

Dear Parishioners,

“Rise up in splendor, Jerusalem! Your light has come, the glory of the Lord shines upon you. See, darkness covers the earth, and thick clouds cover the peoples; but upon you the Lord shines, and over you appears His glory.” Thus we begin the first reading for our Mass today from the Prophet Isaiah. The glory of the Lord truly does shine upon us as we celebrate the solemnity of the Epiphany. As we all know, the word “epiphany” means a manifestation or glorious appearance. The Epiphany of the Lord celebrates His glorious coming for the salvation of all humankind. He offers gifts of forgiveness, peace, and salvation to all people. He reconciles Jews and Gentiles, and shows Himself as the Lord of all.

To illustrate the all-encompassing effects of Jesus’ coming, the Church introduces to us the magi. We really don’t know how many there were, but the conclusion drawn from the three gifts presented were that there must be three of them. Over the years, names like Caspar, Melchior, and Baltassar were attached to these wise men. Because the assumption was made that these men went home and evangelized their people, today could be called Mission Sunday, since all of us, Jew and Gentile, now recognize the glorious appearance of the Word of God among us and the need we have to share His appearance with others. If Jesus came for all people, as this solemnity celebrates, then we have to be the messengers of this good news. And so often the message is experienced through our example rather than our words. So I challenge all of us in this new year to watch what we say, to be careful of our language, to refrain from our gossip, and to praise our God for His glorious appearance among us on this day and every day of our lives.

An ancient custom in our Catholic Church is what we call the Epiphany Proclamation. This proclamation is the Church’s way to announce and proclaim the movable feasts of the new year. Because it is an ancient custom, I thought I would share it with you:

Dear brothers and sisters, the glory of the Lord has shone upon us, and shall ever be manifest among us, until the day of His return. Through the rhythms of times and seasons let us celebrate the mysteries of salvation.

Let us recall the year’s culmination, the Easter Triduum of the Lord: His last supper, His crucifixion, His burial, and His rising celebrated between the evening of 1st day of April and the evening of 4th day of April.

Each Easter—as on each Sunday—the Holy Church makes present the great and saving deed by which Christ has forever conquered sin and death.

From Easter are reckoned all the days we keep holy. Ash Wednesday, the beginning of Lent, will occur on 17th day of February. The Ascension of the Lord will be commemorated on 16th day of May. Pentecost, the joyful conclusion of the season of Easter, will be celebrated on 23rd day of May. And this year, the First Sunday of Advent will be on 28th day of November.

Likewise the pilgrim Church proclaims the Passover of Christ in the feasts of the holy Mother of God, in the feasts of the Apostles and Saints, and in the commemoration of the faithful departed.

To Jesus Christ, who was, who is, and who is to come, Lord of time and history, be endless praise, forever and ever. Amen

I remind the parents of our students who will be confirmed this year that they are required to be at a parent meeting on Wednesday, January 6th, at 6:30 p.m. in the parish center. If you are unable to be present, please advise Sr. Alicia so that she can arrange a meeting with you.

Usually, this is the last weekend that many in the community will have their Christmas decorations displayed. In fact, some have already removed their trees, stopped playing Christmas music—and now seem to be readying themselves for Spring. In the midst of this secularizing Christmas, the Church continues its celebration of this solemnity. Christmas season for the Catholic Church begins on Christmas eve and concludes on January 10th, the Baptism of Jesus. Whatever the case, let all of us keep the spirit of Christmas alive throughout the new year.

ON THE LIGHTER SIDE: A husband and wife went to a “Dude Ranch” while in Texas. The cowboy preparing the horses asked the wife if she wanted a Western or English saddle, and she asked what the difference was.

He told her one had a horn and one didn’t. She replied, “The one without the horn is fine. I don’t expect we’ll run into too much traffic.”

On this Solemnity of the Epiphany, I wish each and every one of you a Blessed and Merry Christmas.

Fr. Leo J. Enlow

Mass Intentions

Monday, January 4, 6:30 and 8:30 a.m. Mass; 3:30 p.m. Communion Service at Evergreen: Mary Niemeyer, Eugene Dasenbrock family, Frank & Betty Esker family

Tuesday, January 5, 6:30 and 8:30 a.m. Mass: Linda Koester, Clarence Braun Anniversary, Paul Lange

Wednesday, January 6, 6:30 and 8:30 a.m. Mass: Cliff & Lucille Kaufman

Thursday, January 7, 6:30 and 8:30 a.m. Mass: Peter Grujanac Anniversary, Dennis Koester

Friday, January 8, 6:30 and 8:30 a.m. Mass; 2:00 p.m. Mass at Lakeland: Anton Dasenbrock family, Tony Osthoff

Saturday, January 9, 6:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. Mass: Paulette Zimmerman Anniversary, Margaret Barlage

Sunday, January 10, 7:30, 9:15 and 11:00 a.m. Mass: Doris Stumborg, Mary Willenborg

MASS INTENTIONS

If you have not scheduled any Mass Intentions for 2010 you can now do this. The book is ready. Come to the parish office any weekday between 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. or write down your requests and mail them to the parish office: Mass Intentions, P.O. Box 764, Effingham IL 62401.

Bereavement Support Group

St. Anthony Parish Center
7 p.m. Tuesday January 5, 2010

Let us prayerfully remember those who call to God for help during their illness

- | | | |
|------------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| Adeline Bailey | Michael Kay | Steve Sehy |
| Mary Baker | Lisa Kingery | Ron Shoffstall |
| Jim Bloemer | Amy Koester | Rosemary Soltwedel |
| Jim Brady | Michelle Kuhl | Lester Stoner |
| Gerard Broeker | Dorothy Levitt | Lee Thomas |
| Lisa Crosson | Minnie Luchtefeld | Joyce Vahling |
| Art Dasenbrock | Brian Madlem | Rebekah Volk |
| Doris Dasenbrock | Donna Martin | Craig Welch |
| Hilda Davis | Bill Mette | Valentine Wente |
| Alexis Didier | Jolly Michels | Joyce Westjohn |
| Sally Ferry | Hailee Mouch | Michael Wheeler |
| Bruce Hartke | Mildred Nash | Mark Worman |
| Jim Jansen | Dorothy Pruemer | |
| Kris Jansen | Diane Rallo | |



**Coffee, Donuts and Fellowship
Sunday ~ January 3**

Come to the parish center after the 9:15 a.m. Mass and spend some time visiting.

Scrip cards will be available.

➡➡ Confirmation Meeting ◀◀

This is a **required** meeting for all the parents of students who will receive the Sacrament of Confirmation this year at St. Anthony's. Students are also required to attend this meeting. The meeting will be held

6:30 p.m.

**Wednesday, January 6
Parish Center**

If you are absolutely unable to attend, please contact Sister Alicia Drone , 347-7129, as soon as possible. A make-up meeting will be required.

Pray & Talk about Vocations

Children's Liturgy

Has your child attended yet?

All 3 and 4 year old parishioners are invited and encouraged to join the Children's Liturgy program during 9:15 Mass on Sundays. Come and participate in worksheets pertaining to the weekly scriptures. Come to Church and they will leave from there as a group and return to Church.

Have You Turned in Your Commitment Card?

A second mailing has gone out to those who have not returned their card. Please return this even if you do not answer everything on it. There is still time to return your Commitment Card to the parish office. You can send it by mail to: PO Box 764, Effingham IL 62401; put it in the collection basket or bring it to the office.

Thank you to everyone who was able to return their cards. We have been receiving some helpful feed back.

Christmas Decorations

In Loving Memory of our parents, Mr. & Mrs. Coel Pottebaum, and our grandparents, Mr. & Mrs. Herman Vahling and Mr. & Mrs. William Pottebaum, Love, JoAnn (Pottebaum) Ullrich and Jim Pottebaum Charles & Frances Brummer family Leo & Lena Bourgeois, Joe & Helen Apke and Dan Niccum by Ralph & Ruth Bourgeois

In Loving Memory of Tom Doehring by Sharon & Jessica Doehring

In Loving Memory of Carl Koerner, Jr. from his family Living & Deceased Members of the Robert Kenter family by the Robert Kenter family

Living & Deceased Members of the James Kantor family by the Robert Kenter family

In Memory of Marilyn Smith by the Robert Kenter family

In Memory of Margaret Barlage by the Robert Kenter family

In Memory of the Leo Reiss family by the children & grandchildren

In Memory of our parents Louis & Isabell Bloemer and Sylvester & Emma Pals and our brothers Jim Pals and Bernie Bloemer by Jim & Carol Bloemer

In Memory of Don & Betty Elmore and Andy & Alice Sur from the Roger Sur family

In Memory of Gerry Sauter

In Loving Memory of Jim Mahon, Joe & Mary Riemann, and J.O. and Selma Mahon by Rita Mahon

In Loving Memory of the family of Dick & Sue Green Louis Hille & family

In Memory of Sean Niebrugge, Tony Osthoff & Alf Niebrugge from Chris, Cindy & Chad Niebrugge

In Memory of Gordan Braun and Griffin Thomas

In Memory of Alex Pickett and Maurice Brumleve from their families

Find Comfort



Find comfort for your heart and encouragement for your soul.

The Grief Support Group will meet Tuesday, January 5, 2010 at 7:00 p.m. in the St. Anthony parish center. In a stance of prayer, confidentiality, love and support we welcome you who grieve the loss of a loved one to join us. All are welcome.

2 liter bottle collection drive

Clear empty colorless plastic bottles are needed (330) for the next Luminaries for Life project. Please rinse them out before placing them in the garbage container placed near the plastic bag drop off in the breeze way by church. These will be collected until January 10.

My Dear Friends in Christ,

The past year has been an historic one for the Diocese of Springfield in Illinois. Our mother church, the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, which had been closed for over a year, has been beautifully restored and dedicated. Most significantly, our bishop, the Most Rev. George J. Lucas, was named archbishop of Omaha in June and was installed there last summer. Our diocese now waits for Pope Benedict XVI to name a new bishop to be our shepherd and leader.

You read about it all in *Catholic Times*, the official newspaper of the Diocese of Springfield in Illinois.

The purpose of the Catholic press is more than merely reporting “what” is happening. The Catholic press tries to explain the meaning of world and national events through the lens of our Catholic faith.

In *Catholic Times* you can read about important events in our parishes and schools. Your diocesan newspaper brings you the stories of people living fervent, faith-filled lives right here in the 28 counties of our diocese.

And new this past year, you can subscribe to an interactive on-line edition of *Catholic Times* with all the same stories, pictures and advertising. Sign up on-line at ct.dio.org/gogreen

At \$15 annually, *Catholic Times* remains a bargain and a valuable way to keep informed on the vital issues that affect us and our faith. As your diocesan administrator, I am asking you to renew your subscription by using your envelope in your January envelope packet.

Sincerely in Christ,
 Msgr. Carl A. Kemme
 Diocesan Administrator

Luminaries for Life

This January, events will take place across the U.S. in commemoration of the tragic Supreme Court decision, *Roe v. Wade*. Thirty-seven years ago this court decision led to the legalization of abortion throughout all nine months of a pregnancy. Currently 1 in 5 pregnancies end in abortion.

Luminaries will be displayed on the steps of the church to affirm our pro-life position on the anniversary of the *Roe v. Wade* decision. Watch for the lighted display on the evenings of January 16 & 17. Please take a minute to visit the display with your children and use it as an opportunity to discuss with them the importance of respecting life starting at conception. As parents, you have tremendous influence on their beliefs and your guidance is needed to counter the pro-abortion messages they hear from the media and others.

You are invited to participate by making your own luminaries and displaying them at home. It’s as simple as putting a tea light in a paper bag or a plastic bottle and placing it on your front porch with sand to weigh it down. Have your children or grandchildren decorate them if you wish.

In the event of inclement weather January 23 & 24 will be chosen.

St. Anthony School Variety Show

The Variety Show will be held January 24, 2010 at 2:00 p.m. in the Enlow Center at the high school. Open to all grade and high school students. The program will be by audition only and will be limited to 20 acts. Participants are limited to one act. **Auditions January 4** at the high school. There will be a **mandatory rehearsal held January 18**. If you would like to participate, contact Mrs. Barbara Konrad at the Parish Center or by email at bkonrad@stanthony.com

Clavinova Club Begins

Next semester's Clavinova Club begins on January 12. If you would like to participate, contact Mrs. Barbara Konrad at the parish office, 347-7129 during business hours or email @ bkonrad@stanthony.com

Men's Choir

They will resume January 7 and start at 6:30 p.m. in the church. Please note the time change. Many thanks to the men who have joined this ministry and it is open to all the men of the parish

St. Anthony Online and Spirit Store

This is **NEW** and can be viewed by going to www.stanthony.com. From here click on St. Anthony online store. There will be more information coming so watch the bulletin and/or check the web site and see what items are added. **Spirit Store items** will be available at the boys high school games.

St. Anthony Scrip Cards Update

~**Starting January 2 & 3, 2010**, we will go back to our regular schedule for selling cards after 4:30 p.m. Mass on Saturday and between 10 and 11 on Sundays. These dates will be the 1st and 3rd weekends of each month. Orders can also be picked up or dropped off at this time.

Orders for SCRIP gift cards are placed weekly and can be brought to one of the schools, the Parish Center or dropped in the Sunday collection. Orders are placed on Mondays and come in on Fridays.

If interested or know someone interested in volunteering your/their talents to work any of these: the table after Mass, during sporting events, sorting, or order pickup/drop off, please contact Michelle Kinkelaar or Dawn Grubb.

Online ordering is now available at www.stanthony.com and click on Scrip Fundraising for more information and online code.

Michelle & Dawn thank you for your continued support.

New Year Prayer

O God of new beginnings and wonderful surprises,
thank you for the gift of a new year.

May it be a time of grace for me,
a time to grow in faith and love,
a time to renew my commitment
to following Your Son, Jesus.

May it be a year of blessing for me,
a time to cherish my family and friends,
a time to renew my efforts at work,
a time to embrace my faith more fully.

Walk with me, please, in every day and every hour
of this new year,

that the light of Christ might shine through me,
in spite of my weaknesses and failings.

Above all, may I remember this year
that I am a pilgrim on the sacred path to You.

Parish Relations Committee

St. Anthony and Sacred Heart Parishes have recently formed a Parish Relations Committee (PRC) to help create fellowship opportunities for both parishioners and students of the respective parishes. In addition, the Parish Relations Committee (PRC) will work together to enhance communication between the parishes and schools. St. Anthony members include Emily Hartke, Brooke Seagle, Aimee Hoene, Greg Koester, and John Dietzen. The members from Sacred Heart Parish include Deana Nuxoll, Jamie Miller, Dennis Carie, Christy Hakman, and Diana Ludwig. If you'd like to join this committee, or have ideas for the group, please contact Emily Hartke at 217.342.1031 or Christy Hakman at 217.347.7177.

Tom Bryant Memorial Basketball Shooting & Fundamentals Camp



Boys/Girls grades 1-6

Enlow Center—St. Anthony High School
January 10, 17 & 24 (Sundays)

Boys and Girls will learn the fundamentals of basketball and have fun. All proceeds fund the Tom Bryant Scholarships.

Grades 1-3 meet 10:45—Noon

Grades 4-6 meet 12:15 p.m.—1:30 p.m.

Fee: \$25 (*Advance Registration not required, but it is helpful*)

Contact Anita Baker 347-7994 with questions.

Applications are available at the parish center or go to www.stanthony.com and click on schools then grade school then look for application.

OUR WEEKLY OFFERINGS	
Annual collection budgeted goal for year ended 6/30/10	\$ 1,924,000
Actual collections through 12/21/09 (25 weeks-\$28,087 average)	702,171
Balance required to reach goal (27 weeks)	<u>\$ 1,224,829</u>
Average weekly goal for remaining 27 weeks	<u>\$ 45,364</u>
Actual weekly offerings received for 12/21/09	<u>\$ 56,846</u>
Last Year Total for 25 weeks (27,610 average)	<u>\$ 690,250</u>

. . . MERRY CHRISTMAS! Our Lord continues to give joy and peace through the tranquility of his spirit, his guidance, and his love, if we take the time to listen and pray.

. . . Even though our new calendars are now in use, here is hoping that your 2009 ended well and the new year is filled with caring and service . . . for you and for others.

. . . As you can tell, the printing schedule has trumped weekly reporting again. Everything should be up-to-date next weekend. Thank you for your assistance in making St. Anthony Parish and Schools such excellent facilities for worship and learning.

Calendar of Events 1/3 - 1/9

- Sun,** 9:15 Children’s Liturgy, pc sm
After 9:15 Mass Coffee & Donuts, pc
- Tue,** 7p, Bereavement Support Grp, pc
- Wed,** 5:30p, Handbells
6:30p, PSR
6:30p, Confirmation Parent Meeting, pc lg
7p, Adult Choir, Church
- Thur** 7p, RCIA, pc lg
6:30p, Mens Choir, Church
- Fri,** Offices Closed

Music Ministry Schedule

- January
- 2 4:30p, YACS/Allie Kabbes
 - 3 7:30a, Fran Bergfeld/Barbara Konrad
9:15a, TBA/TBA
11:00a, Nikki Quandt/TBA
 - 9 4:30p, Adult Choir/Margaret Niebrugge
 - 10 7:30a, TBA/Kim Deters
9:15a, St. Cecilia/Teresa Thies
11:00a, Fran Bergfeld/Barbara Konrad

National March for Life in Washington D.C.

The 36th annual National March for Life in Washington, D.C. will be held January 21-23, 2010. The Effingham Life Caravan will have a bus leaving from Effingham on January 21. Cost of the trip is \$150. Further information and registration forms are available by calling Liz at 342.9677 or Loretta at 857.3060. Join as thousands from across the nation stand up for **LIFE** in our nation’s capitol.

What Can We Give to the New Year?

Give of your time, talents and/or treasure to the Church. There are endless opportunities for everyone to be involved. Let the office help you find the person(s) you can talk with to learn more.- - Happy New Year!

Catholic Men for Christ Conference

The 3rd Annual Catholic Men for Christ Conference is Saturday, February 6 at the America’s Center in Downtown St. Louis. Conference begins at 8:30 a.m. and ends with Mass at 3:00 p.m.. Registration fee includes lunch and is \$40 through December 31. After that date it is \$45. Contact Bernie Blanchette at 217-690-4893 if interested and to carpool. Visit www.catholicmenforchrist.org for more info and keynote speakers list.

Early Morning Walking in Golf Gym

Beginning Monday, January 4, Golf Gym will be open for early morning walking and/or running from 5:30 a.m. to 6:00 a.m.

Good Search

St. Anthony Schools can earn a donation every time you search the internet using the internet search engine, www.goodsearch.com Please check this out if you do not already use it. We have a link on the home page titled “Good Search”. Just click it on and it will take you to the link. Thank You!

Pre-Cana Conference

The Newman Catholic Center at EIU will be presenting a Pre-Cana Conference Friday evening and Saturday, February 12 & 13. This two day conference is for couples who are planning marriage within the next year. The cost is \$30, materials and lunch provided. For more information the Newman Catholic Center, 217.348.0188 or newman@eiunewman.org

Sales Position with Knights of Columbus

World’s Largest Catholic Fraternal Organization has a Sales Position available. Established clientele and protected territory provided. Benefits include: professional income, training allowance, expense, allowance, production bonus, pension plan, group medical, 401 K, and more. Send resume to Knights of Columbus, 179 N Main St., Breese, IL 62230 or call 618-526-7991 for more information.