

Pulpit Announcements for the The Epiphany of the Lord January 5, 2025

**Welcome to all who are here today to celebrate the
Feast of the Epiphany of the Lord with us.
Whoever you are or wherever you find yourself on the journey.
Know that here at St. Matthias, ALL ARE WELCOME!**

- Merry Christmas! Let us not forget that Christmas is not just for one day but a whole season.
- We wish to invite you to a Christmas concert presented by the Franklin High School Madrigals, (under the direction of Ms. Kiera Radvanski, Deacon John's daughter.) The concert will occur immediately after our Noon Mass in Church **tomorrow/today**.
- Today's 2nd collection is to benefit the Catholic Charities' Parish Emergency Assistance Fund.
- All are welcome to join in praying the monthly rosary in Church after the 10 AM Mass.
- Our Spread the Light Campaign has brought joy to many, but the time has come to take down our trees for another year. Please consider joining us on Saturday, January 11, at 9 AM to take the lights off of the trees and pack them away. Last year, with the help of many hands, the job took less than two hours. Please note, if you decorated your tree please make sure all decorations are removed by Wednesday, January 8. That is the day the signs will be removed.
- We are in the Jubilee Year 2025. Our Diocese has officially opened the Jubilee year for the Diocese. Next Sunday during Mass, we will inaugurate and focus on the Jubilee Year in our parish.
- Many of our parishioners are having a truly spiritual time during the Eucharistic Adoration on Monday evenings. Why not try attending it on a Monday - anytime between 6-8 PM.

The three kings or the Magi were seekers after truth. They followed the star and their search brought them to the feet of Baby Jesus, who is born as Savior of the world. How lucky we are to be His disciples. Today's feast of the Epiphany is an invitation to us to seek the Lord and follow His ways. How lucky we are to have Him come to us in this Eucharistic gathering. Let us surrender ourselves to the Lord.... as we welcome Him into our midst...

Music for Our Assembly

January 5, 2025

The Epiphany of the Lord

Behold the Lord, the mighty one, has come; and kingship is in his grasp, and power and dominion...Malachi 3:1

Gathering Hymn – We Three Kings

1. We three kings of Orient are;
Bearing gifts we traverse afar
Field and fountain, Moor and mountain,
Following yonder star.

**O star of wonder, star of night,
Star with royal beauty bright;
Westward leading, still proceeding,
Guide us to thy perfect light.**

2. Born a King on Bethlehem's plain,
Gold I bring to crown him again,
King forever, Ceasing never
Over us all to reign.

3. Frankincense to offer have I:
Incense owns a Deity nigh;
Prayer and praising Gladly raising,
Worship him, God on high.

4. Myrrh is mine; its bitter perfume
Breathes a life of gathering gloom;
Sorrowing, sighing, Bleeding, dying,
Sealed in the stone-cold tomb.

5. Glorious now behold him arise,
King and God and Sacrifice;
"Alleluia, Alleluia!"
Sounds through the earth and skies.

*Text: 88 44 6 with refrain; based on Matthew 2:1–11. Text and music: Carols, Hymns and Songs, 1863;
John H. Hopkins, Jr., 1820–1891, alt*

Prayer of the Faithful

The Epiphany of the Lord

January 5, 2025

Our response is: “Lord of Glory, Hear Our Prayer.”

1. For Pope Francis and all Church leaders ... to continue the mission of bringing the light of Christ to all; For global, national, and civic leaders, to work for peace and prosperity for all the citizens, we pray. . .
2. For our community of St. Matthias, and for people of all faith traditions, especially our Orthodox Christian Churches celebrating Christmas this week, that we may work together towards unity, justice, and peace, we pray. . .
3. For all who are seeking meaning and purpose in their lives that, at the end of their searching, they will come to recognize Christ as the source of wisdom and light in the world as the three magi did, we pray...
4. For those who are ill in body, mind, or spirit . . . supported by the love of their families and caregivers, may they encounter the Word made flesh who brings hope to everyone, we pray. . .
5. For those who have died in the recent airplane tragedies, in the ongoing wars and conflicts, and in the many senseless killings, like those killed in New Orleans, and for **Dean Roberts**, may they all enjoy the bliss of the heavenly kingdom, we pray. . .
6. For the intentions of all of us assembled for worship as we enter this Jubilee year 2025, answer the needs we hold deep in our hearts, we pray. . .

The presider announces the Mass intention and concludes the Intercessions:

- 5 PM:** Intention of Parishioners
8 AM: Donald Armistead
10 AM: John Pfeiffer
12 PM: Jennie Vaccarella

Preparation of the Gifts - What Child is This

1. What child is this, who, laid to rest,
On Mary's lap is sleeping?
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet,
While shepherds watch are keeping?

**This, this is Christ the King,
Whom shepherds guard and angels sing;
Haste, haste to bring him laud,
the babe, the son of Mary.**

2. Why lies he in such mean estate
Where ox and ass are feeding?
Good Christian, fear: for sinners here
The silent Word is pleading.

3. So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh,
Come peasant, king, to own him;
The King of kings salvation brings,
Let loving hearts enthrone him.

Communion Hymn – The First Noel

1. The first Nowell, the angel did say,
Was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay;
In fields where they lay keeping their sheep,
On a cold winter's night that was so deep.

**Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell,
Born is the King of Israel.**

2. They looked up and saw a star
Shining in the east, beyond them far;
And to the earth it gave great light,
And so it continued both day and night.

3. And by the light of that same star
Three wise men came from country far;
To seek for a king was their intent,
And to follow the star wherever it went.

4. This star drew nigh to the northwest,
O'er Bethlehem it took its rest,
And there it did both stop and stay,
Right over the place where Jesus lay.

5. Then entered in those wise men three,
Full rev'rently upon the knee,
And offered there, in his presence,
Their gold and myrrh and frankincense.

6. Then let us all with one accord
Sing praises to our heav'nly Lord;
Who with the Father we adore
And Spirit blest for evermore.

Closing Hymn - Hark the Herald Angels Sing

1. Hark! the herald angels sing:
“Glory to the newborn King;
Peace on earth, and mercy mild,
God and sinners reconciled!”
Joyful, all ye nations, rise,
Join the triumph of the skies;
With angelic hosts proclaim:
“Christ is born in Bethlehem!”
Hark! the herald angels sing,
“Glory to the newborn King.”

2. Christ, by highest heav’n adored,
Christ, the everlasting Lord;
Late in time, behold him come,
Offspring of a virgin’s womb.
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see!
Hail th’incarnate Deity!
Pleased as man with us to dwell;
Jesus, our Emmanuel!
Hark! the herald angels sing,
“Glory to the newborn King.”

3. Hail the heav’n-born Prince of Peace!
Hail the Sun of Righteousness!
Light and life to all he brings,
Ris’n with healing in his wings.
Mild he lays his glory by,
Born that we no more may die,
Born to raise each child of earth
Born to give us second birth.
Hark! the herald angels sing,
“Glory to the newborn King.”

Text: 77 77 D with refrain; Charles Wesley, 1707–1788, alt.

Music: Felix Mendelssohn, 1809–1847; adapt. by William H. Cummings, 1831–1915.

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Responsorial Psalm – Psalm 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13.

Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.

O God, with your judgment endow the king,
and with your justice, the king's son;
He shall govern your people with justice
and your afflicted ones with judgment.

Justice shall flower in his days,
and profound peace, till the moon be no more.
May he rule from sea to sea,
and from the River to the ends of the earth.

The kings of Tarshish and the Isles shall offer gifts;
the kings of Arabia and Seba shall bring tribute.
All kings shall pay him homage,
all nations shall serve him.

For he shall rescue the poor when he cries out,
and the afflicted when he has no one to help him.
He shall have pity for the lowly and the poor;
the lives of the poor he shall save.

Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.