

# IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY PARISH

of Watervliet and Green Island, NY

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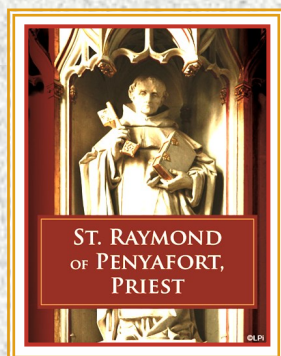
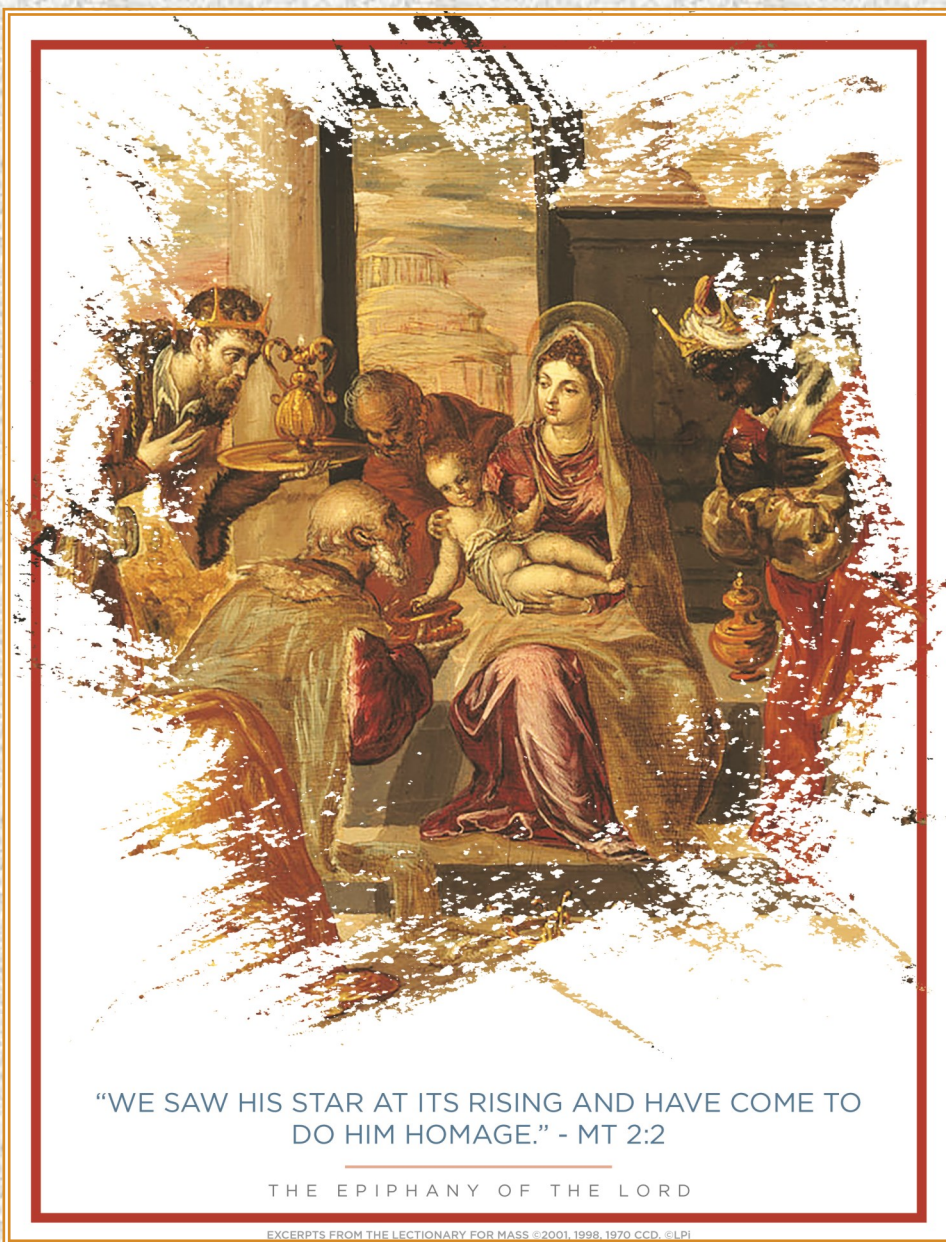
FAITH FORMATION & YOUTH  
MINISTRY CENTER  
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Sharon Kowalski  
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Call for information  
or appointment



Church  
and Parish Life Center  
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## JANUARY 7, 2024

### CELEBRATION OF THE EUCHARIST

Weekend Masses - Saturday Vigil: 4:00 pm

Sunday: 7:30 am and 11:00 am

Weekday Masses - 9:00 am

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday

Adoration, Tuesday - 9:30 to 11:00 am

## Step Into the Light

How strange it is to think that if not for Herod's directions, the magi would not have known where to find Jesus. They were not Jews, they knew nothing of the old prophecies. It was Herod who convened the scholars. It was Herod who pointed the way — for ulterior motives, certainly, but nonetheless, this is the part he played. It was Herod who made the Epiphany possible.

"Nations shall walk by your light, and kings by your shining radiance," (Isaiah 60:3). A king may keep to the shadows, suspicious of the light — he may foolishly imagine he can snatch it from the sky to keep as his own possession, and, upon finding the light cannot be governed, grow to loathe it, and even seek to extinguish it once and for all.

But all his grand designs will come to nothing because there is no king so powerful that he can see in the dark. And even a man like Herod — a man so jealous that he sought to kill God — cannot prevent the breaking of day.

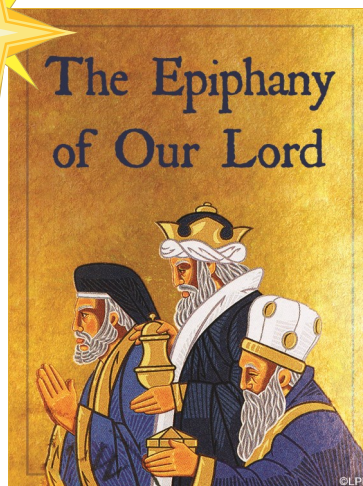
The Epiphany marks the manifestation of Christ to the Gentiles. It is a celebration of truth reaching places it was not expected to reach, of brightness illuminating corners of the world long ago consigned to shadow. It is a reminder that the battle has already been won, the night is over. All that remains is for us to decide: will we step into the light?

"See, darkness covers the earth, and thick clouds cover the peoples; but upon you the LORD shines, and over you appears his glory." — Isaiah 60:2

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writes the prophet (Isaiah



## SCRIPTURE SHARING: Max Lucado, 'Help Is Here'

Our current series is entitled "Help Is Here". The theme of this series is finding fresh strength and purpose in the power of the Holy Spirit. As believers, we know a lot about God the Father and Our Lord Jesus Christ. Sometimes, our greatest gift — the Holy Spirit, is acknowledged but lesser known.

Come join us and we will all listen and learn a little more. All are invited. We meet Thursdays from 2 to 3pm in the Parish Life Center. For more information, please contact Sharon at 518-328-0427 or [skowalski@ihm.rcpw.org](mailto:skowalski@ihm.rcpw.org)

## FAITH FORMATION FOR ALL AGES - Sharon C. Kowalski, Coordinator of Faith Formation and Youth Ministry -

[skowalski@ihm.rcpw.org](mailto:skowalski@ihm.rcpw.org)

### Faith Formation: 2023-2024

**Please note: We will resume classes on January 7, 2024.**

Faith Formation sessions for 2023-2024 are 9:30 to 10:45, followed by 11am Mass.

Sessions are open to children from 3 years through Confirmation. Sacramental programs require a two year preparation at Faith Formation sessions.

If you would like to register your children and have not yet done so, please contact Sharon at [skowalski@ihm.rcpw.org](mailto:skowalski@ihm.rcpw.org) or 518-328-0427 for more information or questions about Faith Formation and/or receiving sacraments at IHM.



## FOOD PANTRY~NEW ITEMS NEEDED IN THE MONTH OF JANUARY

~ Toilet tissue ~ Bar Soaps ~ Toothpaste ~

**Thank you!** for helping us help others in our community through your continued support of

IHM Food Pantry!

— Mary Beth



## LIVE THE LITURGY ~

### Inspiration for the week

Though the magi did not know where the star of Bethlehem would lead, they trusted that God would be with them along the way. Let us all embrace that same faith as we go about the journey God has planned for us this year.

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## MARY'S KITCHEN: MONDAYS, 3:00pm to 5:00pm

**ALL ARE WELCOME!!**


**We will be open at the regular time on January 8, 2024.**

Stop by between 3 to 5pm on Mondays and sit down to enjoy a meal with friends or pick up a meal to take home: Soup, salad, sandwich, entrée and dessert!!

Questions?? Please call Sharon at 518-328-0427 or email: [skowalski@ihm.rcpw.org](mailto:skowalski@ihm.rcpw.org) for more information.

**RCIA and SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION FOR ADULTS and OLDER CHILDREN** ~ If you are interested in becoming a Catholic or completing your Sacraments of Initiation (Baptism, Eucharist and Confirmation) or are curious about the process, contact Sharon at 518-328-0427 or [skowalski@ihm.rcpw.org](mailto:skowalski@ihm.rcpw.org).



In Memoriam ~ 2023 ~ '24		
 <p>In loving memory of Joseph V Germano requested by the Family</p> <p>12/15/24</p>	<p>In loving memory of John T Sherlock requested by his wife and Family</p> <p>6/2/24</p>	<p>In memory of our beloved son Michael D Kowalski requested by Michael and Sharon Kowalski</p> <p>2/18/24</p>
<p>In loving memory of William T Sr, Julia F and Robert A Fahr requested by the Family</p> <p>2/18/24</p>	<p>In loving memory of Albert P Morelli, Donald &amp; Eileen Gallagher Hogan requested by Don &amp; Patti Hogan</p> <p>2/18/24</p>	<p>In loving memory of our Families: The Carlsons, The Mardigans, The Foleys &amp; The Butlers requested by Bob &amp; Carol Carlson</p> <p>2/4/24</p>
<p>In loving memory of Bryan T Roberts (son) Raymond &amp; Helen Werner (parents) requested by Judith Pope</p> <p>1/14/24</p>	<p>In loving memory of Adam &amp; Katherine Novak John &amp; Rosalie Novak &amp; Florence Szpot requested by the Family</p> <p>12/31/23</p>	<p>~ <b>MASS INTENTIONS</b> ~</p> <p>Sat., Jan 6 4:00pm—Kevin G Duffey, req by Jan &amp; Frank Gilchrist Michael Walukas, req by St Brigid's class of 1962 Richard Mudgett, req by Salon 121, 8 &amp; 40</p> <p>Sun., Jan 7 7:30am—living &amp; deceased members of IHM 11:00am—Carole Maloney, req by husband Vince DiNuzzo, req by Lorraine Alund Raymond J Werner (Anniv), req by his daughters</p> <p>Tues., Jan 9 9:00am—In thanksgiving for the gift of Life</p> <p>Wed., Jan 10 9:00am—Bill Schramm, req by cousin</p> <p>Thurs., Jan 11 9:00am—Nicky Crudo (40th Anniv), req by the family</p> <p>Sat., Jan 13 4:00pm—Henry Mangene, Rick Shevy, req by the family Jerry Valenti, req by wife &amp; family</p> <p>Sun., Jan 14 7:30am—Jean and Joe Hogan, req by KNT Wendt 11:00am—Sandra Novak, req by Joyce Novak Margaret Oaksford (17th Anniv), req by family Vince DiNuzzo, req by IHM Prayer Group</p>

## CATHOLIC LIFE EXPLAINED ~

### Wedding Feast & Epiphany

#### Question:

How are the feasts of the baptism of Jesus and the account of the wedding feast of Cana related to the Epiphany celebration?

#### Answer:

The Epiphany season focuses on revealing Jesus to the world. Following the Christmas celebration, the liturgical year lays out a series of manifestation points in which Jesus is made publicly known. From its very beginning, the Christian community highlighted three events in the life of Jesus. These are the Epiphany, the Baptism of the Lord and the wedding feast at Cana.

The Epiphany discloses Jesus to the world of the Gentiles, represented by the magi from the East. The accounts of Jesus' baptism reveal his identity and mission, along with exposing him to those to whom he was sent to minister. The miracle of turning water to wine at the wedding feast of Cana, unique to John's Gospel, is the first public sign that Jesus performs, thus manifesting his public identity and his powers.

Today in the Roman Church, these are usually celebrated on three successive Sundays: Epiphany, the Baptism of the Lord which is usually the next Sunday, and the wedding feast of Cana, which is proclaimed on the 2nd Sunday of Ordinary Time in lectionary year C.

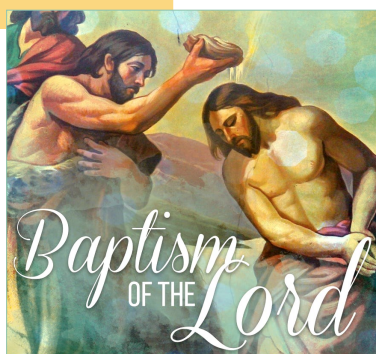
These feasts connect around the concept of epiphany, public manifestation of Jesus to the world. They help us get to know more intimately who Jesus is and what he is about. Spend some time delving more deeply into your understanding of who Jesus is. Continue to cultivate these "epiphany" moments in your life.

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### Prayer for the New Year

Dear Lord,  
With thanksgiving we entrust our year to You: whatever it holds, whoever we encounter, wherever we traverse. What You supply is gift. May our comings and goings be aligned with Your will. Amen.

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January 8

### Readings for the week of January 7, 2024

Sunday: Is 60:1-6/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13 (see 11)/Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6/Mt 2:1-12

Monday: Is 55:1-11/Is 12:2-3, 4bcd, 5-6 (3)/1 Jn 5:1-9/Mk 1:7-11

Tuesday: 1 Sm 1:9-20/1 Sm 2:1, 4-5, 6-7, 8abcd/Mk 1:21-28

Wednesday: 1 Sm 3:1-10, 19-20/Ps 40:2 and 5, 7-8a, 8b-9, 10/Mk 1:29-39

Thursday: 1 Sm 4:1-11/Ps 44:10-11, 14-15, 24-25/Mk 1:40-45

Friday: 1 Sm 8:4-7, 10-22a/Ps 89:16-17, 18-19/Mk 2:1-12

Saturday: 1 Sm 9:1-4, 17-19; 10:1a/Ps 21:2-3, 4-5, 6-7/Mk 2:13-17

Next Sunday: 1 Sm 3:3b-10, 19/Ps 40:2, 4 7-8, 8-9, 10 (8a, 9a)/1 Cor 6:13c-15a, 17-20/Jn 1:35-42

**Prayer Team Ministry** - If you would like prayers said for someone, contact Brenda at (cell) (838) 267-5801.

**FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION**  
Due to early deadline-collection tally will be listed in next issue of bulletin.