

From the Pastor ~

Today we celebrate the Feast of the Epiphany. On this day we remember the visit of the magi to the child Jesus. In Church tradition and theology this visit was a sign that the mission of Christ was not limited but was a universal call to salvation. Oftentimes, the magi are portrayed as having different ethnic backgrounds to better underline this idea.

For Christmas I shared a favorite poem by Christina Rossetti. Here is another one of her poems that is a beautiful reflection on Epiphany.

*In the bleak midwinter  
Frosty wind made moan,  
Earth stood hard as iron,  
Water like a stone;  
Snow had fallen, snow on snow,  
Snow on snow,  
In the bleak mid-winter  
Long ago.*

*Our God, heaven cannot hold him,  
Now earth sustain;  
Heaven and earth shall flee away  
When he comes to reign:  
In the bleak mid-winter  
A stable-place sufficed  
The Lord God Almighty  
Jesus Christ.*

*Enough for him whom cherubim  
Worship night and day,  
A breastful of milk  
And a mangerful of hay;  
Enough for him whom angels  
Fall down before,  
The ox and ass and camel  
Which adore.*

*Angels and archangels  
May have gathered there,  
Cherubim and seraphim  
Thronged the air,  
But only his mother  
In her maiden bliss  
Worshipped the Beloved  
With a kiss.*

*What can I give him,  
Poor as I am?  
If I were a shepherd  
I would bring a lamb,  
If I were a wise man  
I could do my part, --  
Yet what I can I give him,  
Give my heart.*

A number of you have asked about Fr. Klein's health. This is what he put in his parish bulletin as an update. He mentioned that some of you had sent cards for which he was grateful.

*A November colonoscopy revealed a two-inch tumor that tested positive. Then a CT scan showed two small spots on the liver. (The doctor is uncertain about them and may do an MRI later to see just what they are.) On December 3, I had surgery—what they call a colon resection. The surgeon took about ten inches off the end of my colon and*

*reattached it. At the same time he took out 21 lymph nodes, one of which tested positive. On December 17, an oncologist recommended a six-month program of chemotherapy to reduce the risk of recurrence. He will also do an ultrasound & if necessary an MRI to find out about the spots on the liver.*

### Mass Intentions

Sunday, Mon., Tues., Wed., Thurs., – NO MASS

Fri., – 2:00 p.m. – Ed & Bernadine Klecker † (school chapel)

SATURDAY –7:00 P.M.– Martha Styndl †

### SATURDAY – 7:00 P.M.

Lec – Janet Miller

EM – Ed Skala

Cup – Bob Prokopec

Servers – Kendra Boecker & Randi Kremer

Gifts – Mary Starman & Marie Kubicek

Ushers – Dennis Sisler & Zach Sisler

Singing – Combo

Rosary – Bob Prokopec

### School News:

Classes resume at St. Isidore School on January 5<sup>th</sup>.

Faith Formation Classes resume on Wednesday, January 7<sup>th</sup>.

All 2<sup>nd</sup> graders will have their First Reconciliation on Tuesday, January 13<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m.

School Board meets Thursday, January 8<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 p.m. in the school library.

The School Board asks that the Finance Council meet with them on Thursday, January 8<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 p.m. in the church basement.

**Bowling Party** – Everyone is invited January 11<sup>th</sup>, 3-5:30 p.m. to a bowling party at Bunkies Bowling Alley, Blooming Prairie. (We'll meet at 2:30 p.m. at the church parking lot to carpool.) You will need to pay for your own bowling & shoes. \$2.75/game & \$1 for shoes. Catholic Aid will provide pizza & pop. Contact Tara Jones/ 455-3004, or Troy Anderson/ 363-1701 if interested.

**Thank you** to all who gave to the Christmas boxes. You were most generous. Thanks to those who delivered them to the people. Thanks to those who wrapped the boxes & helped fill them.

**Thank you** to the Litomysl Women's Council for the nice box we received for Christmas. It was much appreciated.

...Elaine & Alfie Wondra

**Thank you** to the Litomysl Women's Council for the box of goodies we received for Christmas. It was much appreciated.

...Victor & Esther Fischer

**BI Prairie KC Pancake Breakfast** – Sunday, January 11<sup>th</sup> at St. Columbanus, Blooming Prairie serving 8:00 a.m. to 12 noon .

**Christmas** – Adult - \$1,090 – Off. - \$597, Youth - \$13

**December 28** – Adult - \$2,243, Off. - \$239.25

**Fall Collection** - \$1,405