

*St. Mary's Church
Of the
Immaculate Conception
Our Lady of Fatima Parish
134 S. Washington St.
Wilkes-Barre, PA 18701*

Phone—570-823-4168

*Email—olfstmarys@aol.com
Web page
www.olfstmarys.weconnect.com*

*We Celebrate Eucharist
Sunday Eucharist
Saturday—4:00PM
Sunday—8:00AM, 10:00AM,
12:10PM, 7:00PM*

*Weekday Eucharist
12:10PM (M, T, Th, F)
No 12:10PM Mass on
Wednesday*

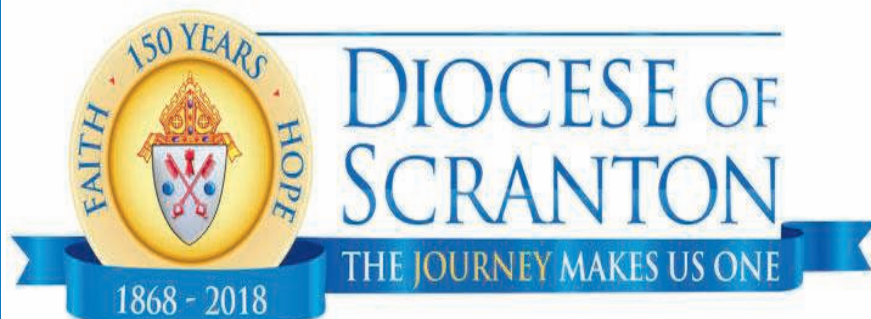
*Penance/Reconciliation
Saturday—3:00PM-3:30PM*

Epiphany of the Lord

January 7, 2018

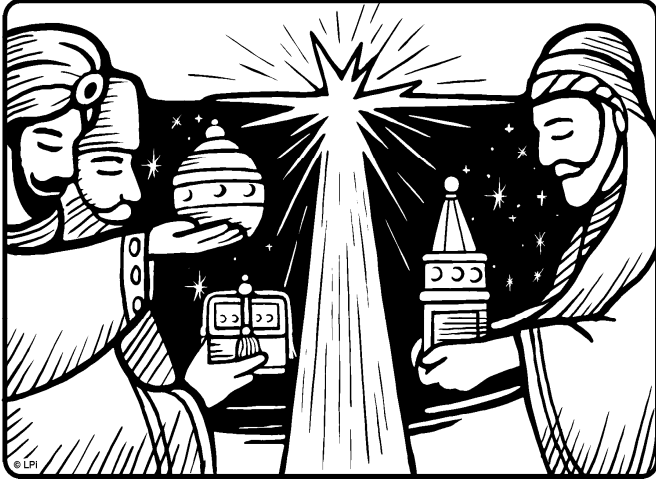


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THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

JANUARY 7, 2018



THIS SUNDAY'S SCRIPTURE

ISAIAH 60:1-6
EPHESIANS 3:2-3a, 5-6
MATTHEW 2:1-12

**LORD GOD,
LET OUR LIVES BECOME
A PREACHING
OF THE GOSPEL OF CHRIST**
(second reading)
**LEADING ALL PEOPLES
TO PAY HIM HOMAGE,**
(responsorial psalm)
**AND PRESENT THEMSELVES
AS GIFTS TO HIM,**
(gospel reading)
**THE LIGHT WHO REFLECTS
YOUR SPLENDOR.**
(first reading)

NEXT SUNDAY'S SCRIPTURE

ISAIAH 43:1-4, 6-7
ACTS 10:34-38
MATTHEW 3:13-17

150th Anniversary of the Diocese of Scranton

To commemorate the 150th Anniversary of the Founding of the Diocese of Scranton on March 3rd, 1868, a year-long series of special liturgies, celebrations and events has begun. We thought that you would like to read a little history about St. Mary's Church. So for the next few weeks there will be a section concerning

The "Story of St. Mary's"

Father Henry F. Fitzsimmons, the actual founder of St. Mary's Parish was assigned to Carbondale September 12, 1836, a month after his ordination which took place on August 15, 1836. While pastor of Carbondale he made monthly visits to his chief mission and at the same time visited the Catholics in an area of Waymart, Mauch Chunk and Dushore. In an address given by Father Richard McAndrew, a former pastor of St. Mary's, to the school and congregation on December 27, 1905 he notes: "Fr. Fitzsimmons was young zealous and energetic and attended the mission of Wilkes-Barre three, four, or six times a year until 1840, when he came bi-monthly, and continued to do so until 1842. Mass was usually said at the house of a Mrs. Marr or Maher, on the corner of Canal street and the alley adjoining the old cemetery."

Fr. McAndrew continues: "The mines having now opened up, large numbers of Catholics came in from other parts, notably from Baltimore, then one of the important seaports. This influx of Catholics so augmented the congregation that it was impossible for them to hear mass comfortably at any house, and made it evident that a church building must be provided. In 1842, the good priest appointed a committee to take charge of collecting the necessary funds. It was composed of Edward Birmingham, Patrick Neison, James Dolan and Patrick Kieran. Then and there the first dollar ever contributed for the erection of a Catholic church in Wilkes-Barre was made by Michael Clinton. Having started the matter, the work was not permitted to lag, the contract was given to Messrs. Anthony Mowery and Charles Ehret, and the same summer saw a commodious frame church erected on Canal Street, now South Pennsylvania Avenue, just north of Mooney Lane."

- to be continued -

RESPECT LIFE MASS



The Annual Respect Life Mass, sponsored by the Wyoming Valley Councils, Knights of Columbus, will be held at **Saint Faustina Parish, Hanover Street, Nanticoke, Sunday, January 14, 2018, at the 11AM Mass.** The Knights of Columbus, along with Pro-Life Representatives, will offer prayer intentions during the Mass for a greater respect of all Human Life and to end abortion. January is Respect Life month as abortion was legalized, January 22, 1973. Since then, upwards of 60 million innocent unborn children have been aborted. Father Nash, Pastor, warmly invites all to attend and to pray for the most vulnerable of Human Lives, those with disabilities, the ill, and the unborn.

MARCH FOR LIFE BUS

Those wishing more information concerning a local Bus going to the March For Life in Washington, **Friday, January 19th**, may contact Christopher Calore, Pennsylvanians for Human Life Representative, at 570-824-5621. Seats are limited.

His Excellency, the Most Reverend Joseph C. Bambera, D.D., J.C.L., Bishop of Scranton, and the Office for Parish Life wish to invite couples celebrating their 25th or 50th wedding anniversary in 2018 to a Diocesan Wedding Anniversary Mass on **Sunday, June 10**. The event includes a 2:30PM mass at St. Peter's Cathedral followed by a reception. Requests for an invitation, with a mailing address, should be made by calling Martha at the Rectory 570-823-4168 ext 103, before March 1st.



MISSION STATEMENT

WE, THE CATHOLIC CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY OF OUR LADY OF FATIMA PARISH AT ST. MARY'S CHURCH OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION, ARE CALLED TO A FOUR-FOLD MISSION:

- **TO PROCLAIM THE GOOD NEWS OF SALVATION REVEALED IN JESUS CHRIST;**
- **TO WORSHIP GOD IN SPIRIT AND IN TRUTH;**
- **TO BE TRANSFORMED BY THE HOLY SPIRIT IN A COMMUNITY OF FAITH, HOPE AND LOVE;**
- **TO BRING GOD'S JUSTICE AND PEACE TO OTHERS THROUGH SERVICE.**

THIS WEEK
AT OUR LADY OF FATIMA PARISH

SUNDAY, JANUARY 7

Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord
 8:00AM.....Mass (No Music)
 9:00AM.....School of Religious Education (CCD)
 Grades PrK-7
 10:00AM.....Mass
 12:10PM.....Mass
 7:00PM.....Mass

MONDAY, JANUARY 8
BAPTISM OF THE LORD

TUESDAY, JANUARY 9

11:00AM.....Bible Study
 7:00PM.....Knight of Columbus
 Council 302 Meeting

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 10

THURSDAY, JANUARY 11

2:00PM.....Staff Meeting

FRIDAY, JANUARY 12

SATURDAY, JANUARY 13

Vigil of the 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time
 11:00AM.....Music Rehearsal
 3:00PM.....Reconciliation (Confession)
 4:00PM.....Mass

SUNDAY, JANUARY 14

2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time
 8:00AM.....Mass (No Music)
 9:00AM.....School of Religious Education (CCD)
 Grades PrK-7
 10:00AM.....Mass
 12:10PM.....Mass
 7:00PM.....Mass

2017 FINANCIAL STATEMENT REQUEST

Please make your requests by filling out this form below and returning it. Thank you.

Envelope Number _____

Name _____

Address _____

Phone No. _____

Please drop this Form into the offertory basket or mail to the Parish Office: 134 S. Washington Street, Wilkes-Barre, PA 18701.

The Knights of Columbus Council 302 will be celebrating their 120th Anniversary as a Council. The Council was originally chartered at St. Mary's Parish in January of 1898. An Anniversary Dinner Dance will be held to honor the Council on January 20th, 2018. All members, their families and friends of the Council are invited to attend. For more information or a reservation call DGK Paul S. Makuch at 570-479-1168.



Sacrificial Giving

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THANK YOU FOR YOUR INCREASED OFFERINGS

DECEMBER 17, 2017

Sunday Offering	\$ 5,494.72
Loose	\$ 653.42
Children	\$ 67.27
Second Collection	
Diocesan Charity	\$ 980.48
12:10 Weekday Masses	\$ 151.24
Parish Membership	\$ 696.00
Diocesan Priest Health	\$ 98.00
Religious Education	\$ 15.00
Solemnity of Mary	\$ 5.00
Immaculate Conception	\$ 90.00
Retired Religious	\$ 66.00
Insurance	\$ 10.00
All Saints	\$ 5.00
Utilities	\$ 70.00
Human Services	\$ 198.00
Parish Maintenance	\$ 25.00
Christmas Flowers	\$ 379.00
Christmas	\$ 375.00
TOTAL	\$ 9,379.13

Mass Attendance—12/17/17

4PM Vigil - <u>203</u>	8AM - <u>114</u>	10AM - <u>236</u>
12:10PM - <u>150</u>	7PM - <u>261</u>	Total - <u>964</u>

DECEMBER 24/25, 2017

Sunday Offering	\$ 5,184.00
Loose	\$ 386.39
Children	\$ 75.50
Second Collection	
Human Services	\$ 1,025.52
12:10 Weekday Masses	\$ 96.10
Diocesan Charity	\$ 59.00
Parish Membership	\$ 800.00
Diocesan Priest Health	\$ 31.00
Religious Education	\$ 114.00
Eastern Churches	\$ 5.00
Unbazaar	\$ 20.00
Air Conditioning	\$ 5.00
Solemnity of Mary	\$ 30.00
Immaculate Conception	\$ 12.00
Initial	\$ 50.00
Utilities	\$ 22.00
Christmas Flowers	\$ 28.00
Christmas	
Plate	\$ 22,354.00
Loose	\$ 1,676.58
Children	\$ 117.00
Catholic Schools	\$ 61.00
TOTAL	\$ 32,152.09

Mass Attendance—12/24/17

4PM Vigil - <u>241</u>	8AM - <u>88</u>	10AM - <u>136</u>	Total - <u>465</u>
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Mass Attendance—Christmas—12/25/17

4PM Vigil - <u>653</u>	11PM - <u>193</u>	9AM - <u>101</u>
12:10PM - <u>172</u>	Total - <u>1,119</u>	

Masses For The Week

MONDAY– JANUARY 8, 2018

(THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD)

12:10PM *John Litcheck*

TUESDAY– 9 (WEEKDAY)

12:10PM *Patricia McGuire-Gill*

WEDNESDAY– 10 (WEEKDAY)

*****NO MASS*****

THURSDAY – 11 (WEEKDAY)

12:10PM *Cora Rickard*

FRIDAY 12 (WEEKDAY)

12:10PM *Bernadine Skurla*

Ministers Scheduled SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME JANUARY 13/14, 2018

Acolytes: 4PM: M. & T. Richards. 8AM: E. Malia, E. Mendrzycki.
10AM: J. & L. Luna, M. Unvasky. 12:10PM: T. Borum, J. Patron.
7PM: **Deacon:** 10AM: Deacon Thompson. **Ministers of
Communion:** 4PM: B. Mullay, A. Rodgers, A. Unvasky. 8AM: B.
Kemmerer. 10AM: A. Azat, T. Piazza. 12:10PM: T. Nowak, C. & M.
Maciejczyk. 7PM: J. Domkowski, R. Yapple. **Lectors:** 4PM: A.
Gordon, T. McLaughlin. 8AM: M.A. Szczecinski. 10AM: P. Jason, T.
Charles. 12:10PM: T. Hasaka, C. Zwiebel. 7PM: M.P. Gill.
Hospitality: 4PM: 8AM: T. Sarnoski, C. Szczecinski. 10AM: L.
Waldron, E. & L. Harris. 12:10PM: E. & R. Segear. 7PM: R. Detz, D.
Andrejewski.

If you have any scheduling changes please
notify Amanda Curcio by the 10th of the Month.
Amanda Curcio – 570-823-4168 x106

PARISH MEMBERSHIP FORM

Name _____

Address _____

Phone No. _____

Please check one:

I am new in the parish & wish to register

Change of Address

Moving out of Parish

Please drop Membership Form into the offertory
basket or mail to the Parish Office: 134 S. Washington
Street, Wilkes-Barre, PA 18701.

ST. NICHOLAS/ST. MARY'S SCHOOL BAZAAR



Mark your calendars—St. Nicholas/St.
Mary's School Bazaar will be held Friday,
January 26th, from 3PM-9PM, in the
school gym, 242 South Washington
Street. Plenty of Food, Games, 50/50
Raffle, Basket Raffles, Pie the Principal,
and a Bounce House. The event is open to the public.
All proceeds directly benefit the events funded by the
St. Nicholas/St. Mary's School PTG.



*You are invited to join our weekly
BIBLE STUDY which will begin THIS
Wednesday, at 11AM, in the Parish
Center Conference Room. If you would
like more information please call
Al Gordon (570)606-7405.*

SCHOOL OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION—CCD



THIS SUNDAY, JANUARY 7, 2018

9:00AM SCHOOL OF RELIGIOUS
EDUCATION/CCD
GRADES PrK-7
10:00AM Mass -

NEXT SUNDAY, JANUARY 14, 2018

9:00AM SCHOOL OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION/CCD
GRADES PrK-7
10:00AM Mass

**ALL FIRST RECONCILIATION AND CONFIRMATION
CANDIDATES ARE REMINDED TO PLEASE COME TO THE
BAPTISMAL FONT WITH YOUR PARENTS EITHER BEFORE OR
AFTER MASS AND PAUSE AS YOU SIGN YOUR NAME IN THE
SACRAMENTAL BOOKS.**



"They departed for their country by another way." Things were different now. An encounter with the baby Jesus changed the Magi. Before finding the child, they had made a secret alliance with a worldly king, Herod. But after seeing this infant resting in the arms of Mary,

their allegiance shifted. Now they became servants of the little Lord Jesus. They had a kind of conversion through their encounter with Christ, and they knew that they could no longer serve the whims of a wicked ruler.

We call this Sunday "Epiphany" because that's what the three wise men had: an epiphany, a moment of realizing the truth about God. In this moment these three men--kings that they were--"prostrated themselves and did homage" to the King of Kings. Then they went home by a different route, undoubtedly as different men. Now, their own authority as worldly leaders took on a new character. Now, they were men who served a power greater than themselves. As it was prophesied in the Old Testament reading from Isaiah, even kings would walk by the "shining radiance" of the Lord.

Let us ask ourselves today how the Epiphany of the Lord can redirect us. What



worldly allegiances have we made that need to be changed? Are we servants of our neighbors' good opinion or of the power of money? Are we secretly aligned with popularity or prestige? No matter what "rules" our hearts, we are invited to change our direction. We are invited to encounter the little Lord Jesus and offer ourselves to his gentle and loving guidance. After all, his

is a kingship of concern for us. As today's psalm says, this King "shall rescue the poor when he cries out, and the afflicted when he has no one to help him."

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