

St. Peter's, Holy Guardian Angels and St. John the Baptist Parishes
(902) 535-2053

Rev. John Yake, I. V. Dei

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January 7, 2024
Epiphany of the Lord

Mass Readings

The **First Reading** is taken from the *Book of the Prophet Isaiah 60:1-6*. The prophet is trying to cheer the exiles by foretelling the glorious future of the new Jerusalem which is not yet rebuilt. The special radiance of God will illuminate it. Gentiles will bring their riches to it. From East and West peoples will flock to it. The Feast of the Epiphany is the feast which commemorates the manifestation of God to the Gentiles. This manifestation began when the Wise Men from the East came to Bethlehem to pay their respects and offer their gifts to the newly-born king of the Jews. Though the words of Isaiah were not understood by his hearers as referring to this event, it was only in the coming of the Magi, to welcome Christ, that they were really fulfilled.

The **Second Reading** is taken from the *Letter of St. Paul to the Ephesians 3:2-3; 5-6*. St. Paul's thoughts in his prison in Rome are not for himself nor for the fate that awaits him. He is thinking instead of the mission Christ gave him, to evangelize the Gentile nations. He has done much already, and even in prison he does all he can to continue the good work. He writes to his Gentile converts from Rome, to remind them of their great privilege in being called to the Christian faith. They are now God's new Chosen People, they are now members of Christ's mystical body.

The **Gospel of today's feast**, is from the *Gospel of Matthew 2:1-12*. The Magi are the central personages in today's feast of Epiphany. They were pagans who did not know the true God of the Jews. Yet that true God revealed to them that the King he had promised to the Jews had come. The expected Prince was born. They came to Jerusalem, the capital of Judah, expecting, of course, to find the city and the whole country rejoicing. Instead they found suspicion and hatred in the reigning king—a hatred which in a few days turned to murder. Among the religious leaders they found knowledge of their past history, but utter indifference as regards the present and the future. These leaders knew the Messiah would be born in Bethlehem; they must have realized that the Magi were very sure of the truth revealed to them—they would not have come such a long journey on a "fool's errand." In spite of that, the thought of going to Bethlehem with the Magi never entered their minds. These were the leaders who some years later refused to listen to Christ and in spite of his miracles refused to admit his claim that he was not only the promised Messiah, but the true Son of God. These were men who rejected him because he had mercy on sinners, and spoke of a future life. What they wanted from their Messiah was political power and earthly freedom and prosperity. Like Herod they ended with murder—the crucifixion of the "King of the Jews." The pagan king was not much worse than the indifferent leaders of God's Chosen People. Let us resolve to make

the Magi our models, to follow them to Bethlehem and offer Christ all that we have and are.

-Adapted from *The Sunday Readings* by Fr. Kevin O'Sullivan, O.F.M.

Sacraments of Baptism and Matrimony

Please call the office:

902-535-2053

Receipts:

St. John the Baptist

December 23, 25 & 30th, 2023

Envelopes & Loose	\$	2,066.00
Christmas Day		835.00
Memory Tree		475.00
Cemetery		300.00
<u>Total</u>	\$	<u>3,676.00</u>

St. Peter's

December 24, 25 & 31st

Envelopes & Loose	\$	2,030.70
Candles		19.25
Memory Tree		110.00
Christmas		1,095.00
Missals		17.00
Parish Dues		10.00
Truth & Reconciliation		10.00
<u>Total</u>	\$	<u>3,291.95</u>

St. Peter's

January 1, 2024

Initial Offering	\$	93.00
New Year's Day		\$145.00
<u>Total</u>		<u>\$238.00</u>

Holy Guardian Angels

December 31, 2023

Envelopes & Loose	\$	928.00
<u>Total</u>	\$	<u>928.00</u>

Holy Guardian Angels
January 1, 2024

Envelopes & Loose	\$	115.00
Solemnity of Mary		212.00
Candles		41.5
Missals		5.00
<u>Total</u>	\$	<u>373.50</u>

Mass Schedule

Tuesday, January 9, 2024

SJB 4:00 PM
+Sarah Burke

Wednesday, January 10, 2024

SP 9:00 AM
+ Sarah Burke

Friday, January 12, 2024

HGA 11:00 AM
Mass of Christian Burial for
+ Patricia King
Mass of Christian Burial for
+Fred Taylor 2:00 PM

Saturday, January 13, 2024

SJB 4:00 PM
+ Lenova Sampson
SP 5:30 PM
+ Sarah Burke

Sunday, January 14, 2024

SH 9:00 AM
HGA 11:00 AM
+ Bruce MacEachern

Community News

SJB: Needs two volunteers to launder church linens once monthly every 4 months. Your generosity would be greatly appreciated. Call Deidre (902) 535-2827

Thank You

The Bonnie Brae Senior Citizens Club, St. Peter's, 14 Toulouse St., will be holding its regular monthly meeting on Wednesday, January 17th, 2024, at 2 pm. A light lunch follows. If you are 55 years or older, you are welcome to attend. The annual fee is \$5. Check out our Face Book page.

Sunday, January 14, 2024 2:00 PM till 4:00 PM the Bonnie Brae Senior Citizens Club, St. Peter's, 14 Toulouse St., St. Peter's is hosting 'Tea & Tunes' featuring Evelyn McRae & Les Boys. Admission \$5.00 per person. 50/50 Draw. Light Lunch will be served.

RTO LUNCHEON MEETING

January 9, 2024 at Seal Cove Restaurant - Louisdale
11:30 Luncheon Meeting "Jigsaw Puzzle and Book Swap"
Donna Machin

Knight's Meetings/January 2024: The regular meetings of Council 14280 will be held as follows: Officers' meeting- Friday, January 12 at 9:30AM in the St. Peter's Glebe Meeting room. Full Council Meeting Thursday, January 18 at 6:30PM. In the St. Peter's Glebe meeting room. All members are encouraged to attend.

'Artificial Intelligence and Peace': Message from Pope Francis for World Day of Peace 2024

'Artificial Intelligence and Peace' is the theme of the message from Pope Francis for World Day of Peace, celebrated January 1.

"We rightly rejoice and give thanks for the impressive achievements of science and technology, as a result of which countless ills that formerly plagued human life and caused great suffering have been remedied. At the same time, techno-scientific advances, by making it possible to exercise hitherto unprecedented control over reality, are placing in human hands a vast array of options, including some that may pose a risk to our survival and endanger our common home," Pope Francis says in his message. "We need to be aware of the rapid transformations now taking place and to manage them in ways that safeguard fundamental human rights and respect the institutions and laws that promote integral human development. Artificial intelligence ought to serve our best human potential and our highest aspirations, not compete with them."

For more on the Pope's message:

<https://www.vaticannews.va/en/pope/news/2023-12/in-world-peace-day-message-pope-warns-on-risks-of-ai-for-peace.html>

Read the message:

<https://www.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/messages/peace/documents/20231208-messaggio-57giornatamondiale-pace2024.html>