

**Bulletin # 102656**

**Our Lady of Fatima  
2010 12th Avenue  
Altoona, PA 16601**

**Phone: 814-942-0371**

**Attn: Msgr. Stan Carson**

**E-Mail: olfoff10@hotmail.com**

**Software**

**Microsoft Publisher 10**

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**Transmission Time: January 3 2023  
10:30 A.M.**

**SUNDAY, JANUARY 8, 2023**

**Thank you,  
Msgr. Stan Carson**

# The Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord

January 8, 2023

**Our Lady of Fatima Parish**  
2010 12<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
[www.ourladyoffatimaaltoona.org](http://www.ourladyoffatimaaltoona.org)  
**Rectory Office Hours:**  
Tuesdays and Thursdays  
11:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M.  
**Parish Office:** 814-942-0371  
or call the Cathedral Office at 944-4603.

**Our Lady of Fatima Parish**  
Rev. Msgr. Stanley B. Carson, Administrator  
**Parish Secretary**  
Paula Hall  
**Director of Music Ministry**  
Cathy McFee

**Eucharist for the home bound - weekly:**  
**Patty Flanagan 942-0371 for arrangements.**

**Our Lady of Fatima Church is open**  
**Sunday through Saturday: 7:30 AM - 5PM**  
**for visits before the Blessed Sacrament.**

**Baptisms, Weddings and Funerals will be**  
**held at Our Lady of Fatima.**

**Preparation for Baptism, and Weddings will be**  
**held at the Cathedral. 944-4603**

**Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick**  
**Parishioners wishing to receive the sacrament of healing may call the Cathedral Parish Office to make arrangements. 814-944-4603**

**OUR LADY OF FATIMA PARISH IS A RESULT OF**  
**THE MERGER BETWEEN THE ROMAN CATHOLIC**  
**CHURCHES OF SS. PETER & PAUL AND ST. LEO**  
**THE GREAT IN 1995.**

**Cathedral Church Office: 814-944-4603**  
**One Cathedral Square**  
**Most Reverend Mark L. Bartchak, Bishop**  
**Rev. Msgr. Stanley B. Carson, Administrator**  
**Paula Clemens, Secretary**  
**PH: 814-944-4603**

**Christian Initiation Team: 944-4603**  
**Catholics returning Home: 944-4603**  
**Mail Ministry to Elderly, Homebound, Seriously Sick and Grieving - 944-4603**

**HOLY TRINITY CATHOLIC SCHOOL**  
**Web: [www.holytrinitycatholic.school](http://www.holytrinitycatholic.school)**

**Altoona Campus (Pre-K thru Grade 4) - 381-7011**  
**Hollidaysburg Campus (Pre-K thru Grade 4) - 695-6112**  
**Middle School Campus (Grades 5 thru 8) - 942-7835**

**Director of Religious Education:**  
**Chris Laraia – Pre-K thru 8 - 312-7317**

**Religious Education Office: Sundays – 943-7424**

**Director of Music Ministry**  
Leslie C. Thayer, MM, CAGO  
Music Ministry Office - 944-2044  
E-Mail: [ithayer@dioceseaj.org](mailto:ithayer@dioceseaj.org)

**Reconciliation @ Cathedral: 7:00 PM Wednesday**  
**12:30 PM Saturday**

**Religious Education @ Cathedral: Pre-K through 11**  
**Sacramental Formation @ Cathedral: First Reconciliation**  
**First Communion**  
**Confirmation**

**Sacramental Formation @ the Cathedral: Baptismal Prep**  
**Marriage Prep**  
**Christian Initiation**

**Hospital Visitation: Call the Cathedral: 944-4603**

**Cathedral Eucharist:**  
**Sunday: 5:00 PM (Vigil) Holy Days: 5:30 PM (Vigil) Weekdays: 6:45 AM**  

<b>8:00 AM</b>	<b>8:00 AM</b>	<b>12:00 Noon</b>
<b>10:00 AM</b>	<b>12:00 Noon</b>	
<b>12:00 Noon</b>	<b>5:30 PM</b>	<b>Saturday : 8:00 AM</b>
	<b>5:00 PM</b>	<b>12:00 Noon</b>

**THE FATIMA TOWERS**

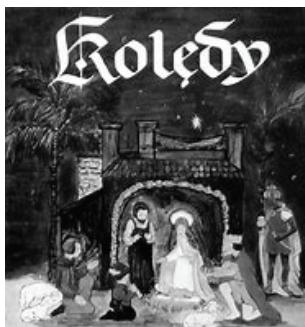


# STAR OF WONDER

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.

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 epiphanizing 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



## Echoes of a Polish Christmas

Today, Sunday, January 8, All Saints Parish in Boswell will host their annual singing of Polish Christmas Carols (known as Kolendy) at 325 Quemahoning Street. The singing will be followed by Benediction and then refreshments in the church hall.

Our parish is selling **SaveAround** coupon booklets for the Altoona/State College & Surrounding Areas. The cost is \$25.00 per booklet. The parish makes a \$12.50 profit on each booklet sold. They are available in the vestibule on Sunday at Mass time and in the office during the week.



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1/8/2023

## The Baptism of the Lord

### TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

Through the centuries, artists and craftspeople have depicted Jesus' baptism in the Jordan River by John. At first in mosaics and frescoes, and later in tapestries, stained glass, and paintings, the scene is familiar. Jesus is standing waist-high in flowing water. Above him, standing on dry land, John the Baptist pours water over Jesus. The first artists to depict this were sketching from memory. This is exactly how most people were baptized in the early days: as adults, standing or kneeling in the water, with water poured over their heads.

This method of baptizing, called immersion, is the favored way today. An adult enters a font, or an infant is lowered a bit into the water supported by a parent's hand, and water is poured or splashed over them. The treasures of baptistry art attest that submersion, or plunging beneath the water's surface, is not really in our tradition, and that "infusion," the mere pouring of a few drops of water, yields too narrow an understanding of what it means to be plunged into Christ's life. Jesus Christ has gone before us into the water, and waits for us there with abundant gifts. No wonder the tradition calls for abundant symbols!

—Rev. James Field, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.



Bishop Mark will celebrate a Mass for the repose of the soul of Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI on Wednesday, January 11, at 5:30 P.M. in the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament.

In Memoriam

# POPE EMERITUS BENEDICT XVI

April 16, 1927 – December 31, 2022

Papacy:

April 19, 2005 – February 28, 2013

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Joseph Alois Ratzinger was born in Marktl am Inn, Bavaria, on April 16, 1927—Holy Saturday—and baptized that same day—the first person baptized in the new Easter water. It was a sign of blessing, he wrote in a memoir, that his life from the beginning was thus immersed in the Easter mystery. He entered the minor seminary in 1939 at the age of twelve, but his studies were interrupted by World War II, when the seminary was closed and Joseph, along with most of his class, was drafted into the army at the age of sixteen.

After the war he resumed his education in philosophy and theology, and together with his brother, Georg, was ordained a priest in 1951. During the course of a twenty-year career as a professor of dogma and theology at several German universities, he earned a reputation as a gifted lecturer and learned scholar, and was present as a *peritus*, or theological advisor, at all four sessions of the Second Vatican Council.

He was ordained an archbishop in May of 1977 and elevated to the College of Cardinals a month later. He settled in Rome in 1981 and went on to become one of the most influential men in the Roman curia. Of the many offices he held, he was best known as the Prefect of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, an authoritative advisor on doctrinal issues during his predecessor's pontificate. When he was elected the 265th successor of Peter in 2005 at the age of seventy-eight, he became the first German pope since Victor II in the eleventh century. A central theme of his papacy was the staunch defense of core Christian values against what he saw as moral decline across much of Europe. At the same time, he sought to improve relations with other religions, trying to determine if a “cultural synthesis” was possible without losing the identity of the faith while engaged in discourse with the Lutheran World Federation, Judaism, Islam, the Anglican Communion, and Christian Orthodox Churches. He also spoke out against human rights abuses and ongoing political conflicts and warfare, and advocated better protection of the environment. He called for a radical rethinking of the global economy, criticizing the growing divide between rich and poor, and pressed for a “true world political authority” to oversee the economy and work for the common good.

Ever true to his episcopal motto, “Fellow Worker in the Truth,” Pope Benedict XVI’s teaching and prolific writings always defended traditional Catholic doctrine and values.

On February 11, 2013, Pope Benedict XVI announced that on February 28, 2013, he would resign as supreme pontiff due to his advanced age and deteriorating health and that a conclave would be convened shortly thereafter to elect a new pope. He returned to Rome and remained there as Pope Emeritus after Jorge Bergoglio succeeded him as Bishop of Rome.

*Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon him.*