



Church of St. Dominic

Northfield, Minnesota

January 4, 2015

POPE FRANCIS TEACHES

The following excerpts are taken from Pope Francis' announcement on December 8 that a World Meeting of Families will be held in Philadelphia in September 2015.



The Magi, following a light, were searching for *the* Light. The star appearing in the sky kindled in their minds and in their hearts a light that moved them to seek the great Light of Christ. The Magi followed faithfully that light and encountered the Lord. The destiny of every person is symbolized in this journey of the Magi. Our life is a journey, illuminated by the lights which brighten our way.

On the feast of the Epiphany may we sense the Magi at our side as wise companions on the way. Their example helps us to lift our gaze towards the star and to follow the great desires of our heart. They teach us not to be content with mediocrity, "playing it safe", but to let ourselves be attracted always by what is good, true and beautiful... by God, who is all of this, and so much more! They teach us not to be deceived by appearances, by what the world considers great, wise and powerful but to press on towards Bethlehem.

Epiphany: Do You See the Light?

In one of the darkest moments in Jewish history, the Babylonian army destroyed the city of Jerusalem and its temple, the center and symbol of Jewish faith. All the powerful, the wealthy, the educated were exiled to Babylonia where they were pressed into service to their new overlords. Not all were assigned to menial tasks. Jewish men of learning were set to work alongside their Babylonian counterparts. Some were made administrators with significant authority. Some even became advisors to the king himself.

Such was the story of Daniel. King Nebuchadnezzar assigned Daniel as "chief of the magicians, enchanters, Chaldeans and astrologers because of his extraordinary mind" (Daniel 5:11-12). The word "magicians" refers to wise men from the Magi sect, a group which gathered knowledge from all available sources, particularly obscure or hidden avenues. The Magi would have gleaned whatever knowledge they could from Daniel. They would have learned the prophecy about a future Messianic king, a powerful "king of kings". They would have watched the movement of the sun, moon, stars and planets, believing such movement to be controlled by gods above the dome of the sky. Varying the path of those heavenly bodies, they believed, was the gods' way of sending secret encoded messages. Interpret such messages and they could provide valuable guidance to their king.

Six centuries after Daniel's time, a new generation of Magi observing the night sky would have seen Jupiter appear to move through the constellation Aries along with other unusual phenomena, an event which occurred twice in the year 6 B.C. The Magi probably interpreted Aries, the ram, to represent Israel, a nation of shepherds. Jupiter, the brightest object in the night sky after the moon was named for the head of gods and, therefore, a sign of royalty. Conjecturing that these events might foretell the birth of the prophesied King of Kings, they reported the news to their king who, in turn, sent them as his emissaries to bring gifts and establish good relations for the future. From over a thousand miles away, the Magi, through their diligent search for truth, discovered what Jewish religious and political leaders in Jerusalem just six miles from Bethlehem totally missed.

The word "Epiphany" means "to make clear" or "to bring to light". Sometimes we have to look a bit deeper than usual to perceive the light of Christ in the events of our lives. As with the Magi, sometimes it only becomes clear when everything else around seems as dark as the night sky. Jesus is the Light of the World. Do you see the light?

Parish Center • 216 N. Spring Street • Northfield, MN 55057
Phone 507-645-8818
Pastor, Fr. Dennis Dempsey ext. 202
Deacon, Steve Moses 507-581-2569
Secretary, Jennifer Kluzak ext. 201
Bookkeeper, Shari Erickson ext. 204
Choir Director, Lorilee Malecha ext. 208
Parish Nurse, Nancy Ludescher ext. 203
Faith Formation, Mara Mangan ext. 205
Faith Formation Secretary, Roxzanne Devney ext. 209
Middle School Faith Formation Coordinators, Mike & Jen Wallin
Mission Trip Coordinator, Rick Nelson
Fax 507-645-8818
Email secretary@churchofstdominic.org

Parish Website www.churchofstdominic.org
Facebook facebook.com/churchofstdominicnfld
Parish Blog beadsofstdominic.wordpress.com
St. Dominic School • 216 N. Spring St. • Northfield, MN 55057
Phone 645-8136
Principal Vicki Kalina Marvin
St. Dominic Church • 104 N. Linden St.
Phone 645-6392
Mass Schedule
Saturday 5:00 p.m.
Sunday 8:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.; 12:30 p.m. Español

PRAYER LIST

We want to make sure your prayer request is being honored. With the start of the new year, it is time to update our Chapel prayer list. If you wish to have your name or the name of a loved one placed on the prayer list, or if you wish to remain on the prayer list, call the parish office at 645-8816 or fill out the form online at <http://goo.gl/YmlpUF>.

FUNERAL FOOD MINISTRY

If you are part of the funeral food ministry and have recently changed your phone number or dropped your landline and gone to cell phone only, please contact Jennifer in the parish office to update your information.



PARISH PICTORIAL DIRECTORY

We are planning to put together a new pictorial directory for the parish. Although initially we had considered taking photos in November and December, we have now decided to schedule photo sessions for late February through April and are seeking volunteers to take photos, assist photographers, and contact parishioners to invite them to participate and to update their registration information. Contact Christopher Barth at christopherbarth1@me.com or 612-867-2549 for more information or to volunteer.

SCHEDULE FOR LITURGICAL MINISTERS

All lectors, ushers, greeters and Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion - the January and February schedule is posted on the church website. A limited number of paper copies is available in the Narthex.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

We are in need of parishioners to serve as ushers and greeters (ministers of hospitality) at our weekend Masses. Families are especially encouraged to sign up to be greeters. Contact Jennifer at the parish office to add your name to the list of ministers.

COMMITTEE MEETING NIGHT

Don't FORGET! A reminder that the next parish committee meeting night is Monday, January 12, at 6:30 PM.

SCHEDULE FOR CONFESSION

Confessions are heard at 5:00 PM on Tuesdays, and between 3:30 - 4:30 PM on Saturdays.

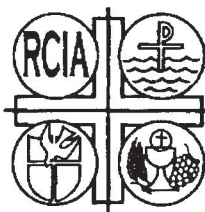
STEWARDSHIP

Envelope/plate contributions, December 28	\$14,012.05
Automatic (ACH) contributions	\$7,575.00
Christmas Donations.....	\$22,468.25
Weekly collection budget	\$14,104.16
Year-to-date surplus (shortfall).....	\$42,167.91

Thank you for your continued support!



Fifth graders participated in archery classes while at Eagle Bluff Environmental Learning Center in Lanesboro in October.



RCIA

RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) is a program of review and formation in the Catholic faith through presentations, group discussion, prayer, inspiring personal testimonies and scripture reflection in a small community setting. Classes are held at 7 pm and meet in the Youth Building.

Upcoming sessions: January 6, The Role and Mission of the Church; January 13, Sacraments of Initiation & Anointing of the Sick; January 20, Sacraments of Commitment.



SAINTS NIGHT OUT - SAVE THE DATE!

Mark your calendars and plan to attend St. Dominic School's 16th annual Saints Night Out silent and live auction on Saturday, February 21.

Join us for dinner, games and lots of auction excitement. If you have any questions or would like to donate to this year's event, please email StDomAuction@gmail.com. *Thank you!*

PRAYER CHAIN

"Pray one for another that you may be healed," James 5:16.

A prayer chain is active here at St. Dominic. Anytime you have a prayer request you can call one of the numbers below. Intentions will be lifted to God and held in confidence.

"I love the Lord because He hears my prayers and answers them. Because He bends down and listens, I will pray as long as I breathe," Psalm 116:1,2.

Ruth Huber: 645-2510 (H) or 507-581-6096 (cell); or Mara Mangan: 507-649-2353 (cell).



We are so proud of this past spring's 2014 high school graduates. They were our graduating 8th grade class

of 2010. Together this wonderful group of 15 students achieved an average GPA of 3.475!!! Alex, Allison, Hunter, Anne, Kevin, Danny, Adam, John, Steven, Alex, Sarah, Kathryn, Jake, Michaela and Max, we wish you many blessings as you continue your education in 2015! We are Aiming Higher at St. Dominic School.



Women's Retreat: Jan. 9-11, 13-15 Franciscan Retreats and Spirituality Center, Prior Lake, 952-447-2182

Men's Retreat: Jan. 9-11, 16-18, 30—Feb 1, Christ the King Retreat Center, Buffalo, 763-682-1394

WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER



Start the new year out right – spend some quality time renewing your marriage. The next **Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekends** are February 6-8 in Buffalo, February 13-15 in Windom and March 20-22 in Baxter. Early registration is highly recommended. For more information visit our website at twincitieswwme.org or contact Brent & Tracy at applications@twincitieswwme.org or 612-756-8720.



COMMUNITY BLOOD DRIVE

Memorial Blood Center will be at the Northfield Senior Center on Tuesday, January 6, from 9:30 am—5:30 pm. You must be at least 17 years of age, be in good health, free from colds and flu for at least 3 days, and bring a photo ID. To make an appointment, go online to mbc.org/searchdrives and enter sponsor code 3926 or contact Karen at 507-645-4803.

FOR YOUR MARRIAGE...

When you meet at the end of your workday, connect with your spouse before beginning that evening's chores and activities. Catch up on each other's days, take a walk, say some prayers...fifteen minutes together can make a world of difference. Visit www.ForYourMarriage.org for today's marriage tip, an initiative of the US Council of Catholic Bishops.



RETRouvaille ...A LIFELINE FOR MARRIAGES

Are you hurting in your marriage? Do you have trouble communicating, frequent arguments or fights? Retrouvaille is a 3-month program consisting of a weekend and (6) 4-hour follow-up presentations. The next weekend dates are: February 6 and April 10. For information, call 651-464-5855.

AREA SEPARATED/DIVORCED SUPPORT GROUP

St. Wenceslaus Parish, New Prague, meets the first Tuesday of the month in the church basement. All faiths welcome. Questions: Deacon Bob Wagner, 952-758-0463 or Mary, 952-873-6781.

THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD - JANUARY 11, 2015

This is what John the Baptist proclaimed: "One mightier than I is coming after me. I am not worthy to stoop and loosen the thongs of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit." - Mk 1:7-8. Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.



Is 42:1-4, 6-7 / Acts 10:34-38 / Mk 1:7-11

AREA EVENTS

GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP

The Northfield Grief Support Coalition is sponsoring a series of grief support groups which are open to the public; church affiliation is not required. Pre-registration is requested by calling the number listed. The next group is Mondays, Jan. 5—Feb. 9, 3:00—4:00 PM, Three Links Care Center

NATURAL FAMILY PLANNING CLASSES

The Couple to Couple League will be offering a series of classes, for engaged and married couples, on the *Sympto-Thermal Method of Natural Family Planning* at the Church of All Saints, 19795 Holyoke Ave., Lakeville, MN in the Library. Classes begin on Sunday, January 11th at 1:00 p.m. CCL's new streamlined methodology and new materials integrate Pope John Paul II's Theology of the Body. Registration and information at <http://twincities.ccli.org>.

FOLLOW YOUR HEART – A DAY OF DISCERNMENT FOR WOMEN

Saturday, January 31, 2015 - 9 a.m-3p.m. This day will examine the spiritual practices that guide us in living a discerning life. The event will take place at the Notre Dame Center, 1910 Graham Ave., #217, St. Paul, Minnesota. Register by Wednesday, January 26. Free will offering accepted. Contact Sister Mary Swanson, SSND, mswanson@ssnd.org or 414-305-9011.

PARISH PILGRIMAGE TO ROME

Father Barnes of St. Nicholas Catholic Church in Elko New Market, Father McCabe of Immaculate Conception Church in Lonsdale and Father Chris Shofner of St. Mary's & St. Henry's in LeCenter would like to invite you to join them for an experience of a lifetime as they make a pilgrimage to Rome on February 9th through the 17th, 2015. Our focus will be to immerse ourselves in the beauty, culture and Catholicity of the Eternal City of Rome. This is a nine-day adult only walking pilgrimage and is open to all area parishes. There is a limit of 45 pilgrims and **5 spaces are yet to be filled**. For more information, please visit the St. Nicholas Catholic Church website at <http://www.stncc.net/rome-pilgrimage>.

Welcome to the Church of St. Dominic

We thank God that you are with us. If you are not registered please fill out the form below and drop it in the collection basket or mail it to the Parish Center (216 Spring Street N.)

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ Zip: _____

- I would like information.
- I have a new address New phone
- I'm moving away; please remove me from roster.

Mass Intentions

Sat.	Jan. 3	5:00 PM	† Bob & Gene Sirek, JoAnn Meinke
Sun.	Jan. 4	8:00 AM	† Norbert Skluzacek
		10:30 AM	† George Fleischmann
		12:30 PM	Misa - for the parish
Mon.	Jan. 5	5:15 PM	Word service
Tues.	Jan. 6	5:30 PM	Misa - † Eric & Myron Busch
Wed.	Jan. 7	10:30 AM	Retirement Center
		1:45 PM	School Mass - 8th Grade
Fri.	Jan. 9	7:00 AM	† Jim Graff, Jean Graff Doherty
		10:15 AM	Three Links
Sat.	Jan. 10	5:00 PM	† Jack Haas
Sun.	Jan. 4	8:00 AM	† For the parish
		10:30 AM	† Peter Grundhoefer
		12:30 PM	Misa

LITURGICAL + ROLES**January 10 — 5 PM Mass**

Music Mariah Feidt, Abigail Goerd, Gabby Quick, Wendy Splichal, David Stenzel

Lectors Mary McGovern, Dale Fredrickson

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion Jean Hintz, Sue Odette, Kathy Quinn, Corrine Skeels, Toni Stadler, Tim Stanton

Ushers Ben & Mary Manderfeld

Greeters Amy Hunter, Skyler Warner, Betty Gilomen

January 11 — 8 AM Mass

Music Pat & Carol Fraher, Lynn Ziegler, David Stenzel, Hand Bell Choir

Lectors Robin Hart-Ruthenbeck, Packy Mader

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion Andy Devney, Kevin & Monica Lynch, Laura Devney, Jane Ludwig, Margaret Ludwig

Ushers Dale Malecha, Joe & Sue Hollinger

Greeters Therese & Steve Kitzman, Arlene Malecha

January 11 — 10:30 AM Mass

Music Adult Choir, Martha Barth

Lectors Joyce Mace, Amy Atkinson

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion Helen Edel, Chris Flicek, John Langan, Margaret Haugen, Gary Kes, Paul Miller, Ramontica Langfeldt, Sheri Langfeldt, Nancy Ludescher

Ushers Gary Kes, Peg Witt, Pete Shuster

Greeters Jon & Lisa Malecha, Janet Mathews

Reminder: You are required to find a replacement if unable to serve as a minister on your scheduled weekend.

How far...**Would you travel?****This Week at St. Dominic****Sunday, January 4**

9:00 AM Emergency Procedures Review OSH
11:00 AM Spanish First Communion Class ChB, KC

Monday, January 5

7:00 PM Spanish Choir (Alvaro) Sanct

Tuesday, January 6

7:00 PM Spanish Choir (Luis) Sanct
7:00 PM RCIA Yth Bldg

Wednesday, January 7

5:15 PM Faith Formation Teacher Appreciation OSH, Kt
7:00 PM Adult Choir Sanct

Thursday, January 8

4:00 PM Fare For All OSH
6:00 PM Hand Bell Choir Sanct
6:30 PM Hispanic Prayer Group (Payes) Yth Bldg
7:00 PM Knights of Columbus KC
7:30 PM Joyful Noise Sanct

Friday, January 9

6:00 PM Hispanic Youth Group Yth Bldg
7:00 PM Spanish Choir (Rocio) Sanct
7:00 PM Cub Scouts ChB

Saturday, January 10

10:00 AM Cub Scouts ChB
3:00 PM Spanish Baptisms Sanct

Sunday, January 11

Spotlight on Ministry: Maintenance
11:00 AM Spanish First Communion Class ChB, KC
4:00 PM 10th Gr. Confirmation Group (Goerd) KC
4:00 PM 10th Gr. Confirmation Group (Barth) Yth Bldg
4:00 PM 9th Gr. Confirmation Group (Stenzel) ChB
6:30 PM Cub Scouts (Bear Den) KC

IN HIS TIME

In His Time is a support group for couples who are struggling with infertility. This group provides a supportive environment for Catholics who follow the church teachings on infertility. It allows couples to share their experiences with others who are on a similar journey. Meetings offer comfort, hope and a place for couples as they wait for God's plan to unfold in their life, and are held the second Monday of the month at St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church, Hopkins. Call 651-291-4488 for information.

CONSUMER ALERT

There's a new warning from the IRS - Taxpayers are receiving calls from scammers pretending to be with the IRS and demanding payment. Not only has the IRS agency been flooded with these calls, but so has the Rice County Attorney's Office. There are clear warning signs about these scams, which continue at high levels throughout Rice County and the nation. Remember, your first contact with the IRS will not be a call from out of the blue, but through official correspondence sent through the mail. A big red flag for these scams are angry, threatening calls from people who say they are from the IRS and urging immediate payment. This is not how the IRS operates. If you get a call like this hang up and immediately call the IRS and/or the Rice County Attorney's Office at 507-332-5934.