

Epiphany of the Lord – Jan 2, 2022

ST. MARY PARISH

WEEKDAY MASSES

Tues. Jan 4 - 7:00 p.m. Sean MacMillan Req'd by Patricia Manion
Wed. Jan 5 - 9:00 a.m. Mildred Page Req'd by CWL
Thur. Jan 6 - 9:00 a.m. Jonathan Eurig Req'd by Dec'd Dee Eurig & Family
Fri. Jan 7 - 9:00 a.m. Martin Prong Req'd by Mary & Bill Hammond
Sat. Jan 8 - 4:00 p.m. The People of the Parish
Sun. Jan 9 - 9:00 a.m. The People of the Parish

LECTORS

Sat. Jan 8 - 4:00 p.m. Susan Thurston
Sun. Jan 9 - 9:00 a.m. Emma Westendorp

CONFESSION only by appointment, call Fr. Mike at: 519-323-1054 ext. 7

ST. THOMAS, Harriston

Sat. Jan 8 - 5:30 p.m. Thanksgiving Mass Req'd by Patricia & Douglas French

ST. PETER'S, Aytton

Sun. Jan 9 - 11:00 a.m. Loretta & Jim Murray Req'd by Dot Bourgeois

2022 ENVELOPES

The 2022 contribution envelopes are available for you to pick up this weekend. Please verify that the address shown on your label is correct as it is the address that will be used on your income tax receipt in February. If you do not have envelopes and would like a box, please call the office.

PARISH OFFICE CLOSED

The Parish Office will be closed over the holidays from Dec. 24, 2021 to Jan. 4, 2022. The office will be re-open on Wed. Jan.5, 2022.

Operation Christmas Child Shoe Boxes

Thank you to all Parishioners who participated on Christmas Child Shoe Boxes.

Parishioners of our three churches packed a total of 37 boxes. Total from the following counties – Bruce, Grey, Huron, Perth, Wellington and Dufferin was 6099 an increase of approximately 1000 over last year.

Thank you to all who participated.

The Pope's Intentions

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.



Sunday's Readings

First Reading: Isaiah 60:1-6

Jerusalem shall be a light to all nations.

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

Every nation on earth shall worship the Lord.

Second Reading: Ephesians 3:2-3a,5-6

Gentiles are coheirs in the promise of Christ.

Gospel Reading: Matthew 2:1-12

The Magi seek out Jesus and do him homage.

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 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.

<https://www.loyolapress.com>

Kindergarten Registration at Wellington Catholic DSB

The Wellington Catholic District School Board will be accepting new registrations for kindergarten at our schools beginning January 3, 2022.

To be eligible for registering in kindergarten, children;

- must be four years of age on or before December 31, 2022 to attend Junior (Year 1) Kindergarten
- must be five years of age on or before December 31, 2022 to attend Senior (Year 2) Kindergarten

During the registration process, school administration is available to assist you with any questions you may have. To assist administrators with registering your child for kindergarten, we ask that you have the following documents available;

- Child's Birth Certificate
- Parent or Child's Baptismal Certificate
- Proof of Tax Support for Families New to the System (i.e. Most Recent Tax Bill)
- Proof of Address (Government Document, Mortgage or Rental Agreement, Hydro Bill, Credit Card Statement)
- Immigration Documentation (If Applicable)
- Custody Documents (If Applicable)

Please note:

- Students currently attending a Wellington Catholic Junior (Year 1) Kindergarten program are **NOT REQUIRED** to register for Senior (Year 2) Kindergarten.



May God, the source and origin of all blessings, grant you grace, pour out his blessing in abundance, and keep you safe from harm throughout the year. Amen.

What are your spiritual resolutions for the new year?

Simplify your life- in a spiritual sense, simplicity involves decluttering our mental and emotional states of being.

Read one spiritual book per month.

Attend a weekend retreat.

Pray a decade of the Rosary daily.

Volunteer- The point is, giving of your time will fill your heart more abundantly and cultivate a deeper sense of gratitude.

Keep the Sabbath holy- Then spend Sundays together as a family. Worship together, pray together, rest, spend time in quiet, take a nap!

Go to Confession once a month- If you make a concerted effort to go to Confession regularly, especially as a family, you will be astounded at how much more clearly you see yourself and others. Moreover, when paired with reception of the Eucharist, these Sacraments of Healing offer us a boost of much-needed strength to overcome our weaknesses and vices.

Start a prayer journal- Sometimes this might be a gratitude list, a simple prayer, a letter to God.

Listen more- Try to make a habit of listening to others before you offer your opinion or thoughts. As you develop a more natural penchant for attentive listening, you will discover that it is much easier to discipline yourself to hear God's voice instead of chattering on to Him ad infinitum. In the space that silence affords you, allow God to speak to your heart and respond to Him with love.

Give your failures, weaknesses, and sins to God- The point here is to offer up your discouragement, disappointments, and frustrations to God as a prayer.