



*Then they opened their treasures and offered him*

# GIFTS OF GOLD, FRANKINCENSE, AND MYRRH.

*Matthew 2:11*

January 8, 2023 • The Epiphany of the Lord

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In our day-to-day lives, we can experience epiphanies: new perceptions, unexpected insights, sudden changes in direction. In the liturgical year, Epiphany celebrates the appearance of a star in the heavens, a remarkable star followed by the Magi to Jesus, Mary and Joseph. They are not so different, our daily epiphanies and the Epiphany celebrated today. The arrival of the Magi certainly changed Mary and Joseph's perceptions of the world, the same way a helpless, tiny baby likely altered the Magi's insights as to what a star in the heavens would reveal. The story of the Magi—and the story of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph—is filled with unexpected changes in direction, as God's plan continues to vary when it encounters people who cooperate with it, and others who attempt to thwart it. A deep and long reflection on this day we call Epiphany will uncover numerous epiphanies.

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## STAR OF LOVE

Like all of the Christmas season, Epiphany celebrates God's eternal and infinite love. In a special way, this day shows how God's love is truly all-inclusive. The magi were not Jews, not part of the Chosen People who expected that the Messiah was coming to save only them. Early on in his Gospel, Matthew tells us that God's love will not be limited by our human presumptions or boundaries. We still struggle with the fact that God is constantly epiphan-izing us to grow beyond the limits of our experience or expectations, to move beyond the boundaries of the world around us. Let us pray that we might be given epiphanies to help us find grace where we didn't believe it existed, to aid us in understanding that God's love is most often shown by who is included, not who is excluded. May we open our eyes and hearts to know that the Christ-light shines everywhere.

Today's Readings: Is 60:1-6; Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13;  
Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6; Mt 2:1-12

### ST. ISIDORE CHURCH

**Laingsburg, Michigan**

**Pastor:** Rev Anthony Brooks

**Rectory:** 651-6617

**E-Mail:** [franthony@stisidorechurch.org](mailto:franthony@stisidorechurch.org)

**Parish Secretary:** Sharon Gillespie

**Office:** 651-6722 - **E-Mail:** [office@stisidorechurch.org](mailto:office@stisidorechurch.org)

**Office Hours:** Wed. & Fri. 8:00-3:00

**R.C.I.A. Dir.:** Roger & Shirley Hughes-  
[hughes47@wowway.com](mailto:hughes47@wowway.com)

**Religious Ed. Formation (REF)-** Mary Stevens-  
[marystevens@stisidorechurch.org](mailto:marystevens@stisidorechurch.org)

**Saturday Mass:** 5:30pm—**Sunday Mass:** 9:00 am

**Confession:** Wed. 5:30 to 6:20pm & after Mass until 7:30

### HOLY FAMILY CHURCH

**Ovid, Michigan**

**Pastor:** Rev Anthony Brooks

**Deacon:** John Marsh

**Parish Secretary:** Sharon Gillespie

**Office:** 989-834-5855

**E-mail:** [holyfamilyovid@gmail.com](mailto:holyfamilyovid@gmail.com)

**Office Hours:** Tues. 8:00-3:00

**Religious Ed. Formation (REF)-** Ginger Kusnier

**R.C.I.A. Dir.:** Vivian Durling

**Saturday Mass:** 4:00pm—**Sunday Mass:** 11:00 am

**Confession:** Saturdays 3:00 to 3:45 pm and  
Thurs. 5:30 to 6:20 pm

**Web Address:** <http://stisidorechurch.org>

# Notes from Fr. Anthony ...



The Epiphany is here, signaling an end to the liturgical celebration of Christmas, however the season of Christmas technically goes until February 2<sup>nd</sup> - the Feast of the Presentation. Now we find ourselves getting into the rhythm of a new year and we can think about all the things we experienced during the holidays. During the holidays themselves, we were usually so busy that we weren't able to spend too much time on contemplating the situations before us. We were in the process of making the memories, now we can reexamine them. We can look over the time, the meetings, the joys and the disappointments in a more in-depth way and where necessary, reevaluate our own behavior or reactions. While doing this, we cannot fail to look for the graces and gifts that God gave us during this time. How good our Lord truly is! We can focus on the times that our newborn Savior was present with His love.

The good God gave many of us the peace and strength to celebrate and be joyous during the holiday in spite of the sadness or loss we were dealing with. Oftentimes we think of a situation or are dealing with an experience and we imagine that we will never be able to get through it. Now we can look back at whatever those situations may have been during or leading up to the holidays and we see that, in spite of our fear or doubt, the good Lord was there getting us through it. We can look back now and see how our Blessed Lord was with us, the child in the manger who brings peace and hope and light to a world and people threatened by the darkness. In conclusion, let us all take a few moments to reflect on all of the aspects of those memories that God recently allowed us to make and the blessings He poured out upon us during this holy time. *Emmanuel, God is with us!*

Merry Christmas and God bless you,  
*Fr. Anthony*

## MEN:

Are you ready to take  
more control of your life?

To grow closer to God?

To become a better man  
for your family?

Exodus 90 is a 90-day spiritual exercise for men that want to grow in faith and freedom. Contact: [AndrewRBraun@gmail.com](mailto:AndrewRBraun@gmail.com) for more information.



Exodus 90 starts January 9th:  
[StartMyExodus.com](http://StartMyExodus.com)

**EXODUS**

## NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTIONS...

we all make them, and for some, they are "broken" or forgotten within a few days. Here's some resolutions you might try:

- ✘ Attend a week day Mass, at least once a month.
- ✘ Attend Wednesday or Thursday Adoration services.
- ✘ Have a Mass offered in memory of a loved one who has passed.
- ✘ Pray for the souls in Purgatory.
- ✘ Volunteer to serve coffee and donuts after Mass once.
- ✘ Volunteer to take up the Offertory Gifts at a week-end Mass—just ask one of the ushers BEFORE Mass
- ✘ Pray the rosary.
- ✘ Pray the Divine Mercy Chaplet

There's plenty to do at church — and these resolutions are

***EASY PEASY!***





## PARISH ACTIVITIES

Jan. 11— Women's Bible Study—6 –8 pm –HF  
Thurs.—9:00 am—Quilting Ministry—Holy Family  
Jan. 14 –5:00 pm—After Mass Meal—Holy Family  
Jan. 21—TMIY—Resumes—Holy Family  
Jan. 21—Activities Group Meeting –5 pm—Holy Fam



**On Jan 14th**, stay after the 4 pm Mass at Holy Family and enjoy a hot meal, your choice of Chili or Vegetable Beef Soup, along with all the extras: cheese, rolls, & crackers and dessert and beverage! Mark your calendar and don't bother to cook dinner on the 14th!

## QUILTING QUIPS

... Ever wonder what happens every Thursday during Quilting Hours? Just so you know, besides opening every session with a prayer, a cup of coffee and maybe a cookie or two, we move over to the sewing machines and start working. During this past year, we made and donated 114 quilts to area organizations, including: Elsie & Laingsburg Food Bank, Shiawassee Kids Organizations, Baby Pantry in Elsie, Helping Hands, Angel, and more, plus several quilts to parishioners as comfort quilts. Then in our "spare" time, we got ready for the Christmas Store. We made some old favorites and added some new ideas. We couldn't do this without the dedicated help of all our volunteers. And now we are busy making more quilts and thinking of new items for the Christmas Store. If you are free, consider joining us on Thursdays from 9-noon.

TOGETHER WE CAN  
MAKE A DIFFERENCE

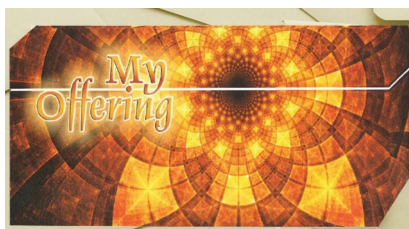


## 2023 Offertory Envelopes

**St. Isidore**—Please pick up your envelopes in the main entryway to the church.

**Holy Family**—Please pick up your envelopes in the hall.

If you do not see your envelopes, please contact the office.



## RELIGIOUS ED. FORMATION—(REF)

### Holy Family

Class Time—Sunday: 9:50 am—Before Mass

### St. Isidore

Class Time-Sunday: 10:15 am—After Mass

More info: [marystevens@stisidorechurch.org](mailto:marystevens@stisidorechurch.org)



## KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Jan. 11—Business Meeting—7:00 pm

**Knight of the Month:** Steve Izdebski

**Family of the Month:** Tim, Stacy, Jacob & Thomas Voisinet



## Area Food Pantries – Elsie and Laingsburg

The local food pantries are always accepting donations. The following items are especially in need (besides food items which are always welcomed and needed):

Personal Care Items – shampoos & conditioners, hygiene items, deodorants, oral hygiene items, (both for women and men), tissue, toilet paper.

Cleaning supplies – laundry detergents and softeners, household cleaners, dish washing soap.

Spices – (example)—cinnamon, salt, pepper, and other seasonings and spices.

Condiments – catsup, mustard, cooking oils, sauces

We thank you for your generosity ---- the need is great and all you can do is truly appreciated. The collection baskets are in the front entrances at both Holy Family and St. Isidore.

**ST. ISIDORE, LAINGSBURG****MASS SCHEDULE FOR THIS WEEK**

Saturday—Jan. 7 —(5:30 PM) † Bob McMonagle by the Knights of Columbus  
 Sunday— Jan. 8 —(9:00 AM) † Mike & Helen Hurst by Helen Stelzer  
 Wednesday— Jan. 11 — **(No Mass)**  
 Thursday — Jan. 12 —**(No Mass)**  
 Friday — Jan. 13 — (8:30 AM) † Sheila Doyle by the Family  
 Saturday—Jan. 14 —(5:30 PM) † Jack Risch by Jerry & Barb Gialanella  
 Sunday— Jan. 15 —(9:00 AM) † Harold Hurst by Helen Stelzer

**HOLY FAMILY, OVID**

Saturday— Jan. 7 — (4:00 PM) † Margaret Williams by Kim, Heather, & Dominic  
 Sunday— Jan. 8 —(11:00 AM) Rosemarie Goodwin by Eleonore Schussmann  
 Tuesday —Jan. 10 — **(No Mass)**  
 Thursday— Jan. 12— **(No Mass)**  
 Saturday— Jan. 14 — (4:00 PM) † Pat Latz by Bev Delaney  
 Sunday— Jan. 15 —(11:00 AM) Special Intentions of the Jane Crawford Family

**PRAYERS: PLEASE PRAY FOR** Archie Schebester (Friend of Jesse Anguiano), Pamela Morgan, Tori Martens, Mary Hughly (Friend of RoseMarie Thering), Janice Smith, Hugh Smith, Beth Ann Elliott (Daughter of Don & Denise), Clarence Dell, Craig & Caren Henning, (Nephew & Niece of Leonard Mitchell) Vince Minarik, ( Son-in-Law of Leonard Mitchell), Terri Sue (Daughter-in-Law of Leonard Mitchell). Fr. Mathias Thelen (Brother of Pam (Ryan) Fabus), Gary Delaney (Nephew of Bev Delaney), Pat Spencer (Friend of Bev Delaney), Charles Oleniczak, Judith Bond, Sandy McPherson (Sister of Cooky Hawkins), Sharon Darling, Carlos Duncan (Cousin of Jesse Anguiano), Steve Butler, Sean Robinson, Chasidy Martin (Niece of Doug & Char Angell), Rosa Zamarripa (Cousin of Jesse Anguiano), Taylor Nixon (Friend of RoseMarie Thering), Bob Bunn (Nephew of Pat White), Tom Hulburt (Son of Nita Hughes), Larry Miller, Diane Mead (Friend of Joanne Evans), Gary Hrncharik, Donna Fruchey, Nancy Alice Carbary (Mother of Maggie Sayles), Michelle Houska, Melvia Quine, Judy Kovarik (Mother of Bill Kovarik), Eddy Trevino, Bruce Chandler (Brother of Marti Rowley), Tammy Smith, Brenda Seeley & Betty Ann Fulgaro (Both friends of the Smith Family), Gregory Acker (Brother of Angela Michels), Michelle Dell, Shannon Strobel, Toni Doyle, Jase Ellsworth (Great-Grandson of Phyllis Hart), Richard Hutchings, Phyllis Hart, Pam Hurst, Katie Florian (Friend of RoseMarie Thering), Rebecca Crites (Friend of Bev Delaney), Micalah Brundage (Step Daughter of Mike Putnam), Lana Miersen, Napoleon Martinez, Jr. (Brother of Elodia Keys), Jim Mosley, Mike (Doc) O'Bryant, Isabelle Wesley, Don & Denise Elliott, Anita Rios (Sister of Jesse Anguiano), Stan Beherns, Pat Shaw, Armando Anguiano, (Brother of Jesse), Juan Chapas, (Friend of Jesse Anguiano), Dave Nickols, Jodi Barber (Friend of Tammy Smith), Tristen Henning, Teresa Arnold (Friend of RoseMarie Thering), Olivia Klein, Haven S. King (Niece of Barb Wight), Steve Bachelder & Mark Sickler (Nephews of Mike & Aloise Bachelder), Allen Smith (Nephew of Pat Brown), Michelle Hurst, Nancy Ferguson (Friend of Cindy Broome), Richard Elliott, (Son of Pat Elliott), Mary Harris, Robert Shaw, Kathryn Okada, (Friend of Porrell's), Donald Jacks, (Son in Law of Diane Stasa), Randy Evans (Son of Ron & Joanne Evans), Matthew Rios, (Great-Grandson of Nita Hughes), Jamie Lester, (Friend of Nita Hughes), Chris Bozung, (Friend of Smith Family), Adam Thering, Patty VanLeiw, Dee Bingham, Sue Hardaker, Bill Lyon, Greg Smith, Barb Wright

*Please contact the office to add or remove names from the prayer list.*

**Remember our service members in your prayers:**

Taylor Earl Parsons—Air Force—Space Force  
 Christian Garza—Army  
 Fr. Brandon Oman—Air Force  
 LTC Nathan Cooley - USN  
 MSGT Joshua Delaney - Air Force  
 Alexandra Cultra - Navy  
 Andie Ostrander—Navy (To add names, - contact the office.)  
 Patrick Schiffer—Air Force  
 Kelly Brown—Navy  
 SPC Jared Mersino—Army

**ADORATION****St. Isidore Church- Wednesdays**

5:30—6:20 pm Adoration & Confessions  
 6:30 pm Mass  
 Adoration & Confessions Following Mass  
 Until 7:30 pm

**Holy Family—Thursdays**

5:30—6:20 pm Adoration & Confessions  
 6:30 pm Mass

**WEEKLY OFFERTORY  
Dec. 31, 2022 & Jan. 1, 2023**

St. Isidore Offertory- \$2,686  
 Holy Family Offertory - \$3,233  
 Online Offertory - \$1,945  
**TOTAL: - \$7,864**