

ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

200 Front Street, Pierce City, MO 65723

January 3, 2021 - 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 2- JANUARY 10

ST. MARY'S

Saturday	4:00 p.m.	St. Mary's Parish Family
Sunday	8:30 a.m.	St. Mary's Parish Family
Monday	8:15 a.m.	Rosary & Communion Service
Wednesday	8:15 a.m.	Justice & Peace
	7:30 p.m.	+Deceased Members of the Knights of Columbus
Friday	8:15 a.m.	Poor Souls in Purgatory
Saturday	4:00 p.m.	+Maury McDunner
Sunday	8:30 a.m.	+Frances & Mildred Witt

ST. AGNES

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

EVENTS OF THE WEEK:

Monday, January 4	Memorial of Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton Rosary & Communion Service 8:15 a.m.
Tuesday, January 5	St. Mary's School back in session
Wednesday, January 6	PSR/CCD Classes Resume 6:15 p.m. to 7:15 p.m. Knights of Columbus Meeting at 8:00 p.m. in the C.R.
Sunday, January 10	Feast of the Baptism of the Lord

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Monday, January 11	Rosary & Communion Service 8:15 a.m.
Wednesday, January 13	8:15 a.m. Mass PSR/CCD Classes 6:15 p.m. to 7:15 p.m. 6:30 p.m. Mass Parish Council Meeting at 7:00 p.m. in the C.R.
Friday, January 15	8:15 a.m. Mass

OUR GIFT TO GOD LAST WEEK: Collection Counters in January:

Our weekly budget is \$7,800.00 Last Week's Collection: \$ 11,814.00 Seminary Collection: \$622.00

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

PLEASE KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS Fr. Peter J. Morciniec (He is recovering from cataract surgery), Peggy Heidlage, Jerry Gasser, Charlotte Sloan, Louise Bellm and all the sick and shut-ins of our parish.

END OF YEAR CONTRIBUTION TAX LETTER: If you would like a copy of your end of year contribution letter for 2019, please print your name on the sign-up sheet in the back of church.

BECAUSE OF YOUR GENEROSITY, we are now overloaded with egg cartons! We have reached our capacity to store them and must ask that until further notice, please recycle or store them at home. Your support of the Pantry and Community Kitchen is very much appreciated. We would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

THANK YOU to Father Matt for providing spiritual guidance to us and for his friendship, to the ladies who teach the Catholic faith to our youth, to our organist and choir for filling our church with lovely music, to our parish council members who play an active role in our parish and help maintain it, to the PCCW for providing meals for parish gatherings and in times of sorrow and for cleaning the church, to the cemetery committee who keep the cemetery records and the lawn looking lovely, to the ladies that clean the altar linens and provide beautiful flowers for the altars. Thank you to everyone who contributes their time, talents and monetary donations to our parish. We are truly blessed!! May you all have a happy, healthy and prosperous new year!

PRAYER FOR STUDENTS

May they grow in grace and in the knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Glory be to him now and to the day of eternity! Amen

JANUARY APPOINTMENTS

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

Saturday, Jan. 9 4:00 p.m. Mass

Readers: Madeline Ceselski, Beverly Miller
Ushers: Bryan Stellwagen, Philip Gollhofer

Saturday, Jan. 16 4:00 p.m. Mass

Readers: Madeline Ceselski, Beverly Miller
Ushers: Bill Seufert, Michael Abramovitz

Saturday, Jan. 23 4:00 p.m. Mass

Readers: Beverly Miller, Madeline Ceselski
Ushers: Larry Carver, Leonard Fenske

Saturday, Jan. 23 4:00 p.m. Mass

Readers: Beverly Miller, Madeline Ceselski
Ushers: Tom Cahalan, Tommy Cahalan

Sunday, Jan. 10 8:30 a.m. Mass

Readers: Cody Washam, Michael Myers
Ushers: Dereck Washam, Rick Washam

Sunday, Jan. 17 8:30 a.m. Mass

Readers: Rachele Brown, Jennifer Eaton
Ushers: Levi Cooper, Jesse Cooper

Sunday, Jan. 24 8:30 a.m. Mass

Readers: Joe Crowell, Denise Crowell
Ushers: Jim Barchak, Ian Brottlund

Sunday, Jan. 24 8:30 a.m. Mass

Readers: Heather Gripka, Cody Washam
Ushers: Darren Brown, Dustin Avondet

Good News

INSPIRATION FOR DAILY LIFE

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 4
St. Elizabeth Ann Seton
1 John 3:22 -- 4: 6
Ps 2:7bc-8,10-12a
Matthew 4:12-17,23-25

Tuesday January 5
St. John Neumann
1 John 4:7-10
Ps 72:1-4,7-8
Mark 6:34-44

Wednesday January 6
1 John 4:11-18
Ps 72:1-2,10,12-13
Mark 6:45-52

Thursday January 7
1 John 4:19 -- 5:4
Ps 72:1-2,14,15bc,17
Luke 4:14-22

Friday January 8
1 John 5:5-13
Ps 147:12-15,19-20
Luke 5:12-16

Saturday January 9
1 John 5:14-21
Ps 149:1-6a,9b
John 3:22-30

The Season of Christmas ends with a celebration that focuses on the adoration of magi from the East who had sought and found Christ the newborn king.

The Greek word "magi" meant oriental scientists. Also called astrologers, their worship of Jesus does not validate astrology, which assigns power over us to stars and planets; rather, it validates that Jesus was born to bring salvation to all, Gentiles as well as Jews. Their arrival at the manger demonstrates that Jesus was born for the sake of all who recognize that only God should have power over us. Jesus was born to free us from sin and all other forces that control us.

The magi also demonstrate that gift-giving is a normal part of worship. The gifts of the magi become gifts that we

all give to Jesus: Gold represents our righteousness, which Christ's kingship over our lives makes possible so that we become more and more saintly each day. Incense represents our prayers going up to God – prayers that involve giving God the gift of our trust. And myrrh is the gift of suffering for Christ: the sacrifices we make for the sake of his ongoing mission of transforming our world.

The word "epiphany" means a moment of discovery, a revelation that changes our lives. Did the magi have an



epiphany about Jesus when they came into his presence? Did they realize that they were looking at the Savior of the world? Did they want this little baby to save them from their own sins?

We can safely assume that they never forgot about their trip to Bethlehem. Surely they kept their ears open for news about him as the years went by. Probably they heard about the King of the Jews who was crucified.

We know that they in fact became very saintly Christians; their relics still exist and have been venerated since very early times.

What about you and me? Will we remember Jesus in some new way this year? Will our worship of him transform us? Will the power of sin be defeated by our faith in Christ when we face temptations?

Hopefully, we have been changed this Advent and Christmas Season by a new rebirth of Jesus into our lives and – through our lives – out into the world.

Reflect & Discuss:

1. What's the gold you're giving to Jesus? What is your incense? What is your myrrh?
2. Describe an epiphany you have had during this past Advent and the Season of Christmas.
3. How will you take this out to others so that they, too, experience Christ more completely?