



# January 8, 2012 The Epiphany of the Lord

Parish Life Director: Sister Linda Hogan csj 623-3021

Sacramental Minister: Rev. Paul C. Cox 656-9464

Bookkeeper: Ms. Dawn Brunner 623-3021 (Tuesdays)

Property Manager: Ms. Judith Rozell 222-4140

Pastoral Assistant for Administration and RCIA: Mrs. Gail DeMarsh 744-9241

## WE GATHER

Sunday 10AM Eucharist  
 11AM Super Son Day and Adult Meeting  
 Monday 7PM Women's Spirituality Meeting  
 Tuesday 10A Communion Service / Adult Home  
 11:30A Gathering Place ..Presbyterian Ch.  
 8P AA Jaracz Hall  
 Wednesday 7P Pastoral Council Meeting Convent Office  
 Thursday 12N AA Church Hall  
 Friday 10AM Morning Prayer and Communion  
 11:30A Gathering Place ..Presbyterian Ch.  
 Next Sunday 11:00AM K-6 Faith Formation resumes  
 January 21 Meatloaf Dinner at First United Methodist Church

Congratulations and Blessings on  
**Grace and Roy Webster,**  
 married 50 years as of December  
 and celebrating with family and friends this  
 weekend. Health, Happiness, Holiness!



## WE SERVE

### SHARING TREASURE.

Thank you to the folks who support Saint Cecilia's financially. This week, the contribution for Church Support was \$1,771 (with \$55 of that being makeup.) In outright donations, \$70.00 was offered. Christmas donations \$405, Immaculate Conception \$15, Fuel and utilities \$183, and \$277.25 for North Country Ministry. Thank you.



### SHARING TIME AND TALENT

Linda Gaiotti is preparing the tax letters. Please say thank you when you see her! We are all learning the system as we go. Next year will be a breeze. Thank you to Dick Ouellette who placed the snow shields over the basement windows of 3802.... To Dana Robichaud for replacing the broken mirror on the Forrester... To Dick Ouellette for installing a stop guard on the run.... To Tim Toolan for caring for the walks on Friday. Heroes, one and all!

**Special thanks to the Alexander Family**  
 for the lovely 2012 calendars!



## Post Holiday Blahs? Cabin Fever? Bored?

Why not plan something for everyone! Plan a party or a game night or a spaghetti dinner or bingo or whatever! The Hall is very available nowadays. Not everyone

"does more Gore." . Not everyone goes to Florida. Maybe lots of couples would love to go out to dinner for Valentine's Day.... Maybe someone would love to be involved in one of our famous "Cabin Fever Dinners." Maybe you have some great, simple, inexpensive ideas. Does anyone out there want to be on a "winter social committee?"

MANY people say, "Sister, I wish that we would...." and then seemingly wait for Sister to do it. At this point, as much as she would like to, it is impossible. **YOU do it and she will come!** This week, if you just want to chat about ideas, contact either Sister Linda or Gail DeMarsh and a meeting will be set up for SOON. (Contact info in heading.) We better hurry. It is almost Spring!

## WE WORSHIP

### Mass Intentions

Sat, 1/7 4:30P Edgar Viger, 1st Ann.  
 Req. sisters Joan & Jeanne  
 Sun. 1/8 10AM Eileen Fausner Req. Gerri Howe  
 Fri. 1/14 10AM Morning Prayer and Communion  
 Sat, 1/15 4:30P Intentions of Parishioners  
 Sun, 1/16 10AM Alfred Viger,  
 Req. sisters Joan & Jeanne

### Important Message ..... Big Change

#### Morning Prayer with Communion. 10am Fridays, instead of 9am.

This is a lovely prayer.... And includes faith sharing.



The "Friday Morning Community" hoped that more folks would be able to attend at the later time slot. Come! It is peaceful.



### Good News for

#### Sunday Snow Boarders and Skiers!!

Luckily, there are many local opportunities for Eucharist other than St. C's Sunday at 10AM.... like

Saturday, 4PM, St Isaac Jogues, Chestertown

Saturday, 4:30PM, St. Cecilia's, Warrensburg

\*\*\*\*Sunday, 8AM, St. James in North Creek

**Have a fun and safe time!**

### Seeking Eucharistic Ministers and Ministers of the Word....

Training and updating are being planned for January. It will be offered more than once, trying to accommodate everyone's schedule. If you would like to serve the Church in this way, please tell either Judy Rozell or Alice Damp (4:30AM) or Gail DeMarsh or Ellen Barlow (10AM).

Thank you to Kim Belanger and Sue Shepler who offered to preside at Children's Liturgy of the Word. A training is planned for soon.



### Women's Spirituality Group

Will meet on the second MONDAY of the month. Tomorrow, Monday, January 9, 7PM at the convent is the next gathering. This is a good time to join, as a new book is being chosen. All are welcome. For further info, please contact the facilitator, Mary Anne Doty at 793-3150 or mjd62@roadrunner.com or just come!

### From St. Benedict Priory, Chestertown

494-3733 www.prioryretreathouse.org

Check out the web page for wonderful opportunities of spiritual growth. ... in our own backyard!!



**Tabernacle Candle** January candle will burn in memory of Genevieve Morwood, at the request of Jim.

**Prayer Chain** Contact Alice Damp at edaldamp@yahoo.com or 623-3618. Would you like to join the prayer chain? **It is important ministry.**



### North Country Ministry 623-2829

3933 Main Street Clothing Center & Baby's Place  
 9-12 Monday/ 9-12 Tuesday/ 1-4 Wed, Thursday, Friday  
 The Gathering Place is now located at the Presbyterian Church.  
 A hot lunch is served each Tuesday and Friday, 11:30A-12:30

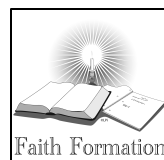
### NEWS FROM NEIGHBORS

St. Mary's in Glens Falls offers a Mass each second Sunday of the month at 5:30PM. Though intended to attract our teens (ages 13 & up), ANYONE is invited to attend. The music is of a contemporary nature, involving volunteer musicians/voices from area churches.

## WE TEACH

### Super Son Day Returns Today!

Faith Formation for grades K-6 will enjoy today's gathering of kings and crowns and cakes!  
 (7-11 graders are needed as helpers. Available? Thanks!)



FYI.... One parent, having spoken with others, proposed that we have Faith Formation on Wednesdays from 6-7PM instead of or in addition to the Sunday Morning Gathering. This is certainly an option. If enough families say this would work better for them and their children K-6 add up to at least 10 children, it will be offered. WHO will teach? Would you be able to? The topic for the next ten weeks is BIBLE STORIES.



Right now, we are still in need of a teacher for Sunday AM Grades 5-6.

### WOULD YOU BE WILLING TO TEACH? Just 10 classes...

How about a parent who prefers Wednesday evening. Would you be the teacher in the evening? All help is provided and this topic is fun.



### ADULTS...TODAY

Not just parents... but including parents.... After the children move to the Church Hall today, we will enjoy coffee and conversation in the narthex around a proposed plan. PART OF THE CONVERSATION WILL BE ABOUT ADULT SCRIPTURE STUDY. Please stay following the 10 AM Mass.

### Thank you to our Catechists!

Emily Kladis (K-1), Kris Webster (First Communion), Jessica Birkholz (3-4), and \_\_\_\_?\_\_\_\_ (5-6). Willing to be assistants: Brian Angell, and \_\_\_\_?\_\_\_\_

**Can you fill in the blanks??** (Assistants—there are lots of ways to help... including being very creative with support activities, sharing the teaching, or simply crowd control! (Wouldn't it be nice to have a crowd?))

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**Now or in the Future, do you anticipate working with our kids???? If so, this training is a MUST... And it is MONDAY!**

It is a requirement of our diocese that any adult who is in any way involved with our kids must take a course called, "Virtus Training." The diocesan description reads: "The Diocese of Albany is committed to providing a safe environment for everyone, especially children. We believe in education that raises awareness of sexual abuse that identifies the signs of sexual abuse, that explains how to control access to our children and vulnerable adults, and that encourages responsible reporting of abuse. This information is critical as we go forward into the future. We have chosen the Virtus program to achieve these goals." Luckily, this training will be provided locally by Sister Fran Husselbeck rsm

**Monday, January 9, 1-2:30 PM, at Blessed Sacrament Church at 7 Goodman Ave, Bolton Landing.**

Yes, even to be a driver on an outing, you are required to have Virtus Training. Just FYI, there have been parishioners who resisted this requirement and yet have come back from the training saying, "Everyone in the parish ought to take this course!" This is not a waste of time, at all. Even if you are simply interested, you are welcome to attend.

For those who want/need the training but are not able to attend on the 9th, please speak with Gail DeMarsh and perhaps another opportunity can be found. Thanks!

### SOMETHING TO PRAY ABOUT

On this Epiphany Sunday we hear a classic story about innocence in the midst of evil, innocence betrayed by those who should have cared. The Gospel begins by referring to the fact that the guiltless child has been born. Angels in their rapture painted the sky with song. Shepherds heard and came a-running. The star pulled magi out of far lands to come and see. A beautiful, humble scene, giving such joy to all created beings.

Or at least to most of them. Our story contains another reaction as well. Jealousy. Herod feels a spasm of it when the magi ask their simple, trusting question.

"Where is the newborn king of the Jews? We saw his star at its rising and have come to do him homage."

Newborn king? Star rising? Herod, like the magi, should have been filled with joy at this news. But no. Instead, he is "greatly troubled, and all Jerusalem with him." I suppose it would be like envoys from outer space visiting the White House to tell the president that they had selected someone new to take his place.

Cunning Herod does not show his distress to the magi but instead hatches a plan. He had never been very interested in his people, so now he seeks information. He rushes the Jewish chief priests and scribes together and demands to know where this Messiah person is supposed to be born.

"In Bethlehem of Judea," they answer. "God promised that a ruler would come from there, one who is to shepherd his people Israel." It was the very good shepherd God had been pledging for ages. Innocent hearts rejoice.

Herod acts quickly. He oils his way back to the magi and treats them to the story about Bethlehem. He oozes charm, luring them into returning to him with information about the child. He wants to give homage too, he lies. In truth, Herod's aim is simple: get rid of the competition.

The magi travel on to Bethlehem and give true homage to Jesus. Herod finds out nothing from them because they go back home by a different route, warned by God in a dream.

That is the story. What are we to learn from it?

For myself, I wonder if you and I can retain something of innocence in today's world? If "darkness covers the earth, and thick clouds cover the peoples" (First Reading), maybe Herod's plan is the only smart way out. Lie, cheat, and kill.

Isn't the Church today engulfed in sins, of priests and bishops who betray the youths they vowed to protect? Isn't the world steeped in self interest? What makes us so sure we would not follow Herod's example in detail if the opportunity presented itself? Where is our hope?

You will find it in the First Reading. Yes it is dark, that reading says, but light shines into the darkness. If we bother to look at that light, at that child in a manger, we will take on some of the Godly glow we find there. Our lives will settle down and our goals will become simpler. By putting ourselves into the hands of love, Christ's light will stay alight, sheltered like a candle in the wind.

Innocence in the midst of evil. Innocence betrayed by those who should have cared. But now you see why the Epiphany is actually a story of great hope.