

January 3, 2021

# ANNUNCIATION CATHOLIC CHURCH

## PASTOR

Rev. Msgr. Michael J. Mellone  
202-362-3323 x19  
mellone@annunciationdc.org

## DEACON

William T. Maksymiec

## MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday

9:00am, Vigil 5:30pm

*Miraculous Medal Novena*  
after the Saturday 9am Mass

Sunday

8:00am, 10:00am, & 12:00pm

*Children's Liturgy of the Word*  
10:00am (Zoom)

Monday– Friday

8:00am & 11:00am

## EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Wednesday

11:30am – 1:30pm

## RECONCILIATION

Wednesday

11:30am-12:30pm

Saturday

4:15pm-5:15pm

*Or call the rectory for an  
appointment*



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## THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

### FIRST READING: ISAIAH 60:1-6

Isaiah speaks poetically of the coming of the Lord. He describes how “darkness covers the earth” but light and glory appear over God’s chosen people.

### SECOND READING: EPHESIANS 3:2-3A, 5-6

Paul tells the Ephesians that the Jews and Gentiles are now co-heirs of the promises God has made. He explains that both groups are now members of one body through Jesus Christ.

### GOSPEL: MATTHEW 2:1-12

After Jesus’ birth, three astrologers from the east came to Jerusalem and inquired about the newborn king of the Jews. King Herod became greatly angered, and asked the astrologers to bring him more information about the child once they had found him, so that he too could pay homage to the infant. However, Herod’s true plan was to kill Jesus. The wise men were warned in a dream not to return to him and they took a different route to return home.

## PRAY WITH SCRIPTURE

Monday	1 Jn 3:22-4:6; Mt 4:12-17, 23-25
Tuesday	1 Jn 4:7-10; Mk 6:34-44
Wednesday	1 Jn 4:11-18; Mk 6:45-52
Thursday	1 Jn 4:19-5:4; Lk 4:14-22
Friday	1 Jn 5:5-13; Lk 5:12-16
Saturday	1 Jn 5:14-21; Jn 3:22-30

## PASTORAL STAFF

### PARISH OFFICE

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202-362-3323  
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### SEMINARIAN

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### MUSIC MINISTER

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### FACILITIES MANAGER

Mr. David Slusarczyk

### PASTORAL COUNCIL CHAIR

Mr. John Gay  
johnallengay@gmail.com

### FINANCE COMMITTEE CHAIR

Mr. Carey Needham  
carey.p.needham@gmail.com

### SCHOOL PRINCIPAL

Mrs. Nichole Peltier-Lewis  
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principal@annunciationschool.net

## WELCOME NEW PARISHIONERS!

If you are new in the area, you are encouraged to register with your parish. Registration forms are available on our website: [www.annunciationdc.org](http://www.annunciationdc.org), in the foyer or by request from the parish office. Completed forms can be placed in the collection basket or the 24-hour drop box outside the parish office.

New parishioners are invited to attend our coffee reception after Mass to meet members of the parish. Please let us know if you are relocating so we can update our records.

## CELEBRATING THE SACRAMENTS

**BAPTISM:** The sacrament joyfully celebrates the entrance of members into our Catholic community. Baptisms are celebrated on Saturday mornings at 9:45am or by appointment, following preparation of the parents. Baptisms for adults take place through the RCIA process.

**CONFIRMATION:** "Through the sacrament of confirmation, the baptized are more perfectly bound to the church and are enriched with a special strength of the Holy Spirit." Confirmation is offered to adults through the RCIA process, and annually for our eighth-grade students. As with the other sacraments of initiation, preparation is involved.

**MATRIMONY:** Couples should contact the parish office as soon as possible or at least six months in advance of the desired wedding date to make arrangements for preparation.

**RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION FOR ADULTS:** For those who are interested in finding out more information about the Catholic faith and/or interested in becoming Catholic. Please call the parish office.

**ANOINTING OF THE SICK:** Our parish continues Christ's ministry of making whole the members of our community who suffer physical or emotional ills with Anointing of the Sick. Please call the parish office if you would like to receive this sacrament.

## FLOCKNOTES



Want to receive timely information from Father Mike? Sign up for email messages at <https://AnnunciationCatholicChu1.flocknote.com/everyone> or on our website – [www.annunciationdc.org](http://www.annunciationdc.org). Please be sure to add [mail@flocknote.com](mailto:mail@flocknote.com) to your address book or safe sender list to ensure delivery.

## GIVE THE GIFT OF SERVICE

Catholic Charities DC encourages you to give back by taking advantage of a variety of volunteer opportunities available in Washington, DC and southern Maryland. For more information on volunteering with Catholic Charities, or to register to volunteer, visit [catholiccharitiesdc.org/volunteer](http://catholiccharitiesdc.org/volunteer).

## PASTOR'S CORNER

Dear Parishioners and Friends

I wish to thank so many of you for your generous gifts to the parish for Christmas and the end of the year. In this time when there is such uncertainty, you have given from your necessity to the support of the parish. Thank you so very much.



Liturgically, I find the week between Christmas and New Year to be fascinating and inspirational. We are overjoyed with the birth of our Savior. The long awaited promise of our salvation has come to pass and God enters into our humanity in the form of a child. The Incarnation, God taking on flesh, gives new meaning and importance to all creation. The Divine has entered and transformed the human.

The next day we celebrated the martyrdom of St. Stephen. One of the newly appointed Deacons who witnessed to Christ both in acts of charity and preaching the Good News of Christ Jesus. On December 28 we celebrated the Feast of the Holy Innocents, the children 2 years old and younger that Herod ordered killed in an attempt to kill the newborn King of the Jews and Savior of the world. These children witnessed to Jesus with their cries and their lives. On December 29 we recalled the martyr Archbishop Thomas Becket of Canterbury. When he was ordained he knew he would have to be faithful to Jesus and the Church and was killed when he would not give in to the will of King Henry II. He would acknowledge God's law and the laws of the Church as more vital in importance than civil law.

In these times when we face suffering and the challenges of authorities that wish to take our joy we can proclaim the reign of Jesus over us even if we do not understand all that is being asked of us and remain one with Christ and His Church.

May Christmas and the New Year bring you closer to the Lord and His will in your life.

God's Peace,

Fr. Mike

## AN AWESOME RESPONSE TO THE CHRISTMAS PROJECT

WOW! What more can I say? There was a swift, generous response to the Christmas Project request. We raised over \$10,300 (!) to support 76 seniors and 18 families (95 individuals) – 171 people! Our brothers and sisters at Holy Redeemer will certainly experience the joy of the Christmas season thanks to you. What a wonderful, remarkable way to end 2020!

A heartfelt thank you and God bless,

Tina



## A MILLION ROSARIES

Every prayer counts! Please join the Little Sisters of the Poor in praying one million Rosaries to conquer the coronavirus pandemic. Sign up for the one million Rosary campaign at <http://littlesistersofthepoor.org>.



Consider enrolling in eGiving through Faith Direct so that your gift can reach us even when you cannot.

Visit [www.faithdirect.net](http://www.faithdirect.net) and use our church code: DC43 or call 866-507-8757 for a registration form.

### POOR BOX

Donations for the month of January will benefit the Northwest Center which seeks to promote the dignity of women and respect for all human life.

## SAINT OF THE WEEK



## JOHN NEUMANN

## Feast Day – January 5

1181-1860

A native of Bohemia, John entered the seminary and was nearing ordination when he departed for the United States. He joined the Redemptorists and served as a priest in New York, Maryland and Pennsylvania. In 1852 he was named the fourth bishop of Philadelphia. He founded more than 50 churches and greatly expanded Catholic education. John had a fondness for immigrants and knew six languages. His pastoral zeal was evident up to his last moments of life. He collapsed and died in the street at age 48.

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## MASS INTENTIONS

**Sunday, January 3** – *The Epiphany of the Lord*

8:00 a.m.	Sands	Rob Grigg	In Memory
10:00 a.m.	Mellone	Jordan Mendoza	In Memory
12:00 p.m.	SOSJ	Parishioners	Intentions

**Monday, January 4** – *Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton, Religious*

8:00 a.m.	Mellone	Kenneth Johnson	In Memory
11:00 a.m.	Mellone	Julia Warren	In Memory

**Tuesday, January 5** – *Saint John Neumann, Bishop*

8:00 a.m.	Mellone	Anne O'Brien Hayden	In Memory
11:00 a.m.	Mellone	Mary Ellen Kirst	In Memory

**Wednesday, January 6** – *Saint André Bessette, Religious*

8:00 a.m.	Sands	Frances O'Neill	In Memory
11:00 a.m.	Mellone	James Lynch	In Memory

**Thursday, January 7** – *Saint Raymond of Penyafort, Priest*

8:00 a.m.	Mellone	Private Intentions	Intentions
11:00 a.m.	Mellone	Tom Rukavina	In Memory

**Friday, January 8** – *Friday of Christmas Week*

8:00 a.m.	Marchese	Robert Quinn	In Memory
11:00 a.m.	Mellone	Thomas Conner	In Memory

**Saturday, January 9** – *Saturday of Christmas Week*

9:00 a.m.	Mellone	Martin Mullaly	In Memory
5:30 p.m.	Mellone	Maura Loakman	In Memory

**Sunday, January 10** – *The Baptism of the Lord*

8:00 a.m.	SOSJ	Steven Skonberg	In Memory
10:00 a.m.	Mellone	Parishioners	Intentions
12:00 p.m.	Sands	The Duran Family	In Memory

## AN ACT OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen



## GET TO KNOW IONA

Are you planning for your future, looking for services and programs, or concerned about an aging family member? Iona can help. Join a half-hour Zoom tour on Wednesday, January 13, 2021 at 2:30pm to find out how. If you would like more information or have any questions, please contact Tina Lindberg at [lindberg@annunciationdc.org](mailto:lindberg@annunciationdc.org) or 202-362-3323 x15.

## COVID-19 VACCINES INFORMATION FROM THE ARCHDIOCESE OF WASHINGTON

Throughout the past few weeks, we have heard a lot of information about the testing and development of safe and effective COVID-19 vaccines. There has been continuous conversations within the Catholic community about the safety and morality of these vaccines, so we are glad to say that both the Moderna and Pfizer have developed vaccines using mRNA, and without the use of controversial fetal cell lines. Similarly, both vaccines have been tested in an ethical way that is in line with previous moral statements made by Pope Benedict XVI and the Pontifical Academy for Life. Receiving either vaccine would be morally permissible in the Catholic Church and would also be an important pro-life decision that would help to defend the most vulnerable. Through our own personal actions and decisions, we can help to protect our neighbors from the coronavirus pandemic.

For more information on the vaccines and their development, you can review a Catholic Standard interview with Dr. David Diemert, a medical doctor and scientist who is part of a team researching a potential COVID-19 vaccine at <https://cathstan.org/voices/kathryn-windels/catholic-churchs-perspective-on-ethics-of-covid-19-vaccine>.

The USCCB has also published an internal memo on this issue, and you can find more information on this topic at <https://www.americamagazine.org/politics-society/2020/11/23/misinformation-us-bishops-catholics-covid-vaccine-abortion>.

Finally, the Office of Life Issues recently published an article with more information in the [Catholic Standard](#).

## CATHOLIC CHARITIES LEGAL NETWORK SEEKING VOLUNTEER LAWYERS

Catholic Charities Legal Network counsels and provides legal representation to low-income and poor residents throughout the Archdiocese of Washington, D.C. and relies heavily on volunteer lawyers to fulfill its mission. If you are a lawyer in active status who wants to make a real difference in the lives of families and individuals struggling in our community, please reach out to Dan Collopy at (301) 615-0949 or [daniel.collopy@cc-dc.org](mailto:daniel.collopy@cc-dc.org) to discuss how you can help. The Legal Network handles most civil practice areas and criminal expungements.

## THIS WEEK ...

### Sunday, January 3

CLOW — 10:00am (Zoom)

Faith Fun — 10:30am (Zoom)

### Monday, January 4

Religious Ed/Grade 1

3:30pm (Zoom)

Religious Ed/Grade 2

4:00pm (Zoom)

### Tuesday, January 5

Bible Study — 1:00pm (Zoom)

Religious Ed/Grade 3

3:30pm (Zoom)

Religious Ed/Grades 5 & 6

4:00pm (Zoom)

### Wednesday, January 6

Confession — 11:30am (Church)

Eucharistic Adoration

11:30am — 1:30pm (Church)

Religious Ed/Grade 4

3:30pm (Zoom)

Religious Ed/CP 1 & CP 2

4:00pm (Zoom)

Bible Study — 7:00pm (Zoom)

### Thursday, January 7

Contemplative Prayer

6:20pm (Zoom)

### Saturday, January 9

Mass — 9:00am (Church)

Confession

4:15pm — 5:15pm (Chapel)

Mass — 5:30pm (Church)



## EPIPHANY HOUSE BLESSING

*When all have gathered, a suitable song may be sung. The leader makes the sign of the cross, and all reply, "Amen." The leader greets those present in the following words:*

Let us praise God, who fills our hearts and homes with peace. Blessed be God forever. **R/.** Blessed be God forever.

*In the following or similar words, the leader prepares those present for the blessing:*

The Word became flesh and made his dwelling place among us. It is Christ who enlightens our hearts and homes with his love. May all who enter this home find Christ's light and love.

*One of those present or the leader reads a text of sacred Scripture, for example, Luke 19:1-9:*

Jesus came to Jericho and intended to pass through the town. Now a man there named Zacchaeus, who was a chief tax collector and also a wealthy man, was seeking to see who Jesus was; but he could not see him because of the crowd, for he was short in stature. So he ran ahead and climbed a sycamore tree in order to see Jesus, who was about to pass that way. When he reached the place, Jesus looked up and said to him, "Zacchaeus, come down quickly, for today I must stay at your house." And he came down quickly and received him with joy. When they all saw this, they began to grumble, saying, "He has gone to stay at the house of a sinner." But Zacchaeus stood there and said to the Lord, "Behold, half of my possessions, Lord, I shall give to the poor, and if I have extorted anything from anyone I shall repay it four times over." And Jesus said to him, "Today salvation has come to this house because this man too is a descendant of Abraham."

*The intercessions are then said:*

**Leader:** The Son of God made his home among us. With thanks and praise let us call upon him. **R/.** Stay with us, Lord.

**Leader:** Lord Jesus Christ, with Mary and Joseph you formed the Holy Family: remain in our home, that we may know you as our guest and honor you as our Head. We pray: **R/.** Stay with us, Lord.

**Leader:** Lord Jesus Christ, you had no place to lay your head, but in the spirit of poverty accepted the hospitality of your friends: grant that through our help the homeless may obtain proper housing. We pray: **R/.** Stay with us, Lord.

**Leader:** Lord Jesus Christ, the three kings presented their gifts to you in praise and adoration: grant that those living in this house may use their talents and abilities to your greater glory. We pray: **R/.** Stay with us, Lord.

*After the intercessions the leader invites all present to say the Lord's Prayer. The leader says the prayer of blessing with hands joined:*

Lord God of heaven and earth, you revealed your only-begotten Son to every nation by the guidance of a star. Bless this house and all who inhabit it. Fill them (us) with the light of Christ, that their (our) concern for others may reflect your love. We ask this through Christ our Lord. **R/.** Amen.

*The leader concludes the rite by signing himself or herself with the sign of the cross and saying:*

May Christ Jesus dwell with us, keep us from all harm, and make us one in mind and heart, now and forever. **R/.** Amen.

*It is preferable to end the celebration with a suitable song, for example, "O Come, All Ye Faithful" or "We Three Kings."*

—From *Catholic Household Blessings & Prayers*

# < KID'S > KORNER

## Gospel Today

### The Epiphany of the Lord | Matthew 2:1-12

The 3 are called **wise men, kings, or magi** - they saw and understood that the baby Jesus was truly God. They took a different route home and did not go back to Herod.

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The Feast of the Epiphany celebrates God's revealing Himself to us in the baby Jesus.

## CELEBRATE WITH A KING CAKE!



King Cake season goes from the Feast of the Epiphany through Shrove Tuesday (*Mardi Gras*). This round "crown" cake, represents the journey of the 3 kings, and is decorated in purple (*justice*), green (*faith*) and gold (*power*) icing or sugar. Some cakes have a hidden bean or tiny plastic baby hidden inside and the one who finds it is "crowned", or responsible for the next cake.

### - INGREDIENTS -

1 cup milk (*scalded*)  
1/3 cup butter  
(*melted in milk*)

small bowl

1/4 cup warm water  
1 package yeast  
1 tsp. sugar

small bowl

2 eggs beaten  
1/2 cup sugar  
pinch salt

small bowl

Let all ingredients sit  
about 15 minutes, add  
to flour - mix well

4 cups flour

large bowl

### - DIRECTIONS -

Knead on floured surface, 10 minutes (*add more flour if needed*). Rub dough ball with vegetable oil and place in covered oiled bowl in warm place to rise, 1 hour or double in size. Roll flat into rectangle and brush on oil or melted butter, sprinkle with sugar cinnamon. Roll into log starting on long edge. Form into ring (crown), pinch edges together and let rise on baking tray. Bake 350° for 15 - 20 minutes or until golden brown.

### SWEET as HONEY



**Colored sugar:** In a jar add 1/2 cup sugar, 1-2 drops food color... green or yellow or red/blue (*purple*) and shake well. Decorate with green, purple & yellow (*gold*) cake icing and colored sugar. *This cake does not include a bean or baby, as in some traditions, due to choking hazard.*