



MASSES FOR THE WEEK  
 January 3—January 9  
 EACH MASS IS OFFERED FOR  
 THE INTENTIONS OF EVERYONE  
 PRESENT AND FOR THE FOLLOWING:

- SATURDAY, JANUARY 3**  
 4:00 p.m. Robert Bolin; Eve Bourgeois; Mirle Clement;  
 Joann Hintz, Marlene Morris; Barbara Rush  
 5:30 p.m. Carol Daigle; Leona O'Dwyer  
**SUNDAY, JANUARY 4**  
 8:00 a.m. Members of St. Patrick's Church (Propopulo)  
 9:30 a.m. Francis Castjohn; Jane O. Chatelain; Elliot  
 Harold, Sr., Araham van Heel; Jayne  
 Hennessey; Joann Hintz; Bob Keyes; Mr. &  
 Mrs. Harold Kinler; Norma McClellan;  
 Peter P. Meehan III; Carmelite Salassi; John  
 H. Schroder, Jr.; Virginia Swartz  
 11:00 a.m. Leona O'Dwyer  
 5:30 p.m. Carol Daigle; Barbara Rush  
**MONDAY, JANUARY 5**  
 11:30 a.m. Purgatorial List  
 12:00 p.m. Leona O'Dwyer; John Sparck  
**TUESDAY, JANUARY 6**  
 11:30 a.m. Carol Daigle; Barbara Rush  
 12:00 p.m. Ken Christopher  
**WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 7**  
 11:30 a.m. Purgatorial List  
 12:00 p.m. Carol Daigle; Loretta Doussan; Barbara Rush  
**THURSDAY, JANUARY 8**  
 11:30 a.m. Carol Daigle  
 12:00 p.m. Loretta Doussan; Leona O'Dwyer  
**FRIDAY, JANUARY 9**  
 11:30 a.m. Purgatorial List  
 12:00 p.m. Carol Daigle; Leona O'Dwyer

**GREGORIAN LATIN MASS—Sunday at 9:30 a.m.**  
*Epiphany of Our Lord*  
 Solemn High Mass—First Sunday of the month.  
 Benediction—Third Sunday after the 9:30 a.m. Mass.

**ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT  
 AND BENEDICTION**

Every Sunday, 3:00pm—5:00pm

**COFFEE AND DOUGHNUTS**

In Reynolds Hall, after the Sunday morning Masses.

**FLOWERS FOR THE ALTAR**

To honor a loved one by donating flowers for the altar  
 please call Jessie at 525-4413.

**A SINCERE "THANK YOU"**

Father Stan Klores sends a sincere "Thank You" for the  
 many prayers, cards and gifts that have been kindly  
 bestowed on him during this Christmas season, and he  
 wishes all of St. Patrick's parishioners and friends a  
 Blessed New Year!

**CHRISTMAS OFFERING—\$ 25,096**

**SUNDAY OFFERING—December 28, 2008**

First Collection \$ 10,535  
 Second Collection\* \$ 2,148

\* Maintenance and restoration

**PARISH AND HOME SCHOOLING RECEPTION**



Sunday, January 4, 2009; 10:30 a.m.—1:00 p.m.  
 Everyone is cordially invited to attend the Parish  
 and Home Schooling Reception to be held in the  
 rectory.

**EPIPHANY CHALK—TO BLESS OUR HOMES**

The blessing of Epiphany chalk, to be used in the blessing of our  
 homes, will take place after all Masses this weekend. Everyone is  
 invited to take a packet of blessed chalk, with instructions and special  
 prayers.

**EPIPHANY OF THE LORD—MOZART MASS IN D MINOR**

Sunday, January 4, 2009, **The Epiphany of the Lord**, St. Patrick's  
 Choir with orchestra will perform *Mozart's Mass in d minor* at the  
**9:15 A.M. Mass**. Prelude music will begin at **9:00 A.M.** Please note  
 the time change for this Mass.

**IN MEMORY OF—LAST WEEK**

Closing date for submitting names to the *In Memory  
 Of* listing on the back of the Sunday Bulletin is  
**Friday, January 9, 2009**. To ensure proper spelling,  
 recording, etc., all requests are to be made by completing  
 the designated envelope form that can be found in the  
 vestibule of the church. The completed form should be  
 hand delivered to the rectory office, or it can be placed  
 in any collection basket. Please do not rely on the United States Postal  
 Service to deliver your request before the closing date as they are  
 quite often heavily burdened with the amount of mail.  
 The office staff appreciates your prompt attention and cooperation in  
 assisting with this annual project.



**MEET AND GREET—SATURDAY, JANUARY 10, 2009**

Everyone is invited to enjoy fellowship with parishioners and friends  
 of St. Patrick's, Saturday, January 10, 2009 at 6:30 p.m. in the rectory.  
 Please bring your favorite hors d'oeuvres to share. For more  
 information, please call the rectory at 525-4413.

**FAREWELL TO THE 1962 MOLLER PIPE ORGAN**

St. Patrick's organist, Joseph F. Hoppe, and lead tenor, Rene J.  
 Toups will present a program of musical selections:  
**Sunday, January 11, 2009 @ 3:00 P.M.—St. Patrick's Church**  
 This will be the farewell concert on the 1962 Moller Pipe Organ, as  
 the following day, Monday, January 12, the Patrick J. Murphy &  
 Associates Pipe Organ Company will begin the removal of the  
 Moller in preparation for its refurbishment and expansion into a  
 new instrument.

**PRAYERS FOR THE FAITHFUL**

For the sick of our parish and those who have asked for our prayers  
 especially: Tom Alexander; Tristan Anderton; Del Barry; Patricia  
 Berrigan; Brett Bradley; Sara Cashio; Jack & Paula Coughlin; Rene  
 Crane; Carol Daigle; Tom Darcy; Ralph DeBlanc; Raymond DeBlanc;  
 Al Duroncelet; Rose Fee; Mimi Finley; James A. Fitzmorris; John  
 Fulcher; Bob Keyes; Joan Kimball; Joseph; Stephen Losee; Michael  
 McCarthy; Buddy McInnis; Sally Ann Main; Mary O'Brien; Lucille  
 Ogden; Karen Paprocki; J. Van Provosty; Hugh Ramsey; Tom Roach;  
 Elisabeth Robert; Adele Silva; Mary Silva; Joseph M. Sonne;  
 Stephanie Summers; Salvador Trentacoste; Turkington Family; Alyssa  
 Vingan

**SECURITY PROVIDED AT ALL EVENING SERVICES**

# EPIPHANY

## THE TWELVE WAYS OF CHRISTMAS

Christmas is a yearly reality check. The lessons of Christmas are so counterintuitive that even after we have celebrated Christmas in society for centuries, and in our homes our whole lives, when each Christmas comes it's like we are learning its lessons for the first time.

Here are 12 Christmas virtues our culture tends to forget. Call them the 12 ways of Christmas.

**1. God loves a good story.** Far from being opposed or alien to human nature, God shares our love of a good story. He could have become a man any way he wanted. He chose to be born in a stable, to a couple far from their home, surrounded by animals, shepherds and Magi, pursued by a wicked king.

**2. God loses battles but wins wars.** In his day, Herod was Christmas's formidable enemy. He lied to the Magi and ordered a massacre of innocents, becoming an angel of death in Bethlehem as he killed all newborn boys to try to eliminate Jesus. In our day Christmas is still under attack, though in America the attacks aren't violent, thank God. Christmas will win in the end, because God wins even through apparent defeats.

**3. God identifies himself with infants.** Each year, we retell the stories about the great fuss made by God and man over babies, born and unborn, at Christmas: Mary is herself conceived without sin, an angel makes a pregnancy announcement to Mary, Elizabeth's unborn baby recognizes Mary's, and so does a star in the sky; Herod and the Magi go to great lengths to oppose and pay homage to the baby. When Catholics try to say that respect for unborn life isn't part of our religion, they're wildly wrong. Not only is it part of our religion, it's the central focus of several of our biggest feasts each year.

**4. God puts the family at the center.** In days when the definition of marriage itself is under attack, the Christmas story reminds us that it's not the individual but the family that is at the center of human society. When God the Son became human, he didn't become a powerful man, as he certainly could have. He chose a mother and a dad and became a baby.

**5. God puts politics in its place.** Especially in an election year, many concerned Catholics invest great effort and high hopes in politics. That's good; we're supposed to. But we need to guard against considering political victories total victories, or political defeats total disasters. Yes, the stakes are high when the right to life is the central political issue of our time. But our attitude should be the same as the angels who sang "Hosanna" and "Peace on earth," in complete confidence in Christ, even though, in their day, Herod was in charge and he was gearing up for the massacre of the innocents.

**6. God is patient.** In America, we tend to expect everything *now*. God isn't like that. He exists apart from time: A thousand years is like a day to him, and vice versa. He promised a savior, and took thousands of years to deliver. The Messiah came as an embryo for nine months, then was born but would take decades to mature. Then he inaugurated his Kingdom with a band of 12 relatively unremarkable men. Two millennia later, much progress has been made but much more must come before we have peace on earth.

**7. God chose poverty.** Funny. More people are afraid of the economic crisis of 2008 than were of the moral crises that we have seen for decades. When you have plenty, it's easy to become a *de facto* materialist and start relying on your plenty

for happiness. In his manger at Bethlehem, God himself points another way.

**8. God is modest.** We like things loud and bombastic. We like big special effects in movies. We like our heroes to stand tall and tell us the struggle is over, now that they have come. If we wrote the story, Joseph would have denounced and defeated Herod, and Mary would have had the baby in his palace. God isn't like that. He works through the humble, in quiet ways we hardly notice. For his heroes, just enough — a manger — will do.

**9. God makes himself clear.** But there's a paradox here. At the same time that God acts quietly and subtly, he doesn't leave us in darkness and confusion. For those willing to see them, all the signs were there: The star, the angels, the virgin with child. He still shows himself to us, if we take the time to look.

**10. Love means sacrifice.** God is love, and at Christmas, God tells us what love is. It's sacrifice. God didn't become a poet on Christmas; he didn't become a troubadour; he didn't become a voice of admiration for mankind. The all-powerful God became a helpless baby and began a life of struggle on our behalf. No wonder gift-giving and hospitality are our chief ways to imitate him at this time of year.

**11. Only the humble know God.** The shepherds were society's outcasts. The Virgin Mary was no queen, by human standards. Joseph was a carpenter who had to offer the poor man's sacrifice at the Temple. If we're having trouble in our relationship with God, the first thing to do is to remember how unutterably great he is, and how infinitesimally small we are.

**12. God's presence is enough.** When God became man, he attracted the wise men, the king's wrath, the shepherds, and, through the centuries, attracted throngs to the crèche. He can offer no words in his manger, but only his presence. In our own time, he still offers just his presence, and little else, in each church's tabernacle. We should go to him there, spend time with him, and see how his bare presence is still quite enough. And then become his voices in the world.

*The Editors  
National Catholic Register*

## THE THREE HOLY KINGS



... It has never been questioned but that the holy Magi spent the rest of their lives in the fervent service of God. The ancient author of the imperfect comment on St. Matthew, among the works of St. Chrysostom, says they were afterwards baptized in Persia by St. Thomas the apostle, and became themselves preachers of the gospel. Their bodies were said to have been translated to Constantinople under the first Christian emperors. From thence they were conveyed to Milan, where the place in which they were deposited is still shown in the Dominicans' church of that city. The emperor Frederick Barbarossa having taken Milan, caused them to be translated to Cologne in Germany, in the twelfth century

*Reverend Alban Butler  
Reverend Butler († 1773) was a writer and president of the English seminary at St. Omer.*