

SAINT ANTHONY of PADUA Catholic Community

SUNDAY MASS

12:30pm 5649 Mount Gilead Road Centreville, VA

Also streamed live on Facebook

YOUTH FAITH FORMATION

1st Sunday of Each Month

class is held during the 12:30pm mass and supplemental materials are made available on the parish website.

FELLOWSHIP SUNDAY

Last Sunday of Each Month

contact a member of the hospitality team if you'd like to bring a treat to share!



ON MANY calendars, Epiphany falls on January 6, but the Catholic Church in the United States celebrates it on whatever date Sunday falls during the week of January 2.

Epiphany means "manifestation," and it celebrates the day that the infant Jesus revealed his divinity to the Magi. Traditionally, this event is connected with two others from the Gospels: the Baptism of Jesus and the Wedding at Cana. In all these events, the mystery of Christ became more manifest. The Magi, coming from the East, signify that gentile nations-not just Jewish nations-were coming to recognize Jesus as the savior of the world.

The Bible does not indicate on what day the magi visited—nor, for that matter, on what day Jesus was born. January 6 was probably chosen for this observance as an alternative for early Christians living in a culture where pagans already commemorated the birth of a sun god on the same day.

The day, the twelfth day of Christmas, gave rise to a host of customs, as well as a popular Christmas carol.

The biblical event is so important that the Catholic Church lists Epiphany among the solemnities that may be designated holydays of obligation. Episcopal conferences determine local holydays, and in the United States, January 6 was never included. In any country where Epiphany is not a holyday of obligation, the observance moves to a Sunday so that it may be celebrated by the entire Catholic community.

The transfer of Epiphany to a Sunday has the disadvantage of dividing the celebration among various Christian Churches of the world, but the advantage of helping the entire Catholic community proclaim and celebrate the meaning of coming of Christ.



All are invited to participate fully in the sacramenental life of the Church!

MOST NEEDED ITEMS FOR WFCM

Food & Beverages

- Flour
- Sugar (1 or 2 lb. bags)
- Vegetable Oil
- Pasta Sauce
- Pasta
- Cereal (low sugar preferred)
- Pancake Mix
- Family Sized Snacks (pretzels, crackers, etc.)
- Canned Chicken

MONTHLY FOOD COLLECTION

As part of our outreach to support individuals and families in need, we have committed to collection food items throughout the month for Western Fairfax Christian Ministries (WFCM). This outreach helps us reach a far wider community of those in need as we pool together our collections and resources with other faith communities in our region. You can find the most needed items in the parish bulletin. Donations can be placed in the baskets in the back of the church and a dropoff is made at the end of each month. A special thank you to Lourdes who has volunteered to be the drop-off ambassador for the parish with all of our donated items from the month. Gracias. Lourdes!

FR. JASON'S VACATION

Fr. Jason will be away from December 22-January 4. If you have a pastoral emergency, please connect with Fr. Julian.



FAITH FORMATION

Please note that there will be <u>no</u> Youth Faith Formation classes during January in observance of Winter Break. Classes will resume on Sunday, February 2nd. We are looking forward to seeing you then!

MERRY CHRISTMAS!

We continue to celebrate the Christmas Season at St. A's. Remember that Christmas is not a day, but an entire Church Season that begins on December 25th and ends with the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord which this year falls on January 12th. During this Season we continue to rejoice in the joy of the incarnation and reflect on the gift of heaven's connection to earth through our Lord, Jesus.

INCLEMENT WEATHER

In the event of severe weather that could affect mass, updates will be posted on the parish Facebook page and website. Should there be an unexpected occurrence of extreme weather leading to the cancellation of in-person mass, we will do our best to livestream the mass from one of our priests' homes. It will be our goal to make cancellation notices the evening before if possible.



All are invited to participate fully in the sacramental life of the Church!