



Mother of Good Counsel Catholic Community

**Our Parish
COMMUNITY**

January 7, 2024

The Epiphany of the Lord (B)

Isaiah 60:1-6 / Ephesians 3:2-3a, 5-6 / Matthew 2:1-12



Catholic Church serving in Eastern Kentucky since 1913

Eucharistic Services:

7:00 pm Wednesday -
Word & Communion Service
5:00 pm Saturday - Holy Cross in Jackson,
Vigil Mass
11:30 am Sunday - Mass

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Sunday after Mass; other times by appointment.

Office Hours: Wed - Friday 10 am to 5 pm

Ministers for next Sunday, Rev. Bob Damorn

Lector : Luke Glaser

Ministers at MGC

Lori Helfrich, Parish Life Director

email: lhelfrich@cdlex.org

Mother of Good Counsel Prayer by B.J. Ewen

Holy Mary, our heavenly mother,
keep us in your care.

Give us your good counsel

as we strive to be disciples of your son Jesus
and help us to grow in faith and in our love for God.
Bless our parish which is named in your honor.
Help us in our lives as we humbly pray and help
us be attentive to the needs of our families and our
community.

Amen

Roman Catholic Diocese of Lexington, KY
Bishop John Stowe, OFM Conv.

1310 West Main Street
Lexington, KY 40508-2048
Phone: (859)253.1993
www.cdlex.org



Parish Mission Statement

Inspired and sustained in our Catholic faith through life-giving worship, we Mother of Good Counsel Catholic Community, have as our mission to bring Christ and the teachings of the Catholic faith to one another and the larger community in a ways that draw us together as a supportive family, yet reaches out with a genuine concern for all people, so that we can be authentic witnesses in an area where Catholics are few in number.

329 Poplar Street, Hazard, KY 41701

Phone : (606)436.2533 | 606.233.3012 for emergency or after hours

Fax: (606) 436.0171 | www.mgccc.org



Epiphany Party

Mother of Good Counsel will celebrate the Christmas season with our annual Epiphany party on Sunday January 7. The parish will provide a turkey and drinks. Please sign up to bring a dish to share. We will play some games and celebrate Christ's birth.



Epiphany House Blessing

Remember to pick up your blessed chalk and house blessing from the gathering space to bless your home as Catholics do each year at Epiphany.

Year End Giving

Please remember any donations to be counted for 2023 must be dated December 31, 2023. You will be receiving your year end giving statement in January by email. If you wish to receive a printed copy please let Lori know.

Becoming Catholic

We will resume our Becoming Catholic Classes on Tuesday January 9 at 7pm. We will begin to discuss the Sacraments in detail. All are invited to join us for this faith formation.

Landscaping Project

As you can see outside the parish East76 Landscaping has begun removing plants, trees etc and trimming and updating our landscaping. Once this stage of the project, removal and trimming is complete then the second stage of the project, an additional outdoor grotto will begin later in the spring. The cost of the landscaping trimming, and planting is proposed to cost \$23,000 and the second portion of the project, adding an additional outdoor grotto will cost around \$9,000. If you would like to make a contribution toward this effort, please list landscaping on your donation and checks are payable to Mother of Good Counsel.

Teen Disciples

Students in grades 7-12 will meet for Teen Disciples on the following dates in Spring of 2024. All teenagers are encouraged to attend.

January 14, 21
February 3
March 3, 24
April 7, 28
May 5, 12



A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

Like a rising star (see Numbers 24:17), Jesus comes to enlighten all peoples and to brighten the nights of humanity. Today, with the Magi, let us lift our eyes to heaven and ask: "Where is the child who has been born?" (Matthew 2:2). Where can we find and encounter our Lord?

HOMILY, ROME,
JANUARY 6, 2023

VATICAN MEDIA

Eucharistic Adoration

The parish will host our monthly Adoration from 7:30 - to 8:30 pm on January 10. All are invited to come and pray.



WOMEN OF HOPE: DOCTORS OF THE CHURCH

Throughout the history of the Catholic Church, in her most troubled and turbulent times, God has raised up great saints as beacons of hope in the midst of darkness. Among these great saints, there are women who have stood out as models of courage, wisdom, and trust.

Join Nita Clarke as she explores the impact of four female Doctors of the Church and their lasting impact upon the Church.

Based on the book of the same title by Terry Polakovic; awarded the "Pro Ecclesia Pontifice" in 2010 by Pope Benedict XVI.

January 13th 2024 8:30 am - Noon

RSVP with Deacon John Brannen by 01/08/24 at
jbrannen@cdlex.org or 859-273-9999 ext. 151

GUEST PRESENTER

NITA CLARKE
ST. PETER CLAVER

COST: \$15

MASS AT 8:30 AM

FOLLOWED BY
BREAKFAST

AND LECTURE

Pax Christi Catholic Church
4001 Victoria Way
Lexington, KY 40515

Anima Christi

SOUL of Christ, sanctify me.
Body of Christ, save me.
Blood of Christ, inebriate me.
Water from the side of Christ, wash me.
Passion of Christ, strengthen me.
O good Jesus, hear me.
Within Thy wounds, hide me.
Separated from Thee let me never be.
From the malignant enemy, defend me.
At the hour of death, call me.
To come to Thee, bid me.
That I may praise Thee in the company
of Thy Saints, for all eternity.
Amen.

St Ignatius of Loyola

Upcoming Events

1/7 : Epiphany Party
1/9 : Becoming Catholic

1/10 : Rosary, Word & Communion Service
Adoration

The Seekers

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

I live at a parish in downtown Milwaukee. From my window I watch the world pass by, everyone below in search of one thing or another. Students from the local university seek an education, business folk look for a sale, street people often look for a place to spend the night, teenagers hope to find love. Yet beneath all of those longings, in each one there is a deeper hunger that wonders what life is all about and the hope that they might find it. Hidden amidst it all, the real hunger is for God, a longing sewn into our being, sometimes recognized but too often not.

The story of the *Magi* is a story of seekers making their way from afar in hopes of finding the promised one, a newborn king. Perhaps they knew of this child's divine nature, more likely not, yet it was ultimately that same hunger that exists in all of us that drove them, a deep desire to know God.

Every serious religion seeks to experience God in life and tells the stories of those who have done so. There are Christian mystics like St. John of the Cross and St. Teresa of Ávila, Jewish mystics of the Kabbalah tradition, the Sufis of Islam, Native Americans who go on vision quests, the Hindus who practice yoga, as well as the Buddhists and Taoists and Confucians. Like the Magi, we all seek to find God. ●

Arise! Shine, for your light has come,
the glory of the LORD has dawned upon you.

ISAIAH 60:1

Reflect

Does it make sense to you to say that your deepest hunger is for God?

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MONDAY

January 8

Baptism of the Lord

Is 55:1-11

1 Jn 5:1-9

Mk 1:7-11

TUESDAY

January 9

Weekday

1 Sm 1:9-20

Mk 1:21-28

WEDNESDAY

January 10

Weekday

1 Sm 3:1-10,
19-20

Mk 1:29-39

THURSDAY

January 11

Weekday

1 Sm 4:1-11

Mk 1:40-45

FRIDAY

January 12

Weekday

1 Sm 8:4-7,
10-22a

Mk 2:1-12

SATURDAY

January 13

Weekday

1 Sm 9:1-4,
17-19; 10:1a

Mk 2:13-17

SUNDAY

January 14

*Second Sunday
in Ordinary Time*

1 Sm 3:3b-10, 19

1 Cor 6:13c-15a,
17-20

Jn 1:35-42



Readings for the Week



Dear Padre,

On what date was Jesus born? Was it December 25 or some time between December and April, when shepherds watched over their sheep?

Due to the complexity of history's various calendars and ways of calculating time, we cannot be sure of the date. Matthew and Luke, the two Gospels that detail the birth of Jesus, do not give a date.

Early Christians observed an annual feast to remember Jesus' death and resurrection, focusing on the paschal mystery rather than on his birth. As Christianity grew and spread, however, Christians wanted to celebrate more events from Jesus' life. The celebration on December 25 has more to do with an expression of faith in Jesus as Emmanuel, "God with us," than with establishing the exact date of his birth.

December 25 is listed as the date of Jesus' birth in a fourth-century calendar of martyrs, but how this date was chosen is unclear. Some scholars believe Christians in Rome chose December 25 to counteract the celebration of the pagan sun god Emesa. Another theory follows the influences of the seasons: early Christians believed John the Baptist was conceived on the autumnal equinox and born at the summer solstice. In Luke's Gospel, Jesus' conception took place six months after John's. That time line would place Jesus' birth at the winter solstice, December 25 on the Julian calendar. A third theory says Jesus' birth would have occurred on the same date as his death, which we believe to be in the spring at Passover. Regardless of the exact date, we celebrate Jesus as the true Son of God who came to enlighten us and, by his death and resurrection, to give us life. ●



Fr. John Schmidt, CSsR / DearPadre.org

Do you have a question for the Padre?

Go to DearPadre.org to send your question and to learn more about *Dear Padre*.

Our Weekly Offering

12/31/23

Loose: \$87

Envelopes : \$415

Christmas : \$70

Online: \$500

Total Weekly Offering: \$1072



Prayer List

Joey Napier, John Meehan, Roy Varghese, Brian Campbell, Matt Tuttle, Willie Gomez, Joe Fehribach, Louise Ayres, Charles McDaniel, Jon Latunik, Deb Night, Harvey Richardson, Delois McIntosh, Karen Davis, Zachary Hollan, Deedee Wells, Sherrian Noble, Stephanie Welch, David Napier, Martha Huggins, Roger Noyes, Willow Brockman, Tina Dawhare Fields, Valarie Maggard Dye, Marleen Combs, Robert Caldwell, Don Davis, The Rice Family, Maria Hall, Neal Boggs, Jackson Varela, Julie and Jonah Spencer, Jace Combs, Mandi Dishner, Brandon Robinson, Michael Whitaker, Thomas Stidham, Roy Pulliam, Quentin Davis, Nancy Kelly, Bobby Muncy, Grayson & Kaitlin Baker, Chuck Brunty, Al Pratt, Joe Vogel Sr. Mike Deubec, OFM, and Abby Turk.

If you know of someone who needs a pastoral visit or is in the hospital and would appreciate a visit contact the parish and let Lori know about the request.

Pope Francis Prayer Intention
Intentions for January
For The Gift Of Diversity In The Church
Let us pray that the Holy Spirit helps us recognize the gift of different charisms within the Christian community, and to discover the richness of different ritual traditions in the heart of the Catholic Church.

Stay Connected to MGC on Social Media



Mother of Good
Counsel



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Prayer Family

Gabby James