



## ST. MARK CATHOLIC CHURCH

18033 15TH PLACE NE, SHORELINE | (206) 364-7900 | WWW.SAINTMARKSHORELINE.ORG

SUNDAY, JANUARY 3, 2021

# THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD



When Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, in the days of King Herod, behold, magi from the east arrived in Jerusalem, saying, "Where is the newborn king of the Jews? We saw his star at its rising and have come to do him homage." - Mt 2:1-2

# PARISH INFORMATION



## The Week Ahead

### Sunday, January 3

*Sunday Mass, Pro Populo, The Epiphany of the Lord*

8:30 am, Mass, Church

10:30 am Mass, Church

### Monday, January 4

9:30 am, Daily Mass, Church (Hugh Murphy RIP)

### Tuesday, January 5

No Morning Mass

### Wednesday, January 6

5:00 pm Confessions, Church

6:30 pm Daily Mass, Church (Margaret Gibson RIP)

7:00 pm Faith Matters, Online Only

### Thursday, January 7

9:30 am, Daily Mass, Church (Deacon Kirk Altenhofen)

### Friday, January 8

9:30 am Mass, Church

### Saturday, January 9

9:30 am Daily Mass, Church

3:00 pm Confessions, Church

### Sunday, January 10

*Sunday Mass, Pro Populo, The Baptism of the Lord*

8:30 am, Mass, Church

10:30 am Mass, Church

## Pastor

Rev. Jacob Maurer | (206) 364-7900 ext. 101

## Pastoral Assistant for Administration & Stewardship

Todd Chapman | (206) 364-7900 ext. 106  
toddc@saintmarkshoreline.org

## Pastoral Assistant for Liturgy & Parish Life

Veronica Olson | (206) 364-7900 ext. 108  
veronicao@saintmarkshoreline.org

## Pastoral Assistant for Faith Formation

Dea. Kirk Altenhofen | (206) 364-7900 ext. 105  
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## Administrative Assistant

Laura Lynch | (206) 364-7900 ext. 100

## Facilities Maintenance Manager

Carlos Odicino | (206) 364-7900 ext. 110  
carlos@saintmarkshoreline.org

## St. Mark Parish School

(206) 364-1633 www.stmss.org

## St. Mark Parish School Principal

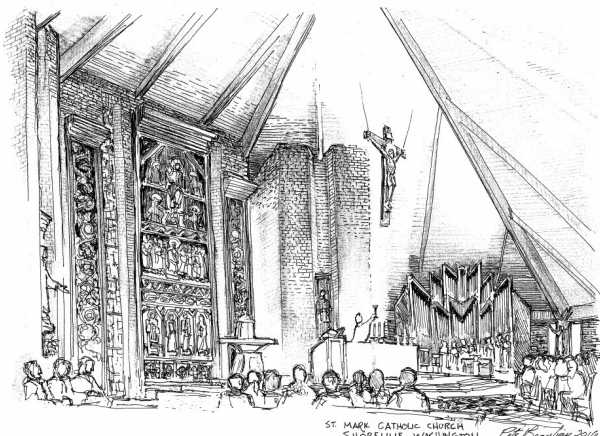
Kathy Keck | (206) 364-1633  
principal@stmss.org

## St. Mark Parish Preschool

(206) 363-7100

## St. Mark Parish Website

www.saintmarkshoreline.org



ST. MARK CATHOLIC CHURCH  
SHORELINE, WASHINGTON  
Feb. November 2016

Stewardship as of December 27, 2020 for  
Fiscal Year July, 2020-June, 2021:

Weekly amount needed: \$17,310

Last Week Collection: Unavailable

Year to date needed: Unavailable

Actual given year to date: Unavailable

Difference: Unavailable

Online Giving:

Total givers: Unavailable

Amount given online: Unavailable



# WHY DO CATHOLICS DO THAT?

- Father Jacob Maurer

Behold, the Lord, the Mighty One, has come; and kingship is in his grasp, and power and dominion.

*Cf. Mal 3: 1; 1 Chr 29: 12*

The story of the three kings is one that is rich in symbolism. The history of the star, the prophecies that led to this moment, and the foreshadowing of Christ's saving work made present in the gifts He receives as an infant - there are many treasures to mine in this relatively brief passage. I encourage you to take some time to read various reflections and commentaries on it all.

At the same time, there is a simple question for us to consider: **would I have done this?**



While we often cast ourselves as the hero of our own story (or at least a sympathetic character!), this is truly above and beyond. A lifetime of dedication to

discerning the time & place of God's work, a dangerous journey, outrageously expensive gifts, and the real possibility that they would be killed for not betraying the child they found. They gave so much - simple to see the Christ.

I think of the many times I balk at much smaller sacrifices while eagerly pursuing things of much lesser value. So often my priorities are far from what they should be.

Let us take this final week of the Christmas season to ask the Lord to renew or dedication to His service. May we be re-oriented towards Him, that in matters large or small we may always put Jesus above all else.

The annual **epiphany blessing with chalk** is a long-standing tradition that has been experiencing a renewal in popular Catholic imagination and practice.



Though simple in both its prayer and action, this blessing is a conscious act of one's home - calling on God to help us to be ready to greet any visitor. As Mary & Joseph greeted Caspar, Melchior, and Balthasar, we hope to be ready to greet those who come from distances far and near, receiving them with joy and making them welcome in our homes.

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This Tuesday, January 5, we celebrate **Saint John Nuemann**. A priest who left his home of Bohemia (now the Czech Republic) he came to America. He was ordained in New York and eventually joined the Redemptorists, became a missionary, and was tapped to become the bishop of Philadelphia. He led that diocese for eight years before his sudden death of a heart attack at the age of 48.

A strong proponent of Catholic schools and an ardent devotee of the Eucharist, he was canonized by Pope Paul VI in 1977.

Saint John Nuemann, pray for - and for the work of our parish school!





✠ JMJ ✠

# WHY DO CATHOLICS DO THAT?

- Father Jacob Maurer

## Epiphany house blessing with chalk

It has been a tradition in the Catholic Church to bless chalk at the Masses for Epiphany, using the blessed chalk as part of blessing one's home in the New Year.

The home blessing can be done as follows:

Use the blessed chalk to write:

**20+C+M+B+20**

above the doorways: 20XX for the year ('XX' being this year's number); C, M, B for the 3 Magi – Casper, Melchior, and Balthasar – and for Christus Mansionem Benedicat, Latin for “May Christ Bless this House.”

As you are writing, pray one of the following prayers aloud:

May all who come to our home this year rejoice to find Christ living among us; and may we seek and serve, in everyone we meet, that same Jesus who is Lord, forever and ever. Amen.

or

Lord our God, bless this household. May we be blessed with health, goodness of heart, gentleness, and the keeping of your law. We give thanks to you, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and forever. Amen.

or

Lord God of heaven and earth, you revealed your only-begotten Son to every nation by the guidance of a star. Bless this house and all who inhabit it. Fill us with the light of Christ, that our concern for others may reflect your love. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.



# PARISH EVENTS & NEWS



## St. Mark School Christmas Pageant

Thank you St. Mark Catholic Classical School for posting the 2020 Christmas Pageant online for us to enjoy wherever we like and as often as we like!

### Jingle Bells

Grades K - 2

<https://youtu.be/T-1usRT1aXg>

### God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen

Grades 3 - 5

<https://youtu.be/St7cliQYQ-g>

### Silent Night

### St. Mark School Chorale

<https://youtu.be/a6nnsj323Gc>

### Nativity Play

<https://youtu.be/-uxM9U6fzMs>

*"Whenever we do something together, something good, something beautiful, everyone changes. All of us change in some way and this does us good."*

~Pope Francis

## Archdiocese Website Resources

Have you explored the website of the Archdiocese of Seattle lately? Go to the Home page at [www.seattlearchdiocese.org](http://www.seattlearchdiocese.org) and read Archbishop Etienne's most recent newsletter, then try clicking on Liturgy. From that tab you can find the USCCB daily readings, an excellent FAQ's page and there's much more to explore!

The Catholic Church has a long-standing history of caring for our neighbors next door as well as those we will never meet. Click on the Pastoral Care tab and learn more, or to get involved!

### Parish Prayer Intentions

#### For the ill...

Maxine Dion, Betty Jean Scott,  
Jim & Virginia Helbling, Mary Wittinger

#### For the deceased...

Kirsten James

## Daily Mass Cancellations

† Daily Mass at 9:30 am is canceled Monday, January 11

† Daily Mass at 9:30 am is canceled Monday, January 25

## In Praise of Family Life

The family exists at the heart of all societies. It is the first and most basic community to which every person belongs. There is nothing more fundamental to our vitality as a society and as a Church. For, in the words of John Paul II, "the future of humanity passes by way of the family". A family is our first community and the most basic way in which the Lord gathers us, forms us and acts in the world. The early Church expressed this truth by calling the Christian family a domestic church.

There may be families who do not understand or believe they are a domestic church. Maybe they feel overwhelmed by this calling or unable to carry out its responsibilities. Perhaps they consider their family too "broken" to be used for the Lord's purposes. But remember, a family is holy not because it is perfect but because God's grace is at work in it, helping it to set out anew every day on the way of love.

~From *Follow the Way of Love: A Pastoral Message to Families*, USCCB, 1994

## Support for Marriages and Families

The Office of Marriage and Family Life at the Archdiocese of Seattle is there to help.

Life as we have come to know it has been interrupted by the pandemic, to say the least, but our Lord's saving work continues nonetheless.

The OMFL offers resources for marriage preparation, supports marriage enrichment, promotes natural family planning, helps parents and youth understand marriage, and provides resources to break free from pornography. We don't have all the answers. Sometimes we don't even know what the right questions are. What we do know is that families face many challenges and need a Church that is there to help them. Share with us your questions and concerns--whatever they may be and we will work together. Please contact Deacon Eric Paige with any questions or your concerns at [eric.paige@seattlearch.org](mailto:eric.paige@seattlearch.org) or (206) 382-4864.

# PARISH EVENTS & NEWS



## An Epiphany Reflection

A reflection from Our Catholic Prayers' website: Christmas may come but once a year but the season does not end in the Church's liturgical calendar on December 25th. After all the activity leading up to Christmas day, we get more time afterwards to reflect on the wonders of the Incarnation.

Think of it! God first assumed a human nature to save us from our sins, most vulnerable, as a little baby in a stable in a cave in Bethlehem. Being born in such humble circumstance Jesus wished to highlight for us how much he values true humility.

The Three Wise Men who followed the Star of Bethlehem heralding our Lord's birth are referred to as Magi in Matthew's Gospel. Magi is a word for astrologers although tradition associates these men with royalty. The Magi arrived in Jerusalem, thinking that would be the most logical spot to find the long awaited Messiah, but when they got there they found...nothing. He was not born in a Temple or a palace but in a manger; they had miles yet to go.

For more reflections and for excerpts from The Adoration of the Magi please visit <https://www.ourcatholicprayers.com/Epiphany-revelations.html>.

## Nine Days For Life Novena Coming Soon

At every stage and in every circumstance we are held in existence by God's love. The presence of an illness, disability or other challenging situation never diminishes the value of a human life. God does not call us to perfection of appearance or abilities but to perfection in love.

**Nine Days for the Protection of Life** is a novena beginning on January 21. Each day will be accompanied by a short reflection and suggested actions to help build a culture of life. For more information, and to get involved, please visit <https://pro-life-activities.lpages.co/9-days-for-life-2021-english/>

## The 2021 Calendars Have Arrived

They are available in the parish office Monday-Thursday from 8:30 am until 4:00 pm.

After Sunday masses parishioners can also pick up a calendar from one of the volunteers in the church vestibule.

## St. Mark Parish Faith Matters Program

Faith Matters will continue Wednesday, January 13, 2021 at 7:00 pm (following the 6:30 Mass) **online only**. Everyone is welcome, please join us! Contact Deacon Kirk Altenhofen in the parish office with any questions.

## Finding Calm in the Storm

Stressful current events and unforeseen set-backs can sometimes make life feel downright chaotic. We can look to our Catholic faith for ways to create calm and stability. Our archdiocese has created several online streaming programs to assist us. For attaining calm explore the programs offered at <https://marriagefamilylife.seattlearchdiocese.org/find-calm>

## Sisters Against Human Trafficking

Sisters Against Human Trafficking is a collaboration of over 100 congregations of Catholic sisters dedicated to offering education, supporting survivor services and engaging in advocacy to eradicate modern-day slavery. They work to inform the public, prevent the assault on human dignity and assist survivors to live fulfilling lives while striving toward a world without slavery. Their core values include: belief in the inherent dignity of each human being; commitment to those who are poor and vulnerable; establishment of right relationships to promote the common good; defense of the basic rights of workers; solidarity with one another and the willingness to enter into another's joys and sorrows. The sisters invite us to share these values and join them in their work. For more information please go to <https://sistersagainstrafficking.org/about/>

### Frequently Requested Numbers

Boy Scouts: Dennis Halpin (206) 365-1971  
Knights of Columbus: Greg Insley (206) 271-4599  
St. Vincent de Paul Helpline: (206) 767-6449  
Queen of Heaven Guild: Sylvia Ebert (206) 419-3115  
Funeral Volunteers: Gini Harmon (206) 364-6834  
Marriage Help: Retrouvaille (206) 706-2608  
Holyrood Cemetary: (206) 363-8404  
Beck's Funeral Home: (425) 771-1234  
Harvey Funeral Home: (206) 632-0100  
Marian Caskets: (206) 463-6245



**"...by our mutual love and, in particular, by our concern for those in need we will be recognized as true followers of Christ."**

**T**he Eucharist commits us to the poor. Recent popes have made the link between Eucharist and charity abundantly clear. Pope St. John Paul II reminded us to keep our spirituality grounded, to "reject the temptation to offer a privatized and individualistic spirituality which ill accords with the demands of charity." In his letter for the Year of the Eucharist, he wrote: "We cannot delude ourselves: by our mutual love and, in particular, by our concern for those in need we will be recognized as true followers of Christ. ... This will be the criterion by which the authenticity of our Eucharistic celebrations is judged." Pope Benedict XVI reiterated the essential link between worship and service, between Eucharist and charity: "'Worship' itself, Eucharistic communion, includes the reality both of being loved and of loving others in turn. A Eucharist which does not pass over into the concrete practice of love is intrinsically fragmented."

As we work to strengthen our Eucharistic celebrations and to deepen our Eucharistic spirituality during the months to come, let us also commit ourselves to truly authentic Eucharistic celebrations, which overflow in the concrete practice of love through service to the poorest and most vulnerable.

Archbishop Paul D. Etienne  
*The Work of Redemption: Eucharistic Belief and Practice in the Archdiocese of Seattle*  
Read the whole pastoral letter at [NWCatholic.org](http://NWCatholic.org)

## The Saints and the Eucharist

What is the use of loading Christ's table with gold cups while he himself is starving? Feed the hungry and then if you have any money left over, spend it on the altar table. Will you make a cup of gold and withhold a cup of water? What use is it to adorn the altar with cloth of gold hangings and deny Christ a coat for his back! What would that profit you? Tell me: if you saw someone starving and refused to give him any food but instead spent your money on adorning the altar with gold, would he thank you? Would he not rather be outraged? Or if you saw someone in rags and stiff with cold and then did not give him clothing but set up golden columns in his honor, would he not say he was being made a fool of and insulted?



St. John Chrysostom  
(c. 347-407)

## For Reflection

In what ways does the celebration of the Eucharist overflow in the concrete practice of love in my parish community—in my own life? Looking back over the past week, where have I failed in love? Looking forward to the coming week, what opportunities might God be offering me to live with greater love?

Who are the poor whom God is calling me to serve?

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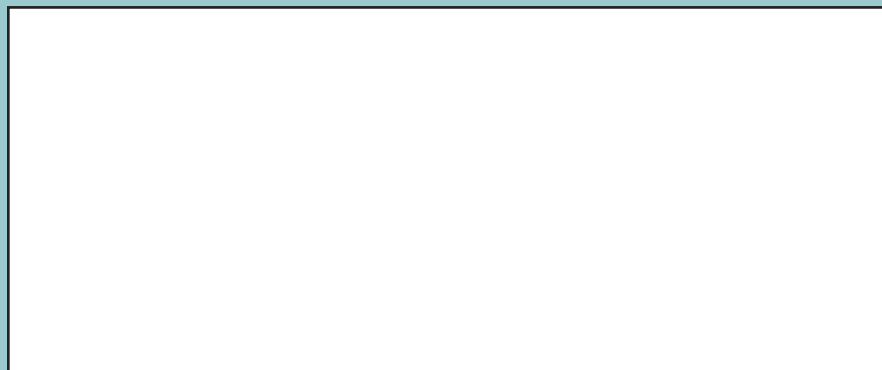
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