
St. John is a Stewardship Parish

January 4, 2015
The Epiphany of the Lord

Saturday, January 3, 2015

4:00 – Parishioners of St. John

Sunday, January 4, 2015

8:00 – Parishioners of St. John

10:30 – Addison Barrett – 6th Anniversary

6:00 – Parishioners of St. John

Saturday, January 10, 2015

4:00 – Parishioners of St. John

Sunday, January 11, 2015

8:00 – Gene Biagi – 32nd Anniversary

10:30 – Angelina & Antonio Chaves – 3rd Ann.

6:00 – Parishioners of St. John

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Carol A. Power whose funeral Mass was celebrated December 22, 2014

Important Dates

Sun. 1-4-15 – TEEN MASS

Wed. 1/7/15 – PPC Meeting – 7 PM

Sat. 1/10/15 – Christmas Pageant – 5 PM

Thurs. 1/1/15 – Solemnity of Mary – Holy Day of Obligation – Masses at 9:00 am & 7 pm

Sun. 1/11/15 – Prayer Shawl Mtg. – 3 PM

Fri. 1/16/15 – Ski Trip to Waterville

Sun. 1-25-15 – 4th Gr. Mass for Class – 10:30

Please keep the following in your prayers:

Pam Adornato, Mei Connelly, Bill Monaghan, Nancy Belisle, Ann Storti, Karen Debenedictis, Henry “Harry” Wedge, Harry Hewins, Floyd Weaver, Barbara O’Hear, Christopher MacDonald, Kim Santagata, Ann Sullivan, Jean Lavin, Jeannette Shalginewicz, Gary Saccocia, Elaine McKeon, Kirra Lee Callahan, Teresa Barris, Joseph Recco, The Shearing Family, Bill Osborne, Alex Hankey, Bob Cass, Edie & Howard Lincoln, Jean Tilden, Dorothy Romano, Chris Golden, Joe Zbinski & The residents of Sachem & Westview.

If you know of anyone who should be included or taken off the prayer list, please let the Rectory know.



St John’s Parish Presents
The Nativity Story Christmas Pageant

Saturday, January 10th
5:00 – 6:00
In the Hall

Presented by members of our new Youth Ministry

*Our Shared Treasure
December 21, 2014*

	<i>Last week</i>	<i>Yr-to-date</i>
Collection	\$ 7,641.00	\$134,020.72
Budgeted:	\$ 5,784.31	\$144,607.80
Excess/Short	\$ 1,013.69	\$ 10,587.08

Due to printing deadlines, Our Shared Treasure will be reported in up-coming bulletins.
Thank you for your continued generosity.

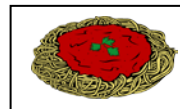
2nd Collection –Jan. 11, 2015 – Utility & Energy

Congratulations to three members of our parish who received Confirmation last month.

Kim McNeil, Nicole West, Rachel Hardy



Meal Train



We are organizing a meal train for a parishioner who is very ill with two small children.

A meal train is the act of organizing meal-giving around significant life events. When a friend is in need, everyone says "What can I do to help out?" The answer is usually to help them with a meal. When many friends give a meal, this is a meal train.

The purpose is to lend a helping hand to a parishioner who is battling a serious illness.
If you would like to join our Meal Train, please contact Debbie at the Rectory.

Bible Study Group

Opening up Scripture on a regular basis is so important for the growth in our faith life. We listen to the Word being unfolded for us when we attend Mass but how often do we take the time and discuss that readings amongst ourselves. St. John the Evangelist is starting a Bible Study group that will meet Monday evenings from 7 to 8PM in the Religious Education office which is located in the basement of the church. The group will be facilitated by Deacon Joe Hopgood and is open to anyone who wishes to attend. Don't worry about the depth of your scriptural knowledge, this is a discussion group, come and explore God's word with us. The first meeting is Monday January 5 at 7PM and we will be exploring the "Gospel according to Mark". If you are interested in attending just send an email to "deaconjoeh@comcast.net"



My Dear Friends in Christ,

According to the dictionary, an “epiphany” (from the Greek “epiphania”) is an “appearance or manifestation especially of a divine being” or “a usually sudden perception of the essential nature or meaning of something”. One often speaks of having an “epiphany” when they have been wrestling with a dilemma and come upon a solution that, often times, was right in front of them. An epiphany of this sort brings about a sense of relief, if not outright joy. A problem solved, one can then move on to other things.

Either of the above definitions fit into our celebration on this day’s Feast of the Epiphany. It has been held traditionally that on this day, the Magi appeared at the manger, paying homage to the child Jesus. They came bearing gifts (a bit of an impromptu “baby shower”, if you will!) of gold, frankincense and myrrh. The “manifestation” is that of the Christ Child, who holds the promise of salvation for all. In approaching the manger, I’m sure the Magi were overwhelmed with a sense of that “essential nature” not only of the Messiah, but of themselves. Their purpose was two-fold: not only to pay homage to the Child Jesus, whose birth had been foretold, but also to gather information for Herod and report back to him all that they had seen. Upon seeing the child, they are given another “sign” of God’s handiwork in this moment: a dream which tells them not to go back to Herod, but to depart for home by another route. Why? Because the intentions of Herod are not to pay homage but to do harm to the infant Jesus; Herod sees Jesus as a threat to his reign. And well he should – Jesus has come into the world to re-establish on earth God’s Kingdom. This Kingdom, based not on power but service, not domination but peace, is one that Herod cannot understand or by which he can abide. He must eliminate the threat of Jesus so as to maintain power.

The gifts themselves are a “manifestation”, a sign of things to come. The gift of gold, befitting a king, is a reminder of Jesus as Messiah and King of all Creation. The gift of frankincense is one which befits Jesus “priest and prophet”, for this was often used by the temple priests and rabbis to signify prayers “rising” to heaven. The myrrh (a balm used to prepare a body for burial) was a bit enigmatic, as it signifies Jesus’ death (yes, a rather odd gift for a baby!), a death which He would offer for the world. This “trinity” of gifts, brought to the manger, is meant to bring the mission of Jesus to the forefront. Even in the manger, Jesus’ destiny is set; He has been “ordained” by the Father to carry out His plan of salvation for all. Jesus – priest, prophet and king – has been sent to us to restore the relationship broken by sin.

In this Feast of the Epiphany, may we come to our own realizations of the “essential nature” of God in Christ Jesus. May we continue to seek out the Child, just as the Magi did, so as to pay Him homage. May God’s love, made flesh in the Christ, reside in and resonate from our hearts. May this feast be for us a true “epiphany” of faith so that we may continue to grow in faith, hope and love!

Happy Christmas Season,

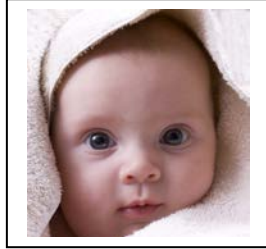
Fr. Paul

The Pro-Life Committee will host the annual parish Baby Shower from Tuesday, December 28th through Sunday, January 25th. All donations will assist mothers in need within the Archdiocese who have chosen life for their babies. Items needed are listed below:

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|-----------------------|------------------|
| Disposable diapers | Diaper bags |
| Crib Sheets | Baby towels |
| Sleep n Play sleepers | Nightgowns |
| Baby Bottles | Blanket Sleepers |

- Receiving Blankets
- Rattles, Pacifiers, Teethers
- Toiletries ie...Wipes, rash ointment, baby shampoo

- Baby soap, baby lotion, powder,
- Baby nail clippers,
- Baby thermometers.



Christmas Flower Donations

Remembrances:

Mr. & Mrs. Angelo Sarcia

Mr. William Gentilella

Primavera & Penney Families

Our loved Ones

Paul Norman & John McCarthy

The Kelliher & Sullivan Family

Christopher Thompson, Matthew Hatch, &

Our loved ones

Luis Lombardi, Riley Politano, & Cayden Politano

BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP

(Third Monday of Each Month – 4:00-5:00 p.m. at East Bridgewater Council on Aging)

There are so many losses that may affect us in our lives. So many times we do not know what to do with our feelings of grief and wonder if we are “normal.” This group is for anyone who is living with loss due to the death of a loved one. This could be a family member or a friend. This group is a safe place to meet and talk about the one you love. The group meets the third Monday of each month. For more information please call Vicki Wagner at Beacon Hospice at 508-324-1900. **(In January the meeting will be on the 12th and in February on the 9th. The dates have been changed due to holiday.)**