

**January 7, 2024**

**A Note from Fr. José Arroyo**

Dear Brothers & Sisters,

This Sunday in the U.S., we celebrate the Solemnity of the Epiphany. The name “Epiphany” comes from the Greek epiphaneia, meaning “appearance” or “manifestation,” and refers to the manifestation of Jesus Christ to the world. This holiday is also called in other places of the world: “Theophany” or “Three Kings’ Day.”

Within the Roman Catholic Church’s liturgy, the Scriptural readings highlight that all nations are indeed invited to sing the Lord’s praises for they have been called to hear the good news (the gospel) and worship the long-awaited Messiah and King with the gift of their lives.

The end of the Christmas Season in the Roman Rite of the Catholic Church is celebrated on the day of the Baptism of the Lord. Some years the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord is celebrated on a Sunday. However, this year it will be celebrated on Monday, January 8<sup>th</sup>. We will have a priest available to celebrate Mass.

As we reflect on the Epiphany, let us remember that we are all called to belong to the family of God. We are all invited and encouraged to share the good news that Jesus Christ is Lord. We are called to share the best of our time, talents, and treasures at the service of God and His kingdom within the Church that Jesus instituted upon the foundation of the Apostles. Can we share the best for the glory of God and not just the surplus of our strength and energy? Sometimes we see that some famous Catholics within the secular society

offer more of themselves to the secular world and less to God and the things of God. Is it possible to say that we are truly believers if we offer the best “gold, incense, and myrrh” of our existence to creatures while barely remembering the Creator-made-flesh present in the Eucharist?

On another note, this Sunday, we congratulate Deacon Joe Cochran on his 1<sup>st</sup> anniversary as a deacon. We are very blessed to have him at our parish. May God continue to bless his service here at St. Paul of the Cross Church.

Praise be to Jesus Christ now and forever!

**Collections for December 31, 2023**

<u>Adult Offering Envelopes</u>	\$ 1,245.00
Loose	\$ 543.50
Candles	\$ 50.00
Catholic Charities (Christmas)	\$ 10.00
Rel. Education (CCD)	\$ 20.00
Building Repair	\$ 300.00
Christmas Offering	\$ 25.00
Latin America	\$ 20.00
Total in pews:	<b><u>\$ 2,213.50</u></b>
<u>Online Collections</u>	
Reg. Envelopes	\$ 24,170.00
Repair Fund	\$ 55.00
Second Collection	\$ 111.00
Total Online	<b><u>\$ 24,336.00</u></b>

**Epiphany of the Lord**

**Mass Intentions**

January 6th Christmas Weekday (Sat.)

9:00 a.m. † Joyce Pawlak

5:00 p.m. † Jerry Zorger

January 7th Epiphany of the Lord (Sun.)

8 a.m. † George Crowe  
10:30 a.m. † Living & deceased  
members of Gary & Rosa Wheeler family  
2:00 p.m. Parroquianos

(Eucharistic Adoration one hour before  
each Mass) (Holy Rosary 30 minutes  
before each Mass)

January 8th The Baptism of the Lord  
(Monday)

8:00 a.m. † Nancy Fries

January 9th Weekday (Tuesday)

8:00 a.m. † For all souls in purgatory

January 10th Weekday (Wednesday)

5:00 p.m. † Jim Brock

January 11th Weekend (Thursday)

8:00 a.m. † Mark Chrzanowski

January 12th Weekday (Friday)

8:00 a.m. † Ron Moeller

January 13th St. Hiliary (Saturday)

9:00 a.m. † Carolyn Hinen

5:00 p.m. † Andy Lowe

January 14th Second Sunday in  
Ordinary Time (Sunday)

8 a.m. † Marlin & Dee Densel

10:30 a.m. † Parishioners

2:00 p.m. To the health and  
wellbeing of Jennifer Garcia

**St. Vincent DePaul Corner**

Due to the holidays landing on Mondays,  
we moved the pantry day to Tuesday  
each week. As one would expect with  
altering the schedule, our numbers were  
lower. But those that did attend were very  
grateful that we were open.

The total for December 26<sup>th</sup> and January  
2<sup>nd</sup>: **26 neighbors, 94 family members,  
3 new neighbors and 1 gas card  
distributed.**

Your ongoing support whether that is  
financial, food donations, volunteering of  
your time, talent and last, but not least,  
your prayers are each example of Jesus  
calls for us to love our neighbor.

**NEEDS:**

Specific pantry needs: Toilet paper, peanut  
Butter, salt, pepper, and spices.

If you would like to help with St. Vincent  
DePaul, please contact the office and  
leave a message for Sara St. Clair.

Thank you so very much for your ongoing  
support! Please keep in mind that St.  
Vincent DePaul Food Pantry is open  
EVERY Monday from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00  
p.m. If Monday falls directly on a holiday,  
the pantry will not be open. Evening hours  
are the third Monday of the month from  
5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

**Mass correction**

We told you previously that we wouldn't  
have a priest for Jan 8<sup>th</sup> Mass, but at the last  
minute, we had a priest volunteer.  
Fr. Evaristo Olivera from St. Mary's in  
Huntington will be the celebrant on  
Monday, January 8<sup>th</sup> at 8:00 a.m.

**Volunteers Needed**

After this weekend, we will need help  
putting away the Christmas decorations.  
If you are interested in helping, please  
contact Kim in the office. Thank you!

# Friday Adoration

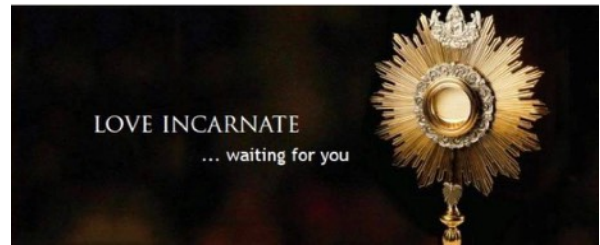
Friday Adoration will resume this Friday, January 12th from 8:30am until 7pm. You can still sign up for a regular hour.

## A.R.C.

Our Adult Religious Catechesis program (A.R.C.) will resume on Wednesday, January 10th. The topic will be "How to Get to Heaven" presented by Stephanie Hamilton. Please join us for fellowship and to grow more in your understanding of the teachings of the Church. Childcare is provided.



We will have a farewell reception for Father José after the 10:30 Mass on Sunday, January 21st. Please join us in the Community Center for refreshments and to wish Father well in his new assignment.



## HOLY HOUR OF POWER

The next HOLY HOUR OF POWER will be on Friday, January 19th from 6-7 pm. Come and bring a friend!



The Knights of Columbus will be hosting Coffee and Donuts in the Community Center after the 8:00am Mass on the last Sunday of every month. The first Coffee and Donuts will be on Sunday, January 28th.

## BIBLE STUDY

Just a reminder that Bible Study groups will begin meeting **THIS WEEK!**

# The Saint's Name Generator – Find Your Patron Saint For 2024!

by Alex Farmer | January, Saints

Perhaps, like me, you have already made and broken several New Year's Resolutions. Maybe you haven't made any, or maybe you are doing great with all your plans. But, **have you thought of choosing a patron saint for the year?**

I know people who spend hours chopping lists of saints into bags, boxes or baskets to make a 'saint lottery'. On New Year's Eve they gather friends and family in prayer and each chooses a saint to be their patron and friend for the year. Anyone who comes to their home in the first week or so of the year is also invited to draw a saint. And sometimes, these saint raffles even go on excursions to the homes of friends and neighbors.

This is a beautiful tradition and I strongly recommend participating in or instigating it in your own home. For those of us who don't have the organizational skills or paper supplies but want to choose a patron saint for ourselves or a project, or simply want someone to whom we can entrust a special intention in a slightly more spur of the moment fashion, **The Saint's Name Generator is for us**. Instead of drawing a name from a hat, you simply click and the computer does it for you. (All credit to **Jennifer Fulwiler who came up with this website: thanks for your time and energy.**)

**Why might you want to get to know the saints?** There are two main reasons. The first is that the Saints are examples of how to live like Jesus and be close to Him in our daily lives. And the second is that they are in Heaven with God and can pray for us (ie talk to Him) just as our friends on Earth do.

## How To Select A Patron Saint For The New Year

Whatever method of saint selection you decide to go for, I suggest the following approach:

Pray. Ask the Lord to send you a saint who can guide and inspire you.

It isn't over. Once you have received the name of your saint, get to know him or her. Read about their life. Read something they wrote. And talk to them: ask them to pray for you.

If you get a saint you've never heard of, the temptation is to (metaphorically) throw them back and pick another. This is a little rude (I don't want to be friends with you!) – good places to find out more about your saint are **Catholic Online**, **the Catholic Encyclopedia**, your parish library or Catholic bookshop.



<https://catholic-link.org/saint-name-generator/>

