

CLOSING PRAYER:

~ A Blessing for Epiphany ~

**O God
Maker of all,
and lover of what you have made,
you have sent Jesus
into my life,
born of Mary,
to share my humanity.
And you send his spirit
so that I might share his divinity.
Help me to find Jesus,
your son.**

**I need people
who make his presence real to me,
through their lives.
They are the star for me today,
They are the light
leading to you.
Help me to become a sign of faith —
one who has found the Christ.**

**I bring not the richness of the sea
nor the wealth of nations.
But I bring myself,
the life that I live,
as I stand before you this day.
Amen.**

CAMPUS MINISTRY OFFICE:

The Campus Ministry Office is located in **Our Lady Chapel**.
phone: [440] 473-3560. e-mail: jbesc@ix.netcom.com

Our Lady Chapel



Our Lady Chapel is a Roman Catholic community founded in the love of the Father, centered in Christ, and rooted in the Holy Cross tenets of building family and embracing diversity. We are united in our journey of faith through prayer and sacrament, and we seek growth through the wisdom of the Holy Spirit in liturgy and outreach, while responding to the needs of humanity.

FEAST OF THE EPIPHANY:

The Feast of the Epiphany is one of the oldest Christian feasts, though throughout the centuries it has celebrated a variety of things. The word “Epiphany” comes from a Greek verb meaning “to reveal”, and all of the various events celebrated by the Feast of the Epiphany are revelations of Christ to humankind. Like many of the most ancient Christian feasts, Epiphany was first celebrated in the East, where it has been held from the beginning almost universally on January 6th. Among Eastern Catholics [both Roman and Orthodox], the feast is known as “Theophany” — which means “the revelation of God”.



The Feast of the Epiphany originally celebrated four different events — The birth of Jesus, the visitation of the Magi, the Baptism of Jesus, and the changing of water into wine at the wedding in Cana. Each of these is a revelation of God to humankind — at Christ’s Baptism, the Holy Spirit descends and the voice of God the Father is heard declaring that Jesus is His Son; at the wedding in Cana, the miracle reveals that God transforms ordinary things into divine experiences; at the Nativity, the angels bear witness to Christ, and the shepherds — representing the people of Israel — bow down before Him; and at the visitation of the Magi, Christ’s divinity is revealed to the Gentiles — the other nations of the earth.

Eventually, the celebration of the Nativity [Christmas] became separate among Western Christians, but the Feast of the Epiphany still commemorated the Baptism, the first miracle, and the visit from the Wise Men. Thus, The Feast of the Epiphany came to mark the end of Christmastide — or the Twelve Days of Christmas.

Over the centuries, the various celebrations were further separated in the West, and now the Baptism of the Lord is celebrated on the weekend following the Feast of the Epiphany, and the wedding at Cana is commemorated on the weekend after the Baptism of the Lord.

In many parts of the world [outside the West], the celebration of Epiphany is even more important than the celebration of Christmas. In many places in the world, Christians still exchange gifts on the Epiphany — the day on which the Wise Men brought their gifts to the Christ Child.

NEW YEAR’S RESOLUTIONS:

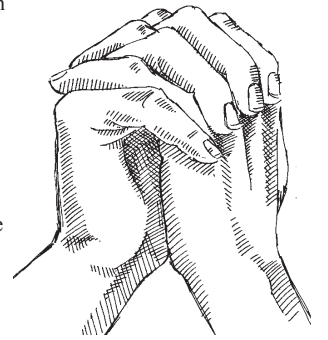
New Year’s resolutions are a common practice going back over 3,000 years. We have the feeling and the hope of a new beginning; for all Christianity, this hope is renewed each year with the Nativity of our Lord Jesus Christ. Most New Year’s resolutions are personal commitments to quit bad habits and set new good ones — new goals such as spending more time with family or eating healthier or exercise more. It seems that the vast majority of New Year’s resolutions are in relation to physical things. If so, let us then remember: “train yourself to be godly. For physical training is of some value, but godliness has value for all things, holding promise for both the present life and the life to come” [1 Timothy 4:7-8]. But if we are committed to follow these words and our New Year’s resolutions is more spiritual in nature — to pray more, to attend church more regularly — then we should still remember that there is no power in a New Year’s resolution if God is not truly the center of it. We need to honor God in mind and body; we need to grow more spiritually by renouncing our pride and vanity, and praying to the Lord for wisdom in all regards — not becoming daunted with occasional failures. Recall the words of the Psalmist: “The Lord guides the steps of a man and makes safe the path of one he loves. Though he stumble he shall never fall for the Lord holds him by the hand” [Psalm 34].

**PRAYER REQUESTS:**

Jesus calls us to pray for one another. Please keep all these people in your prayers.

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK:

- For Eleanor Tibaldi who is recovering from injuries sustained in a fall.
- For Susan Finn who is recovering from surgery.
- For Kenneth McDermott, who is critically ill with cancer.
- For Chris Biggins who is undergoing treatment for cancer.
- For Wayne Pierce who is preparing for surgery
- For Robert Heer, who is critically ill following a stroke.
- For Jeff Warner, brother of Denise Calabrese, who is undergoing treatment resulting from a stroke.
- For Dan Fagan [*96], brother of James [*91], who is undergoing brain surgery.
- For Rose DeSimone who is critically ill with congestive heart failure.
- For Grace Weil who is recovering from a stroke.
- For Patricia Weaver who is undergoing treatment for a debilitating back injury
- For Marilyn Malloy, grandmother of Will [*15], Kylie [*16], Gianna [*20], and Charlie Velotta who is undergoing treatment for cancer.
- For Sister Cheryl Keehner, C.S.A., who is recovering from injuries sustained in a fall.
- For Devin Stokel, who is critically ill with brain cancer.
- For Mark LeMed who is undergoing treatment for lung cancer.
- For Lynn Newton who is undergoing treatment for cancer.
- For Patty Garbo who is undergoing treatment for cancer.
- For Jay Mulhollen who is undergoing treatment for brain and lung cancer.
- For Janice Feenstra, sister of Lisa Habe, aunt of Jack [*19] and Will [*20] Habe who is undergoing treatment for cancer.
- For Janet Mehling, sister-in-law of Sister Mary Ann Mehling, who is seriously ill with cancer.
- For Emily Kuhar, niece of former Middle School Administrator, Patricia Brockway, who is undergoing treatment for cancer.
- For Brother Paul Kelly, C.S.C., who is undergoing treatment for Leukemia
- For Anne Travassos, who is undergoing treatment for cancer.
- For Michael Shea, brother of Lower School Teacher, Theresa Stark, who is undergoing treatment for cancer.
- For Monica Starks, mother of Faith [*20] and former Gilmour student, Monica Joy, who is undergoing treatment for kidney disease.
- For Phylis McGinley, grandmother of Middle school Head of School, Elizabeth Edmondson, great-grandmother of Mollie [*21] and Abigail [*23] Edmondson, who is seriously ill.
- For Christian Connors, son of technology associate, Kevin Connors, who is continues in rehab
- For Mary Kampman, mother of Mark [*81], Matthew [*85], Dean [*86], and Douglas [*88] who is undergoing treatment for cancer.
- For Stephanie Batt [*04], daughter of Debbie Moss Batt, who is undergoing medical testing.
- For Karen Wanders, mother of upper school teacher, Jonathan, who is undergoing treatment resulting from a brain aneurysm.
- For Dan Hathey, technology associate, who is undergoing treatment for cancer and a stroke.
- For Betty Herten, aunt of Hope [*13] and James [*15] Herten, who is undergoing treatment for leukemia.



PRAYER REQUESTS:

Jesus calls us to pray for one another. Please keep all these people in your prayers

FOR THE DECEASED:

- For Father Anthony Cassese, pastor of St. Jerome Parish
- For Salvatore Buccieri, father-in-law of former Gilmour teacher, Jean Buccieri
- For Eileen Muallally, mother-in-law of Ray Murphy [‘65]
- For Dagny Meisner, grandmother of Sue Leonor, great-grandmother of Sylvia [‘18] and Stephanie Leonor.
- For Patricia Bertodatto.
- For Peg Kachkowsky
- For Kirk Barrett.
- For Sister Cabrini Ferritto, C.S.A.
- For Joyce Medley.
- For Katherine Caja.
- For Duane Foy .
- For Father Bruce Swift, O.S.B.
- For Lillian LiPuma, mother of Sam LiPuma [‘80]
- For Karole Baird, grandmother of Baird Ramsey [‘94]
- For Diane DeMarco, cousin of Chapel associate Patty Szaniszló, and Kathy DeMarco.
- For Florence Druckenbrod, mother of Michael [‘62], James [‘64], Mary [‘75] and Mark [‘79]

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK:

- For Lisa Bartlett, wife of Ed and mother of Abigail [‘19], who is recovering from surgery.
- For Laurie Schaefer who is undergoing treatment for Alzheimer’s disease
- For Dennis Jancy who is undergoing treatment for cancer.
- For Cheryl Arndt, Gilmour housekeeper, who is undergoing treatment for cancer.
- For Pastor Henry Charles who is ill.
- For Dan Houlahan who is in rehabilitation following a brain aneurysm.
- For Sister Barbara Johns, I.H.M., who is undergoing treatment for cancer.

PRAYERS FOR OTHERS:

- For the victims and families of AirAsia Flight.
- For all who are called and who live consecrated life.
- For an end to human trafficking..
- For the unemployed.
- For those who struggle with family relationships.
- For a greater respect for human life, from the moment of conception until natural death.
- For all caregivers.
- For a special intention.
- For all service men and women serving our country, and for their families.

TRUTH:

He does much in the sight of God who does his best — be it ever so little.

—St. Peter of Alcantara

FAITH EDUCATION:

Here are the dates for Faith Education for the months of January and February — **January 11th** and **25th**, and **February 1st**, **8th**, and **22nd**. Our Sessions go from **8:45—9:45 AM** each time we meet, with the hope that our children would then **participate in our 10:00 AM Family Mass**. We have a number of families who attend the chapel regularly who have children who attend non-Catholic schools. Our **Faith Education Program** will help to fulfill your on-going religious education. Our program runs from grades K-8. Students in grades 9-12 are encouraged to participate in our Life Teen Program. **Please contact Patty in the Chapel Office (440)473-3560 if you have any questions.** Thank you for taking care of this important responsibility

**SCHEDULE FOR THE WEEK:**

Sunday, January 4: Epiphany	10:00 AM
Monday, January 5: St. John Neumann	5:30 PM [Eucharistic Chapel]
Tuesday, January 6: St. André Bessette, C.S.C.	5:30 PM [Eucharistic Chapel]
Wednesday, January 7:	5:30 PM [Eucharistic Chapel]
Thursday, January 8:	5:30 PM [Eucharistic Chapel]
Friday, January 9:	5:30 PM [Eucharistic Chapel]
Saturday, January 10: Baptism of Jesus	5:00 PM
Sunday, January 11: Baptism of Jesus	10:00 AM

CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS:

During this Christmas season, we would like to thank all those who have helped us by making memorial offerings. May our floral decorations and this season remind all of us of those special relationships which we hold close to our heart. Please keep the following people in your prayers: **In memory of Bill Gorris, Ronald Rasoletti, Robert Rasoletti, William Rasoletti, Julius Rasoletti, Eleanor & Curtiss DeMarco, Loy and Polack Families, Donald Bibbo, Carmela & Ortenzio Bibbo, Mary & Alex Toth, Helen & John Blazek, Antoinette & Frank Rezabek, John & Mary Blazek.** If you would like to make a memorial offering, please place it in an envelope marked “Memorial Offering, Christmas Decorations” and give to Father John or place it in the offering basket. God bless all of you.

**REALITY:**

“If the shoe fits, you're not allowing for growth.”

—Robert N. Coons

REFLECTION ON THE THEME FOR THE WEEK:

The seasonal dinners and parties are coming to an end. But let's reflect on this for a moment. Upon being invited, we usually respond about our desire to bring something — “What shall I bring?” Funny how we don't want to go empty-handed when all we are asked to bring is ourselves. Do we think that only bringing ourselves is not enough? As though a bottle of wine, a dessert, or fresh bread might make our arrival and presence more pleasing?

This weekend we move from the more “private” birth of Jesus to His going public — the Feast of the Epiphany. And we need to seriously think about only bringing ourselves! The kings or Magi brought expensive gifts from their abundance [Matthew 2:1-12]. We present our human poverty and truth to receive the manger-bound, Divine-Surprise. If possible, try to not ask what you should bring if you are invited to someone's home for dinner. Ultimately, we are learning that it is more gracious to receive than cover up our embarrassing poverty.

The prophet Isaiah speaks a poem celebrating the return to prominence of the city of Jerusalem [Isaiah 60:1-6]. It is a prophetic presentation to those in exile that their holy city — which has been dirtied, disgraced, and publicly polluted by foreigners and disbelievers — will be restored to its sacred dedication. The poem predicts that the holiness of the city will return — as will her sons and daughters. Others will come to present gifts from the sea-nations, coming by ship as well as from the east across the desert. All this will come to pass because the “light” and “glory” of God will shine upon the city and people who are now living in darkness. It is a hope-poem meant to keep up the spirits of those who long to go back home.



Matthew's Gospel is complicated, mystical, political, and familiar. Matthew is saying something very important about the universal implication of a very intimate reality — Jesus is born for more than Mary and Joseph; He is born to bring light and life to more than Judea and all of Israel. God's plan is bigger than ours.

It is a strange to have three wisdom-figures whose whole spirituality is based upon interpreting celestial beings — following a single unknown star across the desert and eventually humbling themselves before an unknown baby in an unknown town. The other part of this “strangeness” is the fact that the “unknowable” God has spoken the infinite Word in “baby-talk”. God may have come close before — but never dropping to such depths as to become One of us. God had never crossed the threshold. He had always done his inviting from just beyond — over there.

Furthermore, these Magi, who gain their wisdom from conversing with “star-beings”, trust a message given in a dream, and return, not merely geographically, but wisdom-wise, by an “other way”. This “other way” is what Epiphany means. God's wisdom is manifested or “shown-off” by fooling our star-struck wisdom or way of figuring things out. The “new way” is walking across deserts by the Light of a Star. We are dazzled by stars — but what is even more dazzling is the response we make by trusting that this Light is leading us to an unknown good.

I was graced deeply one recent evening to sit in on a group of students who were reflecting on their experiences — both internal and external — during their time spent in rural El Salvador. They remembered faces and meals and cold showers, and with some tears went back in memory to the conditions of poverty. Yet they found a strong sense of family and faith there. All the students went to

WORLD YOUTH DAY & KRAKOW, POLAND 2016:

The time has come for us to take the next step in our Pilgrimage to World Youth Day 2016. **It is time to start putting down deposits so that we can finance this trip over a period of time.** We will begin to contact those who have expressed interest. We have a link to the presentation which Chris Dube from Dube Travel did for us, so that you will be able to get all the details of our pilgrimage. Our pilgrimage to WYD will begin with our departure on **Friday, July 22**. Monday, we will visit Auschwitz and the German concentration camps, and see the place where St. Maximilian Kobe was martyred. We will then begin our trip to Krakow, stopping at Czestochowa — home to the monastery at Jasna Gora and the famous icon of the Black Madonna. During our stay in Krakow, we will journey to Wadowice — the home town of St. John Paul II, and visit the Church of the Divine Mercy and the Shrine of St. Faustina Kowalska. We will be staying at a hotel located on the square in Krakow, within walking distance of almost all of the events of WYD.



We will be attending catechetical sessions each morning, followed by evening cultural and spiritual events — daily Mass, the sacrament of reconciliation, adoration, and many other experiences. Our group will officially welcome, celebrate mass, and take part in the Stations of the Cross with the Holy Father, Pope Francis.

We will return to Cleveland on **Monday, August 1**. Over 40 people have expressed an interest thus far in this pilgrimage. The invitation remains open to **Our Lady Chapel Families** as well as all **Gilmour Families**. Chaperones must be 21+ years old. Children under 16 years of age will be required to be accompanied by a parent. **Please contact the chapel office — Father John or Patty at 440-473-3560 to confirm your place on this life-changing pilgrimage**

READINGS FOR THE WEEK:

Monday:	1 John 3:22-4:6, Mark 1:7-11
Tuesday:	1 John 4:7-10, Mark 6:34-44
Wednesday:	1 John 4:11-18, Mark 6:45-52
Thursday:	1 John 4:19-5:4, Luke 4:14-22
Friday:	1 John 5:5-13, Luke 5:12-16
Saturday:	1 John 5:14-21, John 3:22-30
Epiphany:	Isaiah 55:1-11, 1 John 5:1-9, Mark 1:7-11

A NOTE FROM THE PASTOR OF ST. JOAN OF ARC:

Father Gary Malin, pastor of St. Joan of Arc, asked us to post this request. St. Joan of Arc Parish in Chagrin Falls is seeking candidates with a Bachelors degree in Accounting and at least 5 years accounting experience. The Business Administrator oversees and coordinates payroll, accounts payable, and data entry functions and is responsible for systems, accounting, financial reporting & budgeting. 10-12 hours per week. Submit resume to Fr. Gary Joseph Malin at St. Joan of Arc, 496 E Washington St., Chagrin Falls OH 44022.

God, for instance, could create the most beautiful woman on earth. Wouldn't it be fitting for his/her Son's mother to be the most beautiful woman on earth? Therefore, Mary was the most beautiful woman on earth.

Our sacred authors rarely follow that reasoning. If they'd made a statement to parallel Bonaventure's, it would have read: "Potuit, decuit, sed nunquam fecit" — "God could do it. It would make sense for God to do it. But God never does it that way." God's unpredictable behavior is one of the reasons we have such a thick Bible. God makes a habit of acting in ways that no one could have anticipated. For instance, if God only did what made sense, we certainly wouldn't have the Feast of the Epiphany.

Writing for a Jewish/Christian community in the late 70's, Matthew is forced to deal with the unforeseen entry of large numbers of non-Jews into Christianity. Jesus' original disciples had presumed only Jews would follow this carpenter from Capernaum. After all, no one regarded him as the founder of a new religion — he was simply a prophetic reformer of Judaism. Why would Gentiles be interested in imitating this radical Jew?

At first, when non-Jews showed an interest in becoming other Christs, they were obligated — among other things — to imitate the historical Jesus' Jewishness. Before they could convert to Christianity, they first had to convert to Judaism. But when people like Paul began more deeply to understand the implications of the risen — not the historical — Jesus among us, most church leaders dropped the requirement that non-Jewish converts become Jews. After all, as Paul reminded the Church at Galatia, the risen Jesus is a new creation — neither slave or free, Jew or Gentile, male or female [Galatians 3:28].

Though Matthew's church seems to have generally accepted this reality, the evangelist still thinks it's necessary to include a handful of occasions in his gospel when the faith of Gentiles trumped the faith of Jews. The story of the Magi [Matthew 2:1-12] is the first of these occasions.

Matthew's magi certainly aren't kings — they're astrologers, relating to God in a way our sacred authors constantly condemn: they follow stars. According to the 613 laws of Moses, such individuals are to be killed on sight. Yet here, employing their forbidden methods, these gift-bearing Gentiles discover the new-born King of the Jews, while their bible-quoting contemporaries — Herod's "wise men" — never leave Jerusalem in order to go just a few miles down the road to Bethlehem. No one in Matthew's original community would have missed the point.

It's an understatement to say God works in strange ways.

Isaiah was very aware of God's erratic behavior when he spoke about Gentiles one day flocking to Jerusalem to praise the Lord [Isaiah 60:1-6]. Just a generation after the Babylonian Exile, he was convinced that "nations — nonJews — "shall walk by your light, and kings by your shining radiance."

The disciple of Paul who wrote to the Church at Ephesus was certain that having an insight about non-Jews playing an essential role in God's salvation was one of the perks of being a Christian. This was "the mystery that is made known by revelation. It was not made known to people in other generations" [Ephesians 3:2-6].

All Scripture Writers are very aware that God's "non-fitting" actions is an ongoing process. Should we then be adding books to our Bible? Today's Hebrew and Christian Scriptures might just be too small of a collection.

—taken from the writings of Father Roger Karban, which appear on the internet



El Salvador with a certain sense of wisdom, and, like the Magi, returned by a different "way". One student shared that she was "humbled", not humiliated. She came to see that faith was more than knowing, or seeing, or understanding. She — and the group agreed heartily — that simplicity is a wealth, and sharing is having, and going without allows one to go within. To some, this makes no sense. The Magi were touched by the simplicity and "withoutness" of the Divine-confusion. They humbled themselves in a new experience of recognizing without clearly encompassing.

This group of students has been hanging onto their new "way" by talking and supporting each other as they journey across their deserts. It is not easy to stay influenced by such a craziness. We all need to muse at how the Magi may have related what they had witnessed to the wisdom of the culture to which they returned. We all go to the stable to be humbled by God's consistent fooling — and the humbling us calls us to Bethlehem, Nazareth, Calvary, and, to the most unusual, His and our Resurrection. Those who cannot be humbled wait in the dark for more, bigger, shinier, and closer calls of stars. God's crazy way seems to dazzle us so as to call us to be consistently more faithful.

—taken from the writings of Father Larry Gillick, S.J., which appear on the internet

MARCH FOR LIFE:

Again this year, students in grades 9-12 have the opportunity to participate in the national March for Life in Washington, D.C. Begun in 1974 on the first anniversary of *Roe v. Wade*, the March for Life is an annual peaceful and public demonstration that promotes the right to life and advocates for the dignity of the human person from conception; the goal of the March is to protect unborn children and their parents from the tragedy of abortion. This national event is a unique opportunity for students to practice our Holy Cross core values and to live out the Academy's mission "to develop the competence to see and the courage to act in creating a more humane and just society." **Our March for Life will begin with a Prayer Vigil held in Our Lady Chapel at 9 PM on Wednesday, January 21st. We will be departing for Washington at 10:30 PM, participate in the Mass for Life at the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception, March for Life from the National Mall to Capitol Hill, and returning back to Gilmour around 10 PM on Thursday, January 22nd.** Cost of the trip is \$65. All meals and snacks are the responsibility of the student. Registration needs to be completed by Friday, January 9th. Please **contact Father John if you have any questions, and obtain the forms needed for the trip.**



2015 CALENDARS:

Calendars for the year 2015 are available for your taking. Besides having space for you to write your family appointments, the calendar also contains information about Mass and Reconciliation times here at Our Lady Chapel. We wish to thank the Schulte-Mahon-Murphy Funeral Homes for their generous donation of these 2015 Calendars to us. Please feel free to take as many calendars as you would like. Thank you.



GOD SPEAKS:

The mystery of the Incarnation shows us something profoundly significant about human life. God speaks in our language, and shows us His secret beauty on our scale. We begin, not by an arrogant other-worldliness, but by a humble recognition that human things can be holy, and very full of God. We also learn that high-minded speculations about God's nature need not be holy at all — that all life is engulfed in God, and that God can reach out to us anywhere at any level.

—Evelyn Underhill

IT'S NOT OVER YET:

The stockings that were hung by the chimney with care have come down and been put away for next year. Santa Claus has come and gone. Christmas presents have been unwrapped and put away or exchanged. Jingle bells have already stopped ringing in stores as after-Christmas sales lure with slashed prices. Soon defrocked Christmas trees will lie on curbs waiting for the garbage trucks or recycling. Much of our world believes that Christmas is over — the Ghost of Christmas Past gathers memories of 2014. They are all that's left. Christmas has come and gone. But...

For the church, Christmas is fresh and new! Carols are sung as we celebrate the incomprehensible mystery of the Incarnation. Feast after feast commemorates the multiple aspects of the Incarnation. The Church continues to spread out a rich cornucopia of celebrations. Already completed are the Feast of St. Stephen [December 26] — the first martyr; the Feast of St. John the Evangelist [December 27] — whose begins with mystical images of the Word who leapt down from heaven out of love; the Feast of the Holy Family [December 28] — celebrating the gift of God's presence in the very act of family love; the Feast of the Motherhood of God [January 1] — Mary reminds us that we need to be more reflective of these sacred happenings in our lives, holding them in our heart!

All these feast are steeped in the expansive, wondrous riches of our church. But it isn't over yet! — there's a star shining in the East. There are ancient prophecies are waiting to be fulfilled — mysterious prophecies wrapped in images of light and darkness, calling us to “raise our eyes and look about.” In this looking “we shall be radiant at what we see.” How marvelous! These awesome, ancient words hold promises that “our heart shall throb and overflow”! Oh, how we yearn for this in our weary, dark world! The prophet Isaiah [60:1-6] tells of a migration of camels — the caravans advance carrying gold and frankincense — the world's lushest gifts — all the while shouting the praises of the Lord!

Matthew, the Evangelist who wrote for the Jewish community, knows well this prophecy of Isaiah — it was meant to instill hope in the hearts of exiled Israelites. Matthew presents a panorama of fulfillment [Matthew 2:1-12]. The star in the East is seen. It is noticed. The wise who view it follow the nudges of the Holy Spirit in their hearts. Their eyes are open. Their hearts have discerned a need to follow this star — this dream — to meet the very personification of Wisdom. So they go forth. Political obstacles confront them. Again, they see with the eyes of Wisdom and aren't sidetracked by false lights.

On this feast of the Epiphany, we too go forth. Each of us is a wanderer — following stars throughout the whole of life. We are pilgrims from the day of our messy birth until the day of our messy death. Those beginnings and endings were and are out of our control. The in-between time of pilgrimage is a matter of choice. We look for a star to guide us. There are so many flashing lights in our tinsel world. Which one? The choice demands clear seeing and sharp discernment. The choice also demands frequent readjustment. Who among us has not followed a star that lost its glimmer and faded into the darkness? We must move on through changes of profession, changes of location, changes in family situations. Pilgrimage is, essentially, movement — hopefully following the true star. Re-adjustment! Re-focus!

Like the Wise Men of Matthew's story, each of us carries gifts. These riches have been given to us for our pilgrimage; they are to be returned to the giver at the end of our path with increase! We carry the gold of love, the frankincense of compassion, the myrrh of forgiveness. We offer these to the Christ who



life that threatens me, that will take away some of my own popularity, sunshine, and adulation? Can I, like the wise men, lay my gifts at the feet of the young and move towards anonymity and eventual death, content that the world is in good hands, even though those hands are not my hands? Or, like Herod, will I feel that life as a threat, and I try somehow to kill it, lest its star somehow diminish my own?

To bless another person is to give away some of one's own life so that the other might be more resourced for his or her journey. Good parents do that for their children. Good teachers do that for their students; good mentors do that for their protégés; good pastors do that for their parishioners; good politicians do that for their countries; and good elders do that for the young. They give away some of their own lives to resource the other. The wise men did that for Jesus.

How do we react when a young star's rising begins to eclipse our own light?

—taken from the writings of Father Ronald Rolheiser, O.M.I., which appear on the internet

PRAY THE ROSARY:

Please join us as we **pray the Rosary every Saturday at 4:25 PM** in the Eucharistic Chapel. In the words of Pope John Paul II: “The Rosary of the Virgin Mary is a prayer loved by countless Saints and encouraged by the Magisterium. Simple yet profound, it still remains, at the dawn of the third millennium, a prayer of great significance. It has the depth of the Gospel message in its entirety. Through the Rosary, the faithful receive abundant grace, as though from the very hands of the Mother of the Redeemer.” Please join us.

**ATTENDANCE:**

If you attend Mass regularly here at Our Lady Chapel, it would be helpful if you filled out a form [name, address, phone number, children, etc.] indicating this fact, if you have not already done so. Such information not only helps us to know who is attending Our Lady Chapel; it also is of great assistance to

ENVELOPES:

- When you need a **new supply** of envelopes, please feel free to take a supply of them from the table in the vestibule, or call Father John at the Campus Ministry Office [473-3560].
- When you **use** your envelope, please make sure that **your number** is on it. If you need to know your number, please call the Campus Ministry Office. Thanks.

WEEKLY OFFERING:

Baskets will be passed during the “Preparation Rite” and will be brought to the altar as part of the Offerings to help offset chapel daily operating expenses. When you choose to use the envelopes, your donations to Our Lady Chapel will be acknowledged so that you have a record for the IRS.

Total Offerings: Saturday 12/27/14 ----- \$ 775.00

Total Offerings: Sunday [12/28/14] ----- \$ 331.00

Total Offerings: Wednesday [12/31/14] --5:30 PM----- \$ 584.00

THE WORLD IS NOT BIG ENOUGH:

Through the centuries, most Christians have become more comfortable with St. Bonaventure's appraisal of God working in our lives than our biblical authors' appraisal. St. Bonaventure coined the oft-repeated Latin statement: “Potuit, deicit, ergo fecit” — “God could do it. It would make sense for God to do it. Therefore God does it.” Such reasoning is frequently employed when dealing with the Virgin Mary.

KING HEROD AND THE WISE MEN — A CHRISTMAS CHALLENGE:

The Christmas story is surely one of the greatest stories ever told. It chronicles a birth from which the world records time as before or after. Moreover, it is written in a way that has inflamed the romantic imagination for over 2000 years. This hasn't always been for the good. Beyond spawning every kind of legend imaginable, the story of Christmas has — in the Christian imagination — too often taken on a centrality not accorded to it in the Gospels themselves. This is not surprising, given its richness.

Inside its great narrative, there are multiple mini-narratives — each of which comes laden with its own archetypal symbols. One of these mini-narratives, rich in archetypal imagery, is the story King Herod and the wise men [Matthew 2:1-12]. The story of Epiphany is a story of powerful archetypal contrast — blessing and curse, between the reaction of the wise men, who bring their gifts and place them at the feet of the new king, and King Herod, who tries to kill him.

We are all familiar with this story since it has been much celebrated in song, icon, and legend. Jesus is born inside of a religious tradition — Judaism — and his birth is announced to that faith-community in a manner that befits religion — namely, by the angels, by supernatural revelation. But those outside of that faith-tradition need another way to get to know of his birth, and so his birth is announced to them through nature — astrology, through the stars. The wise men see a special star appear in the sky, and they begin to follow it not knowing exactly to where or to what it will lead.

While following the star, they meet King Herod, who, upon learning that a new king has supposedly been born, has his own evil interest in matter. He asks the wise men to find the child and bring him back information so that he, too, can go and worship the newborn. We know the rest of story. The wise men follow the star, find the new king, and, upon seeing him, place their gifts at his feet.

What happens to the wise men afterwards? We have all kinds of apocryphal stories about their journey back home, but these, while interesting, are not helpful. We do not know what happened to them afterwards — and that is exactly the point. Their slipping away into anonymity is a crucial part of their gift. The idea is that they now disappear because they can now disappear. They have placed their gifts at the feet of the young king and can now leave everything safely in his hands. His star has eclipsed theirs. Far from fighting for their former place, they now happily cede it to him. Like old Simeon, they can happily exit the stage singing: “Now, Lord, you can dismiss your servants!” [Luke 2:29]. We can die! We're in safe hands!

And Herod — how much to the contrary! The news that a new king has been born threatens him at his core since he is himself a king. The glory and light that will now shine upon the new king will no longer shine on him. So what is his reaction? Far from laying his resources at the feet of the new king, he sets out to kill him. Moreover, to ensure that his murderers find him, he kills all the male babies in the entire area. An entire book on anthropology might be written about this last line. Fish are not the only species that eats its young!

But the real point is the contrast between the wise men and Herod — the former see new life as promise and they bless it; the latter sees new life as threat and he curses it.

This is a rich story with a powerful challenge — what is my own reaction to new life, especially to



dwells within each person we meet. Yes, the star shines over each one. That star is the call of Jesus to follow him. That star is the example of Jesus himself. He is the embodiment of love, compassion, and forgiveness.

Each of the characters in the Christmas drama looked to that star and followed its light. Mary leads the way with her “yes”. Joseph walks with her. Stephen looks to the star and walks through death. John gazes in mystical union and puts his vision into words. We walk with others in our holy families. We carry our gifts of love, compassion, and forgiveness as we follow the star in union with the Wise Men of old.

—taken from the writings of Sister Patricia DeGroot, O.B.S.B., which appear on the internet.

SERVING THE LORD IN THE POOR:

For the past year, our teens have been volunteering at **Our Savior Lutheran Church Food Pantry** [located right across the street from the chapel]. The Pantry is open on the **third Saturday of every month from 11:00 AM – 1:30 or 2:00 PM**. Our Savior Lutheran's Food Pantry was formed to serve those in emergency situations and/or with on-going need in the cities of Mayfield Heights, Mayfield Village, Highland Heights and Gates Mills. The Food Pantry respects social and cultural diversity and upholds the worth and dignity of those it serves. All those in the area with need will be served equally, as supplies allow. The food pantry is a member of the Greater Cleveland Food Bank. During the course of the past year, the food pantry at Our Savior Lutheran Church served an average of 141 households each time. Our teens have loved this ministry and have been very faithful to it. **We would now like to open this ministry up to our entire Chapel Community. If you would like to help on any given third Saturday, please call Patty at the chapel office [440-473-3560] to let us know that you are going to**

**DRESSES FOR HONDURAS:**

One of the nurses in our Gilmour Clinic is involved in a **dressmaking project** for the children of Honduras. They have devised a method of making sundresses out of common pillowcases, and then adorning them with other items for decoration. And that is where you come in. **If you have any old buttons, ribbon, ric-rac, lace or other sewing trim**, please bring them in. The group would like to collect these items to help decorate the dresses they are working on. This is an on-going project; the dresses will be sent to Honduras every time there is a mission trip. The next trip is scheduled for March of 2015. There is a **basket in the narthex of the Chapel** to collect any donations you may have. Thank you for your help!

**ALTAR SERVERS and LECTORS:**

We continue to be in need of servers and lectors. **Any student who is in the 3rd [and up] grade is invited to become an altar server; any student who is in the 5th [and up] grade is invited to become a lector.** These are both wonderful ministries — a great way to serve God and the faith community. If you would like to take advantage of these opportunities, **please give your name to Father John**. You do not have to attend Gilmour to be an altar server, lector, or to be involved in any other ministry at Our Lady Chapel. **Please call the chapel office [440-473-3560].**

**OPEN YOUR HEART:**

God's mercy is like an unleashed torrent; it bears away all hearts in its flood.

—St. John Vianney

THE JOURNEY TO FIND CHRIST IN OUR LIFE:

The Feast of the Epiphany celebrates the Manifestation of Christ to the World. We commemorate this event through the arrival of the Three Wise Men at the stable in Bethlehem. It is in some way curious that this encounter does not take place at some later stage in the life of Jesus — at a time when he is more able to properly reveal himself to them. But this is not God’s way of doing things — his ways are much more mysterious. In the Bible, we are simply told that the Wise Men find their own way to Christ completely unaided by him when he is but a tiny child. They leave their gifts at the manger and just as mysteriously, without saying a word, they return home by a different way.

Matthew in his Gospel presents us with two contrasting approaches. Firstly, God reveals himself through the Scriptures and through the words of the Prophets to the People of Israel. Secondly he also reveals himself through natural phenomena such as the star that the Wise Men followed.

Ironically God’s more direct revelation through the words of the Prophets is ignored by those who should know better. And yet his very indirect and almost tenuous revelation by means of that star is noticed by the wise men who resolve then to undertake a very laborious journey to find the Christ Child.

These kinds of things are things are not confined to ancient times but are just as relevant to us today. It is sad to see the many people who know the scriptures, and who have had the Good News thoroughly explained to them during their childhood — despite these great advantages — somehow manage to drift away from their faith. This is a problem that we face every day in the Church and in our families. God gives us the great privilege of being brought up in a practicing family, and reveals himself to us in all kinds of ways, and yet this is still not sufficient to bring some of us to faith.

And on the opposite hand, we see these Wise Men who go to extraordinary lengths to find faith and give due homage to the Christ Child.

If you have ever been part of an RCIA class, you have probably sat in amazement as you listened to wonderful stories of how people have been very gradually but irrevocably drawn to Christ over a period of many years. They have frequently undergone all kinds of difficulties and overcome extraordinary obstacles to finally get to the point where they can profess their faith in God and find their true home in the Church.

Each one of us has a story of conversion. For some it might be simple and straightforward; for others it might be very convoluted. But all our stories have at their foundation the simple fact that God is calling us to faith in him. We come by different routes — some of them very curious, some of them very painful. But we are all being led through life on a great pilgrimage of faith — sometimes despite ourselves. And it is important to note that it is not to just a seat in Church that you are being called — there is a much greater place that awaits us all around the banquet table of heaven.

This Feast of the Epiphany — with its marvelous story of Wise Men led first to Jerusalem and then on to Bethlehem and their avoidance of the trap laid by King Herod — is not something just for the history books. Nor is it merely a fable to demonstrate Christ’s openness to the Gentiles from the first moment of his presence in the world. Rather, it is most of all a real challenge to each one of us. It underlines just how important it is that Christ came to reveal the Good News of the Kingdom to absolutely everyone in the world. And we who are his disciples are commissioned to spread his Good



keep others from suffering as you have suffered.

Perhaps there are some who feel excluded due to their sexual orientation. They should not be. People who are gay or lesbian are most oftentimes doing their best to live a moral life — and so are those who are heterosexual. Sexual orientation doesn’t make one person better than another — just means that both of us are doing our best to live our faith. Sadly, many Catholics assume that because someone is gay, that he or she is acting immorally. No one has the right to make that assumption, just as no one has the right to assume that all heterosexuals live immorally until they marry, and then become discreet about their immorality. Equally, it is wrong for anyone to assume that couples who live together before marriage are being sexually intimate.

When we make judgments on other peoples’ lives, we are excluding them from the heart of the Church. Actually, by making those judgments, we are excluding ourselves. Perhaps some feel excluded because they feel that they are more conservative or liberal than everyone around them. There is no liberal or conservative with Jesus Christ. Was St. John Paul II conservative? He gave talks on the theology of the body; he spoke about the rights of workers; he spoke about the responsibility of the “well off” to care for those who had less; he spoke about the insanity of all wars. Those are not conservative positions.

Was he liberal then? He spoke about the importance of celibacy in the clergy, about ordination being reserved for males, about devotion to the rosary and traditional pious practices, about respect for those in religious authority, and other positions that would not be considered liberal. There is no conservative or liberal in Christ. There is just charity for all. The Church cannot be the Body of Christ unless it is open to all people. Each person is unique. Each person adds to the strength of the Body.

Perhaps there are some elements of the secret that is still hidden — no one is to be excluded from Christ. What St. Paul says about the gentiles refers to all people of whatever background, experience, orientation, or what have you — we are all co-heirs, members of the same body, and co-partners in the same promise of Christ Jesus through the gospel. We all need to stop using religion as an excuse to look down on other people. And we all do it in some fashion. The Solemnity of the Epiphany teaches us that there is no “us” and “them” in Jesus Christ — there is only one big “us” — an “us” that includes all people everywhere.

—taken from the writings of Father Joseph Pellegrino which appear on the internet

AMAZON.COM:

Please remember that when you want to buy something from Amazon.com, you need to first go to www.ourladychapel.org and click on the Amazon logo at the bottom of the home page! Because of this simple step — and at no cost to the purchaser — Our Lady Chapel receives a percentage of all purchases that are made from Amazon.com. Ever since we have begun this program, we have consistently been receiving significant checks from Amazon that are being credited to help pay for chapel expenses. This affinity program remains in effect throughout the year, so we ask everyone to continue to remember to start your purchases at Amazon on the Our Lady Chapel home page! Thank you.



SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION:

Father John will be available to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation with you on **every Saturday** between **3:30 – 4:00 PM**. Confessions are also available “by appointment.” The Reconciliation Room is located in the small chapel directly across from Father John’s Office.



IT'S ALL ABOUT "US":

The Mystery of Inclusion — a truth hidden for the ages. It was revealed to Paul [Ephesians 3:2-6]. No one would have ever heard of it — least of all Paul in the days when he was Saul of Tarsus, Pharisee and persecutor of anything that did not appear to be thoroughly Hebrew. But the mystery was in Sacred Scripture — it just wasn't understood. The mystery was this: all the peoples of the world would be included in God's great promise to the Jews — Jews and Greeks, all people, would be co-heirs in Jesus Christ [Ephesians 3:2-6]. Even the prophet Isaiah mentioned that all nations would walk in the light of Jerusalem [Isaiah 60:1-6].

Kings would come bearing gifts of gold and frankincense, and proclaim the praises of the Lord. And Kings did come — magi from the East appeared with gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. They prostrated themselves before Jesus, and did him homage. They were fulfilling the Old Testament prophecy of Isaiah. Luke's Gospel often addresses the place of the gentiles in Christianity, making the point that a good gentile can become a good Christian. What makes the Gospel reading for this Feast of the Epiphany so powerful is that it isn't taken from the Gospel of Luke — it comes from the Gospel of Matthew [2:1-12] — the gospel written to show that in Jesus we find the fulfillment of the Old Testament prophecies.

This wasn't about the "worthiness" or "unworthiness" of the gentiles — it was about God's plan being revealed. If this was a mystery to Paul and the other Jews, it was because they never fathomed the depth of God's love for humankind. They never understood the mystery of inclusion. Perhaps the mystery of inclusion eludes many of us. We speak about our oneness in Christ, but we still have a temptation to consider some people as lesser members of His Body. For example, we are inclined to see those with cultures different than ours as less Christian than us.

This was the huge mistake of the past centuries when missionaries tried to turn the people of Asia, Africa, and America into European Christians. But we don't have to go to the past, or to other lands, to find people who might rightly feel excluded from the Church — or at least feel that they are lesser Christians. Who are those people who might feel excluded from the Church? Perhaps, people in second or third marriages who need to have their first marriages annulled and their present marriages validated and recognized in the Church. Many times these people have mistakenly thought that they were no longer part of the Church — even using the term excommunicated [which is not true, by the way].

People who have heard the call to come home to their Catholic faith should be welcomed into the sacramental life of the Church. It may take a bit of time to get everything straight, but it is time well spent if they know that the Lord is sacramentally present in their love. Some people who feel excluded are those who have suffered the trauma of an abortion. Two weeks from now we will remember the grim anniversary of "Roe vs Wade". Many will come to Church that weekend and will be upset by the reminder of abortion in their own lives. Whatever degree of culpability they may have had, such a decision haunts many. If you or anyone you know and love has suffered the trauma of abortion, you need to know that you do belong in the Church — in fact, we need you to support life, protect the unborn, and



News to the ends of the earth.

That does not mean that we need to rush out and buy a ticket for some poor benighted place no one has ever heard of in order to preach the Gospel to its natives — though this should never be excluded. There are plenty of people living right around us who have never heard the Gospel — or while they might have heard it, never really understood what it meant. Often enough, we don't even have to step outside our own front door to complete this mission— our task might even be most of all within our own families.

The symbolism of the star should not be overlooked as we celebrate this feast in which it. In fact, the star is very significant — the star represents the Light of Christ which drew the Wise Men to the truth. For Christ is indeed the Light of the World — he came into our world to bring light into darkness, knowledge to dispel ignorance, hope to overcome despair. He is indeed the one who all sincere searchers are seeking.

In Ancient Times, this Feast of the Epiphany was considered more important than Christmas — and indeed it still is in the East. The Feast achieved this status early in the history of the Church because of the many converts from paganism who saw in the story of the wise men their own story. These wise men were guided by a star; they were led by God to the stable in Bethlehem where they offered the Christ Child their gifts and paid him homage. The early converts to Christianity— like any convert today— realized that like those Wise Men, they too were guided by God and led on a journey of faith and brought to belief in Christ. When they finally encounter him they place all they have at his disposal and worship him as the Son of God and the one true Savior of the World. They may not be rich like those Magi, but they know that they have come to the knowledge of the greatest treasure anyone could possess — belief in Jesus Christ.

—taken from the writings of Father Alex McAllister, S.D.S., which appear on the internet

CLEAN OUT THOSE CLOSETS AND SERVE OTHERS:

Winter is here. Another change in seasons, and another time to once again clean out the closets. Clothing that no longer fits, or which was replaced by new items, becomes great items for others. Always remember the words of Jesus: "The poor you shall always have with you" [Matthew 26:11]. Please continue to bring your **gently used** men's, women's and children's clothing to the Lennon Board Room, or place it in the cedar chest which is located in the chapel narthex of the Chapel [just press the key button to open the chest]. We partner with Fatima Center to help provide clothing for general use. Also, **business work clothing for this season is especially needed. The Fatima Center helps men and women prepare for job interviews.** If you have some of these items, this would be a good time to send them along. Clothing for all seasons is accepted, but please try to keep in mind that storage facilities are limited at Fatima — so it would help if you could focus on winter items at this time. You may pick up a tax form when you drop off the clothing here at Our Lady Chapel — there are forms in the cedar chest. Clothing may be brought on the weekend, or during the week. Thank you. **If you have any questions, please contact Patty in the chapel office [440-473-3560].**

**SEARCH FOR LIFE:**

Food is not merely something we eat — it is a ceaseless reminder that we are mortal, earthbound, hungry and in need. We are bound by a biological imperative that forever keeps us returning to the soil, plants, animals and running waters for replenishment. Eating is life. Each time we eat, the soul continues its earthly journey. With every morsel of food swallowed a voice says: "I choose life. I choose to eat, for I yearn for something more."

—Marc David

MAKING ANY PLANS?

It's funny how we can know something, and yet still try to do the opposite. For example, I have known since high school the saying: "if you want to make God laugh, just tell Him your plans." Although I have known this for a while, I still believe that the plans I make will happen. For example, think about the plans that you have made for yourself — not those just down the road into your future, but the plans you have made for the next month, week, or even today.

Up until today, I was trying to figure out and plan out what I wanted to do after my missionary year with LifeTeen is completed. It seemed that after much consideration, I finally narrowed down my options, but then it hit me — I had made all these plans but had left out a big part of these plans — God. I had figured out what I thought would make me happy instead of how God wanted to make me happy. Whether you know it or not, all God wants is for us to be happy and to get to Heaven. I knew what I enjoyed and what would make me

happy, but all these careers would do nothing for me if it wasn't what God wanted for me. I know that I can save myself a lot of unnecessary stress by just allowing God to do as He wills — instead of me making up things that may or may not come true in my life.

My new year resolution — I know it's past new year's day, but a new year can start at any moment — not just on January 1st — is to leave everything up to God and take it as it comes. I know that some days I will fail in this, but I will try my hardest to do what I believe is His will. So as far as my plans for the end of the year — I have no idea what I will be doing because I don't even know what tomorrow will bring me and that's okay. God will give me what I need for today, and as for tomorrow, I will leave it in His hands.

And what about you? What are you planning? —written by Caleb Martinez, an associate of the Bible Geek

**LIFE TEEN:**

Our next gathering will be on **Sunday, January 4th** — this will be a brief meeting sharing the joys of Christmas. Our next regularly scheduled meeting will be on **Saturday, January 10th when we will gather for a very popular "game night" from 6:30 PM—8:00 PM.** Life Teen normally meets right after Sunday Mass — from **11:30 AM—1:00 PM** in the **Lennon Board Room.** Life Teen is open to **all high school aged young people.** **Just call the office and let us know that you are going to be coming.** We ask you to do this because there will be food involved. On **Sunday, January 25th, we will be gather to discuss the March for Life.** Come and try us out. We have a great deal of fun together and we grow in our faith at the same time. **Respond to your texts and/or emails, or call the chapel office [440-473-3560] to be notified.** Please continue to remember all our teens and young people in your prayers.

**WELCOMING CHRIST:**

A custom existed among the first generations of Christians, when faith was a bright fire that warmed more than those who kept it burning. In every house, a room was kept ready for any stranger who might ask for shelter — it was even called "the stranger's room." It had this name, not because these people thought they could trace something of someone they loved in the stranger who used it, not because the man or woman to whom they gave shelter reminded them of Christ, but because — plain and simple and stupendous fact — he or she was Christ.

—Dorothy Day

**THE WORLD THROUGH GOD'S EYES:**

Matthew's Gospel [2:1-12] tells the familiar story of astrologers from the East who follow a star to Bethlehem, where they pay homage to Jesus, the newborn king of the Jews, and, guided by a dream, save him from the murderous plan of King Herod. Matthew's carefully constructed story has spawned a good deal of speculation about the identity of the astrologers and the nature of the astral phenomenon, but the story serves better as a vehicle of important religious truths.

Matthew's Gospel is written for a mixed community of Jewish and Gentile Christians. As such, the story grounds the conviction that from the very beginning Gentiles have been included in God's plan of salvation. Both the prophet Isaiah [60:1-6] and Paul in his letter to the Church at Ephesus [3:2-6] support this theme — Isaiah proclaims that Jerusalem is to be a light to the nations, while Paul writes that "The Gentiles are coheirs, members of the same body, and copartners in the promise in Christ Jesus though the gospel."

The Scripture Readings for this Feast of the Epiphany challenge all exclusivism that claims a monopoly on truth and salvation, while also promoting a fundamental respect for those who are "other". As Matthew suggests, the coming of Christ has universal significance. His mission is to achieve the plan of his Father who wills the salvation of all people. Christ's grace, though free, is abundant, creating a divine milieu hospitable to all human beings. All things are potentially revelatory — including the stars in the heavens, and the oppressed on this earth.

We can imagine individuals responding positively to the Epiphany message. A high school science teacher comes to see Christ not as a divine being aloof from this world, but as the Cosmic Lord, who provides the inner energy for the whole evolutionary process. A Christian begins to think of Jews and Muslims not as betrayers and enemies, but as fellow members of the family of Abraham. A Catholic comes to see Evangelical Christians not as uncooperative fundamentalists, but as partners in the struggle against drugs and promiscuity. White Christians learn to see African Americans not as invisible others, but as fellow human beings who want to breathe. A man struggles to view women not as sex objects, but as persons with inherent dignity. Men and women come to see gay and lesbians not as possessing a disordered nature, but as contributing to the wondrous diversity of God's creation.

The Feast of the Epiphany asks all of us to check our pockets of exclusivism that exist in our heart, and to be more open to those who are other.

—taken from the writings of Father Jim Bacik which appear on the internet

MIDDLE SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP — THE EDGE:

Our next gathering will be on **Sunday, January 11th,** when we go to "**Build-a-Bear**" to **create Teddy Bears for Children Hospitalized at Ahuja Hospital.** Bring your friends. Come and find out what **the EDGE** is all about. If you have not joined us before, that's OK. **Just call the office and let us know that you are going to be coming.** We ask you to do this because there will be food involved. On **Saturday, January 31st, we will have our EDGE "game night".** Our EDGE Youth Group has a Faith-Service-Social component, and we need your help. Join in on an exciting happening. **Call the Chapel Office at 440-473-3560.** Join us for a fun filled faith experience. All are welcome.

