

*From Father Kirby...*

**January 2, 2022**

Happy Sunday, Team Grace!

Today, we celebrate the Epiphany of the Lord. The word “epiphany” is Greek for “manifestation.” The word is used for today’s feast day since the long-awaited Anointed Savior is revealed not simply to the Chosen People of old, but to all nations and peoples of the world.

The Magi are led from the East to pay homage to the Newborn King. He is their king, he is the King of Israel, he is the king of all nations, he is our king. In your life, what gifts do you bring to our king on this Epiphany?

For today’s feast day, sheets that contain the annual Epiphany blessing of homes are located in the narthex. All households are encouraged to do this important blessing in their homes.

This weekend, we have sign-ups for our Nocturnal Adoration this coming Friday-Saturday, January 7-8. Please be generous with your time and sign up for an hour of prayer!

Some things happening around the parish:

Thank you to everyone who has offered prayers, sent flowers and cards, and have been so supportive to me and my family as we grieve the loss of my father. As announced via a REALM email, I’m taking some time for bereavement and personal health. I’ll be back in the office this Wednesday, January 5.

This weekend, we welcome Father Colin Blatchford to Our Lady of Grace. Father Blatchford will offer and preach all of our weekend Masses. He serves as the Associate Director of [Courage International](#), which is one of the Church’s extensive outreaches to those who have same-sex attraction. Father will offer some perspectives to the parish on this important outreach.

With me being away, we rescheduled our Healing Mass to this coming Saturday, January 8, at 11:00 AM. For those who are doing the Five First Saturdays, the change of dates is still within the eight-day time span permitted by the Church. The consecutive nature of the devotion is not broken by this change.

In addition, with me being away, we will not have Confessions or public Masses on Monday- Tuesday, January 3-4. *All our devotions, the Rosary, and our Adoration time will still take place.*

Our parish Bible Study, High School Formation Program, and Middle School Formation Program will all resume on Wednesday, January 12.

The parish is very happy to offer a special Divine Mercy Pilgrimage this Spring to Washington, DC. [More information can be found here.](#)

The professional staff continue to review some of our ideas and suggestions for [Catholic Land](#) as we prepare for the Spring Town Hall meetings when the Master Plan will be presented and proposed to the entire parish.

Please be sure to read and review our revised and updated [Security/Safety Protocols for Parishioners](#) and [Church/Holy Communion Protocols](#).

More updates next week! Oremus pro invicem (let's pray for one another)!

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