



Mother of Good Counsel Catholic Community

**Our Parish
COMMUNITY**

January 5, 2025

The Epiphany of the Lord (C)

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,

Sacramental Minister Rev. Bob Damron

Lector : Molly O'Rourke

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



CATHOLIC DIOCESE
OF LEXINGTON

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

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



Becoming Catholic

The parish will continue our Becoming Catholic classes that will journey with those going through the Order of Christian Initiation for Adults (OCIA). All people are welcome to come to this faith formation class. Becoming Catholic will be held resume on Tuesday January 14, 2025.

Epiphany Party

Our celebration is postponed until next Sunday January 12, 2025. The parish will provide a main dish, please sign up for bringing a dish to share. We will have dinner and games and celebration.

Epiphany House Blessing

Instructions for Blessing the Home:

Using the blessed chalk mark the lintel of your front door (or front porch step) as follows:

20 + C + M + B + 25 while saying:

The three Wise Men, Caspar, Melchior, and Balthazar followed the star of God's Son who became human two thousand and twenty four years ago. May Christ bless our home and remain with us throughout the new year. Amen.

Then offer the following prayer: Visit, O blessed Lord, this home with the gladness of your presence. Bless all who live or visit here with the gift of your love; and grant that we may manifest your love to each other and to all whose lives we touch. May we grow in grace and in the knowledge and love of you; guide, comfort, and strengthen us in peace, O Jesus Christ, now and forever. Amen

"Chalking the door" is a way to celebrate and literally mark the occasion of the Epiphany and God's blessing of our lives and home. With time the chalk will fade. As it does we let the meaning of the symbols written sink into the depths of our heart and be manifest in our words and actions the Latin words, Christus mansionem benedictat, "May Christ bless the house."

Adapted from: Carmelites.net

Flock Note

Mother of Good Counsel is going to use Flocknote to help stay in contact with parishioners and friends of the parish. You may receive texts or emails from Flocknote about upcoming events, Mass times, or prayer requests. You can also find Mother of Good Counsel in App.

Lectors and Extraordinary Ministers Needed

The parish is looking for more Extraordinary Ministers and Lectors to help at Mass. Please let Lori know if you are willing to read or be a minister of the Eucharist. There will be training provided for any volunteers.

Pilgrimage to Italy 2025

The Jubilee Pilgrimage to Italy that Mother of Good Counsel is offering in 2025 is open for registration. Follow the QR code for more information.

One in Christ 2024

With your prayers and contribution to the Diocesan Annual Appeal this year, we are able to support your neighbors in need. Lives will be changed and those most in need will know God's grace in a very special way. We are grateful for your faithful stewardship each Fall. The DAA ends on Nov 30th Please be generous Our parish benefits greatly from this appeal. Our goal for 2024 is \$9500 and 58 families. Currently we have raised \$6139, which is 65% of our total goal coming from 34 donors which is 59% of our participation goal. Please consider how you can support these goals, all donations are welcome.

YOUR SUPPORT MAKES IT POSSIBLE!

SCAN ME: Scan this QR Code with your smartphone to give online!

IRA CHARITABLE DISTRIBUTIONS/STOCK: Call (899) 253-1993 for more information

ONLINE: Give online at cdlex.org

MAIL: 1310 West Main St, Lexington, KY 40508

ONE IN CHRIST
2024 DIOCESAN ANNUAL APPEAL
Catholic Diocese of Lexington

"Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you."
- 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

Jubilee Year Pilgrimage to Italy
with Lori Helfrich
12 Days
July 29-August 9, 2025

For More Information Contact:
Bishop International Tours
800.667.4867 mcstaff@bistour.com
bistourinternational.com

A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

God made us: brimming with desire, directed, like the Magi, towards the stars.... We are what we desire. For it is our desires that...drive our lives forward, beyond the barriers of habit, beyond banal consumerism, beyond a drab and dreary faith, beyond the fear of becoming involved and serving others and the common good.



CNS PHOTO

HOMILY, ROME, JANUARY 6, 2022



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."

MATTHEW 2:1B-2

In Search of God

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

We are always in search of something or other, it seems—an intangible something that tends to shift and change over the course of our lives, like the tumbling pieces of a kaleidoscope. Sometimes, it is love we seek. Other times, meaning. Or inner peace, freedom from anxiety or guilt. Or perhaps freedom from all that ties us down. And sometimes, it is God we seek. Like the Magi, we too are on a quest for the Holy One.

One afternoon, Tom, sad but relieved face more, stopped by. He asked if we could talk about God—or, more exactly, about what God was like. He had been in a study hall, waiting for the bell to ring, when the person behind him asked, "When you die, do you think you're going to see God?" Tom said he thought he would, but then the other student replied, "Well, you won't, because God doesn't have a body. There isn't something to see."

The bell rang, Tom said, and they never finished the conversation. Tom wondered whether God had a body or not, and, if not, then what was God like? Tom was searching for a God that made sense amidst galaxies and black holes and light years of time, but also a God who was personal and knowable and lovable. He wasn't sure how to put the two together. He had become one of the Magi on a journey to find God. ●

Reflect

Where are you on your journey to know and discover God?

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Readings for the Week

MONDAY

January 6
Christmas Weekday

1 Jn 3:22-4:6
Mt 4:12-17, 23-25

TUESDAY

January 7
Christmas Weekday

1 Jn 4:7-10
Mk 6:34-44

WEDNESDAY

January 8
Christmas Weekday

1 Jn 4:11-18
Mk 6:45-52

THURSDAY

January 9
Christmas Weekday

1 Jn 4:19-5:4
Lk 4:14-22a

FRIDAY

January 10
Christmas Weekday

1 Jn 5:5-13
Lk 5:12-16

SATURDAY

January 11
Christmas Weekday

1 Jn 5:14-21
Jn 3:22-30

SUNDAY

January 12
The Baptism of the Lord

Is 42:1-4, 6-7 or
Is 40:1-5, 9-11
Acts 10:34-38 or
Ti 2:11-14; 3:4-7
Lk 3:15-16, 21-22



Dear Padre,

I'm into horoscopes. A friend told me that astrology is nonsense and against the Catholic faith. What do you say?

Stargazing is as old as the human race. We know with certainty that ancient Chaldea was known for its stargazers. Many of the constellations' names originated during that time. Some scholars believe that the three wise men who came from the East to pay homage to the newborn Savior were themselves Chaldean stargazers.

Astrologers believe that the zodiac signs under which we were born largely control our human destiny. The Christian objection to astrology is that it insults almighty God, who alone knows the future. God alone, in cooperation with the free will of humans, controls the future. To suppose that stars, planets, animals, or inanimate objects can, independent of God, direct or influence our lives opposes the first commandment: "I am the LORD your God.... You shall not have other gods beside me" (Exodus 20:2-3).

The Old Testament clearly spells out that it is vain to imagine "either fire, or wind, or the swift air, or the circuit of the stars, or the mighty water, or the luminaries of heaven" as "the governors of the world" (Wisdom 13:2).

Don't give credit to or blame the stars for what you do and who you are. See past them to the God who made them, and who made us, and who cares for all creation. ●



TANJA ANTIBROK / SHUTTERSTOCK

The Redemptorists / DearPadre.org

Our Weekly Offering

12/29/2024

Loose: \$138

Envelopes : \$260

Christmas: \$75

Mary the Mother of God: \$25

Online : \$263

Total Weekly Offering: \$761



Prayer List

Joey Napier, John Meehan, Roy Varghese, Brian Campbell, Matt Tuttle, Willie Gomez, Joe Fehribach, Charles McDaniel, Jon Latunik, Deb Night, Harvey Richardson, Delois McIntosh, Karen Davis, Zachary Hollan, Deedee Wells, Sherrian & Amose Noble, Stephanie Welch, David Napier, Martha Huggins, Roger Noyes, Willow Brockman, Tina Dawhare Fields, Mark Fields, Valarie Maggard Dye, Marleen Combs, Robert Caldwell, Don Davis, The Rice Family, 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., Margie Fields, Cordis Bishop, Randy Damron, Myla Atienza, Maria Brama, Ronnie Hurt, Sandy & Phillip Craft Jaranda Brunty, Kazmir Sparkman, 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.

Birthdays

1/5: Cassidy Holcomb

Pope Francis Prayer Intention

January. Let us pray for migrants, refugees, and those affected by war, that their right to an education, which is necessary to build a better world, might always be respected.

Stay Connected to MGC on Social Media



Mother of Good Counsel



Mother of Good Counsel

Prayer Family
Holcomb Family