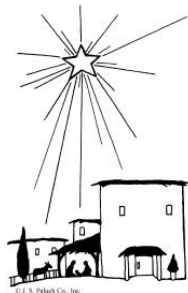


THE STAR OF BETHLEHEM

The unfolding of the story of the Incarnation continues today as the Church celebrates the Epiphany. The tale of the magi from the East is one of the most fascinating in all of scripture. It has much to teach us about what we can come to expect, even in circumstances and places that may seem insignificant or small. Bethlehem was a tiny town, what we might refer to today as a town without even one stop light. Yet it is over this seemingly insignificant place that the guiding star stops in its own search for the place where the Savior would be born. Too often we fail to recognize the fact that the star of Bethlehem comes to rest in our everyday lives, where we can experience God's presence, manifested in ever new ways. Epiphany calls us to shake off our stupor and recognize the One who comes to save us. -- Copyright (c) J. S. Paluch Co., Inc.



TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION:

This year, in the United States the celebration of the Epiphany falls on January 8, but the traditional date for the Epiphany is January 6. The date we know as January 6 was established as the solstice in Egypt in 1996 BC, but the Egyptian calendar lost a full day every 128 years. Twenty centuries later the actual solstice had migrated to December 25. People still kept January 6 for the solstice celebration, but December 25, matching nicely with the Roman pagan feast of the Unconquered Sun, launched an extended solstice holiday. By the time of the early church, the whole period of twelve days was celebrated just about everywhere.

Christians began to celebrate Christ as the true light of the world in four themes: the Nativity, the manifestation to the Gentiles, the baptism of the Lord, and the wedding feast at Cana. That was entirely too much for one day to handle. A twelve-day season was ready to be adapted, so Christians borrowed from the pagan calendar for their own season of light. Thus early Christian celebrations of the Christmas season extended from one date for the solstice, December 25, to the older date, January 6. The darkest time in the Northern Hemisphere could now be filled with the Christian observance of the arrival of the Light of the World.

--Rev. James Field, Copyright (c) J. S. Paluch Co.



World Marriage Day

WORLD MARRIAGE DAY: Join us on Saturday, February 11, 2017, for an evening of celebrating your love and the blessing of your marriage together at St. Vincent's Marist

Center. We begin by celebrating Mass together at 5:00 pm, followed by a wine and cheese social in the parish center. A candlelit dinner will follow, and one couple (pre-committed) will give a brief witness to their experience in the Sacrament of Marriage. The evening ends with coffee and wedding cake served to the group. Cost of the evening is \$45 per couple. Reservations are required and must be made no later than February 8. For more information, contact the Beiter's at 304-238-4904 or the Reed's at 304-242-8156.

CATHOLIC CHARITIES NEWS: Catholic Charities West Virginia (CCWVa) is inviting all people to join in its vision of hope for West Virginia by contributing to its "Be With Us" appeal. Proceeds from the annual appeal will directly support the outreach services of CCWVa throughout West Virginia. We thank you for your support of the traditional second collection at Christmas Mass that contributes to the appeal. Donations can also be made online at: CatholicCharitiesWV.org by mail at 2000 Main Street, Wheeling, WV 26003.



"If I am distracted, Holy Communion helps me to become recollected. If opportunities are offered by each day to offend my God, I arm myself anew each day for the combat by the reception of the Eucharist. If I am in special need of light and prudence in order to discharge my burdensome duties, I draw nigh to my Savior and seek counsel and light from him."
— St. Thomas More

PARISH SICK LIST: If you wish to include a loved one's name on this list, please call the parish office. *Names will be removed after one month.*

Please Pray For those who are sick.. Pam
 Ammirante, Lora Bishop, Dave Bonenberger, Janice Kalo, Fred Chipkar, Janet Ferrera, Baby Flanagan, Norma Jean Knight, Evelyn Tellitocci, Lori Plants, John Powell, Betty and Phyllis Allen

For those who have died: Joseph Figaretti

MEDITATION IS BACK! A free Meditation Class will be offered here at St. Vincent's each Tuesday morning at 10:00 am and Thursday evening at 7:00 pm in the Library. Everyone is invited to attend -- even if you have never meditated before. For more information, call Mary at 304-242-6799.

ADVENT APPEAL: Thank you to all who have so generously donated to our annual Advent Appeal. At the present time, we have received approximately \$13,000. We greatly appreciate your continued support!

SHELTER OPEN: The Wheeling Winter Freeze Shelter is open and will be operational until March 15, 2017. The shelter provides a place for the homeless in our community to sleep at night during the coldest months of the year. The Freeze Shelter is in need of people to make dinner meals for the individuals who use the shelter. If you are able to help by donating a meal, or by volunteering your time to serve the meals, please contact Holly at 304.218.2847. Thank you for sharing your gifts!

Parish Sacrificial Giving

December 25, 2016

Regular Collection: \$21,205
Mass Attendance for December 25 1,407

January 1, 2017

Regular Collection: \$12,436.00
Mass Attendance for January 1 511

Thank you!

EVENTS THIS WEEK

Sunday - January 8

Eucharistic Minister Training After 9:30 and 11:30 Mass

Tuesday - January 10

Meditation 10:00 am Library
 Bible Study 6:00 pm Caveney Rm

Thursday - January 12

Finance Council 6:00 pm Library
 RCIA 6:30 pm Caveney Rm
 Meditation 7:00 pm Library

EVENTS NEXT WEEK

Monday - January 16

Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday - Office closed

Tuesday - January 17

Prayer Shawl 1:30 pm Library
 Stewardship Committee 6:00 pm Library
 Society of St. Vincent de Paul 6:30 pm Caveney Rm

Thursday - January 19

RCIA 6:30 pm Caveney Rm
 Meditation 7:00 pm Library

R.C.I.A.:

*Our next RCIA gathering will be Thursday, January 12, 2017. Topic will be: **Reconciliation/Anointing of the Sick***

BIBLE STUDY: The next gathering of our Bible Study will be Tuesday, January 10, at 6:00 pm in the Caveney Room.



MARCH FOR LIFE 2017: On January 27, 2017, Our Lady of Peace Parish is sponsoring a bus to take part in the March For Life in Washington, D.C. Bus will leave Our Lady of Peace Thursday night, January 26, at 10:30 pm. Cost is \$50 per person. You will need to bring warm clothing and money for meals. For more information or to reserve a seat, call the parish office at 304-242-6579.

Our vision is a world where every human life is valued and protected. Tragically, 57 million babies have been lost to abortion since 1973. Join pro-life Americans in the nation's capital to be a voice for the voiceless!




To report an incidence of suspected child sexual abuse, please contact your local law enforcement agency, or you may confidentially contact WV Child Protective Services at 1-800-352-6513. To report suspected cases of sexual abuse by personnel of the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston to the Diocese, please contact the Diocese at 1-888-434-6237.

School and Youth News

Upcoming dates to Remember for SVS:

- **Sat., Jan. 14**--SVS Choir to sing National Anthem at the Wheeling Nailers Game - 7:05 p.m.
- **Mon., Jan. 16**--No school (make up day, if needed)
- **Wed., Jan. 18**--8th Grade Dress Down Day-included in pass or \$1 if child doesn't have a pass-please note, this dress down day is not on the school calendar
- **Thurs., Jan. 26** -- Rosary-6th Grade
- **Jan. 29**-Pancake Supper--details to follow

ADOPT A STUDENT UPDATE: Thank you to everyone who is supporting our Adopt A Student program to help families ensure a Catholic education for their children! Our goal for this year is \$50,000. So far, we have received \$23,085 toward our goal. We greatly appreciate the generosity of our parishioners! May God continue to bless each of you!

 **A PANCAKE BREAKFAST** to benefit St. Vincent Grade School Class Trips will be held Sunday, January 29, after Sunday Masses in the Church Hall.

SUMMER CAMP NEWS: St. Vincent's Summer Camp has been scheduled for the week of June 18 - 24, 2017. Mark your calendars now!!


PARISH SCHOOL OF RELIGION

Jan. 8	Class
Jan. 15	No Class



UPCOMING DATES:

- **Confirmation** will be held Sunday, April 23, at 1:00 pm at the Cathedral of St. Joseph.
- **First Communion** will be Sunday, May 7, at 11:30 Mass

 **YOUTH GROUP NEWS** Our Youth Group will attend a Wheeling Nailers Game, Friday, Feb. 17th, 2017.

AMAZON ASSOCIATES PROGRAM: St. Vincent's School is now participating in the Amazon Associates Program. Click on the Amazon link found on the school or parish website before you make your purchase, and a percentage of all purchases will come back to St. Vincent's. (The link will remain active for 24 hours, at which time you will have to go back to the school or parish website and click on the Amazon link again to ensure SVS gets credit)


TEENS ENCOUNTER CHRIST (T.E.C.) --Jan. 14-16, 2017

ATTENTION HIGH SCHOOL JUNIORS AND SENIORS AND COLLEGE FRESHMEN! TEC is happening!


A Teens Encounter Christ Retreat will take place during Martin Luther King Weekend at Immaculate Conception Parish in Fairmont, WV. A group of young people are traveling from both St. Vincent's and St. Michael's Parish to participate in this retreat.

TEC is a lively and uplifting weekend centered around the saving message of Jesus. Young people share the faith with other young people.

For more information contact Msgr. Paul Hudock or Joanne Drnach

 **Bishop Donahue will be holding their NIGHT AT THE RACES "THE DONAHUE DERBY"** on January 28th, 2017 in the Father Raymond Jablinski Gymnasium. We are looking for your support on this most fun fundraiser. You can get tickets and more information by calling Bishop Donahue at 304-233-3850.

Bishop Donahue continues to sell the WALL OF SUPPORT PLAQUES for \$50.00. We encourage all friends, alumni, and business's to join us on the Wall! Call Donna at 304-233-3850 for more information.

 **CCHS NEWS:** Check out the calendar on our website: www.cchsknights.org for the upcoming events including sports schedules. **We are scheduling** shadows of incoming freshmen and transfer students for the 2017-2018 school year. Please call 304-905-6228 to schedule an appointment.

Mass Schedule

Masses This Weekend

Saturday Jan. 7 (Feast of the Epiphany/Vigil)
5:00 pm Howard and Regina McCann
Sunday Jan. 8 (Feast of the Epiphany)
8:00 am Dora Langmyer (B)
9:30 am Louise Fitzpatrick
11:30 am All the People of our Parish
10:30 am (OLSD) Theresa Savage

Masses This Week

Monday Jan. 9 (Baptism of the Lord)
7:50 am Deceased Members of the Pagendam Fam.
Tuesday Jan. 10
7:50 am No Mass

Miraculous Medal Novena before 7:00 pm Mass

7:00 pm Ralph Barretta

Wednesday Jan. 11

7:50 am Gino Angelo

Thursday Jan. 12

7:50 am Frances Darrah

Friday Jan. 13

9:00 am Pauline Pearson

Masses Next Weekend

Saturday Jan. 14 (2nd Ordinary Sunday/Vigil)
5:00 pm Chester Sokol (Anniv)
Sunday Jan. 15 (2nd Sunday in Ord. Time)
8:00 am Suzanne Cook
9:30 am Leonard Subasic and Alphonse Brak
11:30 am All the People of the Parish
10:30 am (OLSD) Antonio Rizzo

Remember St. Vincent's Parish in your Will and Estate Planning

Bequests for the benefit of the Diocese, a parish, or an unincorporated institution or organization should be made out to "The Most Rev. Michael J. Bransfield, Bishop of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston," or his successors in office, "with a specification of the purpose for which the bequest is to be used, e.g., "for the use of St. Vincent de Paul Parish." If a bequest is intended for an incorporated institution, please consult the director of that institution or the chancery for the proper legal title. Before drafting a bequest or formulating a will, it is advisable to seek legal counsel.

Liturgical Minister Schedule for Next Weekend (Jan. 14/15 2017)

Saturday—5:00 pm

Servers: Chloe Ratcliffe and Abby Hall
Greeters: David and Jeannie Miller
Lector/Announcer: Barbara Roberts
Eucharistic Ministers: Joseph Wiley, Nancy LaBrosse, Mike and Cindy Perring, Patti Snyder

Sunday - 8:00 am

Servers: Max and Daisy Reasbeck
Greeters: Carol Harris, Lee and Dorothy Merinar
Lector/Announcer: Mary K. Bell
Eucharistic Ministers: Cindi Dimmey, Libby Reasbeck, Katie Kreitzer, Carolyn Brookover, Susie Koval

Sunday - 9:30 am

Servers: Zachary and Kara Bole and Luke Miller
Greeters: Lynn Hetzel, Mary Cook, John Dudzik
Lector/Announcer: Carole Flatley
Eucharistic Ministers: Rosemary Guerriero, Bev Vanaman, Ty Miller, Lynn Hetzel, Garry Ferrell, Brenda and Dennis Beiter

Sunday - 11:30 am

Servers: Thomas and Luke Minor, Eli Dean
Greeters: Jean Hohman and Nancy Freeman
Lector/Announcer: Christopher Dean
Eucharistic Ministers: Bob Morgan, Janet Thomas, Janie Fox, Need 2 Ministers



**Baptism
of the Lord**

© J. E. Puhall Co., Inc.

LITURGICAL MINISTER SCHEDULE:

After all trainings are completed, I will begin working on the Liturgical Minister schedule for February, March, and April. If there are any dates that you are not available during those months, please contact me at the parish office to let her know these dates. For new altar servers, ministers, greeters and announcers, please let us know which Mass you wish to serve. Thank you all for your Cooperation and your patience!

-- Debbie (Parish Office - 304-242-0406.)