

# **THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD**

**January 4, 2026**

**Our Lady of Fatima Parish**  
2000 12th Avenue  
Altoona, PA 16601  
[www.ourladyoffatimaaltoona.org](http://www.ourladyoffatimaaltoona.org)

**Office Hours:**  
Tuesdays and Thursdays  
11:00AM to 4:00 PM  
Parish Office located inside the church  
814-942-0371

**Rev. Mariusz Gorazd, Administrator**  
Residing at St. Mary's Rectory, Altoona  
Emergency Phone Number 814-942-2416

**Administrative Assistant**  
Paula Hall

**Eucharist: Sunday: 11:30 AM**  
**Holy Days: 6:00PM**  
**Confession-Sunday 11:00AM to**  
**11:25AM**  
Holy Communion for the home bound-  
weekly: Patty Flanagan  
Religious Education-Contact St. Mary's  
814-942-2416

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

Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick  
will be scheduled by calling the office.

Our Lady of Fatima Church is open dai-  
ly from 7:30AM-5PM for visits before  
the Blessed Sacrament.

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

**\*\*\*IF YOU HAVE A GLUTEN ALLERGY,  
PLEASE RECEIVE COMMUNION FROM  
FR. MARIUSZ GORAZD'S LINE\*\*\***

**THE FATIMA TOWERS**

## OUR LADY OF FATIMA MASS INTENTIONS

11:30 A.M.

January 4, 2026-The Epiphany of the Lord

"In Thanksgiving" by Barbara & Ken Smithmyer

January 11, 2026-The Baptism of the Lord

Kate Starr [A-1/16] by George & Heidi Kopcik

### ATTENTION:

- \*2026 Contribution Envelopes for Adults and Children are on the back table to the right as you enter the church
- \*2026 OLOF calendars are available on the back tables courtesy of Stanley J. Krish Funeral Home, Inc
- \*The Little Blue Book for Advent and Christmas Season 2025-26 is also available on the table.
- February Co-op tickets are available on the table on the right as you enter the church. Thank you in advance for supporting this fundraiser.

### TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

Life hands us many epiphanies or "wake-up calls." A few years ago, a young couple adopted a two-year-old child in a morass of red tape, complications, and court hearings. At the baby's baptism, the priest suggested appending an "adoption blessing," wherein the new relationship was expressed and affirmed. There is a place in that rite for the child to speak, and instead the priest said, "Can you give Daddy a kiss?" Standing in the midst of his church, the young adoptive father suddenly welled up with tears as he embraced the child. Afterward, he explained that through all the hassles and legal struggles he never until that moment in church understood that he was the parent of this child. The ritual claimed them for each other, gave expression to their relationship that the legal documents never could, and firmly cemented this child into the heart of a community as everyone erupted into heartfelt applause. This assembly witnessed in a powerful way what happens in every baptism: the mystery of adoption, the free flow of grace, the overwhelming sense of God's presence at the heart of our life's journey.

—Rev. James Field, J.S. Paluch

During January, the Sanctuary Candle is Being lit in memory of Denise Keagy by Chris, Kelly and the Keagy Family  
Thank you



### \*\*\*\*\*Please Update Information\*\*\*\*\*

Parishioners are asked to please update their contact information with the parish office. If you have had a change of address, discontinued a land line phone number, or have a new cell phone number, inform the office or put a note in your envelope. Thank-you!

### TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading—Rise up in splendor, Jerusalem! The LORD shines upon you and the glory of the Lord appears over you (Isaiah 60:1-6).

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

Second Reading—The mystery has been made known that the Gentiles are coheirs, copartners in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel (Ephesians 3:2-3a, 5-6).

Gospel—Magi from the east arrived, saying, "Where is the newborn king of the Jews?" (Matthew 2:1-12).

### READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Mon: 1 Jn 3:22-4:6; Ps 2-7bc-8, 10-12a; Mt 4:12-17, 23-25

Tues: 1 Jn 4:7-10; Ps 72:1-4, 7-8; k 6:34-44

Wed: 1 Jn 4:11-18; Ps 72:1-2, 10, 12-13; Mk 6:45-52

Thurs: 1 Jn 4:19-5:4; Ps 72:1-2, 14, 15bc, 17; Lk 4:14-22a

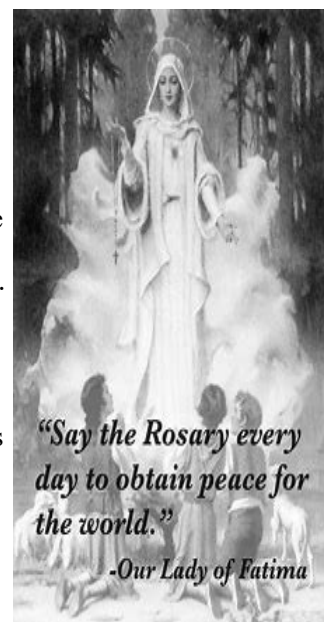
Fri: 1 Jn 5:5-13; Ps 147:12-15, 19-20; Lk 5:12-16

Sat: 1 Jn 5:14-21; Ps 149:1-6a, 9b; Jn 3:22-30

Sun: Is 42:1-4, 6-7; Ps 29:1-4, 3, 9-10; Acts 10:34-38; Mt 3:13-17

### Prayer to Our Lady of Fatima

O Most Holy Virgin Mary,  
Queen of the most holy  
Rosary, you were pleased to  
appear to the children of Fati-  
ma and reveal a glorious mes-  
sage. We implore you, inspire  
in our hearts a fervent love  
for the recitation of the rosary.  
By meditating on the myster-  
ies of the redemption that are  
recalled therein may we ob-  
tain the graces and virtues  
that we ask, through the merits  
of Jesus Christ, our Lord and  
Redeemer.  
Amen.

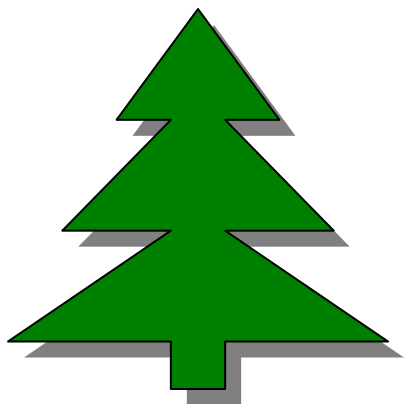


### Thank You Very Much

Your prayers, volunteerism, and financial support are deeply appreciated. The contributions for December 28 was \$ 1,856.00 Thank you.

**EPIPHANY OF THE LORD—JANUARY 4, 2026**  
*"They prostrated themselves and did him homage."*  
(Matthew 2:11)

The Magi offered their gifts to Christ, just as we are called to offer our own. What gifts has God given you, and how is He calling you to use them in service to Him? Talk to your priest or reach out to the Vocation Office at (814)317-2681 or via email: [vocations@dioceseaj.org](mailto:vocations@dioceseaj.org).



**THANK-YOU**

A special thank-you to all who donated to the Christmas Flowers and Christmas Club and to Our Lady of Fatima throughout the year. You helped to provide the beautiful flowers and decorations for the church for the Christmas Season and during the year. Also a thank-you to all who helped to decorate, clean the church and prepare for the holiday season and all those who: cantor, readers, greeters, altar servers, collection counters who provide services throughout the year for the parishioners and visitors of Our Lady of Fatima. A special thank-you to Fr. Gorazd who has been appointed Administrator of Our Lady of Fatima Parish since July!

**HEROD AND THE EPIPHANY**

Why impious Herod, vainly fear  
That Christ the Savior cometh here?  
He takes no earthly realms away  
Who gives the crown that lasts for aye.

—Crudelis Herodes Deum, Tr by J. M. Neale

**CURRENT SPECIAL COLLECTIONS:**

iGiveCatholic donations can still be made by using the envelopes available in the church. Current projects are:  
Shed to store salt in the parking lot, estimate \$3000  
Replace outside lights on the church with LED, estimate \$2000

**Diocese Vocations Appeal**

This appeal support will directly empower the Vocation Office's mission to guide and nurture our future priests as they embark on their journey of formation.

**PLEASE BE AS GENEROUS AS POSSIBLE  
WITH THE SPECIAL COLLECTIONS.**

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**THIRTY-NINETH ANNUAL RESPECT LIFE  
MARCH...**

Sunday January 18, 2026  
12:00 Noon

We begin at 12:00 noon with a Prayer Service in St. Matthew Church in Tyrone. We then walk the 1.25 miles to Oak Grove Cemetery to the grave of Baby Agnes Doe, for another short prayer service. A hot luncheon will be served in the parish hall after the march.

You are cordially invited to spend a couple hours as we publicly show our love for all of God's most defenseless children, both born and unborn. You will enjoy the fellowship as we draw upon the strengths of each other as we continue to battle the lack of respect of life at all stages, from the unborn child to the terminally ill. Please join us as we walk prayerfully and meditate upon the atrocities. You are encouraged to bring a sign, if you are unable to walk this distance, please feel free to join in by driving at the end of the procession.

Sponsored by the St. Gregory Council #1218  
Knights of Columbus

If you need any further information call: Jack Wagner at 814-632-6719 or e-mail: [jjwagner2121@gmail.com](mailto:jjwagner2121@gmail.com)

## THE GABRIEL PROJECT

The Altoona Gabriel Project is a Catholic Pro-Life ministry dedicated to helping moms and babies with supplies, as well as providing spiritual and emotional support. Cathedral parish is a part of a group effort of several Altoona area parishes.

The Cathedral has a collection crib at the alley entrance of the Cathedral for non-perishable baby items (diapers, wipes, clothing, bibs, towels, blankets, etc.)

The Cathedral will also be a site for the distribution to moms and babies in our section of the city. Items will be distributed on Thursdays from 1:30-2:30 P.M. If you would know of someone in need of support, or would like to volunteers, please call 814-440-1021.

### THE LIGHT OF FAITH

The first reading today is charged with the glory of the Lord. Everyone who can come to the holy city does come—whole caravans of people of all ages on foot and dromedaries and camels.

The description of an irresistible light-filled city prepares us for the story of the magi. They are guided by their own lights—their study of astronomy and astrology—and by the light of a peculiar star. Their study tells them that an unusual event in the heavens is a sign of an extraordinary birth on earth. They mean to find out about this, and they set out with gifts worthy of a king. They are welcomed into an insignificant house in Bethlehem, offer gifts befitting a king, and receive the gift of faith.

Paul reinforces the great gift of faith available to the Gentiles, whom the magi represent. What they have seen has changed them, just as it changed Paul and all who heeded his proclamation. Like the magi and like Paul, we are invited to receive this life that is filled with the light of faith.

—J.S. Paluch Co



Loving and Generous God, it is You who call us by name and ask us to follow You. Help us to grow in the Love and Service of our Church as we experience it today.

Give us the energy and courage of Your Spirit to shape its future. Grant us faith-filled leaders who will embrace Christ's Mission of love and justice.

Bless the Church of Altoona-Johnstown by raising up dedicated and generous leaders from our families and friends who will serve Your people as Sisters, Priests, Brothers, Deacons and Lay Ministers.

Inspire us to know You better and open our hearts to hear Your call. We ask this through our Lord. Amen

## January 4, 2026—Second Sunday of Christmas

As our celebration of Christmas continues, this week we observe the great feast of The Epiphany of the Lord. The word 'epiphany' comes from Greek and means manifestation of appearance. The stewardship way of life is one in which we live in grateful response to God's countless manifestations in our lives.

As Christian stewards, we are all called to manifest God's love to each other in the sharing of our gifts. St. Paul describes this beautifully in our second reading in his letter to the Ephesians, saying "You have heard of the stewardship of God's grace that was given to me for your benefit..." We have all been given unique and wonderful gifts from our good and generous God. He wants us to share these gifts to benefit others and so to give Him glory.

Let us rejoice in God's manifestations in our lives and be watchful for the new ways He is calling us to share ourselves and our gifts in gratitude to our King in the year ahead.



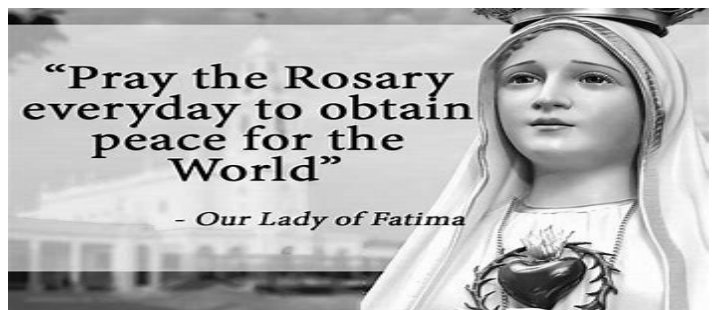
### HOLY SPIRIT MINISTRY AND FR. BRIAN NORRIS

Invite you to a very special Night of Worship with Eucharistic Adoration for Vocations. It will be held Tuesday, January 6th, 7-8pm, at St. Michael Church, Hollidaysburg. The evening will include a special talk from Fr. Norris on how all the faithful can help promote and pray for vocations. The evening of prayer will also include Eucharistic Adoration with beautiful praise & worship music, followed by prayer ministry. All are most welcome!

### FULFILL TODAY

If what you did yesterday still looks big to you, surely you have not done much today.

—Anonymous



## **2025 Christmas Flower Offering**

Mr. & Mrs. John Angeski from children  
Joe & Marcella Ianniello from sisters  
Joseph & Theresa Angeski from sisters  
Genevieve Musto from nieces

Brannan Family, Hrzic Family, & Zajac Family by  
Mr. & Mrs. Greg Brannan

The Byrne and Hollern Family by Mark Byrne

Noreen DeCriscio

The Eckenrode Family

Steve & Christina Flanagan by Patty Flanagan

Frucella and DelBiondo Families by Frank and  
Janice Frucella

Ronald Geis, Jr, Ron & Zed Geis, Cheryl Hosgood  
By the Hosgood Family

Wally Jorkasky by wife Janice

John Kasun, Jr by Kathy Kasun

John Kasun, Sr, Frances Kasun & John Kasun, Jr  
By Steve & Robyn Kasun

Denise & Tucker Keagy, Bernie & Jane Shea,  
Charles & Viola Keagy by the Keagy Family

Helena (Kowalski) Frederick, William & Maria  
Wesley by Paul & Emma Kowalski

Michael Long, William & Edna Long, William &  
Patrick Geis by Bonnie Long

The McKnight Families and Snellbaugh Families  
By Connie & Jim McKnight

John Noonan by wife Jean and Family

O'Connor & Faust Family by Mike & Deb  
O'Connor

Adolph & Genevieve Link Family, Paul & Claire  
Riggleman Family, Tom & Bill Riggleman  
By Carol Riggleman & Family

Carol Smith Family by Carol Smith

Mr. & Mrs. Harry Smith, Mr. & Mrs. Ralph Martin,  
Mr. & Mrs. Jerry Smith, K. C. Smith  
By Dan Smith

Victor & Charlotte Wlazlowski, Robert & Madeline  
Smith by Dave & Josie Smith

Ken & Barb Smithmyer

In memory of Kathy Starr, Duane Eichenlaub,  
Nate Boslet, Mitch Brooks, Randy Richard-  
ardson, Ed Barstow by Bryan & Eileen Starr

Cathy Starr, Michael Starzinsky & Julia (Strauss)  
Starzinsky, Stephen & Mary Starr by Peter  
Starr & Family

Grandma Katie by Nicholas & Jayden Starr

Grandma Katie (Starr) by Abbie, Alexis, Emmie &  
Joshua

Cathy Starr by Kristina Starr

Dorothy Kurash by David Stein

Paul K Watters, Helen M. Watters by Jill Watters

**MERRY CHRISTMAS  
AND  
HAPPY HOLIDAY SEASON**

