

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD ~ JANUARY 7, 2024

Sacred Heart Parish

Partnering Parishes Sacred Heart, St. Charles Borromeo (Drexel Hill) and St. Hedwig's Chapel (Chester)

Rev. Msgr. George A. Majoros,
M.Div., M.S., Pastor

Rev. Paul Stenson,
Retired Priest in Residence

Deacon John H. Farrell
Permanent Deacon

Sacred Heart Church
316 East Broadway Avenue
Clifton Heights, PA 19018

Rectory
Phone 610-623-0409
Fax 610-623-2926
E-mail sacredheartchurch@rcn.com
Parish Website:
www.sacredheart-cliftonheights.net

Office Hours
Monday-Friday
8:30AM to 3:30PM
Remotely Monday, Wednesday, Friday
In parish office Tuesday and Thursday

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

To live and grow as a church in the Roman Catholic tradition by devotion to God in worship, doctrine, ministry, and loving service to each other and to the people entrusted to us.



Sunday Schedule Of Masses

Sacred Heart (Vigil) 4:00PM, 7:30AM
St. Charles (Vigil) 5:30PM, 10:00AM, 4:00PM

Weekdays Masses 8:30AM

Sacred Heart Mon, Tues, Wed
St. Charles Thurs, Fri, Sat

First Friday at St. Charles Borromeo
7:00P.M. – Holy Hour

First Saturday at St. Charles Borromeo
8:30AM Morning Mass
Exposition, Devotions, Confession, Benediction

Flame of Love Holy Hour
St. Charles Borromeo 6:30PM Thursday

Holy Day Masses
St. Charles (Vigils) 4:00PM & 7:00PM, 8:30AM
Sacred Heart 12:00 Noon, 7:00PM

Sacrament of Reconciliation Confession Schedule

Sacred Heart 3:00-3:45PM Saturday

St. Charles Borromeo 4:30-5:15PM before Vigil,
6:30-7:30PM on the Thursday before 1st Friday

St. Charles Borromeo 9:15-10:00AM on the First
Saturday of the month

Masses For The Week

Sacred Heart Church

4:00PM "Family" Of The Barrett Family

Sunday, January 7

7:30AM The Holy Souls

Monday, January 8

8:30AM Living & Deceased of Sacred Heart

Tuesday, January 9

8:30AM Joseph Michael DiMarcello Of Tom & Stella Pyfer & family

Wednesday, January 10

8:30AM Special Intention for the 65th Wedding Anniversary of Tom & Stella Pyfer

Saturday, January 13

4:00PM Victoria Rizzo Of Family

Sunday, January 14

7:30AM Donald Odia Of Family

Sacred Heart and St. Charles Borromeo Churches will be open Monday through Friday 9:00A.M to 12:00 Noon



**Candles for the
Month of January**
Ernesto Lelii & Tina Mori
Thomas McGehrin

Mass Intentions \$10.00
Candles for the month are \$20.00
Call the Rectory at 610-623-0409 if
interested.

Flame of Love Holy Hour



**Thursday evenings 6:30-7:30PM
at Saint Charles Borromeo
Church**

*All are welcome to join as we pray
for the intentions of the Immaculate
Heart of Mary.*

Mass Celebrants Weekend of January 6-7

Sacred Heart

4:00PM Fr. Anderson

7:30AM Fr. Stenson

St. Charles Borromeo

5:30PM Fr. Stenson

10:00AM Msgr. Majoros

4:00PM Fr. Stenson



Mass Celebrants Weekend of January 13-14

Sacred Heart

4:00PM Msgr. Majoros

7:30AM Msgr. Majoros

St. Charles Borromeo

5:30PM Fr. Stenson

10:00AM Fr. Stenson

4:00PM Fr. Anderson



Celebrants Are Subject To Change

**Are you being asked to be Sponsor and need a
Letter of Sponsorship?**

Make sure you are an Active Parishioner.

To receive a letter of Sponsorship for Baptism or Confirmation from the Pastor, one has to be an active parishioner of this parish for at least six months, be of age, received the Sacraments of Initiation (Baptism, Confirmation, and the Holy Eucharist), and if married, be in a valid Roman Catholic Church recognized marriage.

The Partnering Parishes of St. Charles Borromeo Church, Drexel Hill, and Sacred Heart Church, Clifton Heights, defines an "active/participating parishioner as one who is registered and worshipping at this parish on a regular ("weekly") basis; and who supports the parish with their time, talent and treasure.

Prayer For Vocations

Heavenly Father, You so loved the world that You sent our only Son, Jesus, to bring eternal life to those who believe in Him. I join Him in His prayer for laborers in Your harvest. May Your Holy Spirit inspire and strengthen generous men and women to continue His mission in the World. May this same Spirit make known to me Your will in my regard. Where You lead, I will follow. Let it be done to me according to Your word. I make this prayer through Christ our Lord. Amen.

FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP

Prayerfully consider your Offertory Gift as your act of praise to God for all HE has given you.

Sacred Heart– December 24, 2023

Sunday Envelopes	49	\$1,595.00
Loose		<u>300.00</u>
Total		1,895.00
Christmas Flowers		40.00
Maintenance		10.00
Loose		152.00

St. Hedwig - December 24, 2023

Sunday Envelopes	19	\$519.00
Loose		<u>702.00</u>
Total		1,221.00

Christmas Collection

Sacred Heart—December 25, 2023

Envelopes	51	\$3,765.00
Loose		<u>607.00</u>
Total		4,372.00
Christmas Flowers		10.00

St. Hedwig's—December 25, 2023

Envelopes	18	\$1,425.00
Loose		<u>963.00</u>
Total		2,388.00

Sacred Heart– December 31, 2023

Sunday Envelopes	33	\$1,074.00
Loose		<u>250.00</u>
Total		1,324.00
Christmas		300.00
Maintenance		10.00
Solemnity of Mary		287.00
Loose		195.00

St. Hedwig - December 31, 2023

Sunday Envelopes	19	\$539.00
Loose		<u>1,593.00</u>
Total		2,132.00
Christmas		60.00
Solemnity of Mary		20.00

Thank you to all who have given so generously
as we struggle to make ends meet .

Please pray about what you might be able to do, given your own needs, to continue your parish support by mailing in your weekly offerings or use the electronic giving in order to keep our parish operating.

Christian Initiative Preparation

“Becoming Catholic”

Baptism, Confirmation,

First Holy Communion

For more information contact Sr. Theresa Marie
srtheresam@scbdh.org 215-983-9462

2024 HOLY SPIRIT RETREAT

All are invited to Malvern Retreat Center for the 2024 Holy Spirit Retreat on the weekend of **January 26-28, 2024**. Check-in begins on Friday at 5PM. Retreat concludes on Sunday morning with the celebration of Mass. Retreat director is Fr. Tom Heron. Theme: “This is the time of fulfilment. The Kingdom of God is at hand. Repent, and believe in the Gospel.” (Mark 1:15). Please register at www.malvernretreat.com/events/holy-spirit-2024/ The donation amount being asked this year is \$275. If you need help, we are happy to assist you in registering. Contact Carlo Borgia: 610- 544-6369

Annual Stewardship Appeal (Block Collection)

Thank you to all those who have already responded to our Stewardship/Block mailing This Appeal is **most** important for our Parish. Thank you for all the good works you do and for the financial support of your parish

Please prayerfully consider your donation

Come and See Dates 2024

Come & See events offer men considering a vocation the opportunity to visit the St. Charles Borromeo Seminary to see what seminary life is like and explore a possible call to the priesthood. To register for one or more of these events, and see dates contact Fr. Friel, Vocation Director (fr.dfriel@archphila.org): **High School Men** January 20, 2024, January 21, February 10, February 11, March 9, March 10 **Post High School Men** January 26, January 28, February 23, February 25.

Sacred Heart will take down the Christmas decorations on Monday, January 8, 2024, The Baptism of the Lord

Winter Lotto ~ January 1, 2024 to Ash Wednesday

Sacred Heart chances are \$25.00 each. You choose a 3-digit number of your liking and watch the evening PA Lottery Drawing to see if you are a winner. These make a great Birthday gift! **Thank you for supporting all the fundraisers at Sacred Heart, St. Charles Borromeo. It is a great help!**

Extra forms in the church vestibule!

Feast Of The Epiphany

Reflection by Rev. Leonard N. Peterson

This beautiful Epiphany feast always holds a unique place for me and my family, especially when the date for it was fixed on January 6, the "Twelfth Day of Christmas." That was my beloved mom's birthday. Added in the fact that my mother spent her early years in the Epiphany parish located in South Philadelphia.

Now that the Epiphany is celebrated on a Sunday the date is flexible. But this was a good change, because the feast was often lost to churchgoers when it fell on a weekday. The event deserves our full attention because of its significance.

What it celebrates is captured in the very word "Epiphany" itself. It means a "manifestation" or "showing." It is the showing of Christ to the wider Gentile world beyond the world of the Jews. It implies His embrace of the same.

Up until now, we note that Christ came into the Jewish world. Both His earthly parents were good Jews, as were His grandparents and His whole extended family. St. Matthew, writing for Jewish converts to the faith, wanted to let them know that Christ came to embrace the whole world, and not just one nation.

So, for today, we can meditate and learn about "the wideness of God's mercy." His divine plan for the salvation of the world does not involve exclusions. Still, the perennial questions arise: "Who or what is at the center of our lives? Is it really Christ Jesus or not?"

Here is a selection from the texts for today's feast found at St. Paul's Episcopal Cathedral in London:

The Magi

It might have been just someone else's story;

Some chosen people get a special king,

We leave them to their own peculiar glory,

We don't belong, it doesn't mean a thing.

But when these three arrive they bring us with them,

Gentiles like us, their wisdom might be ours;

A steady step that finds an inner rhythm,

A pilgrim's eye that sees beyond the stars.

They did not know his name but still they sought him

They came from elsewhere but still they found;

In palaces they found those who sold and bought him,

But in the filthy stable, hallowed ground.

Their courage gives our questing hearts a voice

To seek, to find, to worship, to rejoice.

Say the Word

Have you ever wondered what influences the children of our parish in how they will live out of their Catholic faith as adults? Research has shown "that the most important influence shaping the religious and spiritual lives of children and youth is their parents." (USCCB website) Think about a child in your life - would his or her parent(s) benefit from a spiritual conversation, awakening, or conversion? Maybe just a boost or a reminder that God sent His only Son to earth, that we might have eternal life, and that the world cannot fulfill all our desires? The person you are thinking of may have questions that come to them in the quiet moments - What is the point of all this running around? Why bother going to Church? Does God really hear my prayers? Why doesn't happiness last? Is life an accident or a beautiful mystery?

Please invite this person to join us in asking some of these questions together using the video series, The Search. There is a flyer inserted in your bulletin today that you can take out and give to the person you are thinking of. Groups will be meeting on Thursday mornings, from 10:30-Noon, starting this Thursday, January 11 and on Monday evenings, from 6:30-8pm, starting January 15. For parents with children in PREP, they can pick up their children directly after The Search finishes. This is open to anyone in the community, not only parishioners, and not only parents. Pray about who God is calling you to invite - and maybe you can offer to join them - you're invited as well!

Prayers for PREP

Come, Lord Jesus. You were born into a human family, and were raised by your Blessed Mother and St. Joseph in a family strong in your Jewish faith. We pray for families and individuals in our parishes who are struggling to live and share their faith. I ask you, Jesus, to please send Your Holy Spirit to show me who You want me to invite to join in The Search and ask life's big questions. Are you inviting me Lord? May the Magi, who searched for You after a long journey, pray for the person you are putting on my heart, as well. Amen.

Today is the Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord

The Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord commemorates the visit of the magi to worship the baby Jesus as told in the Gospel of Matthew: "Behold, magi from the east arrived in Jerusalem, saying, 'Where is the newborn king of the Jews? We saw his star at its rising and have come to do him homage.'"

The word "epiphany" comes from the Greek *epiphainen*, which means "to manifest," "appear," or "make known." The Feast of the Epiphany celebrates the revelation of Jesus, the Son of God, to the world.

"The *Epiphany* is the manifestation of Jesus as Messiah of Israel, Son of God and Savior of the world. The great feast of Epiphany celebrates the adoration of Jesus by the wise men (*magi*) from the East, together with his baptism in the Jordan and the wedding feast at Cana in Galilee. In the magi, representatives of the neighboring pagan religions, the Gospel sees the first-fruits of the nations, who welcome the good news of salvation through the Incarnation." CCC 528

"Jesus is the Savior of the world. He comes not just for one group of people but for all. The magi, or kings, or astrologers, or seekers from the East, stand in for all the peoples of the earth," says Bishop Robert Deeley. "They represent all the people, including ourselves, who have found their way to Christ, who have found in him the meaning of their lives, and the light which guides them. They also represent the inner hope of the human spirit showing that it strives for the meaning that Jesus brings to life."

The celebration of the Epiphany dates back to the early centuries of the Church. Originally, it included the celebration of Christ's birth. It wasn't until 336, under the reign of Emperor Constantine, that the Church began celebrating Christmas separately, on December 25, creating the 12 Days of Christmas which continued through the Feast of the Epiphany. While the actual date of the Feast of the Epiphany is January 6, in the United States, the celebration of the feast is transferred to the weekend closest to that date. Due to this Christmas season, it is today, January 7, 2024.

STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE-----YOUR "THANK YOU" TO GOD

Please accept my grateful appreciation for your generous support of our parish through your **consistent use** of your **Sunday Church envelopes**, your **special Christmas offering**, and your donation to the **Annual Stewardship Appeal**. May God reward your goodness! Parishioners who are preparing their taxes may wish a record of their contributions for the year 2023. Please notify the rectory office after January 15th.

Please note that Monday, January 22, 2024 is a Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of the Unborn.

May the Lord bless you in this New Year of 2024!

Monsignor George A. Majoros



Adventus: A Spiritual Pilgrimage

On behalf of the Augustine Institute, we are offering Adventus: A Spiritual Pilgrimage to everyone this Advent and Christmas Season. In light of the separation we face as communities, this special documentary allows Catholics all around the world to unite and make a spiritual pilgrimage to the Holy Land to see the places associated with Christ's Birth.

Support the mission of the Augustine Institute by joining the Mission Circle.

Deepen your knowledge of the Catholic faith with formation and enrichment from the Augustine Institute Graduate School. Learn more about our new Augustine Institute Short Courses.

092-5

Mary Mother of Captives is a support group for those coping with a loved one in prison.

The group meets every second Thursday of the month in the St Charles Borromeo Parish Hall 3422 Dennison Ave, Drexel Hill, PA at 7PM. This month's meeting will be on Thursday, January 11th. For more information, please contact John or Sue at 610-259-3178 or marymotherofcaptives@augustinian.org. Attendees remain confidential.

Visit the imprisoned. Become a Pen Pal

In prison, sometimes the only contact with the outside world is in the form of letters. Pen Pals are needed to write to the poorest of the poor. For more information, please call John or Sue at 610-259-3178 or email marymotherofcaptives@augustinian.org. Thank you very much and God bless you.

E-mail chain

If you would like to be included on the Sacred Heart **e-mail chain** for important updates or emergency issues please send your e-mail address to

sacredheartchurch@rcn.com