The Epiphany of the Lord

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.”

Matthew 2:1–2
NEW PARISHIONERS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME!
Call or come to the Parish Center to register.

BAPTISMS: Dates for Baptism will be arranged after attending the Pre-Baptismal Catechesis. Call Annette in the Parish Office for information.

MARRIAGES: Call Annette in the Parish Office to arrange preparation 6 months in advance.

SICK CALLS: Call Annette in the Parish Office and Ministers of Care will visit the sick or shut-in.

RECONCILIATION: Saturday 4:20-4:40PM in the Reconciliation Room.

FOOD PANTRY: Our pantry is open Wednesdays from 9AM-12PM. Call 630.393.2400 x 112.

FUNERALS: The Pastoral Staff works with families to plan the Funeral Mass.

SMALL CHRISTIAN COMMUNITIES: Call Dwight Sherman at 630.393.3221 or 630.362.1324.

CRISIS PRAYER CHAIN: Contact Deacon Joe Urso at 630.853.2070 at joe.urso@outlook.com.

LIVING GOD’S WORD: The Church is the new Israel, called to attract all people to the Lord. We must be “the place where the child” (Matthew 2:9) is found today. God’s glory shines through the Church and, despite our many flaws, we are called to become the “place” where everyone can find the Lord and “[do] Him homage” (2:11).

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“Seeing Through the Eyes of Christ”
Monday, January 22nd at 7PM in the church

Presenter: John Donahue-Grossman

“John captivates audiences with his humor, dynamic energy and unique perspective. People are empowered to believe they can transform their lives and their world.”

MASS SCHEDULE
- Daily: M-F 7AM
- Saturday: 5PM
- Sunday: 8AM & 10AM

Staff Directory

PARISH CENTER: 28W441 Warrenville Rd.
Warrenville, IL  60555

PHONE: 630.393.2400
FAX: 630.393.9680
WEB: www.st-irene.org
E-MAIL: parishoffice@st-irene.org
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Bill Murphy - murphy807@aol.com
Joe Urso x 147 - joe@st-irene.org
PASTORAL ASSOCIATE: Annette Kubalanza x 122
MUSIC DIRECTOR: Ryan Matthew Rump x 118
BUSINESS MANAGER: Richard Kaffka x 114
ADMIN. ASSISTANT: Pat Jackowiak x 110
Shari Meyers x 110

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION:
1-6 GRADE COORDINATOR: Jacqueline Skelly x 121
7th & 8th GRADE COORDINATOR: Pamela Keating x 120

SCHOOL: 3S601 Warren Avenue
PHONE: 630.393.9303
FAX: 630.393.7009
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PRINCIPAL: Maggie Detwiler x 136
ADMIN. ASSISTANT: Julie Duquette x 116

The Epiphany of the Lord

Reflecting on God’s Word

What are the major attractions in your area? Are they natural wonders, spectacular buildings, engaging activities, powerful people, works of art? We expect people to stream to see rock stars and queens, the Eiffel Tower and the Grand Canyon. In today’s scriptures, however, we see “tourists” attracted to two very lowly and humble “sights.”

Jerusalem was a sorry sight when the scripture from Isaiah was written. The prophet’s vision must have seemed impossible to those who heard this message. And yet, today Jerusalem is a major tourist attraction. We also know that through the Jews many other people—Christians and Muslims—have been attracted to the one Lord.

Jesus Himself must have seemed very weak and insignificant in comparison to the rich and powerful King Herod, and later on compared to the priests and Pharisees. Yet, even from His birth, people streamed to Him. Like the “tourists” in today’s Gospel, people saw something in Him that led them to worship and serve the Lord. And through Him they came to understand what God intended for their life journeys.

—Virginia Stillwell
Consoling the Heart of Jesus!

Our next Parish Retreat, “Consoling the Heart of Jesus” begins January 8th, and will meet on select Mondays, from 1-2:30PM OR 7-8:30PM. You can still sign-up by contacting Jeannette Clark by phone at 630.292.9349 or email jaclark1129@gmail.com. The cost for the materials is $29.95 plus shipping.

In this life-changing Retreat with Fr. Michael Gaitley we learn how Ignatian Spirituality can help us find God in all things and be open to His call. Are you ready to deepen your one-on-one relationship with Our Lord? All it takes is your “Yes” and then place your trust in Him. He will take care of the rest.

THANK YOU! Many thanks to all who have helped to make our parish church environment and liturgies beautiful this Christmas season. Special thanks to Pat Kemp for our amazing banner; Eric Pavel and crew for hanging the banner and assembling the trees and crèche, and Denise Schmidt for all decorations throughout the liturgical season.

It takes many hands to make our liturgies prayerful and efficient. Thank you to our Lectors, Eucharistic Ministers, Altar Servers, Choirs, Ushers, Sacristans, and Ministers of Hospitality for your dedicated service.

Scout Sunday 2018

All area scouts, including American Heritage Girls, Boy Scouts, Cub Scouts, & Girls Scouts are invited to attend the 2018 Scout Sunday Mass on: Sunday, February 4, 2018 at the 10AM Mass.

Please arrive at 9:30AM in the ACU to line up. Remember to wear your uniform. If you have any questions, contact Elaine Perez at 630.851.9551 or elaine_perez@hotmail.com.

Where on earth would you go to honor the magi? Iran or Saudi Arabia, Tarshish or the Isles come to mind, but Cologne, Germany would be a good choice. There the Shrine of the Three Kings has been the centerpiece of the city’s cathedral since the fourth century. Today it is the largest reliquary in the world: a gilded and ornamented triple casket gleaming high above the altar. In the fourth century, the supposed relics of the wise men were taken from Constantinople to Milan, where they remained until the German Emperor with the unlikely name Frederick Barbarossa (Red Beard) gave them to the Archbishop of Cologne. Ever since, pilgrims have streamed into the city to honor the magi, the first of all pilgrims, and thus the heavenly patrons of all who have some holy wanderlust.

This largest Gothic cathedral in Europe today was begun in the mid-1200s to house the relics. In medieval times, the relics in a city’s possession were often the key to a sound international economy. The reliquary was last opened in 1864, and the remains of three men were indeed discovered. The cathedral is well worth a visit, with enormous twin spires forming the largest façade of any church in the world (it is the model for St. Patrick’s in New York). Construction began in 1248 and ended in 1880, a six-hundred-year project. Today, it is a World Heritage Site, described by the U.N. as “an exceptional work of human creative genius.” This great treasure of our tradition suffered fourteen direct bomb hits in World War II but did not collapse. It survived while the city burned around it, preserved, the townspeople say, by three heavenly patrons.

—Rev. James Field, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.
Whole Parish Catechesis
Readings and Questions for Faith Sharing

Reading I: Isaiah 60:1-6
♦ Your light has come!

Background: The showing forth of God’s glory is apparent in today’s passage from Isaiah. All nations will walk by Jerusalem’s light, the glory of God within it. The prophet announces to the people that even in the midst of darkness, they will forever be enlightened by the presence of God.

Reading II: Ephesians 3:2-3a, 5-6
♦ We all share the same promise!

Background: The earliest Christians, mostly Jews, struggled with the realization that even Gentiles are included in God’s plan of salvation. Today’s letter points out that people in former ages did not understand that God’s mercy extended to all people. Gentiles and Jews are one body in Christ.

Gospel: Matthew 2:1-12
♦ They opened their coffers and presented Him with gifts.

Background: Matthew’s Gospel clearly demonstrates that all the prophecies of old have come to fulfillment in Christ. As promised, Gentile wise men recognize Jesus as Messiah even when the Jerusalem sages do not. The official priests and scribes quote the messianic prophecies that identify Bethlehem, the city of David’s birth, as the birthplace of the Messiah. However, they do not follow their own wisdom.

Theme: The mystery of the incarnation - Jesus is a gift to all humanity.

Question for Adults:
How this past week did you demonstrate God’s love at home and at work.

Question for Youth:
The star guided the Magi to Jesus. What are the people or events who have guided you in your relationship with Jesus?

Question for Children:
In your life, who helps you to see Jesus in other people such as a classmate or a friend?
Join us for Mass at Mercy Home
Sunday, January 28, 2018

You may be familiar with Sunday Mass at Mercy Home for Boys and Girls which airs on WGN-TV, Channel 9 on Sundays at 9:30AM. We have been invited to participate in a taping of the show and to join in the televised Masses for the 16th and 18th Sundays of Ordinary Time to be celebrated with Father Carl Morello (brother of fellow Knight of Columbus, Vince Morello). These Masses will be aired in July and August.

The date is Sunday, January 28, 2018. We will meet at 1:30PM at Mercy Home, 1140 West Jackson Boulevard, Chicago. The taping will occur between 2:30-4PM and there will be a complimentary luncheon beforehand. We hope to have a good showing, but can accommodate no more than twenty people for the television audience. RSVP by Monday, January 22nd so I can let Mercy Home staff know how many to expect for the luncheon.

There is free parking at Mercy Home and plenty of street-parking available. Unfortunately, the Home is not handicapped-accessible. Free will donations are appreciated by the Home which is a Catholic charity and child welfare agency. This event will be “first come, first served.” Seasonal clothing is de rigueur.

This is a fun experience and I encourage families to bring their children (over 5 years old). For more information or to make your reservation, please contact Joe Kubal by telephone at 630.983.6159 or by email at SMKubal0712@aol.com.

GOD’S PROMISE TO ALL PEOPLE

Today Isaiah reminds the people of God that the land shall be restored to their possession, they shall rejoice to see their people return from the bondage of exile, and that they shall be a light to the nations. In other words, through the people of Israel, the Savior shall come to all people who seek God with a sincere heart. This brings joy and the radiance of God’s glory to all the world and to all people everywhere. Through the fidelity of the people of God, and through God’s fidelity to them, all people shall become God’s children and rejoice in the fulfillment of God’s promise to Israel.

Are you looking for a fun and rewarding experience? Do you enjoy seeing children at play? St. Irene School students and teachers need your volunteerism! If you are able to come to the school to supervise students during their lunch and recess, we would love to have you join us. The time commitment is 11:20AM-12:20PM, on as many days as you would like. For more information, contact Mrs. Julie Duquette at 630.393.9303 x116. THANK YOU in advance for your help!
## This Week’s Meetings

**Sunday, January 7**
- 10-10:30a - Children’s Liturgy of the Word (ACL)
- 11a-12:30p - RCIA (ACL)
- 11a-12:30p - Baptism Prep 1st Session (S)

**Monday, January 8**
- 1-2:30p - Consoling the Heart of Jesus (ACL)
- 3-5p - Basketball Practice (ACU)
- 5-6:30p - Basketball Practice (ACU)
- 7-8:30p - Consoling the Heart of Jesus (ACL)

**Tuesday, January 9**
- 5:30-7p - Elementary Religious Education (C & S)
- 7-8p - Ladies of Columbus (ACL)
- 7-8p - Bridge Communities (Staff)
- 7-9p - School Board (HF)

**Wednesday, January 10**
- 12:15-3:30p - Band (ACL)
- 5:30-6:30p - Kids Choir (C)
- 6:30-8p - Jr. High RE (S, AC, HF, SF & Staff)
- 7-8:30p - Adult Choir (C)

**Thursday, January 11**
- 1:45-3:45p - Basketball Practice (ACU)
- 4:30-6p - Basketball Practice (ACU)
- 6-10p - Knights of Columbus (ACL)
- 6:30-8p - Grief Support (HF)

**Friday, January 12**
- 12:15-3:30p - Band (ACL)
- 6-7:30p - American Heritage Girls (ACL)

**Saturday, January 13**
- 7a-1p - Knights of Columbus (ACL)

**Sunday, January 14**
- 7:30a-12:30p - Hospitality (ACL)
- 10-10:30a - Children’s Liturgy of the Word (ACL)
- 11a-12:15p - HS Confirmation Class (HF)
- 11a-2p - CCW Carenet Baby Shower @ Hospitality
- 11:15a-12:15p - Special Sacrament Group (S)

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### Grief Support

Losing someone close has never been and will never be an easy part of life, and grief is a natural and necessary component of the healing process. Every individual's experience with grief is unique. There is no set amount of pain felt, no predetermined timeline, no fixed number of tears. We recognize the importance of having a strong support system. In response to the needs of our community, our parish offers a bereavement support group to assist those who have experienced the loss of a loved one. The winter sessions will be held on Thursday evenings at 6:30PM on January 11, January 18, February 1, and February 15 in the Holy Family Room of the Parish Center.
**St. Irene Vocation Prayer**

In every age Lord, You raise up women and men who are strong in their faith and bold in their actions to give witness to the Gospel.

Fill St. Irene Parish Community with Your Spirit and give us a burning desire to make a difference in our world.

Because of our love for You, Bless our Church with holy and courageous priests, deacons, religious sisters and brothers, devoted married couples, dedicated single men and women, and enthusiastic youth.

We ask this in Jesus’ name. Amen.

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**St. Irene Rosary Group**

The St. Irene Rosary Group meets the third Thursday of each month in the ACL** from 7-8PM then followed by fellowship. Please plan on joining us on January 18th and bring a friend.

For more information, please call Jeanette Clark at 630.292.9349.

**This month we will meet in the Holy Family Room located in the Parish Center.**

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**Communion Assistance**

We want to insure that every parishioner who wishes to partake in the Communion Sacrament be able to do so. In order to assist us with this process, please notify an usher prior to the start of Mass if you or someone in your party needs communion brought to you. Extraordinary Ministers will bring the hosts and wine to you in your pew.

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**Liturgical Calendar**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday, January 8</td>
<td>The Baptism of the Lord</td>
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<tr>
<td>7:00AM</td>
<td>St. Irene Faith Community</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday, January 9</td>
<td>First Week in Ordinary Time begins</td>
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<tr>
<td>7:00AM</td>
<td>For the Healing of Our Friends &amp; Family</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday, January 10</td>
<td>Weekday</td>
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<tr>
<td>7:00AM</td>
<td>For the Poor &amp; the Hungry</td>
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<td>Thursday, January 11</td>
<td>Weekday</td>
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<tr>
<td>7:00AM</td>
<td>John Breen/ St. Irene Community</td>
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<tr>
<td>7:30AM</td>
<td>Eucharistic Adoration</td>
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<td>Friday, January 12</td>
<td>Weekday</td>
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<tr>
<td>7:00AM</td>
<td>Carolann Chiodo/ Friends</td>
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<td>8:15AM</td>
<td>Tran Family/ Family</td>
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<td>Saturday, January 13</td>
<td>Vigil: 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time</td>
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<td>5:00PM</td>
<td>Carole Dresmal/ 1st Anniversary</td>
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<td>Loretta Paver/ Family</td>
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<td>Sunday, January 14</td>
<td>Second Sunday in Ordinary Time</td>
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<td>8:00AM</td>
<td>Joanne/ Jim &amp; Henri Bove</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:00AM</td>
<td>Birthday/Anniversary Mass</td>
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<td>Laura Shutock/ Gruneisen Family</td>
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</tbody>
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**Remember our Faithful Departed in your Prayers**

♦ Canteno “Tino” Baglio

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**We Pray for Those Who Serve Our Country**

Bev Oliveri  
Patti Menconi  
Kate Preston  
Mary Hafertepe  
Judy Colonero  
Joe Gattone  
Mary Hughes  
Donna Pelletier  
Lynette Meany

Don Lopat  
Mary Vander Meulen  
Valder Morales  
Max Malesh  
Barb Houston  
Paula Lopat  
Colette Malovany  
Charlie Fahrenwald

1st Lt. Weston J. Umano USAF - Holloman, NM  
1st Lt. Keegan Lohenry USMC - Camp Pendleton  
Lance Cpl. Quin Lohenry USMC - Camp Pendleton  
Master Sgt. Dan Peterson - Anchorage, AK  
TSgt. Daniel Geinosky - serving in England  
Sgt. Christian Wilkins - stationed in Iraq  
Lance Cpl. Levi Dieter - Embassy of Latvia  
Cmdr. Eric G. Peterson - Serving in San Diego  
Sgt. Peter Folz - stationed at Okinawa  
Capt. Patrick Looby - Nellis AFB, NV  
Chief Petty Officer Michael Spans  
Sgt. Thomas Rasplicka - Fort Bliss, Texas