

What is the Epiphany?

Caspar, Balthasar, Melchior. These “three kings of Orient are” found, complete with crowns and camels, in every nativity scene.

MAGI – THREE KINGS?

Yet if you look closely at the gospel account of the Magi (Mat 2:1-12), you won’t find these names. Actually there is no mention of how many Magi there were or that they were kings riding camel-back. This is a testimony to something some Bible Christians would like to deny: that all who read a text of Scripture do so in the light of some tradition, through some lens. If it is the right lens, it magnifies the text and allows us to get at its true meaning. If it is the wrong lens, we get a distorted image.

EPIPHANY & THE WEALTH OF THE NATIONS

It just so happens that the lens the Catholic tradition uses to read the story is derived from Scripture itself. To be precise, it flows from the connection between holy words written hundreds of years apart. But despite the many years and different human authors, these texts were inspired by the same Divine Author, the Holy Spirit.

In chapter 60 of Isaiah (Is 60:1-6), it is predicted that at a time of darkness, the glory of the Lord will shine over Jerusalem. The heavenly light will be a beacon to the pagan nations and even to their kings. Here we find mention of camels whose job it will be to bring the wealth of these nations, including frankincense and gold, to the city of the Lord. Psalm 72 agrees that far off kings will bring gifts to the Son of David. The tradition of the Church has always seen the story of the Magi as a fulfillment of both Isaiah’s prophecy and Psalm 72. Hence the crowns and camels.

GOLD, FRANKINCENSE & MYRRH

But hold on. Isaiah 60 refers to only two of the gifts mentioned by Matthew: gold, fit for a king, and frankincense, for the worship of God. So what about the myrrh—where does that come from and what does it mean?

Myrrh, an aromatic resin, was used in preparing the dead for burial. Gold reveals that the babe in the manger is actually a king; frankincense tells us that is he God incarnate; myrrh tells us that he has come to die. That someone would redeem God’s people through suffering and death was foretold by Isaiah a few chapters earlier (Is. 53). This was the really hard thing for those living in

Jesus’ time to comprehend—that the same person who fulfilled all those prophecies about a glorious new king also fulfilled the prophecies about a suffering servant.

All three gifts of the Magi are necessary to convey the true revelation, the true epiphany of who this child is and what he is destined to do. That’s why for hundred’s of years we’ve sung of three kings, not two or four.

MAGI – CASPAR, BALTHASAR & MELCHIOR

OK, so where did the names of the three come from? The ancient feast of the Epiphany actually celebrates three events, tied together by the meaning of the word epiphany as “appearance” or “manifestation.” Jesus suddenly appears as who He really is—messiah and God—to the Magi, at Cana when he works his first miracle, and when he is baptized in the Jordan.

In the early Church, Epiphany was therefore second only to Easter vigil as the time to celebrate the sacrament of baptism. Blessed water from those baptisms were used to bless the dwellings of the faithful and it became customary to write with blessed chalk over the doorposts of their home with an inscription of the new year separated by “C+B+M” meaning “Christ blesses this house (Christus bendicat mansionem).” For instance, in 2024, the inscription is 20+C+M+B+24. Since the three kings were also remembered at the same time, someone decided to give them names, and to use CBM as their initials—Caspar, Balthasar, and Melchior. The names stuck.

THREE KINGS, EPIPHANY & THE TRUE STAR

But the fact that Matthew gives them no names is telling. They may be kings, but in this story they are merely supporting actors. They follow the true Star, the King of Kings. Only His name is important. The Feast of the Epiphany is not about the Magi—it’s all about Jesus.

Start This Year Strong With The Lord!

Understand Your Catholic Faith with
The Catechism in a Year Podcast
with Fr. Mike Schmitz!

By listening to this podcast, Catholics will:

- Read the entire *Catechism of the Catholic Church* in 365 days
- Understand the essentials of the Catholic Faith and why they matter
- Transform their relationship with the Church that Christ founded

Listen free on the Ascension App!

Scan this QR code with your phone to download the Ascension App — the best place to listen to *The Catechism in a Year*.



Sacred Heart Catholic Church

100 S. Cherokee St. Frontenac, KS 66763

January 7, 2024

The Epiphany Of The Lord



Mass Intentions for This Week

SAT 1/6	5:00 pm	+Betty Grant
SUN 1/7	8:00 am	+Greg Kiel
	10:00 am	People of the Parish
TUE 1/9	5:30 pm	+Bill Knoll
WED 1/10	7:15 am	+John Kotzman
THU 1/11	7:15 am	+Mary Wilson
FRI 1/12	7:15 am	+Tony Sighel
SAT 1/13	5:00 pm	+Wilma Jean Smardo
SUN 1/14	8:00 am	+Roberta Coomes
	10:00 am	People of the Parish

Looking Ahead

SUN 1/7	9:00 – 9:50 am	PSR Epiphany Celebration
	After Masses	KoC Breakfast: Hall
MON 1/8	6:30 pm	Walking With Purpose: Bosco
WED 1/10	7:30 am – 8:30 pm	Eucharistic Adoration
	7:00 – 8:00 pm	CYM: Hall
THU 1/11	11:30 am	Harvest House: Bosco
FRI 1/12	6:15 am	Kapaun’s Men: Bosco
SUN 1/14	9:00 – 9:50 am	PSR
MON 1/15	6:30 pm	Altar Society Meeting: Bosco

Stewardship of Treasure

Envelopes	\$4,000.00
Loose Collection & Visitors	\$6,505.52
Online Tithing	\$816.00
Building Fund	\$3,000.00
Cemetery Fund	\$60.00
Food Pantry	\$678.55
Total Collection	\$15,060.07

Christmas Collection

Envelopes	\$185.00
Christmas Call to Sharing	\$300.00
Total Collection	\$485.00



Parish Office

Hours: Monday – Friday 8:00 am - 2:00 pm

Office: 620-231-7747 Emergency: 316-218-8656

Website: www.SacredHeartFrontenac.com

Prayer Line: 620-231-2745 or email ambres73@gmail.com

Parish Staff

Pastor: Fr. Josh Evans frjoshevs@gmail.com

Secretary: Suzy Collins sacredheart66763@gmail.com

Mass Schedule

Saturday Vigil: 5:00 pm

Sunday: 8:00 am, 10:00 am

Tuesday: 5:30 pm

Wed – Friday: 7:15 am

Reconciliation

Saturday: 4:00 - 4:45 pm

Tuesday: 5:00 - 5:25 pm

Wed – Friday: 7:00 - 7:10 am

Ministry Schedule

January 13th & 14th

Rosary Leaders

5:00 pm Sharon Barone

8:00 am Kelly Coleman

10:00 am Suzy Collins

Lectors

5:00 pm David Hogard

8:00 am Susan Rodriguez

10:00 am Kathy Seitz

Eucharistic Ministers

5:00 pm Betty Kunshek

8:00 am Ed Rodriguez

10:00 am Tracy Holzem

Gift-Bearers

5:00 pm Gary & Gin Falcetto

8:00 am Shawn Bugni Family

10:00 am Mona W. & Patti S.

Altar Servers

5:00 pm Baron & Strauss Kunshek

8:00 am Wesley & Leah Hayes

10:00 am Caitlyn & Claire Boyce

Ushers

5:00 pm Mike W. & Steve Hogard

8:00 am Ryan S. & Joe M.

10:00 am Terry W. & Doug H.

PLEASE SIGN IN!

Harvest House

Harvest House will have its monthly luncheon on Thursday, January 11th at 11:30 am in the Bosco Center. All 55+ parishioners are welcome to attend for good food and company.

Altar Society Meeting

The first meeting for the Sacred Heart Altar Society for 2024 will be Monday, January 15th at 6:30 pm in the Bosco Center. There will be an election of officers for 2024-2026.

Candidates are:

President: Teri Kinyon, Patti Shockley

Vice President: Lucinda Bonine, Mona Wachter

Secretary: Janis Shaffer

Treasurer: Marilyn Taylor, Amanda Boyce

VIRTUS Training Session

Our Lady of Lourdes is hosting a VIRTUS Training Session on campus in the Guadalupe Hall Monday, January 22nd at 6:00 pm.

Our diocese, with the direction and support of Bishop Carl A. Kemme, has developed programs to create a safe environment for children. **All priests and staff, as well as all volunteers who have regular contact with children, are required to complete a VIRTUS Training Session.**

Preregistration is required.

- Go to www.virtusonline.org
- On the left-hand side of the page, click the green box labeled "First-time Registrant"
- Choose "Wichita, KS (Diocese)" for your organization.
- Create a user ID and password that you can easily remember.
- Continue through the questions to complete your registration. Once you have completed the registration process you will see a message on your screen confirming that you have completed the process. You should then receive an email confirming your information.



Wine & Cheese Social Jan 20th
After Mass in the Bosco Center



Coffee & Donuts Jan 21st
After Masses in the Bosco Center

What Is Steubenville STL Mid-America?

Steubenville STL Mid-America is a high-energy youth conference where thousands of teens are invited to encounter Jesus Christ through dynamic speakers, engaging music, the Sacraments, small group discussions, and fellowship with other teens. Our conference is an outreach of Franciscan University in partnership with the St. Louis Archdiocesan Office of Youth Ministry. Two conferences are held every year in July and take place on the campus of Missouri State University in Springfield, MO.



The conference theme this year is "ILLUMINATE" and the accompanying scripture is "The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it." (John 1:5) The Conference Dates are July 5-7th & July 12-14th, 2024. If any CYM students are interested in attending, please contact the Parish Office. Housing will either be on (\$215 - includes hotel and 5 meals) or off (\$175 - includes 3 meals) the Missouri State Campus.

Scholarships Available!



WEEK 1 MINISTRY TEAM JULY 5-7



Oscar Rivera, Jr.

Host



Fr. Chris Martin
Team Priest



Sr. M. Karolyn Nunes, FSGM
Speaker



Joel Stepanek
Speaker

Josh Blakesly

Worship Leader



WEEK 2 MINISTRY TEAM JULY 12-14

Katie Prejean McGrady

Host



Fr. Brian Fallon
Team Priest



Jackie Francois Angel
Speaker



Brian Greenfield
Speaker



Kyle Huelsing

Worship Leader

Choir Practice: 6:00 pm - Mondays - Church
Rosary Group: 9:30 am - Church - Mondays
Women's Exercise Group: 7:00 pm - Parish Hall
Sunday, Monday, Tuesday and Thursday nights.

Fort Scott Blesses Ground

Mary Queen of Angels Parishioners in Fort Scott took part in a ground blessing for a church that will look very much like the church that was heavily damaged by a fire in August of 2022. Church rendering provided by Alloy Architecture.



Bishop Carl A. Kemme, Fr. Yancey Burgess, and other associated with the construction of a new Mary Queen of Angels Church took part in ceremonial groundbreaking Sunday, December 17th in Fort Scott.

Celebration of Baptism



December 30th, we welcomed Emery Olivia Bishop into the Sacred Heart parish family by the Sacrament of Baptism. Emery's parents are Nicholas and Margo Bishop.

Food Pantry Schedule: January 9th



Sharon D., Mary Lou M., Kathy M., Janice S., Patrick M., Zack Q., Ed R., Mark A.

Food Truck Delivery: January 12th



Denise Q., Mary Lou M., Teresa B., Anna T., Kristie K., Zack Q. Patrick M. Simon B., Kevin K.