



PARISH SCHOOL OF RELIGION



Upcoming Dates:

1/5 - NO PSR

1/12 - PSR Class Resumes

1/19 - PSR Class

1/26 - PSR Class

2/1 - PSR Class

What's Happening in PSR

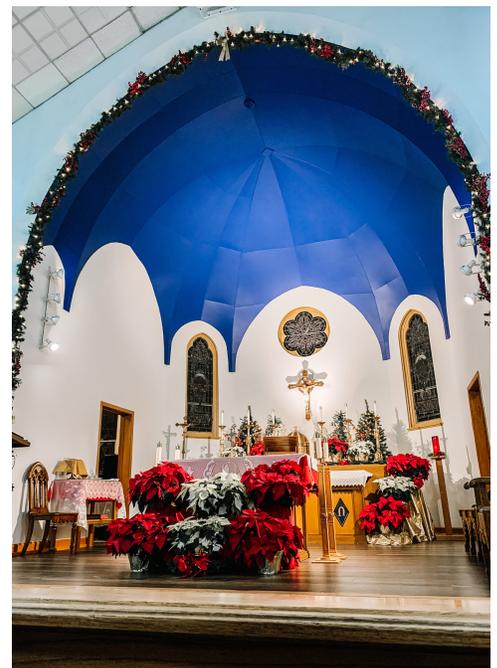
Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

This week we continue our Christmas celebrations as we celebrate the visit of the Three Magi to meet Jesus, our Savior. We will not have PSR this week, as our teachers will be meeting to prepare for another semester. PSR class will resume on January 12th.

We have been doing a great job with lining up for dismissal and getting out promptly and safely, and now our drop-off procedures seem to be getting dangerous. Please see below for instructions on how our drop-off procedure should work and thank you for your cooperation.

Also included below is a special way you can bless your home this week to celebrate the final days of the Christmas season.

Mrs. Katie Maxwell
Director of Family Catechesis



PSR Drop-Off Procedures



When dropping off, please enter by the rectory in the same direction as you enter for pick-up and drop off in one single line. Please do not pull in from the left side of the school building or drop your child off from a parking spot, as this puts children crossing in front of other vehicles in the dark.

Epiphany Home Blessing

If you've visited a home or church and seen some initials and numbers written in chalk above the door and wondered what that was all about, you're not alone. After years of trying to figure it out, I finally asked a priest and learned it had deep spiritual meaning. Whether you've seen it before or not, here's what you need to know:



Who: performed by a priest or the spiritual leader of the home, like a parent or grandparent.

What: using chalk that has been blessed, the symbols “20 + C + M + B + 22”. The numbers combined are the current year while the letters remind us of the three magi that visited Jesus: Caspar, Melchior, and Balthasar. They also are the first three letters of the latin phrase *Christus mansionem benedicat* meaning “May Christ bless this house”.

Where: Above the doorway or entry to churches, homes, or any dwelling place.

When: The traditional date of Epiphany is January 6, but in the US it is celebrated on the Sunday between January 2 and January 8. Anytime during this week is a great time to bless your home.

Why: This tradition serves as an invitation for Christ to dwell within our home and is a reminder to keep Christ in all our coming and going each day.

Below is a simple prayer that can be used to bless your home. Using chalk that has been blessed by a priest, mark the space above your front door while praying,

“The three Wise Men, Caspar, Melchior, and Balthasar, follow the star to God’s Son, who became man two thousand two hundred years ago. May Christ bless our home and remain with us throughout the new year. Amen.”

Come, Holy Spirit

PRAYER AT DISMISSAL FOR THE MONTH OF JANUARY

Come Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful and kindle in them the fire of your love. Send forth your Spirit and they shall be created, and you shall renew the face of the earth. O, God, who by the light of the Holy Spirit, did instruct the hearts of the faithful, grant that by the Holy Spirit we may be truly wise and ever enjoy His comfort, through Christ our Lord, Amen.