

FEAST OF THE EPIPHANY

January 5, 2025



Saint Stanislaus & Our Mother of Sorrows Catholic Churches

516 East 13th Street

Erie, Pennsylvania 16503

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www.statanserie.org or www.motherofsorrowserie.org

email: stater@outlook.com or gangemi@twc.com

Fr. Jason A. Glover, S.T.L., Pastor

Fr. Jerry Priscaro, Resident Priest (St. Ann's)

Ms. Debbie Oldenski, Secretary (Day)

Mrs. Helen Gangemi, Secretary (Evening)

OFFICE HOURS

Sunday & Monday: Closed

Tuesday: 9:00AM-12:00PM; 4:30PM-6:30PM

Wednesday: 9:00AM-3:00PM; 4:30PM-6:30PM

Thursday: 9:00AM-3:00PM

Friday: 9:00AM-12:00PM

Saturday: 9:00AM-3:00PM

MASS TIMES

Saturday 4:00PM: St. Stanislaus

Sunday 9:00AM: St. Stanislaus

Sunday 11:00AM: St. Casimir

Monday-Friday 12:05PM: St. Ann's

First Saturday 9:00AM: St. Ann's

Weekday at St. Stanislaus: Call Parish Office

MASSES FOR THE WEEK (Our Mother of Sorrows)

Sunday, January 5th: Epiphany of the Lord

Private (SA): Dr. Morris Greenberg by Dr. Hal Angeloff
11:00am (SC): Charlotte Prez by Judy Stanek

Monday, January 6th: Christmas Weekday

11:30am (SA): Confessions
12:05pm (SA): Galla and Walach Families by Paul and Lisa Galla

Tuesday, January 7th: Christmas Weekday

11:30am (SA): Confessions
12:05pm (SA): Habas, Kulig and Laszewski Families by Kulig Estate

Wednesday, January 8th: Christmas Weekday

11:30am (SA): Confessions
12:05pm (SA): Deceased Members of the Ropelewski Family by Estate

Thursday, January 9th: Christmas Weekday

11:30am (SA): Confessions
12:05pm (SA): Suffering Souls in Purgatory by Dr. Hal Angeloff

Friday, January 10th: Christmas Weekday

11:30am (SA): Confessions
12:05pm (SA): In memory of Eileen Ropelewski by Estate

Saturday, January 11th: Christmas Weekday

Private: For Holy Souls

Sunday, January 12th: Baptism of the Lord

Private (SA): Dr. Allan J. Wintner by Dr. Hal Angeloff
11:00am (SC): Dolores Mankosky by Mary Ellen Damond

MASS INTENTIONS (Saint Stanislaus)

Mon., Jan. 6th - Private Intention
Tues., Jan. 7th - Virginia Kruszewski (Julie A.)
Wed., Jan. 8th - Mary Mikielski (Family)
Thur., Jan. 9th - Roy Bernnadini (J. Dugan)
Fri., Jan. 10th - Esther Buchmann (Cummings Family)
Sat., Jan. 11th, 4:00PM - Chris Pedersen (St. Stanislaus Women's Society)
Sun., Jan. 12th, 9:00AM - For the People of Saint Stanislaus (*Pro Populo*)

Readings for the week of January 5, 2025

Sunday: Is 60:1-6/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-13/Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6/Mt 2:1-12
Monday: 1 Jn 3:22-4:6/Ps 2:7-12/Mt 4:12-17, 23-25
Tuesday: 1 Jn 4:7-10/Ps 72:1-4, 7-8/Mk 6:34-44
Wednesday: 1 Jn 4:11-18/Ps 72:1-2, 10, 12-13/Mk 6:45-52
Thursday: 1 Jn 4:19-5:4/Ps 72:1-2, 14-17/Lk 4:14-22
Friday: 1 Jn 5:5-13/Ps 147:12-15, 19-20/Lk 5:12-16
Saturday: 1 Jn 5:14-21/Ps 149:1-6, 9/Jn 3:22-30
Sunday: Is 40:1-5, 9-11/Ps 104:1-4, 24-30/Ti 2:11-14; 3:4-7/Lk 3:15-22

SANCTUARY CANDLES

SAINT STANISLAUS: Alice Zimmerman by Helen Zimmerman

HOLY FAMILY: 1) Habas, Kulig and Laszewski Families by Kulig Estate; 2) Galla and Walach Families by Paul and Lisa Galla

OUR MOTHER OF SORROWS: Robert Merski, Sr. and Mildred Merski by The Merski Family

ST. ANN'S: 1) Special Intentions of Fr. Jerry Priscaro; 2) Agnes Priscaro by Parishioners

ST. CASIMIR'S: 1) Health & Healing of Fr. Jason; 2) Special Intentions for everyone who helped with the GECAC Giving Tree

January 5, 2025

The Epiphany of the Lord

Matthew 2:1-12

Have you ever wondered why the magi had gold, frankincense, and myrrh? Matthew's Gospel tells us, "Then they opened their treasures and offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh" (Matt. 2:11). Why are these things their "treasures"? One possible answer is they were magicians and astrologers, and these three items were the tools of their questionable trade. In offering them to Christ, they demonstrate that they will cease using such items to predict or control life. They place this baby-king, the God of Israel, at the center of their lives, and not their own devices of control, manipulation and prediction.

Isn't that what we need to do, too? Consider, for example, the magical power of money, symbolized by the magi's gold. Seemingly whatever we ask of money, it does. It wields a god-like power over the world. It can predict the future by guaranteeing better outcomes for us — which is why it is such a tempting alternative to trusting in God. The problem is such absolute trust in money enslaves us to the economic forces that make money so powerful. In paying homage to Jesus with "gold" (i.e., tithing), we participate in his authority over (and therefore freedom from) the magical sway of money.

What things in your life do you use to predict or control your future? What in your life seems to give you power over the world? Those are your treasures. Are you tired of feeling enslaved to them? Find a way to open them and give them to Christ, and you will be freer.

— Father John Muir



Wise
Men
Still
Seek Him

CHRISTMAS PARTY

The annual Women's Society Christmas Party has been rescheduled for Sunday, January 12th, at the 3rd Street Polish Falcons club from noon until 3:00PM. Members, parishioners (from ALL of our parishes), and guests are most welcome to attend. The cost of the meal is \$15. Call Nancy or Don at 814.454.4046 for reservations. The deadline to register is January 6th. We hope you can join us for this afternoon of much fun, good food, and exceptional fellowship!

CONGRATULATIONS

A special word of congratulations to Evelyn & Jacob Tighe, parishioners of Our Mother of Sorrows who received "Honorable Mention" at Mercyhurst Prep. Honorable Mention requires students to maintain a GPA not less than 3.0, with no grades below a "C." Congratulations on your work in and out of the classroom!

THANK YOU

We express our gratitude to the Concord Advisory Group in Princeton, New Jersey, who contributed a generous donation to the Catholic Foundation on #GiveCatholic Day. Because of their generosity, Saint Stanislaus was the recipient of \$1,000 "special prize."

NEW TO OUR WEBPAGES

Parishioners from both St. Stan's and Our Mother of Sorrows now have available to them a "Parish Portal" link in the main menu of our respective websites. When you click on the Parish Portal, you can create an account. This feature allows you to keep your family and contact information current. It also allow you to print your end-of-the-year giving statements for tax purposes. Create an account to help us keep our records accurate and help yourself more easily prepare your taxes.

www.motherofsorrowerie.org
www.ststaniserie.org

EPIPHANY BLESSING

The Epiphany household blessing is a centuries-old tradition that invokes God's blessing on all who enter one's home. All you need for an Epiphany blessing is chalk, which is usually made available by parishes either on the feast of the Epiphany or in the weeks leading up to it. There are a few different formulas for blessings out there, but the essence of the ritual is always the same: the head of the household calls down God's blessing on the house and everyone who comes into it, and an inscription is made above the door in chalk.

The inscription reads: "20 + C + M + B + 25." The initials C, M and B represent the names of the magi — Caspar, Melchior and Balthasar — and also signify the Latin phrase *Christus mansionem benedicat*: "May Christ bless the house."

Begin by saying:

The three Wise Men, Caspar, Melchior, and Balthazar followed the star of God's Son who became human two thousand and twenty-three years ago. May Christ bless our home and remain with us throughout the new year. Amen.

Inscribe your door mantle with "20 + C + B + M + 25"

Then say the following prayer:

Visit, O blessed Lord, this home with the gladness of your presence. Bless all who live or visit here with the gift of your love; and grant that we may manifest your love to each other and to all whose lives we touch. May we grow in grace and in the knowledge and love of you; guide, comfort, and strengthen us in peace, O Jesus Christ, now and for ever. Amen.

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Eucharistic Adoration will be held at St. Stan's on Sunday, January 19th, following the 9:00AM Mass until 11:00AM. Please consider taking time to spend in prayer before the Blessed Sacrament.

Question:

Besides the Wise Men, what is significant about the Epiphany?

Answer:

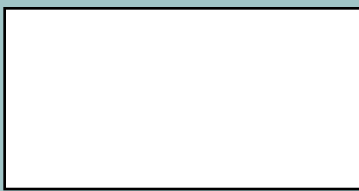
Epiphany means "manifestation," or public display. The feast is usually celebrated January 6. In the US, it is celebrated on the Sunday nearest to January 6. It originates from a story unique to Matthew (2:1-12). Magi from the East come to offer homage to the newborn King, presenting him with gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

This part of Matthew's infancy narrative differs from Luke's account of the birth of Jesus. In Luke there are no Magi, star, nor gifts. Luke has Jesus being born in a stable after Mary and Joseph's long travel from Nazareth to Bethlehem. Matthew seems to have the family living in a house in Bethlehem, where the Magi find them.

Why these differences? They stem from the needs and concerns of the audience the authors were addressing, as well as the theological stance of each author. Knowing the original intention helps get at the correct interpretation of the text.

Since Matthew was writing primarily to a Jewish community, his concern was to show that Jesus did not come just for Jews, but for Gentiles as well. From his very birth, Jesus not only manifests himself to Jews, but also to Gentiles, who are prominently included in the manifestation, symbolized by the Magi and their journey. This is the most significant aspect of the feast of Epiphany. How do you manifest Jesus to all with whom you come into contact?

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