

St. Mary Catholic Church

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St. Mary of the Immaculate Conception | facebook

January 7, 2024 The Epiphany of the Lord



We will be taking down the Christmas decorations after 8 AM Mass Sunday (today). Please stay and help if you can. The more people help, the more quickly the job will be done!

ADULT FAITH FORMATION

Meetings resume next week, **January 14.**

DIOCESAN DR. KING OBSERVANCE

SUNDAY, JANUARY 14, 2024

ST. AUGUSTINE OF HIPPO CHURCH

EAST ST. LOUIS.



Bishop McGovern will celebrate Mass at 9:30 AM. Brunch at 11:00, and the Dr. King Memorial Program in the Church at 12:00 PM. If you plan to attend the brunch please RSVP to the Church Office at 618-274-0655.



In Memoriam



Richard B. "Dick" Schaefer

February 8, 1944 ~ December 22, 2023

Mary Carolyn (Miller) Rendleman

September 27, 1945 ~ December 31, 2023

Please pray for the repose of their souls and for those they leave behind.

MASS TIMES

Saturday 5 PM

Sunday 8 AM 10 AM St. Joseph, Cobden

Tuesday & Thursday 8:15 AM

Holy Rosary before each Mass

Reconciliation by Appointment



THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

*Isaiah 60:1-6; Psalm 72:1-2,7-8, 10-13
Ephesians 3:2-3a,5-6; Matthew 2:1-12*

The literal meaning of the final words in today's Gospel are clear. To avoid the rage of Herod, the Magi change their route to arrive home safely.

A genuine encounter with Christ cannot take place without affecting a change at the deepest core of our being. Going home by familiar paths -- returning to accustomed modes of seeing and acting --- is incompatible with the manner and the mystery of God's coming among us.

Having bowed before God, who becomes one with us in our vulnerability, the Magi now set out on the path of placing their lives at the service of a greater love.

~Fr. Dennis Gallagher, A.A.

VOCATION CORNER



What a wonderful account of the Magi traveling to meet the Lord. They followed the star - their "call" - to come and offer their gifts to the Lord. But the question arises as to how the Magi noticed a star at night and no one else really did. Perhaps we need to embrace the "night", the stillness, to "see and hear" our call. How are we doing in discerning our call to Holiness - in living our vocation as man, woman, or child; married or single; priesthood or religious - of being called to something beyond ourselves?



LIFT YOUR VOICE

Singers from across the Belleville Diocese are invited to join in singing the Fauré Requiem on Sunday, March 3, 2024, at 3 PM at the Cathedral of St. Peter. **Rehearsals will be held on Monday, Tuesday or Wednesday evenings from January 8 through March 3.** Rehearsal recordings of each individual part will be sent to each singer. If you are interested and would like more specific information, please contact Mr. Richard Thompson, Organist & Choirmaster at the Cathedral of St. Peter, by e-mail: rthompjd@gmail.com.

Give the Gift that keeps on Giving...The Messenger!

To subscribe online for Family or Friends go to:
www.bellevillemessenger.org or
Call 618-233-8670.

Ellen has been sick and unable to complete the ministry schedules yet -- please email the office or text 618.697.5161 if you have dates you are unavailable Jan-March. Sorry for the inconvenience.

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday January 6 : Larry Lovell
Sunday January 7: William & Jeanne Beatty
Saturday January 13: Doris Luther
Sunday January 14: Karl Sweitzer Sr.



WORD OF LIFE

"Through the Incarnation and birth of Christ, God reveals to us the dignity of all human life. Human life, as a gift of God, is sacred and inviolable. The Son of God has united himself with every human being and desires for us to share eternal life with him... Each of us is made in the image and likeness of God, and we reflect his glory in the world."

USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities

"The Gospel of Life: A Brief Summary"

Intercession:

On this Feast of the Epiphany, may we be given the grace to always see in others the face of Christ our Savior;

We pray to the Lord

Nine Days for Life, a novena for the protection of human life, will take place **Tuesday, January 16 –Wednesday, January 24**. Each day's intention is accompanied by a short reflection and suggested actions to help build a culture of life. Join today at 9daysforlife.com!

MINISTRY SCHEDULE

Saturday January 13:

Lector: Cathy Belcher

Eucharistic Ministers: Paul Cairatti, Susan Sherwin, Joe Wendling

Sunday January 14:

Lector: Janna Sweitzer

Servers: Jameson, Ben, & Mac Marggraf

Eucharistic Ministers: Mary Ellen Ecker, Carol Frick, Susan Belcher