



Bulletin

**Sacred Heart Parish**

**Mass: 4:00 pm - Saturdays**

**Fr. John Yake, I. V. Dei**

**(902) 535-2053 – Fax: 535-3127**

**January 2, 2022**

Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord

Today the Church celebrates the Solemnity of the Epiphany. "The Lord and ruler is coming; kingship is his, and government and power." With these words, the Church proclaims that today's feast brings to a perfect fulfillment all the purposes of Advent. Epiphany, therefore, marks the liturgical zenith of the Advent-Christmas season. — *Pius Parsch*

The Solemnity of the Epiphany is celebrated either on January 6 or, according to the decision of the episcopal conference, on the Sunday between January 2 and January 8. The young Messiah is revealed as the light of the nations. Yet, as the antiphon for the *Magnificat* at Second Vespers reminds us, three mysteries are encompassed in this solemnity: the adoration of the Christ Child by the Magi, the Baptism of Christ and the wedding feast at Cana. Extra candles and/or lamps may be placed around the sanctuary and in other parts of the church to honor Christ revealed as the Light of the Gentiles (*Ceremonial of Bishops*). It is customary to replace the images of the shepherds at the crib with the three Magi and their gifts. — *Ceremonies of the Liturgical Year*, Msgr. Peter J. Elliott, Ignatius Press.

The Memorials of *St. Basil the Great* and *St. Gregory Nazianzen*, bishops and doctors, which is ordinarily celebrated today, is superseded by the Sunday liturgy.

The feast of the Epiphany, which was kept in the East and in certain Western Churches before being observed in Rome, seems to have been originally a feast of the nativity; January 6, for those churches where it was kept, was the equivalent of Christmas (December 25) in the Roman Church. The feast was introduced at Rome in the second half of the sixth century and became the complement and, so to say, the crown of the Christmas festival.

Epiphany means manifestation. What the Church celebrates today is the manifestation of our Lord to the whole world; after being made known to the shepherds of Bethlehem He is revealed to the Magi who have come from the East to adore Him. Christian tradition has ever seen in the Magi the first fruits of the Gentiles; they lead in their wake all the peoples of the earth, and thus the Epiphany is an affirmation of universal salvation. St. Leo brings out this point admirably in a sermon, read at Matins, in which he shows in the adoration of the Magi the beginnings of Christian faith, the time when the great mass of the heathen sets off to follow the star which summons it to seek its Saviour.

That is the meaning, too, of the wonderful prophecy from Isaias which the liturgy appoints to be read in the first nocturn at Matins and at the Epistle of the Mass. This same thought of universal redemption the Church returns to as she sings, in the antiphon to the *Magnificat* at 2nd Vespers, applying the words to herself, of the union with Christ typified by the wedding feast at Cana, by the baptism of her children foreshadowed by that of Christ in the waters of the Jordan. Formerly the Epiphany was an additional day for solemn baptisms.

**Collections:**

**Dec 18<sup>th</sup>**

<b>Envelopes</b>	<b>\$210.00</b>
<b>Loose</b>	<b>\$20.00</b>
<b>Donation</b>	<b>\$100.00</b>
	<b>\$330.00</b>
<b>Hall Rental</b>	<b>\$240.00</b>
	<b>\$570.00</b>

**Dec 25<sup>th</sup>**

<b>Envelopes</b>	<b>\$755.00</b>
<b>Loose</b>	<b>\$42.00</b>
<b>Donations</b>	<b>\$1,100.00</b>
<b>Sacred Heart Ladies Group</b>	<b>\$4,500.00</b>
	<b>\$6,397.00</b>

**Dec 26<sup>th</sup>**

<b>Envelopes</b>	<b>\$2,580.00</b>
<b>Missals</b>	<b>\$10.00</b>
<b>Donation</b>	<b>\$500.00</b>
<b>Shrine Fund/IM of Dianne (MacInnis) Morrison</b>	<b>\$25.00</b>
	<b>\$3,115.00</b>

## Notices:

**1: De-Decorating for Christmas:** The Christmas decorations will be taken down on Saturday Jan 08, following the 4:00 pm mass.

**2: Adult Sewing/Handicraft** - The Johnstown sewing/knitting and needlework group are welcoming crafters to bring their projects to this informal class. Participants are asked to bring any unfinished project you need help with, or to start a new project. Kindred spirits alike will learn a new skill and or grow your exciting skill. A sewing machine is available for use. District 10 Fire Hall, Red Islands

Thursdays, for 14 weeks, starting January 13

1:00 – 3:30 pm, Fee: \$20.00

Instructor: Rita Campbell

**3: Gentle Yoga Flow** - Connect to your breath and body and let go of your stress, worries and burdens. With a focus on action, alignment and breath, this practice features a nice tempo to find what feels good and listen to the body. This sequence is easy on the wrists and great for the spine. A good practice for those new to yoga - also great for fast paced yogis who want to keep a healthy and well-balanced yoga practice.

Instructor: Lynne Doucette

Johnstown Parish Hall

Mondays for 6 weeks, beginning January 17

1:30 – 3:00 pm, Fee: \$20.00

contact Sharla Sampson at 902-226-0664 or by email at smombourquette@richmondcounty.ca.

**4: Skating Party** – Outdoor Pond behind District 10 Volunteer Fire Department Hall, Red Islands

Saturday, February 12, 2:00 - 4:00 pm Sponsored by: District 10 Volunteer Fire Dept.

Contact: Debbie Johnston, 902-304-0558

grammiedebbie1998@hotmail.com

## **5: Office of the Bishop**

Diocese of Antigonish

168 Hawthorne Street, P.O. Box 1330

Antigonish, NS B2G 2L7

Chancery 902-863-3335 / Fax 902-863-0037

Residence 902-863-1557

E-mail: bishopkirkpatrick@dioceseofantigonish.ca

(Pastoral note 28 /2021)

December 21, 2021 (St. Peter Canisius, Doctor of the Church)

My dear Clergy and My dear People,

In providing a COVID -19 update today, Premier Tim Houston and Dr. Robert Strang, Chief Medical Officer of Health announced that the province will require further restrictive measures effective tomorrow, December 22, 2021.

We will need to continue wearing masks and maintain physical distancing and now faith gatherings indoor and outdoor are limited to 25 % capacity to a maximum of 50 people. No choirs or congregational singing will be permitted but there can be one person singing.

Wedding and funeral Masses may be celebrated following the same protocols of 25 % capacity to a maximum of 50 people but there can be no receptions. Please find attached the following link.

<https://novascotia.ca/news/release/?id=20211221004>

Such restrictions are a major disappointment for all of us especially as we prepare to celebrate Christmas, but as Bishop, I support these directives and I instruct that our churches follow these provincial protocols.

Fraternally in Christ,

+ Wayne Kirkpatrick

Bishop Wayne Kirkpatrick