

January 8, 2017

The Epiphany of the Lord (A)

Is 60:1–6

Eph 3:2–3a, 5–6

Mt 2:1–12

Wise Humility

An amazing thing happens in today's Gospel: Representatives from the farthest ends of the earth follow a heavenly light and end in the humble cave of Bethlehem. The Wise Men first consult with King Herod, Galilee's civil authority. He checks with the high priest and rabbis to determine when and where the Messiah is to be born. The Jewish leadership is able to read the Scriptures and give Herod and the Wise Men all the information they need. Yet only the Eastern travelers go to adore the Lord. The priest and lawyers lack faith to see in those Scriptures a fulfillment of their hopes, while King Herod is blinded to Christ's salvific mission and moved by a will to power, as the killing of the

Innocents will make clear. They all have ears to hear and eyes to see but few pay heed to the signs of the times.

The Wise Men from the East, merely following their study of the stars and asking help from others, travel months in search of Jesus. Raphael shows the moment when they finally find what they have been looking for. The band of travelers—complete with horses, guards, and royalty—arrives at a broken-down stall. One of the Wise Men kneels, removes his crown, and offers Jesus his treasure. This small gesture shows an internal attitude that Herod and the chief priests were missing: the humility to lay aside power, wealth, and status to bend the knee before the king born in their midst.

—Fr. Mark Haydu, LC

For Reflection

Am I willing to humbly accept Jesus for who he is: the Son of God?

From what must I detach myself in order to accept Jesus more fully?



Piece: *The Adoration of the Magi*, sixteenth century
Artist: Raphael
Location: Pinacoteca (Vatican City)

*“Raise your eyes and look about; they all gather and come to you—
Your sons from afar” (Isaiah 60:4).*

St. Joseph's Catholic Church

2221 N St., Auburn, NE

Office & Rectory: 1306 23rd St.

Mailing Address: PO Box 406, Auburn, NE 68305

Parochial Administrator: Fr. Karl T.C. Millis

Website: auburnstjoseph.org

Phone: 402-274-3733

Email: stjoseph@kc.twcabc.com

St. Clara's Catholic Church

604 6th St., Peru, NE

Mailing Address: c/o St. Joseph's

Newman Center: 514 Washington St., Peru

PSC Catholic Website: [Facebook.com/PeruSt](https://www.facebook.com/PeruSt)

MINISTRY ASSIGNMENTS: JANUARY 14 & 15

	<u>Sat. 5:30 pm</u>	<u>Sun. 8:30 am</u>	<u>Sun 10:30 am</u>
Lector:	Pat Engles	Barb Decker	Ken Higginbotham
Acolyte:	Russ Wenzl	Darian Yates	Jim Flaherty
Servers:	Joel Crotty Owen Hall		Austin Egger Daniel Egger
Ushers:	Dave & Virginia Hunter		Bulmer family
EMHC:			Jim Flaherty
Rosary:	Ann Jones		Loras Baumhover

WORSHIP SCHEDULE JANUARY 9 - 15

Mon thru Friday: **NO MASS**

Sat: 5:30 pm (Auburn)

For the Parishioners

Sun: 8:30 am (Peru)

Dennis Vore

Sun: 10:30 am (Auburn)

Fred Humm †

Stewardship Report

Dec. 31 & Jan. 1

St. Joseph's:

Adult Tithe: \$2301.00

Loose Plate: \$73.25

Online \$150.00

Total: \$2,724.25

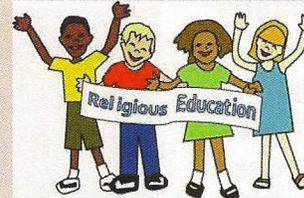
St. Clara's:

Adult Tithe: \$380.00

Loose Plate: \$34.50

Online: \$200.00

Total: \$614.50



**Religious Education
Classes resume this
Wednesday,
January 11**

The **THIRD GRADE** students are looking for someone to teach them in the afternoon for the remainder of the school year. They are a great bunch of kids and eager to learn their faith. Let Fr. Karl or Barb know if you would like to take on this wonderful opportunity.

UPCOMING K of C ACTIVITIES TO PUT ON THE CALENDAR!!



Sun., January 15: **Major Exemplification**

@ Halligan Center – 10 AM to 3 PM

Contact Rusty Crotty 402-304-3103 for more information

Sat., January 21: **Monthly meeting**

7 am @ Cafe' Metro

Sun., January 22: **K of C Free Throw Contest**

1 PM @ Auburn High School Gym

Contact Eric Fulton if you can help:

HELP WANTED

St. Francis Gift & Thrift

has an opening for a part-time store associate. Position is 20 hours per week and requires occasional Saturday shifts. Retail experience preferred but not required. Applicant must be able to lift 40 pounds and pass a criminal background check. Please contact Angela at [\(402\) 274-9362](tel:402-274-9362) for an application.


WE'RE BACK.

Our next St. Joseph Table is January 26. There is a sign-up sheet for needed items in the entry way of church. Remember, you are welcome to come dine with us, 6:00 p.m. in the Halligan Center.

UPCOMING RETREAT for women

LDCCW Winter Symposium

January 13-14

Fr. Thomas Lux

Fr. Thomas McGuire

For more info or to sign-up, go to:

www.goodcounselretreat.com

Special Prayer Intentions:

- Gary Koczko (health issues);
- Kenny Hug (health issues);
- Becky Orsack (health issues);
- Blanca Kantack (dementia);
- Megan McConnaughey (health);
- Karen Lebeda (health issues);
- Mary Ann Kalkwarf (health);
- Agnes Jones (health issues);
- Jeannine Crotty (health issues);
- Bob Fulton (knee surgery);
- Craig Baumhover (cancer);
- Randy Darnall (cancer);
- Nita Whitney (recovery from surgery);
- Jim Whitney (health);
- Barb Ryan (health);
- Holly Gilliland (heart issues)
- Larry Bulmer (cancer)
- Patrick Scott (health issues)

[If you have had a family member who recently passed away (mother, father, child, cousin, grandparent, etc.) and would like to have that family member mentioned in the Prayer of the Faithful at Mass, please call the parish office to let us know. Please limit this to family members only. Thanks.]

CONFESSION

Saturday – 4:00-5:00 p.m.
and after Saturday Mass.

After daily Mass or by appointment.
402-274-3733.

BAPTISM

Please contact the pastor 4 months prior to the baptism.

ANOINTING OF THE SICK

Call the pastor to request
Anointing of the Sick

MARRIAGE

Please contact pastor 6 months before
planned marriage.

COMMUNION FOR THE HOMEBOUND

Call parish office to request Communion

NEW OR MOVING ?

Please let us know.

Registration forms are in church
on the bulletin board or call.

PRAYER CHAIN CONTACT

Joyce Reich @ 402-274-5561

jreich2@unl.edu

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Barb Billesbach (402-274-3733)

bbillesbach1@neb.rr.com

Barb's Office Hours This Week:

Tuesday; Wednesday; Thursday
9:00 am-6 pm

Fr. Karl's Schedule this week:

Fr. Karl will be visiting family in Wyoming this week. If there is an **emergency**, please contact: Fr. Ken Hoelsing at **402-855-3595** or **402-657-4196**.

FOURTH ANNUAL



WHEN: SUNDAY, JANUARY 22
WHERE: NEMAHA COUNTY 4-H BUILDING
TIME: NOON TO 2 PM
JUDGING TO BEGIN AT 2 PM
COST: FREE WILL OFFERING

Questions? Contact Cecilia Daniels @ 402-274-4831

Tabernacle

Meets Monday, January 16 @ 7 PM
St. Joseph's Church basement

Pro-Life Mass & Nebraska Walk for Life

January 14, 2017 - Lincoln, NE

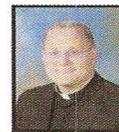
Pro-Life Mass • 9 a.m. • St. Mary's (14th & K)



Most Rev. George J. Lucas
Main Celebrant
Archbishop of Omaha

Rev. Scott Hastings
Homilist

Vicar for Clergy, Archdiocese of Omaha



Sponsored by: Bishops' Pastoral Plan
for Pro-Life Activities



Nebraska Walk for Life • 10 a.m. • State Capitol (North Side)



Keynote Speaker: Rebekah Buell

Despite facing many challenges, Rebekah chose life when she became pregnant with her first son at 17. Her future looked bright two years later while attending a California university, until her trouble relationship came to an end just before she was pregnant again. Feeling panicked and afraid of losing her parents' support and college dreams while supporting two children alone, she went to Planned Parenthood at eight weeks pregnant to begin a chemical abortion. However, after taking the first RU-486 abortion pill, Rebekah knew she had made the biggest mistake of her life. Miraculously, with the help of a new protocol called abortion pill reversal, a pro-life doctor helped save her baby through progesterone injections to counteract the abortion pill. Although Planned Parenthood told her this would be impossible and result in "severe deformations," Rebekah gave birth to a healthy baby in October 2013.



A brief program will take place at the Capitol, then we walk seven blocks to our indoor venue at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln Student Union, 14th and R streets, second floor, Ballroom & Centennial Room for our keynote speaker.

Calendar

Monday

January 9

The Baptism of the Lord

Is 42:1-4, 6-7 or

Acts 10:34-38

Mt 3:13-17

Tuesday

January 10

Weekday

Heb 2:5-12

Mk 1:21-28

Wednesday

January 11

Weekday

Heb 2:14-18

Mk 1:29-39

Thursday

January 12

Weekday

Heb 3:7-14

Mk 1:40-45

Friday

January 13

Weekday

Heb 4:1-5, 11

Mk 2:1-12

Saturday

January 14

Weekday

Heb 4:12-16

Mk 2:13-17

Sunday

January 15

*Second Sunday
in Ordinary Time*

Is 49:3, 5-6

1 Cor 1:1-3

Jn 1:29-34

Dear Padre,

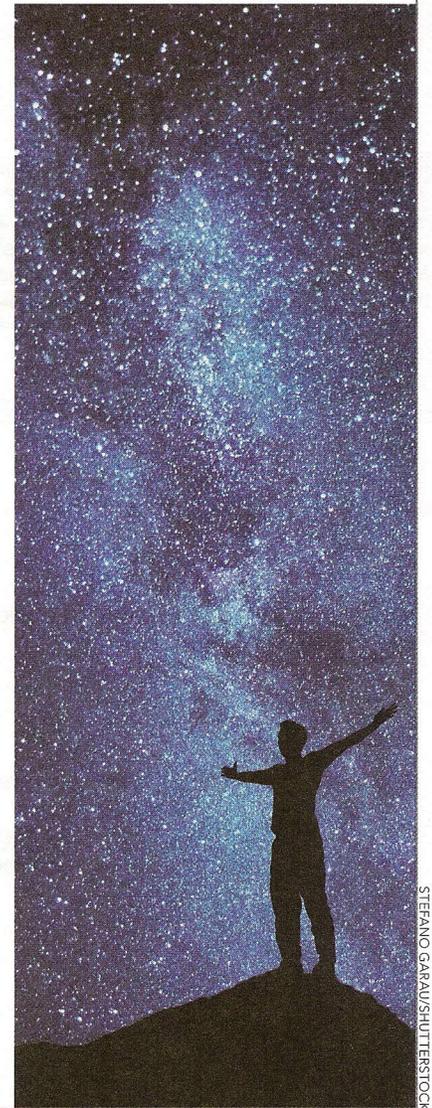
If God wants everyone to believe in him, why doesn't God offer undeniable proof of his existence? Surely more would join the Church if adequate proof were available.

Perhaps what is missing is the ability to perceive and understand the evidence before our eyes. In the *Catechism* we are taught that God "provides men with constant evidence of himself in created realities" (CCC 54).

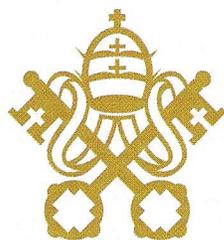
Despite the evidence, however, God does seem to be hidden from the sight of some. Why might this be? Again, the *Catechism* offers an important truth: While faith is a grace, it is also dependent on the "free assent" of the human person to accept what God has revealed (CCC 150). Faith is a gift, but it is also a human act: "Believing is an act of the intellect assenting to the divine truth by command of the will moved by God through grace" (CCC 155; see *Summa Theologica*, II-II.2.9).

In the parable of the rich man and Lazarus (Luke 16:19-31), Abraham declares to the rich man, "If they [his brothers] will not listen to Moses and the prophets, neither will they be persuaded if someone should rise from the dead" (16:31). So evidence of God's presence, the witness of the Church, and even the most persuasive arguments might not be enough to convince every person to come to faith.

Fr. Tom Santa, CSSR
sundaybulletin@liguori.org



STEFANO GARAU/SHUTTERSTOCK



A Word From Pope Francis

"Religious man is a wayfarer; he must be ready to let himself be led, to come out of himself and to find the God of perpetual surprises."

—On Faith (*Lumen Fidei*), 35