

St. Joseph Church

Rev. Bernard Starman, Pastor
 Rev. James Weeder & Rev. Joseph Sund, Associates
 Deacon M.J. Kersenbrock
 Atkinson, Nebraska
 402-925-2122, Emergency/After Hours---402.340.0277
 www.stjosephatkinson.org
 www.holtboydcatholic.org

The Epiphany of the Lord 01/05/20

Monday NO MASS
 Tuesday 10:00 AM + Nick & Lena Klein @ Good Sam
 5:30 PM @ St. Boniface
 Wednesday 8:15 AM + Larry Kliment
 Thursday 11:15 AM @ St. Boniface
 Friday 8:15 AM + Eleanor Jones
 Saturday 2:00 PM - Miller/Schmeichel Wedding
 6:00 PM + Clara Straka
 Sunday 10:30 AM + Ken, Marilyn & Keith Ziska

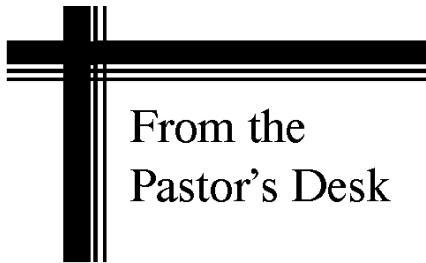


Mass Schedule

| Jan 11/12 | Saturday | Sunday |
|-------------------------|----------|---------|
| Atkinson, St Joseph | 6:00pm | 10:30am |
| St. Boniface, Stuart | No Mass | 8:30am |
| St Patrick, O'Neill | 5:00pm | 9:00am |
| St Joseph, Amelia | No Mass | 11:00am |
| Ss. Peter & Paul, Butte | No Mass | 10:30am |
| St Mary, Spencer | 5:30pm | No Mass |
| Assumption, Lynch | No Mass | 8:30am |



Sacrament of Reconciliation
 for Ss. Joseph and Boniface:
 One half hour before each
 weekend Mass or by appointment



From the Pastor's Desk

The story of the Epiphany is told only in Matthew's gospel (Matt 2: 1-12). Like many other elements of the Nativity story, we often combine this story in our mind with Luke's story too. This is written in the context of Matthew's gospel because he makes some pertinent theological points. It is easy to read into the story, however, imagining that three kings bring the infant Jesus presents. In reality, the number of magi is not given. We typically imagine three because of the number of gifts they brought. Also, the three are thought of as "kings," even though that word doesn't appear here either. Matthew calls them "magi," which were a class of Zoroastrian priests from Persia (modern-day Iran). And though we likely imagine the infant Jesus, he is called a "child" here (a toddler).

The gifts themselves represent royalty, and the magi represent Gentiles. This tells us that even Gentiles come and worship Jesus, prefiguring the conclusion of the gospel, when the risen Lord will give the commandment to go out to all the nations (gentiles) teaching them and baptizing them. Finally, the fact that the magi find the child Jesus (rather than the infant) is significant too, as Herod will order the slaughter of the male children based on when the star initially appeared. It's good for us to read the story carefully, gleaned the theological insights that Matthew means to impart.

This story gives us many points to consider. One might be the fact that Gentiles come to worship Jesus. Herod needs to ask his advisors about the prophecy when those from Persia (Gentiles) are seeking out the child on their own. We, too, might be open to the other, those who come to the truth and to the person of Jesus on their own accord or by following their own stars. We know that by the end of the gospel, this is Jesus' intention too, that his teachings are not restricted to a few, but are open to all. This is the same gospel that will tell us that not everyone who says, "Lord, Lord" will enter the kingdom of heaven. Instead, entry is only for those who do the will of the Father. And the will of the Father is that we act mercifully, much like the magi of the gospel this weekend.

Let us then read the story carefully, with attention to detail. Matthew, the evangelist and theologian, has much to tell us about the great teacher and childking Jesus.

The magi in this weekend's gospel represent all those who are not part of the "in" crowd. These foreigners who do not know Jesus come to worship him before anyone else. They recognize in the signs of nature that something significant has happened, and they seek it out. Those who should know their own Scriptures missed something that Zoroastrian priests perceived. We can ask ourselves, too, what we might miss when signs are right in front of our eyes. What is God doing in our midst? Is it something that others---foreigners, those not part of the "in" crowd---notice, but it escapes our attention? Let us die to our preconceived notions and surety in knowing the Lord, and be open to what God has in store for us. God is doing something new. There is an epiphany under way. May we have eyes to see and ears to hear.

Ad Multos Annos!


Fr. Bernard Starman

We Offer Sympathy...to the family of Deb & Gary Pospichal with the passing of Deb's mother, Eve Kallhoff. May perpetual light shine on Eve & all whom the Lord has called to eternal life.



TODAY! Plan to join others at the Annual Free Throw Contest sponsored by the Knights. The event, will be held at the West Holt Gym with doors opening at 12:30 & contest beginning @ 1:00. All students ages 9 through 14 are welcome to participate. Direct ??? to Doug Kubik, 402.925.5438.

The HARVEST IS GREAT, LABORERS ARE FEW----Taking the vocation crucifix this week—Roger & Pam Frickel. The week of Jan. 12—Randy & Diane Rentschler.

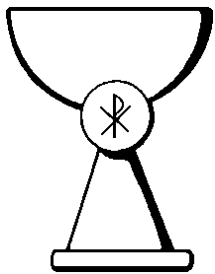
 **PRAY FOR...** Emma Lou Gunther, Darrin Wedige, Gianna Slaymaker, Lois Tunender, Nathan Boyle, Garrett Scholz, Marilyn Morrison, Blakely Bouska, Miranda Ijames, John Gilg, Phil Fritz, John Mathis, Jerry Schaaf.

TODAY'S NEWS

Food Items Needed... for the Ministerial Soup Supper planned for Fri., Jan. 10 at West Holt: 26 lbs. ground

beef, browned, onion, salt & pepper added, 2 gal. cans chili-ette beans, 1 gal. can kidney beans, 7-46 oz. cans tomato juice, 8 packets McCormick chili seasoning mix. **Items need to be to Cindy Kubik by noon on that day...PLEASE take them to the home of Cindy Kubik or West Holt Hospital. Direct ??? to her @ 402.340.0049.**

Good Sam. & Prairie Winds----Jan. 12----Diane Rentschler & Linda Wolf



The Seminary Collection... will be held the weekend of Jan. 12. The Archdiocese of Omaha is currently blessed with twenty-three men studying for the Priesthood. We humbly ask for your prayers, sacrifices and generous financial support. Thank you for whatever you're able to donate to this most worthy appeal.

MEETINGS

SCHOOL BOARD: Wed., Jan. 8 @ 8pm

EVENTS

- **This afternoon**—Free Throw Contest @ WH
- **Wed., Jan. 8**—Adoration, 9am—3pm
- **Wed., Jan. 8**—CCD resumes
- **Fri., Jan. 10**—Ministerial Soup Supper @ West Holt beginning @ 5:00
- **Sun., Jan. 12**—Remove Christmas decorations after 10:30am Mass
- **Wed., Jan. 15**—First Reconciliation & also **Penance Service for all parishioners, 7pm**
- **Jan. 18/19**—One Rose, One Life. Pro-life prayer cards will be handed out
- **Jan. 26 through Feb. 2**—Catholic Schools Week
- **Fri., Jan. 31**—Parish Carnival

LITURGICAL MINISTERS...Jan 11/12

| MASS TIMES | SATURDAY | SUNDAY |
|-------------------|---|---|
| EMHCs | JRamm, S Rossman HKrumwiede | CSholes, DLiewer, J&P Skrdla, ABorer |
| LECTORS | Kenny Tunender | Brian Mlady |
| GIFT BEARERS | M/M Wayne Baker | Betty Ziska |
| ORGANIST | Terri Vrooman | Diane Osborne |
| SERVERS | Mathis Children | Arideth Weekley Drake Nemetz Avery Nemetz |
| JAN USHERS | Phillip Hamik Mike Laible Jeff Hostert Volunteer | Dan Ziska George Schmit Todd Seger Roger Frickel |

THE LORD'S PORTION---12.29.19

| | |
|----------------------|--------------|
| Adult envelopes | 608.00 |
| Loose cash | 165.00 |
| Loose checks | 85.00 |
| Midweek deposit | <u>25.00</u> |
| | 883.00 |
| | |
| Budget...Sunday... | 3,561.58 |
| | -2,678.58 |
| | |
| Christmas | 8,954.25 |
| Harvest | 100.00 |
| Initial Offering | 1.00 |
| Religious Retirement | 10.00 |
| New Years | 584.00 |

WISE MEN STILL SEEK HIM