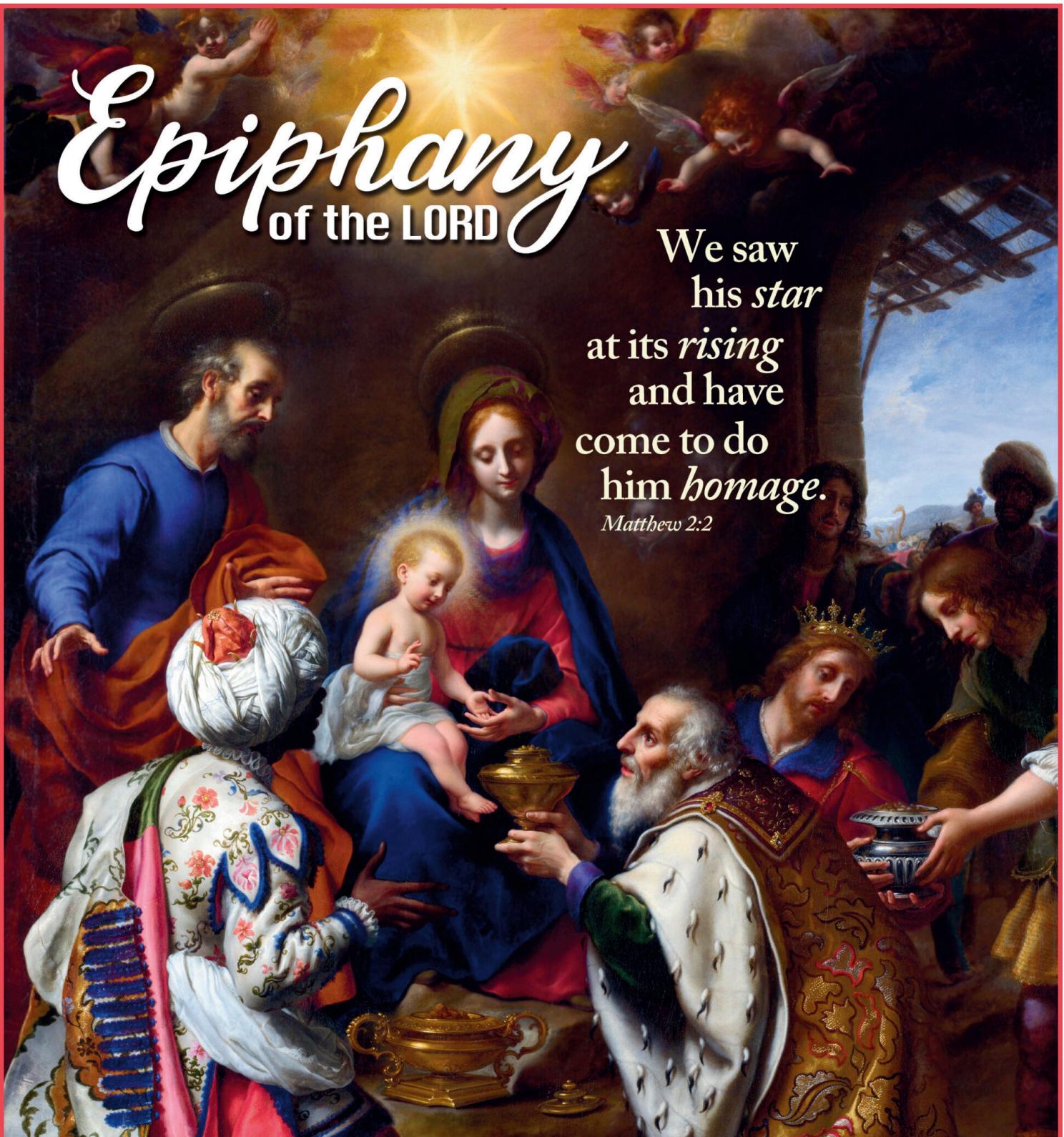


Epiphany of the LORD

We saw
his *star*
at its *rising*
and have
come to do
him *homage.*

Matthew 2:2



Saint Rita Catholic Church

January 4th 2025

Welcome Home!



Fr. James Valenzuela

Pastor

frjames@saintritaparish.org



Fr. Peter Jutras

Parochial Vicar

frpeter@saintritaparish.org



Antonio Herrera

Deacon



Parish Office

Monday - Thursday • 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM
Closed for Lunch 12:00 PM - 12:30 PM

Parish Office • 850-267-2558

Parish Website • www.saintritaparish.org

Sacramental Life

Sunday Mass

Saturday: Vigil 5:00 PM
Sunday: 8:00 AM, 11:00 AM, 5:00 PM (Esp)

Daily Mass

Monday - Saturday 8:30 AM
Thursdays: Ascension Sacred Heart Hospital - 11:30am

SOLEMN EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Friday after Mass: 9 AM - 10 AM in Church
First Friday of the Month: 9 AM - 6 PM in Stella Maris Chapel

RECONCILIATION

First Friday: 9AM - 10 AM
Saturday: 9 AM (or by appointment)
[email office@saintritaparish.org](mailto:office@saintritaparish.org) to schedule

Mass Intentions

Saturday • Jan 3

8:30 AM
5:00 PM

Joe & Pat Webber
Elijah Allen & Family

Sunday • Jan 4

8:00 AM
11:00 AM
5:00 PM (esp)

For the People
Hannie Nasri +
Debbie Boudreaux +

Monday • Jan 5

8:30 AM

Joel Bernstien +

Tuesday • Jan 6

8:30 AM

James Lee

Wednesday • Jan 7

6:00PM

Stephen Jerez +

Thursday • Jan 8

9:00 AM

Stan Walker +

Friday • Jan 9

8:30 AM

Hannah Lillie

Saturday • Jan 10

8:30 AM
5:00PM

Joseph & Megan Gianelloni
Imelda Uy

Administration

Mission Statement

We exist to provide opportunities for our parishioners to encounter Christ, share His love and become His disciples.

General Offertory

Month of November

Received: **\$189,019.37**

Building Fund

Month of November

Received: **\$31,742.52**

Burse Club

Month of November

Received: **\$896.77**

Ways to Give



Cash/Checks - If you prefer to give cash or checks, please drop your donation in the General Offertory basket at the Saturday/Sunday Masses.



Digital Giving - If you prefer to give online you can set up a reoccurring donation through PushPay.



Epiphany Chalk Blessing

It has been a tradition in the Catholic Church to bless chalk at the Masses for Epiphany, and then use the blessed chalk as part of blessing one's home in the New Year.

The home blessing can be done as follows:

Use the blessed chalk to write: 20+C+M+B+26 above the doorways:

2026 for the year; C, M, B for the 3 Magi – Casper, Melchior, and Balthasar – and for Christus Mansionem Benedicat, Latin for “May Christ Bless this House.”

As you are writing, pray one of the following prayers:

May all who come to our home this year rejoice to find Christ living among us; and may we seek and serve, in everyone we meet, that same Jesus who is Lord, forever and ever. Amen.

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 us with the light of Christ, that our concern for others may reflect your love. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Lord our God, bless this household. May we be blessed with health, goodness of heart, gentleness, and the keeping of your law. We give thanks to you, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and for ever. Amen.

Parish Staff & Ministries

Operations Team



LAURIE MANDREKAR

Business & Finance Manager
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ext. 102



GAIL EPPLIN

Receptionist
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TRAVIS SHIELDS

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Weddings & Baptism Coordinator
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Liturgies Team



NANCY WESSON

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GABRIELLE TROFATTER

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Faith Formation Team



JENNA DANOS

Director of Parish Mission
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TICIA GALLO

Director of CGS
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ALEX MOLZER

Youth Minister
alex@saintritaparish.org

Ministry Leads

ALTAR SERVERS

Carmen Pretorius

EUCARISTIC MINISTERS

Bob Ligday

GREETERS/USHERS

Pat Neolon

LECTORS

Tom Zaccardi

40 DAYS FOR LIFE

Mark Stay

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Steve Boudreaux

LOVING HANDS

Alice Sanchez
(850) 896-3352

MEN'S GROW GROUP

John Bakane

PRISON MINISTRY

Will Conley

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

Mike Duffy

TUESDAY BIBLE STUDY

Barb Meyer

WOMEN'S CLUB

Toni Underwood

VINEA VIRTUTIS HOMESCHOOL CO-OP

Rachel Gruters

COMMUNION FOR THE SICK AND THE HOMEBOUND

Chris Manion

FLOWER MINISTRY

Nancy Wesson

Around Saint Rita

Recurring Events

Sunday

- 1st Sunday (after 11am Mass) - Young Adults at Heirloom Donuts (19 - 36 yrs old)
- 3rd Sunday - Knights of Columbus Coffee and Donuts

Monday

- Middle School Youth Night • 5:30PM

Tuesday

- Open Gym • 12:00PM - 3:30PM
- Catholicism 101 • 6:00PM

Wednesday

- Loving Hands Ministry • 9:00AM
- High School Youth Night • 5:30PM

1st and 3rd Thursday

- SVdP Meeting • 9:00AM

Thursday

- G.R.O.W. Group • 5:00PM **(On Break)**

Funerals in January

- **January 5th** - Donna Prijatelj. 11am with a reception to follow around 1pm in the Family Life Center. Burial at Historic Gulf Cemetery.
- **January 7th** - Deanna O'Hare. 10:30am with a reception to follow in the Family Life Center.
- **January 23rd** - Edward Fletcher. 11:30am. No reception to follow.

Scripture Readings

For the week of January 4th

SUNDAY THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

IS 60:1-6; PS 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13; EPH 3:2-3A, 5-6; MT 2:1-12

MONDAY MEMORIAL OF ST. JOHN NEUMANN, BISHOP

1JN 3:22-4:6; PS 2:7BC-8, 10-12A; MT 4:12-17, 23-25

TUESDAY

1JN 4:7-10; PS 72:1-2, 3-4, 7-8; MK 6:34-44

WEDNESDAY

1JN 4:11-18; PS 72:1-2, 10, 12-13; MK 6:45-52

THURSDAY

1JN 4:19-5:4; PS 72:1-2, 14 AND 15BC, 17; LK 4:14-22

FRIDAY

1JN 5:5-13; PS 147:12-13, 14-15, 19-20; LK 5:12-16

SATURDAY

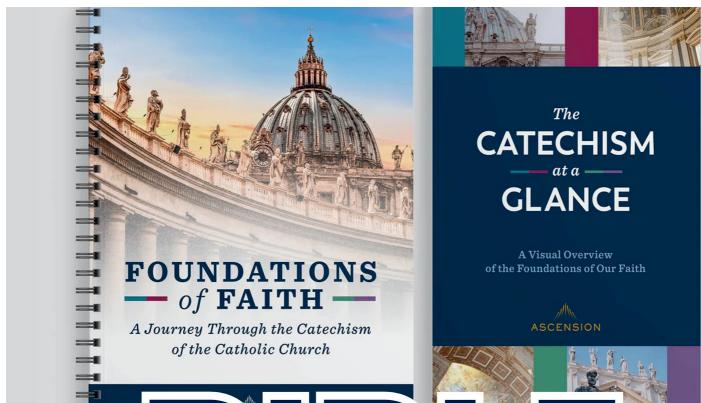
1 JN 5:14-21; PS 149:1-2, 3-4, 5-6A AND 9B; JN 3:22-30

SUNDAY THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

IS 42:1-4, 6-7 OR IS 55:1-11 OR ACTS 10:34-38 OR 1 JN 5:1-9; PS 29:1-2, 3-4, 3, 9-10 OR IS 12:2-3, 4BCD, 5-6; MT 3:13-17

Pray with us for:

Laurence Family, Robin Rose, Jennifer Mathews & Family, Addy & Richard Hack, Tim, Roselyne, Isabella Rose, Charlie Tidwell, Tony, Wesley McGee, Kevin Kingsland, Pam Kitchen, Greg Hebert, Barbara Mason, Victoria Eddington, David Cundiff, Marcia A, Janet Stevens, Tommie Magran, Mary Davis, Deedee Hofeling, Oz Wilkenson, Richard Turner, Baby Jules, Baby Ellis, Marge Crawford, Terry Collins, Bill Higgins, Sally Drobnick, Elizabeth Grace Hunter, Pilar Carson, Gustavo Cáceres, Cáceres Family, Andrea Emilia Bernabey, Ed Avery, Trina Spadaccia, Lisa Chapman, Joe Tullos, Renee Watson, Pavlin Family, Nancy Lord, Micheline Riggio, Beth Turnbach, Christine H., Joseph Albert, Stella Leverton, Gregorio Alvarez, Helen Lee & Family, Julie Duncan, Tunello Family, Kathy Farrell



BIBLE Study

Join us for the second half of the bible study at Saint Rita. The Bible study will return on Tuesday January 13th. Please scan the QR Code to purchase your study plan!



Loving Hands Ministry

Room #3 of the FLC
Wednesdays from 9am - 12pm

Projects include: Baby Quilts, Burial Gowns for Still Born, Crocheting, Knitting, Lap Quilts, Baby Blankets, Stuffed Animals & Crosses, Rosaries & More!

Donations of material, thread, lace, embroidery thread & floss are appreciated in order to continue projects.

**Loving Hands Ministry
will resume this
Wednesday, January 7th.**

For more info, contact
Alice: 850.896.3352



High School Lock In Retreat

Overnight Retreat for St. Rita High School Teens!

**Starts - 7pm on Friday January 16th
Ends - 9am on Saturday January 17th**

No better way to start 2026 and a new semester than by encountering our Lord in Eucharistic Adoration, praying + singing with your peers, listening to witness talks, and growing in community with small groups, fun games, and lots of snacks!

Bring your pillow, sleeping bag, toothbrush, modest comfy clothes, and a snack to share!

Ladies will be on the 2nd floor of the FLC, while the guys will be camped out in the gym. (Rumor has it that the guys will be having a nerf battle!)

Scan the QR code to register

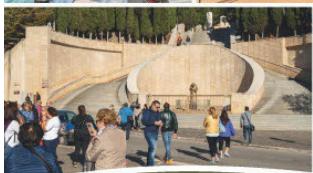


Join Bonnie & Bob Perry with Father Raja for an

Assisi, Rome &

San Giovanni Rotundo Pilgrimage

MAY 4 - 14, 2026



Bonnie Perry
Phone: 404-944-1395
email: Bonnieperryvi@gmail.com
www.eocatholic.com | 800-247-0017

Scan to
Travel with Us!



GROW GROUP FOR MEN: A BRIEF HIATUS

GROW – (God Renews Our Walk) – is your space for fellowship, faith-building, and brotherhood among men of the parish. We're pausing our gatherings to recharge with family and celebrate the holidays.

Join us when we resume on **January 15th**! Whether you're new or returning, all men are welcome to walk stronger in faith together.

See you in the new year – renewed and ready!

NEED A TAX RECEIPT?

Scan the QR Code below
and fill out the form to
receive your donation
receipt!



