

JANUARY 8, 2012
THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

Theme: Epiphany

Today we mark the second major movement of the Christmas season. The season has been moving steadily toward this movement. Today, we celebrate that the child born in the darkness of night in a lowly manger is revealed as the manifestation (the meaning of epiphany) of God. Christ is revealed in many ways: as Lord, as King, as the one in whom God is present and acts. All of these manifestations are "light" that shine on Christ, revealing a deeper understanding of who he is. Traditionally, three events in the life of Christ are remembered today as manifestations of God's presence and action through Christ: the visit of the Magi, the wedding feast at Cana, and the baptism of Jesus in the Jordan River.

Today is also the traditional day for blessing homes and other buildings by marking the lintels of doorways with blessed chalk. The traditional marking commemorates the three magi ~ Caspar, Melchior and Balthasar ~ and gives the calendar year already recently begun. The markings for this year are **20 + C + M + B + 12** (the three initials of the magi's names between the numbers of the year, separated by four crosses.)

MASS INTENTIONS

Monday	No Mass	No Mass	
Tuesday	9:00 AM OLV	Joan E. Batory	Gloria Opitz and Family
Wednesday	7:30 AM GOH	Mass at Gate of Heaven	
Thursday	No Mass	No Mass	
Friday	9:00 AM OLV	Robert Runta	Michael Walsh
Saturday	4:30 PM OLV	John Peter Farrell	Francis & Margaret Kopko
Sunday	7:00 AM OLV	Mary Jane Horwatt	Jack Barry
	10:30 AM OLV	Mary June	Children

Extraordinary Ministers of Communion

Saturday, January 14, 2012

4:30 PM S. Marszalek, L. Bartz, MJ Cannon

Sunday, January 15, 2012

7:00 AM J. Foster

10:30 AM S. Lumbis, E. Bilder, A. Bilder

Lectors

M. Herron

J. Schmid

T. Lumbis

Altar Servers

C. Pino, M. Pino

K. Supey, A. Supey

N. Mirra, S. Mirra, R. Barbacci

Confessions Schedule: Every Saturday from 2:45 - 3:45 at Gate of Heaven during the month of **January**.

ADULT MINISTRY PARTY

To express our appreciation, an adult Ministry Party will be held **next** Sunday, January 15th from 1 – 3 PM at Appletree Terrace, Newberry Estate. If you are an Extra-ordinary Minister of Holy Communion, Lector, CCD Instructor, Altar & Rosary Member, Adult Altar Server, or Office Volunteer, etc at Our Lady of Victory or Gate of Heaven Churches please join us for light refreshments. ***YOU MUST RSVP!*** Deadline for reservations is this Sunday, January 8th. Please call 675-2121 if you plan on attending.

DEAR PARISHIONERS: *Thank you so very much for all of your kind gifts, cards and messages at Christmas time. I am overwhelmed that you have made me a part of your wonderful parish family. I am trying to get thank you notes or phone calls out to everyone, but I'm "way behind". If I miss you, please accept my apology.*

*In Christ's Love,
Father Ed Scott*

VIGIL LIGHT CANDLES: It has been 10 years since the vigil candles have been available for your convenience. The offering for the candles consistently has been \$2.00 over these ten years. Candles are a petroleum based product and as we all know the price of oil has risen dramatically over the last ten years. Unfortunately, we have to raise the offering of the candles to \$3.00. The candles burn for 5-6 days. We thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

MINISTER SCHEDULE REQUESTS: A request for your schedules for the upcoming ministry schedule has gone out by e-mail. The new schedule will run from January 22nd - April 8th. This includes holy week and Easter. Please respond by e-mail to olvh309@aol.com or call the church office 639-1535. Thank you for your cooperation!

CCD CLASSES: will resume today, Sunday, January 8th. There will be an 8th Grade Confirmation Seminar on Sunday, January 15th from 6:45-8pm at Our Lady of Victory.

SANCTUARY LIGHT: burns this week in loving memory of Eugene Prebish by Dorothy Lutinski.

Sanctuary Candle Requests: There are still several opening to sponsor the Sanctuary Candles for the week. The sign up schedule is on the front desk of the church - or you may call the church office.

CHURCH FINANCES: Thank you for your generosity to Our Lady of Victory. In the event that you would like to send in "make-up" envelopes from the past year please do so by December 31st to receive credit for 2011 tax purposes. Financial statements of your contributions for 2011 will be available by request after the first of the year. Please call the church office - leave your name and envelopes number or you mail email a request to: olvhl309@aol.com

ADORATION OF THE MOST BLESSED SACRAMENT: St. Monica's Parish, West Wyoming, Fr. Leo McKernan, Pastor invites all to adoration. Beginning December 2011 thru March 2012 on all First Fridays. Exposition and adoration of the Blessed Sacrament follows the 7:00 PM Mass until Midnight. Benediction and dismissal to follow.

25th or 50th WEDDING ANNIVERSARY - 2010: His Excellency Bishop Joseph C. Bambera, D.D., J.C.L., Bishop of Scranton and the Office for Parish Life & Evangelization/Family Life wish to invite couples celebrating their 25th or 50th wedding anniversary in 2012 to a diocesan Wedding Anniversary Mass on Sunday, June 3rd. The event includes a 2:30 PM Mass at St. Peter's Cathedral followed by a reception. Requests for an invitation, with a mailing address that will be accurate in March, should be made through the parish office before March 1st. Call us at 639-1535.

2012 RELIGIOUS CALENDARS: are still available for your needs. They can be found on the front desk. Help yourself!

ALTAR SERVER CHRISTMAS GIFTS: Altar Servers are asked to come to the sacristy after Masses this weekend to receive their Christmas gift from the GOH Altar & Rosary Society.

HOUSEKEEPER WANTED: Our Lady of Mt. Carmel at Lake Silkworth is currently accepting applications for a rectory housekeeper. Responsibilities include cleaning all rooms, maintaining supplies, laundering/ironing sacristy garments, and may include grocery shopping and cooking. Part-time, salaried position, paying \$120.00/week. Hours are flexible, approximately 12 hours a week. Please contact our Lady of Mt. Carmel rectory at 477-5040. Application deadline is January 20, 2012.

ALTAR & ROSARY MEETING: The Altar & Rosary Society will hold their next meeting with the Installation of Officers on Monday, January 9, 2012, following the 7:00 PM Mass. All women of GOH and OLV are invited.

BLOOD DRIVE: Gate of Heaven Church will sponsor a Blood Drive on Sunday, January 29th from 8:30 AM - 2:00 PM in the GOH Gym. The Blood Drive will be held in honor of the men and women serving in the military. You must be 17 years of age and weigh at least 110 lbs. to donate. No appointment is necessary.

BROKEN OR UNNEEDED ROSARIES: A collection box can be found on the front desk of the church for broken and unneeded rosaries and religious medals. The rosaries will be repaired and given to those who need them.

BACK MT. SR. HIGH YOUTH GROUP

Vigil for Life and Sunrise Rally - January 22-23, 2012

The rally will be held at Mount St. Mary's University, Emmitsburg, Md. This is just a short trip into the Capital for the March for Life. Cost is \$50, a savings of \$20. Price includes charter bus fare, rally fee, boxed lunch for the march. Sign-up sheets and permission slips are available at GOH. This trip will have adult chaperones. Students will be staying overnight in the Mt. St. Mary's Gym. We will be traveling with St. Jude's Youth Group of Mt. Top. Call Father Toomey 675-2121, for more information.

NEXT MEETING: The next meeting for the Sr. Youth Group will be **Sunday, January 15th** at 6:30 PM in the GOH Gym. We will start the New Year in style.

ROCK MASS: The next **Rock Mass** will be Sunday, January 29 at 7:00 PM at GOH Church. This Mass will fulfill your Sunday obligation. Please plan on coming out for this wonderful evening of faith and music. Not for teens only - everyone is welcome!

BACK MT. JR. HIGH YOUTH GROUP: The next Back Mt. Jr. High Youth Group planning meeting will be this SUNDAY, January 8th from 12:30 - 2:00 PM in St. Therese's Church Hall. Please bring a lunch! For further information on Jr. High Youth Group activities call Denise Murphy at 696-1144, ext. 29.

JUNIOR HIGH YOUTH GROUP DANCE: will be held on Saturday, January 28th for students in grades 6, 7 and 8. Come out of hibernation - Where? Gate of Heaven School Gym, Time? 7-9:30 PM. Donation is \$4 and one canned good item. Music by Mark "Mr. DJ" Jones Bring a friend! Tickets at the door.

VOCATION DISCERNMENT WEEKEND: Will be held February 10-12, 2012 at the Fatima Center, Dalton for young men ages: 16-30. The Diocese of Scranton hosts this weekend to assist any young man in recognizing whether God is inviting them to step forward to offer their lives as a diocesan priest. The weekend program runs from Friday evening to Sunday afternoon and includes a presentation on the basics of praying into God's will for us, testimony from current seminarians, celebration of Mass, personal prayer, and fraternity. For further information contact, Fr. Jim Rafferty, vocation director, at 207-1452 or Rev-James-Rafferty@dioceseofscranton.org

VIRTUS PROGRAM: Protecting God's Children for Adults Program will be offered on Tuesday, January 24th at the Catholic Youth Center in Wilkes-Barre. This training session is required for all adult volunteers who work a minimum of 20 hrs or more per year with the children in the diocese. Call the CYC at 823-6121 to register. Classes time 6:30 PM - 9:30 PM. 1/24/12.

LAST WEEK'S COLLECTION: Your sacrificial offerings from Dec 31/Jan 1 were \$4,872.00. Thank you for your generosity!