

ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

200 Front Street, Pierce City, MO 65723

January 8, 2023 - The Epiphany of the Lord

St. Mary's Catholic Church

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St. Mary's Catholic School

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SCHEDULE OF MASSES FOR JANUARY 7 - JANUARY 15

ST. MARY'S

Saturday	4:00 p.m.	+Betty Rakoski
Sunday	8:30 a.m.	+Bill Seufert
Monday	8:15 a.m.	Rosary & Communion Service
Wednesday	8:15 a.m.	+Lillian Heese
Friday	8:15 a.m.	+Stan Whitman
Saturday	4:00 p.m.	+Charlotte Sloan
Sunday	8:30 a.m.	+Edmund Fenske

ST. AGNES

Tues.	8:30 a.m.
Thurs.	8:30 a.m.
Sun.	10:30 a.m.

EVENTS OF THE WEEK:

Sunday, January 8

Solemnity of The Epiphany of The Lord

Monday, January 9

Feast of The Baptism of the Lord

Wednesday, January 11

6:15 p.m. PSR Classes

St. Mary's Parish Council Meeting at 6:30 p.m. in C.R.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Monday, January 16

8:15 a.m. Rosary and Communion Service

Tuesday, January 17

Memorial of Saint Anthony, Abbot

Wednesday, January 18

8:15 a.m. Mass

6:15 p.m. PSR Classes

Friday, January 20

8:15 a.m. Mass

Saturday, January 21

Feast of Saint Agnes, Virgin & Martyr

OUR GIFT TO GOD LAST WEEK: Collection Counters in January: Bonnie Parrigon and Glen Carver

Our weekly budget is \$7,800.00

Last Week's Collection: \$ 4703.00

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

PLEASE KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS Finley Tate McPhereon, Linda Cochran King, Melissa Cahalan, Kayla (Deickhoff) Thomas, Jack Parrigon, Andrea Kristek, and all the sick and shut-ins of our parish.

THANK YOU: Words cannot express how grateful I am for all the prayers, cards, thoughts, generosity, texts, phone calls, and various acts of love and kindness shown to me over the past months. Melissa Cahalan

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS: The secretary will be in the office on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. If you need something on Mondays or Thursdays just call the church number if she does not answer leave a message and she will return your phone call.

END OF YEAR CONTRIBUTION TAX LETTER: If you would like a copy of your contributions for the 2022 year, please print your name on the sign-up sheet in the back of church. (If you have already signed-up to get your tax letter in the back of church your name will have a check mark by it, and your letter will be in the back of church.)

PCCW NEWS: Attention Ladies. It's time to pay our annual dues of \$10. If you don't receive church envelopes simply put your money in an envelope and label it PCCW. One of the ways your dues help is with funeral dinners. Recently we updated the circles. We realize that often times you cannot be present to help with your circle's dinner but perhaps you might be able to help at another time. We've decided to create a substitute list of helpers that might be able to help at random times. If you would like your name on this list please call or text Bonnie Parrigon at 417-489-3866. Bless you for this. Our last bit of news for January is about the annual Valentine's Day Tea at Holy Family Church in Shell Knob. It will be held on Feb. 14 at 11:00. If you are interested in attending please call or text Bonnie. Registration will close by Jan. 25. Thank you.

NOTES FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK:

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

The school is back in full swing after a nice break or the holiday. Thank you to everyone for the support of our little school in 2022. May your new year be full of blessings.

APPOINTMENTS

If you are unable to make your appointment, please find a replacement

Saturday, January 14 4:00 p.m. Mass

Readers: Madeline Ceselski, Beverly Miller

Servers: Charlie Jones, Layla Jones

E.M.: Bonnie Parrigon

Ushers: Doug Sloan, Michael Sloan, Doug Witt, Bryan Stellwagen

Sunday, January 15 8:30 a.m. Mass

Readers: Rachele Brown, Jennifer Eaton

Servers: Ambreia Brattin, Brock Flehmer

E.M.: Rachele Brown, Jennifer Eaton (Choir)

Ushers: Ian Brottlund, Jimmy Conley, Levi Cooper, Jesse Cooper

Good News

INSPIRATION FOR DAILY LIFE

Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord

Isaiah 60:1-6
Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-13
Ephesians 3:2-3, 5-6
Matthew 2:1-12

Monday January 9 **Baptism of the Lord**

Isaiah 42:1-4, 6-7
or Acts 10:34-38
Ps 29:1-4, 9-11b
Matthew 3:13-17

Tuesday January 10

Hebrews 2:5-12
Ps 8:2ab, 5-9
Mark 1:21-28

Wednesday January 11

Hebrews 2:14-18
Ps 105:1-4, 6-9
Mark 1:29-39

Thursday January 12

Hebrews 3:7-14
Ps 95:6-11
Mark 1:40-45

Friday January 13

Hebrews 4:1-5, 11
Ps 78:3, 4bc, 6c-8
Mark 2:1-12

Saturday January 14

Hebrews 4:12-16
Ps 19:8-10, 15
Mark 2:13-17

Let's consider the humble adoration of the magi for the Christ child. The magi were Gentiles, and the Greek word "magi" meant oriental scientists. Despite sometimes being translated as "astrologers", their visit to the manger does not validate astrology.

Because they were not Jews, their determination to meet the Jewish savior says much about what the word "epiphany" means. The magi are good examples of believing in the importance of Jesus even without understanding what it would mean to them personally or to the rest of the world.

They worshiped Jesus as a King-Messiah before they knew how he would become king or how his kingship would save the world from evil. As scientific scholars, they had studied religious writings from beyond the scope of their own culture.

Then, they acted on faith in response to the Spirit of God who activated them, and it changed their lives.

Only the Spirit of God can move someone to have faith, because faith is a gift of the Holy Spirit (see 1 Corinthians 12). The word "epiphany" means discovery, a revelation that changes our lives. Epiphanies are gifts from God as he collaborates with our desire for new growth.

We can imagine how the magi felt when they experienced an epiphany in the presence of the Christ child.



Although they did not understand how this baby from a poor family could become king, they remembered him for the rest of their lives and listened for news from the land of Israel about Jesus. We know that they heard about his crucifixion and learned what his followers were teaching about it, for they became Christians – their relics have been venerated since very early times.

Reflect & Discuss:

† What sign from God, like the star that the magi followed, are you waiting to see?

† What signs is God already showing you?

† What epiphany – new understanding – is Jesus giving you about what God is doing in your life?

† God has given you faith to believe in Jesus as the Messiah. How do you act on this faith? And how do these actions evangelize non-believers?