WE HAVE COME TO WORSHIP THE KING
Jan 6, 2019 • The Epiphany of the Lord

Tradition, poetry, and literature have long reflected upon the story of the magi. The journey of the magi indeed resonates with journeys in our own lives. The journey is a search for a “king,” for what or who is of primary importance in life. The seekers lose direction and encounter obstacles and dangers. Searching for a king, the magi first come upon a false king, Herod. The reappearance of the star shows them the true path and leads to the true king.

For Matthew, the journey culminates in the magi’s worship of Jesus. They discover a king not clothed in grandeur, but wrapped in humility and simplicity. They begin to re-imagine what true royal power really is. Transformed by the journey, they embrace the humble king, Jesus.

INSIDERS AND OUTSIDERS

An epiphany is a manifestation, a revelation of what was hidden, and often a challenge to change. For Matthew’s community, the story of the magi challenged these new Christians, from both Jewish and Gentile origin. The insiders, those rooted in the Jewish scriptures and traditions, might be uncomfortable with the magi, and with God working within Gentile culture to draw them toward God. The outsiders, the Gentiles, would rejoice that God calls them from within their own roots. But they knew that they too were called to their own journey of transformation.

Who are insiders and outsiders today? Some might see strangers as threats to accustomed ways of honoring and serving God. Others might believe that they themselves are too distant, concluding that they cannot be accepted in Christian community, and perhaps tune out God’s activity in their lives. Still others might think that belief in Christ serves as another dividing line between people, preventing them from seeing all persons as God’s children. The story of the Epiphany reminds us that classifying insiders and outsiders is an illusion, a falsehood arising from a separation from God. When we are united with God, we can only see others as sisters and brothers.

Today’s Readings: Is 60:1-6; Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13; Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6; Mt 2:1-12

St. Francis Xavier Parish
7th and JEFFERSON STREETS, MOUNDSVILLE, W. VA. 26041
Rev. That Son Ngoc Nguyen

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION (CONFESSIONS):
Sat. 3:30 p.m., or any other time upon request.

SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE:
By appointment. Contact the Parish House at least six months before the date of the marriage. Pre-Cana is required.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM:
By appointment. The Diocese requires instructions beforehand for the parents. Contact the parish office.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (C.C.D.):
Sundays during the school term at 9:00 a.m. to 9:50 a.m. for Grades 1-12.

REGISTRATION AND CHURCH SUPPORT:
Parishioners should be properly registered at the Parish Office.
The Epiphany of the Lord  
January 6, 2019  
Rise up in splendor, Jerusalem!  
Your light has come,  
the glory of the Lord shines upon you.  
— Isaiah 60:1

**WEEKLY SCHEDULES**

**Lectors/ Eucharistic Ministers:**
- 1/12  4:00 p.m. L. Remke/ P. Remke
- 1/13  8:00 a.m. Cathy Frame/ S. Kent
- 1/13  10:00 a.m. M. Helfer/ P. Whitwam

**Altar Servers:**
- 1/12  4:00 p.m. Kent Family
- 1/13  8:00 a.m. Laberde
- 1/13  10:00 a.m. Swift/ Targosky

**Gift Bearers:**
- 1/12  4:00 p.m. Kay Bosworth/ Daunel Gump
- 1/13  8:00 a.m. Mark Hitt
- 1/13  10:00 a.m. Georgia Petit

**Sacristy Cleaners: Week of January 7, 2019**
- Judy Mysliwiec & Kitty Pazyk

**Greeters:**
- 1/12  4:00 p.m. Daunel Gump
- 1/13  8:00 a.m. Roger Frame
- 1/13  10:00 a.m. Linda & Butch Miller

**Bingo January 11, 2019**
- Raffle: Bob & Patty Kleinedler
- Kitchen: Daunel Gump

**COLLECTION: December 23, 2018**
- Envelopes - $3,023.00
- Loose Offering - $1,612.00
- Electronic Giving - $35.00
- Building Fund - $110.00
- Catholic Charities - $2,662.00
- Memorial Offerings - $25.00
- Pennies for God - $11.35
- Attendance - 326

**COLLECTION: Christmas 2018**
- Envelopes - $6,818.00
- Loose Offering - $1,625.00
- Building Fund - $300.00
- Catholic Charities - $2,662.00
- Memorial Offerings - $75.00

Rosary weekdays after 8 am Mass
**The Sanctuary Candle**
beside the tabernacle burns this week
for:
Ruth Ann Harrigan
Requested by
John Harrigan

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**MARK YOUR CALENDAR**
Jan. 11 - Knights of Columbus Fish Fry
Jan. 16 - Parish Council meeting: 6:30
Jan. 17 - Screening of “Recovery Boy”
1:00 P.M Church Basement
Jan. 23 - Monthly cooking series: Viet Nam
11 A.M - 1 P.M. Church Basement
Jan 26 - World Youth Day

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**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS FISH FRY**
Friday, January 11
Xavier Hall 11-5
Fish, Fries, Cole Slaw,
Pierogi, Macaroni & cheese, Drinks,
Homemade Desserts
Workers and baked goods needed!
Contact Greg Green 304-238-3621 or
Cork Potts 304-845-2686

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Are you involved with, or hoping to someday be involved with, some kind of adult faith formation in your parish? The diocese is offering a new mini-course in the Northern Panhandle that explores the theory and practice of adult faith formation in parish life. The seminar will meet 4 consecutive Tuesday evenings from 6-7:30 pm beginning January 22nd. The course fee is $20 which includes all course materials; scholarships are available if the cost is an obstacle. A full course description can be found at: https://vlcff.udayton.edu/calendar/course.php?course=23 (Note: this description is for the online version of the in-person course that the Diocese is offering). To sign up or get more information, contact Nick Mayrand at nmayrand@dwc.org or 304-233-0880, ext. 376.

Registration closes January 8th, at which time a central location will be selected for the 4 weekly meetings that best suits those registered.

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In January 2019, two million young adult pilgrims will gather with Pope Francis in Panama, for World Youth Day. Closer to home, in Washington, DC, thousands of college students and young adults from across our country will join them in for Panama in the Capital, a one-day stateside celebration of World Youth Day on Saturday, January 26th. The Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston is helping to host Panama in the Capital. This one day event costs only $20. Please contact the office if you are interested in attending.

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**What a memory… Thank You!!**
To all of the beautiful children of our parish and their parents: we could not do our pageants without you. Also, I would like to thank Mary Taskalines, Mrs. Fischer, Karen Ali, Jack Zuckoff, Jerry Durbin, Julie Fecat, Monica Miller, Trish Whitlatch, Robin Targosky, Mallery Novel, Cathy Freeland, Amelia Francis, Carolyn Harris, Scott Harris, Shelby Harris, Whitney Regiec, and Father That Son - You all made this on of our best Christmas’s ever. God Bless you all.
- Lottie Durbin

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Our Parish offers prayers and condolences to the family of:

Nancy Termin

May she rest in peace.