



# THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

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They were overjoyed at seeing the star, and on entering the house they saw the child with Mary his mother. They prostrated themselves and did him homage. Then they opened their treasures and offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. - Mt 2:10-11

### Papal Intention

**January:** For the gift of diversity in the Church. We pray that the Holy Spirit may help us to recognize the gift of different charisms within the Christian community and to discover the richness of different traditions and rituals in the Catholic Church.

### Liturgy Schedule

Scripture readings can be found online at:  
[bible.usccb.org](http://bible.usccb.org)

#### **Monday, January 8-The Baptism of the Lord**

8:30am Mass.....The Burns Family Living & Deceased

#### **Tuesday, January 9**

6:45am Mass @ St. Mel

8:30am Mass.....Marion Gallagher

#### **Wednesday, January 10**

#### **Thursday, January 11**

8:30am Mass.....The Martin Family Living & Deceased

#### **Friday, January 12**

6:45am Mass @ St. Mel

#### **Saturday, January 13**

3:00pm Confessions

3:00pm Confessions @ St. Mel

4:00pm Mass.....Peter Turchan

4:30pm Mass @ St. Mel

#### **Sunday, January 14-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time**

7:00am Mass @ St. Mel

8:30am Mass.....Joseph Spicuzza

10:00am Mass @ St. Mel

11:30am Mass.....Brian McGraw

### *Liturgical Ministers January 13 & 14*

#### **Saturday, January 13 @ 4:00pm**

**Eucharistic Ministers** Michelle Eggers, NOT FILLED (2)

**Lector:** Lou Toth

**Altar Server:** Aidan Gompf, Mary Kugler-Elayne, Cristian Trump

#### **Sunday, January 14 @ 8:30am**

**Eucharistic Ministers** Laura Skonce, Michael Kay, Tim Schmidt

**Lector:** Lisa Braun, Monica Svetz

**Altar Server:** Kathleen Murray, Grace Schmidt, Austin Tousley

#### **Sunday, January 14 @ 11:30am**

**Eucharistic Ministers** Annamaria Masterson, Cari Foster, Deirdre Mueller

**Lector:** Eileen Andrews, NOT FILLED

**Altar Server:** Eoin Mueller, Patrick Mueller, Terry Waters

### *Luke McGraw Memorial Candles*

### **Weekly Intention**

**January 7**

**Joseph Spicuzza**

## IN MEMORIAM

*May the peace of our Lord be with*

Richard Gerrick, Brother-in-law of Janet Jones

*And may God grant comfort to his family and friends.*

### **PRAYER FOR THE SICK**

Heavenly Father, we lift up all those who are facing various illnesses. Give them the hope and courage they need today and every day. Comfort their pain, calm their fears, and surround them with Your peace. In Jesus' name, Amen!

### ***Please Pray for Our Sick***

William Adams  
Gianna Andolina  
Carol Behnke  
Jack Behnke  
Katy Brent  
Henry Buehner  
James Coyne  
Margaret Fadrowski  
Nicole Foerstner  
Mary Frantz  
Theresa Fridrich

Lisa Groh  
Irene Gurchensky  
Gerri Joecken  
David Kurth  
Catherine Kutsick  
Loree Leasure-Poirier  
Cheryl McArthur  
Jim McIlwee  
Mary Miller  
Maisie Nowlin  
Sr. Josette Obodzinski

Bill Retzer  
Sr. Mary Ann Spangler  
Mary Stark  
Nora Sudetic  
Lena Sunyak  
George Surovec  
Herb Tippie  
Georgieann Treible  
Joe Wantz  
Charlotte Whiting  
Lillian Zahara  
Joseph Zavatchen Jr.



### ***Weekly Collections***

Sunday Envelopes:.....\$ 4,842.00  
Faith Direct:.....\$ 5,210.00  
Christmas Collection:.....\$10,562.00

**Thank you for your generosity!**



Friends,

In the past few weeks the bulletins at both St. Mark and at St. Mel had errors in the liturgy schedules, incorrectly listing mass times and/or mass intentions. I apologize for this, and have asked the office staff to begin an additional internal check prior to publication.

In Christ,



Fr. Adam

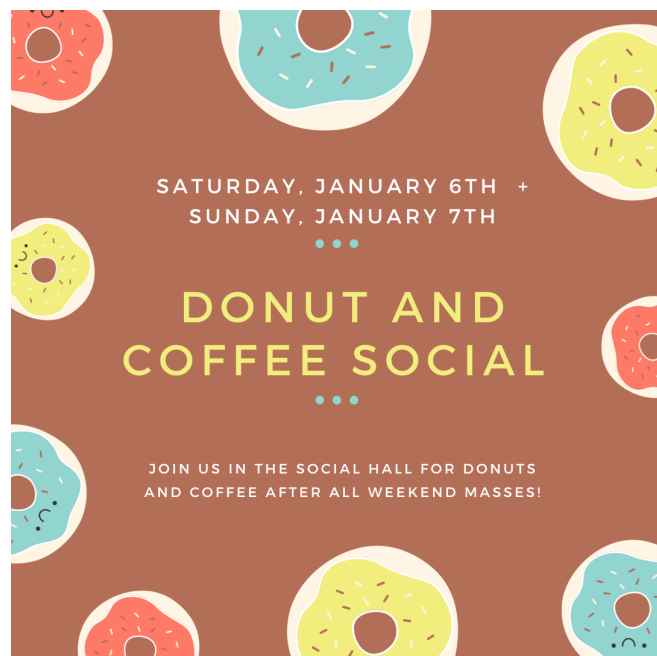
### **Birthright Baby Bottle Donations**

We are sponsoring a fundraiser for Birthright, a pregnancy crisis and counseling center. Baby bottles will be available to pick up at all Church entrances January 6 & 7. If you are able, please pick up a baby bottle, fill it with spare change to 'help make a change in a young woman's life'. Please return the filled bottles the weekend of January 13 & 14 and January 20 & 21. Bottles may also be returned to the Parish Office.

Thank you for your continued generosity.

### **First Friday Commitment Wanted**

On every first Friday of the month we regularly have Eucharistic Adoration from 3:30pm to 7:00pm. While all parishioners are always welcome to come and pray during that time, we would like to have a roster of parishioners committed to coming at specific times. If you would like to sign up for an hour of adoration beginning on any half-hour of the time for adoration, please call the Parish Office.



You're invited to join

## **The Living Stations of the Cross**

Join youth from St. Mark, St. Chris, and OLA to learn more about bringing this powerful prayer to life this Lent. All students in Grades 8 to 12 are welcome!

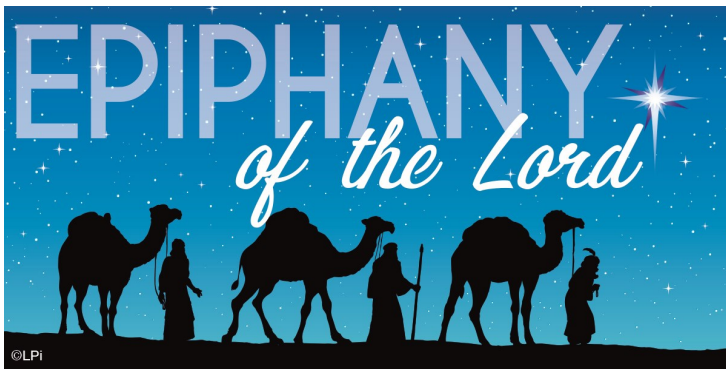
Monday, January 8th - 6:30pm-8:00pm  
St. Mark Church  
15800 Montrose Ave.  
Cleveland, OH 44111

Contact Michael Kay at [mkay@stmarkcleveland.com](mailto:mkay@stmarkcleveland.com) or 216-904-4774 with any questions.

### **Eucharistic Ministers, Lectors and Altar Servers**

Please notify in writing or by email of any dates that you are not available to serve for the next schedule, which will be from February 2024 - May 2024. We need this information so that all Ministers are available to fulfill their scheduled Mass times. We appreciate your continued service. The deadline to submit dates is Friday, January 12th by 4:30pm to [cbirchfield@stmarkcleveland.com](mailto:cbirchfield@stmarkcleveland.com). Please be mindful of holidays and vacations. Thank you for your help.

If you are interested in becoming a Minister please contact the Parish Office at 216-226-7577.



You who dwell in the shelter of the Most High, who abide in the shadow of the Almighty, Say to the Lord,  
"My refuge and fortress, My God in whom I trust."

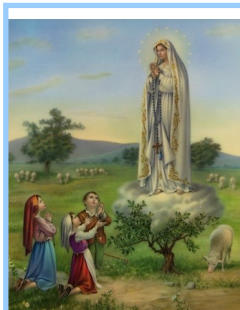
Psalm 91:1-2

Please keep in your thoughts and prayers all our military men and women presently serving and those who have returned home.

Jason Bochert, James Boone, Jr., Elijah Brolly, Kurt Brown, Nathan Chomoa, Jeremy Cole, Matthew Craven, Josh Dunleavy, T.J. Finucan, Martin Hartsel, Joe Isabella, John Kester, Randy Kloos, Stephanie Lasch, Adam Lemmerman, Torrey Lynch, Ron McDough, Andrew J. McGinty, Owen McGrew, Jake North, Jon Novak, Danny O'Malley, Sean P. O'Reilly, Nick Ortiz, Steven Podhradsky, Nico Russo, Tom Sarko, Matthew Shirley, Brady Smith, Montana Stiegelmeyer, Edward Thomas, Joseph Toole, Jacob Trefney, Jonah Treible, Lukas Whitney.

God Bless them all!

Kathy O'Malley womalfam@sbcglobal.net for any updates.



Please come to pray WITH Mary, Our Blessed Mother, in this beautiful devotion, The Rosary. We are living in troubled times and so much in need of peace within our souls and for the world. We ask Mary, Our Mother, to intercede and lead us contemplating the mysteries of Jesus. "The Family that Prays together, Stays together"...Fr. Patrick Peyton  
Every Sunday following the 8:30am Mass



[www.faithdirect.net](http://www.faithdirect.net)

**St. Mark Church # OH274**

If you are using Faith Direct for eGiving....please access the website, log in and verify that all of your information is correct. You may need to update bank account or credit card numbers.

If you forgot your user name or password follow the directions on the login screen.

If you have questions about Faith Direct go to the FAQ section of the website for answers.

*Thank you for supporting  
St. Mark Church!*

#### **REQUEST FOR 2023 CONTRIBUTION REPORT**

Please send a request via email to [dbroughton@stmarkcleveland.com](mailto:dbroughton@stmarkcleveland.com) or fill out this form and return it to the Parish Office.

Name (print) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Email report to: \_\_\_\_\_

Pick up at Parish Office \_\_\_\_\_ Mail to above address \_\_\_\_\_

## THE WEEK AHEAD IN OUR PARISH

<b>Saturday,</b>	<b>January 6</b>	
9:00 am	Basketball Tournament	FR/G
3:00 pm	Confessions	
4:00 pm	Mass	
	<b>Donut Social</b>	
<b>Sunday,</b>	<b>January 7</b>	
8:30 am	Mass	
9:30 am	Rosary	
11:30 am	Mass (LS)	
12:30 pm	Arts & Environment	CH
4:00 pm	Living Stations	CH
<b>Monday,</b>	<b>January 8</b>	
8:30 am	Mass	
2:30 pm	Youth Choir Prac.	CH
5:00 pm	Basketball Tournament	FR/G
6:00 pm	Living Stations	CH
6:00 pm	Women's Footprint Mtg.	CC
6:30 pm	PSR Class Gr. 1-8	CR
<b>Tuesday,</b>	<b>January 9</b>	
8:30 am	Mass w/All School	
4:30 pm	RCIC	CC
5:00 pm	Basketball Tournament	FR/G
6:00 pm	Holy Name Mtg.	SH
<b>Wednesday,</b>	<b>January 10</b>	
5:00 pm	Basketball Tournament	FR/G
5:15 pm	Daisy Troop	SH
6:00 pm	Scout Pack #268	SH
<b>Thursday,</b>	<b>January 11</b>	
8:30 am	Mass	
5:00 pm	Basketball Tournament	FR/G
7:00 pm	First Eucharist Parent Mtg.	CH
7:00 pm	Troop #293	SH
<b>Friday,</b>	<b>January 12</b>	
5:00 pm	Basketball Tournament	FR/G
<b>Saturday,</b>	<b>January 13</b>	
9:00 am	Basketball Tournament	FR/G
3:00 pm	Confessions	
4:00 pm	Mass	
5:00 pm	Marker's 50+	SH
<b>Sunday,</b>	<b>January 14</b>	
8:30 am	Mass	
9:30 am	Rosary	
11:30 am	Mass (LS)	
11:30 am	Sunday Pre-School	CR
1:00 pm	Basketball Tournament	FR/G
4:00 pm	Living Stations	CH

**Note: (LS)=Livestreamed**

### Calendar Abbreviations

<b>R = RECTORY</b>	<b>CH = CHURCH</b>
<b>SS = SERVER'S SACRISTY</b>	<b>SCH = SCHOOL HALLWAY</b>
<b>SchH2 = 1ST FLOOR HALL</b>	<b>CR = CLASSROOM</b>
<b>CR = CLASSROOM</b>	<b>SH = SOCIAL HALL</b>
<b>G = GYMNASIUM</b>	<b>CC = COMMUNITY CENTER</b>
<b>FR = FACULTY ROOM</b>	<b>PP = PICNIC PAVILION</b>
<b>PL = PARKING LOT</b>	

### VIRTUS COMPLIANCY — IMPORTANT

The USCCB (United States Conference of Catholic Bishops) will be doing on-site audits at parishes in the Diocese of Cleveland. It is imperative that prior to working with children - coaches, scout leaders and helpers, St. Mark Staff, catechists & teachers (PSR and DAY school), parent volunteers, etc. - are Virtus compliant. This means that one must be:

- Virtus trained (see below)
- **Current with reading on-line bulletins**
- Read and signed off on Policy for **Protecting Children Revised 2016 (turn into Parish Office)**
- Read and signed off on **Standards of Conduct Revised 2016 (turn into Parish Office)**
- **New Volunteers must complete a Background Check through Virtus.org.** In the Virtus website click on the "Toolbox" tab, click on the Selection.com tab and begin the process. Must have a credit card to complete.
- **Current Volunteers with a BCI Fingerprint/Background check must renew after 5 years through Virtus.org click on the "Toolbox" tab, click on the Selection.com tab and begin the process. Must have a credit card to complete.**
- Filled out a **St. Mark Volunteer Application (turn into Parish Office)**

All of the above-mentioned requirements are mandatory. (You can check your compliancy by going to "Virtus.org", signing in, and clicking on the green 'Training' tab.) If you are not sure of your compliancy, call Cheryl Birchfield at the Parish Office (216-226-7577) and your compliancy will be verified. If one is not Virtus compliant, **YOU MAY NOT WORK/VOLUNTEER WITH CHILDREN.**

**To see available Virtus training sessions please go to Virtusonline.org click on First Time Registrant, Begin Registration Process also available is List of Sessions, select the Cleveland Diocese. You MUST register to attend a session.**

The 2024 Calendars are  
available at all Church  
entrances



# Worship & Meditation

## Readings for the week of January 7, 2024

### Sunday:

Is 60:1-6/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13  
see 11)/Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6/Mt 2:1-12

### Monday:

Is 55:1-11/Is 12:2-3, 4bcd, 5-6 (3)/1  
Jn 5:1-9/Mk 1:7-11

### Tuesday:

1 Sm 1:9-20/1 Sm 2:1, 4-5, 6-7, 8abcd/  
Mk 1:21-28

### Wednesday:

1 Sm 3:1-10, 19-20/Ps 40:2 and 5, 7-8a,  
8b-9, 10/Mk 1:29-39

### Thursday:

1 Sm 4:1-11/Ps 44:10-11, 14-15, 24-25/  
Mk 1:40-45

### Friday:

1 Sm 8:4-7, 10-22a/Ps 89:16-17, 18-19/  
Mk 2:1-12

### Saturday:

1 Sm 9:1-4, 17-19; 10:1a/Ps 21:2-3, 4-5, 6-7/  
Mk 2:13-17

### Next Sunday:

1 Sm 3:3b-10, 19/Ps 40:2, 4 7-8, 8-9, 10  
(8a, 9a)/1 Cor 6:13c-15a, 17-20/Jn 1:35-42



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## Gospel Meditation

### Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

A stranger in a foreign land, I was exhausted and homesick as my summer Spanish immersion ended in Guatemala. The rusty minivan arriving outside my small residence filled me with joyful hope. I was flying home to the U.S. and would be, at long last, completely happy. Or so I thought. After about half an hour of being home, I thought to myself, "This place is boring. I want to go somewhere." So, I hopped in my car and left to see my friends. As I drove, I wistfully wondered, "Where am I truly at home?"

The feast of Epiphany has a lot to do with our notion of home. Where is our origin? Where are we going? When is our wandering done? Saint Matthew tells us of the Magi, "**They were overjoyed at seeing the star.**" This star will bring them home, to a place where their questing will end, and they will be satisfied. Their real home is neither in the East nor in the earthly Jerusalem. Somehow, their home is wherever this boy and his parents are.

If you're a teenager or older, you probably know by now that every physical home we have is temporary. So, we look up at the countless stars in our proverbial skies: things which bedazzle and beckon us to follow toward peace. The Gospel invites us to behold that — at long last — God has sent us a star to follow home, one that whispers, "Follow me! I will take you home!" Perhaps that star is your spouse. A friend. An opportunity. A cause. An intuition about a new direction. A prayer group. What is it for you? How will you know? It will lead you to Mary and Joseph and their son, and you will be home.

— *Father John Muir*

SUNDAY, JANUARY 7, 2024 | THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

©LPi

# Weekly Prayer

## Sunday's Readings

### First Reading:

Your light has come,  
the glory of the Lord shines upon you. (Is 60:1)

### Psalm:

Lord, every nation on earth will adore you. (Ps 72)

### Second Reading:

It was not made known to people in other generations  
as it has now been revealed  
to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit:  
that the Gentiles are coheirs, members of the  
same body,  
and copartners in the promise in Christ Jesus  
through the gospel. (Eph 3:5-6)

### Gospel:

"Where is the newborn king of the Jews?  
We saw his star at its rising  
and have come to do him homage." (Mt 2:2)

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## Live The Liturgy Inspiration of the Week

Though the magi did not know where the star of Bethlehem would lead, they trusted that God would be with them along the way. Let us all embrace that same faith as we go about the journey God has planned for us this year.

## Observances for the week of January 7, 2024

**Sunday:** The Epiphany of the Lord

**Monday:** The Baptism of the Lord

**Saturday:** St. Hilary, Bishop and Doctor of the Church; BVM

**Next Sunday:** 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time



## Saint of the week

St. Tarcisius was a 12-year-old boy who lived in 3rd-century Rome. Although much of what is known of him is from a poem written by Pope Damasus (366-384), he is considered an important martyr who protected the Eucharist from desecration with his life.

## Prayer for the New Year

Dear Lord,

With thanksgiving we entrust our year to You: whatever it holds, whoever we encounter, wherever we traverse. What You supply is gift. May our comings and goings be aligned with Your will. Amen.