



## MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Monday, January 4 - St. Elizabeth  
Ann Seton

8:00 John Bayer *by Jim and  
MaryAnn Schneider*

Tuesday, January 5 - St. John  
Neumann

8:00 Departed Souls

Wednesday, January 6 - Blessed  
Andre' Bessette

5:30 Maria Degaspero *by Charles  
and Jeanne Rusek*

Thursday, January 7 - St. Raymond  
of Penafort

8:00 Michael Kelly *by Jim and  
Charlene Gibson*

Friday, January 8

8:00 Abigail Margeson - 3rd  
Anniversary *by Bernie and  
Barb Thoma*

Saturday, January 9

9:00 Parishioners of St. Teresa's

4:30 Rosie Yaeger *by Ann  
Falsioni*

Sunday, January 10 - The Baptism  
of the Lord

8:00 Michael and Florence Zola  
*by family*

10:15 Bernie Badding *by Jim and  
MaryAnn Schneider*



## Scripture Readings for the Week

Monday - 1 John 3:22-4:6;

Matthew 4:12-17, 23-25

Tuesday - 1 John 4:7-10;

Mark 6:34-44

Wednesday - 1 John 4:11-18;

Mark 6:45-52

Thursday - 1 John 4:19-5:4; Luke  
4:14-22a

Friday - 1 John 5:5-13; Luke 5:12-  
16

Saturday - 1 John 5:14-21; John  
3:22-30

Next Sunday - Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11;  
Titus 2:11-14, 3:4-7; Luke 3:15-16,  
21-22



## PASTORAL SHARINGS

Our feast today says that darkness and its fear have been overcome. Christ, the star of Bethlehem, has risen. That star will be the sun of justice, the source of warmth and light and joy. All of us here have been flooded with that light. That darkness of sin and death has been overcome. That is why Epiphany has come down to us as one of the special baptismal feasts. We who are baptized must learn to claim that and bask in its radiance. It should not be just the three wise men who glory in its brilliance. But, of course, the world out there is still in darkness, still trying to negate the fear, moving from candle to incandescent, and far beyond. And we live in that world. Is there anything that we can do for that world? Isaiah tells us there is. "Rise up," he says, "Your light has come!" Not only come, but come into you. You now have become lighted up. You are part of the living Christ who is the light of the world. Turn on your light. Let it shine out into the world's darkness. The peoples of the world will come to the light, the light of the baptized, the light of the church, the New Jerusalem.

It is a wonderful vision Isaiah paints for us: camels and dromedaries, the wealth of nations, the gold and frankincense. We see that vision reflected in our gospel story. We see it fulfilled in the coming of God's Son into the world. We experience it in the riches laid at our feet when we are baptized. For by that baptism we have become members of that Christ. We have become with Christ Jesus the light of the world, the radiance that dissipates the darkness and the fear and the sin of the world. We are to be today's epiphany in a world shrouded in darkness, engulfed in thick clouds. We are to be light, bring light, dissipate the dark, make life possible again.

We must, like the wise men, keep seeking the source of all light and life, Jesus, the Christ. We are the wise ones, continuing to seek the King, wanting ever to be part of His brightness. We find Him here, not wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a manger, but displayed to us in the Bread and the Cup, His Body and His Blood. Here we are becoming part of the light of the world. This sacrament is the fuel that keeps our lamp burning. Now we, with Christ, can light up the darkness of the world and bring it hope.

Simeon Thole, O.S.B.

**Our Special Prayer Request for the Week:** That the zeal and fervor of the New Year will encourage young men and women to accept the challenge for religious life commitment; we pray to the Lord...



Please pray for the sick of the parish and their family members particularly; Thomas Brennan, Alexis Bruno, Sara Milani, Julie Conschafter, Loretta Varo, Julie Carlo, Pamela Rodgers, Julie Robertson, Carmella Verdi, Rose Cvitanovich, Mark Pearce, Dominic Delre and for the happy repose of the soul of Lena Riggio and Caroline Bushart. Please also continue to pray for the troops who are serving our country in Iraq, Afghanistan and around the world.

☺ Three psychiatrists agree that people always come to them with their problems, but they have no one to go to with theirs, so they decide to listen to one another's deepest, darkest secrets. The first confesses, "I'm a compulsive shopper, deeply in debt. So I always over-bill patients." The second admits, "I have a drug problem and I pressure patients into buying drugs from me." The third says, "I know it's wrong, but no matter how hard I try, I just can't keep a secret."



Today on the feast of the Epiphany, in accordance with the ancient tradition of the Church, we make the Proclamation of the Date of Easter. This custom originated before the time of printed calendars, weekly parish bulletins, facebook and twitter. The public proclamation has value as a reminder of the centrality of the resurrection of the Lord in the liturgical year and the importance of the given mysteries of faith which are celebrated each year. Easter Sunday will be the 4th of April 2010.



**Religious Education Classes for this New Year of 2010** resume this Wednesday, January 6th with the 4-5pm session and next Sunday, January 10th for grades K-10. It's great to see our children and young people at Mass on the weekends. Let us always nourish our faith by praying together at Mass. The Living Nativity on December 20th was truly memorable! We are very grateful to all the families who participated and helped to bring the true spirit of Christmas to our parish. We are especially grateful to the Kelkenberg family for adding to the stable ambiance with their live animals and hospitality.



St. Teresa's Women's Guild would like to thank the parishioners of our parish for their generous outpouring of donations of hats, mittens and scarves to their annual mitten tree collection. All of the items were donated to the Akron/Newstead Food Pantry.



From 1558 until 1829, Roman Catholics in England were not permitted to practice their faith openly. Someone during that era wrote this carol as a catechism song for young Catholics. It has two levels of meaning: the surface meaning plus a hidden meaning known only to members of their church. Each element in the carol has a code word for a religious reality which the children could remember.

The partridge in a pear tree was Jesus Christ.  
 Two turtle doves were the Old and New Testaments.  
 Three French hens stood for faith, hope and love.  
 The four calling birds were the four gospels of Matthew, Mark, Luke and John.  
 The five golden rings recalled the Torah or Law, the first five books of the Old Testament.  
 The six geese a-laying stood for the six days of creation.  
 Seven swans a-swimming represented the sevenfold gifts of the Holy Spirit—counsel, piety, fear of the Lord, fortitude, knowledge, understanding and wisdom.  
 The eight maids a-milking were the eight beatitudes.  
 Nine ladies dancing were the nine fruits of the Holy Spirit - Love, Joy, Peace, Patience, Kindness, Goodness, Faithfulness, Gentleness and Self Control.  
 The ten lords a-leaping were the ten commandments.  
 The eleven pipers piping stood for the eleven faithful disciples.  
 The twelve drummers drumming symbolized the twelve points of belief in the Apostles' Creed.

The response to our December request for financial support of the Retired Religious Fund was outstanding! Our parish contribution was **\$8223.00**



- \* Sunday, January 3 - No Religious Education Classes - Christmas Vacation!
- \* Tuesday, January 5 - Women's Guild Monthly Meeting - 7:00 pm in the Rectory Meeting Room
- \* Wednesday, January 6 - Religious Education Classes - 4:00 - 5:00 pm
- \* Saturday, January 9 - Monthly Visitation to the Erie County Home - cars leave the parking lot at 1:15 pm - cookies are needed!
- \* Sunday, January 10 - Religious Education Classes - 9:00 - 10:00 am and 11:15 - 12:30 pm



**A Prayer for Priests and Priestly Vocations**

Heavenly Father, please grant to Your faithful servants, the grace and strength to carry out Your mission for the Church each day. Keep our priests close to You and continue to inspire them to serve others in Your holy name. Please help to inspire men who are called to a priestly vocation to answer Your call and participate in the fullness that You have planned for them. Amen.



**BOTTOM LINE:**

Indulge your imagination in every possible flight.  
 Jane Austen