



Our Lady of Sorrows Church
January 7, 2018

From the Pastor's Desk

My Dear People:

Today is the feast of the Epiphany, the coming of the Wise Men from the East to visit and pay homage to the new born King, Jesus. The Epiphany was formerly celebrated on January 6, but because it is such a great feast and not everyone gets to Mass on a feast during the week, it is transferred now to the Sunday closest to January 6.

When the Wise Men came from gentile territory, it was a sign that this was an invitation from God, through the star, to visit the new born Savior. That Savior was manifested to the gentile world and, indeed, the Gentiles were also in God's plan for all to be co-heirs, co-partners with the Jews to share heaven.

As we celebrate this great feast, **FIRST** we emphasize God's great GIFT to us, gentiles, to be invited to the happiness of heaven. **SECOND**, we take the example of the Wise Men with their struggle, travelling in dangerous territories and in hardships **TO SEE JESUS**. What a lesson from the Wise Men, as we know that to **SEE JESUS IS A STRUGGLE AND WE SHOULD BE WILLING TO MAKE THE EFFORT TO SEE THE SAVIOR EVERY DAY OF OUR LIVES**.

We are only seven days into the 365 days of 2018, and it is not too late to thank God for the blessings of 2017. We have had the grace to offer sickness and all problems to Him. Most especially, we have had innumerable opportunities to receive Jesus in the Eucharist and have received endless graces in addition, given by our loving Savior.

It is not too late to make resolutions to live better in our relationship with God and others. Life is a series of resolutions, and without them we are on the **SLIPPERY SLOPE**.

We need to make specific resolutions. Should it be more prayer? When? What prayers? How about realizing our bodies are temples of God? Could we take better care of them and stop excessive smoking, drinking, and eating? How do we treat others, especially members of our own families?

I once heard someone say the only way to keep a New Year's resolution is to:

1. Only make one or two;
2. Ask God for help, and;
3. Ask ourselves at the end of each day if we have kept the resolutions.

Many thanks for your cards and gifts. Best wishes to you for your health and happiness this coming year.

With prayers and blessings,
Father Muller

P.S. The Tithing Drive is ongoing. We are still short more than 500 cards, if our parish census is correct. Please, turn in your pledge card. If you consider yourself part of this parish, it is your obligation to help support it.

P.S.S. Many thanks to all the helpers who set up and decorated the outside Nativity Set: Joe Alesce, John Tombrello, Greg Wos, Mary Rupinski, Kathryn Hosmer and Mary Claire Brouillette.

IMPORTANT REMINDER: One of our parishioners reported having lost the contents of her purse, which included her medications, after returning from Communion last Sunday. STRONG ADVICE: Leave your purse locked in the trunk of your car or take it with you when receiving Communion.

CHAPEL OF OUR SAVIOR

The Chapel needs permanent Committed Adorers for:

Monday at 10:00 PM (With Partner)

Friday at 10:00 PM (With Partner)

Saturday at 3:00 PM (With Partner)

Our goal is to have at least 2 people on each hour. These are the hours needed, but do select an hour that best fits your schedule.

Please call Mary Claire Brouillette at 871-2909 or Trudy Carpri at 643-0248.



Mass Intentions

Please Note: Mass Intentions are assigned to the priests, not the Mass times. If you have reserved a certain date, you will need to call the Church Office the Friday before to find out the Mass time.

Monday, Jan. 8	Mary Thornton Mary Thornton Joe Schilleci
Tuesday, Jan. 9	Mary Thornton Josephine Romano John Milan
Wednesday, Jan. 10	Special Intention John Milan Joe Schilleci
Thursday, Jan. 11	Special Intention Lorraine Broderick Lena Carruba
Friday, Jan. 12	Joseph Rogers Curry Josephine Romano Donald Taccone
Saturday, Jan. 13	Frank Beuerlein Mary & Jim Meehan Josephine Sicola
Sunday, Jan. 14	People of the Parish Josephine Romano Mary Thornton



Vivian Bonamy, Vita D'Amico,
Mary Ann Huie, Melanie
Gilchrist, Charlie Kai
Wadsworth

Everyone is invited to join us at Adult Education on Sunday, January 21. Our speaker will be Willie Chriesman. His topic will be *A Time to Laugh: Finding the Funny in Faith*. The gathering begins in the Parish Hall after the Birthday Party for Jesus at 19:45 a.m. **Adult Ed. will not meet on January 14.**

What's Going on in Youth Ministry?

LifeTeen High School

Jan. 7: Faith Formation at 10 a.m. Come learn more about the Catholic Church. Life Night at 7 p.m.: Small groups will compete in fun team-building games and learn how our faith journey requires others to help reach our goals.

Wednesday, Jan. 10: Pro-Life Poster Party! Dinner, prayer, and posters. We will be creating posters for our upcoming March for Life trip. Please pray for the 48 who will be attending with OLS on Jan. 17-21 in D.C.

Edge Middle School

Jan. 7: Edge Kick-off begins with dinner at 7 p.m. in the Assembly Hall. This spring our theme is "Transformation", which will take us deep into the mystery and wonder of the Sacraments of Initiation.

Sat. Jan. 13: Edge is going to the Birmingham March for Life! Meet at the FLC at 8 a.m. We will attend the Respect Life Mass at 9 a.m. at St. Stephen's. The March begins at 10:45 a.m. at Brother Bryan Park. RSVP for a spot on the youth vans. Please wear your blue OLS shirt.

Camp Hidden Lake: Reserve a spot for your teen for June 18-23, 2018. Cost is \$225. Open to rising 6th-9th graders. Email: msyouthminister@ourladyofsorrows.com for more information.

Find our full schedule on www.olsyouth.com!

Our Lady of Fatima will meet on Thursday, January 11, at 10:45 a.m. in the Sodality Room. Sister Sara Burress will be our guest speaker. Sister Sara was a Presbyterian minister who converted to Catholicism and became a Benedictine sister. Come join us to hear her inspiring life story.

Madonna and Child will meet on Friday, January 12, at 9 a.m. in the Sodality Room. We will say the Rosary, have refreshments and hear guest speaker, Angie Hartman, who will discuss Core Strength. Nursery is available. Please make reservations by emailing your child's name and birthdate to epenhersiart@charter.net by Monday, January 8.

Our Lady of Grace will meet in the Sodality Room at 10:30 a.m. on Monday, January 8. Please remember to bring your sandwich and donations for the Catholic Center of Concern. Drinks and desserts will be provided.

Immaculate Heart of Mary Guild will meet on Tuesday, January 9, at 6:30 p.m. in the Sodality Room. Our speaker will be Sister Zelia Cordeiro from the Catholic Center for Concern.

The Knights of Columbus will be holding a Blood Drive next Sunday, January 14, in the Parish Hall from 8 a.m. until 1 p.m. They will be cooking a hot breakfast for all donors and their families. The American Red Cross continues to face shortages of the most needed blood types. We hope to see you there.

Women's Bible Study

The Tuesday morning women's bible study will start back on Tuesday, January 9. For any new ladies who would like to join us, we meet every Tuesday from 9-11 a.m. in the Family Life Center. For more information or

to sign up, please contact Mary Ann Graeve at 908-2728.

Active Shooter Safety and Awareness

Briarwood Presbyterian Church (2200 Briarwood Way, 35243) will hold a seminar put on by the Jefferson County Sheriff's Office on Tuesday, January 9, for Houses of Worship. The event will begin at 5:30 p.m. and last approximately two hours. There will be instructors from the Sheriff's Office present to answer any questions you may have. This is a FREE event and there is no registration required; just show up! You may contact Katie Mitchell from the Jefferson County Sheriff's Office Training Center at 205-849-5246 with any questions.

The Annual Respect Life Mass and March, led by Bishop Baker, will be on Saturday, January 13, 2018 St. Stephen the Martyr Catholic Chapel at 9 a.m. The Birmingham Rally and **March for Life** will begin at 10:45 a.m. at Brother Bryan Park. For more information go to www.BirminghamMarchforLife.com or call 205-447-8796.

**PLEASE contact the Church Office if you change addresses. We will be mailing contribution statements in the next few weeks and need everyone's updated information.
Thank you.**