



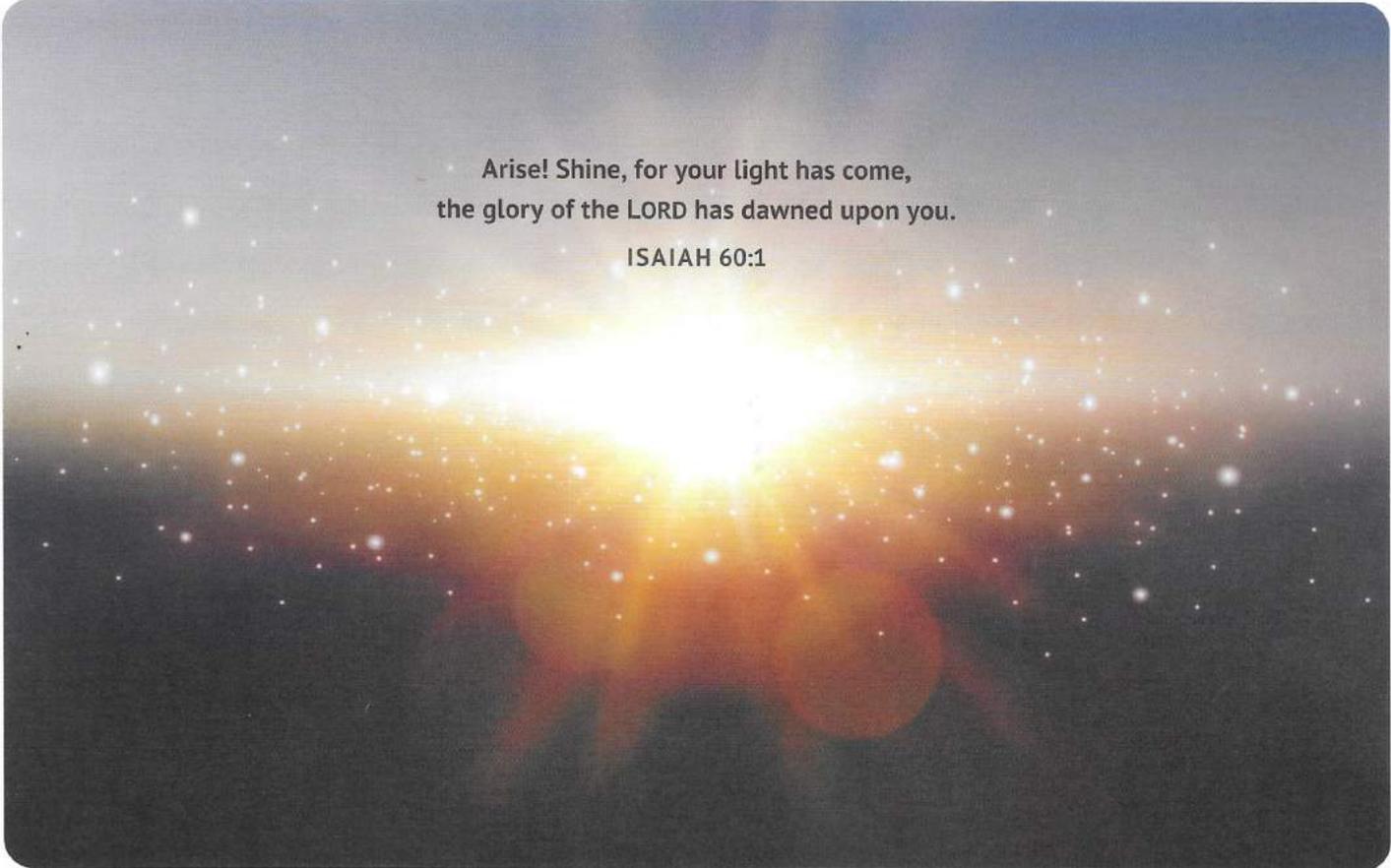
The Seekers

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

I live at a parish in downtown Milwaukee. From my window I watch the world pass by, everyone below in search of one thing or another. Students from the local university seek an education, business folk look for a sale, street people often look for a place to spend the night, teenagers hope to find love. Yet beneath all of those longings, in each one there is a deeper hunger that wonders what life is all about and the hope that they might find it. Hidden amidst it all, the real hunger is for God, a longing sewn into our being, sometimes recognized but too often not.

The story of the *Magi* is a story of seekers making their way from afar in hopes of finding the promised one, a newborn king. Perhaps they knew of this child's divine nature, more likely not, yet it was ultimately that same hunger that exists in all of us that drove them, a deep desire to know God.

Every serious religion seeks to experience God in life and tells the stories of those who have done so. There are Christian mystics like St. John of the Cross and St. Teresa of Ávila, Jewish mystics of the Kabbalah tradition, the Sufis of Islam, Native Americans who go on vision quests, the Hindus who practice yoga, as well as the Buddhists and Taoists and Confucians. Like the Magi, we all seek to find God. ●

A large, rounded rectangular image with a dark background filled with numerous small, bright white stars. A large, bright, glowing sunburst or starburst effect is centered in the lower half of the image, creating a lens flare effect with orange and yellow hues.

Arise! Shine, for your light has come,
the glory of the LORD has dawned upon you.

ISAIAH 60:1

Reflect

Does it make sense to you to say that your deepest hunger is for God?

SACRED HEART CATHOLIC CHURCH

1003 WYOMING ST, BLUEFIELD, WV 24701

JANUARY 6 & 7, 2023

MASS SCHEDULE & INTENTIONS

Saturday, January 6- 6:00 PM

✠ Fran Derenge by the Centering Prayer Group

Sunday, January 7- 9:00 AM

✠ Fran Derenge by Barbara Lynch

Tuesday, January 9- Noon

✠ People of the Parish

Wednesday, January 10- 9:00 AM

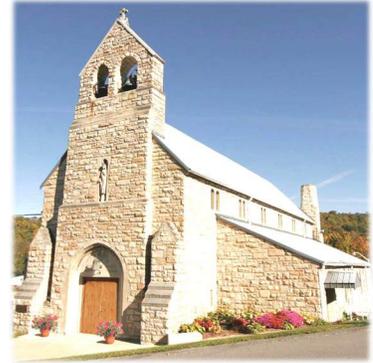
✠ Deceased Members of Saint Anne's Altar Society by St. Anne's Altar Society

Saturday, January 13- 6:00 PM

✠ Linda Pochick Sunderman by Dan Pochick

Sunday, January 14 - 9:00 AM

✠ Deceased Members of Sacred Heart



Office Hours: 304-327-5623

Monday- Thursday 9:00am-4:00pm

Friday 9:00am-12:00pm

Food Pantry Hours:

Wednesday 10:00am -2:00 pm

UPCOMING EVENTS

January 8: Knights of Columbus Meeting 7:00 PM

January 13-14: CNEWA Holy Land Collection

January 18: PPC Meeting 6:00 PM

January 20: 2nd Collection: Developing Worlds Collection

January 21: Word of God Sunday

January 22: Knights of Columbus Meeting 7:00 PM

January 25: Finance Council 6:00 PM

February 2: First Friday Mass 6:00 PM

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION SCHEDULE

Friday's from 6:00 to 7:00 PM

January 12 ~ Princeton January 26 ~ Princeton

January 19 ~ Bluefield February 9 ~ Bluefield

CHURCH STAFF

PASTOR: Very Rev. Sebastian E. Devasya, Assoc. V.E., V.F.
sdevasya@dwc.org

PASTORAL ASSOCIATE: Julia Harrison, M.A.A.T.
julia@sacredheartblfd.org

YOUTH MINISTRY DIRECTOR: Wendi Aiello
w.aiello@yahoo.com 304-320-2150

PARISH SECRETARY: Lucy Brinegar
lbrinegar@sacredheartblfd.org

PARISH BOOKKEEPER: Kim Hickman
Khickman@sacredheartblfd.org

NEWMAN CENTER: Paul Krause
pkrause@dwc.org 216-402-1450

Sacred Heart Cookbooks

The Sacred Heart Cookbooks celebrating the Church Building's 100th anniversary have arrived!

Please call Cynthia Stacy at 304-952-3534 or the parish office to pick-up a Cookbook.



They are selling for \$15 per cookbook.

WITH DEEPEST Sympathy

With our Deepest Condolences to Feleesha Moran and her Family On the loss of her husband, Patrick Moran Who passed away December 31, 2023. Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord, And let perpetual light shine upon him. Sacred Heart will be having a special intention said in his memory at the regular 6:00 pm Saturday Mass on January 20, 2024



2ND COLLECTION: CNEWA HOLY LAND COLLECTION JANUARY 13-14, 2023

In Light of the Hamas-Israeli war, Bishop Brennan has approved a special second collection for those struggling in the Holy Land. The money collected will be sent to The Catholic Near East Welfare Association (CNEWA), a papal agency for humanitarian and pastoral support. They will provide the essentials of water, food, and emergency kits on the ground in the Holy Land. CNEWA has offices in the region and know where and what kind of help is needed the most.

Food Pantry Report for December 2023

| Date | Adults over 18 | Children under 18 | Total Clients | New Families | Clothing | Hygiene Products | Total # of Distributions |
|--------------------|----------------|-------------------|---------------|--------------|----------|------------------|--------------------------|
| 6-Dec | 133 | 50 | 183 | 2 | 121 | 80 | 72 |
| 13-Dec | 307 | 120 | 427 | 7 | 249 | 212 | 176 |
| 20-Dec | 156 | 61 | 217 | 9 | 176 | 54 | 86 |
| 27-Dec | 76 | 33 | 109 | 7 | 124 | 125 | 51 |
| Monthly Totals | 672 | 264 | 936 | 25 | 670 | 471 | 385 |
| Y-T-D Distribution | 7362 | 2922 | 10267 | 270 | 13194 | 10324 | 4207 |

FAITH FORMATION



Faith Formation 2023 - 2024

Theme for 2023

Come to Me, all you who labor and are burdened and I will refresh you.”

Matthew 11:28

The schedule through January 2024:

January 7 ~ **NO** Faith Formation for Holiday

January 14, 21, 28 ~ Faith Formation Regular Sessions

RCIA



The next RCIA meeting will be January 10, 2024 in the school. To learn more, please contact Barbara Musolin at 304-922-1934 or Julia at the parish office.

EUCCHARISTIC REVIVAL

Eucharistic Revival Reflection

Topic This Weekend

The Lord’s Prayer

“Our Father, Who art in Heaven...”



THIS WEEK ON FORMED...



FORMED[®]

THE CATHOLIC FAITH.
ON DEMAND.



Who Are the Magi?

In this FORMED Now! special episode, Dr. Michael Barber sits down to reflect on the Magi from the Gospel accounts and what spiritual lessons can be learned from this historical event recorded in Scripture.

[Who Are the Magi? - All Episodes - FORMED](#)

DIOCESE EVENTS

JOIN US ON JANUARY 19TH & 20TH FOR ST. JOSEPH'S

RESTORED PARISH MISSION



FRIDAY, JANUARY 19TH

7:00 PM From Addict to Evangelist: John's Powerful Conversion Story
8:15 PM Reception

SATURDAY, JANUARY 20TH

9:00 AM Mass
9:45 AM Restoring Your Identity: Who You Are, Whose You Are, and Why You're Here
11:00 AM The Most Important Thing: A Personal Relationship with Jesus
12:15 PM Men's Lunch
12:45 PM Men's Ministry Training

JOHN EDWARDS
 FOUNDER OF PEW MINISTRIES AND HOST OF "JUST A GUY IN THE PEW" PODCAST

Cathedral of St. Joseph
 1300 Eoff Street, Wheeling, WV 26003




TOGETHER IN HOLINESS™ CONFERENCE SERIES

St. JOHN PAUL II FOUNDATION



DYNAMIC PRESENTATIONS | CHILDCARE
 MASS | ADORATION | CONFESSION

FEBRUARY 10, 2024 | 10:45 AM - 6:00 PM
ST. JAMES THE GREATER CATHOLIC CHURCH
CHARLES TOWN, WV

FEATURING:



JOHN AND ANNIE DEJAK

Couple \$32
 Register by January 8 to grab an Early Bird discount!

Childcare \$5/child



REGISTER HERE

PRESENTED BY




The West Virginia Institute for Spirituality is an ecumenical center for prayer and spiritual growth, located in the heart of the city of Charleston, West Virginia. Our ministry promotes spiritual life through silence, prayer, retreats, education, spiritual direction, and inter-faith dialogue. Presently, our calendar reflects the following:

Almost Heaven Retreat. WVIS continues to offer Almost Heaven Retreats throughout the year. These retreats can be made via Zoom or in person. During your retreat, you will engage in meditation rooted in the Sacred Scriptures and the Ignatian Tradition. Following the CDC Guidelines, we are respecting limits for in-house registrations.

Questions/Schedule: Email Sister Carole Riley, C.D.P., Ph.D. at wviscr@aol.com

Donation: \$90/night (includes retreat, retreat house accommodation, and all meals).

Living in the Gap via Zoom

A 4-week program on Thursday evenings January 18th and 25th and February 1st and 8th from 7:15 – 8:30 p.m. EST

Questions: email Ms. Sally Orcutt, O.P. at sally@sayyes2yourlife.org

Living in the Gap is about living and responding with intention. As we grow to understand ourselves and what is at the root of why we react in ways we often regret or don't understand, we can instead choose "the gap." In the gap, we recognize when we've been triggered, and because of our awareness, the wounds and negative stories no longer control how we live each day. During this 4-week program, we will explore the work of Fr. Richard Rohr, Fr. Thomas Keating (Programs for Happiness), Riso and Hudson (Enneagram and Transforming our Inner Critic), Ira Progoff (Journaling as a Reflective Practice), and David Richo (Understanding Triggers and Triggering Events).

Donation: Suggested donation for this program is \$70. Partial scholarships are available by emailing the WVIS Executive Director at wviscr@aol.com

Register: Visit our website at [Programs - WVIS](#) or call 304.345.0926

January Ministry Schedule

| Mass Date & Time | Sacristan | Rosary Leader | Altar Servers | Lectors | Eucharistic Ministers | Hospitality | Collection Counters |
|--------------------|---------------|---------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------|--|----------------|---------------------|
| 01/06 Sat. 6 pm | J. McCloud | M. Zalduondo | TBA | V. Hager | 1.P. Peretti 2.J. McCloud 3.T. Hager | J.Monaco | The Albert's |
| 01/07 Sun. 9 am | M. Malamisura | T. Lampert | K. Oaks R. West | R. Albert B. Buzzo | 1.M. Malamisura 2.M. Romeo 3. S. Romeo | R. Malamisura | |
| 01/13 Sat. 6 pm | T. Lowery | T. Lowery | TBA | T. Behrmann | 1.D. garton 2.L.Mariotti 3.A. Peretti | The Pascasio's | D. Duritza |
| 01/14 Sun. 9 am | The Winfree's | C. Mulkey | T. Brown A. Froy | C. Ott T. Bales | 1.S. Copolo 2.K. Kirk 3.A. Robinson | B. Buzzo | R. Malamisura |
| 01/20 Sat. 6 pm | P. Peretti | V. Hager | TBA | M. Zalduondo | 1.P. Peretti 2.C. Saunders 3.T. Hager | J.Monaco | D. Shumate |
| 01/21 Sun. 9 am | T. Lampert | M. Malamisura | H. Wills K. Wills | A. Rebeck R. Ciccolini | 1.K. Kidd 2.T. Lampert 3.C. Havens | R. Albert | M. McCoy |
| 01/27 Sat. 6pm | T. Lowery | M. Zalduondo | TBA | T. Behrmann | 1.D. garton 2.L.Mariotti 3.F. Moran | The Pascasio's | The Aiello's |
| 01/28 Sun 9pm | The Winfree's | A. Torrez | R. Aiello A. Zinsmeister | B. Musolin G. Abromitis | 1.G. Aiello 2. W. Aiello 3.C. Stacy | S. Copolo | |

Please Call or Email Lucy at the Parish Office if you are scheduled for a weekend that you are unable to attend. Thank you.



| Weekly Collection | weekend Dec 30-31 | YTD Actual | YTD Budget |
|-----------------------------|----------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Envelopes | 4,914.00 | 4,914.00 | 4,400.00 |
| Loose Offertory | 421.00 | 421.00 | 300.00 |
| Total Contributions | \$ 5,335.00 | \$ 5,335.00 | \$ 4,700.00 |
| Food Pantry | 125.00 | 125.00 | |
| Dioc: Catholic Charities WV | 15.00 | 15.00 | |
| Attendance: | 6pm: 51 | 9am: 96 | |

Please Pray For:

Parishioners: George Aiello Sr, Jeanne Ameli, Peggy Austin, John Babbitt, Mary Jo Babbitt, Stephanie Blevins, Richard Canterbury, Loretta Carrigan, Sherry Ciccolini, Ron Ciccolini, Tony Colobro, Donella Crigger, Victoria Crofcheck, Teresa Derenge, Benny Disibbio, Alex and Joanne Ercoline, Bryson Fanning, Debbie Ameli Froy, Angie Genovesi, Katie & Ron Goodwin, James (Tom) Hager, Mary Claire Keenan, Susan Kerr, Daniel Kirk, Claire Lampert, Tracy Lyon, Harold Mabardy, Sue Mazol, Mary McGonagle, Aalannah McPeak, Feleesha Moran, Shane Neal, Jacob Nester, Patricia Nester, Ernesto Pascasio, Barbara Pickett, Nancy Pochick, Nancy & Dr. Anthony Rasi, Jerry Rasi, Kathy Richards, Rosalie Rocchetti, Sharon Rothausen, Rodney & Jami Rust, Mariam Salaita, Virginia Shumate, Wayne Shumate, Ann Switch, Laura Zande Taylor, Stella Mae Taylor, Joe Thomas, Jason and Clay Thomason, Theresa Thomason, Larry Zande Jr., Patricia & Larry Zande Sr., Kara Zande and Analeigh Dawn, Joan Zingale

Homebound Parishioners: Linda Angelelli, Joy Formica, Dolores Pritchett, Mitzi Romeo, Theresa Soulis

Friends & Family: Betty Akers, Andrew Arczynski, Sandy Arczynski, Jim Archer, Jeffery Arkland, Tim Arnold, Jack Asbury, Jonathon Bays, Robert Below, Maggie Blankenship, Cara Blankenship, Amanda Bolton, Vanessa Boyer, Teddy Bradshaw, Melissa Carnett, Sandy Cassidy, Michelle Coker, Chuck Comer, Harold Cutlip, Lisa Dalton, Barry Dinger, Kim Duesing, Christina Easton, Mike Farmer, Cathy Feather, Tina Fitzgerald, Phil Gesotti, Larry Gilliam, Mary and Colin Gillespie, Vincent Godfrey, Dr. James Godwin, DDS, Skip Harless, Becky Harris, Gary Haynes, Owen Hime, Claire Holt, Alpha Jean Holly, Shannon Honaker, Madilyn Humphreys, Josh Husband, Trish Johnson, Cyndi Jones, Joseph Justin, Sherry Khatib, Sandy Kegley, Melonie Koch, Charlotte Kohlmeier, Zoe Kotsko, Eddie Lanter, Dawn Lawless, Stan Lawson, Elaine Lilly, James & Pam Linkous, Susan Lively, John Paul Lovell, Jaysen Marshall, Jacob and Tara Matney, Andy McKoy, Brandon McKoy, Linda Meadows, Chase Miller, Kim & Doug Miller, Scott Morris, Jacob Morton, Helen Mullins, Jane Murphy, Ane Montarroyos, Bobby Neal, Shane Neal, Steven Nelcher, Jonny Phillips, Annette Pike, Barbara Polatz, Thomas Presley Sr., William Ray, Brian Richard, Roy Rogers, Keving Roland, Mayra Rolon, Charles Rose, Barbara Sadler, Rick Saunders, Brittany Scott, Courtney Shade, Devin Shamro, Raymond Shumate, Leanna Smith, Bryan Staten, Adam Stuart, Laurie Stuart, Robert Shade, Ellie Spencer, Teresa Taylor, Jim Thompson, Evelyn Turnbough, Sarah Turner, Cathleen Underwood, Debby VanBlaricom, Jane Walthall, Bill Wimmer, Charlotte Woolwine

IN CASE OF AN EMERGENCY AND A PRIEST IS NEEDED, PLEASE CALL:

Parish Office (304) 327-5623

Princeton Office (304) 425-3664

In case of serious or life-threatening sickness or the actively dying: {Please consider, with Fr. Sebastian out of town, it will take longer to contact a priest. Please call the church office as soon as you can} The church should be contacted as soon as possible. People deserve the opportunity to confess their sins, profess their faith, be anointed, and receive Holy Communion – the foretaste and pledge of eternal life. PLEASE don't wait until after the person is unconscious or so sedated that he or she cannot communicate. It is imperative with current situations, that there be enough time for Fr. to go through the appropriate protocol to visit the actively dying.

In case of Illness: Please call the parish office to let us know if you, a family member, or a parishioner is sick. We can place your name on the prayer list. If requested, Fr Sebastian will arrange for distributing Holy Communion in the home.

Nursing homes & Hospitals: are not permitted to contact the church. If someone you know is in the hospital, please call the parish office.



The Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston is committed to the protection of its children and young people. The Diocese complies with the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops' *Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People* by maintaining an Office of Safe Environment. To report an incidence of suspected child sexual abuse, please contact your local law enforcement agency, or you may confidentially contact the West Virginia Bureau for Children and Families/Child Protective Services by calling the Child Abuse Hotline at 800.352.6513. To report suspected cases of sexual abuse by personnel of the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston to the Diocese, please contact one of the Bishop's designees at 888.434.6237 (toll free)

Dear Padre,

On what date was Jesus born? Was it December 25 or some time between December and April, when shepherds watched over their sheep?

Due to the complexity of history's various calendars and ways of calculating time, we cannot be sure of the date. Matthew and Luke, the two Gospels that detail the birth of Jesus, do not give a date.

Early Christians observed an annual feast to remember Jesus' death and resurrection, focusing on the paschal mystery rather than on his birth. As Christianity grew and spread, however, Christians wanted to celebrate more events from Jesus' life. The celebration on December 25 has more to do with an expression of faith in Jesus as Emmanuel, "God with us," than with establishing the exact date of his birth.

December 25 is listed as the date of Jesus' birth in a fourth-century calendar of martyrs, but how this date was chosen is unclear. Some scholars believe Christians in Rome chose December 25 to counteract the celebration of the pagan sun god Emesa. Another theory follows the influences of the seasons: early Christians believed John the Baptist was conceived on the autumnal equinox and born at the summer solstice. In Luke's Gospel, Jesus' conception took place six months after John's. That time line would place Jesus' birth at the winter solstice, December 25 on the Julian calendar. A third theory says Jesus' birth would have occurred on the same date as his death, which we believe to be in the spring at Passover. Regardless of the exact date, we celebrate Jesus as the true Son of God who came to enlighten us and, by his death and resurrection, to give us life. ●



Fr. John Schmidt, CSsR / DearPadre.org

Do you have a question for the Padre?

Go to DearPadre.org to send your question and to learn more about *Dear Padre*.

MONDAY

January 8

Baptism of the Lord

Is 55:1-11

1 Jn 5:1-9

Mk 1:7-11

TUESDAY

January 9

Weekday

1 Sm 1:9-20

Mk 1:21-28

WEDNESDAY

January 10

Weekday

1 Sm 3:1-10, 19-20

Mk 1:29-39

THURSDAY

January 11

Weekday

1 Sm 4:1-11

Mk 1:40-45

FRIDAY

January 12

Weekday

1 Sm 8:4-7, 10-22a

Mk 2:1-12

SATURDAY

January 13

Weekday

1 Sm 9:1-4, 17-19; 10:1a

Mk 2:13-17

SUNDAY

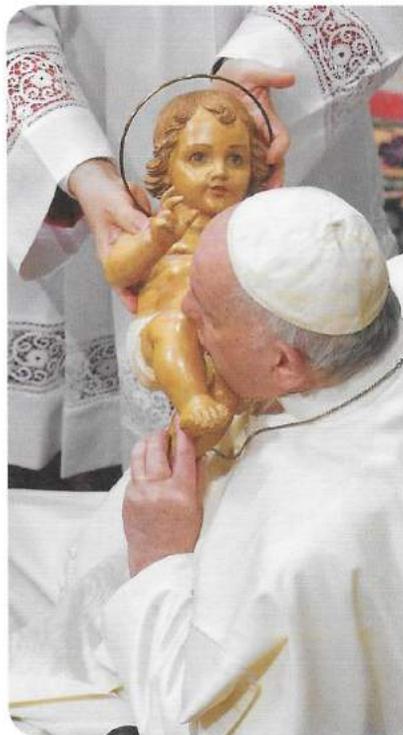
January 14

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

1 Sm 3:3b-10, 19

1 Cor 6:13c-15a, 17-20

Jn 1:35-42



A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

Like a rising star (see Numbers 24:17), Jesus comes to enlighten all peoples and to brighten the nights of humanity. Today, with the Magi, let us lift our eyes to heaven and ask: "Where is the child who has been born?" (Matthew 2:2). Where can we find and encounter our Lord?

**HOMILY, ROME,
JANUARY 6, 2023**