LIFE (Learning In Faith Experiences)

Today we continue the story of Jesus’ birth. We hear of the wise men from the East who travelled a great distance, willingly leaving the comforts of their lives in pursuit of their goal which was their thirst for knowledge of God. In their search for God, the Magi read the night sky and followed the light of the star that led them to Bethlehem, to the source of all things - Jesus Christ, the Light of the world. Each time I hear this story, I’m reminded of the movie The Heart of Racing, in particular the scenes about these men and how they were depicted as patient, steadfast, and deliberate in trusting their knowledge and also being led in faith. The Magi faithfully followed where the Star led them and also trusted in the words of the angel. They set out on their journey without knowing how long their travels would last or where they would end up. Behold, the star that they had seen at its rising preceded them until it came and stopped over the place where the child was. They were overjoyed at seeing the star, and on entering the house they saw the child with Mary his mother. Another thought that comes to mind each year when celebrating the Feast of the Epiphany is something of a book entitled “Season of Your Heart” by Maicina Wiederkehr. “How often the sight of a star fills us with delight. It is wonderful to stand outside and behold a star-studded night. The stars, it seems, have always called us to greatness. They stir up within us a sense of mystery. Poets write and sing about the stars. Artists paint them. We are told to follow our star. And yet, for all our romanticizing about the stars, if the truth be known, they sometimes lead us to places we would rather not go. A star marks our paths with light and guides us to deeper insight. With the deeper kind of seeing comes new responsibilities. It is not always easy to follow a star. Long ago three who had been called wise journeyed to the small insignificant town of Bethlehem. They followed a star that led them to the powerlessness of God lying in a manger. It was the last place on earth one would have expected to find the Creator of the stars, yet that is where those beams did shine. We call such a moment an Epiphany. An Epiphany is a manifestation of the Divine Presence right in the midst of daily life. Those who have tried to follow the author of the stars often find themselves in the midst of an Epiphany. They are called to follow stars that seem beyond their reach.” This author then names some persons in our own day and age who followed the light of their star: Dorothy Day, Rosa Parks, Martin Luther King, Jr., and Oscar Romero. She then asks the reader to add her/his own name to this list. How have you followed the light of your star and have you met the Divine Presence in your life?

Written by: Colette Savaria, LIFE Coordinator

First Reconciliation Classes continue on Thurs., January 9 from 3:30-4:45 pm in the Parish Center.

LIFE celebrations are back! LIFE’ers will gather once again on January 12 (11:30-2pm) or January 13 (5:30-8pm) as we continue to learn about The Nicene Creed. We look forward to sharing in a meal, prayer, and learning more about our faith as we gather together again.

In honor of the Magi/Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord: In many places it is customary to celebrate the blessing of the home on this day. Help us to use care to write the numerals of the New Year and the initials C, M, and B (representing the traditional names of the Magi: Caspar, Melchior, and Balthasar) over your front door: 20 + C + M + B + 20. Once you’ve done that, pray together: Loving God, the doors of our hearts and home are open to you and to all who need warmth and welcome. We give you thanks for our home, for the gift of family, and for the blessing of friends. Keep us safe as we come in and as we go out each and every day. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

The 2020 calendars for our Parishioners come from Catholic Extension’s Calendar Ministry which directly supports the growth and vibrancy in the Catholic Church in more than 90 American dioceses. Catholic Extension is the only provider of Catholic calendars that gives 100% of its proceeds to funds granting these dioceses. These grants help to strengthen ministries, foster leaders, and build churches. Please enjoy the gift of a beautiful calendar from St. Lucy’s Catholic Priests.com

We have seen his star in the East, and have come with gifts to adore the Lord. Matthew 2:2

MASS INTENTIONS AND CHURCH SCHEDULE

Saturday, January 4
5:00pm (O) Peter Fitzpatrick
Sunday, January 5, Epiphany of the Lord
8:00am (O) St. Lucy’s Parishioners
10:30am (O) St. Lucy’s Parishioners
5:00pm (O’N) St. Lucy’s Parishioners
Monday, January 6
9:00am William Cella
Tuesday, January 7
9:00am Maria Oliveira (Birthday Remembrance)
Wednesday, January 8
9:00am Joseph Augatís
Thursday, January 9
9:00am Communion Service
Friday, January 10
9:00am (H) Vincent F. McMahon and Family
5:00pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
7:00pm Adoration
7:30pm Benediction
Saturday, January 11
1:30pm Grand Island Mass
5:00pm (O) Donald Winters (Birthday Remembrance)
Domingos Rodrigues (Birthday Remembrance)
Sunday, January 12, Baptism of the Lord
8:00am (O) St. Lucy’s Parishioners
10:30am (O) John Fabian (13th Anniversary)
12:00 Noon Baptisms
5:00PM (O’N) St. Lucy’s Parishioners

In the above celebrations:
O = Rev. John O’Brien
O’N = Rev. Tom O’Neill
H = Rev. Joseph Henry

Visiting the Sick: When a family member is in the hospital, please notify Sr. Sheila Murphy at 747-6153 (x205).

The Missionary Image of Our Lady of Guadalupe will be visiting various parishes throughout the Diocese of Providence from Jan. 10 to Feb. 3. A schedule of participating parishes can be obtained by calling 278-2518.

Saint Lucy Catholic Faith Community (401-847-6153) Middletown, RI

Epiphany of the Lord

January 5, 2020

New Year’s Prayer/Resolution

Lord, help us realize that the most valuable treasure we have is one another.

Help us understand that being a mother, a father, a son, or a daughter is not easy. We have to work at it.

Help us make just one simple resolution for the year ahead: to do each day, a little bit more than we think we can.

If we do this, then, when this life ends, we will approach your throne in heaven a little bit closer than we thought we could.

Mark Link, SJ

Sunday Homilies, ©1990

Formed: Celebrate the Feast of Epiphany by listening to Prepare the Way of the King. Dr. Scott Hahn, one of the most eminent Catholic theologians in our country today, reveals what scholars know about the shepherds, the mysterious Magi, and King Herod. This illuminating presentation is sure to help you grow in appreciation of the greatest gift ever given to humankind - Jesus Christ. Join today at www.formed.org using the free parish code B84KHM.

There are many programs being offered for caregivers to adults with dementia and cognitive impairment. The times, places and topics (Understanding Challenging Behaviors, Tools for Caregivers, Understanding Alzheimer’s and Dementia) are available at https://www.communityresourcefinder.org.

Knights of Columbus #256, 7 Valley Rd., Middletown

A Community Blood Drive will be held on Thursday, January 16 from 2 to 7pm. Free steak dinner for all donors + a five dollar coupon for Dunkin Donuts. Everyone welcome.

A Comedy Night and Pasta Dinner will take place on January 18 at 6pm. The headline is “Father Patrick Aloynus Misgivings” stories and one-liners about growing up Catholic – from miracles and marriage counseling to bazaars, - nothing escapes the good father’s razor sharp Irish wit. The cost is $25 which includes a pasta and meatball dinner. The funds raised will help the Knights in their charitable donations during the year. Contact Tom Murphy at 835-1135 for tickets.

Grateful for God’s Providence Campaign Update: Thank you to all who donated to this Campaign. St. Lucy’s has reached 64% of our goal for this Campaign for a total...
amount of $263,167.00. Thank you for all your donations!!