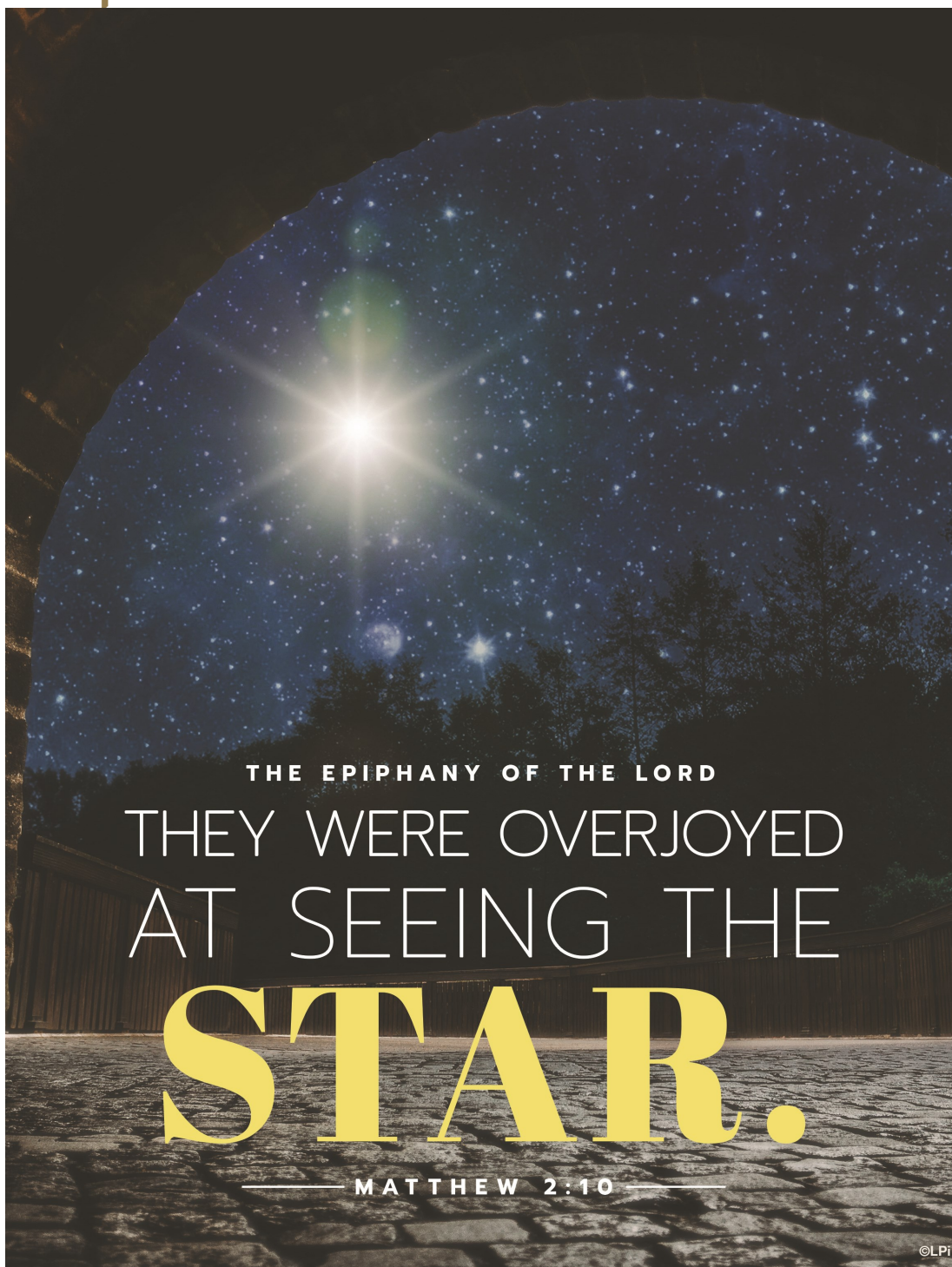




The Epiphany of the Lord

January 5, 2025

*St. Michael
the Archangel
Catholic Parish*



Mission Statement

Compelled by the love of Christ,
we love others,
deepen our faith,
and transform our world.



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NOTE FROM FR. MARK

A Holy Year Is About to Start in Rome

Here is What You Need to Know by Nicole Winfield, edited by me.

Pope Francis formally inaugurated the 2025 Holy Year on Tuesday, reviving an ancient church tradition of encouraging the faithful to make pilgrimages to Rome.

At the start of Christmas Eve Mass, Francis pushed open the Holy Door on St. Peter's Basilica. The door will stay open throughout the year to allow the estimated 32 million pilgrims projected to visit Rome to pass through.

The first Holy Year was called in 1300, and in recent times, they are generally celebrated every 25 to 50 years. Pilgrims who participate can obtain "indulgences" - the century-old feature of the Catholic Church related to the forgiveness of sins. The next Holy Year planned is planned for 2033 to commemorate the anniversary of Christ's crucifixion.

What Are Indulgences?

According to church teaching, Catholics who confess their sins are forgiven, and therefore, released from the eternal or spiritual punishment of damnation. An indulgence is designed to remove the "temporal" punishment of sin that may remain - the consequence of the wrongdoing that might disrupt the sinner's relationship with others.

Martin Luther's **opposition to the church's practice of selling indulgences** inspired him to launch the Protestant Reformation in the 1500s. Buying and selling indulgences **has been illegal since the 1952 Council of Trent**, but the granting of them has continued and is an important element in Holy Year pilgrimages.

According to the norms issued for the 2025 Jubilee, Catholics can obtain an indulgence if they:

- ◆ undertake a pious pilgrimage, participating in Masses and other sacraments, at any of the four papal basilicas in Rome, the Holy Land, or other sacred Jubilee sites "so as to manifest the great need for conversions and reconciliation."
- ◆ participate in works of charity, mercy, or penance, such as visiting prisoners, sick people, or elderly people or undertaking the corporal works of mercy "To feed the hungry, give drink to the thirsty, clothe the naked, welcome the stranger, heal the sick, visit the imprisoned, and bury the dead."
- ◆ Abstain, in a spirit of penance, for at least one day of the week from "futile distractions," such as social media, or from "superfluous consumption," such as fasting; or donating the proportionate sum to the poor or to help migrants.

The Jubilee calendar is a compilation of the official and unofficial Holy Year events that will test Francis' stamina. Francis just turned 88 and went into the Christmas season with a cold that made it hard for him to catch his breath.

Every month, Francis is expected to attend two, three, or four official Jubilee events designated for particular categories of people: the armed forces, artists, priests, poor people, volunteers, and teachers. Then there are the unofficial Jubilee events, in which individual dioceses and other groups have organized their own pilgrimages to Rome.

One item on the Jubilee's unofficial calendar, September 6, has made news because an Italian association organized has organized it, "La Tenda di Gionata" or "Jonathan's Tent," dedicated to making LGBTQ+ Catholics feel more welcome in the Catholic Church.

What's Happening Locally?

In our diocese, we have 11 Holy Sites we can visit. In our deanery, St. John Gualbert Cathedral and the Visitation Parish are Holy Sites where we can go to receive the Jubilee year indulgence. Soon, we will provide booklets for those who wish to pilgrim to these sites, and others throughout the diocese. We will also have a brochure of all the events of this Jubilee year for all of you and we will say the special Jubilee year prayer at Mass.

Pope Francis has written, "The Jubilee year is a time of conversion, reconciliation with God through the Sacrament of Reconciliation, obtaining indulgence for ourselves and for our faithful departed, through God's mercy, renewing our faith and love through hope, and proclaiming God's love to the many who suffer in today's world." Everything we hope to be doing here at OMOS and St. Michael's .

ST. MICHAEL'S NEWS

Thank you to everyone who donated poinsettias and helped decorate our church. It looks beautiful! Merry and Blessed Christmas! Happy and Healthy New Year!

THANK YOU FROM ST. CLEMENT FOOD PANTRY

Thank you to the OMOS parish family for generously helping our food pantry with your Thanksgiving donations. It is really a blessing as we are in such need with more people signing up each month. God bless you all!

Carol Steffen, Executive Director of Every Life Matter Pregnancy Support, will share her testimony at Holy Spirit's Ministry's Night of Worship on Tuesday, January 7, 2025, at 7 pm at St. Michael Church, Hollidaysburg. Carol will share her riveting, personal story of redemption, healing, God's great mercy, and what led her to her passionate ministry in Pro-Life Crisis Pregnancy work. Carol's testimony will precede the praise and worship music. Individual prayer for healing and confession will follow; everyone is welcome!



Registration is open for the 2025 Power & Purpose Conference

Join us for next year's Power and Purpose Conference on June 20 through 22 at Franciscan University of Steubenville.

At the Power and Purpose Conference, you will:

- ☑ Discover and deepen your life in the Holy Spirit
- ☑ Experience his power and healing
- ☑ Immerse yourself in moving worship, adoration, and sacraments
- ☑ Learn to live in true freedom, love, and joy of the Spirit

Register at <https://steubenvilleconferences.com/adult/ppc>

Our group code is: **25JHrbal**

You can contact me at: joenjill1988@gmail.com or **814-242-9993** if you have questions.

Everyone is invited!

I'm looking forward to hearing from you.
Joe Hrbal

HEALING MASS

Holy Spirit Ministry will hold a special Healing Mass on **Tuesday, January 21, 2025, at 7 pm, at St. Michael Church, Hollidaysburg.** This powerful night of hope and healing is for all who suffer physically, emotionally, and spiritually. Fr. David Dodd, TOR, will be the principal celebrant. Praise and worship will precede the Mass at 6:30 pm, and prayer ministry will follow the Mass. If you are suffering physically, or from any addiction, or hurting or struggling in any way, come experience the healing power of Jesus and be set free! All are welcome!

ITALIAN CULTURE PRESENTATION

All Saints Parish will host a presentation about Italian culture **on January 19 at 2 pm.** The topic will be the Italian festa, honoring a saint in a festival that includes devotions, processions, and unique traditions. Dr. Stephanie Longo will present at All Saints Parish Hall, 505 Center Street in Boswell. Italian refreshments are available at no cost. All are welcome! For more information or to register, please contact the Boswell Parish Office at (814) 629-5551.

SATURDAY'S KITCHEN

The OMOS day of service at the Saturday's Kitchen of St. Vincent de Paul is **January 25, 2025.** We need 6-8 people to help serve lunch to about 80 individuals, beginning with set-up at 10:30 am and finishing by 1 pm. If you are interested in helping on **January 25,** please contact Julie Sheehan at the Parish Office (814) 535-7646. We also need dessert for the 80 people. Please let us know if you can bake some tasty treats and drop them off at Holy Grounds on **Friday, January 24, between 9 am and 3 pm.** You are living God's mission of caring for those less fortunate. God bless.

PLEASE JOIN US!



The Alpha Course at Our Mother of Sorrows Begins Soon!!

OMOS has been hosting the Alpha Course for ten years. We have yet to find a better program to help you get to know Jesus Christ better. The course is built around an evening sharing a dinner, a conversation, and a video.

Our in-person Alpha Course begins on Tuesday, January 14, at 6 PM and runs through April 1. If Tuesdays don't work for you, Alpha is also being offered on Sundays at Liberty Grace Church in Richland. The weekend away will be held on February 28 and March 1.

To learn more and to register, go to
www.omostoday.com/alpha/ or call 814- 535-7646
Invite a friend to join you.
Sign up today!

HELP WITH ALPHA

Those who have taken Alpha are encouraged to help. We are collecting our volunteer list now on www.omostoday.com/alpha. We need help with small groups, kitchen, set-up, clean-up, and hospitality.

A new volunteer opportunity this year is being part of the weekly prayer team. The prayer team entails praying for a specific intention related to the success of the Alpha course. You will receive an email weekly as to the intention of the week.

Please volunteer today!

COME BACK AND BRING A FRIEND

The Alpha course grows and continues because of word of mouth. The course has spread all over the globe because of people's experiences and then telling others. If you have taken Alpha years ago and would like to see the new video series, come back and bring a friend. Do you know someone who could benefit from Alpha? Invite them. Please encourage them to go to our web-site to sign up.

Alpha is a great place for you to invite others to explore faith.

MINISTRY SCHEDULES**Monday, January 6**

6 a.m. –Eucharistic Adoration

8 a.m. -Mass at OMOS

Servers: Millie Kohut & Jamison Gibson**Lector:** Doug Puchko**Tuesday, January 7**

6 a.m.– Eucharistic Adoration

8 a.m. -Mass at OMOS

Servers: Annaliese Manalang & =Cassidy Stephenson**Lector:** Julie Sheehan**Wednesday, January 8**

7 a.m. Praise and Worship

4:30 p.m.-Eucharistic Adoration

5 p.m.– Confession

Server: Tim Burgess**Lector:** Rick Wess**Thursday, January 9**

6 a.m.– Eucharistic Adoration

9 a.m.– Mass at OMOS with Students

Servers: Students**Lector:** Students**Friday, January 10**

6 a.m.—Eucharistic Adoration

8 a.m.—Mass at OMOS

Servers: Isabella Segear & Derrick Holloman**Lector:** Matt DiFrancesco**Saturday, January 11—Vigil**

3 p.m.—Confessions

4 p.m.—Mass at OMOS

Servers: Brenda Murphy & Brian Koch**Lector:** Doug Puchko**Euch. Min:** Jim & Kathy Ridella, Michelle & Pat Petrell, Diana Tyger, Michelle Rivetti, Christine Manalang**Hosp.:** Val & Bill Deater, Ann Mattie, Pattie Porter, Cathy Vigna, Ally Zoldos**Saturday, January 11—Baptism of the****Lord**

9 a.m. Mass at St. Michael's

Servers: Tim Burgess & Tatlor Beneke**Lector:** Kayla Stephenson**Sunday, January 12-Baptism of the Lord**

8:30 am– Mass at OMOS

Servers: Julianna Mcllwain & Kylee Mateljan**Lector:** Matt DiFrancesco**Euch. Min:** Mary Beth Cartwright (2), Michelle St. Clair, Ralph DeMarco, Noah Hillegass, Carol Battaglia, Janet Bowser, Rosemary Zenone**Hosp:** Keith Santee, Michelle & Ken St. Clair, Karen Findish, John Esch, Chelsi & Tim Mcllwain, Martin Malek**Sunday, January 12-Baptism of the Lord**

11 am—Mass at OMOS

Servers: Cullen Miller & Jamison Gibson**Lector:** Don Falcone**Euch. Min:** Patty Falcone (2), Barbara & Richard Luckner, Maria Nesmtih, Christa Curtis, Tim DiGuiseppe, Donna Gillin**Hosp:** John Onufro, Gail Stotler, Rick Phillips, Lisa Shetler, Diane Thomas, Denny Thomas, Michele Varner, Bill Ingram**MASS INTENTIONS****Saturday, January 4-Vigil**

4 pm

Peter & Mary Oliverio

(Family)

Sunday, January 5-Epiphany of our Lord

9 a.m.

Anna Jean Sostek (Leonard

& Connie Jerva)

Sunday, January 5– Epiphany of our Lord

8:30 a.m.

Robert Bowser (Mike &

Carla Karcher)

11:00 a.m.

Herbert & Carolyn Kessler

(son, Eugene)

Monday, January 6

8 a.m.

Dr. John Grady (Mary Carroll

Green)

Tuesday, January 7

8 a.m.

Stephen & Eleanor Rist

(Veronica Rist)

Wednesday, Jan. 8

6 p.m.

Sandy Orlosky (Justin &

Tom)

Thursday, January 9

9 a.m.

Jim Stager (Tony & Rita Piro)

& S & T Welfare of Joyce Richardson

(Darlene Marsh)

Friday, January 10

8 a.m.

Garth Wesner (Mary Jo &

Bob Gardill)

Saturday, January 11-Vigil

4 pm

George Bemdeserfer, Sr.

(Sondre Harteis)

Saturday, January 11-Baptism of our Lord

6 p.m.

Bernice Stem (Shane & Lisa

Downey), Patricia Stem (Nancy Popchak) &

Living & Deceased Memembers of the

Military & Their Families (Schrum Family)

Sunday, January 12– Baptism of our Lord

8:30 a.m.

Michael Omahne (William &

Teresa Ray)

11:00 a.m.

Julie & John Giannone (Larry

& Dottie Giannone)

WEEKLY READINGS

Monday: 1 Jn 3:22—4:6/Ps 2:7bc-8, 10-12a/Mt 4:12-17, 23-25

Tuesday: 1 Jn 4:7-10/Ps 72:1-2, 3-4, 7-8/Mk 6:34-44

Wednesday: 1 Jn 4:11-18/Ps 72:1-2, 10, 12-13/Mk 6:45-52

Thursday: 1 Jn 4:19—5:4/Ps72:1-2, 14 and 15bc, 17/Lk 4:14-22a

Friday: 1 Jn 5:5-13/Ps 147:12-13, 14-15, 19-20/Lk 5:12-16

Saturday: 1 Jn 5:14-21/Ps 149:1-2, 3-4, 5 and 6a and 9b/Jn 3:22-30

Next Sunday: Is 40:1-5, 9-11/Ps 104:1b-2, 3-4, 24-25, 27-28, 29-30 (1)/Ti 2:11-14; 3:4-7/Lk 3:15-16, 21-22