

REFLECTION FOR THE DAY: *The Epiphany of the Lord—Solemnity*

We saw his star at its rising and have come to do him homage. The explanation of the Magi seems so simple and straightforward. But, like most aspects of our salvation history, there is more to the story.

The Magi were believed to be astrologers who studied the sky and stars. If the star was bright enough for them to follow, was it not visible in Jerusalem, as well? Had nobody there noticed it and wondered about it? They knew Scripture, and would have been familiar with the passage we heard in today's first reading. Certainly, they could have put together the same explanation of a new Jewish king. But Herod, who was alert to any threat against his reign, was, apparently, ignorant of the birth and its implications.

The star was there for all to see. But only those who were open to its meaning were blessed with seeing who and what it represented. The account of the Magi helps us to see that Jesus was born to be more than the king of the Jews. He came to draw all people to himself and to redeem all of humankind.

Today, let us thank God for all he has done to open the doors of heaven for us. His love knows no boundaries. Let us do our part in announcing that good news to those who have not yet seen the light. Let the love of God shine in us and, like the star of Bethlehem, lead others to Jesus.

DIOCESAN NEWS

On Dec 31, 2021 Father Peter Do will conclude his ministry at St. Pierre, Fort Coulonge, St Charles Borromeo, Otter Lake, St Elizabeth, Vinton and Our Lady of Perpetual Help in Waltham. As of Jan 1, 2022 Father Do will be in residence at the rectory of Holy Name of Jesus Church in Pembroke. While Father Do is in residence in Pembroke, he will be assigned various ministerial duties by the Bishop and will also be available for Mass coverage in parishes. Such requests for his assistance are to be arranged through the Chancellor.

Synodal Journey in the Diocese 2021-2022:

Invitation cards are included in your bulletin and available in the church and church mailbox. You are encouraged to distribute these cards to community members so they can invite baptized people who have drifted away from the Church to respond to the Synod's questions.

More information can be found on the diocese website:

<https://pembrokediocese.com/synod/>

In your prayers remember:

- * Our sick and hospitalized
- * Our elderly parishioners.
- * All those at the manor, lodge and homebound.
- * Our deceased family & friends.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament on Fridays at 6:00 pm. Please join us.

Men and women volunteers will be needed to take down Christmas decorations on **Sat., Jan 8th** beginning at **9:30 am**.

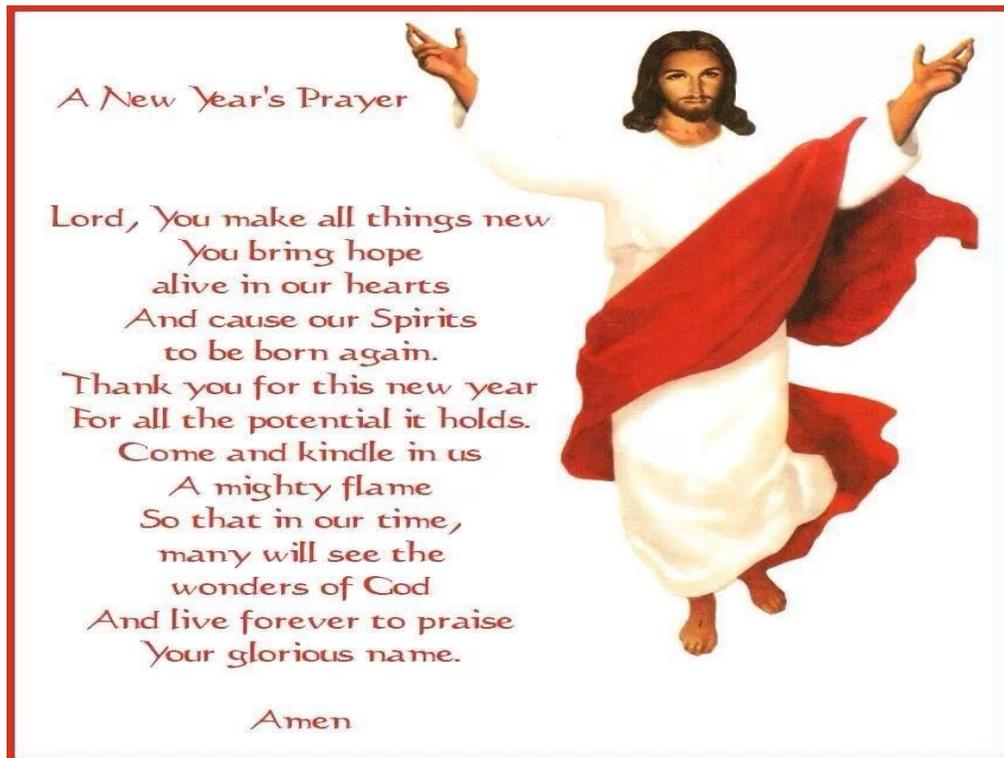
Visitation of the sick will be on **Fri, Jan 7th**. If you wish to be added to the list, contact the office.

Fr. R. Majek, OMI, will be at the **Annual Oblate Study Days** from Sun, Jan 9th, following Mass to Fri, Jan 14th. **No Masses during the week.**

2022 Envelopes that were not picked up at the back of the church, **are now in rectory office.** They can be picked up on **Thursday mornings**. If you would like to receive a set, call parish office. Thank you for your generosity.

The **Rosary Society** is donating **one religious calendar per family**, available at the back of the church. Any **additional calendars are \$5.00 each**. Please place money in envelope marked calendar and drop off in collection basket. **Thank you to the Rosary Society.**

If your child is ready for Sacraments of **First Communion and/or Confirmation** next year, please complete a registration form located at the back of the church. **Registration is due by Jan 9, 2022.**



WORSHIPS SAFE COVID GUIDELINES

For sacramental celebrations, in Step 3, as of July 16th, there is no capacity limit for places of worship. However, **physical distancing of 2 metres (6 ft) is still required** between parishioners attending Mass who are not from the same household, therefore our capacity remains at **125 people**.

At the same time, we have to keep in place all the former restrictions, **we sanitize our hands, we sign in after coming into the church, follow one way traffic in the church building, and receive Holy Communion with our hands**. As of Dec 20, 2021, the congregation are to **refrain from singing**. Bishop Desrochers is reminding us once again, that the Renfrew County District Health Unit is asking us to **wear the mask throughout the whole celebration**, not just at certain times. Further, if the Health Unit continue to receive complaints of a similar nature they may follow-up in person with on-site visits and enforcement action may occur, if necessary

Similar to other sacramental celebrations, there are no capacity restrictions for funerals as long as 2 metres (6 ft) of physical distancing can be maintained between attendees who are not from the same household.

Masses will be still transmitted through the radio station **88.3 FM**.

SCHEDULE OF MASSES—January 3rd to January 16th

Monday, January 3—*The Most Holy Name of Jesus, St. Genevieve, St. Munchin*

10:00 am (Polish) +Florence Rumelskie (Peter Yantha Jr)

Tuesday, January 4—No Mass—*St. Elizabeth Ann Seton*

Wednesday, January 5—*St. John Neumann*

10:00 am (Polish/English) +Shaun Lapenskie (Calvin & Shirley Hudder)

+Terry Hoffman (Ken & Rose Marie Stamplecoskie)

+Adolph Burchat (Susan E. Coulas)

Thursday, January 6—No Mass—*St. Guarinus*

Friday, January 7—*St. Andre Bessette*

6:00 pm Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

7:00 pm +Agnes & Anthony Laturski (Laturski Family)

+Alphonse Kuiack (Frank & Diane Kutchkoskie)

+Ambrose Ostroskie (Arthur & Lillian Shulist)

Saturday, January 8—*St. Raymond of Penyafort, St. Apollinaris the Apologist*

5:00 pm For all of our Parishioners

Sunday, January 9—Baptism of the Lord—*St. William of Bourges, St. Eulogius of Cordoba*

11:00 am (Polish/English) Andrzej & Kristina Suska (50th Anniv) (Len & Mary Lynn Gignac)

Monday, January 10 to Friday, January 14—NO MASSES

Saturday, January 15—*St. Paul the Hermit, St. Ita*

5:00 pm +Clemence Stamplecoskie (Michael J. Pecarskie)

Sunday, January 16—2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time—*St. Marcellus, St. Joseph Vaz*

11:00 am (Polish/English) For all of our Parishioners

PARISH COLLECTIONS

Please use stmaryswilno@gmail.com when you are making an etransfer from your bank account. It will be directly deposited and the church will be notified. There is a section to make a note, **please indicate if donation is regular Sunday collection, building fund or In Memory Of (with name)**. Also, if you are **not** a parishioner, please provide mailing address there. All donations will be recorded as usual, designated as per request, and will appear on the year end tax receipt.

Ministry Assignment

	Sat, Jan 1—11:00 am	Sun, Jan 2—11:00 am
Lector	Steve Platt	Len Gignac / Ryszard Prusakiewicz
	Sat, Jan 8— 5:00 pm	Sun, Jan 9—11:00 am
Lector	Edwin Echavarry	Catherine Bloskie / Andrzej Wielgosz
Altar Guild	Mon, Jan 10th to Sun, Jan 23rd	Lillian Shulist & Helpers
	Sat, Jan 15—5:00 pm	Sun, Jan 16—11:00 am
Lector	Ann & Tobias Sullivan	Catherine Bloskie / Andrzej Suska
	Sat, Jan 22—5:00 pm	Sun, Jan 23—11:00 am
Lector	Rita Coulas	Len Gignac / Ryszard Prusakiewicz
Altar Guild	Mon, Jan 24th to Sun, Feb 6th	Virginia Platt & Helpers