

**HOLY TRINITY**

317 West Fifth Street, Haugen  
715-234-2508

**Masses**

Wednesday 8:15AM  
Sunday 8:30AM



**OUR LADY OF LOURDES-Dobie**

2411 23rd Street, Rice Lake  
715-234-2917

Parish Center: 715-234-6268

**Masses**

Friday 8:15AM  
Saturday 4:00PM  
Sunday 10:00AM

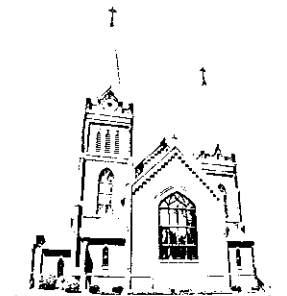


**ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST**

408 South Main Street, Birchwood  
715-354-3704

**Masses**

Thursday 8:30AM  
Sunday 11:30AM



**ST. JOSEPH**

111 West Marshall Street, Rice Lake  
715-234-2032

**Masses**

Tuesday 5:30PM  
Wednesday 8:30AM  
Thursday & Friday 7:00AM  
Saturday 4:30PM  
Sunday 8:30AM, 10:30AM,  
& 5:30PM

# Holy Trinity Our Lady of Lourdes St. John the Evangelist St. Joseph

Reverend Ed Anderson, Pastor ext. 1  
Reverend Samuel Schneider, Associate Pastor ext. 8  
Deacon: Dennis Geisler

**Cluster Contact Information:**

111 West Marshall Street, Rice Lake, WI 54868  
715-234-2032 Fax: 715-234-7757

Website: [www.stjosephricelake.org](http://www.stjosephricelake.org) Email: [stjoseph@chibardun.net](mailto:stjoseph@chibardun.net)

Office Hours: Monday – Friday 8:30 AM to 5:00 PM

<b>Business Manager:</b>	Aaron Hendricks, ext. 6
<b>Cluster Office Staff:</b>	Shannon Wahl, ext. 0 Sandi Sirianni, ext. 2
<b>Religious Education Office:</b>	Cluster Catechetical Leader: Rose Schullo, ext. 5 CRE/Youth Minister: Laura Schissel, ext.5 CRE: Kristine Deering, Office: 715-234-2508 Home: 715-234-2348 Youth Minister: Jessica Romportl, ext. 5 Office Assistant: Rachael Hartman, ext. 5
<b>Parish Nurse Office:</b>	Mondays 10:00 AM – Noon Mary Jo Bednarek, R.N. and Karen Novotny, R.N.
<b>St. Joseph School:</b>	Principal: Jerry Van Dyke, ext. 4 Office Administrator: Julie Mazourek, ext. 3

**Baptism:** Parents/God-Parents must arrange to attend a preparation class. Contact the cluster office.

**Reconciliation:** Individual Reconciliation is available by appointment or as scheduled in the bulletin.

**Matrimony:** Arrangements must be made at least six months before a tentative date is set. Contact the cluster office.

**Rite of Christian Initiation:** This is a process of faith sharing and liturgical celebrations to become Catholic. Contact the cluster office.

**Perpetual Adoration:** You are invited to be an adorer at Our Lady of Lourdes 715-296-4279 and/or St. Joseph 715-736-3266.  
Adorers pray 24 hours a day/7 days a week. Call for more information.

**New "Parishioners"** are welcome to register in our parish communities. Registration packets available at the cluster office or at each church.

**Bulletin Deadline:** Announcements and information for the bulletin must be in the cluster office by 4:00 PM Monday.

**THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD – JANUARY 7, 2018**  
**MASSES AND INTENTIONS JANUARY 8<sup>TH</sup>–JANUARY 14<sup>TH</sup>**

Monday	7:00 AM	St. Joseph	Communion Service
Tuesday	5:30 PM	St. Joseph	Ed Snee †
Wednesday	8:15 AM	Holy Trinity	For the Poor Souls in Purgatory †
	8:30 AM	St. Joseph	Sister Bonnie Alho †
Thursday	7:00 AM	St. Joseph	Special Intention
	8:30 AM	St. John the Evangelist	For Andrew & Helen Sisko
Friday	7:00 AM	St. Joseph	Greg Huset †
	8:15 AM	Our Lady of Lourdes	Agatha Weber †
Saturday	4:00 PM	Our Lady of Lourdes	Mr. & Mrs. Edward Schroepfer †
	4:30 PM	St. Joseph	Shirley Hartmann †
Sunday	8:30 AM	St. Joseph	Laura Schneider †
	8:30 AM	Holy Trinity	Kathy Arneberg †
	10:00 AM	Our Lady of Lourdes	Calvin Mullen † and For Janet Mullen
	10:30 AM	St. Joseph	Dennis Sailor †
	11:30 AM	St. John the Evangelist	For the People of Our Cluster Parishes
	5:30 PM	St. Joseph	Paul Jachim †

**MINISTRIES FOR THE WEEKEND OF JANUARY 13<sup>TH</sup>–JANUARY 14<sup>TH</sup>**

<u>Holy Trinity</u>	<u>St. Joseph</u>
<p><b>8:30 AM Sunday—</b>                      Altar Servers: Harrison &amp; Anna Lipke                      Reader: Cecilia Brierton                      Extraordinary Ministers of Communion: Marilyn Zimmerman, Tandy Konop, Nancy Bitney, Bob &amp; Nancy Neuman                      Ushers: Louis &amp; Kathy Willger, Tim Bernard, Nicole Stodola</p>	<p><b>4:30 PM Saturday—</b>                      Altar Servers: Brian Schoenfuss, Cecilia Shelby-Vazquez (any server present)                      Reader: Ann Barker                      Gift Bearers: Annette Eischen, Marlene Gonderzik                      Greeters: Mary Hagen, Ruth Hopke                      Extraordinary Ministers of Communion: Duane Barker, Janet Knutson, Greg &amp; Lisa Leach, Diane Malinovsky, Sue Peterson, Joannie Rado                      Fellowship Bakers: Janet Bartels, Dorothy Berg, Lynda Stoeberl                      Fellowship Servers: Dave &amp; Loretta Brunclik                      Scrip Sales: Nate/Jess Prince</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Our Lady of Lourdes</u></p> <p><b>4:00 PM Saturday—</b>                      Altar Servers: Kendel &amp; Sydney Staut                      Reader: Charlotte Snarski                      Extraordinary Ministers of Communion: Marilyn Ward, Maxine Slayton, Betty Sirek                      Hospitality: Tom Gerber, Lloyd &amp; Donna Meinen, Kelly Basty, Kayla Drousseau                      Scrip: Amy VonArx</p>	<p><b>8:30 AM Sunday—</b>                      Altar Servers: Alexis &amp; Bailey MacDonald (any server present)                      Reader: Greg Swanson                      Gift Bearers: Randy &amp; Jayne Stewart                      Greeters: Larry &amp; Ruth Sinclair                      Extraordinary Ministers of Communion: Alan &amp; Linda Burmester, John Cragg, Sue Dietz, Mark Drkula, Rod &amp; Christine Knight                      Fellowship Bakers: Dianne Bowen, Mary Rust, Jeanne Seftar, Sister Virginia Schwartz                      Fellowship Servers: Francis &amp; Monika Audette, Sister Virginia Schwartz                      Scrip Sales: Arlaina Meyer</p>
<p><b>10:00 AM Sunday—</b>                      Altar Servers: Derek Penzkover, Riley Tomesh                      Reader: Carol Olson                      Extraordinary Ministers of Communion: Norb &amp; Nancy Pintens, Laura Smith, Karen Germanson, Jeremy Peterson                      Children's Liturgy of the Word: Shannon Holthaus                      Hospitality: Rob &amp; Lynette Buehler, Mark Tomesh Family, Taylor Zuzek                      Scrip: Donna Gagner</p>	<p><b>10:30 AM Sunday—</b>                      Altar Servers: Katelyn &amp; Zachary Holmstrom, Dillon Richter                      Reader: Angela Beranek                      Gift Bearers: Tracy &amp; Sarah Larson                      Greeters: Brent &amp; Barb Burns                      Extraordinary Ministers of Communion: Larry &amp; Jan Fetkenheuer, Sue Johnston, Sarah Klonowski, Barb Malom, Bob Rogalla, Sandy Roux                      Children's Liturgy of the Word: Amy Peters                      Fellowship Bakers: Joan Kahl, Karen Novinska, Patti Willers                      Fellowship Servers: Bob &amp; Mary Ann Fox, Pat Western                      Scrip Sales: Kevin Klemme</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>St. John the Evangelist</u></p> <p><b>11:30 AM Sunday—</b>                      Server: Lucas Lehnert                      Reader: Shelley Jilek                      Extraordinary Ministers of Communion: Terryl Heinlen, Jane Walkey                      Sacristan: Sue Rohlik</p>	

## PRAYERS FOR PRIESTS, DEACONS, SEMINARIANS AND PARISHIONERS

This week we pray for Rev. Gerard Willger; Deacon John Grek; Daniel Tracy; and for the John Nelson Family from Holy Trinity, F Donavan Robarge Family from Our Lady of Lourdes, Jeremy & Heather Galvin Family from St. John the Evangelist, and Casey & Amanda DeLawyer Family from St. Joseph.

**IN NEED OF PRAYERS?**—St. Joseph Prayer Network: Contact Shannon Wahl at 715-234-2032 (Daytime) or 715-458-1648 (Evening). Holy Trinity, Our Lady of Lourdes and St. John the Evangelist Prayer Chain: Contact Donna Meinen at 715-234-6542. Holy Trinity, Our Lady of Lourdes and St. John the Evangelist Email Prayer Network: Contact: [aydaigle@gmail.com](mailto:aydaigle@gmail.com).

**PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS**—If you or someone you know becomes sick or hospitalized and would like to receive the Sacrament of the Sick, please call the cluster parish office at 715-234-2032. Also, let us know if you or someone else would like to be added to our prayer list. Please pray for the following people: Mary Bilodeau, Marcus Uchytel, Samuel Uchytel, Renee Watrud, Linda Stodola, Corinne Lewis, Joannie Denison, Jeffrey James Lewis, Mary Malinovsky, Josephine Zahurance, Robert Stoker, Sr. Claudine Balio, Rhoda Schnacky, Tom Birhanzel, Stella Blake, Gerhardt Groehler, Theresa Weinert, Tristian Vobornik, Gil Daniel, Beverly Norelius, Nicole Stodola, Mike Johnston, Lanor Relford, Jim Richie, Tena Cunningham, Gary & Carol Fifarek, Melissa Howard, Kevin Mikyska, Mary Jo Krovoza, Fr. Eugene Hornung, Gary Bauer, Jerry Felten, Joe Malinovsky, Mike Cich, Pat Weseli, Laverne & Elizabeth Fossum, Jan Nichols, Chris Davis, Pat Finnegan, Taylor Willger, Arlene Harris, Joe Sirianni, Karen Ferguson, Carol Richter, Gorman Hayes, Rod Olson, Gloria O'Flanagan, Donald Skopec, Jr., Josie Romanowski, Barbara Mancl, Noah Isham, Nancy Emerson, Kathleen Roux, Joshua Anderson-West, Steven Krause, Ty Herrman, Molly Fee, Kate Heffner, Jean Robarge, Don Schleiss, Brittney Wellvang, Omar O'Connell, Lloyd & Adeline Meier, Jason Gabriel, Melissa Dollaway, Richard Dostal, Laura, Ava & Gabe Sierra, Louise Jilek, Dolores Miller, Gerry Grant, Candy Hayes, Lorraine Richter, Marge Long, Charlotte Grilley, Paul Blaeser, Richard Hokanson, Irene Dodge, Joy Ranallo, LilyMae Dogoth, James Boesen, Lenny Snoble, Bob McGarvey.

**REST IN PEACE**—Carol Hrdlicka died on Monday, January 1. Her funeral was held at St. Joseph Church on Friday, January 5, with burial in the Church cemetery. Lanny Quinn died on Saturday, December 30. His funeral was held at St. Joseph Church on Saturday, January 6, with burial in the Church cemetery. Please pray for Carol, Lanny and their families.

### WORD OF LIFE—

*“To women with an unplanned pregnancy, Maya says, ‘This is survivable. Have hope.’”*

USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities

“Accompanying Expectant Mothers Considering Adoption,” [www.goo.gl/srj6L3](http://www.goo.gl/srj6L3)

### VOCATION VIEW

The Magi brought gold, frankincense

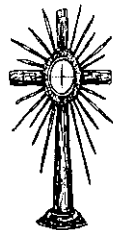
and myrrh. What gifts do you have to give? Is God calling you to be a priest, brother or sister?

## Adoration Chapel

At Our Lady of Lourdes  
Perpetual Eucharistic Adoration

JESUS invites you to come and  
Spend 1 Hour with Him each week.

*“Come to Me, all you who are weary  
and find life burdensome,  
and I will refresh you.”* Matthew 11:28



The available open hours are:

**SUNDAY** - 7AM, 2:00pm

**MONDAY** - 2:00 pm

**TUESDAY** - 4:30AM-6AM (Until March), 11:00 pm

**WEDNESDAY** - 8AM (Until April) Midnight

**THURSDAY** - 2AM, 11:00pm

**FRIDAY** - 3AM, 11AM (Every other week),  
7:00pm (Every other week)

**SATURDAY** - Midnight, 11AM (Every other week)  
Noon, 1:00pm (2X each month), 3:00 pm (1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> until  
March), 7:00pm, 8:00pm, 10:00pm, 11:00pm

Adoration Phone: 715-296-4279

You are invited to take an hour for 4 weeks.  
Call to talk to someone today! God Bless You!

## PERPETUAL EUCHARISTIC ADORATION ST. JOSEPH – COME SPEND AN HOUR WITH JESUS!

You are invited to spend an hour adoring Jesus in the Most Blessed Sacrament. Adorers pray **24 hours** a day in our chapel and **ALL** are welcomed. The following hours are still in need of a scheduled Adorer. If this hour does not work for you, please prayerfully consider any hour during the week to visit the chapel. Please call Kelly Orr (715-736-3266) with any questions.



Hourly Adorer	7:00-8:00 am Sundays
Hourly Adorer	8:00-8:30 am Sundays (before Mass)
Hourly Adorer	5:00-5:30 pm on Sundays (before Mass)
Hourly Adorer	2:00-3:00 am Mondays
Hourly Adorer	2:00-3:00 am Tuesdays
Hourly Adorer	1:00-2:00 am Wednesdays
Hourly Adorer	1:00-2:00 am Thursdays
Hourly Adorer	12:00 pm-1:00 pm Fridays
Hourly Adorer	4:00-5:00 pm Fridays
Hourly Adorer	12:00-1:00 pm Saturdays
Hourly Adorer	1:00-2:00 pm Saturdays
Hourly Adorer	7:00-8:00 pm Saturdays
Hourly Adorer	8:00-9:00 pm Saturdays

## EVENTS FOR THE UPCOMING WEEK

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>8 Monday</b></p> <p>6:00 AM @ KC Hall <i>The Bible and the Sacraments</i></p> <p>1:00 PM @ St. Joseph Prayer Shawl Ministry Everyone is welcome!</p> <p>6:00 PM @ OLOL Adoration Holy Hour For Vocations</p> <p>6:30 PM @ St. Joseph CCW Meeting</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>9 Tuesday</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>St. Joseph Meetings</i></p> <p>6:00 PM Education 6:30 PM Finance/Stewardship 7:30 PM Parish Council</p> <p>6:00 PM @ St. Joseph Rectory - RCIA</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>10 Wednesday</b></p> <p>Confessions following 8:15 AM Mass @ Holy Trinity</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Religious Education</i></p> <p>3:45-5:00 PM @ St. Joseph Gr K thru 5 6:15-7:45 PM @ OLOL Gr. K - 5 6:15-7:45 PM @ St. Joseph Gr. 6 thru 11 Light Meal @ St. Joseph - 5:45 - 6:15 PM</p>	
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>11 Thursday</b></p> <p>Confessions following 8:30 AM Mass @ St. John's</p> <p>9:00 AM @ St. John's Newborn/AIDS/Hospice Meeting</p> <p>7:00 PM @ OLOL Liturgy Meeting</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>12 Friday</b></p> <p>Confessions following 8:15 AM Mass @ OLOL</p> <p>9:30 AM @ Holy Trinity CCW Meeting</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>13 Saturday</b></p> <p>10:00 AM &amp; 3:00 PM Confessions @ St. Joseph</p> <p>SJS School Basketball Tournament</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>14 Sunday</b></p> <p>6:30 PM @ OLOL Bible Study, "The Prophets"</p>

### A LOOK AHEAD

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>15 Monday</b></p> <p>6:00 AM @ KC Hall <i>The Bible and the Sacraments</i></p> <p>2:30 PM @ St. Joseph Rectory Bereavement Committee Meeting</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>16 Tuesday</b></p> <p>6:00 PM @ St. Joseph Rectory - RCIA</p> <p>7:00 PM @ KC Hall Rice Lake Knights of Columbus Meeting</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>17 Wednesday</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>6:15 PM @ St. Joseph School</b> <i>Fr. Leo Patalinghug, "The Cooking Priest"</i></p>	
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>18 Thursday</b></p> <p>9:00 AM @ St. John's Newborn/AIDS/Hospice Meeting</p> <p>7:00 PM @ OLOL Parish Council Meeting</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>19 Friday</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>20 Saturday</b></p> <p>10:00 AM &amp; 3:00 PM Confessions @ St. Joseph</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>21 Sunday</b></p> <p>8:00 AM @ Holy Trinity KC Pancake Breakfast</p> <p>6:30 PM @ OLOL Bible Study, "The Prophets"</p>

### STEWARDSHIP

Week of December 31, 2017	Holy Trinity	Our Lady of Lourdes	St. John the Evangelist	St. Joseph
Adult Envelopes	1157.00	3007.00	1520.00	5171.00
ACH Contributions				
Loose Collection	108.00	442.25	82.00	1440.02
* Miscellaneous Envelopes	305.00	415.00	245.00	1189.00
**Miscellaneous		26.50		27.25
<b>Total</b>	<b>1570.00</b>	<b>3890.75</b>	<b>1847.00</b>	<b>7827.27</b>
Building/Maintenance Fund	10.00	20.00		115.00

\* This is Energy, Insurance, Holy Day, and other envelopes in your contribution packets.

\*\* This is fellowship, candles, etc.

#### STEWARDSHIP THOUGHT

*The three wise men who came from the East to pay homage to the infant Jesus brought Him rich gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh as part of their worship. What gifts have I brought to this celebration to offer to the newborn Savior?*

## PARISH OPPORTUNITIES

### Baptism

This weekend we welcome Cecil Juan Michael Sadowski, son of Carlos and Lisa, into our parish cluster family. We pray that Cecil lives a long faith-filled life.

### Happy Birthday!

Carol Richter will celebrate her 93<sup>rd</sup> birthday on Sunday, January 14. Gladys Halvorson will celebrate her 96<sup>th</sup> birthday on Wednesday, January 17. Love and prayers to them as they celebrate their special days!

### Rose Schullo is Retiring!

Come and join us in celebrating Rose's retirement after 23 years of dedicated service to our cluster parish family!

This Sunday, January 7, following the 10:30 am Mass at St. Joseph

### "THE COOKING PRIEST" TO VISIT RICE LAKE

You've seen him on TV—now **Father Leo Patalinghug**, "the Cooking Priest", is coming to Rice Lake for a fun-filled evening of cooking, faith, and a bit of karate. Adults & ages 11+ are invited to this "Grace Before Meals" special event on **Wed., Jan. 17th, starting at 6:15p at St. Joseph's School Gymnasium**. You'll be inspired by Fr. Leo's dynamic messages and handy cooking tips, delivered while he prepares a favorite dessert recipe for the audience to try. There's a place for YOU at this table! **REGISTER** by January 8th at: [www.bit.ly/FrLeo18](http://www.bit.ly/FrLeo18) Cost: Free-will offering Contact: Laura Schissel, 715-234-2032 ext. 5

### Everyone is invited!

The Knights of Columbus #9546 from Our Lady of Lourdes, St. John's and Holy Trinity will be hosting a Pancake, Eggs & Sausage Breakfast at Holy Trinity Church on Sunday, January 21, from 8:00 am-Noon. The menu will consist of pancakes, scrambled eggs, Louie's Finer Meats (sausage), toast, coffee, juice and milk. The cost of the breakfast is a free will donation. All proceeds will be used to help fund youth attending EXTREME FAITH CAMP in 2018. Mark your calendar now and join us for a delicious breakfast while also helping to support our youth!

### SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday	Is 55:1-11 or 1 Jn 5:1-9; Is 12:2-6; Mk 1:7-11
Tuesday	1 Sm 1:9-20 or 1:1-20; 1 Sm 2:1, 4-8; Mk 1:21-28 or 1:14-28
Wednesday	1 Sm 3:1-10, 19-20; Mk 1:29-39
Thursday	1 Sm 4:1-11; Mk 1:40-45
Friday	1 Sm 8:4-7, 10-22; Mk 2:1-12
Saturday	1 Sm 9:1-4, 17-19, 10:1; Mk 2:13-17
Sunday	1 Sm 3:3-10, 19; 1 Cor 6:13-15, 17-20; Jn 1:35-42

### Holy Trinity CCW Meeting

Holy Trinity Council of Catholic Women will be meeting Friday, January 12, at 9:30 AM in the church meeting room. All are welcome.

### Newborn and AIDS/Hospice Project Meetings

The Newborn and AIDS/Hospice Project will meet the next three Thursdays in January: Jan. 11<sup>th</sup>, Jan. 18<sup>th</sup>, and Jan. 25<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 am at St. John's.

### Coming Soon: Brand New Church Bulletin!!

Starting the weekend of February 11<sup>th</sup>, The Four Parishes will have a BRAND NEW Church Bulletin. It will save the Parish a lot of time and money and have a professional look with vibrant FULL COLOR. During the weeks of December 11<sup>th</sup> & 18<sup>th</sup>, Gina Shaughnessy, our parish representative from the new printer, Liturgical Publications, Inc., will be in our parish office working on setting up the advertising for our new bulletin. Please consider advertising in the bulletin, since the revenue from the ads is what makes the bulletin possible at no cost to the parishes. It's a terrific way to get your name in front of the parish families, business owners, and visitors at the church.

Advertisements can be purchased for a business, for a family, or a sponsorship ad for a non-profit organization. This is a great way for businesses to promote what they do, while at the same time connecting with the community, and benefitting the church at the same time.

Please do give these ideas some thought. We need and appreciate your help!

If you are interested in participating, or just curious as to prices and want more information, please call Gina Shaughnessy at (952) 356-6488, or call her at the parish office during these two weeks at (715) 234-2032. You can also email Gina anytime at: [gshaughnessy@4LPi.com](mailto:gshaughnessy@4LPi.com)

### Seeking a Cluster 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Religious Education Co-teacher

Our cluster religious education program is seeking a co-teacher for our grade 8 religious education class. One of our present co-teachers is moving to another grade level in the next semester. This leaves us with an opening for a co-teacher in grade 8. We are seeking an individual who loves our beautiful Catholic faith and would be willing to share it with our youth. We have excellent teaching materials and an awesome person for you to learn from and co-teach with. Classes are held on Wednesday evenings, 6:15 – 7:45 pm, in the St. Joseph School building. For more information or to discuss our program please call 715.234.5062 ext. 5.

### RELIGIOUS EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES (GR. PK – ADULT)

#### Cluster New Adult Bible Study Beginning in January

We will begin a DVD study on "The Prophets: Messengers of God's Grace", at OLOL this Sunday, January 7, 6:30-8:00 pm, in the Parish Center. Vern Pottinger will be our facilitator for this study. You are welcome to call him @ 715.236.3165 with any questions or to let him know you plan to attend. There is no cost and everyone is welcome to come and join the discussion and learning on January 7.

# GRACE before MEALS™

Come and watch

Fr. Leo Patalinghug create

a delicious dessert we will enjoy

while he captivates us with two dynamic

talks: Saints in the Making & Spiritual Combat.

Wednesday, January 17, 2018

6:15pm - 7:45pm

St. Joseph School Gym

Rice Lake, WI

Cost: Free-will Offering

Register by Jan 8 at: [www.bit.ly/FrLeo18](http://www.bit.ly/FrLeo18)

There's a place for you  
at this table!

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# THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD



## People of Light

O God of all nations,  
who beckon us to live in the light,  
you scattered the darkness through the birth  
of your Son, Jesus.  
Prophets of old foretold that your brilliance  
would cover the earth  
and draw all peoples into your loving care.  
Grant that we, who, like the Magi,  
seek the radiance of your glory  
are found worthy to proclaim your holy name.

Shine brightly within our hearts  
and illuminate our minds as we faithfully  
share the Good News.  
May all peoples be drawn closer to you by the  
revelation of your Incarnate Word.  
Keep us ever in your care,  
so that, filled with joy,  
we may always work to build a just and  
peaceful world.  
Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Sunday, January 7, 2018

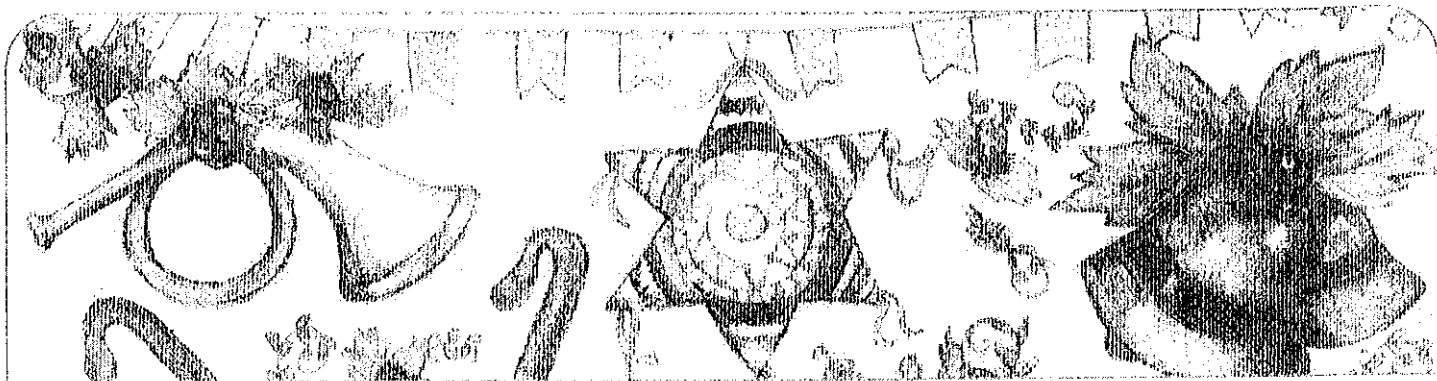
Revealing Light

*Today's Readings: Isaiah 60:1-6; Psalm 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13; Ephesians 3:2-3a, 5-6; Matthew 2:1-12.*  
The Feast of the Epiphany celebrates God's manifestation to all the nations. We are familiar with the story of the three wise men and the song "We Three Kings," but do we stop and think about what the Scriptures tell us today?

In the First Reading, the prophet demands that Jerusalem rise up; God has restored the city, bathing it in light. God's glory is revealed in this thriving city and its renewed people: all the "Nations shall come to your light" (v. 3). Jerusalem reveals the Good News of salvation so that the world can bask in God's redeeming love. In the Gospel, Magi from the East (representing different cultures/places)

seek the Christ Child. They follow a star; they are in pursuit of truth. Upon seeing Jesus, they paid him homage. Jesus has come to save all people, and Christ's manifestation transforms the way we see one another. Christ is at the center of our relationships, and he uses our diverse gifts and experiences to reveal the Father. When the visitors from the East find Jesus, they are made part of the story of God's people.

In Baptism, bathed with the Light of Christ, we are delivered from our misfortune and made into the Body of Christ. We are no longer a people of darkness; we must shine out like Jerusalem. Our lives should reflect Christ's Divine Presence, proclaim justice to the poor, release to the captives, and attract all who seek to know truth.



## THIS WEEK AT HOME

### Ordinary Time

Ordinary Time is divided into two periods. The first begins with the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord and ends with Ash Wednesday (February 14). The second and longest period begins after Pentecost and concludes on the Saturday after the Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of All the Universe. The word *ordinary* means “ordered.” The season is called *Ordinary* because we number the weeks outside of festal time to help us mark the time. During Ordinary Time, the Lectionary narrates the works of Jesus and outlines what it means to be a disciple. This season is not mundane or unimportant but a season to reflect on what it means to be a faithful disciple of Christ and to practice the faith we profess. During these weeks of Winter Ordinary Time, relish the quiet of winter, listen attentively to the Scriptures, and notice the simplicity of the decor in your parish church. Allow these few weeks to be a time of contemplation and of sharing the Good News, especially as we ready ourselves for the celebration of Lent and Easter.

### Monday, January 8

#### Feast of the Baptism of the Lord

Today marks the official end of the Christmas season and the beginning of Ordinary Time. Along with the wedding at Cana and the story of the Magi, this story reveals God’s presence among us. Adrien Nocent, OSB, says, “The baptism of Christ, leads us even more deeply into the paschal mystery. For the baptism of Christ in the Jordan manifests the fact that salvation is now given to all: sin is destroyed” (*The Liturgical Year*, Liturgical Press, 2013). As Jesus comes up from the water, God reveals that Jesus is his beloved Son. Because of the waters of Baptism, we share in the life that Jesus promised. We have a share in the Kingdom and are required to work that all people have peace, justice, and love. *Today’s Readings: Isaiah 42:1–4, 6–7 or Isaiah 55:1–11; Psalm 29:1–2, 3–4, 3, 9–10 or Isaiah 12:2–3, 4bcd, 5–6; Acts 10:34–38 or 1 John 5:1–9; Mark 1:7–11.*

### Friday, February 2

#### Feast of the Presentation of the Lord

Though forty days after Christmas, this feast brings Christmas Time to mind. The liturgy for this day reminds us that Jesus is a light of revelation to the Gentiles (2:32). Simeon and Anna recognized the divine child, the King of Glory, who became like us in order to save us from our sins. This feast reminds us that Jesus is truly the light that banishes all darkness and purifies all peoples so they might share in God’s goodness. At Mass today, many parishes will bless the candles used throughout the year and invite parishioners to bring candles from home to be blessed. The liturgy begins with the blessing and a candlelight procession to remind us that Jesus is our light in the darkness. *Today’s Readings: Malachi 3:1–4; Psalm 24:7, 8, 9, 10; Hebrews 2:14–18; Luke 2:22–40.*

### Saturday, February 10

#### St. Scholastica

Not much is known about Scholastica’s early life: she is the twin sister of St. Benedict and the foundress of the Benedictine nuns. Hagiography tells us that Scholastica was deeply devoted to prayer and deepening her friendship with God. The readings today point out both this idea of deep love for God and the theme of service to the Lord. Though Scholastica was cloistered, her devotion to God, her brother, and her community revealed the love and mercy of God to others. Take a moment today to read her story. There’s a gem that tells us of a time she outwitted Benedict. *Today’s Readings (from the Memorial): Song of Songs 8:6–7; Psalm 148:1bc–2, 11–13a, 13c–14; Luke 10:38–42.*





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January 2018

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Rev. Ed Anderson, Pastor    Rev. Samuel Schneider, Associate Pastor

## One Minute Meditations

### St. Angela Merici

Born in Italy, St. Angela and her sister were raised by an uncle after the deaths of their parents. Angela received the vocational call as a teenager. Her sister died without receiving the Sacraments, so Angela became a Third Order Franciscan to pray for her. She opened her home as a girls' school for religious education. She was later inspired by a vision to start a religious community to educate young women, and founded the Ursuline Order.



### The face of God

God doesn't want us to sacrifice our own wellbeing, but does want us to willingly bring his love to other people. It can be uncomfortable being his loving face to others. This means being patient with those who annoy us, kind to those who are demanding, and forgiving to those who haven't asked.

*"Let another praise you, and not your own mouth; a stranger, and not your own lips" (Proverbs 27:2).*



## Move closer to God in the New Year

While contemplating your New Year's resolutions, wouldn't it be great to make at least one change this year that brings you closer to God? Consider these ideas from other Catholics to strengthen your prayer life, learn more about your faith, or serve your parish.

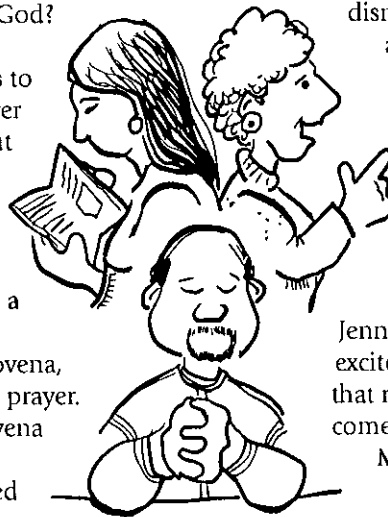
Greg was bored with his prayer routine and wanted a change. His priest suggested he try a novena, nine days of focused prayer. So, Greg chose a novena to the Immaculate Conception. He loved the meditations and felt a connection to Our Lady. Soon, he became hooked on novenas. Once again, he was excited to spend time in prayer.

Jennifer's husband is not Catholic

and asks lots of questions about her faith. Her own religious education ended years ago, and she became dismayed when she couldn't answer his questions.

Learning that adult faith formation classes were starting in her parish, Jenn jumped at the chance to learn more. "Everything I discover helps me to grow stronger in my faith," Jennifer declared. "I'm so excited by what I'm learning that my husband wants to come, too."

Maureen's children are grown and on their own, yet she teaches a religious education class at her parish. "What better way to evangelize our faith than to share it with children? That's where I can do some real good," she said.

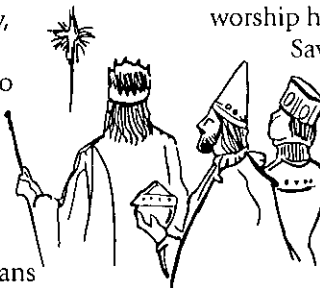


## Why Do Catholics Do That?

## Why do Catholics celebrate Epiphany?

On the feast of Epiphany, we recall the adoration of Jesus by the wise men, who had traveled "from the East." They were looking for the newborn king of the Jews, though they themselves were not Jewish. "Their coming means that pagans can discover Jesus and

worship him as Son of God and Savior of the world" (*Catechism of the Catholic Church, #528*). The Epiphany celebrates the revelation of the Messiah to the Gentiles (non-Jews) and to the rest of the world.



## Adopt a three-point plan for holiness in the New Year

All Christians are called to holiness. "Be perfect, as your heavenly Father is perfect" (Matthew 5:48). There are three tools on which every Catholic can rely to attain greater holiness.

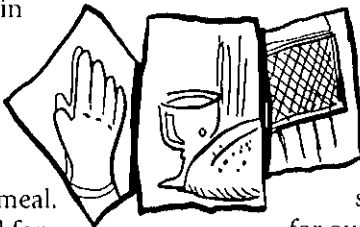
**Daily prayer.** God meets us in a very real and present way when we come to him in prayer. Start in the morning and pray throughout the day.

**Weekly Mass.** The Mass is a sacrifice and a meal. We receive Jesus' body and blood as real food for our souls. He said, "For my flesh is food indeed, and my blood is

drink indeed. He who eats my flesh and drinks my blood abides in me, and I in him" (John 6:55-56). That's why we call it, "Communion."

**Monthly Confession.** Jesus created the Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation (Confession) because he knew we would stray. He also knew we would want to come back. Frequent participation in this Sacrament sharpens our sense of sin, holds us accountable for our errors, and gives us the grace to keep trying for

holiness.

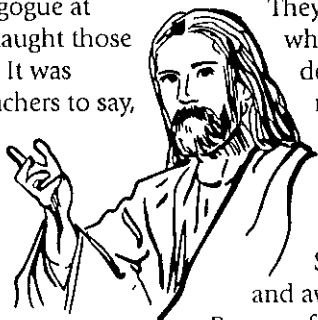


### from Scripture

#### Mark 1:21-28, God's authority is not a formality

In this Gospel passage, Jesus and his apostles entered the synagogue at Capernaum where Jesus taught those gathered for the Sabbath. It was customary for learned teachers to say, "Thus says the Lord..." Instead Jesus said, "I say to you..." He taught as one who spoke with the authority of God.

His calm authority astounded Jesus' listeners. Just as they began to wonder what it meant, he gave them a sign. He further demonstrated his authority by performing an exorcism. Spirits that bedeviled an unfortunate man at the



synagogue recognized who Jesus was. They were forced to obey him when he commanded them to depart, despite their reluctance. In fact, God's power and authority isn't just a formality. What God says, happens.

Our kind and gentle Savior is also our powerful and awesome Lord. As the Second Person of the Trinity, Jesus has supreme majesty and we will one day appear before him to be judged. Yes, he is our divine savior and mediator. But if we say, "Jesus is Lord," then we give him our loyalty and obedience.

### Q & A I make terrible decisions. How can I do better?

It's true that bad decisions can lead to sin. Try to take a formal approach to decision making.



**Get all the facts.** That helps you know your options.

**Pray.** Place yourself in God's presence and ask for his guidance.

**Listen to your conscience.** Your conscience is the ability within you that helps you discern right from wrong. "Moral conscience, present at the heart of the person, enjoins him ... to do good and to avoid evil. It also judges particular choices, approving those that are good and denouncing those that are evil." (CCC #1777)

**Choose to do the right thing,** choose to follow your conscience. This requires courage.

**Ask for help.** When in doubt, ask a trusted advisor.

**Be accountable.** Take responsibility for any decisions you make and for their consequences. Although blaming others in some cases is justified, it usually is not productive.

**Admit mistakes.** Learn from mistakes you make and apply what you have learned to future situations. Don't get thrown by errors. Continue to persevere, despite setbacks.

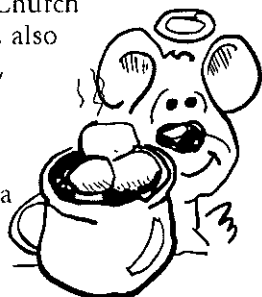
### Feasts & Celebrations

**Jan. 1 - Solemnity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Mother of God.** Today, we honor Mary, but also Jesus as God. In their honor, pray a Rosary. Because this feast day is on a Monday, Mass attendance is optional (but encouraged) this year.

**Jan. 25 - The Conversion of St. Paul the Apostle (1st Century).** Setting out for Damascus to carry on the persecution of the Christians, he encountered Christ (Acts 9:1-19; 22:5-16; 26:12-18) while on the road to Damascus. He was struck blind from

the experience until he was baptized by Ananias three days later. He converted and began preaching the faith as he travelled around the Mediterranean.

**Jan. 26 - Sts. Timothy and Titus (1st Century).** Timothy was a convert of St. Paul's and later became his trusted friend, joining him in apostolic work. He was with Paul at the founding of the Church in Corinth. Titus, also a friend of Paul's, served the early Church as a peacemaker and administrator to a community on Crete.



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(Unless noted Bible quotes and references are from the Revised Standard Version and the New American Bible)


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