

The Catholic Community of

OUR LADY OF LORETO CHURCH

MISSION STATEMENT

Our Lady of Loreto is a Catholic Community brought together by the belief that Jesus is Lord. We are called to share in His mission to bring about the Kingdom of God in our midst by proclaiming the Good News of Jesus in word and deed. Therefore, we pledge ourselves to build a community where all are welcomed, loved, needed, and appreciated. We will recognize and affirm the gifts and talents of one another while proclaiming the ideal of shared ministry. We make this pledge in confidence that the Lord will assist us and bless us as we strive to realize this vision.

LITURGICAL SCHEDULE

Daily

Tuesday & Thursday, 8:00 a.m. Mass

Weekend

Saturday Vigil Mass 4:00 p.m.

Sunday 11:00 a.m. Mass



SACRAMENTS

Baptisms:

Parish registration for baptism is required. Pre-baptism instruction is required. Please call the parish office for appointment. 203-757-6112

Reconciliation (Confession):

Saturdays 3:30 p.m.

Weddings:

Contact the parish office six months in advance. 203-757-6112

Sick Calls:

Please contact the parish office if you are homebound, in the hospital or in a nursing home. 203-757-6112

Right of Christian Initiation of Adults

(RCIA)-The process of initiating the unbaptized into the Catholic Faith and to bring uncatechized Catholics into full participation in our Faith.

STAFF

Rev. Nathaniel C. Labarda
Administrator

John Lombardo, Trustee

Louis Ponzillo, Trustee

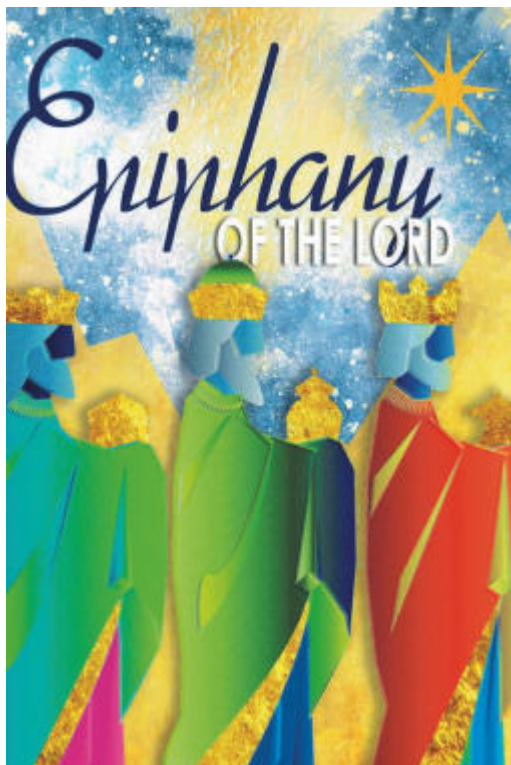
Beth Cavanaugh
Bookkeeper

Stephen Derasmo, Director of Religious Education
StephenDRE1@gmail.com

Chris Farris
Parish Secretary
PH: 203-757-6112

Paul Mitnick, Chairman Finance Council
MJM.Mitnick@att.net
PH: 203-592-5655

Rick Almeida
Music Director





Church News

SATURDAY, Jan 1, Vigil, The Epiphany of the Lord
4:00 p.m. Our Parish Family

SUNDAY, Jan 2, The Epiphany of the Lord
11:00 a.m. † Manuela Manalo
by Fe and Dan Bournival

TUESDAY, Jan 4, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton
8:00 a.m. Birthday Remembrance
† Aquilino Ylagan Sr.
by the Nave Family



THURSDAY, Jan 6, St. Andre Bessette
8:00 a.m. Our Parish Family

SATURDAY, Jan 8, Vigil, The Baptism of the Lord
4:00 p.m. 3rd Anniversary Remembrance
† Maryann Stanisz
by Barbara Winkel and family

SUNDAY, Jan 9, The Baptism of the Lord
11:00 a.m. Our Parish Family

- ◆ The Archdiocese of Hartford suggests everyone wear masks at mass.
- ◆ Thank you for your non-perishable food donations for the St. Vincent DePaul Food Pantry and your Share the Warmth donations!
- ◆ The 2022 mass book is open! Please contact the office to schedule your mass and sanctuary candle intentions for 2022.
- ◆ Women of the parish are invited to attend the next Blessed Sacrament DIVAS meeting on Thursday, January 13th at 6:30pm in the Our Lady of Loreto church hall. They will be planning projects and activities for 2022. Please call Linda at 203-768-9734 with any questions.

~ Have a blessed week ~



Parish Collection

Dec 18/19, 2021

1st collection: \$3,919

The offertory amounts for Dec 25/26 will be in the next bulletin.

Weekly offertory goal: \$3,500. Please prayerfully consider giving just \$2 or \$3 more to help meet our weekly goal.

Thank you for your financial support and LaBonne's receipts!!

LIVE THE LITURGY - INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK

Human beings easily get bored. Life's routines can become so predictable that there is often little time for excitement or freshness. Today is all about the new and the wonderful. In celebrating the beauty and simplicity of the Epiphany, we see in tangible ways God's creative, redemptive, and restorative power. This refreshment and revitalization is offered not only to a select few but to everyone throughout the world. There is nothing routine or static about God. Surprises, wonders, miracles, opportunities, healings, and joy without measure are available to those who believe. There are never any endings, just beginnings. And, when darkness, boredom, and gloom seem to be the order of the day, a bright new light now shines pointing us to truth and reminding us that we are loved.

The Holy Mass is the most precious gift one can offer for another person. Remembering someone with a Mass honors him or her in a unique way surrounding them with the warmth of God's love. A Mass may be offered for anyone, living or deceased. To arrange a Mass please call the parish office.



The Sanctuary Candle burns this week in loving memory for

Rosato Fabiani

*requested by
Joan Pesce Veneziano*

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP - RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

The Light of the Moon

If you own a television that has been turned on at any point in the last month or so, chances are you've caught at least a scene or two of the 1946 classic film "It's a Wonderful Life."

If you're not familiar with the movie, it follows the life of George Bailey from childhood through adulthood. A dreamer by nature, George has big plans for himself that involve world exploration and adventure — but family and community obligations keep him tethered to the same spot on the map, leading an altogether ordinary life.

One of the most memorable scenes from that movie is of George dancing with his sweetheart Mary while they sing "Buffalo Gals — Won't you come out tonight/And dance by the light of the moon?"

That lyric always catches my ear. Of course, the moon doesn't have any light of its own. All the moon has is the ability to reflect the light that shines upon it.

The same holds for us, doesn't it? Our stewardship is purely a reflection of the grace granted to us by another. "Upon you the LORD shines," writes Isaiah, "and over you appears his glory." Every good action we will ever take begins in the mind of God. The fact that we have the honor of carrying it out on His behalf is a beautiful gift. It is God that makes our ordinary lives extraordinary.

In the end of the movie, George Bailey realizes that he had a far greater life because, instead of being the hero of his own story, he allowed himself to reflect goodness onto others.



Remember — the magi didn't chart their own course. They merely followed the star.

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

A Family Perspective by Bud Ozar

After meeting Jesus, the Magi returned home by "another way." What in your family needs to be done "another way?" Do you need "another way to resolve differences, to communicate or show affection? This is a new year, time to change what isn't working. Take a tip from some wise men, there's always "another way."

Pope's Prayer Intention *January 2022*

For true human fraternity

We pray for all those suffering from religious discrimination and persecution; may their own rights and dignity be recognized, which originate from being brothers and sisters in the human family.

Background on the Gospel Reading

The visit of the Magi occurs directly before the story of the Holy Family's flight into Egypt. Matthew's Gospel tells a version of Jesus' birth that is different than the one in Luke. Of the actual birth of Jesus, Matthew tells us little more than, "When Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, in the days of King Herod . . ." The story of the census is found only in Luke's Gospel, but we hear about the visit of the Magi only in Matthew's Gospel.

We know little about the Magi. They come from the East and journey to Bethlehem, following an astrological sign, so we believe them to be astrologers. We assume that there were three Magi based upon the naming of their three gifts. The Gospel does not say how many Magi paid homage to Jesus. In Matthew's Gospel, they represent the Gentiles' search for a savior. Because the Magi represent the entire world, they also represent our search for Jesus.

We have come to consider the gifts they bring as a foreshadowing of Jesus' role in salvation. We believe the meaning of the gifts to be Christological. Gold is presented as representative of Jesus' kingship. Frankincense is a symbol of his divinity because priests burned the substance in the Temple. Myrrh, which was used to prepare the dead for burial, is offered in anticipation of Jesus' death.

The word Epiphany means "manifestation" or "showing forth." Historically several moments in Christ's early life and ministry have been celebrated as "epiphanies," including his birth in Bethlehem, the visit of the Magi, his baptism by John, and his first miracle at Cana.



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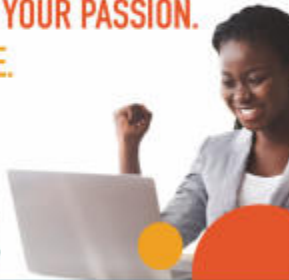
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