

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

JANUARY 5, 2020

SCRIPTURE REFLECTIONS for Jan. 12th The Baptism of the Lord

Isaiah 42:1-4, 6-7

Where do we see the quiet justice of the Lord in action in our daily lives?
Have we accepted God's justice in our own lives?

Acts 10:34-38

Dare we claim to be impartial in our dealings with and opinions of others?
Do we acknowledge the good God has done through others around us?

Matthew 3:13-17

It took willing action by a human to release the power of God.
How willing are we to be Jesus' "partner" when He asks?

WEEKDAY MASSES January 7 - 10

Tues: 5:00 pm +Mary Shankar
Wed: 8:40 am **School Mass** +Dennis Lyons
Thurs: 5:00 pm +Joan Perius
Fri: 10:15 am **Maple Manor** +Jack Bisenius

WEEKEND MASSES January 11 & 12

Sat: 5:00 pm St. Edward's - Nekoma People of the Parishes

7:30 pm St. Alphonsus +Ron Mikkelsen
Reader: Holly Lyons
EMHC: Holly Lyons
Servers: Regner Family
Musicians:

Sun: 8:30 am St. Alphonsus +Rose Lorenz
Reader: Carleen Schill
EMHC: Daryl Kempel
Servers: Volunteer
Musicians: Bob & Choir

9:00 am St. Michael's - Wales +Alex & Delina Chaput

10:30 am St. Alphonsus +Dorothy Schroeder
Reader: George Podhradsky
EMHC: Dennis Schill
Servers: Volunteer
Musicians: Bob & Choir

Fellowship Hall Host: Duane & Bev Otto

Fr. Phil's cell phone: 701-740-7593 and Fr. Will's cell phone: 701-640-2858

Website for St. Alphonsus Parish – <http://www.stalphonsuslangdon.com/>

Sacrament of Reconciliation – Tuesday after 5:00pm Mass, Wednesday after 8:40am Mass, Thursday after 5:00pm Mass & Saturday at 6:45pm

Weekly Reflection for December 25 & 29, 2019: This week's reflection of the parishioner's relationship with God and with the parish

Adult Envelopes	\$3,997.00
Intentional Givers	\$100.00
Plate	\$1,364.00
Total	\$5,461.00

The Epiphany of the Lord

Matthew is writing for a community, most of whose members are Jewish converts. He is anxious to show that the Gospel of Jesus reveals God fulfilling all the promises with which they are familiar from their own tradition. In the background to the birth and early days of Jesus we find many echoes of the story of Moses. In today's extract, we are presented with the wicked king, Herod, who, like Pharaoh in the Exodus story, sees a threat to his throne and so orders a massacre of infant Jewish boys to eliminate the danger. Matthew is showing that, in the person of Jesus, the Exodus, the most significant event in Jewish history, is being fulfilled. Above the crib is the cross. The three gifts which the magi offer symbolize Jesus being a king (gold), Jesus being God (incense) and foreshadow his burial after the crucifixion (myrrh).

Scholars sometimes describe the stories of the birth of Jesus as "the Gospel in miniature". They mean by this that we find in the first two chapters of Matthew and Luke the themes that the evangelist will develop in the narrative of the ministry, passion and resurrection of Jesus. One important aspect of the Gospel message is that it is inclusive: no one is excluded from the loving plan of God for human beings. The other readings from the scriptures today emphasize this point. In Matthew's account of the life and ministry of Jesus, we hear of Gentile characters, such as the Canaanite woman and the Roman centurion coming to him, and of Jesus responding positively to their requests.

Taken from The Living Word

Epiphany of the Lord

"Then they opened their treasures and offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh." MATTHEW 2:11

The image of the Magi kneeling before the infant Jesus and opening their treasure chests for Him is an image that we should all try to follow each day. In gratitude for all that we have been given, we are called to generously share all of our gifts, not just the ones we pick and choose. God wants us to be generous with everything, but especially that one thing that means the most to you.

CD of the Week: The True Meaning of Christmas – Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen's

books, tapes, homilies, retreats, and television series have inspired countless souls all over the world. This digitally-mastered presentation combines classic recordings of his timeless reflections on the meaning of the Incarnation of Jesus, mixed with Gregorian Chant and seasonal music. It is sure to become a family favorite! **Have a very Blessed Christmas and thank you for your generous support of Lighthouse Catholic Media!**

Retrouvaille: Help for Hurting Marriages - Retrouvaille is an international, peer-run program that has helped hundreds of thousands of hurting married couples turn the tide, find new hope, and rediscover the love that initially brought them together. Surveys have shown that 3 out of 4 couples who complete the entire program are still married five years later with stronger, healthier marriages. Retrouvaille will be held locally **February 7-9, 2020** in Fargo. For more information visit HelpOurMarriage.com or contact us at (701) 356-7962 or via email at RedRiverRetrouvaille@fargodiocese.org.

WOMEN – THIS ONE IS FOR YOU! Redeemed 2020 Conference – *Trusted Sisters: Blessed to be a Blessing; Becoming the Woman God Created You to Be!* The conference begins Friday evening, March 27th, at the Fargo Avalon Events Center. The Vigil Project, through sacred music and personal testimonies, will guide you in worshipping Our Lord during Eucharistic Adoration, followed by a social hour. Saturday, March 28th, you will gain a new perspective on your femininity in relation to God and others through speakers, as well as Mass with Bishop Folda, confession, and fellowship with other women. For details and to register go to fargodiocese.org/redeemedwomen. Register by March 1, \$50 (after March 1, \$75). All food and refreshments included.

St. Alphonsus School is collecting Box Tops, Our Family Brand UPC codes, used printer ink cartridges and Coca-Cola bottle and box lids. The Coca-Cola box codes are on the little flap that you pull off the top. The codes consist of lots of number and letters. All these items can be dropped off at the entrance of the school and church and at the Bread Pan Bakery. We turn in these items to get money for our school. Thank you for your continued support.

PARISH NEWS AND EVENTS

Altar Server, Reader and EMHC Schedules lists are in the church sacristy. Please take your copy; they will not be mailed out.

We will be having an Altar Society meeting on Tuesday, January 14 at 6:00 in the fellowship hall. The Constitution will be read at this meeting.

If you would like to send a card to Seth Skjervheim his address is St Gregory the Great Seminary, 800 Fletcher Road, Seward, NE 68434.

Altar Society Position Open - The St. Alphonsus Altar Society is in need of a co-chair to fill the vacated position of Bev Metzger. Or if you have someone you would like to work with, there is the option to take over both co-chairs for all business other than the fall supper, which Bev and Lisa would still be in head of. If you are interested or know of anyone who would be a good fit for the job, please contact Lisa Howatt at 256-3757 or Bev Metzger at 256-5803. Thank you for your prayerful consideration of this matter.

Altar Society Dues are now due – special cash and retired members only. Dues may be paid by sending them to Candace Bimler, 10028 103rd Ave. NE, Wales, ND 58281 or put it in an envelope marked “Altar Society” (be sure to include your name) and drop in the weekend collection baskets. Thank you.

Fellowship Hall cleaning for January – 3 – Jayla Askvig & Jaime Zeis; 10 – Julie Regner & Nancy Downs; 17 – Lori Roy & Mauri Roy; 24 – Sally Kram & Marie Mack; 31 – Vicki Samuelson & Diane Schill

Knights of Columbus will be collecting non perishable food items for the Cavalier County Food Pantry. There is a purple plastic tote at the back of the church.

New Parish Website: Check out our new parish website. It's at the same address - stalphonsuslangdon.com. It's wonderful! One of the new features is a parish calendar of events. It will be a very helpful resource for our parishioners.

Communion for the homebound: do you know of someone who is not able to get to Mass due to medical or health reasons? Call Fr Phil or Fr Will to be put on our Communion Call List.

Catholic Daughters are accepting religious articles (statues, pictures, rosaries, pray books and etc.) to send them to Universal Living Rosary Association in Texas. You can leave them at the back of the church or call Linda Kempel 256-2493

You're invited to join us on Wednesdays at 12:05 PM as we pray the Rosary for the protection of the unborn. It will take place at the Church unless there is an afternoon funeral scheduled.

Do you or do you know someone who struggles with painful periods, irregular cycles, miscarriages, infertility or want to avoid a pregnancy? Are you ready to use a system of fertility awareness that is 100% natural and can be used to help with all the issues listed above? Jen Lagein, FCPI offers an instructional course in the Creighton Model System of FertilityCare, scientifically proven to be as effective as any hormonal birth control in avoiding pregnancy and three times more effective than IVF in achieving pregnancy. An Introductory Session is scheduled at St. Joachim's Religious Education Center in Rolla from 7pm-9pm on January 14th. To register, call Jen at 701-367-6386. No fee for Introductory Session.

Adopt a Student is a program that we have, to help support our students that attend St. Alphonsus Catholic School. Adopt a Student is financial help that goes toward students' tuition and learning needs. We not only ask for a financial donation when you fill out the Adopt a Student card but also to pray for the students that they have a successful school year, successful learning path, and stay strong in their spiritual journey. The Adopt a Student cards are in the back of the church under the bulletins. You can either drop the envelopes in the collection box marked “Office – Jackie” or drop them off at Jackie's office. Thank you so much for supporting our students at St. Alphonsus Catholic School.