

JANUARY 3, 2010 – THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD
A Tithing Parish

STEWARDSHIP

Tithing: God's Plan for Giving

YTD July 1 through November 30, 2009

	Actual	Budget
Operating Income	352,399	337,480
Operating Expense	<u>396,489</u>	<u>422,489</u>
Surplus (Deficit)	(44,090)	(85,009)

MASS INTENTIONS

Week of January 3, 2010

Sunday	8 am	Joan Mnich†
	9:30 am	For The Community
	11:30 am	Robert Reiners, Sr. †
Monday	12:10 pm	Communion Service
Tuesday	12:10 pm	All Souls†
Wednesday	12:10 pm	Lara Joy Garbutt†
Thursday	12:10 pm	George Baldauf†
Saturday	5 pm	Kevin Dachille†
Sunday	8 am	Chuck Sudina†
	9:30 am	Geraldine Fleming†
	11:30 am	For The Community

†Deceased

POOR BOX

The Poor Box for January will benefit the Maryland Fuel Fund. Your donations will help to provide assistance for heating fuel for needy families.

IT'S WINTER TIME

Winter is the time of year that brings us snow, sleet and tricky driving conditions. CCSFX will follow the snow policy as decided by Baltimore County for closings. **If evening classes are cancelled or schools close early, all programs at church will be cancelled.** Weekend activities (whether they are cancelled or not) will be posted on the phone system, ext. 42. If you have any doubts, call 410-785-0356, enter extension 42 and listen for your event.



PARISH EVENTS

Week of January 3, 2010

Today! Sunday, January 3

10:45 am Rosary
10:45 am Prayer Meeting
10:45 am Epiphany Play & Breakfast
12:45 pm Youth Core Team Meeting
1 pm Group Baptisms

Monday, January 4

10:15 am Bible Study
1 pm Bridge Group

Tuesday, January 5

Wednesday, January 6

1 pm Eucharistic Adoration
6:45 pm Benediction
7 pm RCIA
7:30 pm Prayer Meeting

Thursday, January 7

5:30 pm Cantor Rehearsal
7 pm Choir Practice
7 pm Catholic Scripture Studies

Friday, January 8

Parish Office Closed

Saturday, January 9

8:30 am Sandwich Making
10:30 am Bereavement Group

Sunday, January 10

10:45 am Prayer Meeting
10:45 am Rosary
12:45 pm Youth Core Team Meeting

AA Meeting – 7:15 pm on Wednesday – Chatard House
<http://222.baltimoreaa.org> or 410-663-1922
(24 hour hotline)

Pastor's Corner -

Dear Parishioners:

The Epiphany Gospel is much like journeys we find in fairy tales where the characters seek out the "happily ever after." The magi set out to find the Messiah-King the world longed for. Every human life is a journey. In our journeys through the time God has given us, we seek signs of God in our midst. We seek happiness that is authentic and real. In the end, we come to realize that it is love in all its joy and sorrows, in all its demands and gifts that make us real and whole human beings. In encountering the Christ, the magi behold the love of God in their midst, a love that the self-absorbed Herod cannot see. In fairy tales like *Jack and the Bean Stalk* and *Wizard of Oz*, Jack and Dorothy and friends conquer the dangers around them and begin to live the lives of true happiness and meaning.

May our encounter with Christ in the Sunday Gospels during this New Year, in our everyday lives of both struggle and grace, be a constant epiphany of re-creating and transforming our lives in the love of Emanuel, "God with us."

May this New Year be a time of great grace for you and your families as you encounter the Lord in your everyday lives!

In Christ's love,

Fr. Frank



GOSPEL OF LIFE

March For Life –Save the Date! On Friday, January 22, 2010, plan to attend, with thousands throughout the country, the Rally at the Mall and peacefully march to the Supreme Court in Washington, D. C. The anniversary of Roe v Wade is the Supreme Court decision which legalized the killing of 50,000,000 innocent preborn babies and has divided this country for the past 37 years. Additionally, it has put us on a slippery slope to devalue human life even further with assisted suicide, euthanasia and embryonic stem cell research. Contact your parish Respect Life Coordinator. CCSFX will have a bus and sign up tables the weeks before the March. Please plan to join us this year.

“Pray the Rosary or the Chaplet of the Divine Mercy. Attend Mass more regularly. Pray before the Blessed Sacrament. Just as the loaves and fishes were multiplied, our efforts to change hearts and save the unborn are multiplied exponentially by prayer.” Archbishop Edwin O’Brien

The GOL committee sponsors a rosary for the Parish's intentions every Sunday at 10:45, a perfect time between the two Masses. Please plan on joining us.

Pregnant, Need Help? Call the Gabriel Network 1-800-ANGEL-OK

Suffering Post-Abortion Stress? Call Project Rachel 1-800-286-4224

<http://www.sfxforlife.org>

Next Sunday's Readings January 10, 2010

<i>1st Reading</i>	ISAIAH 42:1-4, 6-7
<i>2nd Reading</i>	ACTS OF THE APOSTLES 10:34-38
<i>Gospel</i>	LUKE 3:15-16, 21-22

The readings will be more meaningful and familiar if you take the time to read them before Mass.



FAITH FORMATION

Pat Allshouse (pallshouse@ccsfx.net)
Middle School – Joanie Carlson
(carlsonj@notredameprep.com)

FAITH FORMATION for CHILDREN

FIRST EUCHARIST PREPARATION – Session II

For children who will be preparing for First Eucharist in Spring 2010

The second parent meeting - **Tuesday, Feb. 23rd OR Wednesday, Feb. 24th from 7-9 p.m.** Parents should have already attended Session I this past fall. Missed Session I? A recap will be held on **Thursday, Feb. 18th at 10 a.m. in Room 128.**

FIRST RECONCILIATION PREPARATION

For children who will be preparing for First Reconciliation during Lent 2010

Parent Meeting – **Monday, January 25th from 7-9 p.m.**

MONDAY GROUPS

Second Semester Dates – Jan. 11, 25; Feb. 1, 8, 22; Mar. 1, 8, 15, 22.

MIDDLE SCHOOL

Second Semester Dates – **Jan. 30, Feb. 6, 13, 20; Mar. 13, 20.**

SUMMER CAMP

Make your plans now ... our annual Summer Camp for children entering Kindergarten through 7th grade will be held from **August 16-29, 2010.** More information will be available in the spring.

First Planning Meeting – Saturday, January 23rd @ 9 a.m. Come join us! Your help is needed!

PEANUT BUTTER AND JELLY SANDWICHES FOR OUR DAILY BREAD

Next sandwich making session for families – **Saturday, January 9th at 8:30.** Please bring 8 loaves of fresh bread and contact Murray Carlson (410-667-9123) ahead of time so that he knows who to expect.



CHILDREN'S CORNER – QUESTION OF THE WEEK

Did you know that even Jesus was baptized ... what happened? Read the Sunday Gospel with Mom and Dad and talk about the questions below.

THIS WEEK - January 3 – The Epiphany of the Lord – Where is Jesus?

Matthew 2:1-12

How can we find Jesus as a family? How can my family be a star that guides people to Jesus

NEXT WEEK - January 10 – The Baptism of the Lord – Spirit and Fire!

Luke 3:1a, 2-6

How does knowing the Holy Spirit is in my life help my family? Can my family set the world on fire? What could we do?

BOOK CLUB



The next parish Book Club discussion will be on Wednesday, January 27th at 7 pm. The selection is “Three Cups of Tea” by Greg Mortenson. As the cover says, this is “the astonishing, uplifting story of a real-life Indiana Jones and his remarkable humanitarian campaign in the Taliban’s backyard.” A recent Parade magazine article about Mortenson reported that “Three Cups of Tea” is now required reading for all Special Forces soldiers deploying to Afghanistan. All are invited. Please join us!

THINKING ABOUT BECOMING A CATHOLIC?

Contact Deacon Don

deacondon@ccsfx.net or 410-785-0356
x12

MONTHLY BRIDGE GROUP

Ladies and Gentlemen! The CCSFX monthly bridge group is in full swing. We play the first Monday of each month – next game is Monday, January 4th, 1 to 4 pm. We would love for you to join us. No partner is required. CCSFX lower hall. Please bring your own beverage. If you are interested, just join us or if you have any questions please contact Felicia Parker via email: feliciaparker2000@yahoo.com.

LITURGY CORNER

Gold, frankincense, and myrrh. Gifts brought by the Magi. Today's Solemnity (top ranking of the four kinds of feasts) of the Epiphany of the Lord might be a good time to briefly consider our gift to God, the gift of worship.

Each Sunday when we gather as a Catholic Christian "Assembly" for Mass, we bring gifts to God. The gifts of time and talent in the various ministries. The gift of money and food for those in need and for the upkeep of the parish. The gift of ourselves to each other by our presence and our full, conscious, and active participation. All of this is good. At the same time, we should never forget that we gather on Sunday in response to God's prior gifts to us, gifts summed up in Jesus Christ.

And so, our Sunday celebrations ought most of all to be characterized by our thankfulness for all that God has given us. It should likewise be characterized by our praise (homage) for this God who chooses to be so intimately present to us.

It can be easy to allow Sunday Mass to be focused on ourselves. Although we should never be just "passive" at Mass, we should never forget that we are at Mass first and foremost to give God praise and thanksgiving. The purpose of Sunday worship is just that: worship. In among the speaking and singing, the gestures and postures, the relating and responding . . . must be an attitude of awe, reverence, and deep-felt gratitude for God's generosity to us in so many ways. In the end, the only lasting gift we can give God is ourselves in worship of God and service of others.



CASSEROLES FOR BEANS & BREAD

Thanks and a big shout-out to all of you that contributed casseroles for the hungry during

2009. You are awesome! Sincere thanks go to **Patty Stephens** for delivering the casseroles to B & B in December. Now it's a brand New Year and there is still hunger in our city. Let's start the year with a bounteous harvest of 35+ casseroles so that we can keep feeding as many hungry people as we can.

Our next collection of casseroles will be **Jan. 14th**. Bring your **frozen casserole (labeled for Beans & Bread) to the church any weekday (M-Th) before 9:15 a.m. on Jan. 14th**. Pans and recipes are available in the Gathering Space. The **recipe is also available on our parish website**; follow the link in Service Projects. See the recipe sheet for delivery options.

MASS CARDS

The giving of a Mass Card is a very old Catholic tradition. Every Mass is offered for the general intention of the Church at large and the community gathered thee; each Mass can also have a specific intention, usually for an individual. Individual Masses are offered for the intentions of the living or for the repose of the dead. Giving a Mass card at a funeral or sending a Mass Card to the decedent's family can be one's expression of sympathy and a spiritual offering for the deceased.

Each Mass celebrated at St. Francis Xavier is offered for the intentions and needs of the Church and for those special intentions requested. The special intentions are always posted in the weekly church bulletin. At times, it is necessary to send the intentions out to be said elsewhere, and this is also posted in our church bulletin. In accord with our tradition, we do not charge any fee for any Mass offering. If a free will offering is made, we put it into a discretionary fund. Mass cards and special intentions cards are available in the Parish Office.

HELP NEEDED

Our Altar Society is in need of some new members, especially people who like to iron. The Altar Society is responsible for maintaining the altar linens and vestments and the Sanctuary area. For more information, or to volunteer, please contact Pat Jarosinski – 410-329-3094.