January 3, 2021

Epiphany of the Lord

ST. JOSEPH

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THE MISSION STATEMENT OF SAINT JOSEPH FAITH COMMUNITY HARVARD, ILLINOIS

“St. Joseph is a Welcoming, Catholic Community, Committed by Faith in Christ, who strive to Love, Live and Spread the Gospel in charity, by Serving the Needs of ALL!”

WEEKEND MASS SCHEDULE: BY RESERVATION ONLY.
Please call the Ministry Center for signup information.

ENGLISH: Saturday 5:00 PM, Sunday 8:00AM, 11:00 AM
SPANISH: Saturday 7:00 PM, Sunday 9:30 AM, 12:30 PM

WEEKDAY MASS SCHEDULE
ENGLISH: Monday-Friday 8:30
SPANISH: Monday–Thursday 6:00 PM
A Message From our Pastor....

January 3, 2020
Epiphany of the Lord

Dear Friends,

Today the Church celebrates the Solemnity of the Epiphany, the Revelation of Christ to the Gentile nations. The arrival of the Magi from the East signals the truth that Christ has come to be Savior of all nations. As we see in today’s first reading from the prophet Isaiah, the arrival of these men had been prophesied centuries earlier. Jerusalem would be the place where “the wealth of nations” would arrive. The foreign nations will come in procession bearing “gold and frankincense, and proclaiming the praises of the LORD.” These are the same gifts that the Magi will offer to the newborn child. In addition these travelers will offer Christ the gift of myrrh. Many of the early Christian writers and saints see in these gifts a profoundly symbolic meaning. The gift of gold is meant to signify that Christ is truly a king. He is a Royal child. As we know, His kingdom is an eternal kingdom. No one more than Christ could claim to be an authentic king. The gift of frankincense has a truly spiritual and religious meaning. It is seen as an indication that Christ is divine. He is worthy of worship and adoration. In fact, St. Matthew tells us that upon entering the place where they find the Christ child the Magi “prostrated themselves and did Him homage.” Finally, we have the gift of myrrh. Many commentators see this as a prefiguration of Christ’s death. In fact, the very purpose of Christ’s incarnation and birth in Bethlehem is so that He can offer His life for the salvation of the world.

In his Gospel, St. Matthew reveals that these wise men who arrive to pay “homage” to the Christ child seek Him with an open heart. They do not feel threatened or intimidated by the birth of this “newborn king of the Jews.” Instead, their openness to truth leads them to the very place where Truth incarnate is to be found. Their attitude is absolutely worthy of our admiration. They have traveled many miles and endured obvious hardships in order to discover the truth of the star’s appearance. They understand that the appearance of the star signals a tremendously important event. They do not ignore or disregard the signs that they are given. Instead, they commit themselves to endure whatever will be necessary in order to encounter truth. Their attitude is certainly in sharp contrast to the fear and anxiety expressed by Herod when he hears the news that a possible rival to his throne has been born. The very thought that a defenseless child could pose a threat to him reveals the unbelievable paranoia of this tyrant. As we know, his desire for power is so exaggerated that he will eventually order the slaughter of all male children who were born even up to two years before the arrival of the star. St. Matthew seems to underscore that Christ’s appearance from the very beginning was a sign that left no one indifferent. In the pursuit of truth, the moment we cease to be open to its meaning for our lives is the moment that we reject God.

The great feast of the Epiphany is also alluded to in today’s second reading from St. Paul to the Ephesians. The moment that the apostles and their disciples go out to preach the Good News of Christ is the definitive revelation that the “Gentiles are coheirs” with the Jews. They are all now “members of the same body, and copartners in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel.” In short, the mission of the Church will be to preach Christ to all the nations. As we know, this commission will take place at the moment of the Ascension. Nonetheless, the feast of the Epiphany reveals that such has always been the gracious will of God, namely, as the psalmist foretells: “Lord, every nation on earth will adore you”.

In Christ,
Fr. Steven
Updated Mass Sign-ups Information: Please continue to register for Sunday Mass. Registration allows us to keep our capacity numbers in check on Sundays, keeps the check-in process moving and will allow us to contact you should a positive COVID-19 case be reported to us. Your help and cooperation is GREATLY APPRECIATED!! We are now allowed 100 worshippers at each Mass. Mass times in English:

Monday-Friday: 8:30 am
Saturday: 5:00 pm
Sunday: 8:00 am, 11:00 am

Current mass sign-ups and attendance are only for registered and participating parishioners of St. Joseph. While we are going to great lengths to clean the church after each use and practice all government guidelines, there is still a risk of exposure, much like you encounter in all public spaces. Face coverings are required upon entering the church and social distancing must be maintained. Once at the church, you will be directed where to safely sit. Please refrain from attending if you are feeling ill. The bishop has extended his Mass dispensation to those who are elderly, immune-compromise, or concerned about contracting COVID-19 are still exempt from Mass. If you are interested in attending mass, the registration page can be accessed at https://www.signupgenius.com/go/904054CAFAC2CA7FB6-stjoseph  The link can also be accessed in the first article on the front page of our website www.stjosephharvard.org.

Live the Liturgy:
Inspiration for the Week

Even the slightest flicker of a light helps to properly orient us when we find ourselves in total darkness. Being in darkness can be unsettling and even a bit unnerving. We lose our focus and struggle to find our bearings and achieve balance. On life’s journey, we may think we are walking in the light but really are lingering in darkness. We do not see the full picture, wither because we are distracted, disinterested or even apprehensive. Sometimes, we even choose to close our eyes when the light is readily available to illuminate our path. Do we really desire to know the truth of who we are? Jesus Christ, a light has been given to those who dwell in darkness. God’s revelation gives is the light to see where we come from, who we are and where we are going. It also tell us that this Good News is not meant for just a privileged few but is intended to do out to all the world. Is this something we want to see?

Pope Francis’ January Prayer Intention: Intention for evangelization - Human fraternity

May the Lord give us the grace to live in full fellowship with our brothers and sisters of other religions, praying for one another, open to all.

Right to Life McHenry County 2021 Signature Ad: Since the 1973 Supreme Court decision Roe vs. Wade that made abortion legal through all 9 months of pregnancy and for reason or for no reason at all, over 62 million children have lost their lives to abortion. Each year Right to McHenry County brings attention to this devastating decision by placing an ad in the Northwest Herald. We list the names of those who join us in opposing the gruesome results of Roe vs. Wade. The 2021 ad will run on January 23rd. Because of Covid, we can’t collect signatures in person as we have in the past. We ask you to join the Signature Ad– go to www.rightoflife-mc.org and ad your name to those who support the sanctity of all life from conception to natural death.

Let Us Go Forward in Peace, Our Eyes Upon Heaven.  
St. Thérèse of Lisieux

Marian Registration: Each student, and his/her parents, will meet with a Marian Central counselor in the selection of required and elective courses. The HSPT score, along with grades and standardized test scores, are taken into consideration when recommending course placement. Additional information will be sent regarding registration to students who participate in our placement test on December 5 or December 12.

Wednesday, February 17, 6:30 - 9:00 pm
Sunday, February 21, 10:30 am - 12:30 pm.
Offer Prayers through Mass Intentions:

Pray for the soul of a deceased loved one, for the healing of one who is ill or other need by making them the intention of one of our Masses each week by calling the Ministry Center. The customary donation is $10 per Mass intention.

Readings for the week of January 3rd

**Sunday:** 1 Jn 3:22-4:6/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-12, 12-13 [cf. 11]/ Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6/Mt 2:12

**Monday:** 1 Jn 4:19-5:4/Ps 72:1-2, 14 and 15bc, 17 [cf. 11]/Lk 4:14-22

**Tuesday:** 1 Jn 4:7-10/Ps 72:1-2, 3-4, 7-8 [cf. 11]/Mk 6:34-44

**Wednesday:** 1 Jn 4:11-18/Ps 72:1-2, 10, 12-13 [cf. 11]/Mk 6:45-52

**Thursday:** 1 Jn 4:19-5:4/Ps 72:1-2, 14 and 15bc, 17 [cf. 11]/Lk 4:14-22a

**Friday:** 1 Jn 5:5-13/Ps 147:12-13, 14-15, 19-20 [12a]/ Lk 5:12-15

**Saturday:** 1 Jn 5:14-21/Ps 149:1-2, 3-4, 5 and 6a and 9b [cf. 4a]/Jn 3:22-30


**REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS**

Mr. and Mrs. Dieter Gutt
Donald and Kathryn DeLoe
Victor and Grace Rini
Maria Brantsch
Sara Brantsch
Mr. and Mrs. Jose Tapia Embriz
Mrs. Sharon Kurth
Don Kurth
Joe and Dorothy Crabb
Mrs. Betty McFarlin
Mrs. Eileen King
O’Brien Families
King Families
Mr. and Mrs. Gene Weidner
Harold and Barbara Weidner
Bernard and Mary Weidner
Joyce Long Bob Raupp
Mr. Jerry Shields
Francis and Gladys Shields
William Shields
Mr. Romulo Esquivel Pichardo
Mr. and Mrs. Michael Deneen
Lloyd and Fern Hookstadt
Dan and Evelyn Hookstadt
Gene Hookstadt
Bill and Charlotte Deneen
Nicole Brania
Mrs. Beverly Ostrowski
Andrew C. Ostrowski
Mr. Morales and Mrs. Silvia
Mr. and Mrs. Larry Martin
Deceased Martin Family Members
Deceased Haverly Family Members
Fr. McGinn
All Serving in the Military
Essential and Front Line Workers
Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Kane
Mrs. Arlene Kohley
Donald Kohley
Mr. and Mrs. Harvey Ilg
Mr. and Mrs. Roberto Flores
Mr. and Mrs. Salvador Esparza
Mr. and Mrs. Martin Byrne
Byrne Family Members
Grossmayer Family Members
Susan Dacy
Mr. Mario Nava and Mrs. Oralia Mercado
Mr. and Mrs. Antonio Chula
Mr. and Mrs. Cesar Pelayo
Mrs. Anna Hoffman
David Hoffman
Schonfelder Family
Mrs. Dolores Trotter
John Trotter
Tim Trotter
Mr. and Mrs. Hugo Flores
Mr. and Mrs. Peter Kruzicevich
Deceased Members of the
Kruzicevich Families
Deceased Members of the Kiolbassa Families
Mr. and Mrs. Michael Grieshop
The Graves Family
The Grieshop Family
Ms. Nancy Aparicio
Mr. and Mrs. Keith Zuhlke
Elgin and Irene Zuhlke
Walter and Rose Fritsch
Mr. and Mrs. Humberto Villarreal
Angel Mejia
Jovita Quezada apia
Dolores Garcia
Reyes Garcia
Mr. and Mrs. Victor Rivera
Mr. and Mrs. Victor Perri
Perri Family Members
Palumbo Family Members
Mrs. Beverly Jenkins
Mr. and Mrs. Jose Gonzalez
Mr. Martin Pichardo Herrera
Mr. and Mrs. John Zalewski
Mrs. Nancy Nolan
Deceased Members of the Nolan Family
Deceased Members of the Hughes Family
Deceased Members of the Cronin Family
Mrs. Helen Grieshop
The Grieshop Family
Mr. and Mrs. Bill Gibson
Mr. Olivares and Mrs. Garcia
Mr. and Mrs. Fidel Sanchez
Barbara Nolan
Howard, Doris and Bob Nolan
Mr. and Mrs. Michael Malinowski
Members of the Malinowski Families
Members of the Berry Families
Souls in Purgatory
La encarnación se expresa mediante lo más profundo que Dios, a Jesucristo. Dios, a Jesucristo. La lectura de hoy nos habla de la Sabiduría, con mayúscula; humanista; en definitiva, eso es vivir con sabiduría.

La primera lectura de este fin de semana se toma del libro del Eclesiástico o de la Sabiduría de Ben Sirá, como se le conoce, técnicamente, por el autor que lo escribió. Es un libro propio, que refiere al momento en el cual Dios revela la procedencia divina de Jesús a través del Espíritu Santo durante el bautismo. Así, en este episodio Dios se manifiesta ante los hombres como Santísima Trinidad: Padre, Hijo y Espíritu Santo.

La segunda lectura es un himno o alabanza que canta la exuberante gracia que Dios ha derramado, por Cristo, en sus elegidos. Vemos que, propiamente hablando, Dios es el sujeto de todas las acciones: elección, liberación, redención, recapitulación, predestinación a ser hijos; todo esto sucede en Cristo, en quien tenemos la gracia y el perdón de los pecados; Y por medio de Él recibimos la herencia prometida, y en Cristo hemos sido marcados con el sello del Espíritu hasta llegar a experimentar la misma gloria de Dios en los tiempos finales.

En Jesús todas las Bendiciones
Este segundo domingo de Navidad, después de la fiesta de María Madre de Dios con que abrimos el año nuevo, es una profundización en los valores más vivos de lo que significa la encarnación del Hijo de Dios.

En Jesús todas las bendiciones, en Jesús todas las bendiciones, en Jesús todas las bendiciones.

La donación habitual es de $10 dólares por intención de misa.

¿Adoración al Santísimo?
Jesús lo está esperando! Aproveche la oportunidad de venir a agradecerle por todas las bendiciones recibidas. Separe un espacio de su tiempo y visítele. Si puede solo una hora, Jesús le espera con los brazos abiertos. Todos los miércoles de 9:30 AM – 6:00 PM en la Iglesia y los primeros jueves de cada mes. Tenemos hora Santa a las 9 PM y concluimos hasta la mañana del viernes a las 8 AM. Cuando pasa una hora con Jesús él le sonríe y se siente amado por usted, ¡No lo dejes solo, Jesús espera tu visita!

INTENCIONES DE MISA
¿Le gustaría que se oráre por sus intenciones? parcialmente, normalmente por los seres queridos que han fallecido, para que el Señor, en su divina Misericordia, los acoger en el Reino Celestial. También las misas pueden ser ofrecidas por enfermos o por personas o familias en situaciones difíciles, haciendo la intención de una de nuestras misas durante la semana o el fin de semana. Llamando al Centro del Ministerio. La donación habitual es de $10 dólares por intención de misa.

Oraición Espiritual
Creo Señor mío que estás realmente presente en el Santísimo Sacramento del altar. Te amo sobre todas las cosas y deseo ardientemente recibirte dentro de mi alma; pero, no pudiendo hacerlo ahora sacramentalmente, ven al menos espiritualmente a mi corazón.Y como si te hubieses recibido, me abrazo y me uno todo a Ti; Oh Señor, no permitas que me separe de Ti.
Servicios en nuestra parroquia:

*Bautismos - cada tercer sábado del mes a las 9 am. Registrar al niño/a en la oficina
*Clase Pre-Bautismal - cada primer sábado del mes a las 5 p.m. Virtuales debido a la pandemia no podemos tener las pláticas en presencia. Llamar a la oficina para registrarse con anticipación.
*Celebración de Matrimonios y Quinceañeras, pasar a la oficina para agenda su fecha con 6 meses de anticipación.
*Sacramento de la Reconciliación, lunes, martes, miércoles y jueves 5p.m. o por cita.
*Unción de los Enfermos al Hospital o a las casas, según la necesidad de los enfermos. Llame a la oficina y déjenos saber. La Diócesis ha asignado algunos sacerdotes para visitar enfermos al hospital.

Por favor no traer niños a la oficina y solo venga un solo miembro de casa ya sea el papa o la mama.
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Saint Mary, Woodstock

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