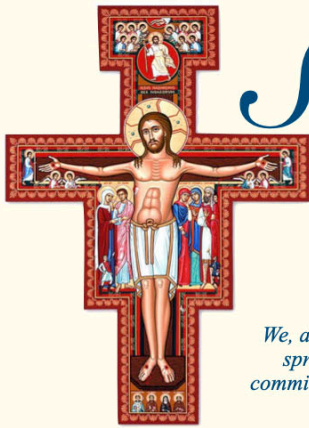


JANUARY 2ND, 2022 | THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD



St. Thomas Aquinas CATHOLIC CHURCH & STUDENT CENTER

The Diocese of Shreveport

MISSION STATEMENT

We, as members of the St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic Community of faith in the Diocese of Shreveport, affirm our mission to spread the Gospel of Jesus Christ to both the local and Catholic college community in the Ruston, Louisiana area. We commit ourselves to God and to this community through a spirit of welcoming and service in the spirit of St. Francis of Assisi.

SUNDAY MASSES

Saturday: 5:00PM Vigil
Sunday: 9:30AM
1:30PM (Spanish)
7:00PM (Sept. - May)

DAILY MASSES

Tuesday: 8:00AM
Wednesday: 9:00PM (Sept. - May)
Thursday: 8:00AM
Friday: 12:00PM

BAPTISM

Please call the Church Office to schedule

MARRIAGE

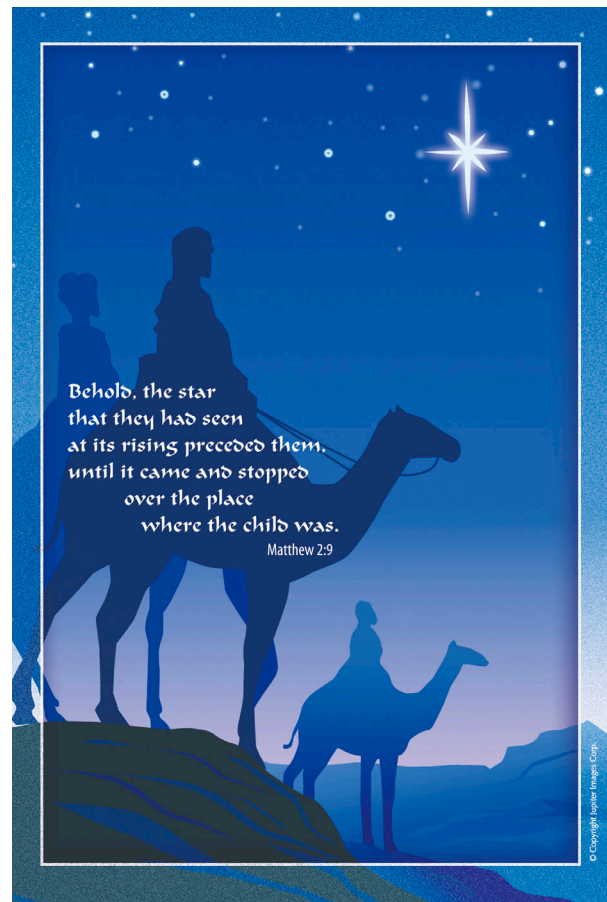
Please call Church Office SIX MONTHS
in advance to schedule

CONFESSIONS

Saturday: 4:00PM to 4:45PM

STAFF/TELEPHONE EXT.

Fr. Ed Shea, OFM (773) 892-4134 *Pastor*
Br. Mike Ward, OFM (318) 255-0793 *Campus Minister*
Deacon John Serio
Deacon Robert Ransom
Marcie Tucker (318) 255-2870 *Business Manager*
Elise Reis (318) 310-4009 *Religious Education Director*
Martin Aviles (318) 265-2992 *Youth Coordinator*
John Denny *President of Pastoral Council*
Thurston Allen *Chairman of Finance Council*
St. Vincent de Paul Society (255-8090)



NEW PARISHIONERS

“May the Church be a place of God’s mercy and hope, where all feel welcomed, loved, forgiven and encouraged to live according to the good life of the Gospel. And to make others feel welcomed, loved, forgiven and encouraged, the Church must be with doors wide open so that all may enter. And we must go out through these doors and proclaim the Gospel.” - Pope Francis

Please contact the office to register your membership if you are new in our community.

PARISHIONERS BIRTHDAYS

| | |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| <u>January 1st</u> | Wayne Skipper Michael Langiulli Dolly Garcia |
| <u>January 2nd</u> | Carmen Trevison Ethan Moreno |
| <u>January 3rd</u> | Atilano Garcia Martinez Stephanie Martinez |
| <u>January 4th</u> | Oscar Hannibal |
| <u>January 5th</u> | Ramona Bishop |
| <u>January 7th</u> | Josie Bishop |
| <u>January 8th</u> | Callum Conroy |
| <u>January 10th</u> | Yanney Hernandez |
| <u>January 11th</u> | Olivia Roger |
| <u>January 12th</u> | David Broussard Melissa Jackson Caitlin Corcia Harry Lopez |
| <u>January 14th</u> | Brennan Jackson Marcie Tucker |
| <u>January 15^h</u> | Sandy Freeman |
| <u>January 16th</u> | Juana Maria Leon Ella Viator |
| <u>January 17th</u> | Paul Kabbes Jesus Gonzalez Jerry Berg II |
| <u>January 18th</u> | Linda Oakley |
| <u>January 21st</u> | Rose Kitishian John Adams Jose Maria Garcia |
| <u>January 22nd</u> | Benjamin Denny Hayden Frost |
| <u>January 24th</u> | Cindy Bimle |
| <u>January 26th</u> | Ryan Corcia |
| <u>January 27th</u> | Riley Oakley |
| <u>January 28th</u> | William Slucher Zane Morris |
| <u>January 31st</u> | Pedro Derosa |

If I've missed your birthday, please email me at

starbulletin@suddenlinkmail.com so that I can add you to the master list.

THE CALENDAR AT A GLANCE**Sunday, January 2nd**

9:30AM - Sunday Mass
1:30PM - Misa en Español
7:00PM - Sunday Mass

Monday, January 3rd

9:00AM - 3:00PM - Church Office CLOSED
5:30PM - Chaplet of Divine Mercy

Tuesday, January 4th

8:00AM - Daily Mass
9:00AM - 3:00PM - Church Office CLOSED

Wednesday, January 5th

9:00AM - 3:00PM - Church Office Open
6:00 PM - 8:00 PM - STAY
9:00PM - Daily Mass

Thursday, January 6th

8:00AM - Daily Mass
9:00AM - 3:00PM - Church Office Open

Friday, January 7th

9:00AM - 3:00PM - Church Office Open
12:00PM - Daily Mass

Saturday, January 8th

9:30AM - Mass
5:00 PM - No Mass



If you would like to donate flowers in the church, please sign up at the bulletin board in the church vestibule. Please call Carol Mercier at **(318)254-8826** for more information.

Ministry Schedule

January 1st, 2022

Lector: Pam Allen

Altar Servers: Cedric, Kevin & Peter Serio

Eucharistic Ministers:

January 2nd, 2022

Lector: Bre Ausbon & Bruce Hampton

Altar Servers: Josie & Ramona Bishop, Bailey Reger

Eucharistic Ministers:

January 8th, 2022

Lector: Dolly Hurtig & Samantha Groce

Altar Servers: Mac, Keeva & Doc Conroy

Eucharistic Ministers:

January 9th, 2022

Lector: Marina & Carmen Bishop

Altar Servers: Brad Denny, Ava & Olivia Good

Eucharistic Ministers:

ST. THOMAS' PRAYER LIST

Please contact the parish office to have names added to our prayer list.

| | |
|-------------------|---------------------|
| Ramona Adams | Cynthia Murry |
| Miriam Bishop | Katherine Ned |
| Charles Bourgeois | Don Olivier |
| Abby Bray | Pearline Robey |
| Frankie Career | Lometa Rorie |
| Tony Clark | Mary Russo |
| Judy Darcey | Gloria Saldana |
| Jill Denys | Laura Leigh Saleese |
| Layten Davis | Ginger Schanks |
| Adrien "Butch" | Laura Schneider |
| Doiron | Jo Mary Smith |
| Sean Dwyer | Holly Hollis Star |
| June Finnorn | Dianne Stuckey |
| Emmely Gay | Marguerite Swannon |
| Bernice Harrison | Willie Tannerhill |
| Magnolia Johnson | Joanne Thompson |
| Jeffery Judice | Robin Thrasher |
| Chris Letendre | Toni Troiano |
| Mary Manuel | Jamie Tucker |
| Ken Martinez | Kathleen "Kathy" |
| Tobie McKown | Walter |
| J. C. Meshell | Donna Venters |
| Rueben Moreno | Stephen Webre |
| Kelly Morgan | Janice Williams |

Mass Intentions

You may have Masses offered for your intentions, or for the intentions of your loved ones, both living and deceased. Please call the parish office for more information and available dates.

Youth Small Group

If you are a high school student interested in a small group, please contact MarinaBishop via email at bishopmg@gmail.com for more information. The youth small group meets on Sunday evenings at 6:00 pm.

STEWARDSHIP SUMMARY

Weekend of December 11/ December 12

| | |
|---------------------------|-----------|
| General Sunday Collection | \$ 12,067 |
| Catholic Life Center | \$ 1,680 |

Weekend of December 18/ December 19

| | |
|---------------------------|----------|
| General Sunday Collection | \$ 4,669 |
|---------------------------|----------|

Thank you for continued and generous support!

ADVERTISE IN THE BULLETIN

If you're enjoying the new bulletin, but want to see more, advertise for your company in the back. The more advertisements we have, the more space they will give us at no charge.



BEING CATHOLIC

at Louisiana Tech University



Selected as one of the "Top 50 Catholic Campus Ministry Programs" in the United States.

SERVICE

The "theme" for the 20-21 school year for ACTS is "Service". It is the fifth tenet of our mission statement. The scripture guidance is 1Peter 4:10.

HAPPY NEW YEAR



ECCLESIASTES 3:11

EPIPHANY



Epiphany is observed on **January 6** by Roman Catholics, Lutherans, Anglicans, and Christians of other Western traditions. Eastern traditions that follow the Julian calendar rather than the Gregorian calendar celebrate Epiphany on January 19, since their Christmas Eve falls on January 6.

IT'S STILL CHRISTMAS

The liturgical season of Christmas begins with the vigil Masses on Christmas Eve and concludes on the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord. During this season, we celebrate the birth of Christ into our world and into our hearts and reflect on the gift of



WINTER RETREATS



This coming weekend our young people will be on retreat. The men on one and women on another. Please pray for them. Thank you!

This is the second retreat of the year. It is a "warm-up" for our Spring Retreat in March.

NO 7 PM MASS 12/26/21 & 1/2/22

ACTS HISTORY



After ACTS members decided on a motto to go with their mission statement, they made a decision to concretize a vision for the organization. It was decided that a "natural" flow from the mission statement and motto would be the phrase "Being Catholic at Louisiana Tech" and/or "Be Catholic at Tech". With a mission, motto and vision firmly in place ACTS has become a strong Catholic presence at Tech.

ACTS ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION 3/26/21



ACTS became a university organization 25 years ago and this decision has changed the face of the campus ministry here at St. Thomas ever since. To celebrate this momentous act there will be an all day celebration on Saturday, March 26, 2022, concluding with Mass and a banquet. If you would like to be part of the planning process or if you have some ideas you would like to share, call 318-251-0793. Thanks.

ACTS RUNS FOR ST. JUDE

ACTS alumni made a good showing at the St. Jude Marathon in Memphis, 12/4/21. Running for the cause were Beth & Roy Messina '18, Josh Jacobs '18, Courtney Smith '18, Grant Reddoch '17, Max Slezak '19, and Shelly McKay, wife of Chris McKay '16.



ACTS ALUMNA IN THE NEWS



Erin Geohagan '20 was recently featured in an article published by Arkansas-Catholic.org. Erin shared her thoughts about her devotion to St. Thomas Aquinas. Check out the 10/28/21 article at Arkansas-catholic.org.

GRUPO DE JOVENES DE SANTO TOMAS DE
AQUINO (STAY)

ST. THOMAS AQUINAS YOUTH (STAY)

Faith | Fellowship | Fun | Food

WEDNESDAYS

6:30-7 PM MIDDLE SCHOOL

7-8 PM HIGH SCHOOL

Questions: Martin Aviles: 318-265-2992 | stay1941@gmail.com

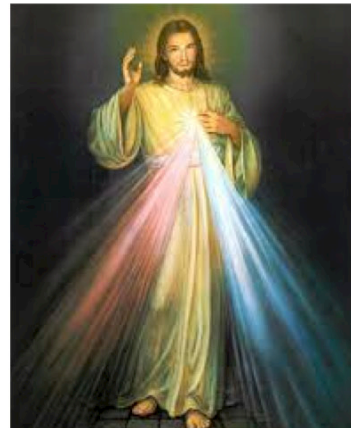
Church Directory Digital Photos

If you were not able to have a photo made for the church directory, please email a digital photo of your family to Elise Reis at stthomaspsr430@gmail.com. These photos will be submitted for publishing in the directory. Thank you!

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

January 2: Epiphany

Today we celebrate the feast of the Epiphany, where the Magi find the newborn king and offer him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. In the spirit of the Magi, please put your gift in the St. Vincent de Paul Poor Box so that comfort and peace can once again be given to a newborn child.



The Devotion to the Divine Mercy is based on the private revelations of Jesus to Polish Saint Faustina in the 1930's. It recognizes God as infinite mercy and involves a decision to accept God's mercy with thanksgiving, to trust in Him, and to be merciful as He is merciful. One element of the devotion is the Divine Mercy Chaplet, a form of prayer using Rosary beads. The Recitation of the Chaplet is prayed each Monday evening from 5:30 to 6:00 PM in the small chapel. All are welcome!

January 2, 2022

The Epiphany of the Lord

JOURNEY TOWARD GOD

In our celebration of the Epiphany, two interwoven themes are present in the readings today. God is beginning something new, and God gathers all of humanity to participate. For Isaiah, God's bright light, manifested in the people of Israel, attracts and summons people from many nations to Jerusalem. In the letter to the Ephesians, God's grace makes the Gentiles co-heirs and co-partners in the gospel. Matthew tells the story of the fulfillment of God's promises to Israel through the birth of Jesus, and simultaneously leading foreigners to share in these same promises. With the birth of Jesus, God chose a particular people, in a particular time and place, to enter most directly into the human story. Today's readings teach that God did this in order to gather all people, all cultures, into unity with God. Like the magi, we are drawn into a journey toward God, becoming co-partners in God's work.

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — Rise up in splendor, Jerusalem! The Lord shines upon you and the glory of the Lord appears over you (Isaiah 60:1-6).

Psalms — Lord, every nation on earth will adore you (Psalm 72).

Second Reading — The mystery has been made known that the Gentiles are coheirs, copartners in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel (Ephesians 3:2-3a, 5-6).

Gospel — Magi from the east arrived, saying, "Where is the newborn king of the Jews?" (Matthew 2:1-12).

PRAYER OF THE WEEK

The Epiphany of the Lord

At the Mass during the Day

O God, who on this day
revealed your Only Begotten Son to the nations
by the guidance of a star,
grant in your mercy
that we, who know you already by faith,
may be brought to behold the beauty of your sublime
glory.

Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
God, for ever and ever.

The Epiphany of the Lord

January 2, 2022

Rise up in splendor, Jerusalem!

Your light has come,
the glory of the Lord shines upon you.
— *Isaiah 60:1*

2 de enero de 2022

La Epifanía del Señor

CAMINO HACIA DIOS

En nuestra celebración de la Epifanía, dos temas entrelazados están presentes en las lecturas de hoy. Dios está comenzando algo nuevo, y Dios reúne a toda la humanidad a participar. Para Isaías, la luz brillante de Dios, manifestada en el pueblo de Israel, atrae y convoca a personas de muchas naciones a Jerusalén. En la carta a los efesios, la gracia de Dios hace a los gentiles coherederos y en el Evangelio de Mateo los hace coparticipes. Mateo cuenta la historia del cumplimiento de las promesas de Dios a Israel por medio del nacimiento de Jesús, y simultáneamente guiando a los extranjeros a compartir esas mismas promesas. Con el nacimiento de Jesús, Dios eligió a un pueblo determinado, en un tiempo y lugares específicos, para entrar directamente en la historia de la humanidad. Las lecturas de hoy enseñan que Dios lo hizo para reunir a todos los pueblos, a todas las culturas, en la unidad con Dios. Al igual que los magos, estamos siendo llevados a un viaje hacia Dios, convirtiéndonos en coparticipes de la obra de Dios.

LECTURAS DE HOY

Primera lectura — ¡Levántate y brilla, Jerusalén! La gloria del Señor amaneció sobre ti (Isaías 60:1-6).

Salmo — Se postrarán ante ti, Señor, todos los pueblos de la tierra (Salmo 72 [71]).

Segunda lectura — El misterio de que los gentiles son coherederos, socios en la promesa en Jesucristo, se ha dado a conocer a los hombres (Efesios 3:2-3a, 5-6).

Evangelio — Vinieron unos Magos de Oriente preguntando: "¿Dónde está el rey de los judíos que ha nacido?" (Mateo 2:1-12).

ORACIÓN DE LA SEMANA

La Epifanía del Señor

Misa del día

Señor Dios, que en este día
manifestaste a tu Unigénito a las naciones,
guiándolas por la estrella,
concede a los que ya te conocemos por la fe,
que lleguemos a contemplar la hermosura de
tu excelsa gloria.

Por nuestro Señor Jesucristo, tu Hijo,
que vive y reina contigo en la unidad del Espíritu Santo
y es Dios por los siglos de los siglos.

La Epifanía del Señor

2 de enero de 2022

Levántate y resplandece, Jerusalén,
porque ha llegado tu luz
y la gloria del Señor alborea sobre ti.
— *Isaías 60:1*

Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God -- January 1, 2022

“God has sent the Spirit of His Son into our hearts.” If the Spirit of Jesus is prompting you to love and serve Him as a priest, deacon or in the consecrated life, contact the Vocation Office at 318-868-4441 or email: FatherMangum@yahoo.com.

The Epiphany -- January 2, 2022

“Opening their treasure chests, they offered Him gifts.” Are you beginning to see your life as a gift to be given to the Lord as a priest, deacon, religious sister or brother? Contact the Vocation Office at 318-868-4441 or email: FatherMangum@yahoo.com.

Solemnidad de María, Madre de Dios - 1 de Enero de 2022

"Dios ha enviado el Espíritu de su Hijo a nuestros corazones." Si el Espíritu de Jesús lo impulsa a amarlo y servirlo como sacerdote, diácono o en la vida consagrada, comuníquese con la Oficina de Vocaciones al (318) 868-4441 o envíe un correo electrónico a: FatherMangum@yahoo.com.

Epifanía - 2 de Enero de 2022

“Abriendo sus cofres del tesoro, le ofrecieron regalos.” ¿Empieza a ver su vida como un regalo que se le debe dar al Señor como sacerdote, diácono, religioso o hermano? Comuníquese con la Oficina de Vocaciones al (318) 868-4441 o envíe un correo electrónico a: FatherMangum@yahoo.com.

PSR Christmas Break

December 19 – January 3 NO PSR (Christmas and New Year's Break)

How to bless your home with Epiphany chalk

The Epiphany blessing of chalk and homes is a centuries old tradition where priests would visit each home in their parish after the Feast of the Epiphany. Over time it became more difficult to accomplish such a feat as parishes became larger and larger and priests were stretched thin. For this reason it became an accepted tradition that a member of the household is able to lead this blessing in place of the priest.

The blessing has biblical roots, deeply tied to the Passover in the book of Exodus.

The Lord said to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt ... “take some of the blood [of the lamb], and put it on the two doorposts and the lintel of the houses in which they eat them. They shall eat the flesh that night, roasted; with unleavened bread and bitter herbs they shall eat it ... The blood shall be a sign for you, upon the houses where you are; and when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and no plague shall fall upon you to destroy you, when I smite the land of Egypt.”
(cf. Exodus 12:1-13)



The Blessing

Once you acquire the blessed chalk, either a priest or another member of the household can bless the home in the following manner (adapted from the *Roman Ritual*):

Upon entering the house [or at the front door]: Priest/Head of Household: Peace be to this house.

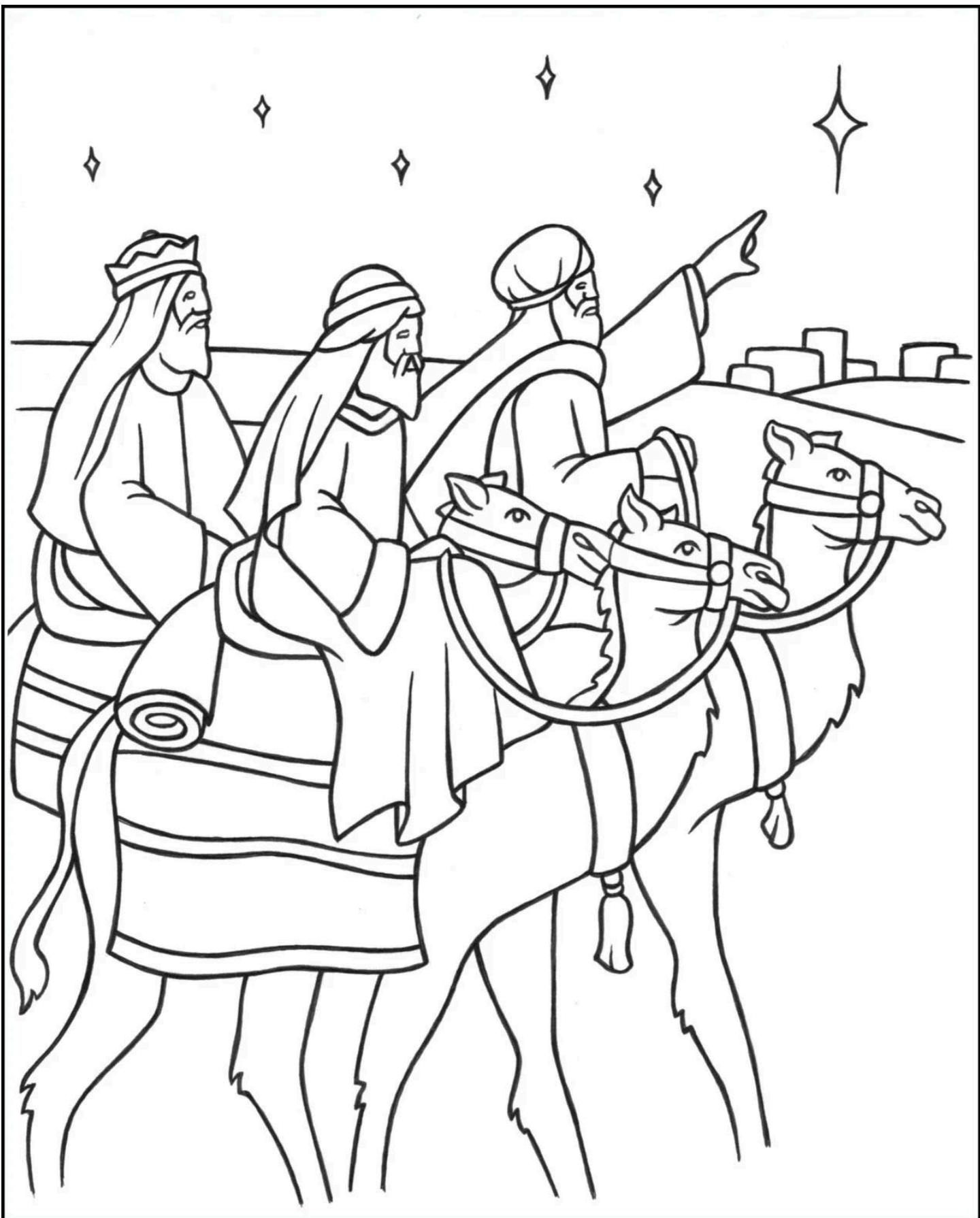
All: And to all who dwell herein.

Priest: From the east came the Magi to Bethlehem to adore the Lord; and opening their treasures they offered precious gifts: gold for the great King, incense for the true God, and myrrh in symbol of His burial. During the Magnificat, the room is sprinkled with holy water and incensed.

*All: My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,
my spirit rejoices in God my Savior for he has looked with favor on his lowly servant. From this day all generations will call me blessed:
the Almighty has done great things for me,
and holy is his Name.*

Full Article Link

<https://aleteia.org/2018/01/05/how-to-bless-your-home-with-epiphany-chalk/>



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200 for this week

MAIL TO:
813 CAREY AVENUE
RUSTON, LA 71270