

MUSINGS + MESSAGES

💄 Msgr. John Kasza, Moderator 🖪 frjohn@stol.church

Although Valentine's Day candy is already on the shelves, we are still celebrating Christmas. In fact, the Christmas season doesn't officially end until tomorrow, January 9th, the feast of the Baptism of the Lord. However, some communities still keep the tradition of celebrating Christmas until February 2nd, Candlemas Day, or the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord. In any case, the meaning of Christmas—God becoming flesh and dwelling with us—should be observed every day of the year. God became one of us to show us how to be like God.

Today's celebration is a reminder

that Jesus was not just for the Jewish people. God intended to spread the Good News over the whole earth. The Magi represent the nations of the world to which the Gospel was preached. We are called to be the Magi who seek out the Lord, and once we have found him, take that Good News to whomever we meet.

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Connecting Point

How will I use my gifts to guide others to Jesus?

💄 Ann De Rey, Faith Formation Director - St. Isidore ┥ ann@stisidore.church

So many times in our lives we grow with the need to be like everyone else. We forget that by being unique we have so much more to offer one another. So many of life's experiences are enriched because we share them with people who think differently than us. This causes us to do and see things in a different way.

Today is the Epiphany, where the Magi share with the world that Jesus is the Son of God. The gospel shows the Magi coming together because of their gift from God, the study of astronomy, led them to see the message sent in the night sky. A star had risen and they needed to find the newborn king. I found it interesting that they used all their gifts, interests, and talents to understand God's message. They were intent on guiding each other to Jesus.



I had a youth one day tell me about a lonely man who would come into the hockey arena during practice. The man never had any food. The next time the youth went to practice he bought an extra sandwich, chips and drink. He shared his lunch with the lonely man. He used his gift of empathy to give back and bring another to Jesus.

We are the ones who carry the light, who are called to be welcoming, and we are asked to give our gifts and talents back to Jesus. God has given each of us our own gifts and it is through these gifts that He sends us messages. He may call us at any time to use our talents in the workplace, at church, in other unexpected places or even in our own home. When you hear God call, will you use your gifts to guide others to Jesus?

Musings + Messages (cont'd)

May 2023 be a time of blessing for each of us as we strive to be more open to the Holy Spirit, who has made us into God's sons and daughters. May we seek out the Lord in all of our endeavors and then have the courage to proclaim the message of salvation to everyone we meet. Thank you to all who helped to make the New Year's Eve party a success. Thank you especially to Rebecca Poupard for her vision and creativity in bringing this event to fruition. Also, thank you to all who worked behind the scenes to decorate and prepare the hall as well as those who attended. On Sunday January 8th at 3 PM, the choir will be presenting a Christmas/Epiphany concert. Please plan to attend and celebrate the end of the Christmas season. There are many events planned for the winter. Please look at the bulletin and website for further details.



Have a great week!

A Thought For Us to Ponder and Act Upon...

A real test of a Christian Life is not how much we love our friends, but how much we love our enemies.

Archbishop Fulton John Sheen



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CALENDAR JANUARY 8 - 15



9:00 AM OFFICE HOURS 8 AM MASS 9:45 AM MASS/ CHILDREN'S CHURCH 10:45 AM MARRIAGE MINISTRY GATHERING 11:45 AM MASS/ CHILDREN'S CHURCH



NOM



9:30 AM STRETCH &

STRENGTH

2 PM ROSARY

7-8



8:30 AM MASS 5 PM GROW: GRADES 1-6 5 PM MISSION: GRADES 7-8 6:30 PM GROW: GRADES 1-6 6:30 PM MISSION: GRADES

7-8

8:30 AM MASS 9:30 AM STRETCH & STRENGTH 5:30 PM CHOIR REHEARSALS 6:30 PM CATECHISM IN A YEAR DISCUSSION

PH 12

9:00 AM OFFICE HOURS

8:30 AM **MASS**

9 AM EUCHARISTIC ADORATION 9:30 AM CATECHISM IN A YEAR DISCUSSION



8:30 AM MASS 9:30 AM STRETCH & STRENGTH



3:00 PM OFFICE HOURS 4:30 PM MASS



9:00 AM OFFICE HOURS

8 AM MASS 9:40 AM LITTLE LAMBS 9:45 AM MASS/ CHILDREN'S CHURCH 10:45 AM MARRIAGE

MINISTRY GATHERING 11:40 AM LITTLE LAMBS

11:45 AM MASS/ CHILDREN'S CHURCH 1 PM BAPTISM 1:30 PM SUNDAY CARD PLAYING



Pre-planning Funeral Arrangements

Health Ministry | & Marilyn Cito, Parish Nurse A marilync@stol.church

Having a discussion with family members or friends about death and/pre-planning is probably one of the hardest things we will ever do in our lifetime. But yet, when the time comes, having everything planned will make it much easier for our loved ones.

Discussing end-of-life arrangements is emotionally challenging for both parties, but having these conversations sooner than later will leave everyone involved in a more comfortable position in the future. These conversations should take place while we are still healthy and not sick, so there is time to put thought into the decisions that are made.

There is no right or wrong way to have this conversation and sometimes the hardest part is initiating the discussion. One way to start the conversation might be to tell your loved ones you have been thinking about your end-oflife wishes and would like to discuss it with them. If your family and

friends have a hard time with this conversation and do not want to talk about it, it might be helpful to consider sitting down with a funeral director/cemetery representative to help facilitate the conversation.

Once you have had discussion with your family and friends and feel you would like to formalize your end-or-life wishes, you may want to contact a funeral director/cemetery representative to preplan your funeral services. They will help plan your funeral and burial arrangements and make sure when the time comes, family and friends will have peace in knowing that end-of-life wishes will be carried out and that all costs have been covered.

If you decide not to preplan your funeral with a funeral director/ cemetery representative, having end-of-life wishes documented is important so your loved ones can refer to it when making arrangements. Recording specific wishes in a planning guide, on paper, or online will be invaluable

in ensuring your wishes are met. To assist St. Therese of Lisieux parishioners, we have prepared a pre-planning funeral package which documents your preferences. These folders are now available in the parish office.

Keeping important, up-to-date documents and keepsakes organized in a known location, and up to date, will help the designated person managing your affairs. Better yet, if you feel comfortable doing so, take the time to review this information with them, so they have a better understanding of what they will need to know when the time comes.

God Bless and Stay Well!

References

[•] https://www.thegardens.com/how-to-talk-about-funeral-planning-with-friends, Garden of Boca Raton Cemetery and Funeral Home, How to Talk with Friends about Pre-planning Funerals, Marshall Jacobs, Estate Planning, April 5, 2019.

[•] www.aarp.org/home-family/friends-family/info-2020/ planning-your-own-funeral.html, Help Your Family Plar Your Funeral Far in Advance, Lynda Clugston Webster, AARP, August 13, 2020.

www.mtelliot.com/resurrection. The Benefits of Preplanning, 2022.

Discipleship Formation

🙎 Peggy Casing, Discipleship Formation Director 🛛 🚀 peggyc@stol.church

Walking the Path

If you read my article last week, there, I shared that I will be discussing the meaning of each of the four separate ways to experience Christ's presence in the Mass in my next few articles. We'll discuss them in this order: 1. In the proclamation of the Word; 2. In the community that is gathered; 3. In the person of the priest; 4. In the Real Presence of the Eucharist. We start, now, with how we experience Jesus in the proclamation of the Word, but maybe I better expand that statement to include the Trinity. Let me explain.



Recently, I took a class where Dr. Robert Fastiggi stressed the unity of the One, True God. He mentioned that God. in God's entirety is present in every sacrament. Even if we humans focus in on one person of the Trinity. like praying to Jesus, for example, it is all three Persons of the Trinity who are present. That reality is important as we discuss Jesus' presence at Mass. The General Instruction of the Roman Missal (GIRM) shares that it is "when the Sacred Scriptures are read in the Church. God himself speaks to his people, and Christ, present in his word, proclaims the

Gospel" (GIRM, no. 29). How can this be? While I could say that it is one of the mysteries of the faith, that statement is a copout. How I have come to understand this presence is in a way that cannot fully explain it, but can give us a fraction of the deeper reality by relating it to our lived experience.

I have come to understand God's presence in the reading and hearing of the scriptures at Mass by equating it to the sharing of the foundational stories of a family when they are gathered. Just like hearing the story of an uncle who lived

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

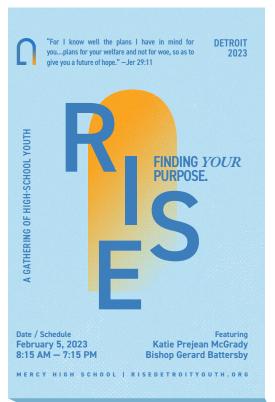
a tough life "back in the old country" and chose to immigrate to the United States conveys the backstory and reason that a family is gathered together today, the scriptures provide the "backstory" and the "reason" for the people of faith. Further, in hearing the stories of a family, we keep the stories "alive" and we make those long lost relatives present in a way that, at times, can feel palpable. Obviously, this explanation provides a pale comparison between something easy to understand and a much deeper reality. However, I have found it helpful to think about the importance of family stories and that urgency of wanting to know more and to tell those stories to future generations as I hear the scriptures read at Mass. If we think about the stories of our own family, we can easily see why the Jewish people, and then the first Christians, felt the urgency to write down all of those important stories of their history. It is such a blessing to be able to share them during our worship.

For a great article on the topic, search online for the US bishop's website and "Hearing the Word of God." Also know that I am happy to research and discuss any topic on faith, spirituality, or Church teaching. Reach out to me if you have something that you'd like to hear more about.



Group Mission Trip

Limited spots are still available for your teen. A nonrefundable \$50/person deposit is needed immediately. Please make checks out to St. Therese of Lisieux with note "2023 Teen Mission Trip" and bring to the office. For questions call Paul Candela at (810) 523-6818 or email candelas@wowway.com.



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RISE! Detroit February 5, 2023

In the spirit of Unleash the Gospel, high school youth, and chaperones, are invited to attend RISE Detroit 2023 at Mercy High School. The theme is Finding Your Purpose.

The speakers include Katie Prejean McGrady, Bishop Battersby, Fr. Adam Nowak, Fr. Craig Giera, and Sr. Felicity Madigan! Activities include keynotes, powerful praise and worship experiences, two breakout sessions, small group discussion, and Liturgy! Tickets are \$35/participant, including lunch and dinner. Sign up before January 6 to receive a 25% discount! **risedetroityouth.org**

EVENTS



SUN | JANUARY 8 | 3 PM EPIPHANY CONCERT Wrap up the Christmas Season by

joining us at 3:00 for our annual

Epiphany concert.



SUN | JANUARY 8 | AFTER MASSES

PANCAKE BREAKFAST / BAKE SALE

K of C breakfast includes a variety of pancakes, scrambled eggs, sausage, french toast and biscuits and gravy. Stop in after Mass and have a great breakfast with your friends. A free-will donation (\$5 minimum) is requested. The Knights will also have a bake sale in the Gathering Space. Donations for baked goods are appreciated. All proceeds for both go to support our local special needs organizations.



WED OR THURS | BEGINNING JANUARY 11

CATECHISM IN A YEAR DISCUSSION GROUP

Watch, listen, or read along with Fr. Mike Schmitz' *Catechism in a Year* (go to Ascension Press for details) and then join us on the second and fourth Wednesday of each month from 6:30-8:00 PM, or the second and fourth Thursday from 9:30-11:00 AM, to discuss the information that Fr. Mike has covered, and to expand upon it! To ensure we have enough supplies, please be sure to register for the discussion. To register or get more info, go to:

stol.church/catechism-in-a-year

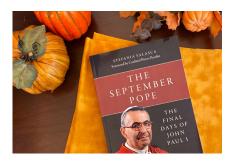


TUES | JANUARY 17 - MARCH 21 | 9:30 AM

WHAT WE BELIEVE

The Catholic Church is extraordinary. It is where we encounter God in His Word, His sacraments, and His saints. Wherever you may be in your faith journey, you will be profoundly moved by the beauty and the richness of the Catholic Church. Sign up: online or in the Parish Office Cost: \$30.00 due at first session Meeting: Tuesdays // 9:30-11:00 AM 10 Sessions: 1/17/23 - 3/21/23 More info: Peggy: (586) 254-4433 x308 or peggyc@stol.church

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THURS | JANUARY 19 | 10 AM BOOK CLUB

Join us for our next gathering when we'll discuss, *The September Pope: The Final Days of John Paul I*, by Stefania Falasca. The author conducted painstaking research into what actually happened to the man that was called "the smiling pope," but only served a little more than a month in that position. All Book Club members are encouraged to join us from 10:00-11:30 AM, combining our morning and evening groups into one daytime gathering. Questions, contact Peggy Casing.



THURS | JANUARY 19 | 12 - 5 PM

BLOOD DRIVE

January is National Blood Donor Month and we hope to help the national blood shortage by hosting a blood drive at St. Therese. Please call (866) 642-5663 or sign up at https://donate.michigan.versiti. org/donor/schedules/ drive_schedule/150712. Please help us achieve our goal!



SAT | JANUARY 21 | DOORS OPEN AT 6:15 PM | TOURNAMENT BEGINS AT 7:00

EUCHRE TOURNAMENT

Tickets on sale in the Parish Office or online. \$20 ticket includes: pizza, wine, beer, pop & dessert. Bring your quarters for euchres. 50/50 raffle available. Money raised to benefit the teen mission trip this summer.



TUES | JANUARY 24 - MARCH 21 | 1 PM

GRIEF SUPPORT

This class is designed for people who have suffered the loss of a spouse, family member or close friend. The course is focused on hope and healing of loved ones. Open to "new" and "previous" participants. RSVP to the Parish Office at (586) 254-4433, Marilyn Cito at (586) 254-4433 Ext 320, or Marilync@stol. church. Cost: Free



SAT | JANUARY 28 | 5:30 PM DOORS OPEN, 6 PM DINNER

PASTA DINNER FOR VOCATIONS

Our K of C will be holding its annual Antonio G. Vittorini Memorial Pasta Dinner for Vocations in honor of our late State Secretary who worked so diligently for the seminarians. The proceeds will go to help our seminarians in their formation towards a vocation. Stop in with your family for a great dinner and meet some of the seminarians who will be joining us. Cost: free-will donation (cash and credit cards accepted).



BEGINNING SUN, JAN 29 AT 1 PM OR THURS, FEB 2 AT 7 PM

THE SEARCH

The world is changing, but the essential human questions remain the same. *Who am I? What do I want? Is there a point to my life?* The Search is an innovative video series that tackles these question. In seven episodes hosted by our own Chris Stefanick and features other experts that examine our place in the larger story of existence. Join us for this 7-week series. Cost: \$20 (includes workbook) Register online or parish office.



TUES | JANUARY 31 | 6 PM

HAVING PRO-LIFE CONVERSATIONS

Northern Macomb Young Adult Catholics and Right to Life of Michigan welcomes people of all ages to come learn about initiating and navigating pro-life conversations. Admission is free, but donations of diapers and wipes are appreciated. Location: St. Therese



SAT | FEB 4 | 7:00 PM

CUPID'S COMEDY NIGHT

Come share a night of love, laughter and some wine and sweets for a perfect date. Glen Tickle is a nationally renowned comedian and writer. His acts mix observational humor, geek talk, and raising two daughters giving him a treasure trove of comedy gold! This event will sell out and tickets will not be sold at the door so get yours today! Cost: \$60 per couple Ticket includes: beer, wine, desserts, appetizers & lots of laughs. Doors open at 6:30 PM

coming soon...

SAT | FEB 4 | 8:30 AM YOU ARE CALLED - ENCOUNTER RETREAT SUN | FEB 12 | AFTER ALL MASSES SUNDAY, SOUPER BOWL OF CARING

FRI - SUN | FEB 24 - 26 REFLECT RETREAT

We pray for the sick...

Adhikary, Erica Adhikary, Holden **Baby Scarlett** Bacheldor, Mary Basirico, Michelle Beaulieu, Don Beaulieu, Michael Beaulieu, Ted Beninati, Patricia Binkowski, Madeleine Blaisdell, Sr. Jim Boddy, Dorothy Brandt, Charlie Burden, Mark Denton, Eden Donofrio, Sam Fisher, Ann Fox, Diana France, Jim France, Jim Fuelling, Ethan Geiger, Betty Gorny, Theresa Grace, John Greathouse, Diana Greathouse, Paul Haigh, Jim Heinrich, Chuck Horn, Fr. Joe Jachcik, Brad Jachcik, James Jachcik, Nancy Kmiec. Eileen Kurti, Antonio Kurti, Violeta Lavers, Karen Lawroski, Karen Leo, Norman Leonardi, Jeffrey LoPiccolo, Nick Mackowiak. Elaine Maliskey, Barbara Maliskey, Larry Marino, Richard Martin, Daniel Montpas, Marylou Mooney-Hill, Marilyn Moreno, Nancy Morrison, Landon Morrison, Landon

Neesley, Ann Ninneman, Pauline Novak, Carol Oleszkowicz, Bonnie Oliver, Clare Papp, Kimberly Parisi, Vita Pasque, Evelyn Patterson, David Pattison, Mary Pelc, Jeff Peuterbaugh, Nancy Polidori, Santino Pollic, Lucy Poma, Theresa Quni, Vittore Reed, Steel Reynolds, Mildred Roberts, Brenda Ryan, Mary S. Catherine Sandstrom, Patricia Sawa, Omar Schumacher Family Seta, Claudia Shepherd, Chase Shock Family Shock, Payton Hope Shumaker, Natalie Snodgrass, Doris Sommerville, Bill Sorel, Jason Spencer, Jeanne Sterling, Carol Sterling, George Tamulevich, David Theut, Bill Tiedt, Tom Tranchida, Melody Tuchowski, Gloria VanDerhagen, Barbara VanDerhagen, Rich VanDerhagen, Rick Veilleux, Becky Victor, Fr. Ron Wigginton, Jim Wigginton, Jim Willis, Rose Woodruff. Ruth

Young, MaryJane

Ministry Schedule

SAT | JAN 14 4:30 PM

Lector 1: Erin Lenzini Lector 2: Volunteer Needed Altar Servs: Mary Anne O., Emma O., Carter O., Faith O. Usher Team 4: Tomaz Dopico

SUN | JAN 15 8:00 AM

Lector 1: Paul Wilhelm Lector 2: Marilyn Kylmala Altar Servs: Colton D., Phil D. Usher Team 1: Ann King

SUN | JAN 15 9:45 AM

Lector 1: Jayne Thomas Lector 2: Jim Thomas Altar Servs: Ava P., Christian P. Usher Team 2: Sam Guzzardo

SUN | JAN 15 11:45 AM

Lector 1: Norma DiGregorio Lector 2: Fiorino DiGregorio Altar Servs: Anna N., Chika N., Chioma N. Usher Team 3: Bob Pazdzierz

Mass Intentions

SAT. JAN 7 4:30 PM

- + William & Julia Silarski
- **†** Alfred Saam
- **†** Joe Basirico
- Dave Sabol
- Mamie Abbruzzese
- + Antonio G. Vittorini

SUN. JAN 8 8:00 AM

- **†** George & Peggy Ciolli
- David Kuptz, Jr. (25th Anniv)
- **†** Judy Brusate
- Liz Swartz

SUN. JAN 8 9:45 AM

- 🕇 Antonia Batty
- **†** Dave Farnan (Bday)
- **†** Mr. & Mrs. Ronald Wood
- **†** Joyce Coppens
- **†** Rose Louise Pompeo
- 🕇 Maria Bonetti
- Michael Hiddings
- **†** Edwin Wiegand

SUN. JAN 8 11:45 AM

- Leslie Haggato
- Michael Shamoon
- 🕇 Susu Hajji
- 🕇 Alan Isaak
- James Boggio (32nd Anniv)
- **†** Maria Nguyen (1st Anniv)
- **†** Beverly A. Sampson

TUES. JAN 10 8:30 AM Vocations to the Priesthood

vocations to the Priesthood

WED. JAN 11 8:30 AM

THURS. JAN 12 8:30 AM † Dolores Garavaglia

FRI. JAN 13 8:30 AM

Scott Dekoski (Bday)
 Claudia Haarz (Healing)

SAT. JAN 14 4:30 PM

- Alfred Saam
- **†** Margaret Mary Adams
- **†** Joe Basirico
- **†** Deacon Jerome Campernel
- Rosemarie Boggio (24th Anniv)
- Agnes Dang (1st Anniv)
- I Joe Schulte (8th Anniv)
- Mamie Abbruzzese
- **†** Sophie Pasternak

SUN. JAN 15 8:00 AM Liz Swartz

† James Zmich

SUN. JAN 15 9:45 AM

- Pietro Antonuccio
- **†** Henry O'Parka (Bday)
- **†** Dave Farnan

SUN. JAN 15 11:45 AM

- 🕇 Simon Vo
- **†** Joseph Stephen

Readings

SUNDAY

Is 60:1-6; Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13; Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6; Mt 2:1-12

MONDAY

Is 42:1-4, 6-7 or Acts 10:34-38; Ps 29:1-2, 3-4, 3, 9-10; Mt 3:13-17

TUESDAY

Heb 2:5-12; Ps 8:2ab & 5, 6-7, 8-9; Mk 1:21-28

WEDNESDAY

Heb 2:14-18; Ps 105:1-2, 3-4, 6-7, 8-9; Mk 1:29-39

THURSDAY Heb 3:7-14;

Ps 95:6-7c, 8-9, 10-11; Mk 1:40-45

FRIDAY Heb 4:1-5, 11;

Ps 78:3 & 4bc, 6c-7, 8; Mk 2:1-12

SATURDAY

Heb 4:12-16; Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 15; Mk 2:13-17

SUNDAY

Is 49:3, 5-6; Ps 40:2, 4, 7-8, 8-9, 10; 1 Cor 1:1-3; Jn 1:29-34

Richard Saurine

Get In Touch

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Office Hours

Monday - Thursday 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM Friday Closed Saturday 3:00 PM - 6:00 PM Sunday 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM Lunch 12 - 1 PM (Mon-Thurs)

Bulletin Question?

Please direct all inquiries to Matt: bulletin@stol.church

Content is due ten days in advance and must be submitted online at **stol.church/bulletin**