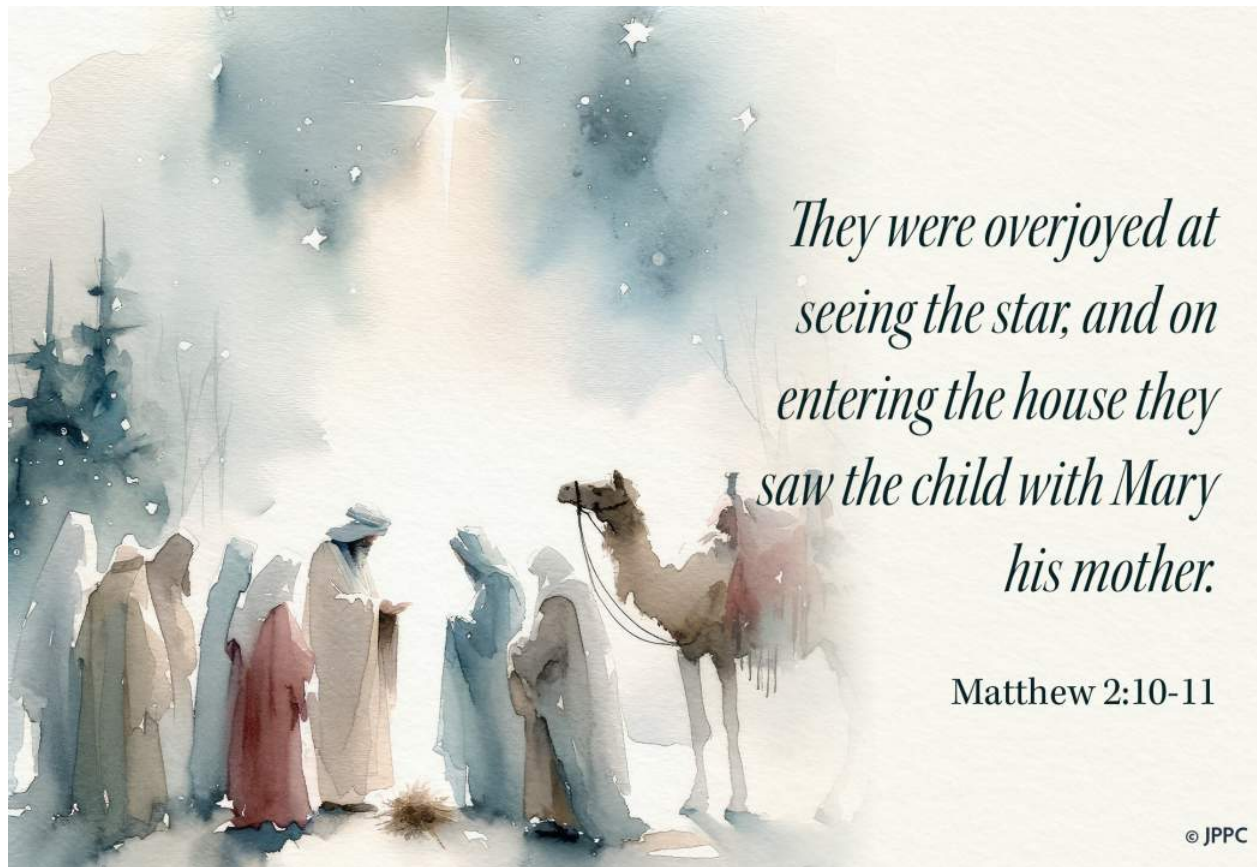


# CHURCH OF SAINT MONICA



*They were overjoyed at seeing the star, and on entering the house they saw the child with Mary his mother.*

Matthew 2:10-11

© JPPC

## JANUARY 5, 2025

*Our Parish is Served by:*

Reverend Alex Enriquez, Pastor  
Deacon Christian Knoebel  
Deacon John L. White

*We invite you to celebrate with us*

website: [www.saintmonica.com](http://www.saintmonica.com)

Parish Office: 732-928-0279

Email: [parishoffice@saintmonica.com](mailto:parishoffice@saintmonica.com)

Fax: (732) 928-1853

Religious Education: 732-928-4038

Email: [stmonicacd@yahoo.com](mailto:stmonicacd@yahoo.com)

Confessions

Saturdays

3:15 pm

to 3:45 pm

1st Thursdays 7pm

or by appointment

Facebook:

[www.facebook.com/  
ParishofStMonica/](http://www.facebook.com/ParishofStMonica/)

Masses

Mon. to Thurs. 9 am

Saturday 4 pm

Sunday 9 am & 11 am

679 W. Veterans Highway  
Jackson, NJ 08527



*The Church of St. Monica is a warm, accepting, and caring parish that worships God, teaches and lives the message of Christ, seeks to support and strengthen family life, and serves those in need through parish ministries and organizations.*



## THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD - JANUARY 5, 2025

### MASS INTENTIONS

#### Saturday, January 4

4:00 pm Juana Rodriguez  
(Bereavement Ministry)

#### Sunday, January 5

9:00 am Lorene Magenheimer  
(Stephanie Kujawski)  
11:00 am John F Byrnes  
(Caroline & John White)

#### Monday, January 6

9:00 am Philomena Carragher  
(Marie Gould)

#### Tuesday, January 7

9:00 am Available

#### Wednesday, January 8

9:00 am Available

#### Thursday, January 9

9:00 am Available

#### Saturday, January 11

4:00 pm Sylvester Cascio & Joseph Anzalone  
(Anzalone Family)

#### Sunday, January 12

9:00 am Mikayla Harshaw  
(Stephanie Kujawski)  
11:00 am Lorene Meganheimer (Mary Boyd)

*To secure your Mass Intentions, contact the Parish Office.*

### IN OUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS

Micki Smith, Joyce Picon, Carol Atherton, Beth Kujawski, Chuck Smith, Toni Hetteroth, Dianne Smith, Andy Sabine, Elaine Giblock, Marie Gould, Doris Garbarino, Melissa Staiger, Bonnie Holton, Arlene Toth, Judy Bocchicchio, Leo Diaz, Glory D'Acunto, Josephine Brennan, Frank Trimboli, Gabrielle D'Acunto, Anthony Pelle, Jr, Phillip Wenz, Mary Miniscalchi, Lane Morell, Frank Falesto, Jean Stein, Ann Rosetto, Elaine Stemmler, Tom Martin, Dorothy Palumbo, Jacob Rivera, Jaxson Rivera, Jennie D'Angelo, Paul Hetteroth, Cheryl Vega, Carol Spezzano, Michael Seiler, Shannon Hubert, Ronald Nuzzola, Ray Kijowski, Nicholas Biddle, Matthew Biddle, Dennis Shwiner, Laura Stoyer, Mike Scott, Andrew G Sabine, A.J. Sabine, Stephen Alexander, Angela Belmont

*Contact the Parish Office to let us know of anyone to be remembered in prayer, so we may include them or, if they can be removed.*

### Readings for the Week - January 5, 2025

**Monday, January 6, 2025** 1 Jn 3:22; 4:6 Ps 2:7bc-8, 10-12a Mt 4:12-17, 23-25

**Tuesday, January 7, 2025** 1 Jn 4:7-10 Ps 72:1-2, 3-4, 7-8 Mk 6:34-44

**Wednesday, January 8, 2025** 1 Jn 4:11-18 Ps 72:1-2, 10, 12-13 Mk 6:45-52

**Thursday, January 9, 2025** 1 Jn 4:19; 5:4 Ps 72:1-2, 14 and 15bc, 17 Lk 4:14-22

**Friday, January 10, 2025** Jn 5:5-13 Ps 147:12-13, 14-15, 19-20 Lk 5:12-16

**Saturday, January 11, 2025** 1 Jn 5:14-21 Ps 149:1-2, 3-4, 5-6a and 9b Jn 3:22-30

**Sunday, January 12, 2025** Is 42:1-4, 6-7, Ps 104:1b-2, 3-4, 24-25, 27-28, 29-30 Acts 10:34-38

**PLEASE TAKE NOTE**

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament will be Wednesday, January 8<sup>th</sup> following the 9:00 a.m. Mass

*FYI, Adoration is usually the first Wednesday of each month at 9:30 a.m.*

**FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP COLLECTIONS  
DECEMBER 16 - 22, 2024**

Due to our publisher's deadlines, and this issue being submitted Dec 20, collection information will appear in the Jan 12 issue.

**WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER**



**New Year, New Gift?**

Are you looking for the perfect New Year's gift for your spouse?

Why not give yourselves a "Marriage Encounter Weekend!"

A Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend gives you the time and tools to enrich your marriage, deepen communication, and nourish the spirituality in your marriage.

The next Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend will be held:

**February 14 – 16, 2025 at  
APA Hotel - Woodbridge  
120 South Wood Avenue  
ISELIN, NJ 08830**

Please apply ASAP as space is limited. Phone 1-732-904-9636 for application and information (Tom & Ruth DeFalco). Visit us at: [www.wwme.org](http://www.wwme.org) for more information.

**ONLINE GIVING**

This program enables you the convenience of having your weekly offering, special collections such as Christmas, Easter, and all other second collections automatically debited from your checking account or credit card. You choose how much to give, the frequency, the fund, and method of payment. If you are in a position to contribute, please consider Online Giving. Start here, and scroll down:

[www.saintmonica.com](http://www.saintmonica.com)

**TEMPTING BAKED GOODS**

The Women of St Monica will have a bake sale after all Masses Sat., Jan. 11 & Sun., Jan. 12 to help a family in need. Please sign up on the table in the back of the church to bring your delicious baked goods for sale. Thank you for your generosity!





DIOCESE OF TRENTON

# Celebrating THE HOLY YEAR



*For everyone, may the Jubilee be a moment of genuine, personal encounter with the Lord Jesus, the "door" of our salvation, whom the Church is charged to proclaim always, everywhere and to all "our hope."*

– Pope Francis, *Spes non Confundit*

**CALENDAR**

**Saturday, January 4**

3:15 pm Confessions  
4:00 pm Mass

**Sunday, January 5**

9:00 am Mass  
10:00 am Prep Class (Parish Foyer)  
11:00 am Mass  
12:00 pm WOSM Mtg (LC)

**Monday, January 6**

9:00 am Mass  
4:30 pm Religious Ed Class  
6:15 pm Religious Ed Class

**Tuesday, January 7**

9:00 am Mass  
5:30 pm Rel Ed Class  
7:00 pm Adult Choir  
7:30 pm Legion of Mary (LC)

**Wednesday, January 8**

9:00 am Mass  
4:00 pm OCIA (LC)  
6:30 pm Baptism Prep Class (LC)

**Thursday, January 9**

9:00 am Mass  
1:00 pm Bible Study Group (LC)  
7:00 pm K of C Mtg (Church)

**Saturday, January 11 - Sunday January 12**

Women of St Monica Bake Sale after all Masses

**Saturday, January 11**

3:15 pm Confessions  
4:00 pm Mass

**Sunday, January 12**

9:00 am Mass  
10:00 am Prep Class (Parish Foyer)  
11:00 am Mass  
12:00 pm Baptisms (2)

**Monday, January 13**

9:00 am Mass  
4:30 pm Religious Ed Class  
6:15 pm Religious Ed Class

**Tuesday, January 14**

9:00 am Mass  
5:30 pm Rel Ed Class  
7:00 pm Adult Choir  
7:30 pm Legion of Mary (LC)

**JUBILEE PRAYER**

Father in heaven,  
may the *faith* you have given us  
in your son, Jesus Christ, our brother,  
and the flame of *charity* enkindled in our hearts  
by the Holy Spirit,  
reawaken in us the blessed *hope*  
for the coming of your Kingdom.

May your grace transform us into tireless cultivators  
of the seeds of the Gospel.

May those seeds transform from within both humanity  
and the whole cosmos in the sure expectation  
of a new heaven and a new earth,  
when, with the powers of Evil vanquished,  
your glory will shine eternally.

May the grace of the Jubilee reawaken in us, *Pilgrims of Hope*  
a yearning for the treasures of heaven.

May that same grace spread the joy and peace of our Redeemer  
throughout the earth,  
to you our God, eternally blessed,  
be glory and praise for ever.

Amen.

**Mass for Life & Life Expo**

STANDING TOGETHER FOR Life

CELEBRATED BY



**Bishop David M. O'Connell, C.M.**

**PRAY, CONNECT, ENGAGE**

Embrace the transformative power of the Eucharist, foster solidarity, and take decisive action to nurture a culture of life that honors every stage from womb to tomb.

**WHAT TO EXPECT:**

- Join us for a special Mass celebrated by Bishop David M. O'Connell, C.M.
- Engage with local organizations dedicated to upholding and promoting human dignity throughout all stages of life.
- Enjoy delicious refreshments, fostering new friendships, and strengthening bonds within our community.

Friday  
**JANUARY 24**  
11:00AM

Co-Cathedral of  
St. Robert Bellarmine,  
Freehold

**All are Welcome • No RSVP needed**



For full information about the day's events, visit:  
[dioceseoftrenton.org/standing-together-for-life](http://dioceseoftrenton.org/standing-together-for-life)



## Saint Marguerite Bourgeoys

DATES: 1620-1700

FEAST DAY: JANUARY 12

**G**rowing up in Troyes, France, Marguerite formed a special relationship with Our Lady. She was turned away by two religious communities, but met the founder of Montreal, Canada, when he returned to France to visit his sister. He invited Marguerite to open a school in the New World; she went, despite misgivings, after praying to Mary. From that first school in an abandoned stable, her ministry grew to include teaching women crafts and founding the Sisters of the Congregation of Notre Dame. She managed to keep her sisters uncloistered, despite opposition from the bishop, and served as superior for many years. When Pope John Paul II canonized her in 1982, she became Canada's first woman saint.



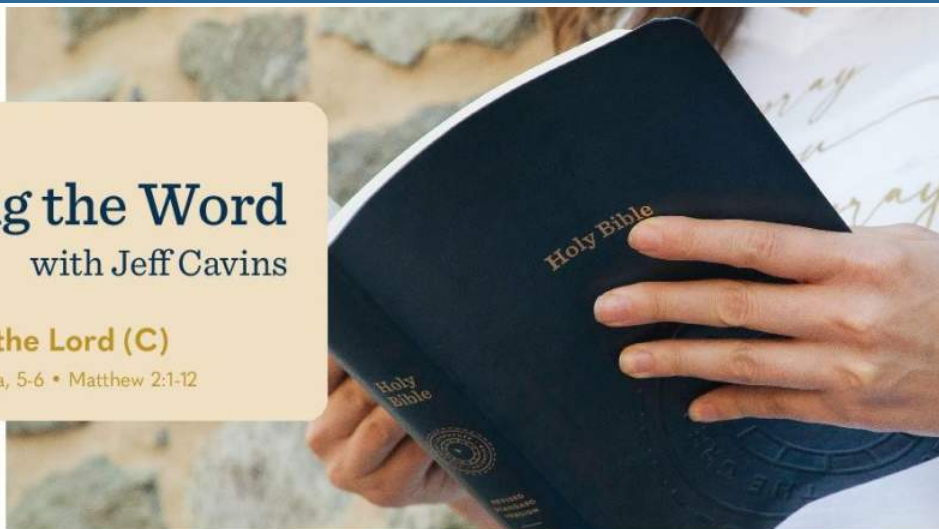
CNS Photo

# Encountering the Word

with Jeff Cavins

## The Epiphany of the Lord (C)

Isaiah 60:1-6 • Ephesians 3:2-3a, 5-6 • Matthew 2:1-12



### Suddenly, You Get It!

The word *epiphany* means “a manifestation, an appearance.” In an epiphany, something becomes apparent to you. Suddenly, you get it. God is trying to communicate his love for the whole world.

In Matthew 2, it says, “When Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea ... behold, magi from the east arrived in Jerusalem, saying, ‘Where is the newborn king of the Jews? We saw his star at its rising and have come to do him homage.’” Isaiah says, “Nations shall walk by [the Lord’s] light.” What’s interesting is that when the light of the Lord shines, eventually people start hearing about it, and they come from all around.

Americans experienced this in 2015 when Pope Francis visited Washington, DC; New York; and Philadelphia. The pope showed up with the Good News! He showed up with the light of Christ! And the television and radio networks and newspapers from around the world converged to find out what was going on.

The papal visit got me thinking about how God reveals himself and how a modern-day epiphany can take place. The pope’s role is one of showing us Jesus. In the United States, he showed God’s love in front of the press. What does he do? He gets out of the car, goes to a young boy in a wheelchair, and kisses him. People from all over the world came to hear what the pope had to say and to see what he would do. I would suggest to you that an epiphany took place. Eyes were opened as people saw the mercy of God and the love of God in the simple, powerful actions of the Holy Father.



The Adoration of the Magi by Sandro Botticelli

### Live the Gospel

Jeff Cavins says, “God can speak through you in your actions, and people can see the light of Christ, as Isaiah predicted. People we wouldn’t consider placing in the manger-visitation narrative, like the Magi, were there. God reveals himself today, but he might not do so in ways you thought possible or that you saw coming. It happened during the pope’s visit to the United States, and it happened 2,000 years ago. Perhaps people will see the light of Christ in your life.”

### Dive Deeper

Scan this code to watch:



Or go to:

<https://media.ascensionpress.com/video/feast-of-the-epiphany-c/>

## THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD - JANUARY 5, 2025

### PILGRIMAGE TO FINLAND, SWEDEN, DENMARK, NORWAY, ICELAND



**Helsinki, Stockholm, Linköping, Varnhem Abbey, Gothenburg, Copenhagen, Tivoli Gardens, Oslo, Reykjavik**

**DAILY MASS WITH FR. ALEX ENRIQUEZ**

**September 01-13 2025, for 13 days. Tour Cost: \$4,899.00 LAND ONLY Plus Airfare \$1,000.00=\$5,899.00**

**Early Registration Discount \$200.00 if Registration & Deposit Submitted before January 10, 2025**

#### **Tour Price Includes**

Hotel accommodation at tourist-class hotels. 2 nights on cruise. Daily breakfast and dinner, except Reykjavik. Round trip transfers from Airport to Hotel. All entrance fees in the itinerary. Touring in the itinerary with a deluxe air-conditioned motor coach. Daily Mass arrangements. Baggage handling at hotels. Only one piece of luggage per person. Hotel taxes and service charges. Not included: Lunches, gratuities for guides and driver and anything not mentioned.

#### **ITINERARY**

##### **Day 1. September 01. Monday. Departure to HELSINKI (FINLAND)**

Our pilgrimage begins as we leave our hometown for an overnight flight to Helsinki, Finland. Dinner and breakfast are served on board.

##### **Day 2. September 02. Tuesday. Arrival to HELSINKI**

Upon arrival, meet your driver and transfer to your hotel in Helsinki. Dinner and overnight in Helsinki.

##### **Day 3. September 03. Wednesday. HELSINKI – STOCKHOLM (SWEDEN)**

After breakfast, we will have a city tour of Helsinki. Famous sights include the Senate Square, Uspenski Cathedral, Parliament House, Finlandia Hall, Sibelius Park & Monument, and Underground Temple. Late afternoon, we will board an overnight cruise ship to Stockholm. Dinner and overnight on board.

##### **Day 4. September 04. Thursday. STOCKHOLM**

Scandinavian buffet breakfast is being served on board. After disembarkation, we will celebrate Mass at Saint Eugene or Saint Eric Church. After mass, we will start the 4-hour guided tour of Stockholm. Famous sights on the tour include the Royal Palace, the Parliament Buildings, the island of Djurgården, and the Old Town (Gamla Stan), with its narrow streets and numerous antique shops. The highlight of the tour is a visit to City Hall with its famous Blue and Golden Halls, where the Nobel Prize Banquet is held each year. After visiting the unique Vasa Ship Museum, free time for shopping in Stockholm.

##### **Day 5. September 05. Friday. STOCKHOLM, LINKÖPING, VRETA ABBEY, MOTOLA**

After breakfast, we will drive to Linköping to visit the Cathedral, located where a small church in the form of a cross was built in the 12th century. Then we will continue to drive to Vreta Abbey, founded at the beginning of the 12th century by King Inge the Elder and Queen Helena, at Pope Paschal II's request. The next visit is to Vadstena Abbey, Motherhouse of the Bridgettine Order, located on the shores of Lake Wetter. We will celebrate Mass at Vadstena Abbey. Dinner and overnight in Motola.

##### **Day 6. September 06. Saturday. MOTOLA, VARNHEM ABBEY, GOTHENBURGH**

After breakfast, we will drive to Sweden's oldest Christian place, Varnhem Abbey, where you'll find a churchyard from the Viking era, evidence of their conversion to Christianity over 1,000 years ago. We will continue to drive to Gothenburg to visit the splendid Botanic Gardens, one of the largest and best in Europe, with over 16,000 species of plants in different greenhouses and areas like the rock garden and herb garden. Dinner and overnight in Gothenburg.

##### **Day 7. September 07. Sunday. GOTHENBURG – COPENHAGEN (DENMARK)**

After breakfast, we will drive to Copenhagen. On the way, we will visit Lund Cathedral. The Cathedral was consecrated in 1145 and contains many well-known artifacts and features of considerable historical interest. Then, we will drive to Ystad to visit the Franciscan Ystad Monastery. Founded in 1267, this is the oldest medieval monastery in Sweden and, together with Vadstena Abbey, one of the best preserved. Dinner and overnight in Copenhagen

##### **Day 8. September 08. Monday. COPENHAGEN**

Today, we will explore Copenhagen; Meet Hans Christian Andersen's Little Mermaid gazing wistfully across the harbor, then visit the Christiansborg Palace, the seat of the Danish Government. Celebrate Mass at Saint Ansgar's Cathedral. Saint Ansgar is known for his missionary activities in Scandinavia, bringing the message of Christ to the people of these lands. After dinner, we will visit the world-famous Tivoli Gardens. Dinner and overnight in Copenhagen.

##### **Day 9. September 09. Tuesday. COPENHAGEN – ROSKILDE – COPENHAGEN – OSLO (NORWAY)**

After breakfast, we travel to Roskilde to visit the Cathedral, the earliest major ecclesiastical building in northern Europe. It is noteworthy for successive architectural styles used in the ancillary chapels and porches added over many centuries, during which it has served as the mausoleum of the Danish royal family. Then we will visit the fascinating Viking Ship Museum. At the end of the tour, we will return to Copenhagen to board our overnight cruise to Oslo. Enjoy a delicious Scandinavian buffet dinner on board on the way to Oslo.

##### **Day 10. September 10. Wednesday OSLO**

Scandinavian buffet breakfast is being served on board, as you sail up the exciting Oslo Fjord to reach the Norwegian capital. After disembarkation, We will celebrate Mass at Saint Olav's Cathedral, the primary Catholic sanctuary in Oslo. Pope John Paul II visited the Cathedral in 1989. After Mass, proceed for an Oslo tour to visit Frogner Park, Akershus Fortress, founded in 1299 during the reign of King Håkon V. The medieval castle was modernized and converted into a Renaissance royal residence. Dinner and overnight in Oslo.

##### **Day 11. September 11. Thursday. OSLO – REYKJAVIK (ICELAND)**

After breakfast transfer to Airport. Upon arrival at Keflavik Airport, transfer to the hotel in Reykjavik. Dinner on your own. Overnight in Reykjavik.

##### **Day 12. September 12. Friday. REYKJAVIK**

After breakfast, we will have a city sightseeing tour of Reykjavik including the town of Hafnarfjörður where we visit the Fish Market, the Open-Air Museum Arbær, one of the open-air swimming pools, and the towering Hallgrím's Church, old town, the harbor, the summit meeting house Höfði, and the House of Parliament. Afternoon visit the majestic waterfalls at Gullfoss and the famous erupting hot springs at Geysir with its colorful pools and leaping hot springs. Dinner on your own. Overnight in Reykjavik.

##### **Day 13. September 13. Saturday. DEPARTURE -HOME**

After breakfast, we will go to the Blue Lagoon, a mineral-rich azure lake where you can luxuriate in the warm, rejuvenating waters before we take our flight

**For more information and reservations please contact**

**MARLENE & JUN OSMA (973) 953-5033 Email: marleneosma426@gmail.com**

**FR. ALEX ENRIQUEZ : (908) 902-7671 EMAIL: alexce101@msn.com**



*The Eucharist - St Monica***Masses & Reconciliation**

Monday - Thursday 9:00 am--3:30 pm  
 Saturday 4:00 pm  
 Sunday 9:00 & 11:00 am  
 Holy Days As Noted  
 Reconciliation: Saturday 3:15 - 3:45 pm  
 1st Thursday of the month 7:00 pm  
 or by appt.

*Exposition of the Holy Sacrament & Benediction*

1st Wednesday of each month 9:30 am  
 1st Thursday of each month 7:00 pm with  
 Confessions

*Parish Office Hours*

Monday - Thursday 9:00 am - 3:30 pm

*Baptisms*

Celebrated outside of Mass. Parents and godparents are required to attend our Baptism preparation program. Please call the Parish Office to register.

*Visits to the Sick and Homebound*

May be arranged by calling our parish office.

*Knights of Columbus Council #11529*

The Knights of Columbus were founded in 1882 by Blessed Father Michael McGivney. It an international order of more than 2 million Catholic men who are called to lead with faith, protect our families, serve others, and defend Catholic values in a busy changing world. St Monica Council #11529 has a long history of support for the parish and many local charities. If you would like to join, simply scan the QR Code or go to [KofC.org/join](http://KofC.org/join) and enter council #11529.

*St Vincent de Paul Society*

Emergency Assistance Helpline: 732-370-0098

*Bereavement Ministry*

Please contact the parish office for more information.

*Grief Support*

For those grieving the loss of a loved one or close friend. This is a Catholic centered Support Group offering a caring, compassionate, and confidential environment to support your journey from grieving to healing. For registration and details contact Deacon John White 848-992-1652 or [dcnjohnw@gmail.com](mailto:dcnjohnw@gmail.com)

*Youth Group*

Open to all children of St Monica registered families and we would love to have you join us. For more information, call Theresa Calsetta 732-299-0261.

*RCIA/OCIA*

*Rite/ Order of Christian Initiation of Adults*  
 For those who are seeking full membership in the Catholic Faith, please contact the parish office.

*New Parishioners*

Welcome to our parish family! Registration forms may be downloaded at [www.saintmonica.com](http://www.saintmonica.com)  
 Please contact the parish office for further info.

*Adult Faith Formation Core Team*

Our mission is to encourage and support parishioners in their lifelong learning in the faith in order to grow closer to God, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit through discipleship and evangelization.

*Marriages*

The Catholic Dioceses of New Jersey request a one year period of preparation for marriage in The Church. Contact the Parish Office to make arrangements.

*Religious Education*

Children are expected to receive a Catholic-Christian upbringing in their family life, to worship regularly at Sunday Mass, and to participate in on-going Religious Education classes. Our program includes grades 1-8. Please contact Karen Badach, Coordinator of Religious Education 732-928-4038 or [stmonicaccd@yahoo.com](mailto:stmonicaccd@yahoo.com)

*Legion of Mary*

Members participate in the life of the parish through a program of prayers and service. The Legion of Mary is open to all Catholic men and women over 18 years of age who have the good will to want to serve God through Mother Mary. Meetings are at St. Monica every Tuesday at 6:00 p.m. The Legion is always looking to recruit new members. If you discern a divine connection to the Blessed Mother, and feel she is calling you to join, please contact the Parish Office.

*Women of St Monica*

A Ministry of Catholic women of the parish striving to fulfill their spiritual needs, sharing their faith, promoting community, and conducting fundraisers throughout the year and enhance parish life in a variety of ways. Please contact the parish office for more info.



If you have been sexually abused as a minor by a member of the clergy or anyone representing the Catholic Church, or if you know someone who was, you can report that abuse through the diocesan ABUSE HOTLINE: 1-888-296-2965 or via email at: [abuseline@dioceseoftrenton.org](mailto:abuseline@dioceseoftrenton.org)

## *Reflections on the Readings for The Epiphany of the Lord - January 5, 2025*

### GIFTS FOR THE KING

On this day we encounter the Magi coming from the East to worship the baby Jesus. Magi were originally part of the Median or Persian priestly class, and later this term came to be used more broadly to refer to people who had some sort of mystic abilities. From a distant land in the East, the Magi in today's Gospel reading see a great star in the sky, which in ancient times signified the birth of a great ruler. They follow the star in search of this new king in Israel, and their journey takes them to the town of Bethlehem.

Matthew tells us that they prostrate themselves before the child Jesus. This is a significant detail in the story because these Magi were important men, probably serving in royal courts back in the East. And yet these foreigners bow down to worship a baby in Israel. The Church Fathers recognized that this scene shows how the child who came to be the king of Israel was also the king of the whole world.

Another interesting detail from today's reading is that the Magi bring the new king Jesus three gifts: gold, frankincense, and myrrh. The gold is a fitting gift for a king, and points to Jesus as the true king. Frankincense was a perfume used as incense in worship, and so it points to Christ's divinity. Since myrrh was an expensive spice used in burial, this gift points to Christ's mortality and tells us that this king one day will die.

What can this mean for our lives? As we approach Jesus on this day of Epiphany—and on every day—we want to approach him in great reverence as our Lord and our King. Like the Magi we bow down before him as our king, we recognize his divinity and worship him, and we bring the gift of self-sacrifice, just as the Magi offered him myrrh.

### PRAYER

Prayerfully place yourself in today's Gospel reading. Imagine that you are with the Magi following the star to find the newborn king of the Jews. When you arrive at the humble house in Bethlehem and finally see the child Jesus with his parents, how do you feel? What would you say as you come forward to offer him a gift?

### RESOLUTION

The Magi brought the precious and significant gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh to offer to Jesus. What gift can you give King Jesus this week? Perhaps you can give him "gold" in the sense of accepting him as King in your life by living more according to his will? Or maybe you can give him more "frankincense" in the sense of dedicating more time for prayer. Or you might want to offer him more "myrrh" in the sense of making sacrifices to serve others or uniting to him more in a particular suffering you are experiencing. In prayer with the Lord, choose one specific gift you could give to Jesus this week, and ask for the grace to carry out this resolution. | [formed.org](https://www.formed.org)



**Confused About Medicare?  
I'm Here To Help!**

**ARLETY SOLANO**  
Principal  
(917) 547-4273  
asolano9@outlook.com



**EliteCare Consulting Group**  Find us on Facebook

**Let your faith inspire your financial decisions.**

With Knights of Columbus and its partners\* you can protect your family, plan for your retirement and give meaningfully — all in harmony with your Catholic faith.



**Knights of  
Columbus\***

**Daniel McGeehan**  
732-597-3832  
daniel.mcgeehan@kofc.org



Contact me today to learn more.

\*Knights of Columbus and its partners, Knights of Columbus Asset Advisors and Knights of Columbus Charitable Fund, are entities that each provide separate and distinct products and services. Financial retirement planning, life and disability income insurance, and personal philanthropy entail certain risks. Learn more at [kofc.org/liveyourfaith](http://kofc.org/liveyourfaith)  
1 Columbus Plaza, New Haven, CT 06510

**732-719-7250**  
**OLIVERIE**  
FUNERAL HOME

*A Life Celebration® Home*

**NATIONALLY RECOGNIZED FOR SERVICE EXCELLENCE**

**Serving Ocean & Monmouth County**  
**125 S. Cooks Bridge Road**  
**Jackson, NJ 08527**

G. Oliverie, Mgr., N.J. Lic. #3833

**NFDA**

**NATIONAL  
FUNERAL  
DIRECTORS  
ASSOCIATION**

2014-2025 Pursuit of  
Excellence Recipient



2015, 2019  
& 2024  
Community  
Service  
Award



**Morgan**  
basement waterproofing

*In Our  
4th Decade of  
Quality Service*

**French  
Drains**

**Foundation  
Repair**

**Mold  
Remediation**

All Work Guaranteed

**732-777-7888**

[www.morganbasementwaterproofing.com](http://www.morganbasementwaterproofing.com)

**TIMOTHY  
Rice**  
Estate and Elder Law Firm



*Kimberlie A. Fiero, Esq.*

- Elder Law
- Estate and Trust Administration
- Estate Litigation/Will Disputes
- Estate Planning (Wills, Trusts, Power of Attorney, Advance Medical Directives, Special Needs Planning)
- Guardianships
- Medicaid Planning

kfiero@timriceelderlaw.com 833.888.0462

[www.timriceelderlaw.com](http://www.timriceelderlaw.com)

**ROOFING • CHIMNEYS  
MASONRY • GUTTERS  
DECK REPAIR**

**We Find & Fix Leaks!**



**ROYAL PRO  
CONSTRUCTION**

Family Owned/Operated • Lic. #13VH0934200

Bonded & Insured • 20+ Years

**732-589-9967**

*Serving All of New Jersey*

**\$1100 OFF**  
Any New Roof Replacement

**20% OFF**  
Any Roof, Chimney, Gutter,  
Masonry Repair & SENIORS

**TILTON Body Works**

SINCE 1932 - FAMILY OWNED & OPERATED

**NJ Licensed • Free Pickup & Delivery • Rental Vehicles  
Fast Repair Time • State of the Art Equipment  
Written Guarantee on Workmanship**

**122 First Street • Lakewood • 732-363-1303  
360 West Commodore Blvd • Jackson • 732-928-6388**

[tim@tiltonbodyworks.com](mailto:tim@tiltonbodyworks.com)

[www.tiltonbodyworks.com](http://www.tiltonbodyworks.com)

**In-Home Senior Care**

We provide all kinds of assistance, from personal care to light housekeeping. We keep seniors in their own homes and enable them to live independently.



**732-530-3636**

697 Broad Street #202  
Shrewsbury, NJ 07702

fully licensed and insured

[www.comfortkeepers.com/centraljersey](http://www.comfortkeepers.com/centraljersey)

**Serving St. Monica's Parish  
Since 2001**

# George S. Hassler Funeral Home

**Brian T. Hassler**  
Manager  
N.J. Lic. No. 4054

**George S. Hassler**  
Owner & Director  
N.J. Lic. No. 3193

Offering Pre-Planning Programs  
Handicap-Accessible Facility  
Original Family Owned and Operated  
Since 1978

Parishioners  
**732-364-6808**  
contact@hasslerfuneralhome.com  
**www.hasslerfuneralhome.com**



980 Bennetts Mills Rd.  
Jackson, NJ



**ST. JOSEPH'S**  
CATHOLIC CEMETERY & MAUSOLEUMS

62 Cedar Grove Road  
Toms River, NJ 08753  
732-244-3008  
StJosephCemeteryTR.org

*Deacon Christopher Buono, Manager*

WHERE ALL ARE PRECIOUS IN GOD'S SIGHT



Scott Rusbarsky, Parishioner  
**732-733-4211**  
www.fivestarpainting.com

**JACKSON SERVICE STATION**



Tune-Ups • Brakes • Welding  
Front Ends • New State Jersey Inspection

*Over 29th Year ~ Complete Automotive Services ~*

COUNTY LINE & BENNETTS MILLS ROAD  
**(732) 367-2882**



**PERSONAL CARE & COMPANION SERVICES**  
HOME HEALTH SERVICES & TRAINING SCHOOL  
Vivian Newman, Founder/CEO  
20 Mantoloking Drive  
Jackson NJ 08527  
Phone: 862-755-8464 • 848-218-1555 • 773-960-5416  
Email: newmanpccsinfo@gmail.com  
www.personalcareandcompanionservices.com

**catholicmatch<sup>®</sup>**  
New Jersey



CatholicMatch.com/dateNJ



**POINT BAY FUEL**  
**HEATING AND COOLING**

Fuel Oil • Gasoline • Diesel • Furnaces • Boilers • HVAC  
BUDGET • SALES • SERVICE

**800-349-FUEL<sup>(3835)</sup>**



**RICHARD D. MEINDERS, ESQ.**  
Attorney at Law

WILLS • TRUSTS • ESTATES • REAL ESTATE  
2002 Route 70, Suite 2, Manchester, NJ 08759

**732-408-0900 • www.lawrdm.com**

*Serving Jackson Families*  
**TIMOTHY E. RYAN HOME FOR FUNERALS**  
*Peace of Mind and Heart before, during and beyond*

DeBow Chapel, 150 W. Veteran's Hwy., Jackson  
**732-928-0032 • 732-901-3200**

**Timothy E. Ryan, Founder (1951-2019)**  
**Mark L. Sarin, Senior Director NJ Lic. No. 4134**

**www.ryanfuneralhome.com**



I have always believed that funeral service was a vocation and not simply a career.  
... Tim Ryan