



# St. Margaret of Cortona Parish

31 Chamberlain Ave Little Ferry, NJ 07643

Phone: (201) 641-2988 Fax: (201) 322-0172

---

*Serving the Catholic Communities of Little Ferry and Moonachie  
In Ministry, Education and Service -- Since August 24, 1912*

January 8, 2023



**Reverend Kevin E. Carter,**  
*Pastor*

**Reverend Michael Otuwurunne,**  
*In Residence*

**Sister Dorothy A. Donovan, S.S.J.,**  
*Pastoral Associate*

**Eileen M. Ballone,**  
*Director of Music*

**Dina R. Tarabocchia,**  
*Parish Secretary*

## **MASS SCHEDULE:**

**Saturday Vigil:** 5:30 p.m.

**Sunday:** 8:00 a.m., 10:00 a.m., and 12:00 noon

**Weekdays: Monday to Friday:** 12:00 p.m.

**CONFESSIONS:** Saturdays at 1:00 p.m.

## **PARISH WEBSITE:**

<http://www.stmargaretfnj.org/>

**PARISH E-MAIL:** smcortona1912@aol.com

### **Parish Center Office**

Phone: 201-641-2988 Fax: 201-322-0172

Monday to Thursday

### **Rectory**

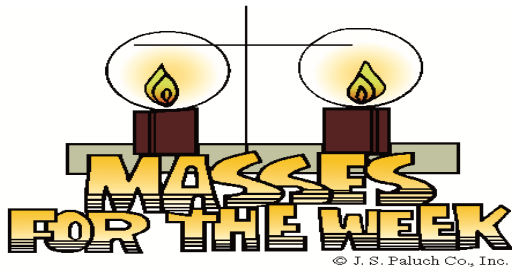
201-641-2988

By appointment only

### **Religious Education**

201-641-2989

Sunday to Thursday



**SATURDAY, January 7**

**5:30 PM Deceased Members of Baker/  
Van Saders Family**

**SUNDAY, January 8, 2023**

**The Epiphany of the Lord**

**8:00 AM Maureen Gregston  
10:00 AM Patrick Pansini  
12:00 PM Sergio Passaro  
(Birthday)**

**MONDAY, January 9**

**12:00 PM Mezich Family**

**TUESDAY, January 10**

**12:00 PM Blake Katkowski**

**WEDNESDAY, January 11**

**12:00 PM Patrick Pansini**

**THURSDAY, January 12**

**12:00 PM Johanna Davis**

**FRIDAY, January 13**

**12:00 PM Barry Balala**

**SATURDAY, January 14**

**5:30 PM Nicolo Mattessich**

**SUNDAY, January 15, 2023**

**Second Sunday of the Church Year**

**8:00 AM Dennis Stabile  
10:00 AM Joseph Slavic Kornas  
12:00 PM Bruno Morin**



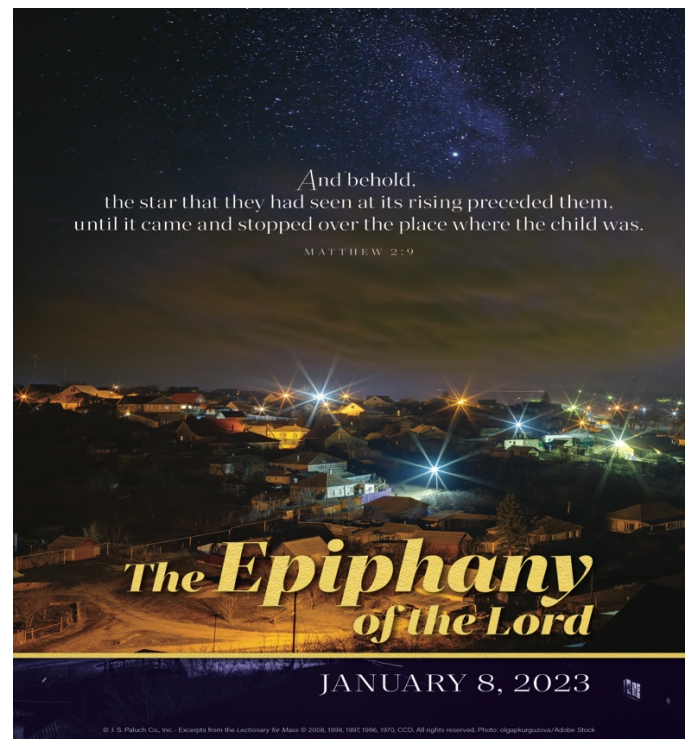
**Memorials  
Bread & Wine  
People of Our Parish Family  
Sanctuary Candle  
Anna Hightower &  
Katherine Foy**

**TRUE HAPPINESS**

Abandon yourself utterly for the love of God,  
and in this way you will become truly happy.  
—Blessed Henry Suso

**SELFLESSNESS REWARDED**

Help another's boat across, and lo! thine own  
has reached the shore.  
—Old Hindu proverb





© J. S. Paluch Co., Inc.

January 8, 2023 The Epiphany of the Lord

### ALL SHARE IN THE PROMISE

Picture a nativity scene in your mind's eye. The scene likely includes figures arriving on camels, some elaborately dressed, with jeweled boxes containing precious gifts. These magi arrived from distant lands to pay homage to the Christ Child. We know little about the magi, but we do know that these visitors were not Jews. They represent people of all nations who will be drawn to the Lord. "Nations shall walk by your light, and kings by your shining radiance." The Good News of Jesus cannot be limited to one people; all share in the promise of God's mercy through our Lord Jesus Christ.



**They opened their treasures and offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. — Matthew 2:11b**

### 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).

Psalm — All the nations will worship you, Lord (Psalm 72).

Second Reading — The Gentiles are coheirs, copartners in the promise in Christ Jesus (Ephesians 3:2-3a, 5-6).

Gospel — Magi from the east arrive looking for the newborn king of the Jews (Matthew 2:1-12).

### SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday: The Epiphany of the Lord

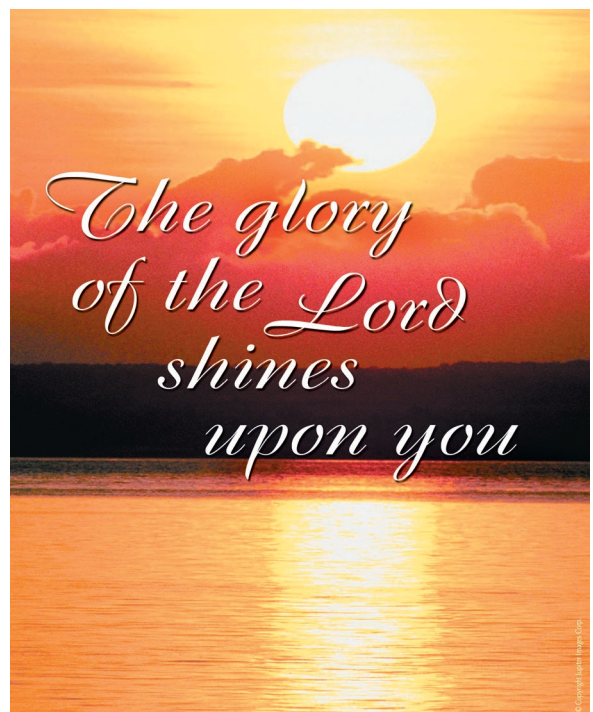
Monday: The Baptism of the Lord

Tuesday: First Week in Ordinary Time begins

Friday: St. Hilary

Saturday: Blessed Virgin Mary;

Julian Calendar New Year





© J. S. Paluch Co., Inc.

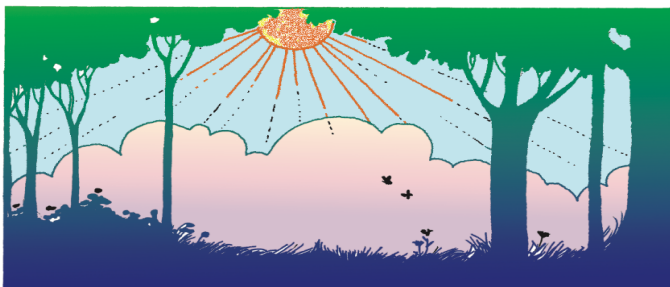
**We lift up to the Lord in our prayers and good works for: the sick, frail and the homebound.**

Catherine Mary Moncello  
 Michel Porta  
 Camilla Leventhal  
 Nicole Grano  
 Johanna Hanush  
 Lena Vitale.  
 John Thomas Lazur Dersch  
 Robert Zienkiewicz  
 Florence Navarro  
 Paula Kelnhofer  
 Barbara Demczynszyn  
 Caroline Ruppert Hubertz  
 Tom Greaux  
 John Ratynski  
 Robert & Carolyn Salzman  
 Jo Anna Lockie  
 Dominick Di Buono  
 David I. Ramos  
 Charlie Di Buono

Anthony Deli  
 Valerie Vernay  
 Julian Morgan  
 Baby Amato Jordan  
 Philip Dittmar  
 Grace Ehler  
 Julio Sanchez  
 Arline Hrbek  
 Kevin Michael Francis  
 Jacqueline Palmadessa  
 Michael Toscano  
 Ellie Lombardelli  
 Brandon Kingsley  
 Tony Tarabocchia  
 Victor Ruggiero  
 James Moran  
 Olivia La Forte King  
 Emily Menzella



Victims of terrorism and war; genocide in Syria and the Holy Land, worldwide human trafficking, racism and hatred, domestic abuse and street violence, severe weather conditions and for all those victims who suffered and lost their loved ones, under the COVID-19 pandemic.



© J. S. Paluch Co., Inc.



© J. S. Paluch Co., Inc.



© J. S. Paluch Co., Inc.

*If there is any adult (18+yrs.) who wishes to complete their initiation into the Catholic Church by receiving Confirmation and/or Communion and Confirmation, please call Sister Dorothy at 201-641-2989.*

# Thank You

© J. S. Paluch Co., Inc.

As church, we are called to have a “preferential option for the poor.” You certainly did just that through your generous Christmas gifts to needy families in our area and beyond. I thank you in their name and ask God to bless you in your particular need with the same generosity with which you have blessed others. You have always been most generous to this appeal, and I am sooo grateful to you! God’s blessing on you and on those you love!

## OUR FASCINATING FAITH Epiphany House Blessing

If you wish, you can celebrate Epiphany at home with a blessing using the initials of the magi's traditional names (Casper, Melchior, Balthasar), four crosses, and the new year's numerals.

**Materials:** a piece of chalk and a small container of holy water. Gather with family members, friends, and perhaps some neighbors at the front door.

**Leader:** In the (+) name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

We sign this doorway with four crosses and the numerals of the new year.

[20 + C + M + B + 23]

**Let us pray:** May Christ bless this house!

**ALL:** Amen!

Each room of the house is sprinkled with holy water.

**Living room:**

Where two or three are gathered in your name, Lord, you are present. Bless this room, O Lord.

**ALL:** Amen!

**Kitchen:**

Give us this day our daily bread.

Bless this room, O Lord.

**ALL:** Amen!

**Dining room:**

Prepare us for the heavenly banquet.

Bless this room, O Lord.

**ALL:** Amen!

**Bedrooms:**

Stay with us Lord, when night has come.

Bless this room, O Lord.

**ALL:** Amen!

**Bathroom:**

Cleanse us from all sin. Bless this room, O Lord.

**ALL:** Amen!

All return to the front door to pray together.

**Leader:** Let us pray as Jesus taught us:

Our Father . . .

The leader sprinkles all present with holy water.

Bless this household through all days to come, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, forever and ever.

**ALL:** Amen!

## CATHOLIC PRAYER CORNER

*Prayer at the Manger:*

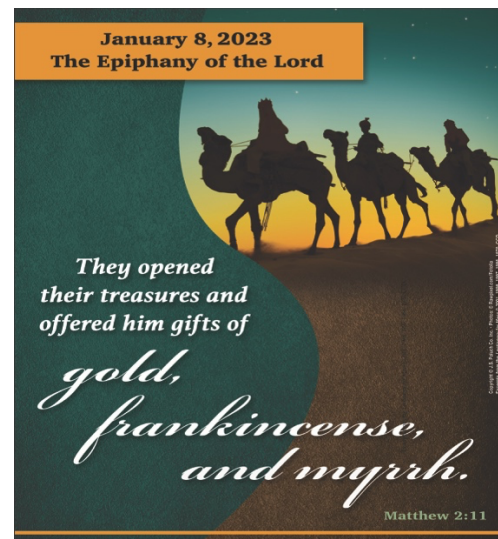
*With the Magi*

*Let your light shine on us, O God,  
as the star showed the way  
to those who searched for Christ.*

*Fill us with wisdom;  
help us walk in your ways,  
now and forever. Amen.*



© J. S. Paluch Co., Inc.



### The Epiphany of the Lord

Epiphany is a day when popular customs mostly overshadow scriptural accuracy. Matthew's Gospel never refers to kings coming to see Christ, nor to their number (only the gifts are enumerated), nor to their names. Matthew tells us only that some "magi" came with gold, frankincense, and myrrh. Magos referred to members of the Persian priestly class; later it had the connotation of magicians and astrologers. Matthew's magi report that they have seen a star rising; its light was visible to them far beyond the boundaries of Israel, an early and significant symbol for Jesus, the Light of the World. At the end of Matthew's Gospel (chapter 28), the followers of Jesus worship him, an act foretold in the actions of the Magi today. The eleven are told to make disciples of "all nations," nations symbolized by the Magi. Today we hear our own mission: to worship Jesus Christ, and to spread his Good News everywhere, every day.

### STAR OF WONDER

In our day-to-day lives, we can experience epiphanies: new perceptions, unexpected insights, sudden changes in direction. In the liturgical year, Epiphany celebrates the appearance of a star in the heavens, a remarkable star followed by the Magi to Jesus, Mary and Joseph. They are not so different, our daily epiphanies and the Epiphany celebrated today. The arrival of the Magi certainly changed Mary and Joseph's perceptions of the world, the same way a helpless, tiny baby likely altered the Magi's insights as to what a star in the heavens would reveal.

The story of the Magi—and the story of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph—is filled with unexpected changes in direction, as God's plan continues to vary when it encounters people who cooperate with it, and others who attempt to thwart it. A deep and long reflection on this day we call Epiphany will uncover numerous epiphanies.

### STAR OF LOVE

Like all of the Christmas season, Epiphany celebrates God's eternal and infinite love. In a special way, this day shows how God's love is truly all-inclusive. The magi were not Jews, not part of the Chosen People who expected that the Messiah was coming to save only them. Early on in his Gospel, Matthew tells us that God's love will not be limited by our human presumptions or boundaries. We still struggle with the fact that God is constantly epiphan-izing us to grow beyond the limits of our experience or expectations, to move beyond the boundaries of the world around us. Let us pray that we might be given epiphanies to help us find grace where we didn't believe it existed, to aid us in understanding that God's love is most often shown by who is included, not who is excluded. May we open our eyes and hearts to know that the Christ-light shines everywhere.



**POPE EMERITUS BENEDICT XVI**  
 APRIL 16, 1927 – DECEMBER 31, 2022

IN MEMORIAM

In Memoriam

**POPE EMERITUS BENEDICT XVI**

April 16, 1927 – December 31, 2022

Papacy:

April 19, 2005 – February 28, 2013

Joseph Alois Ratzinger was born in Markt am Inn, Bavaria, on April 16, 1927—Holy Saturday—and baptized that same day—the first person baptized in the new Easter water. It was a sign of blessing, he wrote in a memoir, that his life from the beginning was thus immersed in the Easter mystery. He entered the minor seminary in 1939 at the age of twelve, but his studies were interrupted by World War II, when the seminary was closed and Joseph, along with most of his class, was drafted into the army at the age of sixteen.

After the war he resumed his education in philosophy and theology, and together with his brother, Georg, was ordained a priest in 1951. During the course of a twenty-year career as a professor of dogma and theology at several German universities, he earned a reputation as a gifted lecturer and learned scholar, and was present as a *peritus*, or theological advisor, at all four sessions of the Second Vatican Council.

He was ordained an archbishop in May of 1977 and elevated to the College of Cardinals a month later. He settled in Rome in 1981 and went on to become one of the most influential men in the Roman curia. Of the many offices he held, he was best known as the Prefect of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, an authoritative advisor on doctrinal issues during his predecessor's pontificate. When he was elected the 265th successor of Peter in 2005 at the age of seventy-eight, he became the first German pope since Victor II in the eleventh century. A central theme of his papacy was the staunch defense of core Christian values against what he saw as moral decline across much of Europe. At the same time, he sought to improve relations with other religions, trying to determine if a "cultural synthesis" was possible without losing the identity of the faith while engaged in discourse with the Lutheran World Federation, Judaism, Islam, the Anglican Communion, and Christian Orthodox Churches. He also spoke out against human rights abuses and ongoing political conflicts and warfare, and advocated better protection of the environment. He called for a radical rethinking of the global economy, criticizing the growing divide between rich and poor, and pressed for a "true world political authority" to oversee the economy and work for the common good.

Ever true to his episcopal motto, "Fellow Worker in the Truth," Pope Benedict XVI's teaching and prolific writings always defended traditional Catholic doctrine and values.

On February 11, 2013, Pope Benedict XVI announced that on February 28, 2013, he would resign as supreme pontiff due to his advanced age and deteriorating health and that a conclave would be convened shortly thereafter to elect a new pope. He returned to Rome and remained there as Pope Emeritus after Jorge Bergoglio succeeded him as Bishop of Rome.

*Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon him.*

*Compliments of J.S. Paluch Company*

**ACCOUNTABILITY  
 WITH HEARTFELT  
 THANKS**



Mount Carmel Guild Behavioral Health System  
 Mount Carmel Guild Schools

Catholic Charities received **\$1,122** as a result of your generosity to our Donation Bin(s) at your parish from June 1, 2022 to November 30, 2022. These funds combined with monies from other parishes in a similar program throughout the Archdiocese enabled Catholic Charities to show the compassion of Christ through 79,566 mental health services provided to 3,768 people (FY 21/22). Thank you for being our partner and enabling us to bring Christ's love to the most vulnerable in our society.



Copyright © J.S. Paluch Co.

**CHURCH NAME AND ADDRESS**

St. Margaret of Cortona #911186  
31 Chamberlain Avenue  
Little Ferry, NJ 07643

**PHONE**

201-641-2988

**CONTACT PERSON**

Dina Tarabocchia

**SOFTWARE**

Microsoft Publisher® 2007

Adobe Acrobat 9.0®

Windows XP Professional®-SP3

**PRINTER**

HP® Laserjet 6P

**NUMBER OF PAGES SENT**

Cover + 4 text pages + this page = 6

**SUNDAY DATE OF PUBLICATION**

**January 8, 2023**

**TRANSMISSION TIME**

**Tuesday, 12 noon**

**SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS**

**200 copies**