

# January 1 – Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God

**MARY REFLECTED ON ALL THESE THINGS IN HER HEART.**

*Behold the glory of the Lord,  
uprooted, homeless;  
poor shepherds, a manger, a star.*

*She pondered all these things  
tried to make some  
sense of their meaning,  
mull'd them over in her heart,  
preserving, remembering, treasuring.*

*There were no final answers, though.  
She searched for and found signs  
of the Spirit's movements.  
And that was enough for her.*

*Oh God, make it enough for us.*

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## Like the Morning Star

For the first four centuries following Jesus' ascension, Christians grappled with understanding how his humanity and divinity commingled in his person. His humanity was evident to all who walked and talked with him. His divinity was also evident to his disciples because of the miracles he worked and his resurrection. In short, they knew he was fully human, and they knew he was fully God, but how could he be fully both at the same time?

The Council of Ephesus settled the issue definitively in 431. The Church declared that in the one person of Christ there are two natures: one divine and one human. This same council also declared that in the one person of Christ there are two natures: one divine and one human. This same council also declared, as a natural consequence, that the holy virgin is the Mother of God since she conceived and gave birth to the Word of God. So, today's feast is one of the oldest, shared by all Christians from the earliest times.

When Mary said yes to the Incarnation and gave birth to the Savior, all of us could bask in his divine light. She is like the morning star that first breaks the horizon and mirrors the light of the sun that she both foretells and follows. In loving Mary, we truly honor her Son. God was the first to praise her through Gabriel – "Hail, favored one!" – and the one who blessed her beyond all other creatures. We are merely following his example. + (Fr. Mark Haydu)

## SANCTUARY LIGHT

January 1 – Carl and Bertha Mistler  
January 8 – Keith and Barb Coyner  
January 15 – Floyd and Erma Harlemert

## MASS INTENTIONS

December 31 – Charles Simon  
January 1 – Dennis Schwering  
January 7 – Julie Eckstein  
January 8 – Mary Gilland

## LITURGICAL MINISTERS

### Saturday – January 7 at 4:00 PM

*Servers:* Sam Simon, Ella Wagner  
*Lector:* Jack Ferkinhoff  
*Gifts:* Dennis and Flo Wagner  
*Eucharist Minister:* Terry Harmeyer

### Sunday – January 8 at 10:00 AM

*Lectors:* Arlene Gehl, Cindy Weisenbach  
*Gifts:* Greg and Amy Kinker  
*Eucharist Minister:* Amanda Schutte

### Saturday – January 14 at 4:00 PM

*Servers:* Morgan Busch, Ava Wagner  
*Lector:* Tara Johannigman  
*Gifts:* Ken and Terry Harmeyer  
*Eucharist Minister:* Roseann Wirth

### Sunday – January 15 at 10:00 AM

*Lectors:* David Hardesty, Grace Truesdell  
*Gifts:* Steve and Ann Wagner  
*Eucharist Minister:* Leslie Hicks

## PARISH SUPPORT

Adult Envelopes	\$1068.00
Loose Collection	\$ 167.00
Total Regular Collection	\$1235.00
Christmas Offering	\$475.00
Capital Improvement	\$775.00

## **MAY THE CHRIST CHILD BLESS YOU THIS NEW YEAR!**

*"Looking at Mary with her Son in her arms, I think of young mothers and their children fleeing wars and famine or waiting in refugee camps. They are many! If we become artisans of fraternity, we will be able to mend the threads of a world torn apart by war and violence."*

*~ Pope Francis*

**2023** – Each new year we have before us a brand new book containing 365 blank pages. As we begin 2023, let us fill them with all the forgotten things from last year – the words we forgot to say, the love we forgot to show and the charity we forgot to offer (Peggy Toney Horton). *The Lord make His presence known to you and your family each day of this new year!*

**LIGHTS OF CHRISTMAS** – Open Door Tour of Deanery Churches – January 1, 2023, 1:00 PM - 5:00 PM. The Batesville Deanery welcomes you and your loved ones to tour the 19 beautifully decorated churches of our Deanery. Bask in the sacred spaces of our adored Savior dressed in their finest during this Christmas season. There are copies in the vestibule listing the churches with their addresses.

**WE GIVE YOU THANKS** – Fr. Bill writes, “Many thanks to the parish for the Christmas gift. May God bless all in this coming New Year.” Fr. John also expresses thanks for his gift this Christmas from the parish and parishioners. I, too, am grateful for your prayers, gifts, and cards.

We likewise give thanks to: the Liturgy Committee for their beautiful decorating; Mark Wirth and Abby Wilder; and all servers, cantors, lectors, eucharist ministers, and greeters for their service this holiday season and throughout the year. We are definitely **better together!**

**SPECIAL WORD OF THANKS** – Thank you to Ron Wagner, who ran all the cable that was necessary for the installation of the bell system. The installers from Verdin Company stated that everything was completed perfectly, which made their work easier.

**PICK POCKETS** – You will see our young children at the doors of church next Sunday, January 8, to collect your change for the Ripley County Food Pantry. After the first weekend of May, they will present a check to this organization. Did you see their picture in the paper presenting a check to the Fishes and Loaves Food Pantry?

**175TH COMMITTEE** – Committee members will meet next Sunday, January 8, 8:30 AM, in the parish hall.

**Prayer for the New Year**

We Pray...

For healing...prepare us for surprises.  
For strength...prepare us for surprises.  
For vision...prepare us for surprises.  
For transformation...prepare us for surprises.  
For community...prepare us for surprises.  
For acceptance – of ourselves and others...prepare us for surprises.  
For making room at our tables...prepare us for surprises.  
For Truth-seeking...prepare us for surprises.  
For support...prepare us for surprises.

Walk beside us, O Holy One,  
As we question and welcome,  
As we challenge and invite,  
As we discover and understand,  
As we see, touch, smell, and listen for the Newness awaiting us in 2023.  
May we, Your Holy People, walk forward together side by side. Amen. (Sister Mary Ann Barret, O.P.)

**4:00 PM MASS GREETERS**

January 7 – Paul Simon, Ken Hellmich  
January 14 – Dennis Wagner, Gary Wagner  
January 21 – Brian Horan, Eric Busch  
January 28 – Ken Harmeyer, Steve Gilland

**10:00 AM MASS GREETERS**

January 8 – Tom and Joyce Muckerheide  
January 15 – Kevin Tunny, Steve Wagner  
January 22 – George and Mary Bultman  
January 29 – Paul and Arlene Gehl





**ELEMENTARY RELIGIOUS ED** – Classes resume on January 11, 6:45 PM.

**JR. HIGH & HIGH SCHOOL RELIGIOUS ED** – Classes for Grades 6 through 10 next weekend, January 8, 8:30 AM.

**UNITED CATHOLIC APPEAL** – Parish Goal: \$15,274; Amount Pledged: \$7,265 from 37 donors. Please consider a gift to this year’s appeal. Again, if you have misplaced your intention card, there are some at the entrances of church. Thank you.

**THE LORD’S LAUGHTER** – In a church bulletin: "Don't let worry kill you off – let the church help." (The Joyful Noiseletter, via Bob White, Owego, NY)

# January 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
<b>SOLEMNITY OF MARY, THE MOTHER OF GOD</b>  Mass 10:00 AM	New Year's Day (observed)				 Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament 8:00 AM - Noon	Mass for Epiphany 4:00 PM  Pick Pockets
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
175th Committee Meeting 8:30 AM  RE Classes 8:30 AM  FEAST OF EPIPHANY Mass 10:00 AM  Pick Pockets	<b>FEAST OF BAPTISM OF THE LORD</b>   "You are my Son."		Faith Formation Committee Meeting 4:30 PM  RE Classes 6:45 PM	Finance Committee Meeting 6:00 PM  Parish Council Meeting 6:30 PM		Celebration of Mass 4:00 PM
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
Liturgy Meeting 8:30 AM  RE Classes 8:30 AM  SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME Mass 10:00 AM	Martin Luther King Day		RE Classes 6:45 PM			Celebration of Mass 4:00 PM
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
RE Classes 8:30 AM  THIRD SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME Mass 10:00 AM  Day of Prayer for Unborn Children		 <b>FEAST OF OUR LADY OF PEACE</b>	RE Classes 6:45 PM  <b>FEAST OF THE CONVERSION OF ST. PAUL THE APOSTLE</b>			Celebration of Mass 4:00 PM
29	30	31	1	2	3	4
RE Classes 4:00 PM  <b>FOURTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME</b> Mass 10:00 AM				<b><u>THE POPE'S PRAYER INTENTIONS FOR THE MONTH</u></b>   For true human fraternity: We pray for all those suffering from religious discrimination and persecution; may their own rights and dignity be recognized, which originate from being brothers and sisters in the human family.		