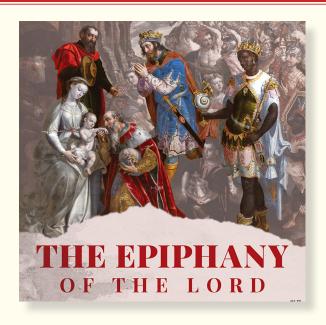
THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD THEY WERE OVERJOYED AT SEING THE

MATTHEW 2:10

JANUARY 5. 2025 - STTHOMASMORERLORG

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What are you looking for?

Today we celebrate the Feast of the Epiphany. It is for certain one of my favorite feasts. We remain in the in Christmas season and need to keep our minds and hearts on the Holy Family. Of course, sometime later, three wise men/astronomers came from the east.

They represent the world of philosophy, science and knowledge in the human sphere. Today, sadly many think erroneously that science and religion are incompatible. The Church reminds us that they are inseparable and in fact, rely on each other to reveal and know God.

We need to contemplate the wise men as they were thirsty for knowledge. Are we hungry to know more about Jesus and our heavenly Father? We, too, should always be searching for God in the order and beauty of the world, the arts and even modern culture, to see the fingerprints of God. Of course, we see God in the face of each person made in His image and likeness.

The wise men also took a risk to find the Truth. Are we willing to risk to find God? They brought gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. Each one signifying the future of Jesus.

The thing we can learn most from these wise men is that once they came to recognize Jesus as the Truth, they prostrated and worshipped. We need to see in them, the model for each one of us. The Feast of the Epiphany is one wrapped in mystery but even more so, love.

Are you looking for love? I hope so! We all should be. Love is a person, not a feeling. Love is Jesus Christ who wants to share Himself with us.

What is the real goal of our lives? What do you wish for your children, parents and friends? Let us hope we are looking for Him. Let us pray that all those we love, are also looking.

Happy Feast of Christmas!

Fr. Taillon



Gansett Surf & Rescue Annual Toy Collection for St. Charles in Providence with Fr Garcia.



Congratulations, baptized in Christ Jesus!
Father Joe baptized Camila Marie Striglio
pictured with her parents Vanessa and Nichlas
Striglio and godparents Nichols Katsikis
and Kaylee Sullivan.

THANK YOU, ST. THOMAS MORE!

Fr. Taillon and Fr. Michael, Ukrainian priest on the right, present gift cards to Ukrainian refugees in Woonsocket to help make their Christmas bright.

Thank to the St. Thomas More Mother Teresa Fund.







St. Veronica Chapel

St. Thomas More

Pictured above are the two Knights of Columbus teams who helped decorate our churches. Their work is invaluable and we are extremely grateful to each one of them for their time and efforts.

St. Thomas More





St. Veronica Chapel decorating committee. L to R: Judy McGinn, Jane Carter, Pat Reidy, Susan Magill and Roz Thomas. Not pictured, Nancy DeCamp and Lisa Martineau.



St. Thomas More decorating committee. L to R: Nancy Andolfo, Claire Baffoni, Chris McCleod, Jean Winward, Noreen Mercier and Pati Paolella. Not pictured, Kathy Leonard and Holly Mills.

St. Veronica Chapel



MASS intentions

EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

SATURDAY, JANUARY 4th

4 PM – for the soul of Maryanne Monahan & for the parishioners of St. Thomas More 5 PM – for the soul of Frank DiGiacomo

SUNDAY, JANUARY 5th

8:30 AM – for the soul of John J. O'Neill

10 AM – for the soul of Frank Morelli

11 AM – for the soul of Rita Pepin

MONDAY, JANUARY 6th

9 AM – Birthday Remembrance ~ Tony Cafone

TUESDAY, JANUARY 7th

9 AM – for the soul of Donald Cornell

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 8th

9 AM – for the soul of Rita Pepin

THURSDAY, JANUARY 9th

9 AM – for the soul of Sally Noll

FRIDAY, JANUARY 10th

9 AM – for the soul of John Osmond

SATURDAY, JANUARY 11th

9 AM – for the soul of George Sahagian

BAPTISM OF THE LORD

SATURDAY, JANUARY 11th

4 PM – for the soul of Patricia Fogarty

5 PM – Birthday Remembrance ~ Anne Del Monico

SUNDAY, JANUARY 12th

8:30 AM – for the soul of J. Joseph Garrahy &

for the parishioners of St. Thomas More

10 AM – Birthday Remembrance ~ William Murphy

11 AM – for the deceased members of the Vigliotti family



For more info contact Diane at 401-996-3876 https://stm-ourladysguild.weebly.com/



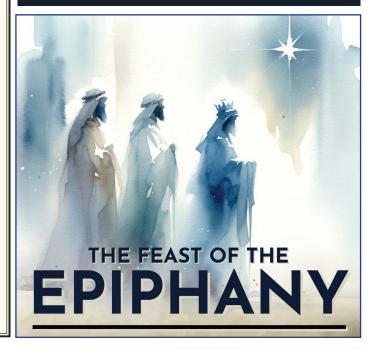
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From the December 20th mailbag...

Dear Parishioners,

On behalf of the Monsignor Clarke School community, we would like to thank you and the parish for sponsoring our 2nd annual drive through live nativity with your donation of \$500. On December 7th, visitors from all over South County enjoyed the true meaning of Christmas with this parent and student volunteer created event. This event would not have been possible without the financial support of our sponsors. Thank you for supporting your local Catholic school.



Happenings around the parish

Men's Bible Study

Our parish has a very active group of men who meet each Saturday morning in the parish hall at 7:30 AM to discuss the Sunday scripture readings. This is very informal and all are invited and welcome to join.

Our Lady's Guild

- Our Lady's Guild has meetings at 9:30AM on the second Wednesday of each month in the parish hall.
- On Mondays after the 9AM Mass, with coffee & refreshments, they meet as an informal gospel reflections group to discuss, read and reflect on the Gospels of the coming week and to share personal insights of those readings.
- The rosary is prayed Monday Saturday at 8:30AM at St. Thomas More before the 9AM Mass.



All are welcome to join these activities. To learn more about Our Lady's Guild, call Diane at 996-3876 or visit

https://stm-ourladysguild.weebly.com/

Prayer Chain Ministry

If you know someone who would like or needs extra prayers, we are happy to help. Call Jean at 783-3403 to express your request. New volunteers are always welcome to join this necessary and important ministry.

Remember the Poor

The small donation boxes on the church walls labeled "Remember the Poor" goes to the Mother Teresa Fund, which helps with local rental assistance, utilities, food and prescriptions. Thank you for your generosity.

Rosary Repairs

Drop your broken beads in envelope provided in the box in the foyer at St. Thomas More with your name and contact info. You will be contacted when complete.

St. Vincent dePaul clothing bins

Weekly pick up of clothing & shoes. Bins located at the back of the St. Thomas More parking lot, inside the fence.

WEEKLY PARISH FOOD COLLECTION

Current Needs

- √ Natural Peanut Butter
- √ Brown Rice
- √ Low Sugar Jelly
- √ Canned Fruit in 100% Juice

- √ Baked/Black/Kidney Beans 🗸 Whole grain wheat flour
- √ Whole Grain Cereal/Crackers/Pasta & Jarre∂ Pasta Sauce

Collection baskets are located at the entrance of both churches.

Religious Education

Sunday, January 5th

Class for Grades 1 -4 at 10:00-10:50 AM St. Veronica Chapel No class for Confirmation Prep

Wednesday, January 8th

Grades 5-8 at 5:45-6:45 PM St. Veronica Chapel

Epiphany

Question:

Besides the Wise Men, what is significant about the Epiphany?

Answer:

Epiphany means "manifestation," or public display. The feast is usually celebrated January 6. In the US, it is celebrated on the Sunday nearest to January 6. It originates from a story unique to Matthew (2:1-12). Magi from the East come to offer homage to the newborn King, presenting him with gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

This part of Matthew's infancy narrative differs from Luke's account of the birth of Jesus. In Luke there are no Magi, star, nor gifts. Luke has Jesus being born in a stable after Mary and Joseph's long travel from Nazareth to Bethlehem. Matthew seems to have the family living in a house in Bethlehem, where the Magi find them.

Why these differences? They stem from the needs and concerns of the audience the authors were addressing, as well as the theological stance of each author. Knowing the original intention helps get at the correct interpretation of the text.

Since Matthew was writing primarily to a Jewish community, his concern was to show that Jesus did not come just for Jews, but for Gentiles as well. From his very birth, Jesus not only manifests himself to Jews, but also to Gentiles, who are prominently included in the manifestation, symbolized by the Magi and their journey. This is the most significant aspect of the feast of Epiphany. How do you manifest Jesus to all with whom you come into contact?

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