

Epiphany of Our Lord Church

3050 Walton Rd., Plymouth Meeting, PA 19462
Tel: 610-828-8634 ~ www.epiphanyofourlord.com
~ eol@epiphanyofourlord.com ~ bulletin@epiphanyofourlord.com

Mass Schedule

Saturday Vigil

5 p.m.

Daily

Monday to Saturday
8:30 a.m.

Sunday

8 a.m. and 10 a.m.

Holydays

8:30 a.m., 12:05 p.m.,
and 7 p.m.

Confessions

Saturday

3:30-4:30 p.m. & by appointment

Parish Office Hours

Monday-Friday

8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. & by appointment
Closed for lunch: 12 p.m.-1 p.m.

Saturday: By appointment only

Sunday: By appointment only

*A mail slot is located in the
front door of the rectory.*

3rd Sunday of Advent

The angels sang a message of

J·O·Y

Romans 15:12-13



Sun., Dec. 17, 2023

Rev. Thomas D. O'Donald, Pastor

frodonald@epiphanyofourlord.com

Permanent Deacons

Michael Pascarella, Jr.
Emil J. Wernert (Retired)

Office Staff

JoAnn O'Connor, Business Manager
Constance M. Steuer, Music Director
Anthony R. Mashaintonio, Facilities Manager
Gretchen Krawczyk, Communications Coordinator
Sheila Curristin, Evangelization Coordinator
Barbara Ebling, Administrative Assistant

Youth Ministry Staff

youth@epiphanyofourlord.com; (484) 545-0209
Kevin Kozeniewski, Youth Minister

Religious Education Staff

rep@epiphanyrep.com; (215) 367-5853
Linda DiCampli, Coordinator
Maryann Schieve, Administrative Assistant

Holy Rosary Regional Catholic School

www.holyrosaryregional.com
(610) 825-0160
3040 Walton Road,
Plymouth Meeting, PA 19462
amyporter@holyrosaryregional.com
Frances Luthy, Principal

Parish Activities for the Week

Monday, Dec. 18 — Grief Support Group at 3:30 p.m., RMR

Tuesday, Dec. 19 —Walking With Purpose at 9:30 a.m., RMR

Wednesday, Dec. 20 —Legion of Mary at 10 a.m., RMR; Prayer Group at 3:30 p.m., RMR, Choir Rehearsal 6:30 p.m., C, Cub Scouts at 6 p.m., PC

Thursday, Dec. 21—Walking with Purpose 7p.m. PC, Boy Scouts at 7 p.m. UFCW Hall (3031 Walton Rd.)

Friday, Dec. 22—Rectory and Adoration Chapel Closed., Church Decorating for Christmas, 10 a.m. –3 p.m., C

Location Key

C=Church S=School PC=Parish Center GH=Grady Hall

R=Rectory Meeting Room L=Parking Lot/Fields

Upcoming Parish Activities & Events

Second Collection

The second collection is for Christmas Flowers.

Prayer Group

For the winter months, the Prayer Group will now meet in the Rectory Meeting Room on Wednesdays from 3:30—5:00 p.m.

Grief Support Group

The Grief Support Group will meet Monday **Dec. 18** in the Rectory Meeting Room at 3:30 p.m.

Nourish for Caregivers

The next meeting for the Nourish for Caregivers will be held at St. Rose of Lima in North Wales on Wednesday, **Dec. 20**, 1:30-2:45 p.m. in the Father Murphy Meeting Room. The topic is *The Spirituality of Asking for and Receiving Help*.

Advent Tree in Church

The Advent Prayer Tree will be up for Advent. Parishioners are invited to write their Advent prayers on the available cards and hang them upon the tree.

Walking With Purpose

A women's bible study

Come deepen your personal relationship with Christ with like-minded women. New members welcome.

Contact wwp@epiphanyofourlord.com for more information.

World Day of Peace

Sunday, Jan. 1



Every year on January 1, the Holy Father marks the World Day of Peace with a special message inviting all people to reflect on the important work of building peace.

This tradition of messages for this day began with St. Paul VI in 1967.

Become a Member

The Knights of Columbus are always looking for new members. Our Council is growing and doing some great things. Please contact Frank McCreesh at fmxmccreesh@gmail.com for further information.



American
Red Cross

Blood Drive

The next Red Cross Blood Drive, hosted by the Knights of Columbus, will be on **Friday, Dec. 22** from 7 a.m.– noon in Grady Hall. Please sign up at www.redcrossblood.org.

Keep Christ in
Christmas



The Knights of Columbus are sponsoring a Keep Christ in Christmas poster contest for all of the students at Holy Rosary. This is a project that helps the students and all of us reflect on the true meaning of Christmas. Winners will be published in next week's bulletin.

Office & Adoration Chapel Closures

For Christmas, the rectory office and Adoration chapel will be closed, on Friday, **Dec. 22** and Monday, **Dec. 25**.



Let's Decorate!

Volunteers are needed to help decorate the church for Christmas. This is a great way to get in the holiday spirit and welcome our Lord for Christmas. All skill levels welcome. The Flower Ministry will meet on **Friday, Dec. 22** from 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. For more info please contact Nancy Anderson @ 215-264-5862.

Holy Night



Christmas Mass Schedule

The Fourth Sunday of Advent

Saturday, Dec 23 at 5 p.m.

Sunday, Dec. 24 at 8 a.m. & 10 a.m.

*The Solemnity of the Nativity of the Lord
Christmas Eve*

Sunday Dec. 24, 4 p.m. & 9 p.m.

Christmas Day

Monday, Dec. 25, 8 a.m. & 10 a.m.

©JPPC

CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR'S Confessions Schedule

Tuesday, Dec. 19, 7- 8 p.m.

Saturday, Dec. 23, 3-4:30 p.m.

Saturday, Dec. 30, 3:30-4:30 p.m.

New Year's Weekend Mass Schedule

*The Solemnity of Mary, The
Holy Mother of God*

(is not a Holy Day of Obligation this year)

Saturday, Dec. 30, 5 p.m.

Sunday, Dec. 31, 8 & 10 a.m.

Monday, Jan. 1, 8:30 a.m.

2nd Annual

Our Feast Day Celebration

Epiphany of Our Lord Feast Weekend

Saturday January 6th

8:30 am

Feast Day Mass

After Mass to 11:00 AM

Service Project with Coffee/Snacks

In The Parish Center Rooms

Sunday January 7th

11:00 am

Three Kings Breakfast

In Grady Hall

Event organized by the Parish Life Committee.

Parishlife@epiphanyoffourlord.com



EPIPHANY OF OUR LORD

Catechism Class

Registration is open!

Discover the richness of the Catholic faith through a friendly catechism program intended for adults and youth 16+ who are seeking to make a sacrament of initiation (Confirmation, Eucharist, or Baptism)

Join us on a 12-week journey where we will explore the core teachings of the Church, deepen our faith understanding and prepare to receive sacraments.

Spiritual Leaders

Rev. Thomas O'Donald, Pastor
Deacon Michael Pascarella, Jr.

Lessons include:

- ◆ Contemporary YOUCAT catechism materials
- ◆ The Sacraments
- ◆ The Creed
- ◆ Prayer Life

Lesson Timetable

Sunday

Weekly Jan. 7 to Mar. 24, 2024

Mass

10:00 a.m.

Lesson

11:15 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Register

Epiphany of Our Lord rectory office,
call 610-828-8634, or
email eol@epiphanyofourlord.com

There is no charge to participate.

New Schedule for 2024

Effective Sunday, Jan. 7, 2024

Sunday

8 a.m. (Quiet) Mass

10 a.m. Mass

2:30—3:45 p.m. Confessions

4 p.m. Mass

Monday- Friday

8:30 a.m. Mass

Saturday

5 p.m. Vigil Mass

A Special Thanks!

A special thank you to the Parish Life Committee for hosting December's Second Sunday Social. Each month everyone is invited for coffee and donuts at 11 a.m. in the church vestibule. The next social is **Jan. 14**.

If you'd like to learn more about the Parish Life Committee, their next meeting is **Jan. 3** at 7 pm in the Parish Center.



Lighthouse Kiosk

As the Christmas season approaches, be sure to check out our kiosk for great gifts for all ages and on a variety of topics. All materials are available for a free-will offering.



Students from the our Religious Education Program performed their very special rendition of the Nativity in anticipation of our Savior's Birth.



From Father:

Gaudete Sunday: A Time of Joyful Anticipation

As we journey through the Advent season, we approach a special moment in our liturgical calendar: Gaudete Sunday. The word "Gaudete" in Latin means "rejoice," and this day serves as a reminder of the joy that the birth of Jesus Christ brings to the world.

Gaudete Sunday is symbolized by the lighting of the rose-colored candle on our Advent wreath. This distinct color represents a shift from the penitential purple of Advent to a lighter tone, signifying our joyful anticipation of the Lord's coming. It's a day to pause and reflect on the profound joy and hope that comes with the birth of our Savior.

In keeping with the spirit of preparation and reflection, we are excited to invite you to our Advent Confession Service on December 19th at 7 PM. This special event will not only offer us a chance for individual reconciliation but will also bring together visiting priests from the area, enriching our communal experience of God's mercy and forgiveness.

The Sacrament of Reconciliation holds a vital place in preparing our hearts for Christmas. It's a profound encounter with God's infinite mercy, where we acknowledge our shortcomings and receive His grace to renew our lives. In this sacrament, we experience firsthand the forgiving love of Christ, preparing us to welcome Him into our hearts and homes with a renewed spirit.

This Advent, let us embrace the opportunity to confess with a contrite heart, receive absolution, and perform our penance with the joyous anticipation of Christ's birth. Our Advent Confession Service is a beautiful way to prepare ourselves, not just externally but internally, for the true essence of Christmas.

We encourage everyone to participate in this blessed sacrament. May this Gaudete Sunday and our Advent Confession Service be a time of spiritual renewal and joyful anticipation as we prepare to celebrate the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ.

*Oremus pro invicem,
Fr. O'Donald*

THIRD WEEK OF ADVENT JOY



MASS INTENTIONS

Monday, Dec. 18

8:30 a.m.

Dominic Milione

Tuesday, Dec. 19

8:30 a.m.

Hanna O'Sullivan

Wednesday, Dec. 20

8:30 a.m.

Mary Jane Feeley

Thursday, Dec. 21

8:30 a.m.

Brian Rogers

Friday, Dec. 22

8:30 a.m.

Catherine Rush

Saturday, Dec. 23

8:30 a.m.

Victoria Mashaintonio



Adoration Chapel Votive Candles are Dedicated for:

Anthony Vigna

Our Annual Stewardship Appeal continues.

Weekly Tithing Report—Dec. 3, 2023

Sunday In-Pew Collections: \$7,086

Sunday Mailed in Envelopes: \$1,689

Sunday E-Giving: \$6,282

TOTAL: \$15,057

Pregnancy Hotline

Pregnant and need help? Call or text the hotline at (610) 626-4006 or text (484) 451-8104, 24/7, for assistance with pro-life options, supportive counseling and other resources.

Need Assistance?

Are you, or is someone you know in our community, in need of assistance? The St. Vincent de Paul Society may be able to help! We encourage you to call or email us. All requests are kept in the strictest of confidence.

Phone: (267) 627-4436

Email: eolsvdp@gmail.com

Please Pray for the Sick

Parishioners listed in bold.

Frank Campolongo

Kinleigh Connelly

Joseph Guy

Josephine Paoella

Lou Prinzivalli

Virginia Sherbert

Luke Winterbottom

Joe Comber

Joe DeChristopher

Mary Keating

Antionietta Pendlton

Jeannette Salamone

Albert Sinopoli

Andrew Uivary

Contact the Parish Office to update the list.

Martha's Choice Marketplace

Martha's Choice Marketplace, a part of Catholic Social Services, operates a food pantry on Johnson Highway in Norristown. Food and personal care items are distributed to those in our area who are in need.

Donations of the following would be greatly appreciated at this time: size 5 & 6 infant diapers, canned chicken, canned chili, rice, toilet paper and feminine hygiene items.

There is a bin in the back of church to leave your donations. No glass jars or expired food can be accepted. Thank you!



Parish Office Requests

To register in the parish, arrange for a baptism, or request a Certificate of Eligibility for sponsorship at Baptism or Confirmation, contact the Parish Office during office hours at eol@epiphanyofourlord.com. Also, please advise our office staff of any change of address, telephone number or family status.

Anointing of the Sick

First Saturday of the month after 8:30 a.m. Mass or by request. Please notify the Parish Office as soon as possible when any parishioner becomes seriously ill or is admitted to the hospital.

Baptism

Baptisms are celebrated after the 10 a.m. Mass on Sundays upon request. Both first-time parents need to attend a Pre-Jordan class, which is held the first Wednesday of every month.

Pre-Registration for the class is required by contacting the Parish Office. Sponsors not from Epiphany are required to submit a Certificate of Eligibility from their parish two weeks prior to the Baptism.

Matrimony

Notify the Parish Office of your intention to marry at least six months before the date of the wedding to assure sufficient preparation and to arrange for Pre-Cana sessions.

Miraculous Medal—Perpetual Novena

After 8:30 a.m. Mass every Saturday.

Holy Communion for the Sick and Homebound

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion are available to bring Communion to the sick and homebound. Call the Parish Office at (610) 828-8634 to provide the office staff with the name, address and phone number of the sick or homebound parishioner.

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