

St. Frances Cabrini Catholic

12001 69th St. East, Parrish, Fl. 34219

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

WWW.SFXCPARRISH.COM

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941.776.9097

OFFICE HOURS

M,T, Th, F 9:00am-3:00pm

Closed Wednesday



Today the Magi gaze in deep wonder at what they see: heaven on earth, earth in heaven, man in God, God in man, one whom the whole universe cannot contain now enclosed in a tiny body.

As they look, they believe and do not question, as their symbolic gifts bear witness: incense for God, gold for a king, myrrh for one who is to die.

— Peter Chrysologus

SCHEDULE OF MASSES

Daily Mass: T, W, TH, F - 8:30 AM

Saturday Vigil: 4:00 PM

Sunday: 9:00 AM & 11:15 AM

PARISH STAFF

Pastor: Fr. Joseph Gates

Operations Manager: Richard Lind

Sacramental Coordinator: Chris Malone

Liturgy Coordinator: Lydia Herrera

Maintenance & IT: Ernie Nolder

Maintenance: Roger Rodriguez

Data Entry: Tom Moline

JANUARY 8, 2023



TUESDAY

8:30am

Req.By:

JANUARY 10

+SHIRLY PENA

Homebound Ministry

WEDNESDAY

8:30am

Req. By:

JANUARY 11

+JEFFREY BRUST

Craig Vollmer

THURSDAY

8:30am.

Req. BY:

JANUARY 12

+TERRY McLAUGHLIN

Brian & Jeanne McLaughlin

FRIDAY

8:30am

Req. By:

JANUARY 13

+JOHN FAGAN

Friends

SATURDAY

4:00 pm

Req. By:

2nd Int.

Req. By:

JANUARY 14

+CHRISTINE DeVRIES

Loving Family

+NANCY ANN RIZZO

Husband & Children

SUNDAY

9:00am

Req. By:

2nd Int;

Req. By:

JANUARY 15

+JACK COLLINS

Sandra Perez

+NANCY ANN RIZZO

Husband & Childrfen

11:15am

Req. By:

2nd Int:

Req.By:

+ MARGUERITE VIERLING

Loving Family

+SUSAN LOMONACO

Husband Morris

TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READINGS

First Reading 20: Is 60:1-6

Psalms: 72: 1-2,7-8,10-13

Second Reading: Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6

Gospel Reading: M t 2:1-12

SACRAMENTS:

Contact the Office

Baptism: For registered & active parishioners: **Baptism instruction is required for Parents.**

Reconciliation:

Saturdays 2:00-3:00 PM

In the main Church Or by Appointment

Weddings: Must be arranged with the pastor at least **6 months before the date** desired.

Last Rites & Anointing of the Sick

Due to the Distance from Parrish Manatee Hospital:

St. Joseph: 941-756-3732

Sacred Heart: 941-748-2221

Lakewood Ranch Hospital:

Our Lady of the Angels: 941-752-6770

Doctor's Hospital Sarasota:

Incarnation: 941-921-6631

St. Patrick's: 941-378-1703

DO NOT WAIT TILL THE LAST MINUTE

Funerals: Please contact the Office for a meeting for Dates, Readings, and Music. There are certain policies in place at St. Frances Cabrini for the respectful burial of your loved ones.

**'Maybe Christmas,' he thought,
'doesn't come from a store.
Maybe Christmas... perhaps...
means a little bit more!'**

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

MONDAY THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

21:ls42:1-4,6-7 Ps 29:1-2,3-4,9-10 Mt. 3:13-17

TUESDAY

306: Heb 2:5-12 Ps 8: 2ab,5-9 Mk 1 -21-28

WEDNESDAY

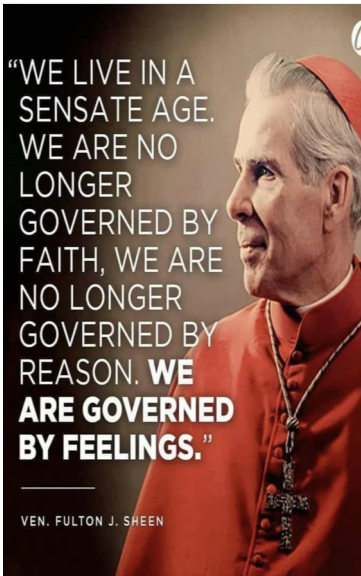
307: Heb 2:14-18 Ps 105:1-4,6-9 Mk 1:29;39

THURSDAY

308: Heb 3:7-14 Ps 95:6-7c,8-11 Mk 1:40-45

FRIDAY ST. HILARY

309:Heb 4:1-5,11 Ps 78:3,4bc,6c-8 Mk 2:1-12



Supporting our Diocese

Our Goal to support the Diocesan Offices, Missions, and Charities.

Goal: \$164,000.00
Raised So Far: **\$124,125.74**



Parish Focused Giving

Helping to relieve our Parish of St. Frances Cabrini Debt!
Debt Free by 2023

Goal: \$526,460.00
Raised So Far: **\$163,018.95**

2022 Catholic Faith Appeal

Every year, the Diocese of Venice places a goal for each parish to provide a certain amount towards an overall needs of the Diocese. For 2022, **our Parish responsibility is \$164,000.** Our hope is to fulfill our obligation early and ensure our support for these essential programs for the Southwest Florida community. We ask if you have any additional resources you wish to support Catholic organizations with, that you donate to the Catholic Faith Appeal. Your support, which is fully tax deductible, will provide assistance to thousands in our area.

Parish Groups

Saturday's

That Man is You (Men's Group)
6:30am-8:00am

Sunday's

Faith Formation (Pre-K—5th Grade)
10:15am-11:00am

Tuesday's

Divine Mercy Cenacle
9:15am

Knights of Columbus
Every Last Tuesday of the month
7:00 pm

Wednesday's

Confirmation Prep (9th Grade)
Confirmation Classes (10th Grade)
6:30pm—7:30pm

O.C.I.A

Order of Christian Initiation for Adults
7pm-9pm

Friday's

Bible Study
9:30am

Adoration & Rosary
8-8:30am (**Tues.-Friday**) in the Church
Adoration and Divine Mercy Chaplet
9am-2:00PM Every Friday

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

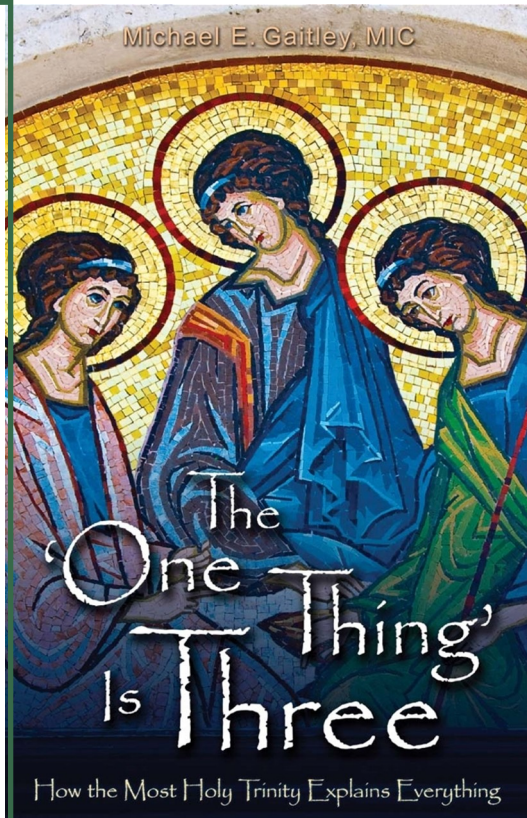
Starting

January 18th, 2023

-

April 26th, 2023

Wednesday
Evenings



12 Week
Retreat

Ongoing Adult
Faith Formation

6:30-7:30PM
In the Cabrini
Center

In this retreat we will find, “How the Most Holy Trinity Explains Everything,” and how Fr. Gaitley has made theology easy.

Registration is limited and required.
Please contact Richard Vaske (813-777-6640)

Books are available online for \$14.00

COUPLES WEDDING ANNIVERSARY MASS FEBRUARY 4 and FEBRUARY 18, 2023

All couples celebrating 24,30,35,40,45,50, or more than 50 years of marriage are invited by Bishop Frank J. Dewane to an Anniversary Mass in their honor. The Anniversary Masses will be celebrated in two locations: February 4th at St. Leo the Great Parish in Bonita Springs at 11:00am, and February 18th at Epiphany Cathedral in Venice, also at 11:00am. Please contact your local parish office for reservations no later than one week before the event.

JANUARY 8, 2023

*Christmas and New Years
2022-2023*

Christmas Vigil: December 24

4:00PM Vigil *

6:00PM Vigil

Christmas Day (True Midnight): December 25

12:00AM

10:30 AM *

Friday December 30th

8:30AM Daily Mass



Saturday: December 31st– Vigil of the Solemnity of Mary “New Years Eve”

4:00PM *

Sunday: January 1st—Solemnity of the Mother of God

10:30AM *

Saturday: January 7—Vigil of the Feast of the Three Kings “Epiphany”

4:00PM

Sunday: January 8– Feast of the Three Kings “Epiphany”

9:00AM

11:15 AM

*Overflow Masses in the Cabrini Center



THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

WHAT THE BIBLE SUGGESTS: LIGHT FROM HEAVEN: T. Michael Davis

Let me now offer a different hypothesis of the star as a supernatural event. I propose that it was a source of light in the sky (as are naturally occurring astronomical objects), but that this was a different kind of source, emitting a different kind of light.

My fundamental premise is this: the star was an opening in the supernatural, other-dimensional boundary that separates heaven and earth; it was a tear in the fabric of heaven. God made an opening so that the light of heaven shone on the earth. This was, I believe, the star of Bethlehem, and it was a heavenly light that guided the magi.

This proposal of an opening of heaven is consistent with other biblical accounts. When Jesus was baptized, heaven was opened (Matt.3:16; Mark1:10; Luke3:21). When Saul met the Lord Jesus on the road to Damascus, “suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him” (Acts9:3). On special occasions, then, God has opened heaven and sent light from heaven to earth.

This special opening in the earth/heaven boundary would have appeared in the sky either to the west or to the east of the initial location of the magi. Since this source of light was not connected in any natural way to the celestial sphere (along with the sun, moon, stars, planets, and comets), it could remain stationary with respect to the earth. All the naturally occurring astronomical objects rise in the east and set in the west from day to day, and they drift on the celestial sphere over longer periods of time. The star of Bethlehem, however, stayed just above the western horizon, beckoning the magi to Jerusalem, or behind them, on the eastern horizon, throughout their journey. In either case, they saw this star in a fixed location in the sky: there it appeared and there it stood.

This opening in heaven (God’s abode) would not have been visible to other earthly observers (Herod had not seen it). The opening would have been near the wise men, low in the sky, emitting the light from heaven, not in all directions as a natural star does, but in a well-defined, narrow beam, much like today’s lasers.

Exactly how this light provided guidance depends on where one locates the star and the magi. Some place the magi in the east and the star in the west. “The magi, and not the star, were in the east and followed the star in the western sky.” In this view, the heavenly opening is in front of the wise men. They observe this unusual phenomenon, that is, light from a “star” that remains stationary in the west, and follow it to Jerusalem, much as they followed this same “star” as it “went on before them” to Bethlehem in the south.

Some place the magi in the east and the star in the east (“We have seen His star in the east”). If this was the case, then the light from heaven, shining from behind the magi, would have served as a source of illumination on their path westward. Consequently, this opening in heaven’s fabric is in a fixed location in the eastern sky, and the light is shining on or in front of the magi much as it did on Paul when the light flashed “around him.”

Isaiah prophesied, “The people who walk in darkness will see a great light; those who live in a dark land, the light will shine on them” (Isa.9:2), as he foresaw the birth of the Prince of Peace (9:6). Matthew saw the fulfillment of Isaiah’s prophecy in Jesus’ coming and preaching in the region of Zebulun and Naphtali (see Isa.9:1–2; Matt.4:12–17). Jesus is the Light to the Gentiles; in Him is the prophecy fulfilled. I think Isaiah’s words may also invite a literal reading of light shining on some future God-seekers: they lived “in a [spiritually] dark land” and saw “a great [heavenly] light,” which shone “on them,” and it guided them to the “child [who would] be born.” The illumination was sufficient for them to travel at night or during the day, and it brought the wise travelers finally to the western limit of their journey: Jerusalem. At that time, according to this scenario, the opening in heaven was closed; the star disappeared.

God waited as the wise men met with Herod and received further directions to turn southward toward Bethlehem. The directions were accurate and true to Scripture, but God was not going to leave the magi without His supernatural guidance and confirmation. As the wise men turned toward the south to continue their search for the King of the Jews, “Lo, the star, which they had seen in the east, went on before them” (Matt.2:9). The source of heavenly illumination opened to their south, over Bethlehem, and the light from heaven beckoned the magi to their final destination.

The wise men followed the star as it moved before them “until it came and stood over where the Child was” (Matt.2:9). Whether by positioning the heavenly opening over the house (and in the line of sight of the magi) or by illuminating the house itself with light from heaven, God guided the wise men to their final destination. They did what they came to do and departed. The opening(s) in the heavenly fabric did what it was meant to do, then closed.



JANUARY 8, 2023

The Saturday evening before Palm Sunday Mary of Bethany anoints Jesus feet!

The House Is Filled with Fragrance (12:3b)

"The house was filled with the fragrance[230] of the perfume." (12:3)

You can imagine the sudden, overpowering fragrance of the perfume filling the room, as Mary broke the seal on the alabaster flask and poured it over Jesus' feet. The whole room was charged with the beautiful aroma. Paul uses this image to elucidate the power of a Christian presence:

"Thanks be to God, who always leads us in triumphal procession in Christ and through us spreads everywhere the fragrance of the knowledge of him. For we are to God the aroma of Christ among those who are being saved and those who are perishing." (2 Corinthians 2:14-15)

Mary had performed a beautiful, startling, and extravagant act of worship that was destined to be remembered long after her time (Mark 14:9). The Wise Men believed in extravagant worship, as well:

"They bowed down and worshiped him. Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts of gold and of incense and of myrrh." (Matthew 2:11)

David was a strong believer in worship that was not cheap. Araunah the Jebusite was willing to give for free his threshing floor to David for a place to offer a sacrifice (later the site of the temple), but David refused.

"I insist on paying you for it. I will not sacrifice to the LORD my God burnt offerings that cost me nothing." (2 Samuel 24:24a)

Chalking doors for Epiphany

Epiphany (also known as Twelfth Night, *Theophany*, or Three Kings Day) marks the occasion of a time-honored Christian tradition of "chalking the doors." The formula for the ritual — adapted for 2018 — is simple: take chalk of any color and write the following above the entrance of your home:

20 + C + M + B + 23.

The letters have two meanings. First, they represent the initials of the Magi — Caspar, Melchior, and Balthazar — who came to visit Jesus in His first home. They also abbreviate the Latin phrase, *Christus mansionem benedicat*: "May Christ bless the house." The "+" signs represent the cross, and the "20" at the beginning and the "18" at the end mark the year. Taken together, this inscription is performed as a request for Christ to bless those homes so marked and that He stay with those who dwell therein throughout the entire year.

The chalking of the doors is a centuries-old practice throughout the world, though it appears to be someone less well-known in the United States. It is, however, an easy tradition to adopt, and a great practice whereby we dedicate our year to God from its very outset, asking His blessing on our homes and on all who live, work or visit them there.

Most often the chalking takes place after Epiphany Mass, and can be done at any church, home, or dwelling. Traditionally the blessing is done by either a priest or the father of the family. This blessing can be performed simply by just writing the inscription and offering a short prayer, or more elaborately, including songs, prayers, processions, the burning of incense, and the sprinkling of holy water. After many Epiphany Masses, satchels of blessed chalk are distributed. These can then be brought home and used to perform the ritual.

Practicing traditions like the chalking of the doors helps us to live our Faith more concretely and serve as an outward sign of our dedication to Our Lord. Our homes are also the place where many of us will make the greatest strides in our spiritual growth, through observance of daily prayer, spiritual reading, and work offered as an oblation to God.

The chalking of the doors of a home encourages Christians to dedicate their life at home to God and to others. Seeing the symbols over our doors can help to remind us, while passing in and out on our daily routines, that our homes and all those who dwell there belong to Christ. It also serves as a reminder of welcoming the Magi gave to Jesus. We should strive to be as welcoming to all who come to our homes to visit us



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