

Dear Padre,

On what date was Jesus born? Was it December 25 or some time between December and April, when shepherds watched over their sheep?

Due to the complexity of history's various calendars and ways of calculating time, we cannot be sure of the date. Matthew and Luke, the two Gospels that detail the birth of Jesus, do not give a date.

Early Christians observed an annual feast to remember Jesus' death and resurrection, focusing on the paschal mystery rather than on his birth. As Christianity grew and spread, however, Christians wanted to celebrate more events from Jesus' life. The celebration on December 25 has more to do with an expression of faith in Jesus as Emmanuel, "God with us," than with establishing the exact date of his birth.

December 25 is listed as the date of Jesus' birth in a fourth-century calendar of martyrs, but how this date was chosen is unclear. Some scholars believe Christians in Rome chose December 25 to counteract the celebration of the pagan sun god Emesa. Another theory follows the influences of the seasons: early Christians believed John the Baptist was conceived on the autumnal equinox and born at the summer solstice. In Luke's Gospel, Jesus' conception took place six months after John's. That time line would place Jesus' birth at the winter solstice, December 25 on the Julian calendar. A third theory says Jesus' birth would have occurred on the same date as his death, which we believe to be in the spring at Passover. Regardless of the exact date, we celebrate Jesus as the true Son of God who came to enlighten us and, by his death and resurrection, to give us life. ●



HRAMKONVA / SHUTTERSTOCK

Fr. John Schmidt, CSSR / DearPadre.org

Do you have a question for the Padre?

Go to DearPadre.org to send your question and to learn more about *Dear Padre*.

MONDAY

January 8
Baptism of the Lord
Is 55:1-11
1 Jn 5:1-9
Mk 1:7-11

TUESDAY

January 9
Weekday
1 Sm 1:9-20
Mk 1:21-28

WEDNESDAY

January 10
Weekday
1 Sm 3:1-10, 19-20
Mk 1:29-39

THURSDAY

January 11
Weekday
1 Sm 4:1-11
Mk 1:40-45

FRIDAY

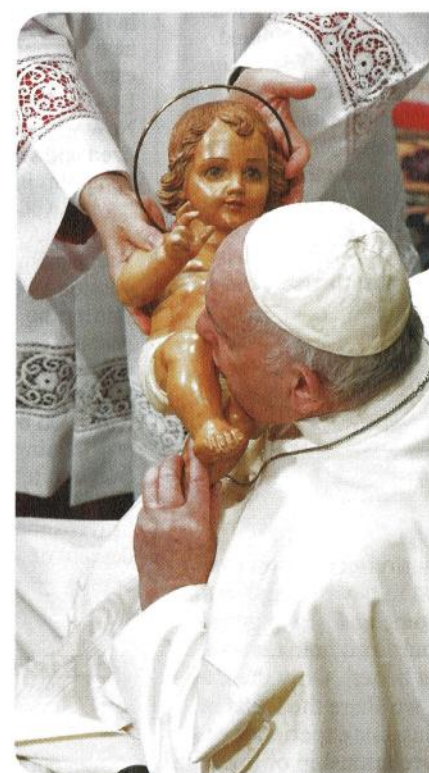
January 12
Weekday
1 Sm 8:4-7, 10-22a
Mk 2:1-12

SATURDAY

January 13
Weekday
1 Sm 9:1-4, 17-19; 10:1a
Mk 2:13-17

SUNDAY

January 14
Second Sunday in Ordinary Time
1 Sm 3:3b-10, 19
1 Cor 6:13c-15a, 17-20
Jn 1:35-42



A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

Like a rising star (see Numbers 24:17), Jesus comes to enlighten all peoples and to brighten the nights of humanity. Today, with the Magi, let us lift our eyes to heaven and ask: "Where is the child who has been born?" (Matthew 2:2). Where can we find and encounter our Lord?

HOMILY, ROME,
JANUARY 6, 2023

VATICAN MEDIA

Our Parish COMMUNITY

January 7, 2024

The Epiphany of the Lord (B)

Isaiah 60:1-6 / Ephesians 3:2-3a, 5-6 / Matthew 2:1-12



The Seekers

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

I live at a parish in downtown Milwaukee. From my window I watch the world pass by, everyone below in search of one thing or another. Students from the local university seek an education, business folk look for a sale, street people often look for a place to spend the night, teenagers hope to find love. Yet beneath all of those longings, in each one there is a deeper hunger that wonders what life is all about and the hope that they might find it. Hidden amidst it all, the real hunger is for God, a longing sewn into our being, sometimes recognized but too often not.

The story of the *Magi* is a story of seekers making their way from afar in hopes of finding the promised one, a newborn king. Perhaps they knew of this child's divine nature, more likely not, yet it was ultimately that same hunger that exists in all of us that drove them, a deep desire to know God.

Every serious religion seeks to experience God in life and tells the stories of those who have done so. There are Christian mystics like St. John of the Cross and St. Teresa of Ávila, Jewish mystics of the Kabbalah tradition, the Sufis of Islam, Native Americans who go on vision quests, the Hindus who practice yoga, as well as the Buddhists and Taoists and Confucians. Like the Magi, we all seek to find God. ●

Arise! Shine, for your light has come,
the glory of the LORD has dawned upon you.

ISAIAH 60:1

Reflect

Does it make sense to you to say that your deepest hunger is for God?



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St. James Parish Family

201 N. Missouri Street
Potosi, MO 63664



January 2024

Mass Schedule

St. Joachim	Mon:	8:00 AM
St. James	Tues:	8:15 AM
St. Joachim	Wed:	8:15 AM
St. James	Thurs:	8:00 AM
St. Joachim	Fri:	8:00 AM
St. James	First Sat:	8:00 AM
St. James 1st & 3rd	Sat:	4:00 PM
St. Joachim 2nd/4th	Sat:	4:00 PM
St. James	Sun	10:00 AM
St. Joachim	Sun	8:00 AM

*HOLIDAY SCHEDULE:

Please check the Bulletin for Mass Times.

E-MAIL:
stjameschurch@centurylink.net
WEBSITE: *****

www.stjames-potosi.org

FACEBOOK: St. James Catholic Church @stjamespotosi

Confessions:
Saturday: 3:15 - 3:45 PM;
prior to Sat evening Mass
Or by appointment

Staff

Rev. Anthony Dattilo—Pastor
AnthonyDattilo@archstl.org
Rev. Vince Nyman - Part-time Senior Associate Pastor
Susan Broombaugh—Admin Asst
stjameschurch@centurylink.net
Julie Wright: Coordinator of Religious Ed. (573) 436-0144/727-808-9273
stjamespsr@gmail.com
Laura Allen— Assistant Coordinator, Religious Ed.
573-436-0144/573-366-5235

Office Hours:
8:00 AM - 2:00 PM
Tuesday thru Thursday
Phone: 573-438-4686

Parish Hall or
Parish School of
Religion
Phone: 573-436-0144

*****Our website has changed! Please note a slight change in the web address: www.stjames-potosi.org. (There is a dash "-" between stjames & Potosi)



MASS INTENTIONS FOR WEEK OF: January 8th, 2023

Jan 09	MON	8:00 AM	(Mass at St. Joachim)
Jan 10	TUE	8:15 AM	Irvin A. Haislar
Jan 11	WED	8:15 AM	(Mass at St. Joachim)
Jan 12	THU	8:00 AM	Helen Fahey Kretzer
Jan 13	FRI	8:00 AM	(Mass at St. Joachim)
Jan 14	SAT	4:00 PM	(Mass at St. Joachim)
Jan 14	SUN	8:00 AM	(Mass at St. Joachim)
Jan 14	SUN	10:00 AM	Gary West



Week of: December 30th & 31st, 2023

Envelope.....\$	2984.00	On-Line donations.....\$	75.90
Loose.....\$	473.00	Seminary.....\$	125.00
SVDP.....\$	327.00	Christmas Offering.....\$	190.00
Votive Lights.....\$	34.00	Solemnity of Mary.....\$	25.00
Light House.....\$		Funeral Dinners.....\$	200.00
Main & Repairs.....\$	35.00		

Special Ministers
January 13 & 14, 2023
Lectors:
Sunday 8:00 am
Danny Mueller

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion:
Sunday 8:00 am
C: Kim Coleman
L: Mary Roy
R: Diane McGirl

Sat: 4:00 p.m (celebrated at St. Joachim)
Sun: 8:00 a.m (celebrated at St. Joachim)
Sun: 10:00 am Ave & Garryn West & Abraham Rolwes

Music:
Sat: 4:00 p.m. Chala Short
Sun: 8:00 a.m. Rebecca Richards
Sun: 10:00 am Anita Govero or The Little Way Band

Food of the Month of December: SVDP still needs the canned meats please: spam, canned chicken, canned ham, Tuna
THANK YOU TO ALL OF OUR AMAZING VOLUNTEERS.
~We couldn't do it without you~

Heavenly Duster: 01/12: **Judy East**
Altar Linens: **01/22: Glenda Farrow**

OCIA (Order of Christian Initiation of Adults)
If you or someone you know is interested in becoming Catholic, being fully initiated (needs to receive the sacraments of Eucharist and/ or Confirmation) call St. James Parish Office @ 573-438-4686 or St. Joachim parish office at 573-438-6181 or Joyce Politte at 636-328-1343. Candidates meet every Thursday evening at 6:30 pm in the basement of the Incarnate Word Center. If this time is impossible, please call Joyce Politte at the above number.

"The Knights of Columbus - Old Mines Council - will be having a BBQ, Saturday, January 13th, from 11:00 am to 3:00 pm. Anyone wanting to purchase a meal for pick up after Church, can call 573-438-4010 before 3:00 pm. Your meal will be ready for pick-up after Mass. Thank you for your support."

In your kindness and mercy, please pray for the repose of the soul of Ms. Theresa West who's funeral was Dec 29th. Also, pray for the West family as they grieve their loss.

Please keep Fr. Dattilo in your prayers as he travels to Bishop Larry's Funeral. We pray for a safe journey there and return



Live Your Life for an Audience of ONE: GOD!

Word of Life

"Through the Incarnation and birth of Christ, God reveals to us the dignity of all human life. Human life, as a gift of God, is sacred and inviolable. The Son of God has united himself with every human being and desires for us to share eternal life with him... Each of us is made in the image and likeness of God, and we reflect his glory in the world." USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities "The Gospel of Life: A Brief Summary"
On this Feast of the Epiphany, may we be given the grace to always see in others the face of Christ our Savior; We pray to the Lord:

What's on the Calendar???

Jan 07: Epiphany of the Lord
Jan 08: The Baptism of the Lord
Jan 09: Knight of Columbus mtg, 6:30 pm, Parish Hall
Jan 12: Mass at Clarity House, leave church @ 5:00 pm
Jan 15: Rural Parish Clinic at St. James
Jan 17: PSR night
Jan 22: Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of the Unborn Children
Jan 23: Parish Council mtg, 5:30 pm, Parish Hall
Jan 28: Catholic Schools Week

Clarity House Friday evening Rosary & Mass

Come join us, Friday, January 12th, to celebrate the Holy Mass. All are Welcome!! The evening starts at 6:00 pm with the rosary and prayers of intention. It is followed by Holy Mass at 7:00 pm. Then we share refreshments & fellowship. All are invited and welcome to attend. Also, there are bedrooms available if anyone wants to reserve one for the night. Please contact Mary Roy @ 636-234-6680 and let her know if you'd like a room. If anyone wants to ride together, please call the church office and let us know! **We will drive the church van if there are enough riders.** (a very special evening of prayer)



Anyone wishing to take Poinsettias, please do so after the 10:00 am Mass today. Take as many as you like.

Contribution Statements: If you need your 2023 Contribution Statements, pls call the office & leave your Name, with an updated phone number and Address. :-)

*****FORMED*****

Saint Barbara: Convert & Martyr of the Early Church: Barbara is the beautiful, twenty-yr old daughter of Dioscoro, the Roman governor during a time of fierce Christian persecution in 303 AD. She is a pagan, but when Giuliana, a slave raised alongside her almost like a sister, is condemned to death for her Christian faith, Barbara rebels. St. Barbara is also the story of her profound love for Claudio, the noble Roman soldier whose life she saves, as well as her deep compassion for all afflicted humanity. The courageous & holy witness of her Christian friends inspires her to convert to their religion, a decision that will eventually cost Barbara her life. Before her death, Barbara discovers she has journeyed down the same path as her mother, who was taken from her as a child for having made the same choice to become a Christian, something Barbara never knew as she was growing up. Barbara is the victim of many acts of cruelty in the last period of her life. The serenity with which she overcomes such barbarity can only be attributed to her new faith in Christ, which gives her the strength necessary to face the most difficult trials & to forgive her persecutors.

To sign up for "Formed"
Go to: <https://signup.formed.org/>
Enter our parish's zip code
Enter your name and your email address. That's it, you're in.

Missionary Discipleship

Evangalization

The Gospel today is certainly appropriate for our reflections on evangelization. The wise men journey from the East to pay homage to the King of the World. They then return to their homeland. Evangelization follows a similar process. We must give our Lord homage and worship and journey to see Him and know Him better. Only then, after we have spent time in prayer and worship, can we share the fruits of our prayer with others. Evangelization is sharing our experience of Jesus Christ with others and guiding them into relationship of joy with Him as well. Consider how often you share the Good News of Christ with others in simple ways and in more bold ways. Would there be enough evidence in your home that you are Catholic and follow Jesus Christ?

The Epiphany of the Lord, January 7th 2024

What is the significance of Epiphany in Christianity?

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. The magi's coming to Jerusalem in order to pay homage to the king of the Jews shows that they seek in Israel, in the messianic light of the star of David, the one who will be king of the nations. Their coming means that pagans can discover Jesus and worship him as Son of God and Savior of the world only by turning towards the Jews and receiving from them the messianic promise as contained in the Old Testament. The Epiphany shows that "the full number of the nations" now takes its "place in the family of the patriarchs", and acquires Israelitica dignitas (is made "worthy of the heritage of Israel"). CCC (paragraph 528)
"Today the Magi gaze in deep wonder at what they see: heaven on earth, earth in heaven, man in God, God in man, one whom the whole universe cannot contain now enclosed in a tiny body. As they look, they believe and do not question, as their symbolic gifts bear witness: incense for God, gold for a king, myrrh for one who is to die." — St. Peter Chrysologus

What gifts can we give to Jesus?

Jesus wants us to grow closer to Him, so our gifts should reflect this goal. We can pray more, read Sacred Scripture, go to Confession, forgive someone, or break a sinful habit

The Baptism of the Lord, January 8th, 2024

What happened when Jesus was baptized? We have accounts of Jesus' Baptism in all three Synoptic Gospels.

Matthew 3:13-17

Then Jesus came from Galilee to the Jordan to John, to be baptized by him. John would have prevented him, saying, "I need to be baptized by you, and you come to me?" But Jesus answered him, "Let it be so now; for thus it is fitting for us to fulfil all righteousness." Then he consented. And when Jesus was baptized, he went up immediately from the water, and behold, the heavens were opened and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove, and alighting on him; and lo, a voice from heaven, saying, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased."

Mark 1:9-11

In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. And when he came up out of the water, immediately he saw the heavens opened and the Spirit descending upon him like a dove; and a voice came from heaven, "Thou art my beloved Son; with thee I am well pleased."

Luke 3:21-22

Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heaven was opened, and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form, as a dove, and a voice came from heaven, "Thou art my beloved Son; with thee I am well pleased."

Why did Jesus get baptized?

The baptism of Jesus is on his part the acceptance and inauguration of his mission as God's suffering Servant. He allows himself to be numbered among sinners; he is already "the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world". Already he is anticipating the "baptism" of his bloody death. Already he is coming to "fulfill all righteousness", that is, he is submitting himself entirely to his Father's will: out of love he consents to this baptism of death for the remission of our sins. The Father's voice responds to the Son's acceptance, proclaiming his entire delight in his Son. The Spirit whom Jesus possessed in fullness from his conception comes to "rest on him." Jesus will be the source of the Spirit for all mankind. At his baptism "the heavens were opened" - the heavens that Adam's sin had closed - and the waters were sanctified by the descent of Jesus and the Spirit, a prelude to the new creation. CCC (para536)

St. James PSR NEWS

** Next in-person class: Wednesday, **January 17th** @ 6:00 pm. Dinner will start approximately 5:15. Unit 5 will be due.

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