

Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord



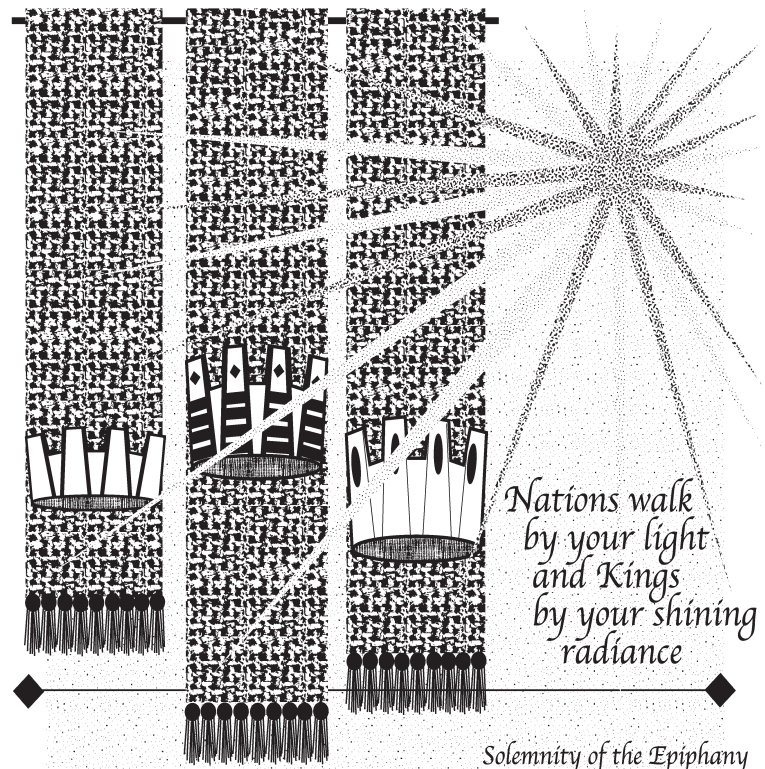
Dear Friends: Throughout the years, I've had many a person express to me, whether in casual conversation or in confession, their struggles with keeping their minds from being distracted during Mass. I suppose it is a normal part of human frailty to let the mind wander to tasks still undone, to personal worries, or to any number of other things that sidetrack our attention during the Eucharistic celebration. It is an age-old struggle.

I must humbly admit that I myself succumbed to the temptation to let my mind drift as I was celebrating Mass last Sunday. It was the Feast of the Holy Family, and I was battling fatigue during the 12:00 noon Mass. The pangs of hunger were beginning to form in my stomach and my energy level was subsiding while I was praying the Eucharistic Prayer. I was trying to stave off these bodily forces in order to make it through the remaining few minutes of Mass.

While I was thinking about the rumbling in my stomach, I was also pondering the comments that I made in my homily about the family being the “school of Christian life.” The confluence of depleting energy and drifting thoughts about family being a “school” led to a surprising effect. I began to recite the “institution narrative,” in the Eucharistic Prayer and instead of saying, “*In a similar way, when supper was ended, he took the chalice...*” I said, “*...when school was ended...!*” Immediately, I heard some chuckles echo throughout the church. I must admit that I too burst out with a little chuckle and quickly recovered with the proper words. From that point on, it took all the energy and control that I could muster in order to maintain composure and complete the Eucharistic Prayer!

Needless to say, I had several people poke a little fun at me as they were leaving the church. I also received a few messages from parents telling me that my “blunder” was the topic of their children’s conversations and amusement on their way home. One of the parents told me that it was nice to know that priests are human too. For my part, I’m glad that I could be the object of amusement for my parishioners. It was a humble reminder of my humanity, which served to keep me from becoming inflated. It also illustrated to me (and to several parents) that children DO pay attention during Mass!

As we celebrate today’s Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord, we ponder the mystery of the star that captured the attention of the Wise Men. These men, guided by that star, went forth seeking the Newborn King. One can only imagine the tenacity and resolve that these men must have had to persevere on such a journey. They were unique in their attentiveness to this heavenly sign. They held fast to their purpose in following the star that illuminated their path. In the end, their seeking was rewarded with the chance to behold the face of the Savior. As they gazed upon



Pastor

Fr. Paul Hesse

Parochial Vicar

Fr. Joseph Thang Nguyen

Permanent Deacons

Salvador (Sal) Alvarado

Manuel Marroquin

Parish Secretary/Bookkeeper

Lisa Catchings

Parish Office Assistant

Wilma Toledo

Music Minister

Michael Conley | 991-0995

Music Accompanist

Charles Branning

Youth Mass Band Leader

Mick Boudreau

Director of Religious Education

Sr. Barbara Netek, IWBS

*Director of Adult Faith Formation
and Director of RCIA*

Sr. Annette Wagner, IWBS | 1993-0299

Director of Youth Ministry

Robert Streight | 452-4513

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Dolores Saenz

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that face, they recognized his true identity and it transformed their lives.

Each day, we are called upon a journey to seek the Lord in our own lives. There is always a temptation to be distracted from that journey. Like the Wise Men, we need to appeal to God for the firmness of purpose and the tenacity to stick with our faith development so that we will stay on course. Illuminated by the Truth, and guided by God's grace, we will find the goal of our seeking. Fortunately, at every Mass, we are given the opportunity to gaze upon the face of Our Savior in the Eucharist. Let us give him our attention and devotion so that we may recognize his true identity and let him transform our lives!



Heartfelt Sympathies to Wilma Toledo

Please include Wilma Toledo, from our parish office staff, and her family in your prayers as they mourn the loss of her husband, Nick Toledo, who passed away this past Thursday. May the angels lead him into paradise! May he rest in God's peace.

Retirement Fund for Religious

We want to thank you parishioners for your contribution to the collection for Retired Religious that was taken in December. A total of \$4,445.17 will be sent to the headquarters in Washington D.C. and distributed during the year to those U.S. congregations most in need.

We sisters ministering here at St. Pius are sincerely grateful for your generosity. Sister Barbara Netek IWBS, Sister Annette Wagner IWBS, Sister Angela Murdaugh FSM, Sister Barbara Bluntzer SP.

May She Rest in Peace

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Tanya Willis of Frisco, TX, who passed away on December 27th. She was Darrell & Julie Mundell's niece.

Rectory Office Hours:

Monday-Friday, 9:00AM-5:00PM

Schedule of Services

Masses: *First Friday: 5:30PM - Anointing of the Sick*

First Saturday: 8:15AM Vigil at 5:30PM.

Sunday: 8AM, 10AM, 12PM, 5:30PM (Youth Mass)

(Babysitting at 10AM and 12 noon Sunday Masses - Ages 6mo-5yrs - in Parish Hall Nursery)

Weekdays: Monday through Friday 8:15AM,

Wednesday & Friday 5:30PM

Holy Days: 7AM, 12PM & 6:30PM (Vigil 5:30PM)

Confessions: Saturdays - 4-5PM and 6:30-7:30PM

Marriages: By appointment only and notice six months in advance.

Weddings take place on weekdays any time and on Saturdays no later than 3:00PM

Baptismal Instruction: Pre-register through the office.

Anointing of the Sick: On request and at the 5:30PM Mass on First Fridays

ST. PIUS X MEN'S CLUB MEN'S RETREAT

Saturday, April 13, 2013
8 am – 4 pm
St. Pius X Youth Building



The one day retreat is open to all men of the parish 18 yrs and older. The retreat will be focused on St. Joseph, the Carpenter, the earthly father of Jesus, and the patron saint of the Men's Club. Joseph, the silent man of the Gospels, is in the line of the great men of faith of the Old Testament. He is described as a "just man", a righteous man of integrity. He faced many challenges but remained faithful and obedient to God's will.

The retreat will include topics on faith, obedience, forgiveness, piety and service. The day will include the Sacrament of Reconciliation, Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, Praying the Rosary and Mass, along with scripture reading, devotionals, personal prayer time and small group discussion.

If you would like an opportunity to enhance your spiritual life and bring your relationship with our Lord closer through the inspirational life of St. Joseph, please sign up for this event. RSVP to Stephen Tagliabue at tagbro1@stx.rr.com.

Women's Retreat

A Saturday morning retreat is being offered to all women of the parish. It is a time to gather, to reflect, to hear new aspects of our lives as Catholics and to get a fresh start on 2013. Set aside the morning of January 26 for this special time just for you.

Two Things to Consider this Week:

First, the weekend of January 13-19 has been designated at National Vocation Awareness Week. Today, the response to God's Call to serve at as a priest, brother or sister is still going on, and although the numbers aren't high, the persons who answer that movement of the Spirit are as joyful and as firm as ever. During next week, please include in your prayers those men and women who are searching for meaning in their lives, possibly as a priest, brother or sister.

Second, the problem of human trafficking is called to our attention. During that same week, as we keep in mind those adults who are desiring to respond to the call to religious life, there are hundreds of men/women and young boys/ girls who are being preyed upon by human traffickers. Many youth are U.S. citizens who are coerced into activities such as commercial sex, selling drugs, and begging, while undocumented men are forced into laboring in some unregulated industry. Reported cases of human trafficking are on the rise.

Let's keep all persons in our prayers next week.

Comings and Goings

The Week at a Glance



Sunday, January 6

8:00-10:00AM – RCIA – CC#2
10:00AM – 12:00PM – Finance Seminar – CC#1
1:00PM – Irish Festival meeting - PH
1:30PM – Baptism Class – CC#2

Monday, January 7

3:00-4:00PM – Ballet class - PH
7:00-9:00PM – Church History – CC#2
8:00PM – Night Angels – CC#1

Tuesday, January 8

6:00-8:00AM – Men's Journey – CC#1&2
9:00AM – 12:00PM – MAP – CC#1
10:00AM – Journey – CC#2
1:30-3:30PM – Talent Show Tryouts – PH
2:00-4:00PM – Church History – CC#2
6:30PM – CMSE – CC#1
7:00PM – Catholic Daughters - CC#2

Wednesday, January 9

7-8:00AM – Joyful Pillars – CC#2
9:30AM – Staff Meeting - R
9:00AM-12:00PM – MAP – CC#1
9:30AM – Schola – C/R
12:00-3:00PM – Spohn Vol. – PH
3:30PM – Children's Choir – C/R
4:30PM – Youth Choir – C/R
6:30PM – Alhambra – R
6:30PM – CCD & Parents – PH, CC#1&2, Cafeteria
8:00PM – Youth Band practice -CH

Thursday, January 10

1:30PM – Bridge – CC#1&2
6:00PM – Bell Choir – C/R
7:00PM – Adoration – CH
7:30PM – Adult Choir – C/R

Friday, January 11

8:00PM – Chopin Concert - CH

Saturday, January 12

8:30AM – Journey – Cafeteria
8:30AM – 12:00PM – Chopin Competition - CH

Sunday, January 13

8:00-10:00AM – RCIA – CC#2
10:00AM – 12:00PM – Finance Seminar – CC#1
4:00-5:30PM – Boy Scouts Class – CC#2

Catechesis of the Good Shepherd

Classes will resume Sunday, January 6, 2013 during the 10:00 a.m. Mass. All children ages 3- Kindergarten are welcome to join us. If you have any questions, please call the religious education office or send an email to Jenny Ostrom at ostrom_jenny@yahoo.com.

YOUTH CORNER



We invite ALL middle school students to our EDGE Night, as during the Parent Meeting that is taking place, you will be treated to a Relay-Battle where each member of your team is integral in your success. EDGE kicks off for the Spring on Wednesday, January 9, 2013 at 6:30 pm in the Youth Center!



This Week - We reveal our Life Teen Theme for 2013 in what we like to call: Fear Factor. ALL high school students are invited to come. During the games, don't forget that we have a Parent Meeting. Life Teen kicks off tonight, Sunday, January 6, 2013 at 6:30 pm in the Youth Center!


Next Week - Who Are You, Really? We challenge teens to examine the foundations they have built their life upon. It presents Jesus as the true freedom for their lives, and challenges teens to build their lives in Him. So, again, Who Are You, Really? Don't forget to bring your friends on Sunday, January 13, 2013 at 6:30 pm in the Youth Center!

PARENTS OF BOTH EDGE AND LIFE TEEN: The EDGE and Life Teen ministries will be having a mandatory Parent Meeting for each ministry. For Parents of Life Teen youth, the meeting will be tonight, **January 6, 2013 at 6:30 pm** and will last 30 minutes. For Parents of EDGE youth, the meeting will be on **January 9, 2013 at 6:30 pm** and will last for approximately 30 minutes. Both meetings will take place in the **Youth Center**.

Summer Trip 2013: Sign-Up for the trip **will end on January 20, 2013**. Information for the trip will be discussed at the Parent Meeting on January 6, 2013.

ADULT FAITH FORMATION

EPIC: A Journey Through Church History

Sessions will begin this week:  Monday, January 7, at 7:00 PM; and Tuesday, January 8, at 2:00 PM. We are still meeting in CC#2. We will pick up with Session 11. See you then!

Altar Servers Jan. 12 & 13

Sat. 5:30 p.m.
MC Kevin Smith
Matthew Oliveira
Jacob Rivera
Ryan Park



Sun. 8:00 a.m.
MC Logan Campbell
Kevin Beckwith
Sophie Campbell
Lucy Kainer

Sun. 12:00 p.m.
MC Joseph Tarin
Quarter Morrison
Matthew Lutz
Riel Posada
Grace Morrison

Sun. 10:00 a.m.
MC Blake Martin
Matthew Montez
Aaron Martin
Andrew Montez
Brooke Montez

Sun. 5:30 p.m.
MC Alex Rossi
Franceska Alvarado
Millicent Alvarado
Kelsey Thomas

Lectors

BAPTISM OF THE LORD

JAN 12	SAT	5:30	P.M.	Ron Osman
JAN 12	SAT	5:30	P.M.	Dick Poremba
JAN 13	SUN	8:00	A.M.	Norman Paris
JAN 13	SUN	8:00	A.M.	Alpha Patterson
JAN 13	SUN	10:00	A.M.	Denise Hyde
JAN 13	SUN	10:00	A.M.	Larry Hyde
JAN 13	SUN	12:00	NOON	Delbert Hooper
JAN 13	SUN	12:00	NOON	Arthur Kaler
JAN 13	SUN	5:30	P.M.	Inez Matthijetz
JAN 13	SUN	5:30	P.M.	Frank Pompa

SAFE ENVIRONMENT (CMSE) CLASSES

RE-CERTIFICATION: Please check your blue cards and if it is expired, attend one of the following recertification classes. There are some changes in the certification process and they will be explained to you. Please bring your expired certification card with you.

ALL CLASSES ARE IN CC#1 AT 6:30 pm

Re-certification class dates:

January 8 February 12 March 12
April 9 May 14



Rejoice

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

CCD CLASSES RESUME WEDNESDAY, January 9th. We look forward to seeing all of your again.



PARENT MEETING WEDNESDAY! The parent meeting will be at 6:30 in the Parish Hall. Parents of children preparing to receive the Sacraments of Reconciliation and Holy Communion are required to attend. Please be sure to sign in when you arrive.

Friendship Circle

On Wednesday, January 16, at 11:30 AM we will meet in the Parish Hall for our first gathering of the New Year. Women of our parish who have a lost their loved spouse are invited to gather once a month for a social time, luncheon and (on occasion) an enjoyable activity that makes the day special. Come join us!

Did You Know...

Did you know that the mobile clinic, "Mission of Mercy" helps uninsured persons with their medical needs. Nurses help triage, volunteers help with paper work, and doctors see the patients who come seeking aid. The clinic ventures to Robstown, Bishop, Flour Bluff, Orange Grove and First United Methodist Church in CC during each month. If you would like to be one of those special workers by volunteering your time and talents, please call the MOM office at (361)883-5500.

Parish Work Day

Beginning at 5:00pm tomorrow, Monday, January 7th, we will begin the process of taking down some of the decorations in the Church. Everyone is welcome, so hope to see you there!

St Pius X Women of Faith Meeting This Week

This group will meet on Fridays, 9-11am, starting January 11, 2013, in CC#2. For more information, please contact Sarah Morrison @ sfm011@grandecom.net. Childcare is available.

Coming in February... Women of Faith evening group! Look for more information to come.

Catholic Daughters

The Catholic Daughters will meet on Tuesday, January 8, at 7 p.m. in CC#2. Activities for the year will be planned. All women of the parish are invited to come and experience the fellowship and the opportunity to spread God's love. Members are encouraged to bring breakfast donations for the Mother Teresa Shelter.

School News

By Principal Kathy Clark



Last week was a short one for the students of St. Pius X Catholic School who returned to school after their two-week Christmas vacation.

Returning to school after a break is always difficult for some. However, a two-day week is fairly easy to handle compared to a five-day week. The teachers and staff members returned on Wednesday for a work day, a day to finalize report cards, clean up classrooms, and get ready for the second semester of school. The students returned on Thursday, and even though it was a short week, those two days were busy with a Spring Fundraiser kick-off, report cards being distributed, Perfect Attendance treats, and a trip to Jason's Deli for the students who were rewarded for their good manners! Students in grades 3 – 5 were given spelling words to study for the classroom spelling bees that will take place week after next. And the NCSW committee met to finalize plans for National Catholic Schools Week that will take place at the end of January.

Our PTO is sponsoring a quick Spring Fundraiser that will last only two weeks. Students will be selling containers of seeds that will sprout into plants bearing messages such as "Happy Birthday" or "I Love You." The top seller from each class will get to race a pig in the pig races that will take place after the fundraiser is over. There are all kinds of prizes for both students and classes. But perhaps the most "fun" thing will be watching Fr. Paul kiss a pig if the kids sell \$20,000 worth of merchandise! That is highly unlikely. However, anything is possible! Get ready, Fr. Paul!

Our December Manner of the Month students did not get to go to Jason's Deli as planned in December, so they were taken there on Friday. It's always a treat for our students who are chosen to go to Jason's Deli. And it never fails that our students get complimented for their good manners while they are there. We appreciate Bob and Sue Becquet who sponsor this program for the school and allow the children to eat free each month.

National Catholic Schools Week will take place the last week of January. The committee that is planning the activities for the week met on Thursday to finalize the plans. The activities will include a parade, a spelling bee, a talent show, an open house, a book fair, a basketball game between parents and sixth graders, a school Mass and pancake breakfast. Throw in a crazy hat day, a book character dress-up day, and a college t-shirt day, and you have a fun week!

On Tuesday of this week, we will find out what kind of talent our students possess as they try out for the talent show. If it's anything like prior years, we will see singers, dancers, musicians, acrobats and comedians. One of our 5th grade students, Paxton Hanna, performed at Carnegie Hall in December. We are hoping he will entertain us with the same piano piece that won him this prestigious award. It's a fact that there are many talented students at St. Pius X Catholic School.

Have a blessed week!

Mass Intentions



Sat. 1/5	8:15AM	Gilbert Schanen by Nancy Schanen
	5:30PM	Angie Rossi by the Rossi family
Sun. 1/6	8:00AM	Armi & Roger Pigott 40th Wedding Anniv. Intentions by family
	10:00AM	Maximina Rivera's Anniv. by the Ramirez, Leal & Hinojosa families
	12:00PM	Joe Shropshire's Anniv. by Helen Shropshire
	5:30PM	For the Parishioner
Mon. 1/7	8:15AM	Milada Darilek by family
Tue. 1/8	8:15AM	Pablo & Noemi Salinas by Dora Garza
Wed. 1/9	8:15AM	Lucille Cunningham by Carolyn Buehrig Filliberto Martinez by Carolyn Canchola Angel Escobar by Gary & Kathy Clark
	5:30PM	Charlie Gross' Anniversary by Chuck Gross Frances Reagan by Maxine Sommers Alene Koenig by Harly & Karen Day Petra Guzman by Maria Skidmore
Thu. 1/10	8:15AM	Gumecinda Salinas by Art & Mary Salinas
Fri. 1/11	8:15AM	Lowell Didear by family
	5:30PM	Cristina Del Rio by Elva Z. Laurel
Sat. 1/12	5:30PM	Reynaldo Ramirez, Sr. by Irma Ramirez
Sun. 1/13	8:00AM	Christopher & John Janosek by John & Debra Janosek
	10:00AM	Jose Arellano's Anniv. by Elva Arellano
	12:00PM	Bruce Bayerlein, Sr., Dale & Iluminada Gunnar by the Bayerlein family
	5:30PM	For the Parishioners

Please Pray for our Sick & Shut-Ins:

Manuel Balbin, Madison Beckwith, Ann Bednorz, Don Birt, Sgt. 1st Class William Boone, Bill Brumback, Bob Byrd, Stella & Michael Campos, Ashley Carroll, Reana Carter, Riana Carter, Sherry Coveyou, Jason Cox, Shirley Curry, Alicia de Boza, Florinda De La Garza, Mark DeGaish, Sandy DeGregorio, Minga DeLosSantos, Samantha Didear Deste, Liz Elovitz, Yolanda Escobar, Juan A. Flores, Bobby Floyd, Raymond Garcia, Jr., Elida Gonzalez, Glenda Graham, Vickie Grainger, Maria Griffin, Charlotte & Tommy Groner, Jared Groner, Terry Groner, Coleen Habeeb, Marie Habeeb, Rose Marie Hand, James Hartman, Corina Herndon, Cathy Hervey, Chris Holland, Graham Hughes, Lucas Jean-Baptiste Ramirez, Matteo Jean-Baptiste Ramirez, Elizabeth Johnson, Martha Kaler, Mary Kelly, Dorothy Krause, Arlene Leep, Ed Lewis, Alois Lup, Arlene Lup, Cynthia Lup, Dorothy Mathews, Michael McCloskey, Virginia Medrano, Robert Miller, Johnnye Lee Mokry, John Morgan, Dan Murray, Blanca Neipert, Anna Nicolas, Toufic Nicolas, Patricia Paris, Phil Perabo, Robert M. Pope, Ron Randolph, Raymond Richter, Marguerite Ross, Luis Salazar, Tim Salch, Janie San Miguel & children, Amber Saylor, Terry Schacherl, Josephine Sheldon, Tina Shepherd, Msgr. Richard Shirley, Willie Mae Shirley, Mary Pat Slavik, Maxine Sommers, Adrian Sosa, Lydia Tey, Idolina Vela, Luz Villarreal, Melva Walet, Mary Lois Webster, Bea Wilson, Dolly Zihelli, Sarah Zuniga and all those who asked for and need our prayers.

Financial Report for week ending 12/23/12

Operating Revenue:

Sunday Collection.....	\$ 42,584.40
Other Income:.....	\$ 1,972.75
Christmas Flowers:.....	\$ 440.00
Total Operating Revenue	\$ 44,997.15

Other Contributions:

Acts of Charity	\$ 250.00
Janosek Scholarship	\$ 25.00
Retirement Religious	\$ 120.00
Catholic Charities	\$ 40.00
Memorials	\$ 250.00
Total Other Contributions	\$ 685.00
Total Contributions 12/23/2012..	\$ 45,682.15

Financial Report for 12/25/2012

Operating Revenue:

Sunday Collection.....	\$ 13,125.57
Total Operating Revenue	\$ 13,125.57
Total Contributions 12/25/2012..	\$ 13,125.57

Financial Report for week ending 12/30/2012

Operating Revenue:

Sunday Collection.....	\$ 25,866.35
Other Income:.....	\$ 95.00
Total Operating Revenue	\$ 25,961.35

Other Contributions:

Janosek Scholarship	\$ 100.00
Total Other Contributions	\$ 100.00
Total Contributions 12/30/2012..	\$ 26,061.35

Financial Report for week ending 1/1/2013

Operating Revenue:

Holy Day Collection	\$ 2,959.05
Other Income:.....	\$ 155.00
Total Operating Revenue	\$ 3,114.05

Other Contributions:

Retirement Religious	\$ 25.00
Total Other Contributions	\$ 25.00
Total Contributions 1/1/2012.....	\$ 3,139.05

Loan balance on Youth Bldg as of Dec 31, 2012

..... \$ 952,402.79



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