

CHRIST THE KING

BENTON, PENNSYLVANIA

JANUARY 7, 2024

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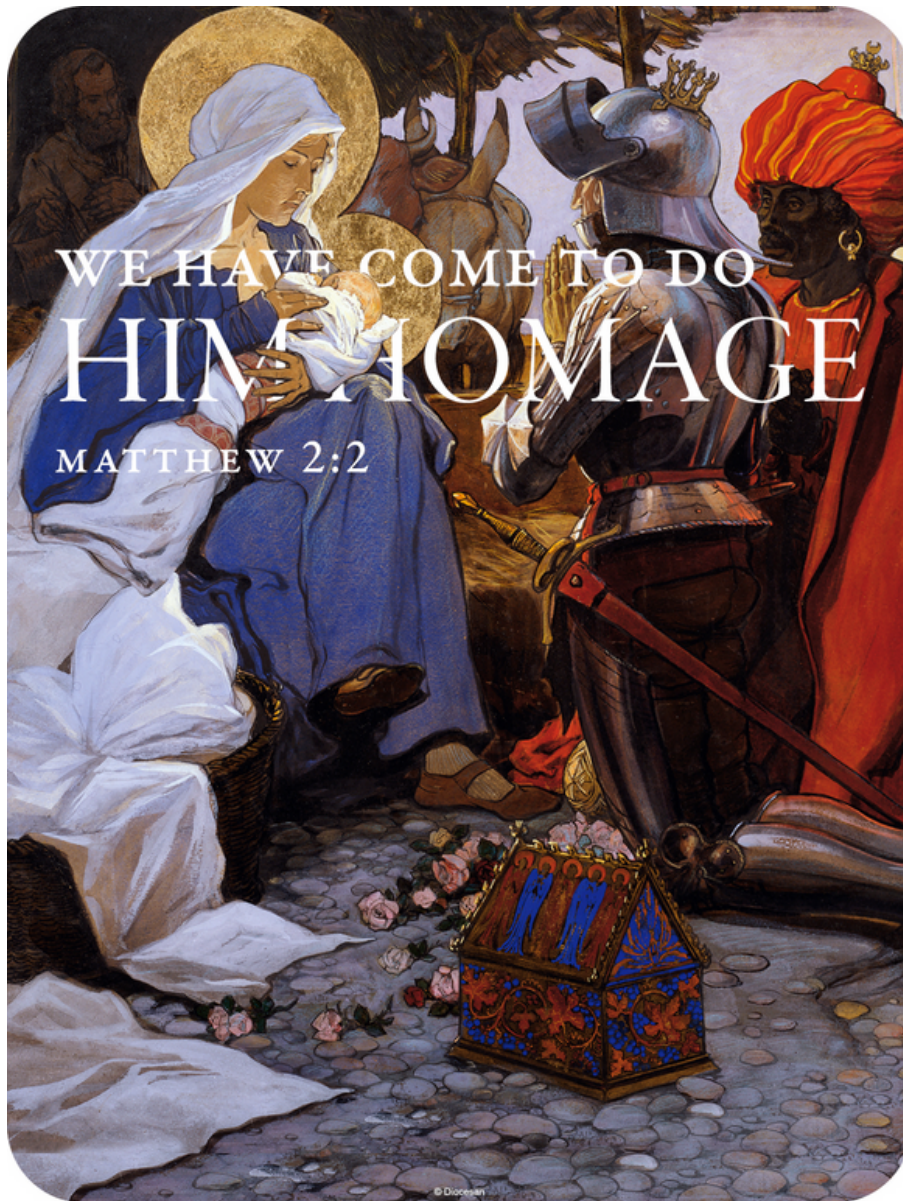
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*Where is the newborn king of the Jews?
We saw his star at its rising
and have come to do him homage.*

Matthew 2:2



LIKE THE MAGI ADORING CHRIST AS VICTOR OVER THE WORLD

Who indeed is the victor over the world but the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?

As Christians, as Catholics, we can claim victory because Jesus himself has conquered the power of the world and its desires through his death on the cross. We share in this victory through our faith in him.

We claim victory because of what the Son of God has done for us in the flesh. What He has done is died for us on the cross - what he has done is shed his blood so that we are made clean. This is what God has done for us in the flesh.

We find many attempts to create a Christianity that is divorced from the reality of the flesh. A Christianity that seeks to dominate rather than surrender to the will of the Father. A Christianity that replaces truth with sheer will to power. A Christianity without discipleship. A Christianity without the Cross.

We are seeing this fake Christianity unfold in our times today. Because of this, authentic discipleship seems to face two attacking fronts - the unrelenting ideology of secularism on one side, and the nihilistic retaliation (of this 'fake' Christianity) on the other.

What are we to do?

Testify to the victory that we have already received. Claim this victory as our own. Claim Christ's Victory by claiming His Cross.

Homily by Fr. Andrew

STEWARDSHIP
DECEMBER 31

Report will be in next weekend's bulletin.

REFLECTION

If our need had been information
God would have sent us an educator.

If our need had been technology,
God would have sent us a scientist.

If our need had been money,
God would have sent us an economist.

If our need had been pleasure,
God would have sent us an entertainer.

But our greatest need was forgiveness, So God
sent us a Savior!

HALLOW APP

We are excited to share with you a very special gift from the Knights of Columbus that will help you incorporate prayer into your daily lives. We have partnered with Hallow, a Catholic prayer and meditation app that helps people deepen their relationship with God through audio-guided prayer sessions. The app is the #1 Prayer app in the world and has over 10,000 sessions to choose from.

Specifically for Advent, Hallow has created a Pray25 Challenge. You'll even have access to a prayer companion to follow along and jot down your reflections each day, as well as beautiful Advent and Christmas music collections.

This Advent we have partnered with the Hallow team to provide Hallow access to all parishioners for FREE through Easter.

If you still need help with the Hallow App, please call Ken Houck at 570-951-2608.

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION AT ST. MARTHA'S CHURCH

260 Bonnieville Rd. Stillwater, PA

every Tuesday following the 8:30 a.m. Mass until 9:00 p.m.

Looking for Adorers to spend one hour in the afternoon.

Call Rebecca Micca at 570-256-7329

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, January 6

People of the Parish

Sunday, January 7

Nicholas Sabo by Justa Sabo

Monday, January 8

George McKeown by Sharon Tishler

Saturday, January 13

Walter Novelli by Kathy & Rich Walker

Sunday, January 14

Joan & Daniel Kozak by Mark Kozak

Mass intentions are available in memory of, or in honor of a loved one. The donation for having a Mass said for a personal request is \$10.00. You can drop your request in the collection or contact the parish office.

LITURGICAL ROLES

Lector

Jan 7 - Pete Yastishock

Jan 14 - Stephen Root

Extraordinary Minister

Jan 7 - Stephen Root

Jan 14 - Mark Sullivan

Collection Stewards

Jan 7 - Anne Eustice & Sharon Tishler

Jan 14 - Mark & Patricia Sullivan

LITURGY OF THE WORD

With Christ's help we can be his light for others.

We are not the source of the light that a world in darkness needs desperately. Instead, we must receive Jesus, the Light of the World, so that we can in turn share it. And as we heard in the first reading: Then you shall be radiant ... your heart shall throb and overflow. Jesus has come to give all the love we need, all the wisdom called for, all the virtue necessary to be a light to others.

In the first reading, the prophet Isaiah promises that Jerusalem will be a light for all nations. In the Letter to the Ephesians, Saint Paul explains the revelation that the Gentiles are members of the same body of Christ. In the Gospel, magi from the east look for the newborn king, finally finding the child with his mother, Mary.



EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

The word "epiphany" comes from the Greek epiphainen, a verb that means "to shine upon," "to manifest," or "to make known." Thus, the feast of the Epiphany celebrates the many ways that Christ has made Himself known to the world, mainly the three events that manifested the mission and divinity of Christ: the visit of the Magi (Matthew 2:1-12), the baptism of Jesus (Mark 1:9-11), and the miracle at Cana (John 2:1-11).

JOB OPENING

Sisters of Saints Cyril & Methodius in Danville are looking for 2 Full-Time 3rd shift Nurse's Aide/CNA, 1 Part-Time 2nd shift Housekeeper (Life Skills candidates are encouraged to apply for PT Housekeeping position) 1 Full-Time Cook and 1 Full-Time Dishwasher.

Please contact our HR Department for more information at 570-275-3581 ext. 156 or e-mail scole@sscm.org

PRAYER REQUESTS

If you have a prayer request please call the parish office at 570-925-6969 or e-mail it to ctk@epix.net.

You can also go to Sisters of Charity in CT. They can be reached at www.sistersofcharity.com. Once on their site, scroll to PRAY WITH US, then to PRAYER REQUESTS where you can submit your request.

UNBORN CANDLE DONATIONS

\$3.00/ week,
\$5.00/ 2 weeks or
\$10.00/ month
Month of January - Anne Kingsbury

BENTON FOOD BANK

For the month of January we will be collecting jello due by January 15th. The Food Bank at the N4C's is the 3rd Tuesday of every month.

EUCCHARISTIC REVIVAL

A Eucharistic Revival Week will be held June 2 - 8, 2024, throughout the Diocese of Harrisburg. Local, regional and Diocesan events to bring us closer to Christ in the Holy Eucharist are being planned. Look for more details in early 2024.

CYE NEWS

Many thanks to all who contributed to the success of our CYE Christmas program. We are very blessed to have such dedicated catechists, parents, and children in our program.

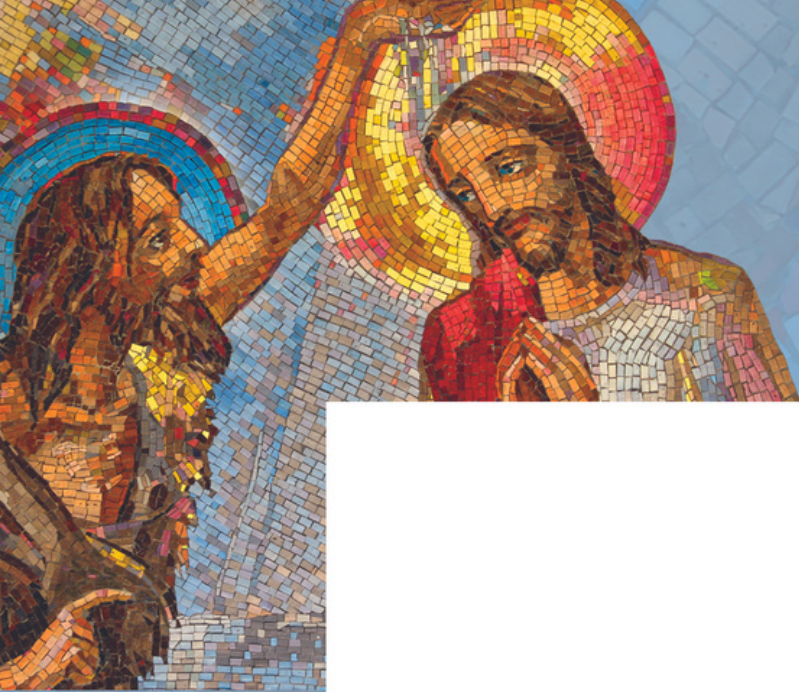
Classes resume Sunday, January 7, 2024

LIVING JOYFULLY IN THE NEW YEAR SO YOU ARE NO LONGER A SLAVE BUT A SON... GALATIANS 4:7

We mark the beginning of a new calendar year in various ways. We make resolutions. We set new goals. We pick a saint, word or saying that we trust for guidance during the year.

Here's another idea: opening ourselves to the guidance of Spirit through the Word in an intentional way. I might, for example, consider the Scriptures for today's Mass and ask the Lord to point me to a passage or idea. For example, Paul's words from the Letter to the Galatians above. To what is my spirit still enslaved right now? What imprisons me? What steps can I take this year to live joyfully in the freedom God offers and invites me to dwell in?

Loving God, guide my steps this coming year and always.



Baptism of the Lord

**IN YOUR PRAYERS, PLEASE
REMEMBER:**

INTENTIONS OF THE HOLY FATHER,

- **ALL PRIESTS INCLUDING:**
 - **FR. MOWERY**
 - **FR. ST. HILAIRE**
 - **FR. SOLA**

- **MICHAEL BARDI**
- **MAUREEN BECK**
- **LORENA BENNET**
- **CANDICE BERGER**
- **CHRISTINA CAPRIOLA**
- **RUSSELL CASTROGIOVANNI**
- **COBERT FAMILY**
- **HONOR DELL**
- **RYAN DELL**
- **CHRIS ERTWINE**
- **FARWELL FAMILY**
- **VIVIAN WHITENIGHT HYNICK**
- **BOB KALIE**
- **MARGARET KALIE**
- **AUSTIN KELSEY**
- **JOSEPH LABONTE**
- **MARY ANN LEVAN**
- **MARY ELLEN NEAL**
- **DOROTHY O'HANDLEY**
- **NANCY OMAN**
- **RICH SCAVONE**
- **JACKIE SCHERER**
- **JUDY SERRA**
- **MARK & PATRICIA SULLIVAN**
- **LENA TUNAITIS**
- **MIKE VERTUCCI**
- **MARISA WHITENIGHT**
- **NANCY WISBAR**
- **SONNY WOMELSDORF**
- **MARY ANN ZEVENY**

BAPTISM OF THE LORD

JANUARY 7, 2024

**ALMIGHTY EVER-LIVING GOD,
WHO, WHEN CHRIST HAD BEEN
BAPTIZED IN THE RIVER
JORDAN AND AS THE HOLY
SPIRIT DESCENDED UPON HIM,
SOLEMNLY DECLARED HIM
YOUR BELOVED SON, GRANT
THAT YOUR CHILDREN BY
ADOPTION, REBORN OF WATER
AND THE HOLY SPIRIT, MAY
ALWAYS BE WELL PLEASING TO
YOU. THROUGH OUR LORD
JESUS CHRIST, YOUR SON, WHO
LIVES AND REIGNS WITH YOU IN
THE UNITY OF THE HOLY
SPIRIT, ONE GOD, FOR EVER
AND EVER.**



*I have
baptized
you with water;
he will
baptize you
with the
holy Spirit.*

Mark 1: 8