

**STAR OF THE SEA, CANSO  
ST. AGNES, LITTLE DOVER  
ST. VINCENT DE PAUL, QUEENSPORT  
ST. JOSEPH'S, PORT FELIX**

**PASTOR: FR. JONATHAN NNAJIOFOR, 366-2927**  
**CONGREGATION OF NOTRE DAME 358-2346**

*The complete text of this bulletin is also available on the parish's website at  
[www.cansoparishes.org](http://www.cansoparishes.org)*

**THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD ~ JANUARY 5, 2025**

**WEEKEND MASS INTENTIONS**

**Saturday, January 11 - Port Felix - 6:00 pm - †*Joanne Pellerine***

**Sunday, January 12 - Star of the Sea- 11:00 am - †*Harold Gillis***

**WELCOME AND THANK YOU** - to Fr. Jim O'Neal who will be celebrating Mass with us for the next several weeks. We appreciate your presence and hope you enjoy your stay.

**REFLECTION ON TODAY'S READINGS** - *Have you seen His Star?*

*The three Wise Men from the East had not only observed the signs of the time but also drawn conclusions from them. God knew the greatest desire of their heart. Whether they were actually kings or not, we are not very sure. But what do we notice about them? They did not remain obsessed with the affairs of their kingdom or set their hearts on how to play power politics. They had an ambition, a desire greater than all these things - to see the face of the Messiah. God knew the deepest longing of their hearts and gave them a sign: the Star. They readily responded to God's call and set out without fear, though the way was unknown and dangerous. Have you seen His Star? Have you heard His call to search for Him? He sends His Star even today to you in different ways and through different persons and situations to find Him and adore Him. A wise person and only such a one will recognize the Star of the Lord. He is attuned to the Spirit who speaks to him. He will know his/her vocation and will have the courage and generosity to follow it. The question is: Are you ready to listen to and recognize the One who calls you, and do you want to meet Him? Are you prepared to take the risk, to accept the challenges in following Him and to offer your life as a gift to Him through faith, hope, love and service? Nothing could stop the Magi until they had met the Lord and could offer Him their gifts. What about you? Are you afraid? Can anything in the world, be it fame or glory or pleasures or wealth or fear, stop you from meeting the Lord?*

**CHRISTMAS MESSAGE FROM THE PASTOR:**

*'It is Christmas again. A continuous Christmas without end and beyond season – The perennial birth of Love'. Please share joy during this Christmas. Make a visit (when it is safe to do so), give a card, send a word or a smile. And do your best to touch someone's life today. Let us all make the effort to be a light that will lighten someone's darkness in this season of light and joy. **Let sadness give place to joy, and despair to hope.** Wishing you all a Merry Christmas and God's blessings and protection in the coming New Year.*

## **ANNOUNCEMENT**

I would like to inform all parishioners that I will be away for some weeks after Christmas to visit my family. The Parish Office will remain open for all your needs. Wishing you all a Merry Christmas and a Prosperous New Year to come  
– Fr. Jonathan

**THANK YOU** - To all who have contributed to our parishes, your gifts of time, energy, prayers and finances are much appreciated!!! We are grateful for all you do. Thanks so much!

## **SUNDAY COLLECTIONS**

<b>Star of the Sea</b> (23)	410.00
Christmas (34)	1,090.00
Loose	113.00
New Years Day (12)	285.00
Fuel (1)	20.00

<b>St. Agnes</b> (6)	90.00
Christmas (16)	440.00
Loose	80.00
New Years Day (2)	40.00
St. Joseph (14)	135.00
Christmas (15)	305.00
Loose	10.00

<b>St. Joseph</b> (18)	162.00
Loose	5.00
Christmas (1)	20.00

## **CHRISTMAS FLOWER MEMORIAL DONATIONS** - Star of the Sea

We wish to acknowledge donations in the amount of \$425.00 in memory of:

*Harry & Lucy Horne*

*Lawrence/Emily Dort*

*Members of the McCormick/O'Halloran family*

*Family members of Noreen Casey*

*Terry Parker*

*Bob & Gerloch Parker*

*Cal & Tootsie Baker*

*Fred Rhynold*

*George/Bertha O'Hearn*

*Family members of Deanna Nickerson*

*Members of the Snow and Richard Family*

*Family members of Ray/Eileen Carrigan*

*Edward Roberts*

*Florence Garcia*

*Bob Geddes*

A very special thank you for your generosity!

## **MEMORY TREES**

Star of the Sea \$1,000.00

St. Vincent de Paul \$10.00

St. Joseph \$585.00

**These donations are a wonderful way to remember those we loved and were dear to us. Thank you so very much to all.**

# Baby Jesus Meets the Public

*This Week's Readings at Mass*

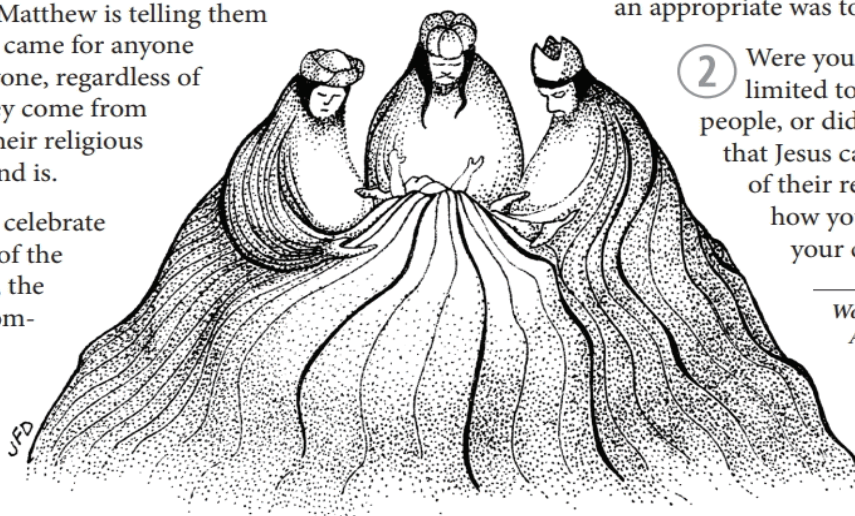
- ▶ Isaiah 60:1-6 - Glory of the new Zion
- ▶ Ephesians 3:2-3a, 5-6 - Commission to preach God's plan
- ▶ Matthew 2:1-12 - The visit of the magi

In the ancient world, an epiphany referred to the appearance of a god among humans. For the church, the Feast of the Epiphany celebrates the public recognition of Jesus by the outside world when the magi found the newborn in Bethlehem. The connection between the first reading from Isaiah and the Gospel could not be more clear. Matthew picks up on Isaiah's prophecy of a guiding light (the star), travelers coming from afar (the magi), and extravagant gifts (gold and frankincense) to show that Jesus is the promised savior.

Over the centuries, many legends have told of the magi who followed the star to discover Jesus. All scripture tells us about their identity, however, is that they were "from the east," which Matthew's readers would have known meant that they were Gentiles—not Jews. This was significant because Matthew was writing for a primarily Jewish audience, trying to convince them that Jesus was their long-awaited savior. At the same time, Matthew wanted his readers to hear that people *outside* of their religion also recognized this baby as worthy of their homage.

In effect, Matthew is telling them that Jesus came for anyone and everyone, regardless of where they come from or what their religious background is.

Today we celebrate the Feast of the Epiphany, the public "coming out" of Jesus to the



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"We saw his star at its rising and have come to do him homage."

### Sheepish Question:

What personal and spiritual gifts can I offer as Christ's light?

wider world. Although Jesus was born into a specific religion and culture in a particular time in history, the Epiphany reminds us that he is not limited to being a savior to the Jewish people. He is available to everyone, as Mary demonstrated by welcoming the foreign travelers "from the east."

## Questions of the Week

1 In some cultures, the Feast of the Epiphany is celebrated more than Christmas. Does your family have any Epiphany traditions? What would be an appropriate way to celebrate?

2 Were you taught that salvation is limited to a set population of chosen people, or did you grow up with the belief that Jesus came for all people, regardless of their religion? How did that affect how you related to others outside of your church?

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