

**Collections for January 1<sup>st</sup>: \$1209.00**

***Pick up your 2023 "My Offering" envelopes in the church vestibule***

The next "Family Movie Night" is scheduled for January 25<sup>th</sup> following Mass

Anyone interested in receiving an "End of Year Contribution Report" for tax purposes, please let the office know, either by email ([Stceciliakennett@gmail.com](mailto:Stceciliakennett@gmail.com)) or phone (573 388 1951).

#### **PSR Classes**

These classes are for anyone seeking the sacraments of First Communion or Confirmation. We have parent classes at the same time as the children's classes, which is 11:45am on Sundays.

#### **Youth Group**

Don't forget that the Youth Group meets every Wednesday evening after the 6:00 PM Mass for religious education and other activities.

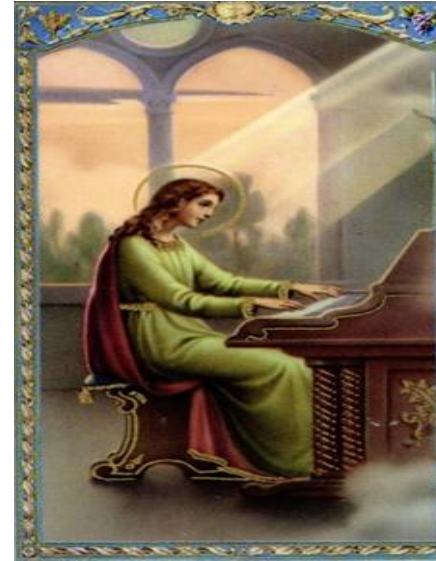
***There will be NO Adoration or Mass on Monday January 23rd***

Attention: Catholic Men, You are invited to the Southeast Missouri

**CATHOLIC MAN NIGHT**  
*Men Meeting Jesus*

Thursday, January 19, 6:30-9:00pm  
St. Francis Xavier, Sikeston, MO  
An evening of Adoration, Confession, &  
a Manly Meal with discussion to follow.  
To help plan for the food please RSVP to  
[SEMOCatholicManNight@gmail.com](mailto:SEMOCatholicManNight@gmail.com)

'SEMO Catholic Man Night' on Facebook Or text 573-275-5214



**January 8th, 2023  
Feast of the Epiphany**

**St. Cecilia Catholic Church**  
1226 College Avenue PO Box 306  
Kennett, MO 63857  
[www.stceciliakennett.com](http://www.stceciliakennett.com)

**Fr. David Baunach, Pastor**  
417-851-7136 [father@davidbaunach.com](mailto:father@davidbaunach.com)  
Luis Hernandez, Hispanic Ministry (417) 496-5622  
Joanie DeLisle, Bookkeeper/Secretary  
Vanessa Cowart, PSR Director (561) 351-1380  
Magda Cazares, Youth Group Director

#### **Fr. David's Parish Office Hours:**

Kennett: Monday and Wednesday 10-4, Portageville: Thursday and Friday 10-4  
Fr. David is available for the **Sacrament of Reconciliation** during Adoration or by appointment.

#### **Holy Mass Schedule**

Monday and Wednesday: Adoration at 5PM: Mass at 6PM  
Sunday Masses: 10:30AM Mass in English; 10:05AM Rosary;  
1PM Mass in Spanish

#### **Please pray for /Oramos para:**

+Lynette Anderson, +Pedro Orcio, The Melendez Family, James Hargett,  
+Sandy DeLisle, +Bill Anderson, Polly McAtee, Bob and Sharon Hines, Vera Gleuck,  
and Kathy Larsen. Special prayer for Bishop Rice, Fr. David, and our homebound.

#### **Mass Intentions**

January 8 +Lynette Anderson  
January 9 +Francisco Gurerra  
January 11 Health and Wellbeing of Abi and Baby  
January 15 +Bob Bradley



### ***The Epiphany signifies the visitation of the Biblical Magi to the Baby Jesus***

The word epiphany means, "manifestation." An epiphany is a moment when there is a special or profound revelation or insight. In our case, the Epiphany celebrates the moment when the wise men realized that Jesus Christ was the promised Messiah, the one who would take away the sins of the world. Now this revelation isn't bound to a specific moment in time. The Epiphany is an ongoing event. Today and every day, we are asked to recognize and acknowledge Jesus Christ as our Lord.

God promised the Savior to the world for thousands of years prior to His birth. His arrival is foretold in Genesis. Prophets also announced His coming. People developed expectations. Many expected the Savior to arrive as a conquering hero, a great king who would overthrow the Romans and elevate Israel to a state of glory greater than King David had done.

But the wait was long. The Messiah did not come in the time of Moses, King David, or Elijah. Nor did the Messiah come during the Babylonian Captivity, or when Alexander appeared with his armies. Only when Israel was well into the Roman occupation and under the heel of King Herod, did the Messiah finally come. Late at night, a young mother gave birth under the most humble circumstances. But this child was unlike any ever born, for this child was the promised Son of God.

Joseph and Mary knew the truth, which had been revealed to them. They already had their epiphany. But the rest of the world was ignorant of the profound development happening in the countryside of an ancient village in Israel.

According to the Scriptures, three men, variously referred to as "the wise men," or as "kings" or even "astrologers," guided by a sign in the heavens, came to the place where the infant Jesus slept. They came to pay homage to a baby. Remarkably, these men were pagan. They were not followers of God, yet. And when they arrived, they realized that this baby was more than an earthly king. This baby was the promised Savior of the World. They paid Him due homage with gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. The celebration of Epiphany commemorates the moment when these three men, literal outsiders apart from the Jewish people, recognized that Jesus was Lord.

There is still more to Epiphany than this. In the Bible, there are several notable epiphanies that occur during the life of Christ. Although they are not the focus on the celebrations on the Feast of the Epiphany, they are important.

A second event we could classify as an epiphany is our Lord's baptism in the Jordan River. At that time, the Holy Spirit descended, and the voice of God was heard saying, "This is my Son, whom I love. With Him I am well pleased." (Matthew 3:16) This event qualifies as an epiphany because it was revealed to all present that Jesus was the Lord, the Messiah promised by God.

The third event is at the wedding feast at Cana, where Jesus worked his first sign in public, turning water into wine. (John 2:7-11) The guests remarked at the quality of the wine, but they were oblivious to the miracle. They did not recognize the Messiah in their very presence. However, the servants did. Those who were performing the labor as directed by our Lord, saw clearly what was happening.

And the fourth we will mention here is when Jesus asked of his Disciples, "Who do you say that I am?" (Matthew 16:15) It was Peter who had the epiphany this time, recognizing Jesus as the Son of God.

As Christians, we are literal, personal participants in the epiphany. It is important to understand this. Each day we are asked the question, "Who do you say I am?" Each day, we are invited to pay homage to Jesus, recognizing Him as our Lord, paying Him homage through prayer, sacrifice, and obedience.