

ST. PIUS X PARISH



203-255-6134

834 Brookside Drive Fairfield, CT 06824

WWW.ST-PIUS.ORG



The Epiphany of the Lord

January 7, 2024

PARISH STAFF



PASTOR
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Parish Corporation

Kathryn Vogt	Lay Member
Arthur Wolf	Lay Member
Jeremy Joyce, Chair	Parish Finance Council

PARISH INFORMATION

Parish Office Hours Monday-Thursday, 9AM-4PM
Friday 9AM-12PM

Parish Phone 203-255-6134
Parish Fax 203-255-5235
Religious Education 203-259-4800
Parish Email secretary@st-pius.org

MASS TIMES

Daily 8:30AM, Monday-Saturday, Church
Monday 7PM, Extraordinary Form, Chapel
Saturday 5:15PM, Vigil Mass, Church
Sunday 7:30AM, 9AM, 11AM, Church

Holy Days

Vigil 5:30PM, Church
Holy Day 8:30AM, 5:30PM, Church

SACRAMENTS

Reconciliation

Saturday, 4-5PM, Church
Wednesday, 7-8PM, Church

Baptism

Pre-baptismal classes are on the first Sunday of every month. Call the Parish Office to register for the class and to schedule your child's baptism.

Marriage

Registered parishioners should make arrangements one year in advance with the Parish Office. Visit www.st-pius.org for more information or call the Parish Office.

Communion for the Homebound

If you or a loved one would like to receive Communion at home, contact Deacon Don Ross at dnross@diobpt.org

Anointing of the Sick

If you or someone you know is ill and would like to be anointed, call the Parish Office.

Becoming Catholic

The Rite of Christian Initiation (RCIA) is available to anyone who wants to learn more about our faith or complete their initiation as a Roman Catholic. Call the Parish Office for more information.

PRAYER

Devotions

Adoration, Monday, 9AM-Friday 9PM, Chapel
Rosary and Chaplet of Divine Mercy, Friday, 9AM, Church
First Saturday Devotion to Our Lady, 9AM, Church

Prayer Line

We must never underestimate the power of prayer. To pray for others or to have others pray for you, email Pat Heile at stpiusxprayerln@aol.com.

Art Credit: "Adoration of the Magi," Basilica of the Immaculate Conception at Conception Abbey in Conception, Mo. by Benedictine monks, late 1800s,



Pastor's Note

Today's Readings

1st Reading:

Is 60:1-6

Res. Psalm:

Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13

2nd Reading:

Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6

Gospel:

Mt 2:1-12

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

The wise men followed the light of a star to Bethlehem. That light led them to the true light of the world, Jesus Christ. After seeing that Light, they went home by another way, no longer following a star, but the light of Christ that they now carried in their hearts. As we celebrate this great feast of the Epiphany, we are making a solemnity that for many

centuries was regarded as even more important than Christmas. While the birth of Jesus into our time, space, and history is, of course, of vital import, it is the manifestation of Jesus to the nations, represented by these three wise men/magicians/kings, that is celebrated by the Church universal. This is very much a feast of the Church, as the whole mission of the Church is to manifest the light of Christ to the whole world.

The three wise men remind us of some important aspects of our Lord's plan for salvation. First, they come from the East, a biblical way of saying that they are not Israelites. We will find many instances in Scripture where God speaks of a plan to save the world – not Israel alone. Rather, it is through Israel, God's chosen people, that the new and eternal covenant is going to be established. The new covenant will be for all, regardless of nation of origin. Second, the wise men saw the star at its rising. That is, they were attentive to the signs of the world around them. Why were they attentive if not because they desired something more than the world they knew and saw in front of them? The wise men remind us that there are

are many hearts seeking something more than the standard of the world. There are many ar with sincere hearts after that something. The Epiphany, then is a day for us to remember our call to be evangelists, to meet those who are searching and guide them to answer they seek. Third, the wise men show us the power of conversion. An encounter with Jesus, the living God, makes a difference. St. Paul tells us in his letter to the Philippians (2:10-11) that at the name of Jesus, every knee shall bend, on earth, in heaven, and under the earth. That is, there is no other name by which we are saved, there is no other hope for salvation other than in Christ. And so the wise men, having found this salvation and seen the Lord Jesus, are transformed. They return to their lives, but their lives are forever changed by knowing God's gift of mercy and salvation.

As we have moved through this Christmas season, we have meditated at the creche, knelt before the manger, kept watch with the shepherds, and embraced the ideal of the Holy Family, and now we join the wise men who seek the Way, the Truth, and the Life. The Epiphany is a present celebration, but it is also a mystery that we must keep throughout the year. The wise men followed the light of a star to Bethlehem. That light led them to the true light of the world, Jesus Christ. After seeing that Light, they went home by another way, no longer following a star, but the light of Christ that they now carried in their hearts. By our encounter with the Lord Jesus today, may we go home transformed, carrying His light to our world.

Peace,

Fr. Sam

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, January 6

8:30AM.....+Robert Swanbery
 5:15PM.....+Patricia Fix.....C. Barry

Sunday, January 7

7:30AM.....+Ralph Owen Cafiero
 9AM.....+Rev. John Lavorgna.....Zwahlen Family
 11AM.....All Parishioners

Monday, January 8

8:30AM.....+Sylvia Ward.....Sullivan Family

Tuesday, January 9

8:30AM.....Nancy Jo Bossidy.....J. & J. Myers

Wednesday, January 10

8:30AM.....+Sr. Annie Devlin, MSCB.....A. & J. Connaughton

Thursday, January 11

8:30AM.....+Richard Campo.....D. Carpanzano

Friday, January 12

8:30AM.....+Dorothy Orlando.....P. Volpacchio

Saturday, January 13

8:30AM.....+Chuck Steffan.....Nunziata Family
 5:15PM.....+Casimir & Christine Gorski.....D. Gorski

Sunday, January 14

7:30AM.....+Mrs. Carol M. Smyth
 9AM.....All Parishioners
 11AM.....+Peggy O'Connor.....S. & M. Ryan

STEWARDSHIP

Weekly Offertory

Due to publishing deadlines, the offertory will be printed in the next bulletin edition.

St. Pius X Annual Appeal

This year's parish appeal is for critical school repairs.



\$ 104,685
Donated

\$ 250,000
Goal



203
Gifts

2,460
Registered Families

Online Giving

Thank you for being an integral part of sustaining our beautiful church and for helping us to carry out our parish mission. If you're not currently giving online, take a moment to consider switching—it's the easiest and safest way to donate. Go to www.st-pius.org/onlinegive or scan the QR code. Questions? Call the Parish Office at 203-255-6134.



Sanctuary Lights will burn

in the Church in memory of Kenneth Smith
 in the Chapel in memory of Angela Carey

SUN

7

Coffee Hour, After 9AM Mass, Community Room

JAN

MON

8

Young at Heart, Senior Luncheon, 12PM, Community Room

JAN

WED

10

Tastebuds, 5-7PM, Community Room & Kitchen

JAN

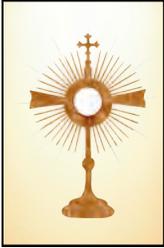
FRI

12

Young Adult Adoration, 7PM Church, 8PM Fellowship, Community Room

JAN

PRAYER



ADORATION

Monday, 9AM - Friday, 9PM, Chapel

Adore our Lord truly present in the Blessed Sacrament! Consider signing up for:

- 1) Any hour that does not currently have an adorer - Fridays: 1AM.
- 2) Any hour that has an adorer as we hope to have at least two adorers for each time slot.
- 3) A weekend hour. As soon as we have enough weekend commitments we will launch Perpetual Adoration, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.



To sign up or to become a substitute visit www.st-pius.org/adore365/ or scan the QR code.

WEATHER NOTIFICATIONS

If the Adoration Chapel is closed due to inclement weather, you will receive an email or text message from Adoration Pro. **DO NOT COME to Adoration if the chapel remains open but you are uncomfortable driving due to weather.** Request a substitute through www.st-pius.org/adore365/.



ROSARY AND CHAPLET OF DIVINE MERCY

Friday, 9AM, Church

Come pray the Rosary and Chaplet of Divine Mercy lead by Pat Heile. All are welcome to attend!

FIRST SATURDAY DEVOTION

First Saturday, 9AM, Church

Join us for a devotion to Our Lady. We will pray the Rosary, Litany of Loreto, and follow with Benediction.

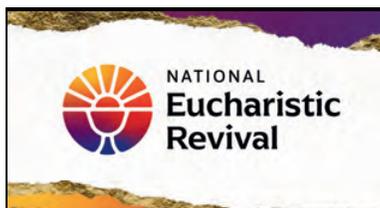
EVENTS



YOUNG ADULT ADORATION

Friday, January 12, 7PM, Church

Join us every second Friday of the month for Young Adult Adoration! There is praise and worship, a homily, and confessions. Fellowship is at 8PM in the Community Room. For more young adult events or small groups, please visit www.fairfielddiac.com.



EUCCHARISTIC REVIVAL NIGHT

Wednesday, January 17, 7PM, Church

Come and listen to Fr. Sam, as he shares his testimony. There will be Adoration and Confession from 7-8PM and Fr. Sam will speak from 7:30-7:45PM. Fellowship and refreshments to follow in the Community Room at 8PM. Everyone of every age is welcome! Bring your friends and family!



WINE FUNDRAISER

Saturday, February 10, After the 5:15PM Mass, Community Room

Save the date! Our Tastebuds crew is hosting a wine class with vittles to snack on during the course of the night. Come lift a glass, learn about wine, all while raising money to pay down our building debt. More details to come. Email catherinemacdonaldcake@gmail.com with questions.

EVENTS



MARDI GRAS PANCAKE DINNER

Tuesday, February 13, 5-8PM, Community Room

Mark your calendars for our Mardi Gras Pancake Dinner. Support our Youth Ministry by purchasing tickets, families for \$40 and individuals for \$10. RSVP forms to be posted soon! Email Emily Rauser at erauser@setoncollaborative.org with any questions.

MINISTRIES

LITURGICAL



"The liturgy...is about the action of God's own people, each with different offices and roles...one of service, not of privilege, a mirror of Christ who washed the feet of his disciples and instructed his followers to imitate his example of service." - USCCB

SCHOLA CANTORUM Practice Thursday, 7-8:30PM, Church. Do you love to sing? Consider joining the Schola Cantorum and help lead the liturgical music at the 11:00AM Sunday Mass as well as various Holy Days. Please contact Michael Lantowski at mikestro@ymail.com or call 203-255-6134, ext. 119.

YOUTH CHOIR Practice Thursday, 4:30-5:30PM, Church. All children in grades 2-8 are welcome to join the Youth Choir. The choir sings at the 9AM Mass on the last Sunday of each month. Our singers are under the direction of our head cantor and CT certified music educator, Cidalia Kettles, and accompanied by Michael Lantowski, our Director of Music. For more information, reach out to Mrs. Kettles at cidmezzo@gmail.com or Mike at mikestro@ymail.com.

ALTAR SERVERS All children who have received their First Holy Communion are invited to become altar servers. Altar servers assist the priest in the celebration of the liturgy during Mass. If you are interested, email Fr. Brendan at frblawie@diobpt.org.

USHERS This simple but important ministry is looking for members to assist during Mass in collecting the offertory and helping to seat parishioners. To find out more information, email Mike Finneran at lakehillsfins@gmail.com.

LECTORS Would you like to serve our community by proclaiming scripture during the liturgy? A thoughtful and prayerful presentation by our lectors helps open the hearts and minds of our community to the Word of God. Contact Fr. Brendan frblawie@diobpt.org.

ST. THÉRÈSE GUILD With deep love and reverence for the Holy Eucharist, the St. Thérèse Guild cares for the sacred altar linens on a rotating schedule. Training is provided. Email Fr. Brendan at frblawie@diobpt.org if you are interested.

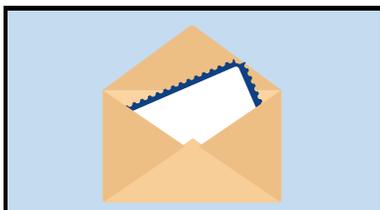
MINISTRIES

COMMUNITY, SERVICE AND FORMATION



BAPTISMAL GARMENT MINISTRY

Every child baptized at St. Pius X receives a handmade baptismal garment that is lovingly created by this ministry. If you enjoy simple sewing and embroidery, email Eleanor Burke profiburke@optonline.net and join their efforts.



TOUCHING LIVES

Staying connected to those who are homebound or recovering from illness is the focus of the Touching Lives Ministry. Patti Mucha sends handmade cards to our parishioners at different times of the year to remind them they are loved and still part of our parish family. For more information, email Patti at duckymoo@aol.com.

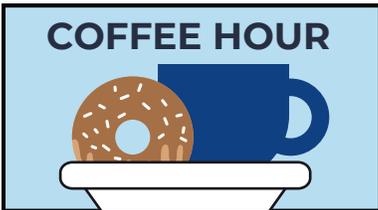
MINISTRIES

COMMUNITY, SERVICE AND FORMATION



WRAPPED IN LOVE

This group crochets and knits blankets for our newly baptized babies as well as prayer shawls for those who are ill. Each stitch is infused with the crafter's prayers for the recipients. Once completed, the items are blessed by Fr. Brendan. If you would like to help with this ministry, contact Kim Leon at kleon@st-pius.org. We provide yarn.



SUNDAY COFFEE HOUR

Sunday, January 7, After 9AM Mass, Community Room

Come to the Community Room after the 9AM Mass for coffee and treats. If you would like to help with the hospitality, contact Genevieve Ritch at gfanelliritch@optonline.net or scan the QR code to contribute. All are welcome!



OPERATION HOPE MEAL PREP

First Monday of the Month, Community Kitchen

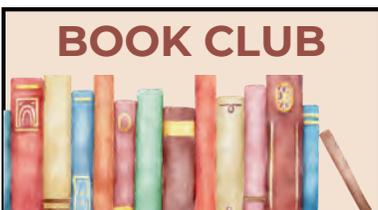
Our Operation Hope Meal Prep Team would love for you to join them. You're invited to help prepare and deliver a monthly meal for 50 of Operation Hope's clients. If you're interested in cooking, donating food or cash to this effort, scan the QR Code or contact Genevieve Ritch at gfanelliritch@optonline.net.



TASTEBUDS

Wednesday, January 10, 5-7PM, Community Room

Come to Tastebuds gathering! Along with cooking demonstrations, we will review recipes, and enjoy the meal we created together. Our dinners will be paired with Kindred Spirits selections in Fairfield. The cost is \$15. Email catherinemacdonaldcake@gmail.com to RSVP and scan the QR code to pay.



WELL-READ MOMS BOOK CLUB

Saturday, February 3, 10-11:15AM, Munro Room

We invite you to our monthly discussion of great books and spiritual classics that encourage personal growth, friendship, and meaningful conversation. For more information or to RSVP, email Karen Lannigan at karenlannigan0915@gmail.com



WALKING WITH PURPOSE

Wednesday, 6:30-8:30PM, Munro Room

Thursday, 9:30-11:30AM, Community Room

Walking with Purpose, a women's Catholic bible study, invites all women of the parish to join one of their scripture studies. To find out more information, email Dawn Carpanzano at dawnmariec@sbcglobal.net or visit www.st-pius.org/www.

MINISTRIES

COMMUNITY, SERVICE AND FORMATION



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

First Tuesday of the Month, 7-8:30PM, Community Room

All men of the parish are welcome to the Knights of Columbus St. Pius X Council. The Knights meet each month to deepen their faith and fellowship while doing good works for the parish and greater community. Email Tyler Lomnitzer at Tyler.Lomnitzer@KofC.org for more information.



MEN'S FELLOWSHIP

Saturday, 6:30AM, Community Room

Join the men of the parish for prayer, conversation, and fellowship! For more information, contact Mark Drexel at drexel2424@optonline.net. We look forward to welcoming you!



YOUNG AT HEART SENIOR LUNCHEON

Monday, January 8, 12PM, Community Room

Ring in the New Year with guest speaker, Joe Pisani, columnist at Fairfield County Catholic. Joe will talk about "The First 100 Years Are the Hardest," a humorous look at the challenges, blessings and opportunities for the AARP generation and beyond. RSVP to Peter Carey at aandp1964@aol.com or 203-673-2081. Let Pete know if you can bake!



YOUNG AT HEART GAME DAY

Tuesday, 10AM-12PM, Community Room, Mahjong

Wednesday, 10AM-12PM, Community Room, Canasta

Bring a friend and meet us in the Community Room. You can just stop by for fellowship and conversation. Questions? Contact Margaret at blk125@msn.com or 908-399-2945.



FAIRFIELD LIFE TEEN + EDGE

Life Teen + Edge, hosted at St. Pius X, is open to any middle and high school student from any church. Our mission is to provide a space for students to rest, make new friends, and be reminded of God's love for them through the gift of their Catholic faith. Join us! Any adults interested in supporting our youth by helping on the CORE team, contact Emily Rauser at erauser@setoncollaborative.org or for more info, visit www.fairfieldlt.com.org.

LIFE TEEN - HIGH SCHOOL

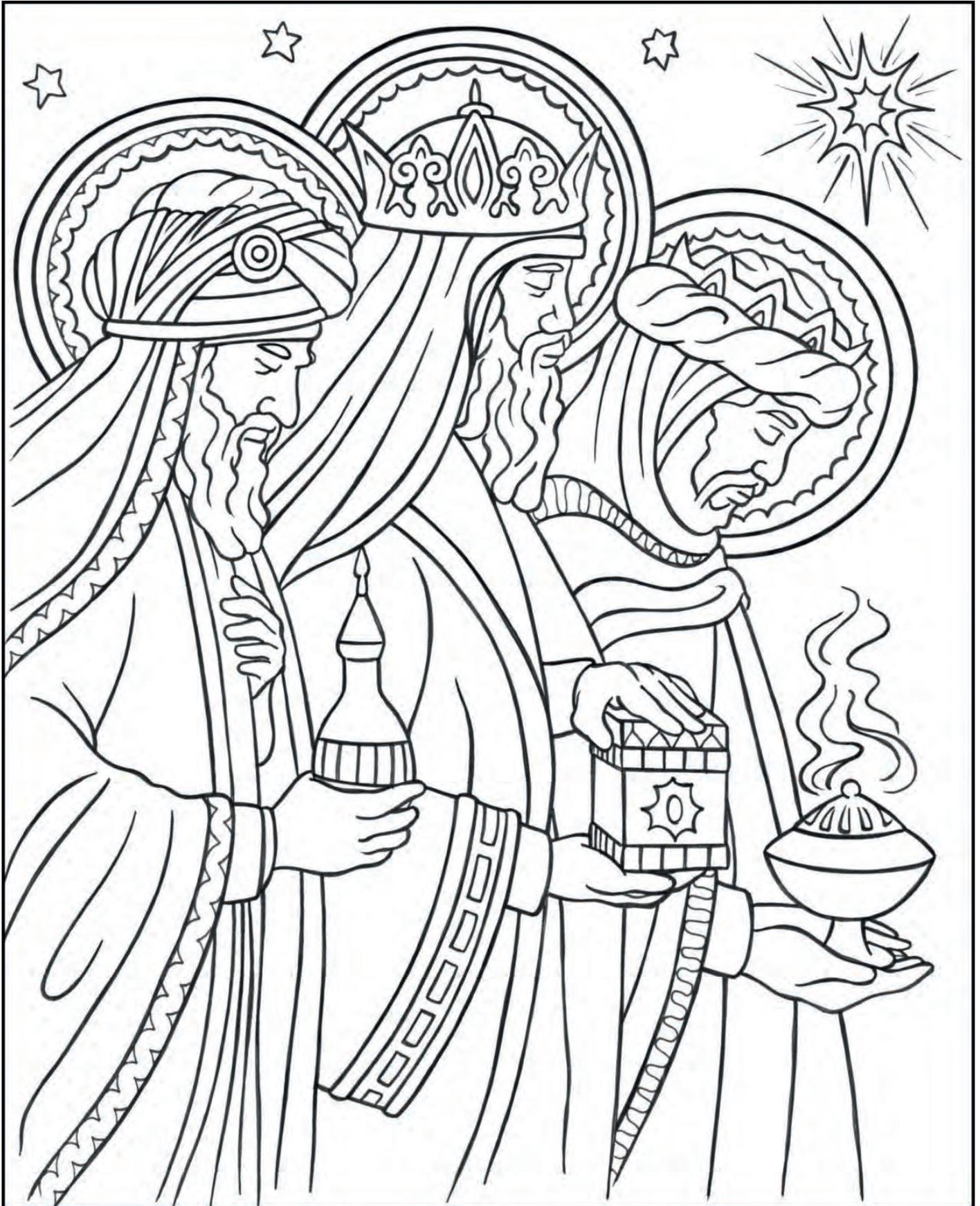
Sunday, 6:30-8PM, School Portable

Jan. 7: Winter Kick-Off

EDGE - MIDDLE SCHOOL

Wednesday, 6:30-8PM, School Gym

Jan. 10: Winter Kick-Off



Epiphany House Blessing



The feast of Epiphany commemorates the visit of the Magi, the three wisemen, who bring gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh to the infant Jesus.

On this day, it's a wonderful centuries-old tradition to bless your home. The blessing not only commemorates the visit of the Magi, but also gives you an opportunity to welcome the Christ Child and ask for his blessing on your home and on all who visit during the new year. All you need is a piece of blessed chalk and the prayer below!

In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen

We gather in this holy place to recognize that Christ dwells here. As the three kings followed the light of the star, we too follow the light of Christ that we may be a people of generosity, and our home may be a place of welcome and a dwelling place for God.

Loving God, bless our home and all who live here. May you reside with us as our unseen guest. We invite you to join us each time we gather for meals, prayers, celebration, and recreation. May your peace rest upon us during this year and may we draw closer to one another by drawing closer to you through your word and sacrament. Amen.

With the blessed chalk, mark the lintel, the top of the door with:

20 + C + M + B + 24

The 20 stands for the first two digits of the new year and the 24 stands for the last two digits of the new year.

The letters C, M, and B traditionally stand for the initials of the legendary Magi, Casper, Melchior, and Balthazar. They are also an abbreviation of the Latin "Christus mansionem benedicat" or "May Christ bless the house."

The "+" sign symbolizes the cross.