

MASS SCHEDULE - St. John

Sat., Jan 6 Vigil The Epiphany of the Lord

4:00 PM For all parishioners.

Sun., Jan 7 The Epiphany of the Lord

10:30 AM + Rita and Leonard Johnston from the family.

Mon., Jan 8 The Baptism of the Lord

St J 8:00 AM Thanksgiving for the Poquiz Family specially for baby Aurora.

Tue., Jan 9 Ferial Weekday

SH 8:00 AM + Sheila Gosselin from Anne and Dale Kennedy.

Wed., Jan 10 Ferial Weekday

St J 8:00 AM All deceased members of the Martine's and Le's families.

Thu., Jan 11 Ferial Weekday

SH 8:00 AM + Donald Louis Roy from Kevin Roy.

Fri., Jan 12 St. Marguerite Bourgeoys, Virgin

SH 8:00 AM For Martin Cullen.

Sat., Jan 13 Vigil 2nd Sunday in OT

4:00 PM + Germaine & Aurele Gratton From Lise & Martin Lacey.

Sun., Jan 14 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

10:30 AM For all parishioners.

Weekly Collection Dec 24 \$ 2,787 Dec 31 \$ 1487

PASTOR'S MESSAGE

Dear friends,

Our Faith is filled with numerous customs, devotions and traditions, we can say it is what gives history and perseverance in our faith – without them and without understanding their meaning our faith could become dry and sterile.

It is a catholic tradition to bless one's own home on (or near) the celebration of the Epiphany – *that is this weekend* - by using chalk to write a special inscription above the home's entrance "20+C+M+B+24". This tradition originated in Poland and grew very popular throughout other Slavic countries and have even spread throughout Canada and the United States.

In this Blessing an invocation is made asking God to bless this home - request for Christ to bless our homes and that He may stay with us who dwell therein throughout the entire year. The letters C, M and B is Latin for the phrase "Christus Mansionem Benedicat" (or May Christ Bless this house). *Some think or say the letters also represent the initials of the Magi names: Caspar, Malchior and Balthazar –*

who came to visit Jesus first. The number of the Calander year is also included; for this year it would be at the beginning (20) and the number at the end (24) thus "2024". Therefore, the inscription this year should read, "20+C+M+B+24". This writing is only to be placed above the main entrance of the house, it is not necessary to put above each entrance as this is simply a sacramental; a prayer of invitation of Christ into our home and not necessarily exorcism prayer to banish evil spirit; *for that a proper house blessing can be arranged with a priest.*

If you would like to bless your house this year with the inscription, we will have blessed chalk at the back of the church after Holy Mass. *Please also be considerate of other who would like to do the blessing and take only one piece of blessed chalk.*

There will also be Epiphany water in the Holy Water Fount until it runs out.

Together in Prayer

Instructions for Blessing the Home for Epiphany

Gather at the entrance of the home.

Leader: Peace be to this house.

All: And to all who dwell herein.

All: From the east came the Magi to Bethlehem to adore the Lord; and opening their treasures they offered precious gifts: gold for the great King, incense for the true God, and myrrh in symbol of His burial.

All: Our Father. . .

Leader: All they from Saba shall come

All: Bringing gold, frankincense and myrrh.

Leader: O Lord, hear my prayer.

All: And let my cry come to You.

Leader: Let us pray. O God, who by the guidance of a star didst on this day manifest Thine only-begotten Son to the Gentiles, mercifully grant that we who know Thee by faith may also attain the vision of Thy glorious majesty. Through Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

Leader: Be enlightened, be enlightened, O Jerusalem, for thy light is come, and the glory of the Lord is risen upon thee—Jesus Christ born of the Virgin Mary.

All: And the Gentiles shall walk in thy light and kings in the splendor of thy rising, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon thee.

Leader: Let us pray. Bless, + O Lord God almighty, this home, that in it there may be health, purity, the strength of victory, humility, goodness and mercy, the fulfillment of Thy law, the thanksgiving to God the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit. And may this blessing remain upon this home and upon all who dwell herein. Through Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

The initials of the Magi are inscribed upon the doors with the blessed chalk.

Example: **20 + C + M + B + 24**

WEEKLY NEWS

Spiritual Exercise according to St. Ignatius of Loyola

(both in English and Spanish)

February 23-26th 2024 for Men

March 1-4th 2024 for Women

Location: Fair Haven Conference Centre

B2215 Durham Regional Hwy 48,

Beaverton, ON L0K 1A0 Cost: \$300

To Fill out first inquiry please go to:

<https://forms.gle/i1kd7cqRSYdxzkJz7>

For questions or more Information please email Fr.

Alex Salazar at alexsalazar@ive.org

St. John Auxiliary Business Account Statement

Year ending Dec 31/2023

Balance Fwd. \$364.99

Debits:

Announced Masses (2) \$ 40.00

RBC Monthly Fee & Statement \$ 105.00

St. John Fundraiser \$ 50.00

(Easter flowers & Poinsettias)

Total Debits \$195.00

Balance Fwd. \$ 178.74

Joan Crowley Treasurer

Friday Adoration at Sacred Heart

Every Friday there is adoration of the Blessed Sacrament at Sacred Heart in reparation for the offences made to the Sacred Heart of Jesus from 1:30 to 6:30PM and confessions from 5:00 to 6:30PM

Catholic Missionary Children Oratory

For Children 7-12 years old. Saturdays 10:30 AM to noon at St. John the Baptist. For info or to register contact Sr. Inmaculada at stjohndsacredheart@gmail.com

Altar Boy Group at Sacred Heart

1st & 3rd Fridays of the Month, 6:15 - 8:30 PM.

Young Adult Group at Sacred Heart

Every 2nd, 4th and 5th Friday of the Month. Please join us at 6PM for 30 minutes of adoration followed by dinner in the basement hall, talk and games.

GOspel Matthew 2.1-12 of Sunday Jan 7

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage."

When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the Prophet: 'And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel.'"

Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage."

When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy.

On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.