence of God among us. We are asked to find God where God is to be found, to be attentive and surprised and ready to bow down in adoration and to offer our gifts.

### TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

Monday of this week is Christmas Day in Russia and in much of the Orthodox world. This curious difference in schedule has a lot to do with how calendars have been developed and changed over the years. In the year 45 BC, Julius Caesar gave the empire his Julian Calendar, with the winter solstice on January 6. This put an end to a system in which officials called "pontiffs" were able to tweak the calendar by adding in extra days as needed. He invented two new months at that time, December and January, and in order to correct the mess the pontiffs had made, forced a year of 445 days on the empire in what he named "The Last Year of Confusion." The new months varied in number of days according to a complex schedule, but the calendar was still off by nearly twelve minutes a year and lost a full day every 130 years.

Pope Gregory XIII reformed the calendar in 1583, but not everyone appreciated his efforts. England held out for two hundred years. The year 1700 was a leap year in England, but not in France; they were eleven days apart! George Washington was really born on February 11; when the Gregorian calendar was finally adopted in the English colonies shortly before the Revolution, he had to move his birthday to February 22. Now the calendars are thirteen days apart, which accounts for Russia's Julian Calendar Christmas. And Caesar thought he had brought confusion to an end!



### Altar Society Epiphany "Potluck"

Breakfast /meeting - January 7 - 8:45 AM  
All ladies of the parish are welcome.  
Please bring some food to share.

Our guest speaker will be Linda Wilkerson from Globe International. She will bring a lady from Mozambique and explain the reason for their visit. For more information, call Margie Schwieterman at 256-0123.



**"Coffee with the Padre"** – This month the CCD Class will be our host. If you would like to help any of the host groups, please let us know by signing the schedule on the table in the vestibule or calling the office. All are invited to join us "between the Masses" for fellowship every 1st and 3rd Sunday in the Parish Hall.

### KNIGHTS of COLUMBUS PORK ROAST DINNER

January 24, 2016 – 11 AM to 2 PM – K of C Hall Old Foley Rd and US Hwy 98, Elberta – Dine in or carry out. Tickets are on sale after the weekend Masses. Whole roasts are available (pre-sale only) for \$25.

For additional information, please check the flyer on the bulletin board or contact Jim Spencer at 850-384-5037 or spencerjkn@gulftel.com.

**SAINT VINCENT DE PAUL FOOD PANTRY** ~ We are again collecting food. Please place your donations of nonperishable items in the blue container provided in the double classroom. Thank you.

**SPECIAL EPIPHANY CONCERT (Free)** – St. Thomas Moore Church, Pensacola, FL – January 6, 2016 – 5:30 PM – "Journey to the Manger" with guest performers followed by hors d'oeuvres in the Parish Hall. For more information, call 850-456-2543.

**ANNUAL WOMEN'S RETREAT** - "Who Do You Say That I Am?" – January 22-24, 2016 at Blessed Trinity Shrine Retreat, 107 Holy Trinity Rd, Ft. Mitchell, AL. For registration information, call (334) 855-4474.

**Offertory Envelopes** ~ If you are a new parishioner or are not receiving envelopes, they are available in the office. Parish registration cards are available at church entrances. Call the office for information.

### The Old Country Philosopher Sez - Bob Nail

God's grace is ours for the asking  
In our hours of need.  
All we have to do is ask Him  
And His word to heed.

**NOTICE:** The rooms, auditorium and kitchen in Immaculate Mary Hall are available for rent. For more information, please contact the office.