

# Holy Spirit Catholic Parish A Welcoming Community

1489 Shea Road, Stittsville, ON K2S 0G8

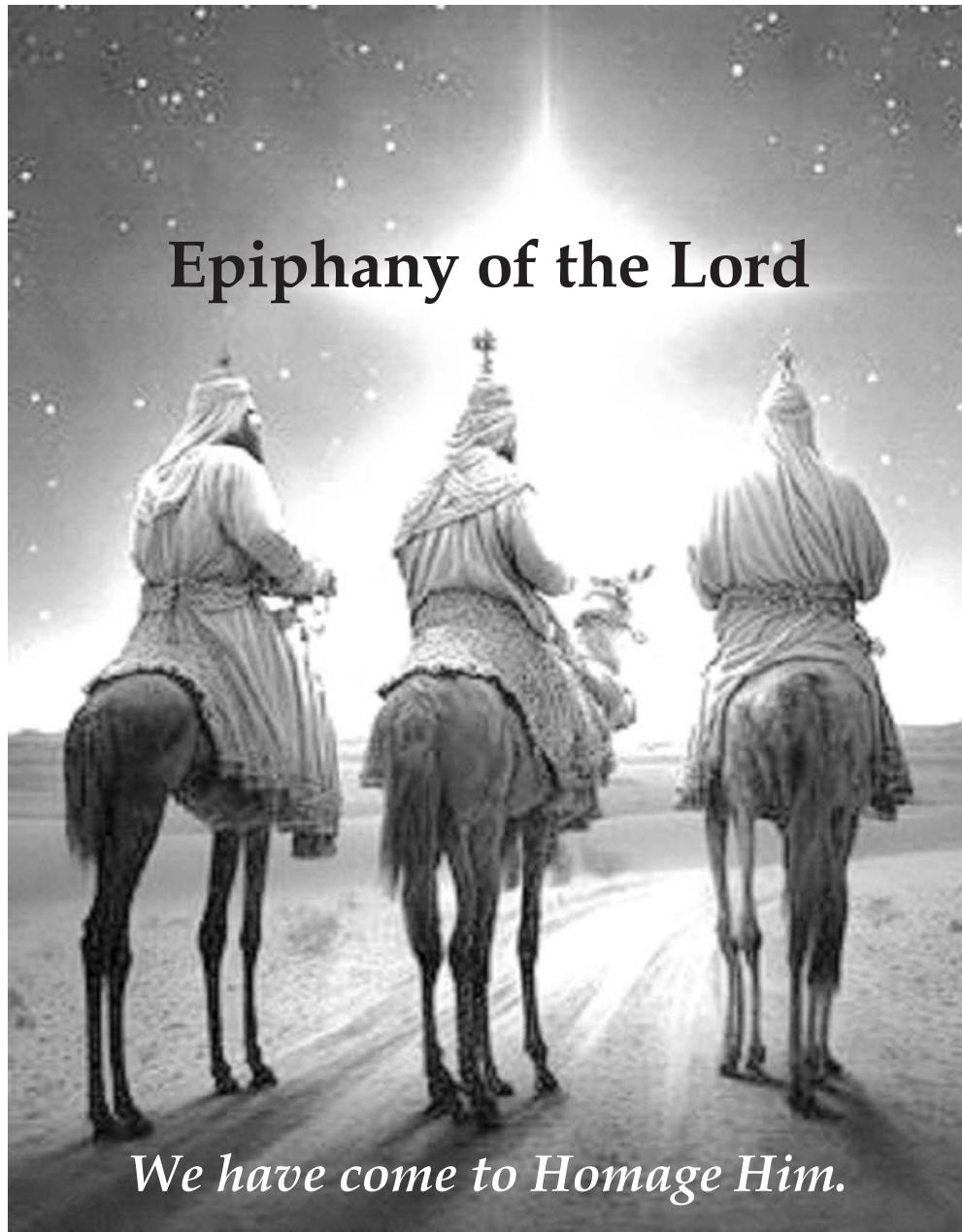
Phone: 613-836-8881 Web: [www.holyspiritparish.ca](http://www.holyspiritparish.ca)

## PASTORAL TEAM

Father Geoffrey Kerslake, Pastor, [pastor@holyspiritparish.ca](mailto:pastor@holyspiritparish.ca)

Alex Ducharme, Youth/Sacramental Coordinator, [youth@holyspiritparish.ca](mailto:youth@holyspiritparish.ca)

Tamara Fortin, Administrative Assistant, [admin@holyspiritparish.ca](mailto:admin@holyspiritparish.ca)



## THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD



### January 4 – Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord

Isaiah 60.1-6  
Ephesians 3.2-3a,5-6  
Matthew 2.1-12

**Happy Birthday Father Geoff!**

#### Parish Calendar

##### Mon, Jan 5

6:30 pm RCIA

##### Tue, Jan 6

9:00 am Mass  
9:30 am Lay Apostolate of Jesus Christ the Returning King

##### Wed, Jan 7

9:00 am Mass  
11:00 am Children's Faith Formation

##### Thu, Jan 8

9:00 am Mass  
9:00 am Children's Faith Formation  
9:30 am Cenacle of Marian Movement of Priests  
6:30 pm Youth Night Grades 3-5

##### Fri, Jan 9

9:00 am Mass  
9:30 am Flame of Love Prayer Group

##### Sat, Jan 10

4:15-4:45 pm Reconciliation  
5:00 pm Mass

##### Sun, Jan 11

Feast of the Baptism of the Lord  
9:00 am Mass  
10:00 am Discussion Group - *Return*  
11:00 am Mass

\*Confession available before morning Mass 8:30-8:50am

The **Lighthouse Youth Ministries** Youth Nights continue: this week Grades 3-5. Bring a friend! Check Parish Calendar above. Our ministry is still looking for volunteers, if you feel called to help in any way, please contact Alex for next steps! [youth@holyspiritparish.ca](mailto:youth@holyspiritparish.ca)

#### Epiphany Humour: The Three Gifts

After the Christmas pageant, I asked my 6-year-old son if he remembered the gifts that the Magi brought to Jesus. He thought for a minute then said “gold, frankincense, and humor”. We could all use that!

**Wedding Anniversary Blessing:** We invite all couples who celebrated a wedding anniversary in October, November, December or January to take part in a special Anniversary Blessing during Mass on the weekend of January 24 & 25. If you would like to participate, please register with the parish office by providing your names and the number of years you are celebrating. We look forward to celebrating this joyful occasion with you!

### January 11 – Feast of the Baptism of the Lord

Isaiah 42.1-4,6-7  
Acts 10.34-38  
Matthew 3.13-17

#### Mass Intentions

##### Tue, Jan 6 – 9:00 am

Intentions of Margaret Mulvihill by Marion & Patricia

##### Wed, Jan 7 – 9:00 am

Intentions of O'Hara Family

##### Thu, Jan 8 – 9:00 am

Intentions of Marion Di Gaspari by Patricia

##### Fri, Jan 9 – 9:00 am

Intentions of Marion by Patricia

##### Sat, Jan 10 – 5:00 pm

†Mary K. Bleskie by Glenn & Sarah Bleskie  
Intentions of Father Geoff by Cathy Philpott



##### Sun, Jan 11 – 9:00 am

In honour of the Immaculate Heart of Mary

†Roger Asselin by Anne Sloan

†Marcelle Coulas by Pauline Foley

##### Sun, Jan 11 – 11:00 am

For the intentions of all parishioners

#### Please pray for those who are sick:

#### Please pray for those who have died:

†Indicates Deceased.

**“Return” – A Discussion Series on Bringing Catholics Back to the Church** Have you ever wondered how to help friends, children, or other loved ones reconnect with their Catholic faith? Join us for “Return,” a five-part discussion series offering guidance, support, and practical tools for reaching out to those who have drifted away from the faith. The discussion will draw on Brandon Vogt’s book *Return: How to draw your child back to the Church*. **When:** Immediately following the 9:00am Mass for one hour in the Conference Room on Sundays, Jan 11 & 25, Feb 8 & 22, and Mar 8. Let’s come together as a parish family to learn, pray, and grow in our mission to welcome others home. All are welcome to join any or all of the sessions!

#### Offering A Mass

Parishioners are invited to have a Mass said for those who have passed away, or for anyone you know who could benefit from the spiritual graces that come with having a Mass said on their behalf. Have a Mass offered in thanksgiving or celebration, in memory of a loved one, or for special intentions for a friend who is suffering. There are many fruits and graces that result from having a Mass said. Don't miss out on these graces for yourself and those you love! Find a reason to have a Mass offered today. Remember to arrange your Mass requests well in advance as dates fill up quickly. For more information, visit the Parish Office, call 613-836-8881 or email [admin@holyspiritparish.ca](mailto:admin@holyspiritparish.ca)

**Reflection:**

The word epiphany means a “manifestation.” We use it in ordinary speech to say we have had a sudden insight, a moment of clarity, an ‘ah hah!’ This Sunday we read the account of the visit of the Wise Men (or Magi) who came from far away bearing costly gifts for Jesus. The gifts were unusual. Perhaps you may have seen the cartoon depicting the subsequent arrival of the three wise women who came with other offerings: diapers, a baby carrier and a week’s worth of casseroles? The humour points to the meaning behind the seemingly odd gifts of gold, incense and myrrh. These weren’t practical necessities for a newborn child. All three were precious substances of great value. Gold has been a valuable commodity for a long time and only the wealthy traded in it. Frankincense was costly incense burned to make an offering acceptable to God: we still use incense on special days over the altar, the gifts and God’s people to consecrate them to God. Jesus on the Cross becomes the perfect offering to the Father reconciling us to him in a supreme act of love for us. The frankincense brought to Mary and Joseph foreshadows this later event. Myrrh was a costly ointment used to anoint a body before burial. Again, we see foreshadowing of Christ’s death and entombment before his resurrection. These were costly gifts fit for a great king. There’s a tradition in the church that posits these three lavish gifts did serve a more immediate, practical need. A tradition suggests Mary and Joseph used them to finance their flight from Herod to Egypt to escape his seeking the death of Jesus as a potential rival king.

Fr. Geoff

See someone new at the church? Did you know we are all Ministers of Hospitality? Why not approach this person and say:

- ◆ Hi, my name is . . . I’ve been a parishioner for \_\_\_\_ years, I’m not sure if we have ever met.
- ◆ What is your name?
- ◆ Are you new here?
- ◆ Before you leave, let me introduce you to Fr. Geoff and some other parishioners (introduce them to your friends and/or ministers in the parish).
- ◆ I hope that I meet you again, I usually sit in this pew. If you are here again next week, please join me.
- ◆ Have a nice week!



**Fraud Prevention Seminar:** Samantha Adams from the Canadian Anti-Fraud Centre (CAFC) will give an overview of the centre then talk about the tools that the fraudsters use, the top reported frauds, how to protect yourself and how to report a fraud. Tuesday January 6th 2026 from 1:00 - 2:00 pm. Hosted by St. Paul’s United Church, 3760 Carp Rd

**Have You Moved in the past year?** Call or email the



Parish Office to be sure we have your new mailing address before income tax receipts are printed and distributed. Please help us stay up to date!

**Living for Greatness NET Retreat – Grades 6-8; 9-12**

Society tells us that the purpose of life is to get a good job and make a lot of money. However, our greatness isn’t measured by what we do, but by who we are. God has a plan for each of us. During this retreat, attendees explore how to hear him and have the strength to follow him. The retreat day includes games, skits, dynamic talks, small-group discussions where kids can share honestly about faith and life, and a time of guided prayer and worship. **The cost is \$25/participant and includes lunch.** For youths in grades 6-8, the retreat runs from 10am-4:30pm on Sat, Jan 17, at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish. For youths in grades 9-12, the retreat runs from 10am-4:30pm on Sun, Jan 18, at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish. Use QR Code to register:



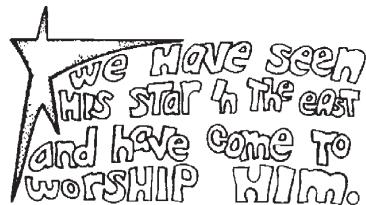
**The bus stop and the breakroom: Catholic witness that works (YA Series) with Speaker Holly Leonard, Catholic Christian Outreach** Can I share the Gospel at work without getting cancelled? Let’s talk through the practical nuts-and-bolts of witnessing and evangelization in every day settings.

*This event is part of the Why Not More Young Adult Series.* About Why Not More: Join other young adults in our region for sound teaching from Catholic leaders of our Diocese on topics relevant to your life. Then go deeper by discussing your faith with fellow believers in a place where no questions are out of bounds. Leave feeling equipped, confident and inspired to live out your Catholic faith without shame. Each meeting will feature a talk and roundtable discussions in smaller groups so you can discuss your faith with other young adults. The evening will end with different forms of Catholic prayer. January 21 at 7PM at St. George Parish, N 415 Piccadilly Ave.

**Donate to our Parish  
or Youth Ministry**



For e-Transfer please send it to [admin@holyspiritparish.ca](mailto:admin@holyspiritparish.ca) and use the password: Holyspirit (all one word with a capital H).



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