

# THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD JANUARY 8, 2023

## INTENTIONS OF THE WEEK

**SUNDAY, January 8, 2023**

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

**9:00 am** Joan Hoffman (d)

**11:00 am** Edward Simon (d)

**MONDAY, January 9, 2023**

THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

**8:30 am** Jack Hoffbauer (d)

**TUESDAY, January 10, 2023**

**8:30 am** William Himsel (d)

**WEDNESDAY, January 11, 2023**

**8:30 am** Pilgrims (d)

**THURSDAY, January 12, 2023**

**8:30 am** Diane Lang (d)

**3:00 pm-5:00 pm EUCHARISTIC ADORATION**

**FRIDAY, January 13, 2023**

*St. Hilary, Bishop, Doctor of the Church*

**8:30 am** Robert Ronan (d)

**SATURDAY, January 14, 2023**

*BVM on Saturday*

**8:30 am** Richard Meyer (d)

**4:30 pm** Robert Kessling (d)

**SUNDAY, January 15, 2023**

**9:00 am** Ray & Margie Glaser (d)

**11:00 am** Jennifer Seckinger (d)

**7:00 pm** For the Parishioners

## SERVERS

**January 14/15**

To Be Determined

## LECTORS

**January 14/15**

To Be Determined

## EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS

**January 14/15**

To Be Determined

Christmas	\$24,532.00
Additional Christmas	\$ 7,103.34
Christmas Total	\$31,635.34

January 1, 2023 \$ 8,213.04

*Thank You for your Generosity!*

***Thought for the Day:*** "Every day, when your heart especially feels the loneliness of life, pray."

*By St. Padre Pio*

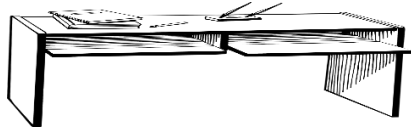
***Thank you for your Generosity in supporting the Retirement Fund for Religious*** You have honored the 700+ consecrated religious men and women in our archdiocese by your support and, thanks to you, many are receiving medical care through this fund. In turn, we offer our gratitude and prayers for you! Maria Reinagel, Director, Office for Consecrated Life, Archdiocese of Cincinnati.

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**PLEASE NOTIFY US AT THE RECTORY** when a family member is hospitalized or homebound and would like to receive Holy Communion and/or the Sacrament of Penance.



# The Laurentian



## Fr. Watkins' Desk

**Eucharistic Adoration:** Eucharistic Adoration are on Thursdays from 3:00-5:00 pm.

**THANK YOU:** Many, many thanks to all who provided such beautiful music at all of the Christmas Masses, as well as to the ladies and maintenance men who decorated the church so beautifully. Everyone did a superlative job!

Also, I wish to thank all of you for your well wishes and Christmas gifts.

And, I thank you for your generosity shown in the Sunday collections and the Christmas collection. Thank you.

**Vacation:** On Sunday, January 8, 2023 I will leave for Oklahoma City. While I am away, Fr. Westerhoff will have most of the Masses and Deacon Tracy Jamison will take care of Eucharistic Adoration.

## **2023 E6 Catholic Men's Conference:**

Mark your calendar for the 2023 E6 Catholic Men's Conference, which will be taking place on Saturday, February 18<sup>th</sup> 2023, at the East Central High School Performing Arts Center in St. Leon, IN (80 miles southeast of Indianapolis and 35 minutes northwest of Cincinnati). We cordially invite every man to attend this 8<sup>th</sup> annual event. Please join us for inspiring talks, confession (available all day), celebration of the Holy Mass and fraternity with fellow men of Christ. We pride ourselves on presenting a quality, substance-driven, inspirational and faith-filled event that will change men's lives and help equip them to be the man Christ calls them to be. **Do not miss this!** More details and tickets are on sale now at [www.e6cmc.com](http://www.e6cmc.com).

**IRS TAX STATEMENT:** If you would like a statement of your 2022 donations, please fill in the box below, clip it out and drop it in the collection basket or mail to: St. Lawrence Church, 3680 Warsaw Avenue, Cincinnati, Ohio 45205.

### **2022 CONTRIBUTIONS**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

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\_\_\_\_\_

2022 Envelope  
Number \_\_\_\_\_



## THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD JANUARY 8, 2023

*From a sermon by St. Peter Chrysologus, bishop*

In the mystery of our Lord's incarnation there were clear indications of his eternal Godhead. Yet the great events we celebrate today disclose and reveal in different ways the fact that God himself took a human body. Mortal man, enshrouded always in darkness, must not be left in ignorance, and so be deprived of what he can understand and retain only by grace.

In choosing to be born for us, God chose to be known by us. He therefore reveals himself in this way, in order that this great sacrament of his love may not be an occasion for us of great misunderstanding.

Today the Magi find, crying in a manger, the one they have followed as he shone in the sky. Today the Magi see clearly, in swaddling clothes, the one they have long awaited as he lay hidden among the stars.

Today the Magi gaze in deep wonder at what they see: heaven on earth, earth in heaven, man in God, God in man, one whom the whole universe cannot contain now enclosed in a tiny body. As they look, they believe and do not question, as their symbolic gifts bear witness: incense for God, gold for a king, myrrh for one who is to die.

So the Gentiles, who were the last, become the first: the faith of the Magi is the first fruits of the belief of the Gentiles.

Today Christ enters the Jordan to wash away the sin of the world. John himself testifies that this is why he has come: *Behold the Lamb of God, behold him who takes away the sins of the world.* Today a servant lays his hand on the Lord, a man lays his hand on God, John lays his hand on Christ, not to forgive but to receive forgiveness.

Today, as the psalmist prophesied: *The voice of the Lord is heard above the waters.* What does the voice say? *This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.*

Today the Holy Spirit hovers over the waters in the likeness of a dove. A dove announced to Noah that the flood had disappeared from the earth; so now a dove is to reveal that the world's shipwreck is at an end forever. The sign is no longer an olive-shoot of the old stock: instead, the Spirit pours out on Christ's head the full richness of a new anointing by the Father, to fulfill what the psalmist had prophesied: *Therefore God, your God, has anointed you with the oil of gladness above your fellows.*

Today Christ works the first of his signs from heaven by turning water into wine. But water [mixed with wine] has still to be changed into the sacrament of his blood, so that Christ may offer spiritual drink from the chalice of his body, to fulfill the psalmist's prophecy: *How excellent is my chalice, warming my spirit.*



## The Laurentian

*From a sermon on the Epiphany attributed to St. Hippolytus, priest*

That Jesus should come and be baptized by John is surely cause for amazement. To think of the infinite river that gladdens the city of God being bathed in a poor little stream of the eternal; the unfathomable fountainhead that gives life to all men being immersed in the shallow waters of this transient world! He who fills all creation, leaving no place devoid of his presence, he who is incomprehensible to the angels and hidden from sight of man, came to be baptized because it was his will. And *behold, the heavens opened and a voice said: "This is my beloved son in whom I am well pleased."*

The beloved father begets love, and spiritual light inaccessible. In his divine nature he is my only Son, though he was known as the son of Joseph. *This is my beloved Son.* Though hungry himself, he feeds thousands; though weary, he refreshes those who labor. He has no place to lay his head yet holds all creation in his hand. By his passion [inflicted on him by others], he frees us from the the passions [unleashed by our disobedience]; by receiving a blow on the cheek he gives the world its liberty; by being pierced in the side he heals the wound of Adam.

I ask you now to pay close attention, for I want to return to that fountain of life and contemplate its healing waters at their source.

The Father of immortality sent his immortal Son and Word into the world; he came to us men to cleanse us with water and the Spirit. To give us a new birth that would make our bodies and souls immortal, he breathed into us the spirit of life and armed us with incorruptibility. Now if we become immortal, we shall also be divine after rebirth in baptism through water and the Holy Spirit, we shall also be coheirs with Christ after the resurrection of the dead.

Therefore, in a herald voice I cry: Let peoples of every nation come and receive the immortality that flows from baptism. This is the water that is linked to the Spirit, the water that irrigates Paradise, makes the earth fertile, gives growth to plants, and brings forth living creatures. In short, this is the water by which a man receives new birth and life, the water in which even Christ was baptized, the water into which the Holy Spirit descended in the form of a dove.

Whoever goes down into these waters of rebirth with faith renounces the devil and pledges himself to Christ. He repudiates the enemy and confesses that Christ is God, throws off his servitude, and is raised to filial status. He comes up from baptism resplendent as the sun, radiant in his purity, but above all, he comes as the Son of God and a coheir with Christ. To him and to his most holy and life-giving Spirit be glory and power now and forever. Amen.

