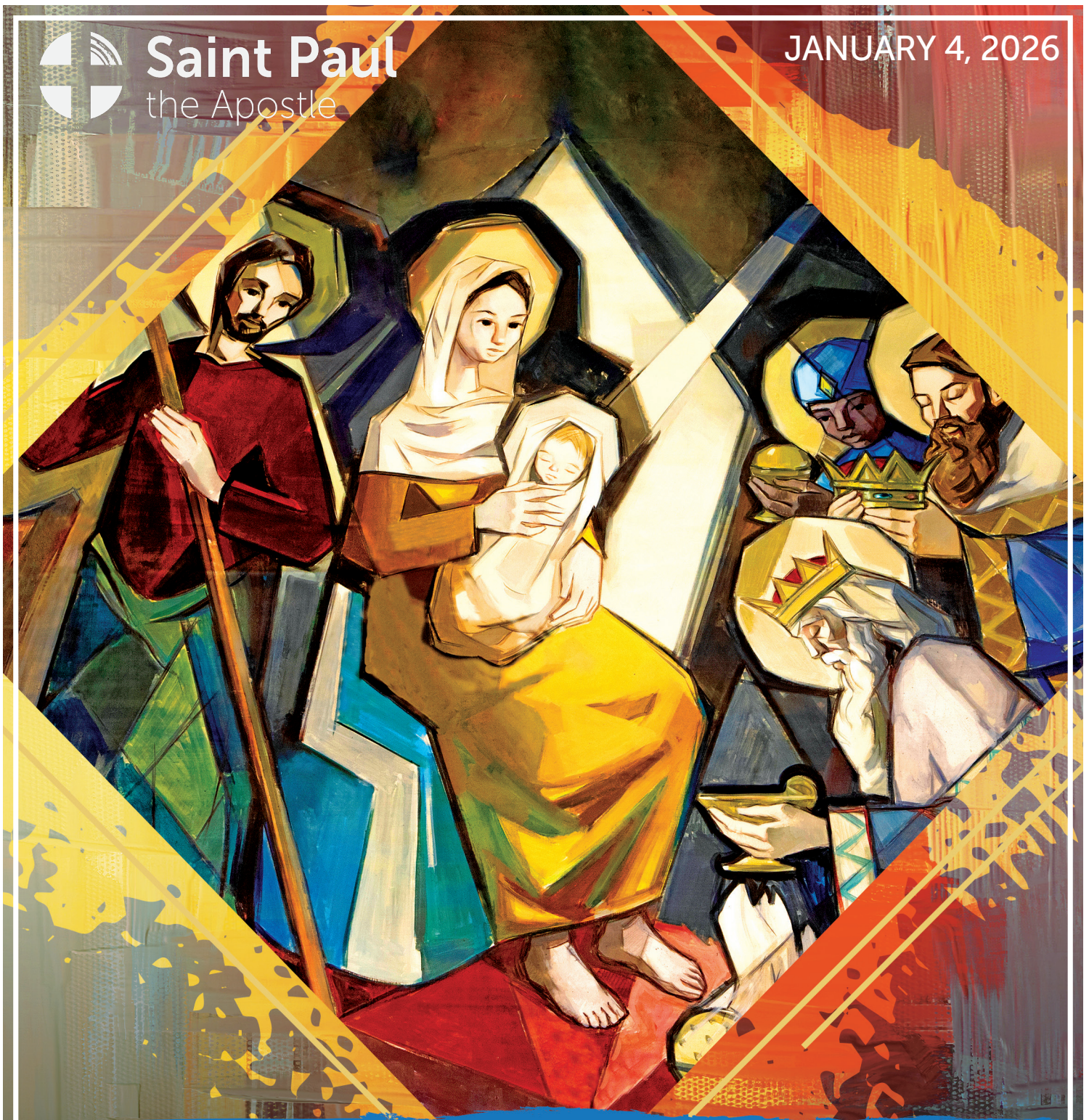




Saint Paul
the Apostle

JANUARY 4, 2026



THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

“Where is the newborn king of the Jews? We saw his star at its rising and have come to do him homage.” - Mt 2:2

Dear SPA Family,

Isaiah had foretold that “all the ends of the earth will behold the salvation of our God.” Now, on the Epiphany, the light from the skies is strengthened a hundred, a thousand fold, and the prophecy of Isaiah is fulfilled that “nations shall walk by your light, and kings by your shining radiance.”

To the amazement of all in that region, there came foreign camels bearing foreign scholars – wise men – kings! Caspar, Melchior, and Balthasar, with gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh! What courage and perseverance those strangers have



shown to brave the dangers of travel, skepticism, and political intrigue. But they found what they were looking for. That star gave trustworthy guidance and now triumphantly shines as a guard over the lowly dwelling wherein rests the child who possesses all meaning. They fall to their knees in homage, for their learning has made them humble, and their wisdom leads them to recognize the Divine in the fragile flesh of a child. What a silent Adoration! What loving glances they exchange with Mary and Joseph! But for all their simple faith, their wisdom is sharp enough to detect the sham delight and murderous intentions of the wily Herod. And so they pay their respects, leave their gifts, and modestly depart for their homeland, sorrowfully aware of the terrible price justice must pay for Peace.

Their role in history has been accomplished – to teach us all to follow the guidance of the Almighty, to accept our own role as Bearers of the Light, and to follow this Christ into His Mission, to partake of His Passion, and to join the millions through the ages who will preach His Gospel of universal salvation. The Son of God is the one Judge and Arbiter of Truth and the one Source of Light, but we are all called to be “epiphanies,” providing glimpses of that Truth, showing the way in our own small spots of time and circumstance to a larger plan and destiny. O princely Child, make of us all, wise men, courageous women, obedient children who will follow wherever You lead us.

That means being faithful to prayer, diligently reading articles and booklets about our faith, sharing what we learn with others, and taking part when possible in prayer and study groups. This is the way for us to be light-bearers, lighting up the darkness and confusion in the world in which we live.

Have a blessed weekend,
Fr. Chris C.

To read Mary Penich's Something to Think About...
please visit our website, click "Media" on the homepage, then click "Mary's Reflection"

YOUR SUNDAY WORSHIP AID

The Epiphany of the Lord

GOSPEL MEDITATION



When I was 22, I went on a pilgrimage to Rome for the Jubilee Year of 2000. I was traveling light with just a backpack, one blue shirt and black pants, little money, and no Italian. I had a few close friends and one goal: to reach the Eternal City. Despite the challenges and deprivations, I felt alive in a way I had never known before.

When do you feel most alive? I'd wager it's not when you're most comfortable or surrounded by stuff. Rather, it's when your life is aimed at something great; when you're on a meaningful and challenging journey with good friends.

That's the image the Magi give us in today's Gospel. They set out from the East not with certainty, but with hope. They study the signs, discipline their attention, and journey together, offering the best they have when they find the newborn King.

The Church gives us their story at the start of the year to reawaken something in us. We are not meant to drift. We're meant to journey as pilgrims. The Jubilee Year of 2025 may have ended, but our pilgrimage has not. Like the magi, the closer we get to Christ, the more alive we become.

— Father John Muir ©LPi

MASS HYMNS

Opening Song: **Gather #380** O Come, All Ye Faithful (ADESTE FIDELIS) by John F. Wade and Frederick Oakley

At Sunday 5:00pm: O Come, All Ye Faithful (ADESTE FIDELIS) by John F. Wade, Frederick Oakley, and Chris Tomlin

Gloria: A Joyful Christmas Gloria (GLORIA), adapted by Jeanne Cotter and Tony Alonso

Responsorial Psalm: **Psalm 72:** Lord, Every Nation by Josh Blakesley

Gospel Acclamation: Christmas Gospel Acclamations on GESU BAMBINO by Paul Hillebrand

At Sunday 5:00pm: MASS OF RESTORATION by Josh Blakesley and Grae McCullough

Preparation Song: **Gather #382** We Three Kings (KINGS OF ORIENT) by John H. Hopkins, Jr.

At Sunday 5:00pm: **Spirit & Song #151** We Three Kings (KINGS OF ORIENT) by John H. Hopkins, Jr., arranged by Tom Booth

Eucharistic Acclamations: MASS OF COMFORT AND JOY by Kevin Keil

At Sunday 5:00pm: MASS OF RESTORATION by Josh Blakesley and Grae McCullough

Communion Songs: **Noel** by Chris Tomlin, Ed Cash, and Matt Redman | **Gather #387** What Child Is This? (GREENSLEEVES)

At Sunday 5:00pm: **Noel** by Chris Tomlin, Ed Cash, and Matt Redman | **Spirit & Song #153** What Child Is This (GREENSLEEVES), arranged by Tom Booth

Closing Song: He Shall Reign Forevermore by Chris Tomlin and Matt Maher

READING I

ISAIAH 60:1-6

Rise up in splendor, Jerusalem! Your light has come,
the glory of the Lord shines upon you.
See, darkness covers the earth,
and thick clouds cover the peoples;
but upon you the LORD shines,
and over you appears his glory.
Nations shall walk by your light,
and kings by your shining radiance.
Raise your eyes and look about;
they all gather and come to you:
your sons come from afar,
and your daughters in the arms of their nurses.

Then you shall be radiant at what you see,
your heart shall throb and overflow,
for the riches of the sea shall be emptied out before
you,
the wealth of nations shall be brought to you.
Caravans of camels shall fill you,
dromedaries from Midian and Ephah;
all from Sheba shall come
bearing gold and frankincense,
and proclaiming the praises of the LORD.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

PSALM 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13.

Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.

READING II

EPHESIANS 3:2-3A, 5-6

Brothers and sisters:
You have heard of the stewardship of God's grace
that was given to me for your benefit,
namely, that the mystery was made known to me by
revelation.
It was not made known to people in other generations
as it has now been revealed
to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit:
that the Gentiles are coheirs, members of the same
body,
and copartners in the promise in Christ Jesus
through the gospel.

GOSPEL

MATTHEW 2:1-12

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."
When King Herod heard this,
he was greatly troubled,
and all Jerusalem with him.
Assembling all the chief priests and the scribes of the
people,
He inquired of them where the Christ was to be born.
They said to him, "In Bethlehem of Judea,
for thus it has been written through the prophet:
And you, Bethlehem, land of Judah,
are by no means least among the rulers of Judah;
since from you shall come a ruler,
who is to shepherd my people Israel."
Then Herod called the magi secretly
and ascertained from them the time of the star's
appearance.
He sent them to Bethlehem and said,
"Go and search diligently for the child.
When you have found him, bring me word,
that I too may go and do him homage."
After their audience with the king they set out.
And behold, the star that they had seen at its rising
preceded them,
until it came and stopped over the place where the child
was.
They were overjoyed at seeing the star,
and on entering the house
they saw the child with Mary his mother.
They prostrated themselves and did him homage.
Then they opened their treasures
and offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.
And having been warned in a dream not to return to
Herod,
they departed for their country by another way.

GLORIA

Glory to God in the highest,
and on earth peace to people of good will.
We praise you, we bless you,
we adore you, we glorify you,
we give you thanks for your great glory,
Lord God, heavenly King,
O God, almighty Father.
Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son,
Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,
you take away the sins of the world,
have mercy on us;
you take away the sins of the world,
receive our prayer;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father,
have mercy on us.
For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit, in the Glory of God the Father.
Amen.

APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God,
the Father almighty,
Creator of heaven and earth,
and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried;
he descended into hell;
on the third day he rose again from the dead;
he ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of God,
the Father almighty;
from there he will come to judge
the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and life everlasting.
Amen.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Sunday: Is 60:1-6/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13/Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6/Mt 2:1-12

Monday: 1 Jn 3:22-4:6/Ps 2:7bc-8, 10-12a/Mt 4:12-17, 23-25

Tuesday: 1 Jn 4:7-10/Ps 72:1-2, 3-4, 7-8/Mk 6:34-44

Wednesday: 1 Jn 4:11-18/Ps 72:1-2, 10, 12-13/Mk 6:45-52

Thursday: 1 Jn 4:19-5:4/Ps 72:1-2, 14 and 15bc, 17/Lk 4:14-22a

Friday: 1 Jn 5:5-13/Ps 147:12-13, 14-15, 19-20/Lk 5:12-16

Saturday: 1 Jn 5:14-21/Ps 149:1-2, 3-4, 5 and 6a and 9b/Jn 3:22-30

WEEKDAY PSALMS

Monday: Psalm 2:7bc-8, 10-12a

I will give you all the nations for an inheritance.

Tuesday: Psalm 72:1-2, 3-4, 7-8

Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.

Wednesday: Psalm 72:1-2, 10, 12-13

Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.

Thursday: Psalm 72:1-2, 14 and 15bc, 17

Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.

Friday: Psalm 147:12-13, 14-15, 19-20

Praise the Lord, Jerusalem.

Saturday: Psalm 149:1-2, 3-4, 5-6a and 9b

The Lord takes delight in his people.

OBSERVANCES FOR THE WEEK

Sunday: The Epiphany of the Lord

Monday: St. John Neumann, Bishop

Tuesday: St. André Bessette, Religious

Wednesday: St. Raymond of Penyafort, Priest

Next Sunday: The Baptism of the Lord

MASS INTENTIONS

SATURDAY, JANUARY 3, 2026

5:00pm: Gerry & Chuck Suhling | Raymond DeSilvia, Sr. | Alice DeSilvia | Raymond DeSilvia, Jr. | Gerena O. Monis | Bill Vasilus Nancy Martin | Lawrence Doan Pham | Thomas Rusnak, Sr. George Braniff | Helen Rusnak

SUNDAY, JANUARY 4, 2026

7:30am: Walter Krissek | Casis Family | Charlotte V. Siegel | Richard V. Siegel | Richard P. Siegel | Linda Sue Shepard | Jerrolyn McCauley & Joseph McCauley | Helga Rothacker | Maria De La Luz Zermeño Enrique Zermeño & Tanya Ocampo | Dolores Killian | Kevin Killian Robert & Bernadine Boyke

9:30am: Craig Nielsen | Michele Dulak Beye | Starzec Family Robert Chester Buttrey | Edgardo Dayao | Corazon Dayao | Juan Lasala | Aniana Lasala | Doroteo Lasala | Flavia Nonong | Gorman & Paiser Families

11:30am: Ben & Harriet Sutton | Hector B. Brual, Jr. | Juskiewicz Family | Cygan Family | Otto Mozny | Margaret Mozny | Fr. Bernie Beuerle

5:00pm: Carol Hough | Luisa L. Wong | Dolores D. Chow | Karen Ann Dowling



PRAY FOR THE SICK

Rachel Ciullo	Keith Kellogg
Patricia Freeman	Lisa Mischke
Toni Lynn Mengarelli	David Zilligen
Shannon Bremmer	Eduardo Perez
April Grandgeorge	Maria Domitila Zambrano de Polanco
Alma De Torres	Rafael Gloria
Stephanie Rappe	Collen Wishall
Vicki Shafer	Silvia Pinedo
Ruth Blood	Consuelo Vargas
Tom Asma	Juan Miguel Currea
Karla Arce	Gloria de Cardenas
Jeanne Sypien	Helena Sznicer
Glenn Garamoni	George Lawrence
Daniel Schmelz	Michael Miller
Russell Yanow	Cynthia D. Caudell
Victoria Sofia	Glafira Bunsen
Luquez Mogollon	Jackie Herrera-Giron
Kinga Szymoniak	Gino LaBellarte
Chris Lucy	Dianne Scirri
Donna O'Brien	Pat Wilson
Norilyn Querubin	Kimmy Cozart
Rey Querubin	Mark Wilson
Obdulia Elizalde	Pat Gundrum
Jovita Menes	Mary Thachil
Reginald Dulaca	Daniela Gaborik
Melody Cook	Amy Patterson
Brian Smolicek	Melissa Fernandes
Roberto Movilla	Emily Meryer
Shani Stahnke	Kathy Hunt
Abby Swygard	Laura Hopkins
Rod Reyes	Bill O'Brien
Betty Falotico	

Please know that we pray for all of the sick at every Mass. However, if you would like your name or that of a sick loved one to be included in the list above, please email or call

Catherine in the Parish Office:
info@spa.church or 847-918-0600



In loving memory of our recently deceased parishioners. May God's perpetual light shine upon them.

*David Michael Jahn
Thomas Franklin Donahue
Karen Louise Swazas
Marie Ann Simpson
Antonio Alforque
Lawrence Dean Pham
Mary E. Grosskopf*

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

SATURDAY, JANUARY 3, 2026

6:30AM MEN'S LEGACY/PAUL'S GARAGE
11:00AM RECONCILIATION
12:30PM BAPTISM - POTTS
1:00PM BAPTISM -RICE
1:30PM FIRST SATURDAY PRAYER GROUP
5:00PM MASS

SUNDAY, JANUARY 4, 2026

7:30AM MASS
9:00AM OCIA
9:30AM MASS
11:30AM MASS
4:00PM TEEN CHOIR REHEARSAL
5:00PM MASS

MONDAY, JANUARY 5, 2024

7:30AM MASS

TUESDAY, JANUARY 6, 2024

7:30AM MASS
8:00AM HOLY HOUR
2:00PM FAITH SHARING

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 7, 2025

7:30AM MASS
3:00PM GRIEF SUPPORT
5:30PM FF | WED K-6, SCU 1
7:00PM LIFETEEN CORE TEAM MEETING
7:00PM ADULT CHOIR REHEARSAL

THURSDAY, JANUARY 8, 2026

7:30AM MASS
8:00AM HOLY HOUR
7:00PM BAPTISM PREP CLASS
7:00PM K OF C MEMBERS MEETING

FRIDAY, JANUARY 9, 2026

7:30AM MASS

SATURDAY, JANUARY 10, 2026

HOSPITALITY WEEKEND

8:30AM VISITATION - MAIKRANZ
9:30AM FUNERAL - MAIKRANZ
9:30AM CIRCLE OF WOMEN
11:00AM RECONCILIATION
5:00PM MASS

SUNDAY, JANUARY 11, 2026

7:30AM MASS
9:00AM OCIA
9:00AM FF | SUN K-6
9:30AM MASS
11:30AM MASS
3:30PM CF 1-2-HS & SCU2
4:00PM TEEN CHOIR REHEARSAL
5:00PM MASS
6:00PM LIFETEEN NIGHT: LIFENIGHT

JANUARY 10/11 | LITURGY SCHEDULE

	USHERS	LECTORS	COMMUNION MINISTERS		GREETERS	PRESIDER
SATURDAY 5:00PM	M. Mohrfeld A. Rusnak G. Johnson T. Rusnak OPEN x 2	Brad Bonham Judy Macrowski	E. Drexler S. Grzesiak K. Gorajski	D. Herchenbach D. Wells	J. Amezquita M. Emshwiller	Fr. John Dn. Andy
SUNDAY 7:30AM	J. Siegel J. Climaco R. Sekany T. Shurtleff R. Dizon T. Burns	Jeff Bautista Sharon Brabson	M. Janik J. O'Brien M. Pieper	B. Toomey A. Wodek	K. Sekany M. Pieper	Fr. Martin D. Bob
SUNDAY 9:30AM	B. Kibitkewki D. Scheffler K. King P. Mengarelli T. Mengarelli G. Pratscher	Nancy Tayborn Jeff Rediger	S. Estorque R. Ignacio Arnold Ignacio	C. Latza T. Maus	G. Rajchel R. Rajchel	Fr. Martin Dn. Ivan
SUNDAY 11:30AM	C. Karl G. Galano S. Fragassi R. Terraza P. Watson R. Cuasay	JJ Plamoottil Terry Denecke- Dattalo	R. Auguste E. Colcol T. Denecke- Dattalo	L. Lechowicz S. Tebbetts	A. Brown D. Moseley	Fr. Chris Dn. Mike
SUNDAY 5:00PM	K. Deniz J. Plamoottil B. Marchioni OPEN x 2	Gianna Gayton Teen or Lector 1	C. Bertke J. Marino	G. Murawski M. Murawski	TEEN TEEN	Fr. Chris Dn. Brent

DONATIONS SUMMARY

Week of December 26, 2025

Sunday- \$32,360
Online Sunday- \$12,102
Christmas- \$2,243
Sharing- \$1,711
Online Sharing- \$502
SVdP- \$2,262
Online SVdP- \$466
Holiday Dinners - \$200
Campaign for Human Development- \$5
Retirement fund for Religious- \$1,039



Month to Date - December

Sunday- \$86,212
Online Sunday- \$35,513
Christmas- \$5,676
Sharing- \$2,901
Online Sharing- \$2,724
SVdP- \$3,961
Online SVdP- \$2,368
Holiday Dinners - \$492
Campaign for Human Development- \$923
Retirement fund for Religious- \$3,244

GRIEF JOURNEY MINISTRY

"What we have once enjoyed deeply,
we can never lose. All that we love
deeply becomes a part of us."
-Helen Keller

**You are invited to join with us as we gather
with others who have lost a loved one.
Here you will find support and
encouragement in abundance.**

**The next meeting is January 7, 2026
at 3pm.**

Sandy Gbur, Certified Grief Educator
sgbur@spa.church | 708-217-2209

**All is confidential; facilitated by a
professional counselor**



Circle of Women

We, the Circle of Women, are women rooted in faith,
called to share our faith with one another. The group
meets monthly on Saturday mornings, from 9:30 to
11:00 A.M. at St. Paul's lower level.

The next meeting is on January 10, 2026.

Each month is a different topic, each session is
separate so consistent attendance is not required.
Come as you are, share with us, or just listen if that is
what you need. Our cornerstones come from the word
saint: safe, accepting, inclusive, nurturing and trust.

Our space is sacred and what we share at Circle of
Women stays at Circle of Women.

All women are welcome- bring your friends!

Happy
New
Year

BAPTISM PREP CLASS

The **Baptism Preparation Ministry** prepares parents for their children's baptisms by reflecting upon the Sacrament of Baptism, parents' and godparents' roles after children are baptized, and the family's place in our faith community. First-time parents are requested to attend before their child's baptism.

THE NEXT CLASS IS
JANUARY 8, 2026 AT 7PM IN THE
CHURCH.



Sr. Cres Lopez of the
Missionary Sisters of the
Evangelization, one of our
Simbang Gabi charity
recipients, recent visited
and joined us in
First Saturday Prayer!



SPRED Grateful for your Support

SPRED catechists and friends would like to thank the church community for its generous support of the holiday candy sale. We exceeded our expectations of the sale, and we are grateful that we can continue to serve our special needs children and adults. The candy sale will be back in the spring just in time for Easter.

ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO



Vicariate I | Spring 2026

ADULT CONFIRMATION

Are you an adult who missed receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation?

Preparation for Confirmation

for Vicariate I parishioners will be offered weekly on Mondays beginning Monday, March 16, 2026, 7–9 p.m.

St. Edna Parish, Door #2
2525 N. Arlington Heights Rd.
Arlington Heights



Confirmation Mass at St. Edna Parish on
Wednesday, May 20, 2026, at 7 p.m.

Registration closes on Monday, Feb. 27, 2026.
Cost: \$70/person.

Contact Lorie Crepeau for information and
registration: lcrepeau@stedna.org
847.398.3362, ext. 325.



The Women's Fellowship
Angel Trees
are displayed in the
gathering space.
You may donate by
taking an envelope from
the tree
or online via our
website.

All donations will be
used to support our
Parish, food pantries,
Aid for Women,
and the needs
of our neighboring
communities.

ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO



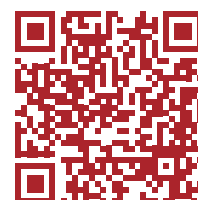
RENEWAL WORKSHOPS

Making Space: Welcoming everyone for Ash Wednesday

Tuesday, January 13 | 12 – 2 p.m. and 7 – 9 p.m. | Online

Small groups during Lent offer an incredible opportunity to increase engagement and invite your community into intentional discipleship. Explore the basic elements needed to turn a typical small group into a transformative experience of encounter with Jesus.

For more information and to register,
visit renewmychurch.org/renewal-workshops or scan the QR code.





Knights Corner



Divine Mercy Council thanks all parishioners who supported us in 2025 to raise money for our parish and other charities. Our Christmas tree sales were down a little again this year, mainly due to the weather, but we were still able to share our Keep Christ in Christmas message to more than 200 families in our St Paul community.

We wish your family a blessed and safe New Year. We welcome those men 18 years or older to join our council to continue our mission in 2026. Please contact a member of our council or scan the QR code. If you have any questions about becoming a Knight, please don't hesitate to reach out.

Vivat Jesus,
Steven Bilas
Grand Knight
Divine Mercy Council #11112

(PRACTICING) CATHOLIC -
BENEATH THE SURFACE

The Stars We Follow

Everyone follows a star.

It is human nature to seek. If we are rich, we want to be richer. If we are smart, we want to be smarter. If we are powerful, we want to be more powerful.

We cannot stay in one place, so to speak — to say, “I am what I am, I have what I have, and it is enough.” Even the very act of maintaining a status quo, be it health or wealth or spiritual goodness, requires action. It requires effort. It requires movement. This is human nature. There is nothing wrong with it. When we stop seeking, we die.

But what are we looking for? Where are we going?

I often wonder if the Magi knew what they were seeking — really, truly knew. They were seeking “the newborn king of the Jews,” yes, but did they understand who he was? What he was? I don't see how they could have. They were wise men, but they were not prophets. They simply knew this was an endeavor they had to undertake. They knew it in their souls.

There really is very little that we know for certain about the Magi. We don't know how many of them there were. We don't know their religion. We don't know where they came from. All we know for certain is that they listened to a voice they heard deep within themselves. And, heeding that voice, they went forth.

And what did they find? They found what we all seek, even if, foolishly, we seek it in riches or power.

They found the face of the Child.

So tell me this. Of all the stars you could follow, which one does the voice — that one deep within you— tell you to chase?

Point to it. And go forth.
— Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

©LPI



ARCHDIOCESAN COUNCIL OF CATHOLIC WOMEN ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

GOLDEN ROSE AWARD

This event honors high school girls who are extraordinary examples of faith in action.

St. Paul the Apostle is looking for our 2026 candidate. Please let me know if you would like to read the criteria to be our Golden Rose. This terrific breakfast event is Saturday, February 7, 2026, at Chevy Chase Golf Club. Contact: jlatz@spa.church



CATHOLIC WOMEN'S CLUB OF LAKE COUNTY

For all Catholic Women in Lake County, Illinois

We have been in existence for over 75 years.

Meetings: Rosary and Potluck lunch every month—2nd Thursday

(regular attendance is not mandatory)

Where: A parish in Northern Lake County

Special Events: Memorial Mass and Lunch, Christmas Lunch, Valentine Lunch & Installation Lunch. Summer bus pilgrimages to nearby shrines

Any age : Most are between 50 and 90

Membership for the year is \$10. if interested or for more info
please email cwclakecounty@gmail.com

We will not be offering the Precious Blood from the 1st Sunday of Advent until Palm Sunday, for health reasons during cold and flu season, to avoid potential virus transmission. A Catholic does not have to receive both the Body and Blood of Christ, as receiving either one is a full reception of the sacrament. Receiving only one form is a valid and common practice, and provides the same graces as receiving both; we receive the entirety of Jesus in the Eucharist.

During the Communion Procession:

1. Approach the Priest, Deacon, or Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion.
2. The Sacred Host will be lifted and shown to you, and the Priest, Deacon, or Communion Minister will say, "The Body of Christ".
3. Extend your hands or tongue and say "Amen".
4. Whether you receive on the tongue or the hands -- DO NOT MOVE -- until the Sacred Host is placed on your tongue or hands.
5. PLEASE DO NOT step to the side, but consume the Host immediately in front of the priest, deacon, or Communion Minister.
6. Then, you can return to your seat.

- If you do not receive communion and want a blessing, come, cross your hands over your chest to receive the blessing.

Thank you for your understanding and for enhancing Catholic beliefs.



A big thank you to all for your tremendous generosity in providing holiday meals to our veterans and the needy families within our local community. As a parish, we collected over \$14,000 and provided 300 holiday dinners through Holy Family, St. Anastasia, and Midwest Veterans food pantries.



We will continue to support our local food pantries by distributing the remaining money throughout the coming year to feed those within our community who remain food insecure.

Words like "thoughtful...caring...giving" are not enough to describe your level of generosity. Again, a very special thank you to an awesome parish!

CATHOLIC TRIVIA - JUST FOR FUN!

Question:
Who are the four Gospel authors?

Answer:
Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John.

©LPI

SAINT BIO

St. John Neumann | January 5

St. John Neumann is the patron saint of educators, immigrants, and, due to the miracles that secured his canonization, sick children. This is a fitting patronage as he was a lover of education and learning from a very young age. In fact, when he was a child, his mother called him "my little bibliomaniac" due to his preoccupation with reading. Born in 1811 Bohemia, in what is now the Czech Republic, he attended the university in Prague preparing for ordination. However, his local bishops were not ordaining new priests at the time because Bohemia was overstocked with priests. He inquired about ordination all over Europe but received the same answer everywhere. Not one to be deterred, John then applied to several United States dioceses. Receiving no immediate responses, the saint took a leap of faith and decided to just immigrate to the United States in 1836, during his 25th year, with only \$40 in his pocket. This risk paid off when he was ordained in New York a month later.

Early in his priesthood he worked primarily as a missionary to German immigrants in Buffalo. His missionary work also created an opportunity for him to spend time in Maryland, Virginia, Michigan, and Ohio. When he was 29, he joined the Congregation of the Most Holy Redeemer (Redemptorists), a congregation of priests and brothers dedicated to helping the poor and most abandoned. He was their first member to profess vows in the United States.

In 1852, at the age of 41, Neumann became the fourth Bishop of Philadelphia. During this time, he organized the individual parochial schools in his region into a diocesan system. This change allowed Catholic schools to quickly increase the number of pupils enrolled by almost twentyfold. Over the course of his ministry, St. John expanded the number of Catholic schools in his diocese from 2 to 100! His passion for education extended to immigrants, like himself, and his love for learning languages made it possible for him to hear confessions in English, Spanish, French, Italian, Dutch, and Gaelic!

A man of the people, he could often be found outside the church walls visiting people who were sick, staying in taverns and public houses to teach, and celebrating Mass in people's homes at their kitchen tables. He was canonized on June 19, 1977, following three miracles, two of which regarded the healing of youth from grave illnesses. St. John Neumann was the first American man to be canonized a saint.

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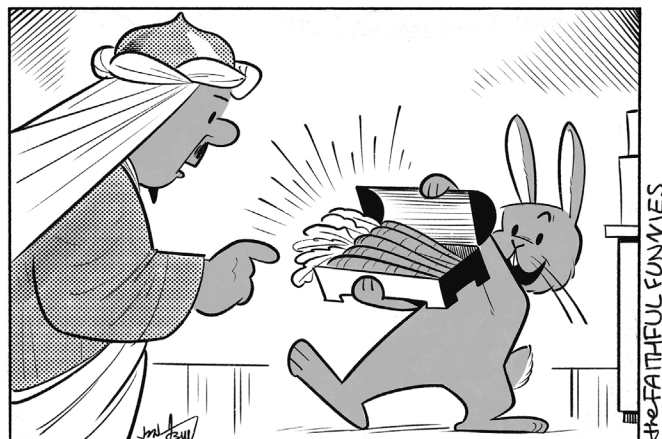
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