

The Epiphany of the Lord

January 7, 2018

Suicide Survivor Support

A support group for adults who have lost a loved one to suicide meets every second Wednesday of each month, 6 to 7 pm. This is an opportunity to express yourself, find support, comfort, and resources along with others who have been affected by personal loss themselves. United Methodist, 101 North Street, Walton.

Suicide prevention crisis lifeline: 1.800.273.8255

Walton Food Bank

Please drop food at St. John or directly to United Presbyterian: saltines, canned fruit (applesauce, peaches, fruit cocktail); macaroni 'n cheese; peanut butter; cold & hot cereal; canned vegetables: corn, peas, green beans, pork 'n beans.

You may also put a check in the offertory basket or mail directly to 58 East Street, Walton. Thank you for your continued support and care.

St. John's volunteer month: March

Adoration

Start 2018 off right: rest and immerse awhile in the peace of our Lord.

St. Peter on Tuesdays and St. John on Thursdays

Offertory Envelopes

Please contact either office if you would like to have weekly offertory envelopes. To save on Church expenses, call if you no longer use them.



Marriage Moments _____ Susan Vogt

Ways to Turn Your Beloved Off No. 7: Let Lists Rule Your Life. It's the season of New Year's Resolutions. This can be good, but it can also turn your focus away from your beloved to self-improvement. Today, make ONE specific Resolution to deepen your love.

Pastoral Care

In Pastoral Care how can these tears be a source of healing for those we minister to? The January 27 "Christ Reveals Himself in Tears" will explore how to see Christ through the lens of tears, and how they can be a source of healing.

The session will be video-conferenced to St. Mary's in Oneonta 9 am to noon on Saturday, January 27 (check-in: 8:30 am). Register: online at [portal.rcda.org:81/Pastoral Care Registration](http://portal.rcda.org:81/Pastoral%20Care%20Registration); call: 518.641.6818.

Must register by this Friday.

Arise, shine, for the Light of the World has come!

Darkness covers the earth and its people,

but the radiance of God's Light

burns away its shadows,

illuminates the smallest corner,

and heralds in the start

of a new dawn,

where hearts no longer fear,

souls might be set free,

and sister shall follow brother,

nation shall follow nation,

and kings and princes bow down in awe

before the one who comes to reign.

Arise, shine, for the Light of the World has come!

Alleluia!

~ Faith and Worship

Retreat

Dominican Retreat Conference Center 518.393.4169

January 26-28, February 2-4, April 6-8:

Women's Retreats ~ " ... and after these ... a tiny whispering sound." Take 44 hours away from your daily routine for rest, quiet, learning and reflection, inner healing, growth, prayer, and sharing.

Directors: January-- Sr. Kay Kanick, RSM; February-- Sr. Carol Gaeke, OP; April-- Sr. Maureen Murphy, OP.

Cost: \$205 (65+ \$190)

Family Perspective _____ Bud Ozar

The Magi were led to Jesus by a star. Who are the stars your children follow? Do not let it be the tabloid stars. Resolve in this new year to be guiding star in the life of your children.

Epiphany Family Activities

Choose one of the following activities as a way to further reflect on this Sunday readings:

- Place the Magi into the crèche. Identify a gift you have to bring the Newborn King. Talk about the gift with family members and invite them to reflect on the gifts they wish to bring.
- Take a winter-night walk on a clear crisp evening. Find the North Star or any constellations you recognize. If you have any small children with you, remind them that the Wise Men followed the brightest star in the sky in order to find Baby Jesus. Help them find the brightest star in the night sky. Enjoy this facet of God's world.
- In an effort to follow the light of Christ, it sometimes helps to remove some of the clutter in our lives. Choose an evening or Saturday morning in which radio, television and computer are all turned off and your home becomes quiet. If you have children, explain to them the need to seek God in silence.
- The three kings gave gifts to Jesus, and we just received Christmas gifts. Go through your books and toys. Make a special Epiphany box for the poor and donate the box to the St. Vincent de Paul Society or another place in your community that helps those in need.

Our Sunday Visitor

The Wise Men

The wise men. Whether they were really kings or just local eastern chieftains or learned astronomers is not the least important. Their hearts were filled with wisdom and the aspirations of their race, and that is what really concerns us. Only men of the highest type could have undertaken such a journey for such a purpose. They brought all the longing of their people with them to the place of the encounter for its fulfillment.

Through the desert, by way of royal palaces, the libraries of the learned, and the chambers of the priests - - and they ended their journey at last at a manger in a poor stable. They subordinate their lives to the end in view, and they willingly journey to the ends of the earth in quest of knowledge, following a star, a sign, obeying an inner voice that would never have made itself heard but for their hunger and the intense alertness hunger produces. They believed in that voice more implicitly than they believed in the tangible realities of the mortal existence. The compelling earnestness of their quest, the unshakable persistence of their search, the royal grandeur of their dedication - these are their secrets.

And it is their message for us and their judgment of us. Why do so few ever see the star? Only because so few are looking for it What are we looking for anyway? And where will we find a genuine yearning so strong that neither fatigue nor distance, nor fear of the unknown, nor loneliness, nor ridicule will deter us? Only such a passionate desire can prompt the persistence which is content to knell even when the ultimate goal turns out to be a simple stable. Those capable of such dedication penetrate to the heart of things and understand why that should be the outcome. A thousand secret longings of the spirit and the heart have paved the way for faith and sanctified them for the act of adoration. - Fr. Alfred Delp