

St. Joseph Catholic Church

1300 N. Main St., Bluffton | (260) 824-1380 | stjosephchurch@adamswells.com | stjosephchurchbluffton.org

EPIPHANY HOUSE BLESSING

*“Where is the newborn king of the Jews?
We saw His star at its rising and have come to do Him homage.”*

Matthew 2:2

After Jesus' birth in Bethlehem, the Holy Family was visited by three Magi from the east. They came to worship Christ and bring Him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. “Chalking the door” is a centuries-old custom where Christians, on the **Feast of Epiphany**, ask God's blessing over their homes. This practice remembers the hospitality of the Holy Family to the Magi and entrusts all in our homes to God's protection and blessing.

“In the magi, representatives of the neighboring pagan religions, the Gospel sees the first-fruits of the nations, who welcome the good news of salvation through the Incarnation. The magi's coming to Jerusalem in order to pay homage to the king of the Jews shows that they seek in Israel, in the messianic light of the star of David, the one who will be king of the nations.”

Catechism of the Catholic Church, Paragraph 528



20 + C + M + B + 25

Pastor: Fr. David Violi

Fr. David's Email: frdavidvioli@gmail.com | Sacramental Emergency Number: (260) 296-0511

Administrative Assistant / DRE: Michelle Paxton | Director of Sacred Music: Teresa Smith

(cut here)

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New Parishioners, please send a Parish Registration Form We've Moved, here is our new information

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD - JANUARY 5, 2025

This weekend (January 4th/5th), the Church celebrates the **Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord**. This celebration is meant to mark the twelfth day of **Christmastide** and celebrates the Magi seeking out “*the newborn King of the Jews*” (Matthew 2:2). With the arrival of the Shepherds (Luke 16:16-21) and, now, the Magi, Jew and Gentile alike have sought out and encountered the Messiah (cf. Ephesians 2:14-22).

With the arrival of the Shepherds, the Christ-child’s humanity as the Word made Flesh was recognized. In the Epiphany, Jesus’ Divinity is proclaimed. For this reason, the Epiphany is traditionally associated with three different scriptural events: (1) The Arrival of the Magi; (2) The Baptism of the Lord; and (3) The Wedding Feast of Cana. In each of these moments, Jesus’ Divinity is, in some way, revealed (*or manifested*) to the world.

As has become our parish tradition, we will bless and pass out Epiphany Chalk after all Masses this weekend. Included with the Epiphany Chalk are holy water and instructions in how we can use the chalk and holy water to bless our homes in this new year. This sacramental act itself serves as another form of “*manifestation*” of Jesus to the world as we publicly invite the Lord to dwell within our homes and sanctify our daily lives.

WHAT’S IN A NAME - IHS / JHS

This past Friday, the Church celebrated the **Feast of the Holy Name of Jesus**. This celebration references the scriptural account of Jesus receiving His name eight days after His birth (Luke 2:21). It also finds roots within the writings of St. Paul, who proclaims that God the Father gave Jesus “*that name which is above every name*” (Philippians 2:9). This name is, of course, Jesus or, in Hebrew, Yeshua, which means “*God saves*.”

Devotion to the Holy Name of Jesus is often reflected through the use of the Christogram, or the letters “*IHS*.” Found in use as early as the third century, “*IHS*” serves as an abbreviation of the Greek spelling of the Lord’s name (Ἰησοῦς). This is why you will occasionally see these three letters (or “*JHS*” as a Latin variation) on vestments, altar cloths, or liturgical artwork. They serve as a reminder of the power of Jesus’ name.

TEACHING MASS—THURSDAY, JAN. 16TH AT 6:30 PM

Join us on **Thursday, Jan. 16th at 6:30 PM in the Church** for a “Teaching Mass.” Though not an actual Mass, this event is a walk-through of the liturgy itself that highlights and explores the rich meaning behind the various elements, both prayers and items, of the Mass. This special event offers us an opportunity to deepen our understanding and appreciation of the Mass. All are welcome—come with questions and an open heart!

If you know of anyone outside of our parish who may be interested in learning about the Catholic Mass, please invite them to join us as well. In the words of Scott Hahn: “*The liturgy is where heaven and earth meet, and we encounter the Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world.*” There is no more beautiful experience to introduce someone to the Faith than Mass itself!

GREAT CATHOLIC THINKERS—THE HOUND OF HEAVEN

Starting on **Monday, January 13th, at 6:30 PM in the Parish Conference Room**, we will be offering “*Great Catholic Thinkers*” every other Monday over the next several months. This series will look at various short stories and poems from a variety of Catholic authors. At our first meeting on Jan. 13th, we will look at Francis Thompson’s “*The Hound of Heaven*.” This poem offers a profound illustration of God’s relentless love and pursuit of the human soul.

Please see the sign-up sheet in the narthex to join our mailing list for this series. Each gathering will be independent of one another, meaning you are welcome to attend any and/or all of the series as your schedule allows. Given the nature of the short works, I will forward a PDF of each reading to those who have signed up prior to each session.

~Faithfully in Christ, Fr. David

Saturday, January 4

8:00 a.m. Special Intention
8:30-9:00 a.m. *Confession*
4:00-4:45 p.m. *Confession*
4:35 p.m. *Rosary*
5:00 p.m. Bob Butler +

Sunday, January 5

7:10 a.m. *Rosary*
7:30 a.m. Dale & Alice Pearson
9:40 a.m. *Rosary*
10:00 a.m. Parish Family

Monday, January 6

No public Mass

Tuesday, January 7

7:00-8:00 a.m. *Adoration*
8:00 a.m. Sue Meyer +
8:30 a.m. *Confession*

Wednesday, January 8

6:00-7:00 p.m. *Adoration*
6:00-6:45 p.m. *Confession*
7:00 p.m. Phyllis Makowski +

Thursday, January 9

8:00 a.m. Steve Hickert +

Friday, January 10

8:30 a.m. Gene Keys +

Saturday, January 11

8:00 a.m. Special Intention
8:30-9:00 a.m. *Confession*
4:00-4:45 p.m. *Confession*
4:35 p.m. *Rosary*
5:00 p.m. Parish Family

Sunday, January 12

7:10 a.m. *Rosary*
7:30 a.m. Geoff Frank +
9:40 a.m. *Rosary*
10:00 a.m. Joan Scheidler +



MASS READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Mon., Jan. 6 - Christmas Weekday - St. Andre Bessette, Religious - 1 Jn 3:22—

4:6 / Ps 2:7b-8, 10-12a / Mt 4:12-17, 23-25

Tues., Jan. 7 - Christmas Weekday - St. Raymond of Penyafort, Priest - 1 Jn 4:7-

10 / Ps 72:1-4, 7-8 / Mk 6:34-44

Wed., Jan. 8 - Christmas Weekday - 1 Jn

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

Thurs., Jan. 9 - Christmas Weekday - 1

Jn 4:19—5:4 / Ps 72:1-2, 14, 15bc, 17 / Lk

4:14-22a

Fri., Jan. 10 - Christmas Weekday - 1 Jn

5:5-13 / Ps 147:12-15, 19-20 / Lk 5:12-16

Sat., Jan. 11 - Christmas Weekday - 1 Jn

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

Sun., Jan. 12 - The Baptism of the Lord -

Is 42:1-4, 6-7 / Ps 29:1a, 2, 3ac-4, 3b, 9b-

10 / Acts 10:34-38 / Lk 3:15-16, 21-22. *or,*

in Year C: Is 40:1-5, 9-11 / Ps 104:1b-4, 24

-25, 27-30 / Ti 2:11-14; 3:4-7 / Lk 3:15-16,

21-22



Becky Biberstein, Michael Green, Frances Carr, Tom Richhart, Troy Cook, Bobbie Jackson, Kimberly Abney, Sydnee Bradburn, Leanne Lee, Jeff Tillman, and Richard Payne.



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

MONTHLY MEETING

Tuesday, January 7, 2025

Recite the Holy Rosary at 6:40 p.m. in the Church,
and meet in the Parish Conference Room at 7:00 PM.

All men in the Parish are welcome!

Join our Winter Book Study on
Monday, January 13th at 6:30 PM
in the Parish Conference Room. We
will explore short stories & poems
from various Catholic authors. See
the sign up sheet in the Narthex!



G.I.R.L.'s Night Out

St. Joseph's G.I.R.L.'s Night Out will have their
monthly meeting on **Tuesday, January 14th** at
7:00 p.m. in the Parish Conference Room.
They will begin making plans for their Annual *Mardi
Gras* Fundraiser, on March 1, 2025 and resume their
book study of *Enough as You Are* by Peggy Weber.
All women of the Parish are Welcome!

PARISH CALENDAR

- **Sat., Jan. 4** - Confession 4-4:45 p.m. / Mass 5:00 p.m.
- **Sun., Jan. 5** - Mass 7:30 a.m. / 10:00 a.m.
- **Sun., Jan. 5** - Religious Education Class - 8:30-9:45 a.m.
- **Tues., Jan. 7** - Adoration 7-8:00 a.m. / Mass 8:00 a.m. /
Confessions 8:30 a.m.
- **Tues., Jan. 7** - Knights of Columbus - Rosary 6:40 p.m. /
meeting at 7:00 p.m. All men of the Parish are welcome!
- **Wed., Jan. 8** - Adoration - 6-7:00 p.m. / Confession 6-6:45
p.m. / Mass 7:00 p.m.
- **Wed., Jan. 8** - Adult Choir Practice - 7:35 p.m.
- **Wed., Jan. 8** - Parish Council Meeting - 7:40 p.m. in the Parish
Conference Room.
- **Thurs., Jan. 9** - Mass 8:00 a.m.
- **Fri., Jan. 10** - Mass 8:30 a.m.
- **Sat., Jan. 11** - Mass 8:00 a.m. / Confession 8:30
- **Sat., Jan. 11** - Confession 4-4:45 p.m. / Mass 5:00 p.m.
- **Sun., Jan. 12** - Mass 7:30 a.m. / 10:00 a.m.
- **Sun., Jan. 12** - Religious Education Class - 8:30-9:45 a.m.
- **Mon., Jan 13** - *Great Catholic Thinkers Book Study* - 6:30
p.m. in the parish conference room.
- **Tues., Jan. 14** - Adoration 7-8:00 a.m. / Mass 8:00 a.m. /
Confessions 8:30 a.m.
- **Tues., Jan. 14** - GIRL's Night Out Women's meeting - 7:00
p.m. in the Parish Conference Room. All women of the Parish
are welcome!
- **Wed., Jan. 15** - Adoration - 6-7:00 p.m. / Confession 6-6:45
p.m. / Mass 7:00 p.m.
- **Thurs., Jan. 16** - Mass 8:00 a.m.
- **Thurs., Jan. 16** - *Catholicism Explained* - 6:30 p.m. in the
Parish Conference Room.
- **Fri., Jan. 17** - Mass 8:30 a.m.
- **Sat., Jan. 18** - Mass 8:00 a.m. / Confession 8:30
- **Sat., Jan. 18** - Confession 4-4:45 p.m. / Mass 5:00 p.m.
- **Sun., Jan. 19** - Mass 7:30 a.m. / 10:00 a.m.
- **Sun., Jan. 19** - Religious Education Classes - 8:30-9:45 a.m.

Weekend of January 11th & 12th



5:00 Mike Morrissey
7:30 David Smith
10:00 Teresa Smith



5:00 Knights of Columbus
7:30 Ben wagner
10:00 Monica Harris



5:00 Knights of Columbus
7:30 Volunteer
10:00 Jacque Johnson, Tammi Helm, Kevin Seago



5:00 Knights of Columbus
7:30 Abby/Adrienne/Ainsley Wagner
10:00 Gabby/Olivia/Jacob Hoffacker

St. Joseph Parish Finance Report for the Weekend of

December 24th, 25th, 28th & 29th

Adult Envelopes- \$2,055.00
Loose- \$172.00
Repair/Rainy Day Fund-
\$267.93
Christmas Offering- \$2,853.37
Solemnity of Mary, Mother of
God- \$36.00
General Bequest- \$5,000.00

Total- \$10,384.30

Our weekly budget is \$5,116.40

We are \$10,863.00 ahead of our
budget for the month of
December.

St. Vincent de Paul Fund-
\$525.00

**Your gifts to St. Joseph Parish
are greatly appreciated.
Thank you!**

To set up Online Giving through Our Sunday Visitor, please visit:
<https://www.osvhub.com/stjosephchurchbluffton/giving/funds>



THURSDAY, JANUARY 16th - 6:30 PM

A walk-through of the Catholic Mass.

SAVE THE DATE!! Saturday, March 1st



TOTUS TUUS SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAM

Our diocese is looking for college-aged young
adults to serve as Totus Tuus Missionaries this
coming summer. For more information,
please visit our diocesan Totus Tuus website
at www.diocesefwsb.org/totus-tuus/



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 Matt Hayes, and Brigitte Washburn
 260-824-9377

Dan Gordon, Parishioner
 Matt Hayes, Parishioner
 St. Vincent de Paul

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Thursday's: 3pm-8pm
 Friday's: 3pm-8pm
 Saturday's: Noon-8pm
 See us on Facebook & Instagram!



The Herr Family
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Knights of Columbus
 Father Aloysius Phillips, Council 7555



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 IN SERVICE TO ONE. IN SERVICE TO ALL.



"Saint Joseph was a just man, a tireless worker, the upright guardian of those entrusted to his care. May he always guard, protect and enlighten families."
 - St. John Paul II

Before you speak....

THINK!

T - is it true?
 h - is it helpful?
 i - is it inspiring?
 n - is it necessary?
 k - is it kind?