

GOOD NEWS: Where did the faith of the Magi come from?

The Season of Christmas includes the celebration of the arrival of the magi from the East. Let's consider the humble adoration of the magi for the Christ child. The magi were Gentiles, and the Greek word "magi" meant oriental scientists. Despite sometimes being translated as "astrologers", their visit to the manger does not validate astrology.

Because they were not Jews, their determination to meet the Jewish savior says much about what the word "epiphany" means. The magi are good examples of believing in the importance of Jesus even without understanding what it would mean to them personally or to the rest of the world.

They worshiped Jesus as a King-Messiah before they knew how he would become king or how his kingship would save the world from evil. As scientific scholars, they had studied religious writings from beyond the scope of their own culture. Then, they acted on faith in response to the Spirit of God who activated them, and it changed their lives.

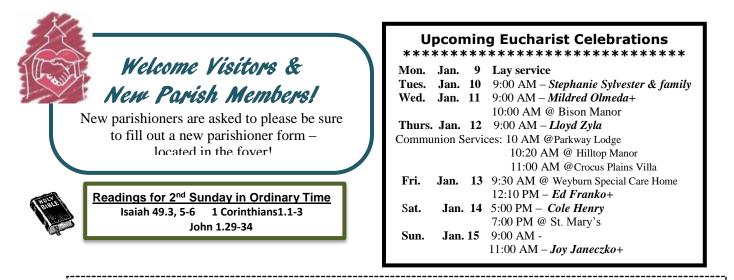
Only the Spirit of God can move someone to have faith, because faith is a gift of the Holy Spirit (see 1 Corinthians 12). The word "epiphany" means discovery, a revelation that changes our lives. Epiphanies are gifts from God as he collaborates with our desire for new growth.

We can imagine how the magi felt when they experienced an epiphany in the presence of the Christ child. Although they did not understand how this baby from a poor family could become king, they remembered him for the rest of their lives and listened for news from the land of Israel about Jesus. We know that they heard about his crucifixion and learned what his followers were teaching about it, for they became Christians -- their relics have been venerated since very early times.

Questions for Personal Reflection:

What sign from God, like the star that the magi followed, are you waiting to see? What signs is God already showing you? These are evidence that he is working in your life. What epiphany -- new understanding -- is Jesus giving you about what God is doing in your life?

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God of love and hope be with us as we ask for your blessing on those who are in need of our prayers, especially: Michelle Kapell, Wanda Dorosz, Darren Polasek, Stan Mickalishen, Jeannie Lemieux, Don Sturgeon, Michael Clemens, Laurette Fradette, Eileen Walkeden, Carmelo Lozada Clase, Joseph Tokarz, Lynn Koloski, Shirley Woodard, Tom Deutscher, Joe Maas, Sandra Mryglod. Roy Sidloski, Graham Dean, Yvonne McNeil, Alex Halyk, Tanis VanDeSype. Wayne Martin, Tony Seitz, Rose Schultz,



<u>Please keep Fr. Francis</u> in your prayers as he will be on a well-deserved vacation to India for the next 6 weeks. During his time away, we are fortunate to have several priests from our Archdiocese available to fill in for him. Mass times on the weekends will remain the same, but there will be some time changes of daily Masses. Please see the calendar and watch your weekly bulletin in case there are further changes.



Join us for St. Vincent de Paul's Family Funday Sunday!! Sunday, January 8th @ 3 PM – Sledding at Signal Hill, Supper and prayer to follow! Family Fundays will be held the 2nd Sunday of each month! Mark your calendars for Feb. 12, March 12, April 9, May 14th! Watch for details on FB or text 861-1544 to receive updates!

Help needed <u>Christmas decorations</u> will be coming down on Monday, January 9th at 9:45 am (after Lay Service). If you are able to lend a hand it would be greatly appreciated. Many hands make light work! Thank you!!



Do you have questions about the Catholic Faith? The Spiritual and Adult Faith Formation Committee is pleased to invite all parishioners to attend a special Q&A event with Catholic Theologian Dr. Brett Salkeld on **Monday January 16, 6:30-8:00pm**. Dr. Salkeld is the Theologian for the Archdiocese of Regina and will be at McKenna Hall for a live Q&A session where he will answer your questions on any topic, curiosity or doubt you may have about the Catholic Faith. If you ever had a question about Catholicism, now is your chance to find the answer! Refreshments and fellowship to follow.



<u>McKenna Roof Fundraiser - Rocky Mountain Vacation</u> - The Finance Committee is pleased to announce a silent auction for three opportunities to vacation in the Canadian Rockies. All money raised goes to the McKenna Hall Roof Fund. The winning bid will receive seven nights at a vacation condo unit at **Silver Creek Mountain Lodge** in Canmore, Alberta.

Canmore is in the heart of the majestic Canadian Rockies only minutes from the Banff Park gates. The unit features 2 bedrooms, 2 baths, full kitchen, patio and in- room laundry. On site restaurant, spa and hot tubs. Bidding sheets are near the front doors of the church. **Bidding ends Jan 16th.**



<u>Come check out the newly updated Nursery room!</u> We are seeking a few more donations to keep this room as friendly as possible to parents of young children. Some of these include: a rocking chair, step stool, and storage tote and wipes. Please contact Leslie Richards at 842-2510 or leslieolmeda@gmail.com if you would like to help. Thanks!



<u>Updated Hospitality Schedules</u> and **<u>Projector Screen Schedules</u>** have been emailed out to those whose email address we have. Others can be picked up from the pamphlet rack. Thank you one and all for being wonderful stewards!



<u>Please consider joining the ministry of Altar Serving</u>. To be an active participant in the Mass is very special. By serving God in the church you are also learning how to serve God outside the church by helping people who are in need! Please contact the office ASAP if you would like to join this ministry! Adult Acolytes are also needed!



Sacramental Prep for Reconciliation will resume Sunday, Jan. 8th at 6:30 PM in the church.



Baptism Preparation Classes are scheduled for **March 4th & May 6th**. Please call the office to register for the date that works best for you! Certain criteria must be met when choosing God-parents. For complete information regarding this very important decision go to our website: www.stvincentdepaul.ca. And please share this with anyone you know that this may pertain to.



<u>CWL</u>: An Executive Meeting will be held **Monday, January 9** @ **7 PM** in the Slezak Rm. Our Annual General Meeting with wine & cheese, will be held on **Monday, January 16th** @ **1 PM** at McKenna. Members are encouraged to come and welcome the new executive and to review the year to come.

Memberships (\$30.00) for 2017 are due, please mark "*CWL Dues*" on your envelope and leave in the collection basket. <u>CWL Newsletters</u> for members are available to be picked up from the box on the back table.



<u>K of C</u> – Executive Meeting Jan.9th @ 7 PM, General Meeting Jan. 23rd @ 7:30 PM. Please submit your 2017 membership dues: Bishop Klein Assembly #1526 = \$35.00, Weyburn Council #1731 = \$36.00.

<u>**Buy – A – Shingle</u>**: Please use the McKenna Roof Fundraising envelopes found at the church or use your own envelope marked "Roof Fund" to make your donation. Include your name to have a charitable receipt issued. Thank you for the donations thus far totaling <u>\$40,317.55</u></u>



Archbishop's Annual Appeal:Thank you for your generous donations thus far! We are nowat 90% of our goal!St. Vincent de Paul Goal = \$55,397.00Collected to date = \$49,718.10St. Mary's Goal = \$1538.00Collected to date = \$1550.00



5/6 Club meets Weekly on Tuesdays from 6:30 - 8 pm **7-9 Club** meets Weekly on Wednesdays from 6:30 - 8 pm. **Spiritual Paint Classes** are held on the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of the month from 4-5 pm in the Youth Room. **Youth Service Team** meets on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of the month from 4 - 5 pm in the Youth Room. **The Teen Timeline Bible Study** meets on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of the month from 4-5 pm in the Youth Rm.



Engaged to be married? Congratulations!!! There are openings left for our January 20-22, 2017 Catholic Engaged Encounter Marriage Preparation Retreat Weekend in Moose Jaw, SK. For more information or to register go to www.ceewest.com and click on "Regina" or call Stella and Ron Anderson at (306)-596-2951. A Wedding is a Day. A Marriage is a Lifetime! Spend the weekend with us to assist you in preparing for a lifetime of marital love!



<u>A workshop entitled 'Stewardship: Faith-Raising not Fund Raising'</u> will be held at Little Flower Parish on Saturday February 11th, 2017. This event will focus both on the spiritual and practical benefits of adopting a stewardship way of life practised personally and within your parish community. The presenters will be Ray Dies and Fr. John Weckend of St. Cecilia's parish. Please contact Diane Goski – diane.goski@myaccess.ca or contact Little Flower parish office – little-flowerregina@sasktel.net or call 306-522-8583.

Parish Council Co-Chairpersons – Lynn Colquhoun and Ken Kot
 Parish Finance Chairperson – Marcy Labbie
 Parish Council Members: Omer Marcotte, Bernie Kot, James Richards, Lynn Colquhoun, Pat Wolensky, Ken Kot, Don Vatamaniuk, Jim Wanner. Parish Council meets on the last Thursday of each month, excluding July.
 K of C Grand Knight: Randy Schiller (861-1863)
 K of C Faithful Navigator: Jim Wanner (842-4014)
 Weyburn K of C Mtgs: Executive & Directors – 2nd Monday of every month, General Mtg. – 4th Monday of every month (Sept.-June)
 CWL President: Camille Goski (842-0321) Weyburn CWL – General Meeting – 3rd Monday of every month (Sept. – June)

		Sat. 5:00 PM	Sun. 9:00 AM	Sun. 11:00 AM
	Readers	Glenda Zackrisson	Claire Kuhn	Patricia Redman
			Lynn Colquhoun	Marga Cugnet
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		Chris Masniuk	Cherise Hein	Don Bohn
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»!		VACANT	Dianne Voz	Dorothy Rist
				Ron Klein
	Acolytes			Don Bohn
	Acolytes			Frank Porte
	Children's Liturgy	Darcy Pouteaux	Ingri Roman	Sanela Bacic
	Power Point	Youth	Barry Briltz	Crooks Family
		Chad Klein, Shane Wil-	John Nikolejsin,	Judy & Mel Van Betuv
		liams, Sean Galvin,	Lorne & Colette Horack,	Gordon Rutten
	Hospitality	Chad & Claire Fingler	Julian Goski, Dick Michel	Danette & Calvin Trace
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		Harry Plemel, Nick Corolui		
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				Sun. at 11 AM
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Today we remember the three wise men from the East who came to pay homage to the infant Jesus, bringing Him rich gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. The gifts we bring – our time, service, and some share of what we earn for the work we do – are equally precious in His sight.