



**January 7, 2024**  
**The Epiphany of the Lord**

**Collection December 31, 2023**

<i>Regular Collection</i>	<i>\$717.00</i>
<i>Flowers</i>	<i>5.00</i>
<i>Attendance</i>	<i>47</i>

**January 14, 2024**

**Lector:** Chad Owen  
**Commentator:** Madelyn Owen  
**Ushers:** Hathaway/Klima

**Readings for January 14, 2024**

Reading 1	1 Samuel 3:3b-10, 19
Reading 2	1 Corinthians 6-13c-15a, 17-20
Gospel	John 1:35-42

**Prayer List** -Tim Kimbleton, Carol Luttrell, John Balconi, Brenda Lessard, Jody Riffey, Megan Talbert, Rosanna Vallo, Stephen Petrowski, Jerry Stanley, Bill Vest, Raegan Ray, Rommy LoMascolo, Marianne McGriffin, Georgia Snell English, Margaret McLawhorn, Father Bernie, Shannon Yates, Lynn Canty, Chuck Yates, Ron Morgan, Sue Dasse, Tod Young, Shelia Zellars, Donna Gilmore, Adam Conner, Aaron Quain, Cora Wojciechowski, Linda McCann, Jim Hopkins, Mary Ann Phillips, and Larry Riffey.

**Let the Stanleys know if you have additions or deletions,**

**Information about St. Edwards-** Daily readings, the bulletin, homilies, and other information can be found on our webpage at:  
<https://stedwardpulaski.org>

**SAM Sunday-**Next Sunday, January 14 we will have our SAM Sunday meal directly after Mass. Our theme will be International Foods in honor of Epiphany, so make you favorite international food and plan to join us for fun, fellowship, and a delicious meal next week.

**Change in Distributing Holy Communion-**The recent rise of respiratory infections/disease in the state/nation, we are suspending the use of the cup at Mass until further notice. The Holy Eucharist will only be given in the form of the host starting today January 7, 2024.

**January Birthdays**

<i>Brenda Lessard</i>	<i>Jan. 1</i>
<i>Larry Riffey</i>	<i>Jan. 3</i>
<i>Brenda McLawhorn</i>	<i>Jan. 4</i>
<i>Cora Wojciechowski</i>	<i>Jan. 18</i>

***HAPPY BIRTHDAY***

**January Anniversaries**

*Bill & Jean Jennings      Jan 13*

***HAPPY ANNIVERSARY***

## **Daily Prayer This Week**

In this first week of Ordinary Time, we might find ourselves feeling a little let-down after the Christmas season, especially in parts of the world where it seems cold and dark most days. This is where we can ask for the grace to let the stories of the gospels come alive in our hearts.

The vivid narratives of this week's gospel are packed with stories of Jesus' entering into the lives of real people and touching them in extraordinary ways. These are not far away stories, but ones that have a real meaning for us. This is a week of invitation from Jesus to us, with two invitations for us to ponder in our hearts this week.

Jesus encounters Levi, a Jewish tax collector. Because of his profession, he was probably wealthy but he had humiliated his family and made himself a pariah to most of those around him. Jesus' response to this "outcast" was to invite him to be one of his closest disciples - and to dine at his house.

In our own lives we may find a loneliness or separation from people in our family or others in our lives. We have parts of our lives that are dark and embarrassing and seem unchangeable. It is into this very darkness and discomfort that Jesus extends the same invitation to us - "Follow me." This clear and personal call to us is from Jesus who already knows us and our failings and yet asks us to be with him. We can hear this invitation more clearly if we can be touched with awareness of our own failings and understand more deeply how much we need a savior in our lives. It is then that our hearts open to accept this invitation.

This week Jesus invites us to follow him, as friends and disciples. This is a good week for us to contemplate with Jesus, what we are looking for and how much we want to turn and follow him. We can pray to Jesus for the strength to leave the patterns and habits of our lives that so often turn us away from him and ask for the grace to make a new beginning in our lives. If we can sit with our hands open in humility, we can accept that we can't do this on our own, but know in our hearts that with the help of God, nothing is impossible.

## **Epiphany**

This feast marking the end of Christmas is called "Epiphany." In the Latin Rite of the Catholic Church, Epiphany celebrates the revelation that Jesus was the Son of God. It focuses primarily on this revelation to the Three Wise Men, but also in his baptism in the Jordan and at the wedding at Cana.

The Epiphany marks the arrival of visitors, identified in Scripture as the magi, to the place where Jesus was born. Although we know virtually nothing about them, we do know they brought three gifts: Gold — a symbol of wealth and power, identifies the recipient as a king.