

5 January 2025

THE SOLEMNITY OF THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD (New Calendar)
MOST HOLY NAME OF JESUS (Traditional Calendar)

Sunday Mass: Anticipated Sat. 4PM/Sun. 8AM Ancient Rite Latin Mass

Sunday 9:30 AM (Live-streamed) & 11 AM

Confessions: Wed. 6:30-6:55 PM/ Sat. 7:30-7:55 AM; 2:30-3:30 PM & 6:30-7:30 PM

THE HOLY SACRIFICE OF THE MASS

Mon. 6 Jan. The Epiphany of the Lord (Traditional Calendar)
8 AM St. Andre Bessette (New Calendar)
For: Special Intention

Tue. 7 Jan. St. Raymond of Penafort, Priest, Religious
8 AM For: Wanda Hutchings+
Req: Dorothy & Ken Wojdyla
Holy Rosary for the Preborn & Newborn

Wed. 8 Jan. St. Apollonaris the Apologist, Bishop
7 PM For: Robert Anderson (L)
Req: The Anderson Family

Thu. 9 Jan. St. Adrian of Canterbury, Abbot
8 AM For: Richard Tardiff+
Req: AM Rosary Group

Fri. 10 Jan. St. Miltiades, Pope
8 AM For: Fred Scerbo+
Req: Drs. J. & I. Vanderhoof

Sat. 11 Jan. St. Hyginus, Pope & Martyr
8 AM For: Special Intention

4 PM For: Denise Mondi+
Req: Mr. & Mrs. John Vanderhoof

Sun. 12 Jan. The Baptism of the Lord (New Calendar)
The Feast of the Holy Family
8 AM For: In Thanksgiving
Req: Anne Johnson
9:30 AM For: The Parishioners of OLGCC
11 AM For: Jeremiah Anderson (L.)
Req: The Anderson Family

EPIPHANY WATER

Blessed Epiphany Water will be available after the 6th of January for you to take home. This wonderful sacramental is blessed for the Feast of the Epiphany, and in her blessing of this water, the Church asks God to protect those who use it from illness, danger, temptation and the power of the devils. The rite for blessing the water is quite beautiful, consisting of the Litany of the Saints, psalms, and the Magnificat of Our Lady.

RELIGIOUS INSTRUCTION CLASSES

This Tuesday, 7 January, religious education resumes for our high school students and Adults.

Jr. High Class: 7 PM Rectory (We are studying the Apostle's Creed)

Adult Education Class: 8 PM Rectory (We will begin a series on the Holy Mass)

ROSARY SOCIETY MEETING: THU. 9 JAN. 6:30 PM RECTORY

The women of the Rosary Society will be holding their monthly meeting, at which Christine Rurak will present a program on fraud in the banking industry. Christine just retired from the banking field after 37 years of service.

SYRACUSE MARCH FOR LIFE: SAT. 18 JAN. 12 NOON

All of us are aware and horrified that in the last election, the people of New York State voted to codify abortion in our State's Constitution, making it all the more difficult, if not impossible, to outlaw the gruesome practice. Now the agents of Satan are aiming to insure the right to euthanasia in the state. We must fight the battle now in our own state.

We will again be taking a bus to Syracuse for this March. There is a sign-up list on the bulletin board if you will go with us. The list will be up through next weekend. Please do not sign up unless you are committed to going with us.

The speaker will be John O'Brien, MD, Past-President of Syracuse Guild and State Director of the Catholic Medical Association. He has served on the Bioethics Committee of the Medical Society of NY State. He will speak on medical misinformation circulating since the Dobbs Decision.

CALENDARS FOR 2025

We apologize for the late arrival of the Calendars provided by the Malecki Funeral Home this year. There was some glitch in the ordering process, and the Catholic Extension Society, which produces the calendars, has promised that they are in production.

ENVELOPES FOR 2025

There are still some envelopes that have not been picked up downstairs in the church basement. Please go down and find yours. God bless you and thank you for your generosity, as always.

INTERESTED IN THE FAITH?

No one is ever forced to become a Catholic. But a series of instructions on the teachings of Christ is given, so that a person may freely decide to believe all that Christ teaches through His Holy Catholic Church. Interested? Please call Father at 315 363 7696.

WHAT IS “ZIONISM” AND WHY WE SHOULD CARE

The war in the Middle East between Israel and Hamas has now been expanded to include Lebanon and Syria. The horrific devastation that has been unleashed upon the Palestinian population in Gaza was described by Pope Francis a week ago as “cruelty”. Innocent civilians, including many women and children are the victims of indiscriminate killing by the Israeli forces.

What we need to understand is what is behind this deplorable situation in the Holy Land. To underline this point, in the week before Christmas, US House Speaker Mike Johnson pushed through a House Resolution 894. Here is the exact language of the violation of the Resolution: “(3) calls on elected officials and world leaders to condemn and fight all forms of domestic and global anti-semitism; (4) clearly and firmly states that anti-zionism is antisemitism.” In other words, Congress has now passed a bill that makes antizionism hate speech. Essentially, the US Congress is now anti-Catholic.

So, what is Zionism? It is the movement which claims that the Jews have the exclusive right to the land of Israel which is home to other populations, including Moslems and Christians. This movement was organized by a man named Theodor Herzl in the 1850's. In 1948, the state of Israel was established to give the Jews a homeland of their own. This has brought about conflict and tension with other Middle Eastern nations since its inception. A nation has the right to protect itself from its enemies, to protect its citizens and to insure its legally established borders.

There are powerful forces which support and promote the establishment of a right to do all this, and more. These people are the “religious zionists”, who are mainly American evangelicals, as is Speaker Mike Johnson. It is their conviction that Christ will return (and they will be raptured with Him), when the Temple is reconstructed in Jerusalem, which was destroyed in 72 AD by the Romans after the Jews rejected Our Lord as the Messiah of Israel.

The Catechism of the Catholic Church teaches: “The Antichrist's deception already begins to take shape in the world everytime the claim is made to realize within history that messianic hope which can only be realized beyond history through the eschatological judgment. The Church has rejected even modified forms of this falsification of the kingdom to come under the name of millenarianism, especially the 'intrinsically perverse' political form of secular messianism,” (676).

The problem is that Israel now is engaging in ethnic cleansing, by trying to rid the nation of Moslems and Christians, and to expand its control of the region outside of its own borders. “It cannot be argued that since 1948, Israel has a right to expand through warfare beyond the originally recognized borders after the British mandate ended.” The greatest influencers of American government policy, public opinion and financial interests are almost completely supportive of the Israeli drive to expand its reach over the Middle East. Will President-elect Trump have the wisdom, strength and will to withstand and oppose them? If he cannot, we should all fear the consequences. Our Lady of Fatima, help us heed your messages. Our Lady of Palestine, grant your people peace and protection.

(Adapted from an article by Prof. Matthew A Tsakanikas of Christendom College in *CRISIS Magazine*, 31 Dec. 2024).