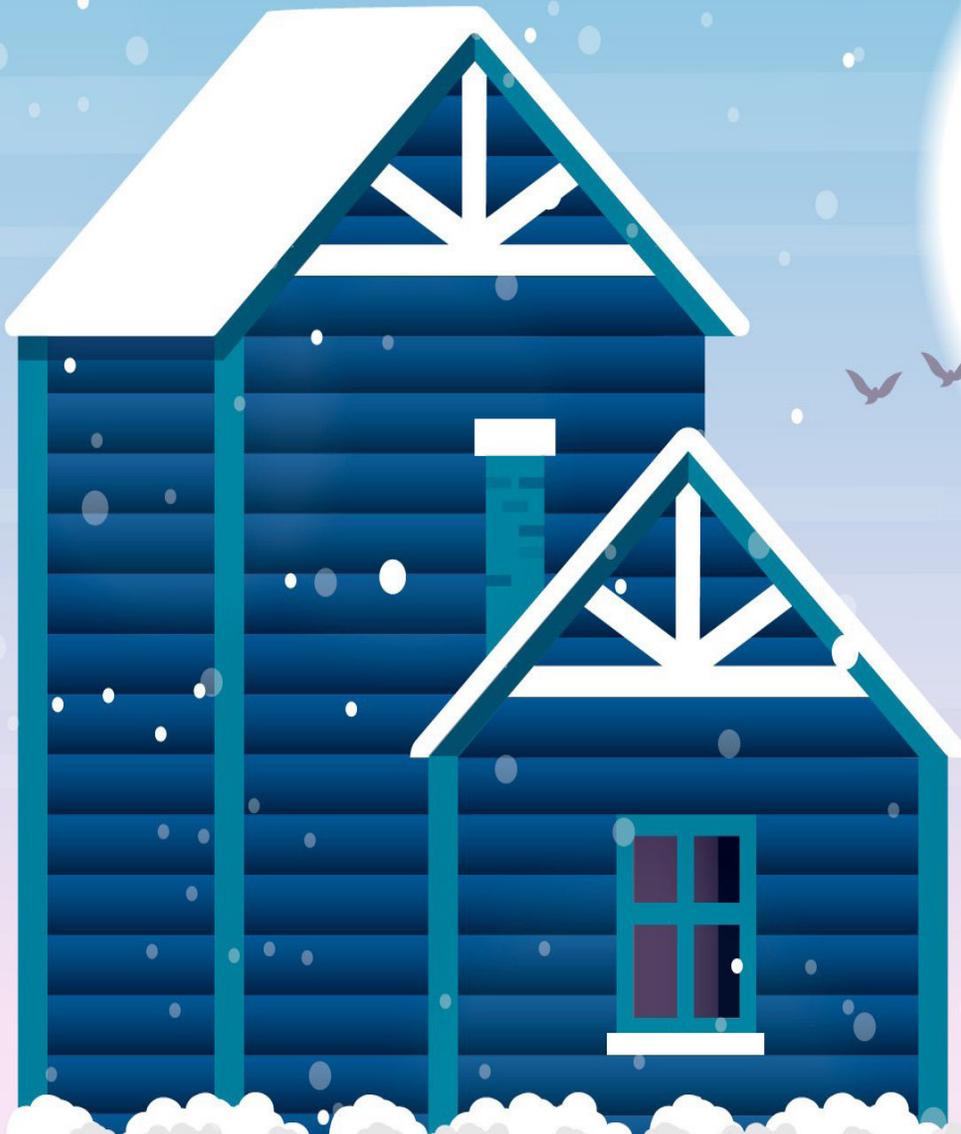


JANUARY 2021



FAITH IN THE HOME

# January 2, 2022 – The Epiphany of the Lord

## The Three Kings Followed a Star to Find Jesus

### PRAY



“Good and gracious God, thank you for the gift of your son, Jesus. Help us to celebrate each day of the Christmas season by following his light. Help us to search for him in our lives and bring our gifts to you so we can share them with others. Amen.”

### LEARN



**Read Bible:** Read Matthew 2:1-12 Catholic Children’s Bible, pages 1447, 1450

2 Jesus was born in the town of Bethlehem in Judea, during the time when Herod was king. Soon afterward, some men who studied the stars came from the East to Jerusalem and asked, “Where is the baby born to be the king of the Jews? We saw his star when it came up in the east, and we have come to worship him.”

3 When King Herod heard about this, he was very upset, and so was everyone else in Jerusalem. 4 He called together all the chief priests and the teachers of the Law and asked them, “Where will the Messiah be born?” 5 “In the town of Bethlehem in Judea,” they answered. “For this is what the prophet wrote:

6 ‘Bethlehem in the land of Judah, you are by no means the least of the leading cities of Judah; for from you will come a leader who will guide my people Israel.’”

7 So Herod called the visitors from the East to a secret meeting and found out from them the exact time the star had appeared. 8 Then he sent them to Bethlehem with these instructions: “Go and make a careful search for the child; and when you find him, let me know, so that I too may go and worship him.”

9-10 And so they left, and on their way they saw the same star they had seen in the East. When they saw it, how happy they were, what joy was theirs! It went ahead of them until it stopped over the place where the child was. 11 They went into the house, and when they saw the child with his mother Mary, they knelt down and worshiped him. They brought out their gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh, and presented them to him. 12 Then they returned to their country by another road, since God had warned them in a dream not to go back to Herod.



**Watch the Video:** The Wise Men <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=22SMUUMsx0o>

**Watch the Song with a Slideshow:** We Three Kings of Orient Are <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=k8mjRxkMBkE>

## Did You Know?



“Epiphany” means something appearing and realizing quickly the meaning of it. Today is also called the Feast of the Three Kings. The three kings (or wise men) brought gifts to Jesus after he was born. They were scientists from the East who had studied the stars, the sun, and planets. They had heard about Jesus coming to save the world, and so they looked for a sign in the sky. When the brightest star appeared, the kings knew they had to follow it. Like the three kings, this day reminds us that we need to follow the light of Jesus and bring him our gifts.



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## DISCUSS & DO

Explain that a bright star guided the three kings to where Jesus was born. The kings were very happy to see Jesus and gave him “kingly” gifts. Today, we are thankful for God giving us the best gift of all: his son, Jesus. After you do the following activity, ask your child what they are thankful.

EITHER buy or make a king cake or cupcakes for your family. Hide a plastic coin in one the cakes. The person who finds the coin is king (or queen) for the day.

OR find a cardboard star and cover it with aluminum foil. Hide it in your house. The person who finds the star gets a special treat. Remind your children that a star led the three kings to Jesus, the best gift of all to us.

### For additional weekly activities:

- [Catholic Icing](http://catholicicing.com) – catholicicing.com
- [Catholic Mom](http://catholicmom.com/sunday-mass-activities) – catholicmom.com/sunday-mass-activities

# January 9, 2022 – The Baptism of the Lord

## Jesus Gives Us New Life in Baptism

### PRAY



“Dear Jesus, thank you for the new life you gave us when we were baptized. Help us to share that new life by showing love and joy to everyone we meet. Amen.”

### LEARN



**Read Bible:** Read Luke 3:15-16, 21-22 Catholic Children’s Bible, pages 1580,1581

15 People's hopes began to rise, and they began to wonder whether John perhaps might be the Messiah.  
16 So John said to all of them, “I baptize you with water, but someone is coming who is much greater than I am. I am not good enough even to untie his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire.

21 After all the people had been baptized, Jesus also was baptized. While he was praying, heaven was opened, 22 and the Holy Spirit came down upon him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, “You are my own dear Son. I am pleased with you.”



**Watch the Video:** The Baptism of Jesus - [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=\\_VMNO2MAmWA](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_VMNO2MAmWA)

**Watch the Video:** Why Baptism is Important - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zAdu7rkfeuk>

### Did You Know?



Baptism is a special sign of God’s love. God showed love to his son, Jesus, when John the Baptist baptized Jesus in the Jordan River. We too are baptized, not in a river, but in a church. The priest pours water on our head usually when we are young. The water is a sign of God’s life. We receive the Holy Spirit that helps us follow Jesus in our life.

## **DISCUSS & DO**



Find an old photo when your child was baptized. Show your child that photo to them getting baptized or another photo of inside the church (look online) where they were baptized. Explain to your child how special that day was for you and your family. Remind them that being baptized welcomed them into the Catholic Church and made them part of God's family.

### **For additional weekly activities:**

- Catholic Icing – [catholicicing.com](http://catholicicing.com)
- Catholic Mom – [catholicmom.com/sunday-mass-activities](http://catholicmom.com/sunday-mass-activities)

# January 16, 2022 – Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

## Jesus Performs a Miracle at a Wedding

### PRAY



“Dear Jesus, thank you for doing miracles and for showing how much you care for us and others. Help us to remember you are the Son of God. Amen.”

### LEARN

**Read Bible:** Read John 2:1-11 Catholic Children’s Bible, pages 1650-1651



2 Two days later there was a wedding in the town of Cana in Galilee. Jesus' mother was there, 2 and Jesus and his disciples had also been invited to the wedding. 3 When the wine had given out, Jesus' mother said to him, “They are out of wine.”

4 “You must not tell me what to do,” Jesus replied. “My time has not yet come.”

5 Jesus' mother then told the servants, “Do whatever he tells you.”

6 The Jews have rules about ritual washing, and for this purpose six stone water jars were there, each one large enough to hold between twenty and thirty gallons. 7 Jesus said to the servants, “Fill these jars with water.” They filled them to the brim, 8 and then he told them, “Now draw some water out and take it to the man in charge of the feast.” They took him the water, 9 which now had turned into wine, and he tasted it. He did not know where this wine had come from (but, of course, the servants who had drawn out the water knew); so he called the bridegroom 10 and said to him, “Everyone else serves the best wine first, and after the guests have drunk a lot, he serves the ordinary wine. But you have kept the best wine until now!”

11 Jesus performed this first miracle in Cana in Galilee; there he revealed his glory, and his disciples believed in him.



**Watch the Video:** Jesus Turns Water into Wine - [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7plJa\\_qnVug](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7plJa_qnVug)

### **Did You Know?**



A miracle is a surprise done by God that is welcomed by people but cannot be explained. In the story above, the host served wine to show the wedding guests that they were appreciated. Jesus understood that it was a bad thing if all of the wine was gone. In his first miracle, Jesus showed concern and love for the wedding host and proved that he was the Son of God.

## DISCUSS & DO



Watch this video to learn how to do the activity: How to Turn Water into Wine  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3IUE5uC4DDQ>

### **For Preschool-K**

**ACTIVITY:** Tell your child that Jesus turned water into wine. He did good things for people that they did not understand. Jesus can do good things for us too.

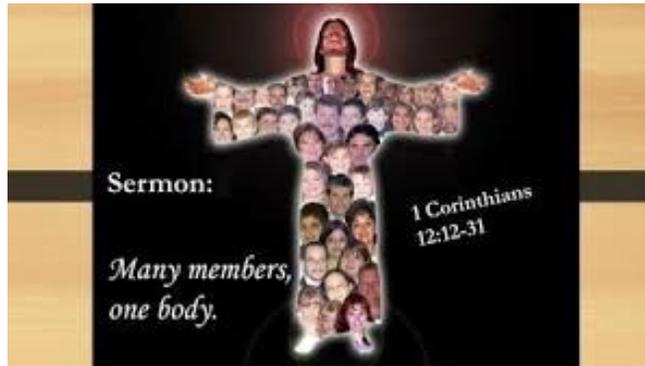
### **For Grades 1-5**

**ACTIVITY:** After you do the activity, ask your child if you did a miracle or a magic trick. Discuss the difference between magic and miracles. Explain that Jesus did miracles to show that his power came from God and he was to serve others. The things he did were not tricks. When Jesus changed water to wine, it was a miracle. His miracle helped the disciples and us believe that He truly is God's son. Jesus can do amazing things for us too.

### **For additional weekly activities:**

- [Catholic Icing](http://catholicicing.com) – catholicicing.com
- [Catholic Mom](http://catholicmom.com/sunday-mass-activities) – catholicmom.com/sunday-mass-activities

January 23, 2022 – Third Sunday in Ordinary Time  
**The Body of Christ Has Many Parts**



**PRAY**



“Dear God, thank you for giving each of us different talents so we can show your love to others. Help us to look for ways to guide others to you. Amen.”

**LEARN**



**Read Bible:** 1 Corinthians 12:12-14, 27 Catholic Children’s Bible, page 1807

12 Christ is like a single body, which has many parts; it is still one body, even though it is made up of different parts. 13 In the same way, all of us, whether Jews or Gentiles, whether slaves or free, have been baptized into the one body by the same Spirit, and we have all been given the one Spirit to drink.

14 For the body itself is not made up of only one part, but of many parts. 27 All of you are Christ’s body, and each one is a part of it.

**Watch the Video:** The Church: One Body With Many Parts <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=evRQUxzn8qA>

**Did You Know?**



A Gentile is a person who was not Jewish. Long ago when the church was forming, Gentiles were seen as enemies of the Jewish people. But Jesus taught and treated everyone with love and kindness, no matter if they were Jews or Gentiles.

## **DISCUSS & DO**



Saint Paul was not talking about the human body, but a larger body of people who follow Jesus. He is saying we all have different things we are good at. God gives you the ability to put the things you are good at with the things others are good at so you can make a big difference in people's lives. When we do that, we can best show Jesus' love to others. It is like we are one body with many parts working together.

### **For Preschool-K**

Discuss with your child what they are good at (e.g. math, listening, etc.). Tell them that God made them that way.

### **For Grades 1-5**

Discuss with your child what they are good at (e.g. math, listening, etc.). Tell them that God made them that way. Have them talk about what how specifically they can use what they are good at to help others.

**Additional weekly activities for all ages can be found online:**

- [Catholic Icing](http://catholicicing.com) – catholicicing.com
- [Catholic Mom](http://catholicmom.com/sunday-mass-activities) – catholicmom.com/sunday-mass-activities

January 30, 2022 – Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

## Jesus Tells Us What Love Is

### PRAY



“Dear Jesus, help us to love like you and show your love with everyone we meet. Help us to never give up in doing good in all that we do. Amen.”

### LEARN

**Read Bible:** Read 1 Corinthians 13:4-7,



Catholic Children’s Bible page 1810

4 Love is patient and kind; it is not jealous or conceited or proud; 5 love is not ill-mannered or selfish or irritable; love does not keep a record of wrongs; 6 love is not happy with evil, but is happy with the truth. 7 Love never gives up; and its faith, hope, and patience never fail.



### **Did You Know?**

The passage above is from a letter that St. Paul wrote to a people called the Corinthians. They lived in a large city named Corinth, which is in Greece today. At first, St. Paul was very mean to anyone who believed in Jesus. But with God’s help, he had a big change in his life. He became a great teacher who told everyone how Jesus wants us to love others.

### DISCUSS & DO



#### **For Preschool-K**

**ACTIVITY:** Explain that Jesus teaches us not to be selfish, but share what we have. Ask your child to think how they can share something they have with others (e.g. their favorite toy). Use your child’s example to encourage them to share.

#### **For Grades 1-5**

**ACTIVITY:** Discuss with your child one of the qualities they have (jealousy, pride, behavior, selfishness) and specific ways they can show more love.

- Love is not jealous, i.e., wanting what others have or making others want what you have
- Love is not proud, i.e., not bragging, accepting what you have with gratitude and humility
- Love is not ill-mannered, i.e., not doing mean things that will cause regret or shame later
- Love is not selfish, i.e., not looking out just for yourself, caring about other people’s needs
- Love is not happy with evil (sin), i.e. doing what is right

**For additional weekly activities:**

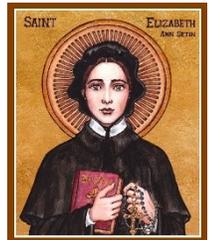
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# MORE Faith in the Home

## FEAST DAYS THIS MONTH

### **St. Elizabeth Ann Seton - January 4**

Elizabeth was born in New York City in 1774. She married a wealthy man, but when her husband died, she was left without money to raise her five children. Elizabeth dedicated her life to serving God and became a Catholic. She raised her children, opened the first Catholic school, started an orphanage, and began the Sisters of Charity. She was the first saint who was born in the United States. "St. Elizabeth, pray for us."



### **St. Agnes - January 21**

St. Agnes was a martyr who only lived to be 12 years old. A martyr is someone who dies for their faith and religious beliefs. She was a Christian in the Roman Empire, but the Romans did not like Christians. Agnes was very dedicated to Jesus. Pictures of St. Agnes often show her holding a lamb. "St. Agnes, pray for us."



### **St. John Bosco - January 31**

In the 1800s, St. John was born in Italy and was very poor. He used fun ways to teach other kids about God by doing magic tricks and juggling. When John grew up, he became a priest and helped poor boys who lived on the streets. John gave them a home and helped them to go to school and find work. He helped thousands of children. "St. John Bosco, pray for us."

