



The Epiphany of the Lord - Sunday - January 5, 2020
Sacred Heart Parish

· Corner of Lewis Rd. & Walnut St. · P.O. Box 64 · Royersford, PA 19468 ·
· 610-948-5915 · Fax 610-948-0573 ·

· Website: <http://www.sacredheartroyersford.org> ·

· Parish Office Hours: *Mon. 9 - 3 *Tues./Thurs. 10 - 4 *Wed. 10 - 5 *Fri. 9 - 12 ·

CLERGY

Reverend Tadeusz Gorka, Pastor
Reverend Frank Giuffre
Weekend Assistant

SACRED MUSIC

DIRECTOR OF SACRED MUSIC

Mrs. Milena Urban
milena@sacredheartroyersford.org

OFFICE STAFF

OFFICE MANAGER

Dolores Eichelberger
dolores@sacredheartroyersford.org

BUSINESS MANAGER

Mrs. Susan Ciabattoni
susanc@sacredheartroyersford.org

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Dr. Nicholas Scoville and
Jennifer Scoville
religioused@sacredheartroyersford.org

HOLY CROSS REGIONAL CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Mrs. Theresa Healy, Principal
thealy@holycrossregionalschool.org
610-489-9434, ext. 2225

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Come adore our Eucharistic Lord in
the Little Flower Perpetual Adoration
Chapel which is attached to the
Rectory. The Chapel is available for
prayer at all times day and night.

THE HOLY SACRIFICE OF THE MASS

Saturday Anticipated Mass:
4:15 p.m.
Sunday: 8:00, 9:30 a.m.
11:15 a.m.

WEEKDAYS

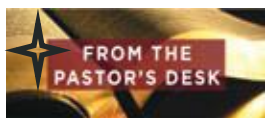
Monday - Thursday: 8:00 a.m.
(Please refer to the bulletin for
additional Mass times.

HOLY DAYS

Consult bulletin for schedule.

SACRAMENT OF PENANCE

Saturday: 3:00 - 3:45 p.m.
Tuesday & Thursday:
7:30 - 7:50 a.m.
Wednesday: 6:30 - 7:00 p.m.



THE ORIGIN OF

“THE TWELVE DAYS OF CHRISTMAS”

“The Twelve Days of Christmas” was written in England as one of the “Catechism songs” to help young children learn the tenets of their faith—a memory aid. At a time when to be caught with anything in “writing” indicating adherence to the Catholic faith could not only get you imprisoned, it could get you hanged.

The song gifts are hidden meanings to the teachings of the faith.

The “True Love” mentioned in the song doesn’t refer to an earthly suitor, it refers to God Himself. The “me” who receives the presents refers to every baptized person.

The “partridge in a pear tree” is Jesus Christ, the Son of God. In the song, Christ is symbolically presented as a mother partridge which feigns injury to decoy predators from her helpless nestlings, much in memory of the expression of Christ’s sadness over the fate of Jerusalem: “Jerusalem! Jerusalem! How often would I have sheltered thee under my wings as a hen does her chicks, but you would not have it so...”

The other symbols mean the following:

- 2 Turtle doves: The Old and New Testaments
- 3 French hens: The Theological Virtues - Faith, Hope, and Charity
- 4 Calling birds: The 4 Gospels /The 4 Evangelists
- 5 Golden rings: The first 5 books of the Old Testament - the “Pentateuch,” which gives the history of man’s fall from grace
- 6 Geese a-laying: The 6 days of Creation
- 7 Swans a-swimming: The 7 Gifts of the Holy Spirit or the 7 Sacraments
- 8 Maids a-milking: The 8 Beatitudes
- 9 Ladies dancing: The 9 Fruits of the Holy Spirit
- 10 Lords a-leaping: The 10 Commandments
- 11 Pipers piping: The 11 faithful Apostles
- 12 Drummers drumming: The 12 points of doctrine in the Apostle’s Creed

Remember, we are now in the twelve days of Christmas. Celebrate!

Have a Blessed and Happy New Year!

Father Tad

Like the Magi, let us offer Jesus our gifts on this feast of Epiphany.



(a) The first gift might be friendship with God. After all, the whole point of Christmas is that God’s Son became one of us to redeem us and call us friends. God wants our friendship in the form of whole-hearted love and devotion. (b) A second gift might be friendship with others. This kind of friendship can be costly. The price it (b)exacts is vulnerability and openness to others. The good news, however, is that, in offering friendship to others, we will receive back many blessings. (c) A third gift might be the gift of reconciliation. This gift repairs damaged relationships. It requires honesty, humility, understanding, forgiveness and patience. (d) The fourth gift of this season is the gift of peace: seeking God’s peace in our own lives through prayer, the Sacramental life and daily meditation on the Word of God. It is out of humble gratitude that we give Him from the heart our gifts of worship, prayer, singing, possessions, and time. As we give our insignificant, little gifts to God, the good news is that God accepts them! Like the Magi offering their gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh, we offer what we have, from the heart, in response to what that Child has given to us - Himself. Let us conclude with a 19th century English carol, Christina Rossetti’s *A Christmas Carol*, which begins, “*In the bleak midwinter.*” The carol sums up, in its last stanza, the nature of “giving to the Christ Child.”

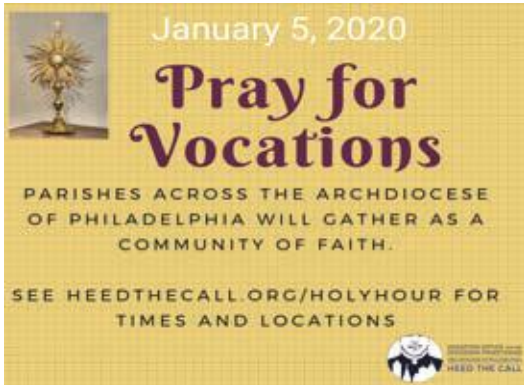
What can I give him, poor as I am?

If I were a shepherd, I could give a Lamb.

If I were a wise man, I could do my part.

What I can I give Him? Give Him my heart!”

- by Fr. Antony Kadavil - <https://www.vaticannews.va/en/church/news/2018-01/epiphany-sunday-reflections.html>



**Today, January 5 - from 12:15 Noon - 1:15 PM
Sacred Heart Church is Hosting a
Special Holy Hour for Vocations.**

Won't You Join Us in Prayer?

All are invited.

What is God Calling You to Do?

Excerpts From: *The Meaning of Vocation* by Pope St. John Paul II

A vocation to a total commitment to Christ:

Each one of you too is confronted by the challenge of giving full meaning to your life, the one life you are given to live. You are young and you want to live. But you must live fully and with a purpose. You must live for God, you must live for others. And no one can live this life for you. The future is yours, but the future is above all a call and a challenge to "keep" your life by giving it up, by "losing" it-as the Gospel has reminded us-by sharing it through loving service of others. You are called to be witnesses of the paradox that Christ proposes. "He who loves his life loses it, he who hates his life in this world will keep it for eternal life" (Jn 12:25). And the measure of your success will be the measure of your generosity.

If one wishes to change the world, it is necessary first of all to change man's heart.

The experience of a vocation is unique and indescribable, and is only perceived as a gentle breeze of the clarifying touch of grace. The vocation is a breathing of the Holy Spirit, who, at the same time as he genuinely shapes our fragile human reality, shines a new light into our hearts. He instills an extraordinary power that merges our existence into the divine enterprise.

Priestly vocation: The priestly vocation is essentially a call to sanctity, in the form that derives from the Sacrament of Holy orders. Sanctity is intimacy with God; it is the imitation of Christ, poor, chaste and humble; it is unreserved love for souls and self-giving to their true good; it is love for the Church which is holy and wants us to be holy, because such is the mission that Christ has entrusted to it. Each one of you must be holy also in order to help your brothers pursue their vocation to sanctity.

Religious vocation: If someone among you hears Christ's call to a complete gift of self in the religious life, do not reject such a noble, though demanding, proposal. Have the courage to say yes generously and firmly; this can give an incomparable depth of meaning to your whole life.

I want to reaffirm strongly the eminently apostolic role of cloistered nuns. To leave the world to devote oneself in solitude to deeper and constant prayer is none other than a special way of being an apostle. The Lord has given you a heart open to great horizons; do not be afraid to commit your life completely to the service of Christ and His Gospel! Listen to Him as He says again today: "The harvest is abundant, but the laborers are few."

The lack of workers for God's harvest was already a challenge in Gospel times, even for Jesus Himself. "Beg the Harvest Master to send out laborers to gather His harvest" (Mt 9:38). He also teaches us...that with prayer we can and must influence the number of vocations." - To read Pope St. John Paul's entire speech visit: <https://www.lincolndiocese.org/vocation/the-meaning-of-vocation#8>



On this last school day of 2019, Holy Cross Regional Catholic School students celebrated Mass together and then the 7th grade presented the Nativity story with the annual Christmas Tableau. Mrs. Theresa Philipp and Miss Danielle Strange worked closely with their 7th graders and music teacher Mrs. Amanda Casey to present the scenes and music that depict the birth of Jesus. Angels, shepherds, prophets, wise men, Mary, Joseph, and an infant were all part of the cast. The student musicians sang and played piano, flute, bass, and guitar. In closing, principal Theresa Healy commended the 7th graders and wished all Holy Cross families a "Happy Christmas!"

“CHALKING THE DOORS” - Epiphany (also known as Twelfth Night, Theophany, or Three King’s Day) marks the occasion of a time-honored Christian tradition of “chalking the doors.” The formula for the ritual — adapted for 2020 — is simple: take chalk of any color and write the following above the entrance of your home: 20 + C + M + B + 20.

The letters have two meanings. First, they represent the initials of the Magi — Caspar, Malchior, and Balthazar — who came to visit Jesus in His first home. They also abbreviate the Latin phrase, *Christus mansionem benedicat*: “May Christ bless the house.” The “+” signs represent the cross, and the “20” at the beginning and the “20” at the end mark the year. Taken together, this inscription is performed as a request for Christ to bless those homes so marked and that He stay with those who dwell therein throughout the entire year.

The chalking of the doors is a centuries-old practice throughout the world. It is, however, an easy tradition to adopt, and a great practice whereby we dedicate our year to God from its very outset, asking His blessing on our homes and on all who live, work, or visit them there.

The feast of manifestation, or Epiphany, is traditionally celebrated the 12th day after Christmas, this year, January 6th.

Epiphany satchels will be available in church on January 5th for your continuance of this special tradition. In 2020, may peace be to your house and to all who dwell within.



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January 26, 2020 ♦ 10:00 am - 12:00 noon

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Sacred Heart Parish Ministries and Their Lead Ministry Representatives

To reach a Ministry Representative, please contact the Parish Office:
610-948-5915

- Altar Servers.....Father Gorka
- Altar Society.....Sunny Dougherty
- Babysitting.....May Medaglia
- Baptismal Prep., PreJordan...Father Gorka
- Bereavement Ministry.....Dottie Williams
- Bible Study - Men and Women.....John Nall
- Blood Drive.....Mark Brittingham
- Boy Scouts.....Noah Macy
- CaféChristine Klag
- Choir.....Milena Urban
- Counters.....Father Gorka
- Cub Scouts.....Matt Kirsch
- CYO Sports.....Bill Hunter
- Divine Mercy Traveling PictureLouise Greger
- Endow.....Beth Shoudt
- Eucharistic Perpetual Adoration.....Peter and Teresa Creciun
- Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion.....Father Gorka
- Fair Committee.....Rich Prevete
- Finance Committee.....Bill Breslawski
- Funeral Planning.....Father Gorka
- Giving Tree.....Theresa McKeon
- Good Shepherd.....Teresa Miller
- H.E.A.R.T.Mary Shields
- King’s Men.....Bob Zeller
- Knights of Columbus.....Joe Wozniak
- Lambs of the Lord.....Teresa Miller and Gretchen Brosius
- Lectors.....Tracy Dougherty
- Liturgy and Sacred Music.....Milena Urban
- Media.....Christine Klag
- Parish Library.....Diane Brunner
- Parish Council.....Father Gorka
- Prayer Shawl Ministry.....Courtney Uba
- PreSchool & Kindergarten...Teresa Miller
- Project Outreach.....Lisa Connelly
- Pro-Life.....Peter and Teresa Creciun
- R.C.I.A.Father Gorka
- Religious Education (P.R.E.P.), 1-7.....Dr. Nicholas Scoville and Jennifer Scoville
- Rosary-a-Day.....Joe Evans
- Safe Environment.....Christine Klag
- Silver Liners Sr. Circle.....Phil Corcoran
- St. Mary’s Shelter.....Susan Bowes
- St. Martin de Porres.....Teresa Miller
- St. Vincent DePaul.....Anne Metz
- Stewardship, A Mission of Faith –Kiosks - CD/Books..Dolores Eichelberger
- Ushers.....Father Gorka
- Vocations.....Father Gorka



Please remember those local families in need and served by the St. Vincent DePaul Society. Poor boxes, identified by the St. Vincent de Paul logo on them are identified in the church and narthex.



My sincerest thank you for the gift of your presence and support to all those who joined me in decorating the church. The work of your hands and help were a testimony of your gratefulness to the Lord and the outcome was a gift to us all. Thank you!

Father Tad



SACRED HEART LOTTERY CALENDAR WINNERS

Date	###	Prize	Winner	Seller
12/13	455	\$30	Not Sold	
12/14	507	\$30	Charles Brunner	Cafe
12/15	344	\$45	Not Sold	
12/16	700	\$30	Bill Edwards	Cafe
12/17	505	\$30	Melissa Diliberto	Jim Petaccio
12/18	486	\$30	Not Sold	
12/19	337	\$30	Rita Schmidlin	Ceil Cusick

It's a New Calendar Year! Take a Chance! Share in the Fun!

Tickets are available for purchase in the café after each Sunday Mass and in the Church Office. If you would like to purchase specific numbers, please email Bill Petaccio (Billp427@gmail.com) with the numbers and he will see if they are available.



Traveling Divine Mercy Picture

Contact Louise Greger (610-948-0398) or lgreger7@gmail.com to schedule a week to host the picture. It will be available in the Little Flower Adoration Chapel for the regular pick-up day, Sunday, any time. Please return it to the Chapel on the following Saturday by 4PM.



Led by Regina Golie, come pray the Divine Mercy Chaplet each Monday, at 3PM, in the Little Flower Adoration Chapel. Even now, Jesus calls us to immerse ourselves in His mercy and love; His crucified hands are a sign of His love for you.



January's prayer intentions are for Father Giuffre.

PRAYING FOR THE SICK AND THOSE IN NEED OF OUR PRAYERS

Kevin Schurr, Steven DiGuiseppe, Elizabeth, Caroline and Tommy Cummings, William Good, Garrett Rogers, Brian Szalabofka, Stephen Spitko, Brian Spitko, Dan Dordea, David Hritz, Aria Gessner, James Coccia, Alex Stadelmaier, Elizabeth Cassidy, Polly Tornetta, Kathy Caffarella, Ed and Johanna McLaughlin, Gerald Daskiliewicz, Chris Chrisman, Lauri Ronan, Alice Pitcock, Louis DiMaria, Alyson Laysner, Keith Garnett, Nathan Wilgeroth, Orville Otis, John Breslawski, Faye West, Madison D' Annunzio, Mary Frances Leonetti, Nancy McNamara, Patricia Berner, Charles Crowder, Elena Craft, Patricia McMinn, Walt Kalil, Tara Clarke, John Hoff, the Gonzalez Family, Steve Curl, Colleen Haines and all the sick and suffering of the parish.

*We pray that God will bless you all with His healing hand.
Fr. Tad*



Please Pray for Those Serving in the Military

1st Lt. Dan Cummings, U.S. Army; SPC John Patrick Dougherty, U.S. Army; Capt. Ian Gardocki, U.S.A.F., Special Forces; 2nd Lt. Nicholas Gardocki, U.S. Army; 2nd Lt. Michael McCormick, U.S. Army; SSG Daniel A. Manildo, U.S. Army; P/O HM2 Ryan M. Sirico, U.S. Navy, Medical Corps; PFC Michael Yacovelli, U.S. Army; Lance Corporal Justin Solorio, U.S. Marine Corps



Women of Sacred Heart! Women of all ages and High School Girls!

We invite you to join the Sacred Heart Group for a weekend This weekend retreat for you can be a time of spiritual renewal and quiet. Our "Domenica" weekend retreat will take place at Malvern retreat House in Malvern, in the Family Life Center.

Heather Makowicz, our Retreat Director, is a certified Catholic Spiritual Director, speaker and outdoor adventure leader who has a passionate love for the Lord. Heather is founder and president of Peak Encounter Ministries where she organizes and leads hiking excursions along with other outdoor adventures that integrate prayer while encouraging people to encounter God in His creation.

The weekend is Friday, March 6, at 5:00 p.m. until Sunday, March 8, at Noon. Please call

Sunny Dougherty @ 610-948-4542 or email: sundoc_29@verizon.net

for additional information and reservations We will try to accommodate everyone by arranging carpools. We hope you can join us.



Do you or a friend need a ride to a doctor's appointment? Would a home-cooked meal be a help as you recover from an illness or surgery? How else can the H.E.A.R.T. parish volunteers help? Please call H.E.A.R.T. at 484-985-9442 or e-mail us: HEART@sacredheartroyersford.org

Rediscover the Love in Your Marriage! Retrouvaille of Delaware Valley offers hope for married couples experiencing loneliness, boredom, misery, or frustration in their marriage. Couples learn valuable communication skills and rediscover intimacy. Our next program starts February 21-23 at the Family Life Center in Malvern. For more information call: 215-766-3944 or 800-470-2230. All inquiries are kept strictly confidential.



Healing Mass for Those Suffering from Addiction

Saturday, January 18 - 11 AM

St. John the Baptist Church - 502 Ford St., Bridgeport
Celebrant Fr. David Ousley



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12/22/19: \$ 7,249.65

SAINT OF THE DAY

Jan 6 - Saint Andre Bessette was orphaned at 12, and eventually worked in the United States during the Civil War. At 25, he became a Brother of the Holy Cross. Having a deep devotion to Saint Joseph from childhood, Saint Andre built the Oratory on Mount Royal in his honor. Although sickly most of his life, Saint Andre lived to be 92.

Jan 7 - Saint Raymond of Penafort was a lawyer who used his talents to both compile legislation for easy access and to write legal treatises on penance for the use of confessors. He was named Archbishop of Tarragona, but resigned due to sickness within two years. He lived to be 100.

Jan 12 - Baptism of the Lord - liturgically, the feast of the Baptism of the Lord marks the end of the Christmas season and the transition to "Ordinary Time." Matthew's simple account of the baptism today ends with the heavenly voice introducing "my beloved Son." Recalling his coming, which we've celebrated in the Christmas season, we're invited to welcome the Beloved One into our midst once more. As a community, we will pledge ourselves - through each Sunday celebration which follows - to listen and respond to Christ' proclamation of the Good News.



In a letter issued on Dec. 22, Archbishop Charles Chaput, O.F.M. Cap. offered prayerful best wishes to the Jewish community at the start of this year's Hanukkah celebration.

Dear Friends,

As once again the Jewish community celebrates Hanukkah, the Festival of Lights, please accept my prayerful best wishes and the neighborly greetings of the Catholic clergy and parishioners of the Archdiocese of Philadelphia.

In our day, burdened as we are by so many fears and oppressions, we might feel truly overwhelmed. In contrast, the feast of Hanukkah highlights the victory over oppression which our Heavenly Father has bestowed.

May the light which comes from the menorah bring you a renewed sense of peace and freedom from oppression, especially religious oppression. May our two communities commit ourselves anew to bringing authentic heavenly light to our troubled times.

Sincerely yours,

Most Reverend Charles J. Chaput, O.F.M. Cap.



**MONDAY, JANUARY 13 - 11AM
IN THE SACRED HEART CAFE**

**THE SILVER LINERS SENIOR CIRCLE
INVITES YOU TO JOIN THEM IN THEIR
FIRST MEETING OF THE NEW YEAR!**

Coffee, tea and dessert will be provided.
Bring a bagged lunch if you wish.

Cards, board games, and lots of laughter will be had.

And, by the way, a great time was had by all of those who attended the Christmas party!

Hope you can join us!



**Join us for pancake Sunday on
January 19th in the cafe.**

**Platter's with bacon or kielbasa will be
available for \$5, along with our regular menu items.**



***Mass pro populo or "for the People of the Parish"**

MON, Jan 6 Saint Andre Bessette

8:00 AM Caroline Gennaria
Request of Barbara Horrocks Johnson

TUES, Jan 7 Saint Raymond of Penafort

8:00 AM Joanna Edleman
Request of Yonce

WED, Jan 8

8:30 AM Megan Shoap
Request of Mom Mom

THUR, Jan 9

8:00 AM Don Carter
Request of Tracy, Brandon and John Patrick

SAT, Jan 11

4:15 PM John R. Pacioni
Request of Rita Koller

SUN, Jan 12 Baptism of the Lord

8:00 AM Pro Populo
9:30 AM Eric Jimick
Request of the Klag Family

11:15 AM Mary Ciccotti
Request of Rich and Patty Custer



**The following Private Masses have been
offered in memory of
Mr. and Mrs. Emedio DiGuiseppe and
Mr. and Mrs. Theodore Vattaglio.**

Fr. Tadeusz Gorka, Celebrant

Requested by Mr. and Mrs. Alexander DiGuiseppe.

**Did You Know There's a Catholic Version of
Mindfulness?**

By combining the centuries-old devotions of the Sacrament of the Present Moment and the Practice of the Presence of God, a Catholic cannot only learn how to live mindfully, but how to use this method to achieve perfect peace of soul – something today's popular version of mindfulness, which is based in Buddhism, can never do. Join Susan Brinkmann, OCDS, for a 90-minute workshop entitled "Mindful Like a Catholic" designed to teach you how to live mindfully in an authentic Catholic way! On-line workshop is January 18 from 1-3PM. Live workshop at Fatima House on February 8 from 1-3PM. Visit www.catholiclifeinstitute.org/course-registration to register or email CatholicLifeInstitutePress@gmail.com



One candle burns this week
next to the Blessed Mother statue for
Shelley Fairheller-Biden
requested by her loving Mother, Dorothy.

One candle burns this week
next to the St. Joseph statue for
John H. Fairheller

requested by his loving Mother, Dorothy.

One candle burns this week next to the
Divine Mercy Picture for
Nicholas Corea

requested by the Battista Family.

Taxes - If you wish to have a statement for tax purposes of your 2019 contributions, please send an email to: susanc@sacredheartroyersford.org with your request indicating your preference - either by return email or physical mailing address. Thank you.

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