

THE PARISH COMMUNITY OF
saint maurice
A TITHING PARISH

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Prayer Line 860-649-5449 or 860-643-2837



THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD — JANUARY 8, 2017

Good News!

January 8, 2017

The Epiphany of the Lord (A)
Is 60:1-6, Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6, Mt 2:1-12

An amazing thing happens in today's Gospel: Representatives from the farthest ends of the earth follow a heavenly light and end in the humble cave of Bethlehem. The Wise Men first consult with King Herod, Galilee's civil authority. He checks with the high priest and rabbis to determine when and where the Messiah is to be born. The Jewish leadership is able to read the Scriptures and give Herod and the Wise Men all the information they need. Yet only the Eastern travelers go to adore the Lord. The priest and lawyers lack faith to see in those Scriptures a fulfillment of their hopes, while King Herod is blinded to Christ's salvific mission and moved by a will to power, as the killing of the Innocents will make clear. They all have ears to hear and eyes to see but few pay heed to the signs of the times.

The Wise Men from the East, merely following their study of the stars and asking help from others, travel months in search of Jesus. Raphael shows the moment when they finally find what they have been looking for. The band of travelers—complete with horses, guards, and royalty—arrives at a broken-down stall. One of the Wise Men kneels, removes his crown, and offers Jesus his treasure. This small gesture shows an internal attitude that Herod and the chief priests were missing: the humility to lay aside power, wealth, and status to bend the knee before the king born in their midst.

For Reflection

Am I willing to humbly accept Jesus for who he is: the Son of God? From what must I detach myself in order to accept Jesus more fully?

Fr. Mark Haydu, LC

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WEEKEND MASSES:

Saturdays at 4:00 p.m.

Sundays at 7:30 and 10:00 a.m.

Holy Days at 9:00 a.m. & 7:00 p.m.

WELCOME!

If you are new in the Parish, please register and introduce yourself to the Pastor. The Parishioners wish to meet and serve you! Drop by at our Coffee Social or Pancake Breakfast after the Sunday Mass, both per the Calendar online or as announced inside the bulletin. We hope you will favor our Parish with your prayers, your presence, your talents and your financial assistance according to your means!

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION (CONFESSION):

Saturday 3:15 PM — 3:45 PM

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM:

Please call the rectory (860-643-4466) to arrange for a meeting with the Pastor.

SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE:

Arrangements must start more than 6 months before marriage. Necessary interviews, a pre-cana course and plenty of paperwork is required. We strongly urge you to contact us to begin the Diocesan preparation course as soon as you are engaged to get the most out of it without rush.

CHURCH MEMBERSHIP:

The Sacramental Guidelines define Church Membership in terms of Sunday Mass attendance and Church support. For membership verification and sponsorship certificate, registration and regular use of the envelope system are the only way we have of verifying this for you. Please notify us if there are changes in your address, marital status, etc., so that we may update your records.

VISITATION TO THE SICK:

We are most anxious to help anyone who is not able to celebrate Mass with us in Church due to illness, handicapped or age. If you wish the Sacraments, please call 860-643-4466.

THIS WEEKTHE EPIPHANY OF THE LORDJANUARY 7 — 8, 2017USHERS GROUP III2ND COLLECTION — ST. MAURICE FUEL FUNDSATURDAY, JAN 7

4:00 P.M. Mass offered for †Jerry Chemerka (12th Anniversary)
request of Sheila Chemerka

Altar Servers: TBD
Lectors: Bert Flynn
Eucharistic Minister: Georgette Pelletier

SUNDAY, JAN 8

7:30 A.M. Mass offered for †Lena C. Bloznalis
request of The Dean & Bloznalis Families

Altar Servers: Shirley Holbrook
Lector: Judy Knox
Eucharistic Minister: Arlene Giglio

8:00 A.M. **TRIPLE PLAY CAFÉ BREAKFAST**
Parish Center from 8:00AM to 10:00AM

8:30 A.M. — 8:50 A.M. YOUTH CHOIR REHEARSAL
in the Church

9:00 A.M. **FAITH FORMATION CLASSES**

10:00 A.M. Mass offered for †Marion Smith
request of Anna and Andrzej Czercowy

Altar Servers: Lee Ann & Ben Snuffer
Lector: Katherine Monroe
Eucharistic Minister: Lou Cloutier

CHAPLET OF DIVINE MERCY *after Mass*

5:30 P.M. **EVENING PRAYER**
From the Liturgy of the Hours

MONDAY, JAN 9

9:00 A.M. Mass offered for All Parishioners
of St. Maurice Church

TUESDAY, JAN 10

9:00 A.M. Mass offered for †Lena C. Bloznalis
request of The Dean & Bloznalis Families

7:00 P.M. **PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**

WEDNESDAY, JAN 11

9:00 A.M. Mass offered for All Parishioners
of St. Maurice Church

THURSDAY, JAN 12 — NO MASSFRIDAY, JAN 13 — NO MASSSATURDAY, JAN 14

3:30 P.M. **ROSARY BEFORE 4:00 P.M. MASS**

STEWARDSHIP

Last week's Offertory: January 1 — \$3,074

Projected Amount needed \$2,980

"Has none but this foreigner returned to give thanks to God?"

Luke 17:18

Most of us live "easy" lives. We have food, shelter and clothing. We go on vacation every year and own a car or two. Most of us take this all for granted. Did you ever notice that people with the least amount of possessions are usually the most grateful? Shouldn't this be the other way around?

Take time every day and thank God for all He has given you.

NEXT WEEKSECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIMEJANUARY 14 — 15, 2017USHERS GROUP IVSATURDAY, JAN 14

4:00 P.M. Mass offered for †Arlene Welch
request of Mr. & Mrs. David Shaffer

Altar Servers: TBD
Lectors: Patti Cinea
Eucharistic Minister: Bert Flynn

SUNDAY, JAN 15

7:30 A.M. Mass offered for All Parishioners
of St. Maurice Church

Altar Servers: Lynn Mancino
Lector: Lynn Mancino
Eucharistic Minister: Arlene Giglio

8:30 A.M. — 8:50 A.M. YOUTH CHOIR REHEARSAL
in the Church

NO FAITH FORMATION CLASSES

10:00 A.M. Mass offered for All Parishioners
of St. Maurice Church

Altar Servers: Alex Czercowy
Lector: Rita Sheetz
Eucharistic Minister: Rita Sheetz

CHAPLET OF DIVINE MERCY *after Mass*

5:30 P.M. **EVENING PRAYER**
From the Liturgy of the Hours

MONDAY, JAN 16

9:00 A.M. Mass offered for All Parishioners
of St. Maurice Church

TUESDAY, JAN 17

9:00 A.M. Mass offered for †Lena C. Bloznalis
request of The Dean & Bloznalis Families

7:00 P.M. **KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS BUSINESS MEETING**

WEDNESDAY, JAN 18

9:00 A.M. Mass offered for All Parishioners
of St. Maurice Church

THURSDAY, JAN 19 — NO MASSFRIDAY, JAN 20 — NO MASSSATURDAY, JAN 21

3:30 P.M. **ROSARY BEFORE 4:00 P.M. MASS**

WEEK OF PRAYER FOR**Readings for the Week of January 8, 2017**

Sunday: Is 60:1-6/Ps 72/Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6/Mt 2:1-12
Monday: Is 42:1-4, 6-7 or Acts 10:34-38/Ps 29/Mt 3:13-17
Tuesday: Heb 2:5-12/Ps 8/Mk 1:21-28 or Heb 1:1-6 and 2:5-12/Ps 8/Mk 1:14-20 and 1:21-28
Wednesday: Heb 2:14-18/Ps 105/Mk 1:29-39
Thursday: Heb 3:7-14/Ps 95/Mk 1:40-45
Friday: Heb 4:1-5, 11/Ps 78/Mk 2:1-12
Saturday: Heb 4:12-16/Ps 19/Mk 2:13-17
Next Sunday: Is 49:3, 5-6/Ps 40/1 Cor 1:1-3/Jn 1:29-34

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FROM SAINT MAURICE PARISH



ST. MAURICE PRAYER LINE

Please remember all the special intentions on the St. Maurice Prayer Line, especially the new requests for this week. Thank you. Carol and MaryAnn.

YOUTH POP

We need to bring our young people back to church! They are looking to have fun and enjoy their faith. To help evangelize our young people, we have created a dynamic new way to bring them back – Youth Pop. Youth Pop trains high school youth and adults in your area to minister and create events for youth in your parish and surrounding churches. The trained youth leaders will provide the fun and faith filled events. The team is made up of youth and adults that come from your parish and other local parishes.

Any High School Youth and Adults who would be interested in training for our Leadership Team should contact Amie Tillmann at: tillmann.amie@gmail.com

Sunday Vespers

Evening Prayer from The Liturgy of the Hours Join the clergy, the religious, and the devout laity throughout the world in offering praise and thanksgiving to God our Father through his Son, Jesus Christ, in Hymns, Psalms, Antiphons, and Canticles from Sacred Scripture.

Come at 5:30 p.m. each Sunday in the Upper Church. Duration is about 30 minutes. We will begin with the Office of Readings and continue with Evening Prayer.

Need a statement for the IRS?

If you give online and need a statement for your 2016 Tax Return, contact Tom Manning at tmanning818@sbcglobal.net.

Defending Our Religious Liberty

The passage of the federal health care mandate was supposed to provide affordable health care to all Americans. By many accounts, this is not the case, and in the process our First of Amendment Right, which is supposed to safeguard our religious freedom has been taken away.

If you haven't done so already, please voice your opposition to the federal health care mandate by calling U.S. Secretary of Health and Human Services Sylvia Mathews Burwell at 202-205-5445, and your elected representatives. Let them know that the mandate is in violation of our First Amendment right to religious freedom.

FROM THE DIOCESE OF NORWICH

Nine Days for Life Novena

The U.S. bishops invite us to pray for the protection of all human life. A special novena called 9 Days for Life will take place from January 21st through the 29th. Pray for the respect and protection of all human life with new intentions, brief reflections, and more each day. Download the novena online, or participate through Facebook, email, text message or an app. Join at www.9daysforlife.com!

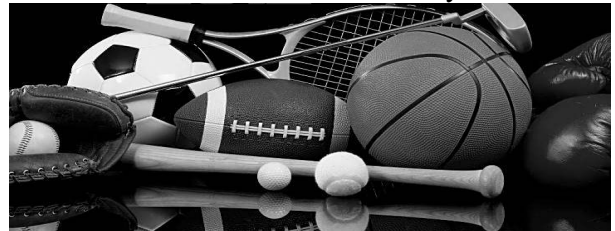
THE MARCH FOR LIFE BUS TRIP

The Annual March for Life will take place this year on Friday, January 27, 2017, in Washington, D.C., as a way for people to express their opposition to abortion. This year's event coincides with the 44th anniversary of the Supreme Court's decision to legalize abortion. Buses sponsored by the Southeast Chapter of Connecticut Right to Life will travel to the March leaving from the Norwich Municipal Parking Lot (Exit 11, I-395) on **Thursday, January 26, 2017, at 9 P.M.**

Bus fare is \$67 per person. For information, to reserve a seat, or, if you cannot go, to sponsor a seat, please call Margaret Becotte at 860-822-1362.

Natural Family Planning is scientific, safe, and is 99-percent effective for conceiving or responsibly postponing a baby. A three-session class for married and engaged couples begins on Saturday, January 28 at 7 P.M. in Gales Ferry. For more information, call Craig and Liz Schantz at 860-464-1184 or to register for a class go to www.ccli.org.

Come and Join us for Sports and Spirituality Night
How to Balance Both in Today's World



January 10, 2017, 7-8:30 p.m. Our Lady of Lourdes, Gales Ferry
Please register by calling the Office of Faith Events
860-848-2237 ext. 304

RETRouvaille WEEKEND

Is your marriage tearing you apart? Is there little or no meaningful communication? Are you considering separation or divorce? For serious marriage building and repair: Retrouvaille is a lifeline. At a **Retrouvaille** weekend, couples are given tools to re-establish communication, work on their issues, gain new insights and heal. The weekend is presented by three married couples and a priest. A series of 6 post sessions follow the weekend phase. For more information or to sign up for the **January 20-22, 2017** weekend in the Hartford area, call 413-525-1634, or 203-710-6207, or visit the Website at www.retrouvaille.org

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