

THIS WEEK:**8:00am Lauds
(Morning Prayer)**

Mass Intentions may be requested by contacting:

[Fr. Young](#)**[SIGN-UP FOR
LITURGIES
\(CLICK HERE\)](#)****WEEKDAY
MASSES RESUME
JAN 12****PASTOR - FR. GEOFFREY YOUNG (639) 471-3246**

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10CoD4FABA82DABF8C25-LITURGIES](https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10CoD4FABA82DABF8C25-LITURGIES)

*Available times for Masses and
Adoration-Communion Liturgies are
online at the above link. Confessions
available at all times.*



OUR LADY OF LOURDES PARISH

Pastoral Message

The Greek word Epiphany (επιφάνεια), means appearance or manifestation. Multiple revelations of Jesus as God are celebrated on this Feast of the Epiphany. First, the angels revealed Jesus to the shepherds. In the Western Church, the Feast of the Epiphany celebrates Jesus' first appearance to the Gentiles, represented by the Magi, while in the Eastern Church, the Epiphany event is celebrated in the commemoration of the Baptism of Christ when the Father and the Holy Spirit gave combined testimony to Jesus' identity as Son of God. Later, in the synagogue at Nazareth, Jesus revealed Himself as the promised Messiah, and at Cana Jesus revealed His Divinity by transforming water into wine. The Church celebrates all these epiphany events on this Feast of Epiphany.

The sight of the star filled them with delight, and going into the house they saw the child with his mother Mary, and falling to their knees they did him homage. Then, opening their treasures, they offered him gifts of gold and frankincense and myrrh. But they were warned in a dream not to go back to Herod, and returned to their own country by a different way.

~ Mt 2:1-12

Today's Gospel teaches us how Christ enriches those who bring him their hearts. The adoration of the Magi fulfills the oracle of Isaiah (first reading), prophesying that the nations of the world would travel to the Holy City following a brilliant light and would bring gold and incense to contribute to the worship of God. St. Paul in our second reading attests: "the Gentiles are...copartners in the promise in Christ Jesus through the Gospel." Today's Gospel reminds us that if God permitted the Magi – foreigners and pagans – to recognize and give Jesus proper respect as the King of Jews, we should know that there is nothing in our sinful lives that will keep God from bringing us to Jesus. The response to this incredible gift of grace is adoration.

By worshiping Jesus at Mass with the gold of our love, the myrrh of our humility, and the frankincense of our adoration. This relationship means that like the Magi we are called to 'chase another route' to return home. This means that after being transfigured by his grace, we need to choose a better way of life, abstaining from proud and impure thoughts, evil habits and selfish behaviour. We are also called to become stars leading others to Jesus as the star led the Magi to Jesus -- removing the darkness of the evil around us and radiating Jesus' love through selfless service, unconditional forgiveness, and compassionate care.

On this feast of the Epiphany, let us, like the Magi, offer Jesus our grateful use of his gifts to us: His gift of friendship with God in the form of wholehearted love and devotion; His gift of friendship with others by leading them to Jesus through our exemplary lives of Christian charity in action; His gift of reconciliation with God by daily asking His pardon and forgiveness for our sins and giving

unconditional forgiveness to those who wound us; and His gift of peace by seeking God's peace in our own lives through prayer, leading a Sacramental life and daily obedience to the Word of God.

~IN CHRIST WITH MARY, FR. G. YOUNG

Lourdes' Library Resources:

To view the more recent Our Lady of Lourdes library items, visit: ourladyoflourdes.libib.com.

For a complete list with more details, email Annette Bentler at kabentler@sasktel.net.

Free access to all parishioners.



ONLINE BIBLE STUDY OPPORTUNITY

Fr. Mike Schmitz of *Ascension Presents* has a new program beginning January 1, 2021 to read the Bible in a year, following *The Great Adventure Bible Timeline*. Here is the place to sign up and get more information:

https://ascensionpress.com/pages/biy-registration?utm_source=youtube&utm_medium=video-fm&utm_campaign=BIY&utm_content=fourth-sunday-of-advent

Here is a one hour talk between Fr. Mike and Jeff Cavins, author of the *Bible Timeline* "Bring the Bible Back to Catholics":

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=g7o7WjQc3as&t=483s>

Please seriously consider signing up to hear the Word of God every day and come to a deeper understanding of the Bible. With the current restrictions, this may be the best way to do a Bible Study in the new year.

CHILDREN'S CATECHESIS LESSON

Young children love to hear the stories of Jesus. Before putting away the Nativity scene, be sure to read two narratives from the Bible with your children in front of the Nativity: The Nativity and Adoration of the Shepherds (Luke 2:1-20) and *this Sunday's Gospel of the Adoration of the Magi* (Matthew 2:1-12). For age appropriate reflections on the Gospel, go to <https://www.thebetterpart.net/> and click on the age group for your child.

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION FOR ADULTS

Are you or is someone you know a Catholic adult who never received his or her Confirmation? Are you or is someone you know an adult who comes to Church but isn't Catholic and would like to be? **RCIA meetings are every Tuesday (7pm) currently via Zoom. Will resume January 12.** To become a full member of the Catholic Church or would like more information about the process, we'd love to have you as a member of our Parish's RCIA Program. For more information please contact Fr. G. Young (639-471-3246) or gyoung@rcdos.ca.

Ways to Contribute to the Church: Our Lady of Lourdes has a **food collection** for families in need connected to our parish community. To assist us in this ministry, you may make monetary donations out to the parish (indicate with a note/in the Memo: 'Food Collection'). This helps us to be able to buy goods or items particular to each situation. You will receive a charitable tax receipt of any monetary gifts given to the parish for this or other contributions. **Our parish also will be preparing Christmas hampers** as well as supporting the St. Mary's Parish Christmas hamper program with a monetary contribution. During Covid, this is the best way to help prepare hampers as we can buy any necessary items. Again, and gifts made out to Our Lady of Lourdes, with a note/memo to indicate where your gift is to be directed.