

## January 4: The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

When Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, in the days of King Herod, behold, magi from the east arrived in Jerusalem, saying, Where is the newborn king of the Jews? We saw His star at its rising and have come to do him homage. - Mt 2:1-2



Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass 2001, 1998, 1970 CCDLITURGY

### MASS INTENTIONS & READINGS

#### Sunday, January 4, *The Epiphany of the Lord (Is 60:1-6/Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6/Mt 2:1-12)*

8:00 am- Chris Jares

10:30 am- Parish Family

#### Monday, January 5, *USA: Saint John Neumann, Bishop (1 Jn 3:22--4:6/Mt 4:12-17, 23-25)*

7:00 am- Lisa Grissom

10:00 am- Sarah Jansky (Hallettsville Rehab)

#### Tuesday, January 6, *Christmas Weekday, St. André Bessette, Religious (1 Jn 4:7-10/Mk 6:34-44)*

7:00 am- Joe & Helen Grafe

#### Wednesday, January 7, *Christmas Weekday (1 Jn 4:11-18/Mk 6:45-52)*

7:00 am- James Konvicka

8:05 am- Dale Schulte

#### Thursday, January 8, *Christmas Weekday, Saint Raymond of Penyafort, Priest (1 Jn 4:19--5:4/Lk 4:14-22a)*

7:00 am- Lester Tesch, Jr.

10:00 am- Eddie Belcik (Stevens)

#### Friday, January 9, *Christmas Weekday (1 Jn 5:5-13/Lk 5:12-16)*

7:00 am- Henry & Annie Etzler

8:05 am- Bernice Bates

#### Saturday, January 10, *Christmas Weekday (1 Jn 5:14-21/Jn 3:22-30)*

5:30 pm- Hubert & Millie Gerlich

#### Sunday, January 11, *The Baptism of the Lord (Is 55:1-11 or Is 42:1-4, 6-7/1 Jn 5:1-9 or Acts 10:34-38/Mk 1:7-11)*

8:00 am- Parish Family

10:30 am- Julius & Mary Mikulenka, Louis & Julia Brosch, Ben & Timothy Brosch

**Bulletin Sponsor:** In Memory of Frank & Mary Haas Family by Lillian Haas Family

**Vigil Light:** For Living & Deceased Members of the Lucario and Cappellano Family

**Radio Broadcast Sponsor:** In Memory of John Haas Family

Pray for the repose of the soul of Frances Warzecha, mother of Marvin Warzecha; Mary Krischke, sister of Josephine Leopold; and Lilly Nillson and Masimo DeLaRosa, of Sacred Heart Parish. May they rest in the peace of Christ.

**Our Gift to God (Christmas Day):** Envelopes-\$20,160; Loose-\$3,553; Children-\$115

**Our Gift to God (December 28):** Envelopes-\$12,600; Loose-\$2,599; Children-\$85; Manna-\$2,211

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### MONDAY, JANUARY 5

-No Church Choir 3

### TUESDAY, JANUARY 6 .

-Quilting Circle, 9:00 a.m.

-P.I. Classes Resume

### WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 7

CCD Classes – K-12<sup>th</sup> Resume

### THURSDAY, JANUARY 8

RCIA Classes – 7:00-8:30 p.m.

### SATURDAY, JANUARY 10

1<sup>st</sup> Penance Practice in the Church at 9:00 a.m.

January						
			1	2	3	
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

**Among our sick:** Donna Avant, Lorene Christ, Josephine Muniz, Wilbert Kalinec, Barbara Kubena, Kathy Davis, Elrose Ehler, Marilyn Palmquist, Doug Blumberg, Amanda Gutierrez, Becky Pekar, Karen Kahanek, Harvey Drozd, Monte Staha, Marie Hermes, Karen Perez, Georgie Meyer, Doris Anders, Jack Crandall, Gary Trojcek, Jerry Novosad, Brian Wisnoski, Jeanne McClain, Frances Kutach, Henry Konvicka, Sweet Hrcir, Clorisa Hartensteiner, Betsy Brown, Marcella Henke, Mark Henneke, Kirk Remmers, Leo Haas, Jr., Richard Grahmann, Margie Becker, Anita Pesek, nursing home residents, & the homebound.

### *Happy Anniversary!*

Welden & Virginia Lell 53 years Jan 6

**Catholic Daughters** dues of \$20 are now due for 2015. Mail to Monica Foyt, 11014 U.S. Hwy. 90 A East, Hallettsville, TX 77964

**KJZT Society 2 Meeting**, Sunday, January 11, 2015, 3:00 p.m. at Mary's House.

**Youth Night:** Happy New Year! We have lots of exciting opportunities for the Youth this spring and Summer. Our upcoming events include: Youth Night on Sunday Jan 18, from 5-7:30 pm.(plus monthly youth nights); The Annual Rally for Life in Austin, TX on Sat Jan 24; Annual Youth Spectacular in Victoria TX TBA. (usually February); Summer Youth Conference Steubenville on the Bayou in Louisiana. June 26-28, 2015. *More information on each event in upcoming bulletins. God bless*

**Holy Family Victoria Men's ACTS Retreat**—The next Men's ACTS Retreat is January 22 through January 25, 2015. For more information, please contact, Director, Andrew Vasquez 361-575-2804, cell 361-571-6715, Co-Director, Michael Hanes 361-648-5589, or Eddie Longoria 361-648-2602.

*Pray for vocations to the priesthood & religious life!*

### From the Desk of Msgr. John

Today we celebrate the Feast of the Epiphany, the coming of the Three Kings. An old Catholic custom is the blessing of the home at Epiphany, especially the doorways. We can bless ourselves and the rooms of the home with holy water. We use chalk to mark the numerals and letters over doorways. The chalk reminds us of the dust of the earth from which we were made. The numerals consecrate the new year. The initials remind us of the legendary names of the Magi—Caspar, Melchior and Balthazar—and also stand for the Latin motto: *Christus mansionem benedicat* (May God bless this house):

**20 + C + M + B + 15**

There is a very good Catholic television station called EWTN. It is on our local cable on Channel 15. EWTN has very good Catholic religious programming. It has a variety of instructional programs, daily Masses, the praying of the Rosary, and many inspirational programs. If you haven't watched it before, I would suggest you give it a try.

Thank you to Carol and Wilbert Etzler for overseeing the decorating of the church and all those who helped in any way. Renee Bludau for arranging the poinsettias, Irene Knebel and Pat Mladenka for the drapings behind the Crucifix and the Tabernacle, and Margaret Dornak and Eddie Kosh for setting up the outside Nativity. It takes many people to prepare everything for Christmas. Thank you to everyone who helped in any way.

### School News

Classes resume, Monday, January 5, 2015.  
Early Dismissal, Friday, January 9, Grs. K-4 1:00 p.m.; Grs. 5-12 1:30 p.m. Faculty Meeting

Let us pray for Cherise Klekar, daughter of Robert and Margaret Klekar, who has been accepted into a Religious Order of Sisterhood and continues to discern her vocation.

Dear Parish Family... It is with great joy that I share with you my acceptance into the religious community of the Apostles of the Interior Life which I will enter upon my graduation from Texas A&M University in May. What a blessing it is to do so in the year Pope Francis has declared the Year of Consecrated Life. It is my deepest desire to continue discerning this possible call to give myself completely to God. I know that my Vocation takes root from the many prayers said for Vocations each Sunday and throughout each week with the Vocations' Cross here at Sacred Heart. Thank you all for these prayers. I ask that you begin to pray for me specifically as I enter into this time of formation which will require much growth and grace. If you would like to know more about the community or feel called to support my Vocation financially please contact me at cheriseklekar@gmail.com or (361)798-0541. My prayers and God's blessings, Cherise.

### **CATHOLIC SCHOOL SWEEPSTAKES RAFFLE**

Once again, Catholic Life Insurance is sponsoring the Catholic School Sweepstakes Raffle that will benefit Sacred Heart Catholic School (SHCS). Tickets are only \$5.00 each and all money collected stays at SHCS.

Tickets are available at the school, the rectory, or any SHCS student. Drawing will be held on January 30, 2015.

**SHCS 2015 Extravaganza, "The Orient at Nightfall," Saturday, February 7, 6:00 p.m. to 12:00 a.m., K.C. Hall. Tickets \$125 per couple (includes socials with hors d'oeuvres, refreshments all evening, steak dinner and dance live music by Southern Express. Purchase tickets at School Office, Sacred Heart Credit Union or the Rectory.**



### The Epiphany of the Lord

"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."



God's Embrace Renewal Centers and their Music Ministry will host a Night of Prayer and Worship for Sacred Heart Catholic Church and the surrounding parishes at Sacred Heart Church Thursday, January 15, 2015. The evening will begin at 7:00pm and conclude at 8:30pm. This evening will give the community a glimpse into the ministry of God's Embrace and a sampling of the life-changing call to discipleship through Ignatian spirituality. One of the hopes of offering this evening is to spur interest in the community to take part in "Lead Me into the Deep, Lord"; a twelve week spiritual formation program which will begin in the parish on January 29, 2015. It is a wonderful journey to embark on to renew your Catholic Faith and deepen your relationship with God! For more information contact the parish office or Sandy Reese @ 979-541-6881 or sandy.reese@godsembrace.org .

**Parish Financial Report—November, 2014**

**Christmas Flowers Donors:** Robert & Rita Chase, In Memory of Alois Bittner--\$20; Bea Butschek, In Memory of Gilbert Butschek--\$10; Anita Migl, In Memory of Deceased Members of Frank H. Migl, Sr. Family--\$20; Robert & Leona Steffek, In Memory of Karen Steffek--\$20; Bessie Dornak, In Memory of Phillip Chaloupka & Leo Dornak--\$20; Alvin P. & Barbara Grahmann, In Memory of Alvin J. Grahmann & Harold & Georgia Ludwig--\$25; Mike & Helen Technik, In Memory of Louis & Julia Kallus & Carolyn Steffek--\$20; Ella Mae Bludau, In Memory of Ervin J. Bludau, Sr. & Terry Lynn Bludau--\$25; Gilbert & Mary Urbish, In Memory of Deacon Sonny & Elaine Rogers--\$20; Joyce Bludau, In Memory of David Bludau, Hubert & Ethel Bludau, Mary & Julius Zissa--\$30; Jimmy & Sylvia Steffek, In Memory of Raymond & Judith Ohnheiser & Nathan Shimek--\$15; Don & Barbara Rainosek, In Memory of V. L. & Rose Rainosek & Alvin J. Grahmann--\$40; John & Laverne Trojcak, In Memory of Jim Bludau & Rose Trojcak--\$20; In Memory of Al & Joyce Wagner, By Their Children—30; Mike & Lois Nelson, In Memory of Hilbert & Agnes Bludau--\$25; Henry & Ann Kostelnik, In Memory of John & Annie Novak, Joe & Lydia Kostelnik, Patricia & Karen Steffek--\$40; Shirley Bludau, In Memory of Tyler Bludau-\$10; James & Audrey Poche, In Memory of Tyler Bludau-\$25; Jon & Brenda Youngblood, In Memory of Tyler Bludau--\$25; Frank & Darlene Bludau, In Memory of Tyler Bludau--\$30; Frank & Bernadette Bludau, In Memory of Tyler Bludau--\$30; Glenn & Shara Steffek, In Memory of Rebecca & Julie Steffek--\$25; Deborah Janak, In Memory of David Janak--\$10; A. J. & Jo Kutac; In Memory of Newton & Frieda Renken & Stanley Kutac-\$15; Jerry & Mary Jo Janak, In Memory of Ploch & Janak Families--\$20; Guntram & Elaine Janak, In Memory of Guntram & Annie Janak & Dwayne, Alvin & Annie Schneider, Sr.--\$20; A.W. Spies, Jr., In Memory of Thelma & Ann Spies--\$25; Roland & Georgia Schaefer, Living & Deceased Members of Their Family--\$35; Henry J. and Marcella Henke--\$20; Carolyn Foster & Family--\$20; Victor & Lucille Vasek, \$10—Lillian Gohlke--\$25; Jerry & Margaret Kallus--\$25; Mary Ann Pavliska--\$20; Martha Sitka--\$20; Rosa Gonzales--\$25; Charles & Irene Matula-\$25; Rita M. Wachel--\$25; Tommy & Elsie Grahmann--\$5

<u>Church Income:</u>	
Sunday Collections	\$ 39,128.00
Other Donations	2,336.15
Family Center Rental	660.00
Campaign for. Human Development	643.00
Religious Articles	1,292.50
Interest	14,386.73
<b>Total Church Income</b>	<b>\$ 58,446.38</b>
<u>School Income:</u>	
Student Fees	\$ 404.00
Tuition	72,321.25
Extended Care	2,005.00
Catholic Education Envelopes	2,043.00
Memorials	305.00
Interest Income	19,776.37
Miscellaneous	519.90
<b>Total School Income</b>	<b>\$97,374.52</b>
<u>Church Expenses:</u>	
Salaries	\$ 9,628.41
Utilities	1,581.60
Church Expenses	1,713.52
Rectory Expenses	227.70
Office Expenses	1,196.80
Religious Articles	1,103.95
Building Insurance	2,000.00
Family Center Rental	259.53
Special Collection	643.00
Medical Insurance & Pension	4,040.32
Repairs & Maintenance	151.77
<b>Total Church Expenses</b>	<b>\$22,546.60</b>
<u>School Expenses:</u>	
Salaries	87,843.16
Contracted Services	\$ 811.44
Student Assessment	175.00
Office/Teaching Supplements	1,650.99
Postage	149.22
Staff Development	85.28
Textbooks/Testing	3,879.00
Library Expenses	69.95
Utilities	4,470.51
Plant Repairs & Maintenance	2,627.46
Custodial Supplies	572.80
Bus/Van Expense	1,418.11
Payroll Taxes	6,623.58
Medical Insurance	16,247.70
Retirement	5,000.00
Property Insurance	5,065.00
Convent Expenses	524.40
Technology	479.42
Annual Gifting Expense	644.20
Miscellaneous	133.49
<b>Total School Expenses</b>	<b>\$138,470.71</b>
<b>Parish Income</b>	<b>\$155,820.90</b>
<b>Parish Expenses</b>	<b>-161,017.31</b>
<b>Parish Deficit</b>	<b>\$(5,196.41)</b>

# Growing in FAITH™

Discovering **hope and joy** in the Catholic faith.

January 2015

**Sacred Heart, St. Mary, St. John and Ascension Churches**

Fr. John C. Peters, Pastor

## One Minute Meditations

### St. John Neumann

The first American bishop to be canonized was

born in what is now the Czech Republic in 1811. St. John did missionary work in New York, was ordained at 25, and joined the Redemptorists at 29. At the age of 41, he became bishop of Philadelphia. He attracted teaching orders to the city and turned the parochial schools into diocesan schools, greatly increasing the number of students. St. John also built more than 89 churches, several hospitals and orphanages.



### Thanksgiving

What better way to start the New Year than in the spirit of thanksgiving? Thanksgiving is what the word "Eucharist" means. There's no better way to show thanks to God than by living our lives in a new way beginning with Mass each week.

### Transformation = Joy

*"You will show me the path to life, abounding joy in your presence, the delights at your right hand forever"*

Psalm  
16:11.



## Becoming who we were meant to be

Happy New Year! These words represent an opportunity for us to transform ourselves into the people that we hope to be. The people God knows we can be. This year, we can bring true joy to our lives by transforming ourselves for God.

**Start by seeking God everywhere.** Whether it is by acknowledging the constant generosity he shows toward his children or by accepting opportunities to receive him in the Sacraments, God is waiting for us to seek his presence in our lives. All we have to do is look and listen.

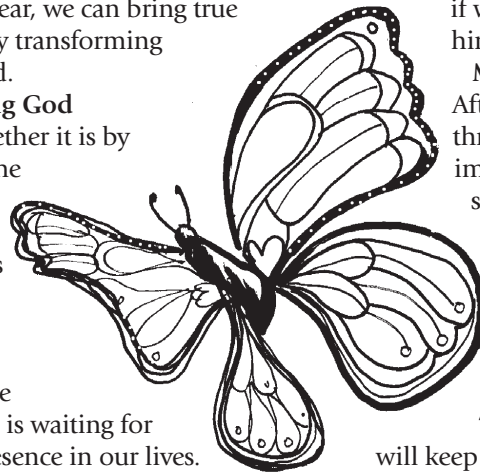
**Nurture a healthy faith.** To strengthen our faith we must separate ourselves from the habits that distract us from our spiritual needs. That can mean turning off the TV or computer,

reevaluating friendships or just accepting our struggles as opportunities for grace.

Transformation by God can only come if we give ourselves to him completely.

**Maintain a clean slate.** After we are cleansed through Confession, it is important to quickly surround ourselves with graces, such as receiving the sacraments more frequently, or studying religious materials. These "vitamins" for the soul will keep us spiritually sound.

**Aspire to the greats.** Throughout history, the saints have experienced every situation we can imagine. When we look for inspiration, we can look to them and let them guide us by their examples.



## Why Do Catholics Do That?

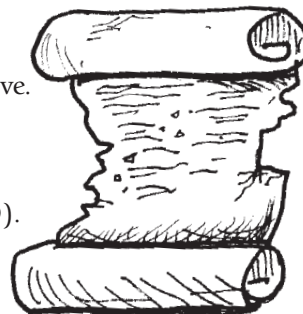
### Why do Catholics say the Nicene Creed at Mass?

Reciting the Nicene Creed at Mass helps to remind us what we believe.

The Nicene Creed was finalized at the Councils of Nicaea (325 AD) and Constantinople (381 AD). The beliefs expressed in the Nicene Creed are the same as those in

the Apostles' Creed, but are more detailed because it was written to express what the Church taught regarding the heresies of the time.

"Whoever says 'I believe' says 'I pledge myself to what we believe'" (CCC 185).



## Aim for perfect faith

Imagine if you had perfect certainty that God was with you in all things. Think how differently you would respond to difficulties, temptations, or hardships if you were convinced that God was in all of it and would use it for good. Worry would be a thing of the past. That's perfect faith and it is possible. Here's how.

**Believe in God's love.** God is love, so to believe in God is to believe in his love. If God loves you, then he wills your good.

*"There is no fear in love, but perfect love drives out*

*fear because fear has to do with punishment, and so one who fears is not yet perfect in love"* (1 John 4:16). Perfect faith comes from believing in God's love.

**Practice makes perfect.** Perfect faith results when we live God's word, not just hear it. Practicing the Ten Commandments, the Beatitudes and the two Great Commandments (love God, love your neighbor), we notice God's hand in our lives and trust in him grows.

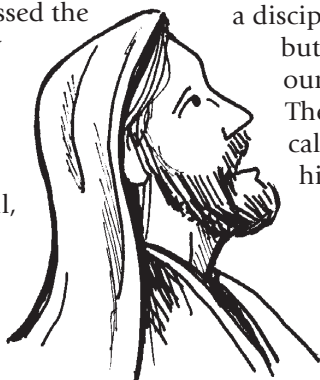


### from Scripture

#### Mark 1:14-20, The common call.

When we read about the way Jesus gathered his followers, it seems almost casual. For example, he passed the Sea of Galilee, saw Andrew and Simon and called them. It's as if these men left their homes and livelihoods to follow Jesus with little thought. After all, he was a stranger to most. We must conclude that there was something very compelling about Jesus and his call to them.

With hindsight, we know that Jesus' message was worth leaving everything behind. In fact, we know that true discipleship means leaving



everything and surrendering to the will of God. He will provide whatever a disciple needs to follow him but nothing comes before our relationship with God. The compelling part of his call is the chance to serve him and be close to him.

Jesus chose twelve special people to be his closest followers and he became their leader. They went where he told them and did what he asked. Jesus

is still calling people to follow him today. In fact, he has called each of us to follow him.

### Q & A What is my responsibility to God?

Once you have come to know God, and what he has revealed about



himself, he must come first in your life. *"You shall love the Lord, your God, with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind"* (Matthew

22:37). This is not oppressive.

On the contrary, if we love someone, we make changes so they can have a meaningful part of our lives. Their joys and sorrows become our own, and vice versa. This is true of God, whose very nature it is to love.

Jesus said, *"If you love me, you will keep my commandments"* (John 14:15). If we truly love him, we would do what he tells us to do: *"Love one another as I love you. No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends"* (John 15:12-13). God loved us enough to create us, suffer and die for us, rise from the dead for us, redeem and forgive us. How can we ignore a love like that?

### Feasts & Celebrations

In January we celebrate the Holy Name of Jesus. *"...at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, of those in heaven and on earth and under the earth"* (Philippians 2:10). In fact, the English letters IHS – representing the first three Greek letters in Jesus' name – used to be written over the doors of Christian homes.

**January 1 – Solemnity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Mother of God.** When we celebrate this feast, we honor Mary, but also Jesus, as God.

**January 4 – Epiphany of Our Lord.** "Epiphany" is Greek for

manifestation. When they honored the infant Jesus, the three wise men bore witness to the fulfillment of God's promise of a savior.

**January 28 – St. Thomas Aquinas (1274).** Kept prisoner for a year by his mother to prevent his priestly ordination, St. Thomas Aquinas became one of the greatest theologians of the Church, honored with the titles, "Doctor of the Church" and "Angelic Doctor." His writings are still fundamental to Christian education today.



**Our Mission**

To provide practical ideas that promote faithful Catholic living.

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(Unless noted Bible quotes and references are from the Revised Standard Version and the New American Bible)

# *Lead Me into the Deep, Lord*



**Location:** Sacred Heart Family Center, Hallettsville, TX

**Dates:** January 29, February 12 & 26, March 12 & 26, April 9 & 23

**Time:** 6:30pm-9pm Thursday Evenings

**God's Embrace Renewal Centers** will begin and has opened registration for an amazing journey with the Holy Trinity ***“Lead Me into the Deep, Lord”***; a twelve week spiritual formation program. The program for Sacred Heart Catholic Church and surrounding parishes will be held at Sacred Heart Family Center-Hallettsville, TX on Thursday evenings beginning January 29, 2015. The Program will meet twice a month from 6:30pm-9pm for a presentation of the session, brief discussion on what God is telling you through the presentation, sharing from your journal notes from your daily prayer with scripture and spiritual reading at home, and group discussion over any topics mentioned in the session; **A wonderful journey to embark on to renew your Catholic Faith and deepen your relationship with God!** Manuals will be available at your first program session. To register for the program or more information please contact Sandy Reese at 979-541-6881 or [sandy.reese@godsembrace.org](mailto:sandy.reese@godsembrace.org) .

[www.godsembrace.org](http://www.godsembrace.org)

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## **Registration for Seadrift-“Lead Me into the Deep, Lord”**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Parish: \_\_\_\_\_