

# St. Joseph Catholic Church

1300 N. Main St., Bluffton | (260) 824-1380 | stjosephchurch@adamswells.com | stjosephchurchbluffton.org

## EPIPHANY HOUSE BLESSING

*“Where is the newborn king of the Jews?*

*We saw His star at its rising and have come to do Him homage.”*

Matthew 2:2

After Jesus' birth in Bethlehem, the Holy Family was visited by three Magi from the east. They came to worship Christ and bring Him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. “Chalking the door” is a centuries-old custom where Christians, on the **Feast of Epiphany**, ask God's blessing over their homes. This practice remembers the hospitality of the Holy Family to the Magi and entrusts all in our homes to God's protection and blessing.

*“In the magi, representatives of the neighboring pagan religions, the Gospel sees the first-fruits of the nations, who welcome the good news of salvation through the Incarnation. The magi's coming to Jerusalem in order to pay homage to the king of the Jews shows that they seek in Israel, in the messianic light of the star of David, the one who will be king of the nations.”*

Catechism of the Catholic Church, Paragraph 528

20 + C + M + B + 24

Pastor: Fr. David Violi

Fr. David's Email: frdavidvioli@gmail.com | Sacramental Emergency Number: (260) 296-0511

Administrative Assistant / DRE: Michelle Paxton | Director of Sacred Music: Teresa Smith

------(cut here)-----

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City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

e-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_

[ ] New Parishioners, please send a Parish Registration Form [ ] We've Moved, here is our new information

## Saturday, January 6

8:00 a.m. Special Intention  
8:30-9:00 a.m. Confession  
4:00-4:45 p.m. Confession  
4:35 p.m. Rosary  
5:00 p.m. Tom Courtney +

## Sunday, January 7

### The Epiphany of the Lord

7:10 a.m. Rosary  
7:30 a.m. Parish Family  
9:40 a.m. Rosary  
10:00 a.m. Emily Butler +

## Monday, January 8

No Public Mass

## Tuesday, January 9

7:00-8:00 a.m. Adoration  
8:00 a.m. Sanders and Welling Family  
8:30 a.m. Confession

## Wednesday, January 10

6:00-7:00 p.m. Adoration  
6:00-6:45 p.m. Confession  
7:00 p.m. Agnes Herr

## Thursday, January 11

8:00 a.m. Gene Keys +

## Friday, January 12

8:30 a.m. Greg Mayer +

## Saturday, January 13

8:00 a.m. Special Intention  
8:30-9:00 a.m. Confession  
4:00-4:45 p.m. Confession  
4:35 p.m. Rosary  
5:00 p.m. Parish Family

## Sunday, January 14

### Second Sunday of Ordinary Time

7:10 a.m. Rosary  
7:30 a.m. Dale and Alice Pearson  
9:40 a.m. Rosary  
10:00 a.m. Patricia Pfeifer +



### MASS READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Mon., January 8 - The Baptism of the Lord - Is 55:1-11 or 1 Jn 5:1-9 / Is 12:2-6 / Mk 1:7-11

Tues., January 9 - First Week of Ordinary Time - 1 Sm 1:9-20 / 1 Sm 2:1, 4-8 / Mk 1:21-28

Wed., January 10 - 1 Sm 3:1-10, 19-20 / Ps 40:2, 5, 7-10 / Mk 1:29-39

Thurs., January 11 - 1 Sm 4:1-11 / Ps 44:10-11, 14-15, 25-26 / Mk 1:40-45

Fri., January 12 - 1 Sm 8:4-7, 10-22 / Ps 89:16-19 / Mk 2:1-12

Sat., January 13 - St. Hilary, Bishop and Doctor of the Church - 1 Sm 9:1-4, 17-19, 10:1 / Ps 21:2-7 / Mk 2:13-17

Sun., January 14 - Second Sunday in Ordinary Time - 1 Sm 3:3-10, 19 / Ps 40:2, 4, 7-10 / 1 Cor 6:13-15, 17-20 / Jn 1:35-42

## THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD - JANUARY 7, 2024

*Safe travels and God's blessing upon this new academic year to our college students returning to school this and in the coming weeks!*

This weekend (Jan. 6<sup>th</sup>/7<sup>th</sup>), the Church celebrates the **Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord**. Marking the twelfth day of the **Christmas season**, this solemnity is one of our more ancient celebrations on the liturgical calendar. In the first centuries of the Church, the celebration of both **Christmas Day** and the **Epiphany** were often celebrated on the same day. It was only in the 4<sup>th</sup> Century that these two solemnities began to be celebrated separately.

By the Council of Tours in the 6<sup>th</sup> Century, the Church universally set both **Christmas Day** and **Epiphany** as separate feast days on Dec. 25 and Jan. 6, respectively. The twelve days between the feasts were known as the **Christmas season**. Even with this clear separation from **Christmas Day**, **Epiphany** still encompassed at least three different scriptural celebrations: The Visitation of the Magi, the Baptism of the Lord, and the Wedding Feast at Cana.

Each of these scriptural celebrations are true reflections of the very word "epiphany," which means "manifestation," as each emphasizes the various revelations of Jesus' divinity to the world. Over time, the **Christmas season** grew beyond twelve days as these various scriptural celebrations received their own feast days. This is reflected even today in that our **Christmas season** doesn't end until the celebration of the **Baptism of the Lord** on Monday.

As with previous years, we will allow the beauty of **Christmas** to echo within our hearts and our Church for the weeks to come. Our beautiful decorations will only slowly begin to be put away following the **Baptism of the Lord**. Our Nativity scene (and perhaps a few other decorations) will remain as visible sources of prayerful meditation until the **Feast of the Presentation of the Lord**, or **Candlemas**.

**Candlemas** served as the traditional end of the **Christmas season** by the end of the 7<sup>th</sup> Century. Even today, as it is a feast of the Lord, it represents the last visible ripples of **Christmas** in our current liturgical calendar. Though the visible liturgical aspects of the **Christmas season** will slowly fade away, the joy of the Incarnation is to remain ever alive in our hearts.

### EPIPHANY CHALK AND HOUSE BLESSING

The cover of this weekend's bulletin offers a description of the **Epiphany House Blessing**. Epiphany Chalk and Holy Water will be blessed at all Masses this weekend and available in the narthex. This powerful sacramental is a centuries-old practice that is meant to serve as a sign of our dedication to the Lord. In this blessing, we are to be reminded every time we see the inscription over the door that our homes and all those who dwell here belong to Christ.

### TEACHING MASS - THURSDAY, JANUARY 11<sup>TH</sup> AT 6:30 PM

This Thursday, I will be offering a "Teaching Mass" in the Church as a part of our *Catholicism Explained* Series. What is a "Teaching Mass?" It is **not** a Mass; Instead, it is a **walk-through of the Mass** that looks at the various prayers, items, and practices found in our liturgy. This allows for a thorough overview of the Mass and chance to answer any questions you might have. Though a part of our *Catholic Explained* Series, this event is open to all on **Thursday, January 11<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 PM**.

### THE CATHOLIC PARENT - SUNDAY VIDEO SERIES

In two weeks time, we will be offering **The Catholic Parent**, a six-week video series on **Sunday morning from 8:45 - 9:45 AM** (between the two Sunday Mass times) in the **Parish Social Hall**. This six-episode series features real Catholic families sharing their daily struggles and victories. Created by the Augustine Institute and Catholic Sprouts, **The Catholic Parent** aims to encourage us as moms or dads as we embrace our God-given role to form our families in the richness of the Catholic faith.

~Faithfully in Christ, Fr. David



Becky Biberstein, Michael Green, Frances Carr, Tom Richhart, Troy Cook, Bobbie Jackson, Bonnie Burns, John Houlihan, Kimberly Abney, Sydnee Bradburn, Leanne Lee, Dr. Doug Phillips, Jeff Tillman, Margaret Pogue, Richard Payne and Ron Dresser.

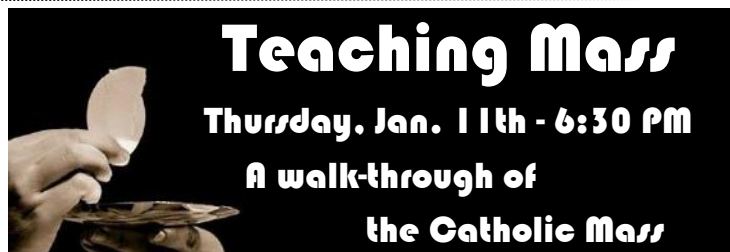


## G.I.R.L.'s Night Out

*(Growing, Inspiring, Rejoicing, Loving)*

The G.I.R.L.'s Night Out group will have their monthly meeting on Tuesday, January 9 at 7:00 in the Parish Conference Room.

If you are in need of a ride to the meeting, please contact the Parish Office at 260-824-1380. All women of the Parish are Welcome!



### The Catholic Parent—Six Week Formed.org Series

Join us on Sundays from 8:45-9:45 a.m. in the Parish Social Hall to watch and discuss this Formed.org series. Starting Sunday, January 21, 2024

#### PARISH CALENDAR

- **Sat., Jan. 6** - Confession 4-4:45 p.m. / Mass 5:00 p.m.
- **Sun., Jan. 7** - Mass 7:30 a.m. / Mass 10:00 a.m.
- **Sun., Jan. 7** - Religious Education Classes - 8:30-9:45 a.m.
- **Tues., Jan. 9** - Adoration 7-8:00 a.m. / Mass 8:00 a.m. / Confessions 8:30 a.m.
- **Tues., Jan. 9** - G.I.R.L.'s Night Out Meeting at 7:00 p.m. in the Parish Conference Room
- **Wed., Jan. 10** - Adoration 6-7:00 p.m. / Confession 6-6:45 p.m. / Mass 7:00 p.m.
- **Wed., Jan. 10** - Choir Practice - 7:30 p.m.
- **Thurs., Jan. 11** - Mass 8:00 a.m.
- **Thurs., Jan. 11** - Teaching "Mass" in Church - 6:30 p.m.
- **Fri., Jan. 12** - Mass 8:30 a.m.
- **Sat., Jan. 13** - Mass 8:00 a.m. / Confession 8:30 a.m.
- **Sat., Jan. 13** - Confession 4-4:45 p.m. / Mass 5:00 p.m.
- **Sun., Jan. 14** - Mass 7:30 a.m. / Mass 10:00 a.m.
- **Sun., Jan. 14** - Religious Education Classes - 8:30-9:45 a.m.
- **Tues., Jan. 16** - Adoration 7-8:00 a.m. / Mass 8:00 a.m. / Confessions 8:30 a.m.
- **Wed., Jan. 17** - Adoration 6-7:00 p.m. / Confession 6-6:45 p.m. / Mass 7:00 p.m.
- **Wed., Jan. 17** - Choir Practice - 7:30 p.m.
- **Thurs., Jan. 18** - Mass 8:00 a.m.
- **Fri., Jan. 19** - Mass 8:30 a.m.
- **Sat., Jan. 20** - Mass 8:00 a.m. / Confession 8:30 a.m.
- **Sat., Jan. 20** - Confession 4-4:45 p.m. / Mass 5:00 p.m.
- **Sun., Jan. 21** - Mass 7:30 a.m. / Mass 10:00 a.m.
- **Sun., Jan. 21** - Religious Education Classes - 8:30-9:45 a.m.
- **Sun., Jan. 21** - The Catholic Parent Weekly Video Series - 8:30-9:45 a.m. in the Parish Social Hall

#### Weekend of January 13 and 14, 2024



**5:00** Marita Crawfis  
**7:30** Donna Geisel  
**10:00** Josie Andrews



**5:00** Carol Butler  
**7:30** Steve Wagner  
**10:00** Patti Clark-Johnson



**7:30** Jill Morrissey  
**10:00** Dan Geimer, Rick Singer, Kevin Seago



**5:00** Alex/Audrey Mechling, Volunteer  
**7:30** Abby/Adrienne/Ainsley Wagner  
**10:00** Grant Reifsteck, Ellie Coyne, Gabby or Olivia Hoffacker

#### St. Joseph Parish Finance Report for the Weekend of Dec. 30/31

Adult Envelopes- \$4,490.00  
Loose- \$233.00  
Repair/Rainy Day Fund-\$1,178.14  
Votive Candles- \$167.65  
Christmas Offering-\$80.00  
Solemnity of Mary- \$106.00  
CDs- \$26.00  
Funeral Donations- \$185.00  
Total- \$6,465.79

#### Our weekly budget is \$5,116.40

We are \$3,212.55 ahead of our budget for the month of December.  
Online Giving for December - \$6,385.00. We ended the month \$9,597.55 ahead of our budget.

St. Vincent de Paul Fund- \$305.00  
Online Giving for December, St. Vincent de Paul Fund - \$210.00

*Your gifts to St. Joseph Parish are greatly appreciated. Thank you!*

To set up Online Giving through Our Sunday Visitor, please visit:  
<https://www.osvhub.com/stjosephchurchbluffton/giving/funds>

#### ST. VINCENT DE PAUL FUND REPORT - December 2023

Total Charitable Donations- \$2,416.44

*Thank you* for helping us help others!

# Jesus and the Eucharist

A SMALL GROUP SERIES FOR EUCHARISTIC REVIVAL

Interested in hosting a Small Group for our upcoming **Lenten Series: Jesus and the Eucharist**? Small Groups will meet weekly throughout **Lent** (Feb. 14—March 30). Contact the Parish Office (824-1380) to learn more.

#### From Death To New Life



In your charity, please pray for the repose of the soul of Darlene Coulardot, mother of Corey Coulardot, who passed away Thursday, December 29, 2023 and was laid to rest on Thursday, January 4, 2024

May God welcome her home, fill him with peace and bless those who will miss her.

*Eternal Rest Grant unto her O Lord, and let Perpetual light shine upon her. May her soul and the souls of all the faithful departed through the mercy of God rest in Peace. Amen.*

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Dan Gordon, Tony Crowell  
Michelle Adler, Matt Hayes, and  
Brigitte Washburn  
260-824-9377  
Dan Gordon, Parishioner  
Matt Hayes, Parishioner at  
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Before you speak...  
**THINK!**  
T - is it true?  
h - is it helpful?  
i - is it inspiring?  
n - is it necessary?  
k - is it kind?



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Thursday's: 3pm-8pm  
Friday's: 3pm-8pm  
Saturday's: Noon-8pm

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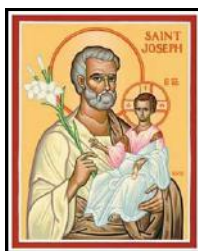


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Call us for your next event!

Ginny 260-402-1834  
Michelle 260-307-6191  
Parishioners