

St. Mary's Church of Nutley

17 Msgr. Owens Place Nutley, New Jersey 07110
973235 1100 • www.stmarysnutley.org

EPIPHANY



OF THE LORD

The Epiphany of the Lord

January 5, 2025

Mass Intentions	2
Financial Info	3
Father Tom Epiphany Article	4-5
Parish News & Events	6
Parish Contact Page	7
Bulletin Advertisers	8

Mass Intentions

The Epiphany of the Lord

January 4, 2025 through January 10, 2025

- Saturday** January 4, 2025
5:00 pm + Cosimo & Nancy Palombini
- Sunday** January 5, 2025
7:30 am + Ronald Cundiff
10:00 am Rosary Society (Living & Deceased)
12:00 pm People of the Parish
- Monday** January 6, 2025
8:00 am + Deacon Reynaldo Trinidad
- Tuesday** January 7, 2025
8:00 am + Deacon Reynaldo Trinidad
- Wednesday** January 8, 2025
8:00 am + Mildred Scheidel
- Thursday** January 9, 2025
8:00 am + Rev. Albert Bellantonio
- Friday** January 10, 2025
8:00 am + Cosimo Palombini

Vigil Lamp Remembrances

Week of January 5, 2025 to January 11, 2025

Church Sanctuary
Intention Still Available

Chapel Sanctuary
Intention Still Available

Blessed Mother
Rev. Albert Bellantonio +

Divine Mercy
John & Karen Mc Niff

St. Anthony
Intention Still Available

St. Gerard
Intention Still Available

St. Joseph
Intention Still Available

St. Jude
Intention Still Available

St. Patrick
Intention Still Available

Blessed Michael McGivney
John and Angela Colamarco +

Please Pray for Those Who are Deceased:

*Mary Field (83)
December 13, 2024*

*Jennie Cece (102)
December 14, 2024*

Mother of Father Gene

***Eternal rest, grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them.
May the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.
Amen.***

Please Pray for Those Who Are Sick:

Annie Tobin

Nancy Buda

***In the midst of illness and pain, may the sick be united with Christ, who heals
both body and soul. Amen.***

If you would like a loved one included in our "prayers for the sick" please call the parish office to provide more information. The sick person must be aware that they are being prayed for to comply with HIPAA privacy laws.



Financial News

Transparency is the Goal

Offertory Collections

December 22 - Deposit/Donations \$ 6,176.00

Weekly Amount Needed to Stay on Budget \$ 6,961.00

Restricted Donations/Special Collections

Christmas Poinsettias/Flowers (to date) \$ 3,080.00

Mary, Mother of God, New Year's \$ 100.00

Christmas Donations 2024

Christmas Collection \$ 22,176.00

We are always so grateful for the generosity of our parishioners all throughout the year, but we are very blessed to be included in so many family's Christmas giving as well. This year St. Mary's has budgeted **\$28,000** of its income budget for Christmas. If you are not using the envelope packets the easiest and safest way for St. Mary's to accept your donation now is **electronically**, through our partner Parish Giving. If you scan the QR code below and donate you can help us surpass our \$28,000 budget goal for 2024. If you were away for Christmas, we are happy to still accept your Christmas donation through the end of January.

Fr. Tom and Fr. Gene will be remembering all of our families during the Christmas season in the hopes that your generosity returns to you in the form of many blessings in the New Year!



Bingo Night

Join us for BINGO in St. Mary's Hall on Tuesday evenings.
Our next Bingo night will be 5:30pm. Early Bird game at 7:15pm.

2024 St Mary's Bingo Schedule for the Month of January

January 7
January 21

January 14
January 28

From the Desk of the Pastor & Dean of Deanery 16

Solemnity of the Epiphany

This Weekend, in particular on January 5, 2025, we celebrate the Solemnity of the Epiphany. This is the Catholic Feast that commemorates the "Revelation... of God incarnate as Jesus Christ. In the Western Church, we recall the visit of the Magi to the Christ Child, as well as "Jesus' physical manifestation to the Gentiles." This is a Greek word, Epiphany, which means a "Revelation from above".

On this feast, we recall the Magi, the Three Kings, the Wise Men. They were desert dwellers, star watchers, they knew the star's names and followed them. When the Magi saw a new star in the sky, it was "a star that signaled the birth of a new king." They followed it to Jerusalem and then eventually to Bethlehem. The star they saw was a symbol of hope not solely for the Jews, but for the Gentiles as well. The star is a "symbol of Jesus". What does it say to us? It says, God loved us so much He sent His Only Son into our world, into the darkness to save us, as the Light of the World!

A number of years ago there was a very interesting painting. The artist showed us one "solitary figure rowing a boat in the nighttime. He was crossing a "sea of endless water." There out in the far distance, one could see the star that illuminated the night sky. As you focus on it intently, one gets the impression that "if that boatman ever loses that Star he's lost." (Fr. Mark Link SJ, Epiphany Homily, Cycle C, Pg. 18)

We could say that about Jesus as well. "Without that star the world is lost, without that star, there is no hope. Without that star the human race is doomed." (Ibid, pg.18) With all this talk about a star, there is the conjunction of Jupiter and Saturn called "The Christmas Star", but we are not sure there is a connection to the Star of Bethlehem. When Br. Guy Consolmagno, Director of the Vatican Observatory was asked, he said, "No one knows for sure what the star was, and until we have a time machine where we can go back and interview Matthew with a video recorder, no one will ever know for sure." He further stated the "Star of Bethlehem" was not the "focus of the account" but rather the one whom it pointed to. "The important thing to remember is that the Star of Bethlehem is just a small part of the Infancy narrative in Matthew's Gospel. The point of this story isn't the star, it's the baby". He said "Whatever the Magi would have seen... It was something that nobody looking at the sky would have noticed, but they did, Consolmagno told CNA Newsroom Podcast in December 2019."

(Ibid, pg.18) With all this talk about a star, there is the conjunction of Jupiter and Saturn called "The Christmas Star", but we are not sure there is a connection to the Star of Bethlehem. When Br. Guy Consolmagno, Director of the Vatican Observatory was asked, he said, "No one knows for sure what the star was, and until we have a time machine where we can go back and interview Matthew with a video recorder, no one will ever know for sure." He further stated the "Star of Bethlehem" was not the "focus of the account" but rather the one whom it pointed to. "The important thing to remember is that the Star of Bethlehem is just a small part of the Infancy narrative in Matthew's Gospel. The point of this story isn't the star, it's the baby".

He said "Whatever the Magi would have seen... It was something that nobody looking at the sky would have noticed, but they did, Consolmagno told CNA Newsroom Podcast in December 2019."

For the Magi and the artist in the story, the Star is a real "symbol of hope". With all this talk of the star, the star, is it the star of Bethlehem? As Br. Consolmagno reminded us, "The Star of Bethlehem is just a small part of the story... It's the baby. So, the focus is on the Christ Child. Without Him, the World would be lost, there would be no hope and the "human race would be doomed."

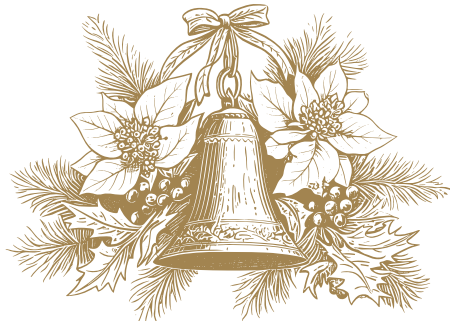
On this Feast of the Epiphany, the gifts of the Magi are filled with rich symbolism. In many countries throughout the world, the Epiphany is still traditionally commemorated on January 6th and is celebrated with great solemnity. In some places, it is celebrated with "greater solemnity than Christmas Day itself; it is truly the "Feast of the Nations". Christ is manifested to the Gentile world. We, then, must be a star that illuminates the darkness of our world. Jesus, today, is hopefully found in the "hearts and souls" of all his modern-day disciples. We must be "the stars." in the darkness that points the way to Christ in our darkened world. I would like to close with the words of an unknown poet, which gives us the practical message of the Epiphany. "When the song of the angels is stilled, when the star in the sky is gone, when the Kings and Princes are home, when the shepherds are back with the flocks, the work of Christmas begins; To find the lost, to heal the broken, to feed the hungry, to release the prisoners, to rebuild the nations, to bring peace among brothers, to make music in the heart."

It is my sincerest wish and prayer that this New Year 2025 will be a Year filled with peace, joy, good health, serenity and prosperity!

May this New Year be the best for each of you in many ways and your loved ones. May God abundantly bless our beautiful Church of St. Mary's, Nutley.

In the peace and joy of the Newborn King.

Very Rev. Cav. Thomas D. Nicastro, V.F.
(FR. Tam)
Very Rev. Cav. Thomas D. Nicastro V.F.,
Pastor & Dean of Deanery 16



Parish News

Senior's Advent Mass & Christmas Party

On Thursday, December 12, 2024, the Feast of Our Lady Guadalupe, our Pastor, Fr. Tom hosted an Advent Mass and Christmas Luncheon for all the Seniors of the parish. 63 Seniors RSVP'd to be his guest at this joy-filled event in our Parish Hall. Everyone enjoyed the beautiful Mass, fabulous food (thank you Ralph's) the Christmas Trivia, Name that Carol, and of course the festive environment and company.



Parish Weekend Mass Schedule

Saturday Evenings
5:00PM

Daily Mass Schedule
Monday to Friday 8:00AM
in the Parish Center Chapel

Sundays
7:30 AM, 10:00AM & 12 PM

Sacrament of Reconciliation
Individual Confessions Saturdays
4:00pm to 4:45pm



Parish Contact Information

Parish Office Address

145 St. Mary's Place
Nutley, NJ 07110

Office Hours

Monday to Friday 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM
Saturday to Sunday Closed

Phone (General Queries)

973-235-1100
973-661-0233 (Fax)

Parish Email

info@stmarysnutley.org

Parish Website

www.stmarysnutley.org

Parish Facebook Page

www.facebook.com/stmarysnutley

Parish Receptionist

Carmel DeMarzo - ext. 111
receptionist@stmarysnutley.org

Pastor

Very Rev. Cav. Thomas D. Nicastro, V.F. (Fr. Tom)
fatherthomas@stmarysnutley.org

Administrative Assistant to Pastor

Caterina Palombini - ext. 113
adminasst@stmarysnutley.org

Parochial Vicar

Rev. Eugene Field (Fr. Gene) - ext. 118
frgene@stmarysnutley.org

Deacons

Ronald Ronacher - ext. 114
Carl Lordi

Parish Catechetical Leader

Annemarie Ronacher - ext. 117
annemarie@stmarysnutley.org

Trustees

Patrick Perrone
Anne Scheidel (Bookkeeper) - ext. 115
bookkeeper@stmarysnutley.org

Acting Office Manager

Dennis Corcoran - ext. 110
officemanager@stmarysnutley.org