

MASS SCHEDULE & INTENTIONS

SATURDAY, January 5

First Saturday Mass

9:00a.m. FLC Chapel

Poor Souls in Purgatory

4:30 – 5:10 p.m. St. Elizabeth

CONFESSIONS

5:30p.m. St. Elizabeth

Thomas Prete, Sr.

SUNDAY, January 6

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

7:15 a.m. St. Benedict

Anita Montgomery

8:30 a.m. St. Benedict

Fred Butrim

11:15 a.m. St. Elizabeth

People of the Parish

Tuesday, January 8

9:00a.m. FLC Chapel

COMMUNION SERVICE

Wednesday, January 9

9:00a.m. St. Elizabeth

Anne Musachio

Thursday, January 10

9:00a.m. FLC Chapel

Special Intention

Friday, January 11

9:00a.m. St. Elizabeth

Thomas Davis, Sr.

SATURDAY, January 12

9:00 a.m. FLC Chapel

Benedictine Oblate Mass

Carol Russell

4:30 – 5:10 p.m. St. Elizabeth

CONFESSIONS

5:30p.m. St. Elizabeth

Dominic Centofante

SUNDAY, January 13

THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

7:15 a.m. St. Benedict

William Ernest

8:30 a.m. St. Benedict

Intentions of Fr. Norm Carroll

11:15 a.m. St. Elizabeth

People of the Parish

TABERNACLE LIGHT INTENTIONS

JANUARY 5 – JANUARY 18

St. Benedict Church:

St. Elizabeth Church:

Intentions of Margie Palazzolo

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GIFT OF STEWARDSHIP BACK TO THE LORD

Weekend of December 29 & 30, 2018

Envelopes	\$ 3,050.00
Loose	\$ 649.75
TOTAL OFFERTORY	\$ 3,699.75
Weekly Budget	\$ 5,100.00
Deficit (Under Budget)	(\$ 1,400.25)
Solemnity of Mary	\$ 926.00
Poor Box	\$ 823.04

2018 TAX LETTERS

If you use offertory envelopes and would like to receive a statement of your 2018 Offertory contributions for tax purposes, please contact Marie Freeman to request a copy: 410-634-2253 or mfreeman@beparish.com.

A WORD FROM YOUR PASTOR...

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,



The magi afford us the opportunity, through their example, to participate in the mystery contained within each of our lives. The precious acts which man is capable of; the ability to believe found in the Gold – the Treasure of Faith, with incense, the ability to worship him – the Treasure of Adoration, and with myrrh, the ability to participate in salvation is given, the Treasure of Evangelization. These human endeavors enable humankind to understand how each is created in the image and likeness of God, Genesis 1:26. Contemplating the painting, we can see the various gestures of prayer as assumed by each of the Magi. Individually they instruct us by their position and by the gift, they offer. Collectively they signify our dignity offered to us by Christ.

The first of the magi I would like to consider is the central figure kneeling with hands extended in supplication wearing the gold cape. This bearded figure testifies to his years of being a man, with wisdom and assertiveness, he participates in this scene. Because he is in the position of a supplicant while adoring the infant Jesus, this magus seeks the service of God in his moment of offering. The gold, which he brings, is not seen in this portrayal, however one can deduce that this man presents gold because he is without crown and has the only gold cape in the scene. In the offering of gold, it is understood that this gift signifies Jesus' kingship. A king is called to serve his subjects, and having this understanding, and being in his image and likeness, we too are called to a service that imitates Jesus' service to the world. Being called to and having the ability to believe is an awesome gift that is given by God and is demonstrated by what this figure offers, he offers what he understands and believes Christ is, humanity's King; as He serves us, we serve others.

The second magus, with a turban and crown and wearing silver and gray silks, bows in adoration. The full bow gesture is one in prayer that reveals the submission of the individual to the other, in this case, to Jesus Christ. It is Christ, who is High priest, and who in every step of His ministry will take upon Himself to understand His Father's will; he will pray before every major moment in His ministry. As this painting suggests, even at Jesus' birth, the infant submits himself to fulfill the role He is asked by His Father, God taking on flesh, the Incarnation. The second magus is the one who most likely gives the gift of frankincense; the gift that signifies the priesthood of Jesus Christ bowing to the Father's will and revealing him to humanity. In this gesture of bowing, the magus entertains the submission to the commandment to worship God with your whole heart, mind and soul; this gesture signifies the human ability to worship and adore God.

The third magus is found in the lower right corner wearing a red cape and gold crown. His gesture in adoration is with hands raised with palms up, often called the Oran position. This figure would presumably bring to Christ the gift of myrrh, the symbolic gift for prophecy and used at the time of death. The prophetic nature in this posture of adoration is not often understood because the priest prays using the Oran position. Therefore, we must ask how is this position suggesting prophecy? We must understand that the prayer of the priest does not belong to him personally, it belongs to the Church and ultimately to God. The ability to speak on behalf of God is what it means to exercise the prophetic gift. The greatest proclamation uttered is that of the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ, it is the means of and for evangelization; it is the gift each of us holds to garner a lasting relationship. It is a talent for each of us to multiply for our Lord.

Pax Christi,

Vy. Rev. John B. Gabage, V.F.

Image: Adoration of the Magi by Francesco Solimena © Private Collection. Printed with Permission.

PARISH AND FAMILY LIFE

BAPTISMS

Avery Blair Carmean, daughter of Katie Carmean and granddaughter of Blair & Cheryl Carmean and **August Paul Strzempka**, son of Joseph & Maya Strzempka, were baptized last weekend. We celebrate the beginning of a life of faith for these newly baptized infants as they receive the gift of new life in God's spirit and become a part of the fellowship of the Church through the Rite of Baptism.



YOUTH MINISTRY NEWS

ANNUAL SPAGHETTI DINNER COMING SOON!

Youth Ministry is hosting the annual Spaghetti Dinner on Saturday, January 26th from 5:00-8:00pm in the Parish Hall. Join us for spaghetti, meatballs, salad, garlic bread, desserts, and drinks. Tickets are \$8 each with a maximum price of \$35 per family. Please purchase your tickets after Masses through Sunday, January 20th.



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS NEWS

WINTER COAT COLLECTION ~ As in year's past, the Knights of Columbus will be collecting new and gently used coats throughout the months of November and December for donation to the His Hope Haven Homeless Shelter and other area organizations who serve those in need. This year, they are also asking for new hats and gloves/mittens as well. Collection boxes for coats, hats/mittens/gloves can be found at the entrance of St. Elizabeth Church and the entrance of the Parish Hall. Please launder any used coats and be sure that they are in good condition. Thank you for your generous support of past efforts!

EVANGELIZATION CORNER

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

We bow to a higher authority

From the first moment of his papacy, Pope Francis impressed the world with his humility. The newly minted pope bowed his head and invited us, the church, to bless him. How rare it is for leaders on the world stage to approach their role with humility and reverence! The typical response to the bestowal of power is a rising spirit of arrogance and aggression. We observe the contrast between the Magi who prostrate themselves before an infant, while King Herod snarls and plots violence with his yes-men. How do we wield the authority we hold in our hands?

Today's readings: Isaiah 60:1-6; Ephesians 3:2-3a, 5-6; Matthew 2:1-12

"They prostrated themselves and did him homage."

INCLEMENT WEATHER POLICY

In the case of inclement weather (fog, sleet/ice or snow) we wanted to clarify our parish's inclement weather cancellation policies for all parishioners.

DAILY MASSES

If Caroline County Schools are delayed or closed, then DAILY MASS will be celebrated at the Family Life Center CHAPEL in Ridgely.

WEEKEND MASSES / RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASSES

If you have any question about whether weekend liturgies or religious education classes will be held due to inclement weather, call the Parish Office at 410-634-2253 and listen to the voice mail message or log onto the parish website (www.beparish.com) for information. If possible, we will send a global e-mail to all parishioners with pertinent information regarding the cancellation of liturgies or religious education classes.

PARISH MEETINGS & EVENTS

Decisions about parish meetings and events will be made on a case by case basis dependent on weather and road conditions. Again, if possible, we will send a global e-mail to all parishioners with pertinent information regarding the cancellation of parish meetings and events.

If you are unsure about whether a scheduled liturgy or event will be held, visit the parish website at www.beparish.com or call the parish office at 410.634.2253. We will do our best to post cancellation information in at least one of these places. OR, SIGN-UP FOR FLOCKNOTE and get alerts sent directly to your cell phone. Simply text the word BEPARISH to the phone number 84576 or go online to www.flocknote.com/beparish.

IF I MISS MASS DUE TO INCLEMENT WEATHER DO I NEED TO GO TO CONFESSION?

No. Missing mass (not meeting your Sunday obligation) due to inclement weather is not a sin as the circumstances related to your missing mass are beyond your control. You are not deliberately choosing not to go to mass because you are too lazy or simply don't feel like it.

NOTE: According to diocesan rules, the Pastor has the authority to cancel weekend Masses due to inclement weather if he feels that conditions would make travel dangerous for parishioners.

LIFE IN THE PARISH FAMILY

Sunday, January 6

- Trustee Elections – after all Masses in Sacristy
- Super Sunday – Knights Breakfast – 9:30a.m. Parish Hall
- Rel. Ed./RCIA Classes – 10:10-10:50a.m.
- Youth Ministry Gathering – 6:00-8:00p.m. – Parish Hall

Tuesday, January 8

- Adult Bible Study – 7:00 p.m. – RR
- Sodality Meeting – 7:00 p.m. - Hall

Wednesday, January 9

- Mass at Autumn Lakes N.H. – 10:00 a.m.
- Finance Council Meeting – 1:00 p.m.
- Parish Council Exec. Committee Mtg. – 6p.m. – Pastor's FLC Office
- Youth Ministry Team Meeting – 6:30 p.m. – RR
- Parish Leadership Night – begins with prayer at 7:00 p.m. in the FLC Chapel

Thursday, January 10

- Adult Bible Study – 9:30 a.m. – RR
- Mass at Homestead Manor N.H. – 3:00 p.m.

Friday, January 11

- Homeschool Group Gathering – 10:30 a.m. – Hall

Saturday, January 12

- Oblate Gathering – 9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. – Hall (9:00 a.m. Mass in the Chapel)

- Aguilar Baptism – 11a.m. – SB Church

Sunday, January 13

- 2nd Collection – Building Maintenance
- Hospitality offered by Ladies' Sodality – 9:30am – Parish Hall
- Rel. Ed./RCIA Classes – 9:45 -10:50a.m.
- Confirmation Prep. – 10:45-11:15 a.m.

REMEMBERING IN PRAYER THIS WEEK...

Patricia Brady ♦ Peggy Brittingham ♦ Jane Cade ♦ Joan Mollick ♦ Terry Franz ♦ Kathleen Green ♦ Patricia McWilliams ♦ Julia Seiler ♦ Helen Dill ♦ Cheryl Harris ♦ Judy Edmonston ♦ Edie Crank ♦ Patricia Freedman ♦ Sandy Keating ♦ Michael Alt ♦ Michael Keating ♦ Christina Jewell ♦ Debbye Jackson ♦ Kenny Winn ♦ Dot Bornhoeft ♦ Clark Johnson ♦ George Sinacourbe ♦ Ken & Carolyn Swain ♦ Janet Kibler ♦ Karen Coward ♦ Kelly Presnell ♦ John Vranich ♦ Ron Safchick ♦ Rita Miedl ♦ Nelson Owens ♦ Roy Dean ♦ Ed Centofante ♦ Heather Robuck ♦ Tobey McWilliams ♦ Rosemary Foracker ♦ Agnes Metzler ♦ Cynthia Makas ♦ Ernie Blazejak ♦ John Burbank ♦ Margie Palazzolo ♦ Mary Redgraves ♦ Alex Wood ♦ Donnie Riffle ♦ James Coleman

VOCATION REFLECTIONS

An "epiphany" is a revelation. Every day, God uses religious sisters, religious brothers and priests to reveal His great love for the people He has chosen to be His own. Is the Lord calling you to serve the Church through a religious vocation? If you think so, call or write Fr. Norm Carroll, Diocesan Director of Priestly and Religious Vocations (302-573-3113; vocations@cdow.org). And check out our website: www.cdow.org/vocations/

Transportation Assistance Needed at St. Martin's House, Ridgely

St. Martin's House in Ridgely needs a person or persons to assist with various transportation needs:

- On weekdays from 7:30-8:30a.m. for transportation down the lane to buses
- On Tuesdays & Thursdays for a high school student who attends North Carolina HS who needs a ride to school in the morning at 7:30a.m. and from school back to St. Martin's at 3:30p.m.

If you are interested in helping, please contact Lori Parks at 410-634-2253.

WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER - It has been said that the greatest gift you can give your children is two parents very much in love with each other. Polish up this gift and put a bow on it at a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend! The next Marriage Encounter weekend will be March 1-3, 2019 in Rehoboth Beach, DE. For information, visit our website at www.me-delmar.org or to register for the weekend, please call Tony and Linda Massino at 302-220-9833. Don't Delay! Your marriage deserves this gift!
