

OUR LADY OF HOPE AND SAINT PAUL PARISHES

January 7, 2024



THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

"Where is the newborn king of the Jews?
We saw his star at its rising and have come to do him homage."

Matthew 2:2

OUR LADY OF HOPE / SAINT PAUL DIRECTORY

OUR LADY OF HOPE PARISH

1 Pineswamp Road
Ipswich, MA 01938
978-356-3944

WEBSITE: www.ourladysaintpaul.org
EMAIL: ourlady@ourladysaintpaul.org



Handicap Parking and ramp into the church is located on Pineswamp Road on right side of Church.

WEEKEND MASS SCHEDULE

SATURDAY:

4:00 pm: Our Lady of Hope (OLOH)

SUNDAY:

7:30 am: Saint Paul (SP) ~ No Music

9:30 am: Saint Paul (SP)

11:15 am: Our Lady of Hope (OLOH)

WEEKDAY MASS SCHEDULE

9:00 am: Monday & Tuesday (OLOH)

9:00 am: Thursday & Friday (SP)

SACRAMENTS

RECONCILIATION

SATURDAYS 3:00—3:45 PM at Our Lady of Hope or by appointment at either church.

BAPTISM

If you are planning a baptism in the future, please call the parish office to make arrangements.

MARRIAGE

If you are an engaged couple, please call Fr. Brogan *directly* at *least* 6 months prior to the intended date.

PASTORAL VISITATION: The Eucharist and the Anointing of the Sick can be brought to our parishioners confined to their homes.

OCIA & FAITH FORMATION

Questions regarding current, upcoming programs and/or sacramental programs available at our parishes, please contact the parish office.



Hearing Assist Boxes are available at Our Lady of Hope. Let the Priest know if you would like one before Mass when attending Mass at OLOH.

NEW TO OUR PARISH?

If you are new to Our Lady of Hope or Saint Paul, please introduce yourself to Fr. Brogan following Mass. To formally register at one of our parishes, contact the parish office or go online to register through our website.

SAINT PAUL PARISH

50 Union Street
South Hamilton, MA 01982
978-468-2337

WEBSITE: www.ourladysaintpaul.org
EMAIL: stpaul@ourladysaintpaul.org



Elevator for Handicapped Access to the Saint Paul church is located in the rear of the building.

PARISH STAFF

PASTOR: Fr. David A. Brogan

PRIEST IN RESIDENCE: Fr. John G. Kiley

MUSIC MINISTER:

John Maher 978-500-6789
jmaher@ourladysaintpaul.org

BUSINESS MANAGER, OUR LADY OF HOPE:

Joanne DiNatale 978-356-3944
ourlady@ourladysaintpaul.org

BUSINESS MANAGER, SAINT PAUL:

David McLean 978-468-2337
stpaul@ourladysaintpaul.org

PARISH SECRETARY, SAINT PAUL:

Lucy Cronan 978-468-2337
stpaul@ourladysaintpaul.org

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

OUR LADY OF HOPE: 978-356-3944 EXT. 28

Kindergarten through Grade 11

Elisa St. Clair estclair@ourladysaintpaul.org

SAINT PAUL: 978-468-3617

Grades 1 through 5

Kristen Monahan kmonahan@ourladysaintpaul.org

Grades 6-8

Debra Brown dbrown@ourladysaintpaul.org

Grades 9-10

John Cusolito jcusolito@ourladysaintpaul.org

STAY UP TO DATE THROUGH EMAIL

When important information is sent to registered parishioners, it is conveyed through email. Please let us know when your email has changed.

IMPORTANT REMINDER

Please accompany your child downstairs to the church hall or to restrooms. For their safety, please be sure they are always accompanied by an adult family member. Child safety is everyone's responsibility. Thank you for your cooperation.



COLLABORATIVE MASS INTENTIONS**Saturday, January 6**

4:00 pm Vigil— Ada & Reggie Morell (OLOH)

Sunday, January 77:30 am—Parishioners (SP) *NO MUSIC*

9:30 am—Frank Angelis (SP)

11:15am-Weekend Mass (OLOH)

Monday, January 8

9:00 am—Kimberly Bilello (OLOH)

Tuesday, January 9

9:00 am—Weekday Mass (OLOH)

Wednesday, January 10 No Daily Mass**Thursday, January 11**

9:00 am—Weekday Mass (SP)

Friday, January 12

9:00 am—Weekend Mass (SP)

Saturday, January 13

4:00 pm Vigil— Mary Rose Doogan (OLOH)

Sunday, January 147:30 am—Weekend Mass (SP) *NO MUSIC*

9:30 am—Parishioners (SP)

11:15am-Weekend Mass (OLOH)

Please contact the parish office to schedule a Mass intention for your deceased loved one.

OLOH SPECIAL COLLECTIONS: FUEL COLLECTION

The Fuel collection is a great help in funding the anticipated cost of the parish heat and utilities this winter. The collection will be taken up during the month of December. Letters were mailed out on Monday, December 4. Donations can be mailed, put on rectory porch or dropped in the weekend collection baskets.

Thank you in advance for your generosity to this important collection that supports Our Lady of Hope Parish.

GRAND ANNUAL COLLECTION

The 2023-2024, Grand Annual Collection is well underway. If you have not made your donation yet, there are extras on the exit tables of the Church and rectory porch. We are grateful to all who have already generously contributed to this important collection. As of this past weekend we have received \$84,799.00 in donations.

The Grand Annual is a vital collection for the financial needs of the Parish. The Grand Annual will help us to continue to take care of the additional costs of running the Parish and keeping up with necessary repairs.

PRAYER REQUESTS**WE ASK PARISHIONERS TO PRAY...**

† For all those who are sick, especially Cameron Cyr, Kathy Bartlett, Blanche Zak, Ruth Butnan, Mathew Faino, Kim Donohoe, Mia Angelis, Philip Abodeely, Juilett Carlson, Cameron Gagnon, Cathryn Lally, Denise Polli, Gerrie O'Brien, Melissa Faino Palelli, Arline Thornell, Irene Stackpole, Connie Donovan, Patricia Foley, J. P. Quinn and all those infected with the Covid-19 virus

† For all our parishioners who are sick, homebound and those confined to nursing facilities and hospital

† For the all students and teachers.

† For peace in our world, especially in the Ukraine and Middle East

† For all the deceased members of our parishes

† For the safety and good health of all missionaries

† For all who serve our country in the Armed Forces, especially Marine 2nd Lt. Thomas Monahan and Air Force 2nd Lt. Will Hogan

† For the unborn children

† For all those affected by natural disasters

PLEASE NOTE: In order to keep our prayer list current, names will remain on the list for four weeks.

Please resubmit by contacting the parish office. Names should be submitted by the individual or immediate family member.

**ONLINE GIVING**

We offer this convenience to our parishioners and visitors. Online giving is an easy and secure way to make contributions to support our parish. You may contribute using direct withdrawals (ACH) or credit cards. Visa, MasterCard and American Express are all accepted.

SAINT PAUL

If you prefer the convenience of giving your donation online, please call the parish office or enroll online at: <https://churchofsaintpaul.churchgiving.com/>

Parish envelopes for your weekly donation allows us to keep a record for your tax purposes. If you would like to receive weekly envelopes, please call the parish office.

OUR LADY OF HOPE

To contribute using online giving, simply visit our website: ourladysaintpaul.org and follow the instructions. For assistance, call the parish office..

If you make an offering/donation to the collection basket at Mass with Parish (specific) contribution envelopes or put your donation in an envelope writing both Parish name and your name on the front, your donation will be transferred to that Church. Cash donations outside of an envelope will remain in the parish where you made your donation. If you have any questions, call the parish office.

PARISH MINISTRY CONTACTS

CATHOLIC WOMEN'S CLUB

Bonni Berkowitz, President | 617-549-2744
berky000@gmail.com

MUSIC MINISTRIES

John Maher | 978-500-6789
jmaher@ourlady saintpaul.org

SAINT VINCENT DE PAUL

James McCarthy, President | 978-992-6151

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

James Foley | 978-360-2799

***For more information, contact the parish office.
 Consider sharing your gifts and talents.***

COLLABORATIVE PARISH COUNCIL MEMBERS

Bonni Berkowitz
 Joanne Bialek
 Richard & Diane Bostrom
 Pat Donahue
 Stephen Dowd
 Martha Driscoll
 James Foley
 JoAnne Kelleher
 Linda Murphy
 Alana Mitchell
 Phil Monahan
 Jim Moynihan

MEN'S GROUP AT OUR LADY OF HOPE

The Men's Group invites you to come join them on Saturday mornings from 7:15-8:30 am in the church hall at Our Lady of Hope for light refreshments and Christian fellowship in an easy-going, informal atmosphere.

KNITTING MINISTRY—TIME CHANGE

St. Paul's Knitting Ministry knits baptismal blankets for St. Paul's and baby blankets and hats for Project Linus which are donated to local hospitals. If you knit, crochet or quilt and would like to join us, we meet generally on **the first Saturday of the month from 1PM to 3PM in St. Paul Church hall.**

HOMEBOUND

If you or someone you know is homebound and wishes to receive Holy Communion, please call the parish office to make arrangements.

ADULT CHOIR

Music Director John Maher is looking for choir members to sing at the 9:30am Mass at St Paul's on Sundays, or the 4pm Mass at Our Lady of Hope on Saturdays. Time commitment is minimal. Whether you have sung with a choir in the past or have never done it before, all are welcome! Reach out to John at jmaher@ourlady saintpaul.org or call 978-500-6789.

PARISH ROSARY GROUP -OUR LADY OF HOPE

Praying the Rosary for those affected by abortion

Please join us beginning January 9, 2024 every Tuesday and thereafter at 7 PM in the upper Church at Our Lady of Hope for reciting the Rachel Rosary, intercessory prayer for victims of post-abortion syndrome. Rachel Rosary is a positive and appropriate means of praying for those affected by abortion.

All are welcome to attend each week or as you are able.

SVDP Holiday News:**"Blessed are the poor" is a call to action.**

Our local chapter of the Saint Vincent DePaul Society is a collection of parishioners inspired by Gospel values, growing in holiness, and building a more just world through personal relationships with and serving people in need. The Society of women and men join together to grow spiritually by offering person-to-person service to those who are needy and suffering. All are welcome to participate in this mission as we meet at 7 PM the first Monday night of every Month in the OLH parish hall.

Our SVDP chapter will, as we have for some time, provide Thanksgiving and Christmas greetings and assistance to those who have had sad and unforeseeable life circumstances befallen them here in our Ipswich/Hamilton/Wenham community. Your poor box donations allow us to provide such holiday assistance to families in financial distress, the elderly, the unemployed, and those with illness.

Pre-Covid, we delivered holiday meals each Thanksgiving and Christmas. Still, since then, we have collaborated with other people of goodwill and referred those in need of meals to the many wonderful agencies in our area that focus specifically on food distribution to those in need. We have instead focused on providing modest financial support that may help make the Holiday more blessed, allowing for the purchase of diapers, clothes, or appropriate gifts for the children. As is our custom, we honor one of the core values that the Society holds sacred, that friendship, a person-to-person service that encompasses listening, is critical. We hand deliver our gifts to each recipient, representing ourselves as members of our Catholic Community seeking to bring material support and the joy of Christ to those most in need during what is a very joyous time for most of us.

Thank you again for thinking of those less fortunate during this and all seasons and donating to the Poor Boxes on your way out of Our Lady of Hope Church. Please get in touch with us if you have a family or individual in Ipswich/Hamilton/Wenham who could benefit from a visit from your SVDP Society this holiday season. Also, please visit our website for additional details:
<https://svdpipswich.blogspot.com/>

Remember God's will in yours...

When you leave a bequest to the Church in your will or estate plan, you express your commitment to the future of your parish. You also return some of the blessings God gave to your life and leave an eternal message of what is important to you. Please consider including Our Lady of Hope Parish and Saint Paul Parish when preparing your will.

For more information contact Fr. Brogan or call /email the parish office.

WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER

I Corinthians 6:13c-15a, 17-20: "...Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ! Whoever is joined to the Lord becomes one Spirit With Him. ...Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God, and that you are not your own....therefore, glorify God in your body." One Way to Glorify the Lord is by enriching your marriage. Give your spouse a gift. Attend a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Experience. You can find one by looking up WWME.org. Some of the dates to sign up are:

January 26-28, 2024 in Derby Line, VT

February 8-March 21, 2024,
Virtual (evenings twice a week)

February 9-11, 2024 in Huntington, NY

Worldwide Marriage Encounter sponsors a variety of in-person and virtual marriage experiences, some on weekends and some on seven weekdays. Couples explore their relationship with each other, God, and the Church. Registration is limited; there is a \$100 application fee. For more information or to apply, call Joe & Ginny Vatele at 978-870-5646 or <https://wwwmema.org/>.

A CELEBRATION OF CONVALIDATION



Married couples desiring holy matrimony in the Catholic Church are invited to convalidate their marriage on World Marriage Sunday, February 11, 2024 at the Cathedral

of the Holy Cross, Boston at 3:00 PM with Bishop Mark O'Connell as the celebrant.

A convalidation ceremony is an opportunity for couples married outside of the Church to enter into a marriage covenant in the Catholic tradition.

For more information, email Emily_Elliott@rcab.org or visit our registration page at <https://bit.ly/Convalidation>

COMPLIMENTARY CALENDARS

With gratitude to the Morris Family, please take a complimentary 2024 calendar located at the entrances of the church. These calendars provide the Holy Days and Feast Days throughout the year with large, glossy photos.

PROTECTING GOD'S CHILDREN

All volunteers who minister in the Archdiocese must attend the Protecting God's Children and receive the Code of Conduct form. In addition, all current volunteers and new volunteers must complete a CORI Form. Those who need to follow this requirement are anyone who helps in building our church in any way. This list of volunteer includes: staff, teachers, assistants to religious education, lectors, eucharistic ministers, ushers, Finance and Pastoral Council members, etc.

Please consider sharing your gifts and talents in our new collaborative at Our Lady of Hope and St. Paul's by attending this training to be ready to serve.

Please sign up by logging onto:

[Go to https://www.virtusonline.org/](https://www.virtusonline.org/)

- Click on "First-Time Registrant"
- Click on "Begin the registration Process"
- From the pull-down menu, choose "Boston, MA (Archdiocese)," ONLY
- When asked, "Have you previously registered with VIRTUS Online?" click "NO"
- Create a username and password when asked to do so and click "Continue"
- Fill in all the required fields for contact information on the next screen and click continue
- From the pull-down menu for "Location," choose "Our Lady of Hope Ipswich " or "St. Paul Hamilton" or wherever else they are coming from
- When the roles appear, choose a primary role and an additional role
- Add a Title (what you do for parish/school) in the box at bottom and click "Continue"
- On the next page, you may choose YES or NO depending on whether you want to associate your name with an additional school or parish
- Answer the four Yes/No questions on the next page and click "Continue"
- When asked "Have you already attended a VIRTUS Protecting God's Children Session?" answer NO.
- On the next page, choose date and church to attend Protecting God's Children for Adults"

Confirm and you are done!

If you register for a training, please let us know once completed and forward a copy of your completion certificate to the rectory office. Thank you

WITNESS TO LIFE—NATIONAL MARCH FOR

Witness to Life with Cardinal Seán O'Malley at the National March for Life on January 19, 2024! We begin our journey to Washington, D.C. on the evening of Jan. 18. First thing Friday morning, we will celebrate life with Cardinal Seán and other archdiocesan pilgrims at [Life Fest](#) sponsored by the Sisters for Life before heading over to the March for Life. The 26-hour pilgrimage is \$75 per person and is open to families with children ages 12-17, adults, and small high-school youth groups. Register at <https://bit.ly/MarchforLife2024>



THE BEAUTIFUL CHRISTMAS FLOWERS
ON THE OUR LADY OF HOPE
ALTAR WERE DONATED
IN LOVING MEMORY OF:

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PAMELA M. FOLEY
WILLIAM O'NEILL
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BARTON FAMILY
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WILLIAM AND JENNIE CYNKUS
FRANK AND MARY VIDMAR
JOHN BIAGIOTTI
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JOSEPH & JESSIE SAROKA
THOMAS SAROKA
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DOUG HUSSEY
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EDGAR A. TURNER, SR.
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DAVID CHAMPA
RICK CHAMPA
JOSEPH, BESSIE & JAMES TEELE
CHARLES L. SMITH
JAMES J. CULLEN
MARK S. CULLEN
JACQUELINE ZABRISKIE GANNON
JUDITH P. WALTERS
NORMAN W. FERRICK
ESTHER M. ROCHE
JOHN SFORZA
SELOTA FAMILY
LOUIS MALAQUIAS
BOB McLELLAN
JOHN CONRAD
THOMAS LANCASTER
DECEASED PRIESTS AND RELIGIOUS
WHO SERVED PARISHES IN IPSWICH



Knights of Columbus

The Open Door Food Drive

The Knights of Columbus will be sponsoring a food drive for The Open Door Food Pantry in Ipswich. Please leave your donations near the front entrance of Our Lady of Hope Parish in the food donation box. The Knights will be transporting the food once a week and they

Thank you for your donation.

Most needed items at

The Open Door (no glass!):

**Peanut Butter • Canned Tuna, Chicken &
Turkey • Healthy Snack Items •
100% Juice/Juice Boxes • Breakfast Cereal •
Hearty Soups • Canned Vegetables & Fruits
• Spaghetti Sauce • Macaroni & Cheese •
Rice, Noodles, & Pasta • Cake, Muffin &
Pancake Mix**

WISHING MERRY CHRISTMAS.....

Parishioners have asked to send Christmas Cheer to Fr. Lawlor and Fr. Keyes. If you would like to send a Christmas card to them, their address is below:

Fr. Michael Lawlor
60 Wm Cardinal O'Connell Way
Regina Cleri Residence
Boston, Ma 02114-3709

Fr. Thomas Keyes
St. James Society
24 Clark St..
Boston, MA 02109

Millennium Gospel Choir

Performing at Immaculate Conception Church 42 Green St., Newburyport

Sunday, January 7, 2:30 p.m.

Don't miss this opportunity to get your praise on and enjoy an afternoon of holiday, spiritual, and gospel music performed by the renowned Millennium Gospel Choir of Boston.

As part of the continued celebration of the 175th anniversary of Immaculate Conception Parish, the choir will entertain with classic and contemporary selections sure to inspire everyone's participation.

The concert is free and open to the community.

IPSWICH KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS



The Knights of Columbus is the world's largest Catholic fraternal service organization. It was founded by the Venerable Father Michael J. McGivney in New Haven, Connecticut, in 1882, and named in honor of the navigator Christopher Columbus. Originally serving as a mutual benefit society to low-income immigrant Catholics, it developed into a fraternal service organization dedicated to providing charitable services, promoting Catholic education, and actively defending Catholicism in various nations.

The Knights of Columbus is not just a fraternity in name. It is a brotherhood of Catholic men who each play a part in improving the world around them, one community at a time. They are dedicated to upholding the principles they cherish: Charity, Unity, and Fraternity. The Knights stand together in faith and lend their support to the parish, home, and fellow Knights. From charity for worldwide causes, to helping closer to home with volunteer activities, to a top-rated insurance program that protects those closest to you, the Knights make the most of its brotherhood. All men in the parish are welcome and should consider joining the Knights of Columbus. We'd love to have you! For more information on joining the Knights, please contact Jim Foley Grand Knight of Ipswich Council 498 at: Jamesfoley2233@gmail.com.

2023 CONTRIBUTION STATEMENTS

Please let us know if you would like a 2023 statement of the contributions you made with your weekly/monthly contribution envelopes, contact the parish office to request your statement. For those who have been making contributions through Online Giving, you are able to print a statement yourself when logged into your account. The Parishes are also able to issue contribution statements for donations that include those made through Online Giving. If you are not currently receiving envelopes and would like to, let us know.

WINTER STORM CANCELLATIONS

When there is inclement weather, there is concern for the safety of parishioners and visiting priests traveling to our parishes and our ability to clear the parking lot and walkways to make them safe and free of snow/ice. When conditions are extreme and the Ipswich, & Hamilton-Wenham School system cancels classes, we will also follow this same decision and cancel celebrating daily Mass. In addition, when there are extreme conditions or roads are unsafe we will also post cancellations of parish events, religious education and weekend Masses on our website. In addition to this you are also able to check cancellations on Channel 7 (NBC), Channel 56(CW) and by logging onto www.whdh.com.



THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

The origin and foundation of Christian Baptism is Jesus. Before starting his public ministry, Jesus submitted himself to the baptism given by John the Baptist. The waters did not purify him; he cleansed the waters. "He comes to sanctify the Jordan for our sake . . . to begin a new creation through the Spirit and water" (St. Gregory Nazianzen, Liturgy of the Hours, I, 634). Jesus' immersion in the water is a sign for all human beings of the need to

die to themselves to do God's will. Jesus did not need to be baptized because he was totally faithful to the will of his Father and free from sin. However, he wanted to show his solidarity with human beings in order to reconcile them to the Father. By commanding his disciples to baptize all nations, he established the means by which people would die to sin—Original and actual—and begin to live a new life with God.

The excerpt on the baptism is from the United States Catholic Catechism for Adults (Washington, DC: USCCB, 2006) 184. Copyright © 2006, United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, Washington DC. All rights reserved. Used with permission.

SAINT PAUL PARISH HAPPENINGS

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

On the First Friday of the Month following the 9:00 am Mass there will be Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and Confession until 10:00 am at Saint Paul Parish, Hamilton.



CHILDREN'S LITURGY

NEXT WEEKEND, 1/14 AT 9:30 MASS

Children are invited to join Mrs. Monahan for before the First Reading in the church hall for a children's liturgy including the First and Second Readings, as well as the Gospel and a children's discussion afterwards. Children will return upstairs to the church after the Homily for the remainder of the Mass.



The date for The First Penance Celebration is Sunday, January 7 at 1:00 pm in the church at St. Paul's.

Please pray for our First Communicants as they prepare to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation and the Sacrament of First Holy Communion in the coming months.

COFFEE & DOUGHNUTS

Please join us for coffee and doughnuts in the church hall following the 9:30 Mass.

Sunday, January 21, 2024



FIRST FRIDAY COFFEE AT ST. PAUL'S

Following the First Friday of the Month 9:00 Mass, coffee will be served in the church hall. This will be a wonderful opportunity to meet with parishioners from St. Paul and Our Lady of Hope.



Saint Paul Men's Prayer Group

St Paul's Men's Prayer Group meets Saturday mornings in the church from 7:30 to 8:30. The meeting includes praying from the Liturgy of the Hours and a discussion of the Sunday readings. Contact the parish office for further details."

EDGE Classes for Grades 6-8 will resume

**Tuesday, January 30
&
Wednesday, January 31**

In Word & Deed

People can come into our lives sometimes for a very short time, and make a big impression.

The power of the encounter can change our life, renew our hope, or strengthen our resolve. It can even set us on a new course, leading us to places, causes and people we never imagined meeting.

The Magi, or astrologers as Matthew calls them, arrive to pay homage to the newborn Jesus. A star had guided them on their quest and when they left, they avoided Herod and went on their way. Their gifts represented the kingship of Christ (gold), His divinity (incense) and his redemptive suffering (myrrh). The story of the Magi reminds us that the whole world has come to recognize and worship a Savior, and the impact of this

short visit would reverberate through the ages.

Like the Magi, our life is a journey of faith. We encounter Christ in hundreds of ways. Each momentary encounter has the potential of changing lives, healing wounds, easing suffering and restoring faith. Those we meet along the way are fellow pilgrims who also search for grace and life. Follow the star of faith and offer your gifts of love. Christ will surely lead you.

—Jim Gaffney



FAMILY LIFE:

TO WALK AS ONE

One of my nieces loved to perform when she was just a pre-schooler. She would sing songs or do 'amazing' tricks! But she always wanted someone to introduce her, beginning with the traditional "Ladies and gentlemen." Without a proper introduction she could not perform and the show came to a grinding, if not teary, halt. No doubt she loved the spotlight and the attention.

Everyone likes to be treated with special attention. Some occasions, like birthdays and anniversaries, call for it. Some people require a special introduction: new friends, relatives, business associates and VIP's. Whether as a courtesy or an obligation, a little attention makes everyone feel good. It acknowledges people's importance

and what they mean to us. It highlights the abilities and

qualities of those we love and respect. Most importantly, it gives us the chance to let others know how we feel, even if we don't say it often enough.

A little special attention goes a long way. It lifts the spirits, changes hearts, lightens the mood and brightens a day. Our actions speak volumes and let our family know how important they are to us. Don't wait for a special performance or occasion or for the show to come to a halt. Give your loved ones the attention they deserve—yours!

—Jim Gaffney



The star was a particularly evocative symbol. Various interpreted as a figure of an angel or as a sign of the Holy Spirit, it pointed the magi (and so also the members of the church who meditate on the gospel) to Christ.

"Is it to be wondered at," asked John Chrysostom, "that a divine star ministers to the rising Sun of Righteousness? It halts above the head of the child as if saying, 'This is he.'"

— John Gunstone —



The gifts of God are multiplied, and we in our time experience all that the first believers did. For though the gospel account tells us only of the days when three men, untaught by prophetic preaching or the testimonies of the Law, came from the distant East in order to know God, yet we see the same thing happening now even more clearly and on a far larger scale in the enlightenment of all who are called.

• Leo the Great, Fifth century

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Fr. Tom Nestor has served as pastor at the Collaborative Parishes of Resurrection and Saint Paul in Hingham for the past ten years, and previously served at St. Eulalia's in Winchester for 17 years. A Harvard graduate and native of West Roxbury, Fr. Nestor is known for fostering a sense of community wherever he goes.

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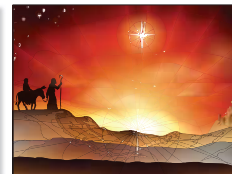
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