



The three kings in today's Gospel traveled a great distance at considerable cost to offer their richest gifts to the Infant Jesus. **How far will I go and what will I offer to do homage to this newborn King and Savior?**



Readings for the Week of January 3, 2010

Sunday: The Epiphany of the Lord
Is 60:1-6; Ps 72; Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6; Mt 2:1-12

Monday: Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton, religious
1 Jn 3:22—4:6; Ps 98; Mt 4:12-17, 23-25

Tuesday: Saint John Neumann, bishop
1 Jn 4:7-10; Ps 100; Mk 6:34-44

Wednesday: Blessed André Bessette, religious
1 Jn 4:11-18; Ps 72; Mk 6:45-52

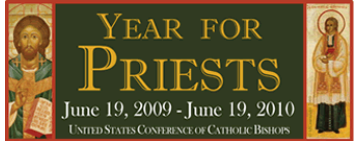
Thursday: Saint Raymond of Peñafort, priest
1 Jn 4:19—5:4; Ps 2; Lk 4:14-22a

Friday: 1 Jn 5:5-13; Ps 72; Lk 5:12-16

Saturday: 1 Jn 5:14-21; Ps 72; Jn 3:22-30

Sunday: The Baptism of the Lord
Is 42:1-4, 6-7; Ps 29; Acts 10:34-38; Lk 3:15-16, 21-22

Daily readings: <http://www.usccb.org/nab/index.htm>



The Year for Priests - Plenary Indulgence

A **Plenary Indulgence*** can be received by attending Mass on the **First Thursday of each month** until June 2010.

First Thursday - January 7th - 5:30 p.m. Mass

To receive this grace, one must fulfill the following:

- Have the intention of doing so,
- Receive Confession with the intent of never sinning again, even venially,
- Receive Holy Communion on the next First Thursday of the month,
- Offer prayers to Jesus for the priests of the Church, and
- Pray for the intentions of the Holy Father (suggestions below).

Children - That children may be respected, loved and never exploited

Christ, Light of the World - That peoples of the earth may recognize the Incarnate Word as the light that illuminates every person, and that every nation may open its doors to Christ, the Savior of the world

Young People and Media - That young people may learn to use social communication media for their personal growth and in preparation to serve society

Christian Unity - That every believer in Christ may understand that unity among all Christians is necessary for effective proclamation of the gospel.

* A Plenary Indulgence is the remission of all temporal punishment due to sin.




**JANUARY 2
through
JANUARY 10**

| | | |
|------------------|-------------------|--|
| SATURDAY | 5:30 P.M. | †Hattie Richter †Pete & Bess Ermis |
| SUNDAY | 8:00 A.M. | †James Seidler †Darrell Lyster |
| | 9:30 A.M. | †J.R. Visperas †Brian Baker |
| | 11:00 A.M. | †Cathy Zack †Gene & Tonie Christen |
| TUESDAY | 8:30 A.M. | †Betty Mildner |
| WEDNESDAY | 8:30 A.M. | †Margaret Pastor †Laura Hickner |
| THURSDAY | 5:30 P.M. | Persons in Prison |
| FRIDAY | 8:30 A.M. | †Hattie Richter †Lois Ristroph |
| SATURDAY | 5:30 P.M. | †Gerald Wayne Lippman †Brian Baker |
| SUNDAY | 8:00 A.M. | †Zoila V. Longoria †Pete Ermis |
| | 9:30 A.M. | †James Seidler Couples trying to conceive |
| | 11:00 A.M. | †Betty Mildner |

Sherry Aaron, Cierra Allen, Zera Bennet, Kenneth Blanchard, John Campbell, Robert Causbie, Doris Causbie, Kellie Chaney, Ted DiBlasi, Greg Dubec, Tom Elder, Ann Foster, Andrew Gore, Bevelyn Granger, Arthur Haas, Paige Haas, Joanna Haswell, Ralph Lewis, Florence Olenick, Jim Pawelek, Paulette Russek, Henry Sablatura, Tiffany Lynn Sanchez, Larry Savant, and Donna Schwertner.

Please pray for the repose of the soul of :
†Donald Reckart, father of Diana Miles and grandfather of Trent and Troy.

The Adoration Chapel at St. Michael's is a beautiful, quiet place where you can come and sit with our Lord Jesus Christ in quiet adoration of the Blessed Sacrament from **9:00 a.m. to Midnight, 7 days a week**. There is an **open Adoration Chapel hour Thursday from 4-5 p.m.** and from **7-8 p.m.** Please contact Cheri McBurnett, 297-8874.



Epiphany of the Lord

The **solemnity of the Epiphany** which celebrates the **manifestation of God to humanity** began in the Eastern Church in the third century. Called **Theophany**, it was primarily a feast of the baptism of the Lord, but it also incorporated themes of his nativity, the visit of the magi, and the marriage feast at Cana. The church of Rome adopted this celebration in the fourth century and focused it on the adoration of the magi since it already had a feast of the Lord's nativity in place. In the United States, we observe the Epiphany on the Sunday between January 2 and 8, but there are places where it is celebrated as a holy day of obligation on the traditional date of January 6. This bulletin insert was written by Marion Eagen, a liturgist and musician, © 2002 Resource Publications, Inc., All rights reserved.

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul

*Saint
Vincent
de Paul
Society*

Today we celebrate the feast of the Epiphany, where the Magi find the newborn king and offer him gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh.

In the spirit of the Magi, please put your gift in the St. Vincent de Paul Poor Box so that comfort and peace can once again be given to a newborn child.

- September 2009 106 home visits assisting 372 adults and children with 130 bags of food. Financial assistance for rent, utilities, etc, was \$ 4,252.51. Contributions \$2,877.88.
- October 2009 98 home visits assisting 368 adults and children, providing 141 bags of food, distributing \$3,719.73 for rent, utilities, etc. Contributions \$4,575.89.
- November 2009 97 home visits assisting 300 adults and children, providing 130 bags of food. Financial assistance for rent, utilities, etc. was \$4,315.33. Contributions \$2,911.36.

Have **you** considered answering the call to help serve the poor by joining the Society of St. Vincent de Paul? For information, call Dennis Prinz at 979.236.1848



- The Knights of Columbus will host a **Pancake Breakfast on Sunday, January 10th** to benefit the 2010 Youth on a Mission. Please come by the Hall in the FLC after 8:00 and 9:30 a.m. Masses for breakfast!
 - The K of C will also be selling their delicious **Barbeque Chickens** on the **SECOND Sunday of January**, which is **Jan 10th**. Thank you for supporting the Knights in all their ministry efforts.
 - The K of C MONTHLY COUNCIL MEETING** for January has been **moved to WEDNESDAY, Jan 6th**. There is a Social at 6:30 p.m.; 7:30 p.m. Business mtg.
-
- Young at Heart - All Senior Adult Parishioners**
Reserve the dates on your calendar!
January 16 - "Physical Therapy and Acupuncture"
February 13 - "Fun Things to do in Lake Jackson"

All Senior Adults are invited to join in the fun **after the 5:30 PM Saturday Mass** in the Family Life Center Main Hall. Presentations, Food, Fun, and Fellowship.

Sign-ups will be coming in January!



Stewardship Opportunities at St. Michael's

- The **Altar Society** is **DESPERATELY** in need of "**Linen Ladies**" who are willing to **wash and iron small altar linens**. Frequency - Every 6 weeks. **Training provided**. Please consider volunteering for this worthwhile ministry and spend a little quiet time (1 - 2 hrs) with our Lord. Please call Kathy Moore, 297-8919.
- Come Join Us! **Those who have served on a Women's Christ Renews His Parish Team** and wish to share in spreading the joy that CRHP brings ... The current **Women's Outreach Team** is looking for more members to participate in an outreach to Our Mother of Mercy Catholic Church in Houston, TX. Contact Genie Packard at 297-1888.
- The Women and Men of Christ Renews His Parish** both have **teams in formation** for St. Michaels. **Both groups are seeking a few additional team members**. If you have attended CRHP and would like the opportunity to deepen your faith, please contact David Konvicka, 297-0051 or Tricia Langner, 299-6176



Woman to Woman Retreat
February 19-21, 2010
Planning Meeting—Tuesday, January 5th
6:00 - 7:00 p.m.
ROOM B-3

Questions? call Gwen 297-5564 or Binnie 297-9239

The Women of St. Michael's will meet on **Tuesday, Jan. 5th at 8:30 a.m. in the Church for Mass**, followed by a meeting in the **Angelina Room**. Our annual fun-filled **Live Auction** will be held benefiting **St. Vincent de Paul**. Make it, bake it, sew it, grow it, buy it, or bring that white elephant gift. Use your imagination and bring your pocketbook. Nursery available for children 4 and under. Please join us!

Evening group will meet **Tuesday, Jan. 5 at 6:30 p.m.** in the **Angelina Room** and will have a **Live Auction** to benefit **St. Vincent de Paul**.



Ladies, please join us for a **Women of Faith 12 week Bible study** entitled "**Cultivating Contentment**" beginning on **Thursday, January 7th, 9:15 a.m-10:30 a.m.** in the "F" Wing. TLC for your little ones. **Please RSVP to Jeanne Schroll** at schrollj@hotmail.com or 297-5860. If you need to use the nursery, please indicate number/ages of your children. **Books are on order at Sonshine.**

Youth Ministry 7th – 12th Grade

DECEMBER

Dec 20 - Jan 3

NO CLASS - Christmas Holiday

JANUARY

Jan 10th **VOCATIONS presentation 6:30—8:30 p.m.**
Special Speaker from Steubenville!

Jan 17th **CLASS 6:30—8:30 p.m.**

Youth Ministry Vocation Awareness Night

Our Youth Ministry Program, grades 7th-12th will start up again after the holidays on **Sunday, January 10th** in the **Family Life Center from 6:30-8:30 pm**. Special guest speaker for the evening will be **Fr. Gregory Plow**, Coordinator of Households at Franciscan University of Steubenville. **Parents, friends and entire parish are welcome!**

2010 Vocation Awareness Contest:

- 1) How can I follow the commands of Jesus in my everyday life?
- 2) How can you encourage someone to dedicate their life to serving others?
- 3) Create a short slogan and/or artistic logo that will challenge young Catholics to think about considering the Priesthood or Religious life.

Assignment: Express your answer to any one of the above three topics in the form of **art, essay, or poetry**.

Grades 1st thru 12th – Cash Prizes in all Divisions
Deadline: Wednesday, January 13, 2010

New WEBSITE for VOCATIONS:
www.houstonvocations.com

Check out this new website for the **Office of Vocations** from the Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston. Help us spread the word. We hope this site will inspire, inform, and offer the tools needed to discern God's call or support those on the journey. What you'll find: inspiring videos, Seminarian's vocation story, Fr. Dat's Blog, links to religious communities, current news & events, and lots of great photos!
Register for a chance to WIN an Ipod Touch!

YOUTH DOINGS...

DEEPER BIBLE STUDY

"Deeper" is a bible study for High School youth, including Prayer and Praise & Worship time, lead by our Youth Ministry Coordinator, Mike Marshall. **DEEPER** meets every **Wednesday night from 6:30 p.m. — 9:00 p.m.** in the **A-Wing**. All High School students are encouraged to attend. Bring a friend!



GETTING TO KNOW JESUS

Would you like to learn more about Jesus and at the same time strengthen and deepen your faith? Adult Faith Formation is presenting an **8 week study of the United States Catholic Catechism for Adults** which will focus on the theme: **"Getting to Know Jesus"**. The format will be that of small group discussion using the Catechism as a reference and study tool.

Dates: Mondays, Jan 11 through March 1, 2010

Time: 7:30pm-9:00pm

Place: B wing, Room 2

Please contact to register and/or obtain more information.

Church office – 297-3041

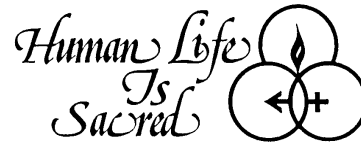
Allen Faulk: Arfaulk@brazoriainet.com

Phone - 979-798-5333



The Blood Drive team would like to extend a **very special Christmas Blessing** to the **109 donors** who came to give blood at our recent blood drive. **A total of 115 units of blood was collected aiding almost 350 people during this Christmas Season.**

Thanks also to **Gene Kanski and his cooking team** for preparing some tasty hotdogs. A very special thanks to the **Pete Ermis family** who gave us permission to replenish the blood used by their father prior to his recent death. The wonderful turnout showed our special gratitude for Pete's dedication to our Parish these past many, many years!



Pro-Life Crosses
Saturday, January 16th
10:00 AM

January 22, 2010 marks the 37th anniversary of the Supreme Court decision, Roe v. Wade, which legalized abortion in America. Since that date, over 50,000,000 unborn babies have been aborted in the "Land of the Free and the Home of the Brave".



Please join us at St. Michael's Catholic Church as we pray for the life of the unborn and the mothers who bare them. This will mark the 15th year that St. Michael's has placed over 500 white crosses around the church campus as reminder that the greatest gift from our Heavenly Father is the gift of LIFE.

The **Pro-Life Rosary** will start at **10:00 AM** in the Church. **Following the rosary we will place the crosses around the campus of the church.**

For additional information, please call
Art Vandaveer [979-235-0148]

EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

St. Michael the Archangel Catholic Church

100 Oak Drive South Lake Jackson, Texas 77566

Website: www.smlj.org

Pastor - Rev. Msgr. Leo Wleczyk, E. V.

Parochial Vicar - Rev. Marty Pham

Rectory & Parish Office: (979) 297-3041

Religious Education & Youth Ministry: (979) 297-3043

Sunday Liturgy

Saturday Vigil 5:30 p.m.;

Sunday 8:00 a.m., 9:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.

Sacrament of Penance

Tuesday 5:00—5:30 p.m. and Saturday 4:00—5:00 p.m.

Adoration Chapel

Every day 9:00 a.m.—Midnight

Nursery

Available in the Family Life Center during the 9:30 a.m.
and 11:00 a.m. Masses

Baptism Preparation

Call Cindy Hakanson at 299-0690 for information

Visitation of Sick & Homebound

Please call the Parish Office to have someone visit.

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults

- ◆ Are you searching for a church to call your own?
- ◆ Do you struggle with questions about life – death - suffering - hope - forgiveness - love - God?
- ◆ Ever wonder why Catholics worship the way they do?
- ◆ Do you have questions about what we really believe?



Look no further. If you are not Catholic, but are curious about the Church, or have a friend or family member who may be interested, or perhaps have some misconceptions about the Church. **Inquiry is the place.** All are welcome. For more information call Tommie Holt at 979-265-4685.

- **Sponsors are needed for the current RCIA program.** A Sponsor gives support to their Candidate or Catechumen by **walking their journey** with them as a companion, personal prayer, and attending the RCIA sessions and Mass with them. The Sponsor becomes a witness to the confirmand's initiation into full Christian life and a role model by sharing their personal faith journey. Contact Orville Bellar, 297-1027.
- **Sponsors also needed for Rite of Christian Initiation for Teens (RCIT) program.** Those recently confirmed and other young adults might think about assisting a younger person on their journey. Classes meet on Sunday mornings at 9:30 am. Contact Betty Betczynski, 285-9139.