



*We saw his star at its rising and
have come to do him homage. (Matthew 2:2)*

My Dear Brothers and Sisters,

As we celebrate the Solemnity of the Epiphany, or the appearing of the Lord to the world, we celebrate the manifestation of Christ as Savior of mankind. As the Three Kings followed the star that led them to Christ, so too we must continue our journey towards the heavenly kingdom, a kingdom of light, peace and joy!

I ask you, PLEASE! Do not leave Mass early unless it is an emergency. We should be willing to give the Lord this time each week. The Mass ends after the recessional hymn. Especially at the Saturday evening Mass, a mass exodus right after Holy Communion has been taking place for some time. This is not a reverent way to give thanks to God right after receiving his Body and Blood, and then walking out the door. Please! Let us break this unacceptable custom that has been growing in the past year! It gives scandal to our young people and our visitors.

I will be away for a rest the next two weeks since I haven't had a day off since October. Please welcome the good priests that will be covering the Masses while I am gone.

As we close this holy season of Christmas, I wish you many graces and blessings from the Lord in the New Year. May the Lord, with his grace, also change our hearts, that we may be ever more dedicated to him and to our faith!

May God's grace always grow in your hearts!

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Pastor

ANNUAL DIOCESAN APPEAL: \$12,345.08 is still owed on our assessment for the 2017 ADA. Please help us pay this off!

ELEVATOR FUND

Current Donations.....\$ 668,403.90
Goal.....\$ 800,000.00

VOCATION MEETING: Father Ross Parker, the Diocesan Vocation Director, will be covering the parish January 20-31. On Saturday, 20 January, after the 4:00 p.m. Mass, he would like to meet with the altar servers and any other young men who might be interested in the sacred priesthood or religious life. This gathering will take place in the parish hall and supper will be provided. If you can attend, please call Hugh O'Hagan at 537-7829 to let us know who will be attending and how much food to prepare for. I encourage you to come and meet Father and share some good time together. —Father Aquinas

Automatic withdrawal can be set-up with the Basilica of Saint John at any point. Please call the business office for more help and information if needed. (515) 244-3101, ext. 205. (Remember the Basilica of Saint John in your will).



LITURGICAL SCHEDULE

JANUARY 6 TO JANUARY 14

TIMES FOR EUCHARIST AND INTENTIONS

SAT 06	4:00PM	+Kathryn Mauro
	6:00PM	Spanish Mass
SUN 07	8:30AM	Intentions of Christian Fernandez
	10:30AM	Parish & Benefactors
MON 08	12:00PM	+Carl & Florence Reelitz
TUE 09	12:00PM	+Anna Nguyen
WED 10	12:00PM	+Marietta Garner
THU 11	12:00PM	+Rachel Hanian
FRI 12	12:00PM	Intentions of Donna & Bobby Marasco
SAT 13	9:00AM	Living/Deceased Members of Altar/Rosary; Basilica Seminarians

	(Vigil Mass)	
	4:00PM	+Larry Peterson
SUN 14	8:30AM	Parish & Benefactors
	10:30AM	+Lynn O'Leary

THE BASILICA OF ST. JOHN STREAMING ONLINE:

www.YouTube.com/BasilicaStJohn

<http://basilica.churchcastonline.com> (live from your computer)

PRAYER CHAIN: Do you know someone who is in need of prayer? The Basilica Prayer Chain can help. To request prayers email Deacon Luke Tieskoetter at tieskoetterluke3@gmail.com or Terri at 321-2743 or sinc2@aol.com.

CATECHISM CORNER:

*Question: **Why is the Church one?***

From the Catechism of the Catholic Church.
(Look for the answer in next weeks bulletin.)



FREE TO A GOOD HOME: As you may know, our St. Benedict Mission recently closed. We have one combination freezer/refrigerator (side by side) for give away to Basilica of Saint John parishioners. Please call the Basilica and ask for Charles Stastny at (515) 244-3101, ext. 205 to set a time to come and take a look. We only ask that you arrange for moving and pickup. First come, first served. Thank you.



The Basilica of St. John
Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord
January 7, 2018

Respect
Life



YOUR PARISH THIS WEEK
JANUARY 8 THRU JANUARY 14

MON 08	9:00AM 7:00PM 7:00PM	Adoration@ RCIA** KC Council Meeting+
TUE 09	10:00AM 10:00AM 1:00PM 4:30PM 6:00PM 7:00PM	Boy's Youth Choir+++ Conference Room in use% Youth Choir Practice+++ Columbus Academy Class** Hispanic Room in use** Bible Study**
WED 10	9:00AM 9:30AM 6:15PM	Adoration Begins@ Bible Study+ Religious Ed. **
THU 11	8:00AM 5:45PM 7:00PM	Organ Practice+++ Choir room in use+++ Choir Practice+
FRI 12	9:00AM 9:00AM	Adoration Begins@ Columbus Academy Class**
SAT 13	8:30AM 9:45AM 10:00AM	Chaplet of Divine Mercy## Altar & Rosary Meeting+ Carmelite Meeting+
SUN 14	8:00AM 12:00PM	Vietnamese Prayer Group+ Pro Life Meeting%

SIGN INDICATORS

+++ = Choir Loft; ** = School; @ = Chapel; * = Rectory
 + = Church Hall; ## = Church; % = Conference Room;

Daily Scripture Readings for the week of January 8, 2018:

Monday: Is 55:1-11 or 1 Jn 5:1-9; Mk 1:7-11
Tuesday: 1 Sm 1:9-20; Mk 1:21-28
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, 10-22a; Mk 2:1-12
Saturday: 1 Sm 9:1-4, 17-19, 10:1a; Mk 2:13-17
Sunday: 1 Sm 3:3b-10, 19; 1 Cor 6:13c-15a, 17-20; Jn 1:35-42

LIFELINES: The Courage to Speak and to Act Against Abortion: The mother's womb should be the very safest place for a child. Tragically, it has become the most dangerous location. In some cities, about 40 percent of pregnancies end in abortion. To defend these innocent children and to speak and act on their behalf takes courage. Perhaps family and friends may not like our pro-life stance. Perhaps we may lose business. Perhaps we do not want to offend a relative or loved one. It is all too easy to make excuses or make calculations in our minds and hearts, which often results in inaction and apathy. We are always told of reasons why we cannot speak up against abortion. There may be some who will try to argue it's too political or too controversial, too divisive, politically incorrect, or too religious. The answer is that we must stop looking for a risk-free place to fight abortion, and have the courage to speak up in all these arenas! Let's stop counting the cost to ourselves if we speak up and start counting the cost to the innocent children, if we remain silent. (pro-lifearticles.org)

ALTAR & ROSARY SOCIETY: The next meeting of the Altar & Rosary Society is Saturday, January 13, with Jeanne Kelley's Band #1 hosting. The meeting will follow the 9:00am Mass with a social and recitation of the Rosary. VP Colleen Chan will conduct the meeting as Chris will be at a family funeral. We will review results of the December bazaar and evaluate its' future. Join us to visit with friends and meet others in the parish. [Seen on a bulletin board: "Stay calm and pray the rosary!"]



HOLY FAMILY SCHOOL: The next food and paper product collection day for the St. Benedict House is January 10. Please be generous with your donations for those who are less fortunate than we.

SAVE THE DATE: The Knights of Columbus will have their **8th Annual Chili Cook-Off Fundraiser** on Sunday, **January 21st** in the parish hall after the 10:30 Mass. All you care to eat, free will donation.



The Required Confirmation Retreat for second year Confirmation Students will be the weekend of February 23-25, 2018. Students will be responsible for raising the funds. All second year students must participate. If you have questions call Maria Walters at 515-953-9188.



AROUND THE DIOCESE

St. Vincent de Paul: Is happy to be able to offer two classes at the facility on Sixth Avenue: The first class is held on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 5:00 to 7:30pm from January 2 thru May 10 and is a preparatory class for those wanting to take the HiSET (GED) class at DMACC. The second class is held on Wednesdays from 5:30 to 7:00pm from January 17 thru February 21 and educates young parents on how to develop good parenting skills. We are in need of people to assist with caring for the children of the students on these nights at SVDP. If you can help with even one evening, please contact Carol Rude, Child Watch Coordinator, at 515.250.5465 or crude728@gmail.com. Spending a little time with a little one is a BIG thing!

CSM Trivia Night Save the Date: The Center for Social Ministry's annual Trivia Night will be Saturday, February 24, at the Catholic Pastoral Center. The evening will begin at 5:30 with social time, a full dinner, drinks and trivia! Round up a team of 8 family members, friends or fellow parishioners for an evening of food, fun and trivia. For more information visit www.centerforsocialministry.org (upcoming events) or contact 515-782-3054 or centerforsocialministry@gmail.com.

Want To Strengthen Your Marriage? Then join our new marriage enrichment ministry, The Third Option, which meets the first and third Monday of each month from 7-9 PM at Mercy College, **928 6th Ave, Des Moines, IA 50309 (parking available in the north lot)**. The Third Option is an on-going support group for marriages, which is built upon 14 skill based workshops that cover a comprehensive set of tools to help couples develop better understanding, sensitivity and trust. This is a program meant for couples that are hurting and for couples that just want to make a good thing better! Come join a community focused on the skills that help marriages thrive! For more information, and to see a map of Mercy College visit our website at <http://www.dmdiocese.org/the-third-option.cfm>

Faith Resources: Are you looking for faith resources as a source of motivation? Inspiration? Check out the St. Joseph Educational Center at sjeciowa.org. There are blogs, books, articles, videos and more at sjeciowa.org.

