

## Do You See What I See?

**T**oday's Gospel answers this question quite **definitively**: No! Not everyone saw the guiding star in the sky. Not even those who, presumably, knew the prophecy found in the reading from Isaiah. That ancient prophet announced to the people of Jerusalem: "Your light has come" (Isaiah 60:1). In fact, he promised them they would be so embraced by that light, they themselves would shine brightly with its radiance. But when the time came, not everyone saw it. Or, having seen it, they did not recognize it.

The people of Jesus' time were not ignorant of these prophecies. They knew what they meant and to whom they referred. Consequently, when the stargazers who saw the light inquired about it, those to whom they inquired knew where to send them. So what was the problem? Why were those men in Jerusalem not excited about the star? Very simply, a new king meant a rival king, and those who had power weren't eager to relinquish it.

We know that not everyone in Israel rejected Jesus. Shepherds had already thrilled at this birth. Someone in Bethlehem had opened his home to this child and his parents. Now we add to them the stargazers from another country. It seems the invitation to come to him is extended to all: political and religious leaders, the unsophisticated and marginalized, the established homeowner, the foreigners in their midst. They are all asked: "Did you see what I saw? What do you think of him?"

*Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA*

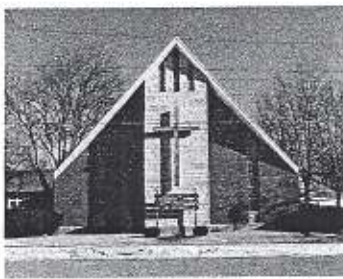
### FOR *Reflection*

- ✱ *How open are you to new thinking?*
- ✱ *God's invitation is offered to all. Is there any group of people you might have marginalized?*

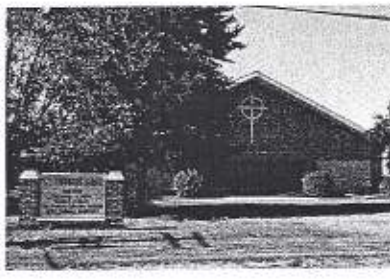


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**Holy Trinity Catholic Church**



**St. Thomas More Catholic Church**



**St. Patrick Catholic Church**

**\*\*Main Office\*\***

**Holy Trinity Church & Rectory**

212 S. Main St.

PO Box 159

Cherry, IL 61317-0159

Phone: (815) 894-2006

Office Email: HolyTSP@gmail.com

Website: www.bureaucatholic.org

And on Facebook at

"Bureau Catholic Churches".

**Mass Schedule**

Weekdays - Tuesday 12:15pm and

Thursday - 8:30am

Saturday Confessions - 3:15-3:45 PM  
or by appointment

Saturday Vigil Mass - 4:00 PM

Sunday Mass - 8:30 AM

**\*Pastor of the Three Churches**

Fr. Patrick Fixsen

Email: frpat.fixsen@gmail.com

**\*\*Upcoming Events At Church\*\***

**No Events Scheduled**

**\*\*Emergency Phone\*\***

**For All Three Churches**

**815-664-8241**

**St. Thomas More Church**

302 Chestnut St.

Dalzell, IL 61320

Phone: (815) 663-6201

Email: StTMoreDalzell32@gmail.com

**Mass Schedule**

Weekday Mass -

Wednesday & Friday - 8:00AM

Saturday Vigil Mass - 5:30 PM

**Sunday (Last Chance) Mass-**  
**5:30 PM**

**Adoration Room**

Open Monday-Saturday 9AM-8PM

Sunday - 9AM - 6PM

**Divine Mercy Prayers**

Every Friday 3:00PM

**\*\*Upcoming Events At Church\*\***

**Rav Orders - 815-252-2215**

**No Events Scheduled**

**St. Patrick Church**

**(Office at Holy Trinity Church)**

106 Church St.

Arlington, IL 61312

Phone: (815) 894-2006

**Mass Schedule**

Sunday Mass - 10:30 AM

**\*3 Churches Pastoral Assistant**

Julie Hollinger

Email: JulieHTC@outlook.com

**\*\*Office Hours\*\***

Holy Trinity - Tues, Thurs, & Fri.  
- 9AM-12PM

St. Thomas More -

Wed - 9AM - 12PM

**\*\*Facebook:** Use Link on Home  
Page - www.bureaucatholic.org

**\*\*Upcoming Events At Church\*\***

**No Events Scheduled**

**Daily Mass Intentions for  
Masses the Week of January 4, 2020**

<u>Monday</u>	<b>**Facebook Link - 4:00PM**STM</b>
<u>Tuesday</u>	<b>**Facebook Link - 9:00AM**STM</b>
<u>Wednesday</u>	<b>**www.bureaucatholic.org/Facebook Link - 5:30PM**HT</b>
<u>Thursday</u>	<b>**www.bureaucatholic.org/Facebook Link - 9:00AM**HT</b>
<u>Friday</u>	<b>**www.bureaucatholic.org/Facebook Link - 10:30AM **HT</b>

**Offered For**

† Dec. Memb Fixsen Family

† Special Intention

† Bill Pozzi Sr.

† No Mass

† No Mass

**Next Weekend's Mass Intentions  
Weekend of January 9-10, 2020**

<u>Saturday:</u>	<b>**Facebook Link - 4:00PM **STM</b>
<u>Sunday:</u>	<b>**www.bureaucatholic.org/Facebook Link - 9:00 AM**HT</b>
	St. Patrick, Arlington - 10:30 AM (No Streaming)
	<b>**St. Thomas More, Dalzell - 6:00 PM (Last Chance Communion)</b>

**Offered For**

† For The Parishioners

† Joyce Hoscheid

† Clara Mae Ansteth

† No Mass (Only Holy Communion)

**(\*\*Recommendation Watch Our Mass Online Or EWTN Mass Before Receiving Communion)**



### Latest Offering's

Holy Trinity - \$4066.00  
St. Patrick - \$1552.00  
St. Thomas More - \$1437.00

### Visit Venerable Fulton Sheen At Cathedral in Peoria

Monday - Friday 12pm - 2pm  
Saturday 3pm - 5pm  
(Re-Opened Again)

### Ministry Schedule For Next Weekend

#### Holy Trinity

##### LECTOR

Saturday - 4:00PM - ?

Sunday - 8:30AM - ?

##### SERVERS

Saturday - 4:00PM -

?

Sunday - 8:30AM - ?

##### COUNTERS

Sunday - 8:30AM -

? & ?

### \*\*Mass Intentions\*\*

We are in need of Mass Intentions for weekday Masses. The Masses on the web are a great occasion for family members not living in this area to pray with us for family members who have died. Please consider having a weekday Mass for a deceased member of your family and thank you. Mass intentions can be paid through our online giving program, mail or dropping by our office.

### \*\*Recurring Special Church Events\*\*

Wednesday's - Rosary - 6PM

(On Website)

(After Wednesday HT Evening Mass)

Friday's - Divine Mercy Chaplet -

On Facebook- 3PM -

St. Thomas More Adoration Chapel

### As We Begin This New Year

First, I want to thank everyone for their generosity to the churches over the past year! Again I know many are struggling financially. And if you can't give what you would you like, I (we) are still very grateful for your prayers for the churches! And we should pray that things will be better for you this new year!

As we begin this New Year, we need to pray for a better one than the one we just completed. So here is a prayer to pray:

"O sacred and adorable Trinity, hear our prayers on behalf of our holy Father the Pope, our Bishops, our clergy, and for all that are in authority over us. Bless, we beseech Thee, during the coming year, the whole Catholic Church; convert heretics and unbelievers; soften the hearts of sinners so that they may return to Thy friendship; give prosperity to our country and peace among the nations of the world; pour down Thy blessings upon our friends, relatives, and acquaintances, and upon our enemies, if we have any; assist the poor and the sick; have pity on the souls of those whom this year has taken from us; and do Thou be merciful to those who during the coming year will be summoned before Thy judgment seat. May all our actions be preceded by Thy inspirations and carried on by Thy assistance, so that all our prayers and works, having been begun in Thee, may likewise be ended through Thee. Amen."

If everybody would pray more this year, we will, with God's help, make our lives easier this new year than it was in the last!

### Christmas Confessions

The next confessions of the Christmas Season will be:

Sat - Jan. 9 - 11-11:45pm - in St. Thomas More Hall in northeast corner of hall.

### This Week's Update

Well we have all been praying for 2020 to be over. We have all been praying for freedom from everything good in our lives being shutdown. Maybe even going to our favorite restaurant without worry about catching a virus in whatever form it may come.

We ended 2020 by celebrating Christ's birth. We begin 2021 by celebrating the Mother of God, the Blessed Virgin Mary. Without Mary accepting the offer from God to bring Jesus into the world, what would we do on Sundays and holy days. Maybe we would all just be going to synagogues and worshipping God with a curtain across the front of the sanctuary. Maybe we would also be more respectful of God and His awesome presence in our lives.

This weekend we celebrate the Epiphany when the Magi made their way to the baby Jesus in the manger with the gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. They followed the star as it guided them to the place where Jesus was in Bethlehem.

Our faith is our most important gift God has given us. It takes parents doing their best to get us to live that faith inspiring us to attend Mass on Sundays and holy days. Sometimes we may have felt there are other things we could do to spend that hour.

At some point we will all stand before Jesus, who will judge our lives, and review how we have done with our lives. Did we keep Jesus the most important person in our life? The Magi knew Jesus was important and so should we? May God give all of you abundant blessings in this New Year!

Fr. Pat Fixsen



# Dear Padre,

**A friend who is a fundamentalist insists Epiphany happened exactly as it says in the Bible. I say there's no way it could have. Who is right?**

**C**atholics believe each book of the Bible needs to be appreciated according to the principles of its own literary genre. We don't look to the Gospels for modern critical history or unbiased biographical/reportorial fact-telling.

The four Gospels were written under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit. Each Gospel writer uses human skill to craft a true story, presenting the saving mystery of our Lord's life, death, and resurrection so that readers may come to know Christ, share his life, and be saved.

Every story in the Gospels is shaped to communicate saving truth, but not every story is told as a direct "just the facts, ma'am" report of sequential events. So there is a saving sense in which, yes, the Epiphany happened exactly as it says in Matthew 2:1-12. And there is a more literal sense in which, no, the Epiphany probably did not happen exactly as it's recounted.

What is most certain is the Gospel's saving message of the birth of our true king, the light to all nations, before whom we offer homage and who, when we encounter him, will change our lives and send us home in a new path.

Fr. Matthew Allman, CSSR  
[Sundaybulletin@Liguori.org](mailto:Sundaybulletin@Liguori.org)



ADORATION OF THE MAGI BY BARTOLOME ESTERAN MURILLO/WIKIPEDIA

## A WORD FROM *Pope Francis*

*As we begin the New Year, may we discover anew that faith demands worship....For worship involves making an exodus from the greatest form of bondage: slavery to oneself. Worship means putting the Lord at the center, not ourselves.*

EPIPHANY HOMILY, JANUARY 6, 2020

## Calendar

### Monday

JANUARY 4

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton,  
Religious

1 Jn 3:22-4:6

Mt 4:12-17, 23-25

### Tuesday

JANUARY 5

St. John Neumann,  
Bishop

1 Jn 4:7-10

Mk 6:34-44

### Wednesday

JANUARY 6

Christmas Weekday

1 Jn 4:11-18

Mk 6:45-52

### Thursday

JANUARY 7

Christmas Weekday

1 Jn 4:19-5:4

Lk 4:14-22a

### Friday

JANUARY 8

Christmas Weekday

1 Jn 5:5-13

Lk 5:12-16

### Saturday

JANUARY 9

Christmas Weekday

1 Jn 5:14-21

Jn 3:22-30

### Sunday

JANUARY 10

Baptism of the Lord

Is 55:1-11

1 Jn 5:1-9

Mk 1:7-11

