

Ste. Rose de Lima Church, 600 Grattan St., Chicopee, MA
Tel. 413-536-4558 ~~~~~ Pastor: Rev. William A. Tourigny

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The Epiphany of the Lord + January 3, 2021
Readings: + Isaiah 60:1-6 +Ephesians 3:2-3a, 5-6 +Matthew 2:1-12

STE. ROSE de LIMA MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Jan 02 – Saturday	4:00 PM Evangeline Roy by her children
Jan 03 – Sunday	7:30 AM Anita Barillari by Rita & Jim Odell
Epiphany of the Lord	9:00 AM Bernard & Joanne LaScala by the family
	11:00 AM Leonard Longpre by his niece, Peggy Constant
	4:00 PM Doris & George Rivet by their family
Jan 04 – Monday	7:00 AM Guy Tremblay (B'day rem) by his mother
Jan 05 - Tuesday	7:00 AM Clement Dugre by Roger Chapdelaine, Jr. & family
Jan 06 – Wednesday	7:00 AM Fred Rider by his wife, Mary
Jan 07 – Thursday	7:00 AM Anita Barillari by Real & Maria Mercier
Jan 08 Friday	7:00 AM Florestine Belanger by her estate
Jan 09 – Saturday	4:00 PM Alvine Maynard by Mary O'Hanlon
Jan 10 – Sunday	7:30 AM Marietta Chapdelaine by Joseph & Sarah Florek
	9:00 AM Lynn Steele by Julie Dupuis
Baptism of the Lord	11:00 AM Paul E. Samson by Annette Menard
	4:00 PM Nelson Labrie by his wife, Theresa & family

PARISH STEWARDSHIP: 12/27/20 Offertory \$ 7,473.00 ~~~ Christmas \$9,868.00
Christmas Flowers \$ 2,628.00 ~~~ Thank you!

SJA BOOSTER CLUB Winner for 12/27/20 #6 Ron Desmarais.

We had an overwhelming surge in membership! Thank you to all the new Booster Club members that stepped forward, and our returning members for their continued support. As explained, this will ensure that St. Joan of Arc receives your continued support. The new club is underway and the final drawing (May 3, 2021) will be larger due to your generous participation.

Please remember in your prayers the souls and families of Deacon Leo A. Bergeron, Jeanne Berneche, Doris DesRochers, Theresa Kendra, Joann Mailhott, and Simonne Turgeon. May they rest in God's eternal peace!

Dear Parishioner...Around & About Ste. Rose,

Sacrificial Offering

The sacrificial offering for Sunday, December 27, 2020 was \$7,473.00. To date the Christmas Offering total is \$9,868.00. To date simply means more Christmas offerings traditionally are made even after the day of Christmas. The Christmas offering for 2019 by this point was \$13,992.00. Given the extended pandemic your contributions to Ste. Rose have been remarkable. Thank you!

St. Joan of Arc School

The parish community of Ste. Rose de Lima and St. Joan of Arc School welcome Mr. William McDonald as the new principal. In the 105-year history of SJA, Mr. McDonald is the first male principal! Mr. McDonald is already on campus familiarizing himself with the building and preparing to welcome the students for the second half of the 2020-2021 academic year which resumes Monday, January 4, 2021. SJA continues to be compliant with all COVID 19 protocols recommended by the CDC. Since the Christmas break new air-purifiers have been purchased for each classroom. These purifiers will circulate the air in the classroom 4 times within each hour – a CDC guideline. These machines were purchased through a Federal Grant to assist schools to become compliant with the CDC regulations. Electrostatic sprayers were also purchased with the same grant. Each day the school building is disinfected 100%. It is for this reason the school is shutdown at the end of the school day. Once the school is disinfected it remains locked down until the following day. “We” look forward to welcoming the students to school and the students to meet and welcome Mr. William McDonald, principal.

A New Year Begins!

We have celebrated a “unique” Christmas season this past year. The pandemic rages on and we find ourselves still in isolation after a year since the inception of the coronavirus. The daily human toll continues to climb as the virus has new variants which are even more contagious. Admittedly, we are growing weary when we learn of friends and family members who have been exposed to or have contracted the virus. We can be hope-filled; however, as 2021 has officially begun. Through the advancement of science, the COVID vaccine is being distributed and the vaccination process has begun. The USCCB has neither moral nor ethical reasons for Catholics to not get vaccinated. In fact, the USCCB encourages Catholics to get vaccinated as the virus is a real threat to human life. To get vaccinated is a testament for the common good as a viable means to eliminate this deadly virus from the earth. Please keep yourself informed as the different phases of vaccinations are announced. When your age group can receive the vaccine, please consider “rolling up your sleeve.” There may be some who have allergies or health concerns etc. who may need more information about safety of receiving this vaccine. With that said, the sooner the population is vaccinated the sooner life can begin to resume as we are more accustomed. I pray that each member of the parish will make a reasonable decision – not one made simply on emotions. The more informed your decision is, the more confident you will be with receiving the vaccine.

And finally,

I wish to take this opportunity to thank everyone for the many Christmas wishes and greetings that I received as well as your kind words of encouragement during this time of the pandemic. I have celebrated 15 Christmas seasons with you and have enjoyed each of them – though Christmas 2020 was “unique.” I look forward to being with you as we slowly and cautiously navigate the resumption of parish life. As you are aware, parish life has come to a screeching halt since the forced shut down in March of 2020.

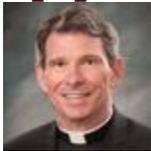
I want to express my love and admiration for you and pray that the New Year will be filled with abundant blessings.

Happy and Blessed New Year!

Fr. Bill

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Epiphany Saves Christmas from Sentimentality



[Terrance Klein](#) December 30, 2020

A Reflection for the Solemnity of the Epiphany

Readings: [Isaiah 60:1-6](#) --- [Ephesians 3:2-3a, 5-6](#) --- [Matthew 2:1-12](#)

Christmas, as our culture celebrates it, does not rise to the revelation of the Gospel, and the dearth runs deeper than the secularization of the holy day. Even the carols we sing in church are content to concentrate upon a touching and tender birth, though something like “A child, a child, shivers in the cold” at least bespeaks the poverty and hardship of Christ’s beginning.

The great exception in this sentimental season is the fourth verse of “We Three Kings,” which typically makes its appearance on the Feast of the Epiphany.

*Myrrh is mine, its bitter perfume
Breathes a life of gathering gloom*

*Sorrowing, sighing, bleeding, dying
Sealed in the stone-cold tomb*

Matthew records three gifts presented to the child: gold bespeaks kingship; frankincense, divinity; and myrrh, humanity, associated as it was with the preparation of the dead. The three are equally telling: here is the promised Messiah; here is the very presence of God; and here is the one who has come among us to die.



Photo by user nito100 on iStock

An Act of Spiritual Communion: My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love you above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.