



# CROSSLink

2107 3 Oaks Rd, Cary, IL 60013  
847.639.1702 Church Office  
260.804.3154 Pastor Patterson  
847.639.6533 School Office  
[www.HolyCrossCary.org](http://www.HolyCrossCary.org)

Worship Services:  
Saturdays 5:30pm (Sanctuary)  
Sundays 8:30am (Sanctuary)  
Sunday 9:45 am Bible Study/Fish Club  
Sundays 10:45 am (LOFT)

**JANUARY  
2023**

FROM PASTOR'S DESK

"Epiphany: The Forgotten Feast Day"

Pastor Zac Patterson

The secular world has done a very successful job of stealing Christian holidays. Christmas is no longer about the Gospel of Jesus' birth, but the law of Santa Claus looking to see if you've been naughty or nice and giving you presents under the tree. Easter is no longer about the resurrection of Jesus, but the easter bunny giving you candy and having you hunt for eggs. Advent has been a recent target, with the selling of Advent calendars that have nothing to do with the coming Christ, but are simply a countdown to secular Christmas.

But there's one feast day that the world has stolen by complete accident. When I say the date January 6<sup>th</sup>, what comes to your mind? I wouldn't be surprised if your responses are along the lines of "capital", "riot", "Trump", etc. This is what January 6<sup>th</sup> is now famous for in many American households. But January 6<sup>th</sup> has been celebrated by Christians over the past 1800+ years for something far more significant, the Feast of Epiphany.

Traditions around Epiphany vary between the Eastern and Western traditions, so I will focus largely on the Western tradition in this article. The Feast of Epiphany centers in on the visitation of the Magi (Greek for "Wise Men"), who were men from the east (probably the Persia/Babylon area) who studied astrology, dreams, and magic. They saw the miraculous star appear and came to Jerusalem to see this new King of Israel. After being led to Jesus by the star, they worship him with three gifts: gold, frankincense, and myrrh. There is a lot to say about Epiphany, but we will limit this article to two of them.

First, Epiphany means "to manifest". Throughout the season of Epiphany, who Jesus is will be "made manifest" before us (think of the hymn we sing "Songs of Thankfulness and Praise" which ends each stanza with "God in man made manifest."). We see this begin at the three gifts given by the Magi. Gold signifies that Jesus is a King. Frankincense points to Jesus being not just a man, but God himself in the flesh. Myrrh foreshadows Jesus' death and burial, the reason for his birth. These gifts begin to show you who this Jesus is and why he was born.

Second, the feast day of Epiphany has been celebrated as the first inclusion of the Gentiles into the Church. These Magi were not Jewish and, therefore, not part of Israel's covenant. However, they come and worship Jesus as their God and King. We see a glimpse of what is now quite common, Gentiles worshiping Jesus and being welcomed into the body of Christ. Rev. Weedon says it well in his book, *Celebrating The Saints*, "For the Christ Child is King of all people, not just God's ancient people! He is God come in the flesh to battle the enemies of the entire human race. The sacrifice He will offer is in exchange for every human. When the Magi kneel before Him in worship, they are but the very first of countless non-Jews who will fall before Him century after century."

The real significance of January 6<sup>th</sup> has nothing to do with the capital or Donald Trump, but has everything to do with Jesus, the visitation of the Magi, and the fact that God became a man to save all people, Jews and Gentiles alike. Let's make Epiphany great again by remembering and celebrating this wonderful feast day!



---

#### **NEW YEAR-NEW YOU!**

Start out the year with serving Christ and Holy Cross! We are in need of servants in many areas. Are you handy? We frequently need small easy jobs done around the church. Do you like audio/video? We need people to help with live streaming, slides, and sound. Do you play an instrument or sing? We always need people for choir or musicians! Are you computer savvy? We need in-house IT people to call as needed for small issues. Ushers, Altar guild, and Chair set-up. Do you love people and hosting? We need Coffee Hour servers, Event Planners, Volunteer gatherers, Public Relations Coordinator, Outreach, and more. Most of these opportunities are easy, low commitment but high impact opportunities. Please prayerfully consider how you can help to make Holy Cross the best it can be, also helping YOU by being involved and getting the most out of your church life! Being fed spiritually and helping others. We need YOU!

---

#### **CHURCH DIRECTORY**

The Directories will be completed after the first of the year. We will let you know when they come in. Contact Judy with any questions.

---

#### **JULIETS – WOMENS BOOK CLUB**

“**JULIETS**” book club for Christian women. Our first book is “Women of the Bible Speak” written by Shannon Bream. We plan to meet at the Fox River Grove Panera on Monday Jan. 2 at 6:00pm. Please contact Kathy to let her know you are attending or for answers to any questions. We are reading 2 chapters at a time so you can join in at any time. Please bring a friend.

---

#### **SAVE THIS DATE!!**

Sunday, January 8<sup>th</sup>, 2023- We will have our annual Voters Meeting on this date. A vote for final approval of the 2023 budget will be taken. We will also be seeking voters approval for our expanded pre-school program.

---

#### **HUMAN CARE MINISTRY**

**BLOOD DRIVE REMINDER !!!** Donate blood here at Holy Cross on Jan. 9th between 3:30PM-7:30PM. This New Year give the GIFT OF LIFE by being a regular blood donor & you can donate every 8 weeks. Just one pint of blood can save up to 3 lives. To schedule your appt. call Barb. Donors are encouraged to schedule their desired donation time on line @ [www.Versiti.org](http://www.Versiti.org). Let's keep the donor beds full with generous donors giving the GIFT OF LIFE!!!

---

**FISH CLUB Meets During Bible Study - Lower LOFT – Sunday School**

---

Please join us- 3 to 8 years old- every Sunday from 9:35am - 10:30am in the Lower LOFT! We're sure the kids will grow in their relationship with Jesus and meet a few new friends along the way.

---

**KIDS FOR CHRIST – Youth Education**

---

Kids for Christ meets from 5:00-6:30 pm. Dinner will be provided. KFC is for all kids grades 1-8. This includes Confirmation instruction for grades 7-8.

---

**HOLY CROSS SCHOOL**

---

Holy Cross Lutheran School is now enrolling for Preschool 3 through First Grade. For more information, check our website or call the school office at 847-639-6533. Tell your friends and neighbors!!! Spread the Word for a Christian Based Education!!

---

**TEACHER POSITION**

---

Holy Cross Lutheran School is seeking a full-time teacher/assistant principal for the 2023-2024 school year. The right candidate must be ministry minded. Duties include: teaching a combined classroom of either preschool/kindergarten or kindergarten/first grade, supervising before or after school care, and teaching all subjects for a full school day. Great pay and benefits. Qualifications: Bachelor's Degree in Early Childhood, Elementary Education, or a closely related field. To apply, send a resume to Chrissy Heiss at preschool@holycrosscary.org. Those interested can also call the school office at 847-639-6533.

---

**GOVERNING BOARD MEETING SUMMARY-**

---

No meeting was held in December.

---

**OWLS**

---

OWLS will kick off the New Year with our first meeting on Thursday, January 5 at noon in the lower LOFT. This is the annual planning meeting, so be sure to come, bring your ideas and help with the calendar of meetings and events for 2023. There is no official host for this meeting, so you can bring your Christmas and New Year's leftovers to share as well as you favorite Bible verse for the opening devotion. Please note: John 3:16 is already taken.

The second meeting of the month will take place on January 19 and details will follow. As always, watch the weekend News and Notes and check for more information on the bulletin board by the coatroom.

---

**KFC SUPPERS FOR JANUARY:**

---

5th: Choir

12th: OWLS

19th: Elders

26th: Governing Board

Students and staff are served at 5 p.m. By 5:30 p.m. they are done and anyone who would like to share fellowship over a light supper is welcome to come and eat at that time, too.

---

**POINTSETTIAS**

---

Thank you to all who purchased poinsettias to beautify the church. You may take your flowers home at any time. The florist has recommended you warm your car first and wrap the flowers in the brown paper sleeves on the pew in the Narthex before heading out into the cold.

---

**CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS**

---

Christmas decorations in the Sanctuary, LOFT, and outdoors will be taken down and gently packed away on Saturday, January 7 at 9:00 am. Please come and help. Many hands make light work.

JANUARY 2023

# Happy New Year!!

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
10:00 am Worship	6:00 pm Juliet's Meeting At FRG Panera  Office Closed	Dartball away-McHenry	No Choir	12:00pm OWLS 5-6:30pm K4C 6:45 Compline Service	5-7pm Epiphany Open House at the Parsonage	9:00 am -Take down Christmas Decorations 5:30pm Worship
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
8:30am Worship (Sanct) 9:45am VOTER'S MTG. (Sanct.) 10:45am Worship (LOFT)	3:30-7:30 pm Blood Drive- Fellowship Hall	6:30pm Elder's Meeting 7:00pm Cultured Pearls	7:00pm Choir	10:00 am Prayer Shawl 5-6:30pm K4C 6:45 Compline Service		5:30pm Worship 7:00pm Taizé Service
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
8:30am Worship (Sanctuary) 9:45am Bible Study/Fish Club 10:45am Worship (LOFT)		6:30pm Governing Board 7:00pm Dartball vs. Isl. Lk.	7:00pm Choir	12:00pm OWLS 5-6:30pm K4C 6:45 Compline Service		5:30pm Worship
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
8:30am Worship (Sanctuary) 9:45am Bible Study/Fish Club 10:45am Worship (LOFT)			7:00pm Choir	10:00am Prayer Shawl 5-6:30pm K4C 6:45 Compline Service		5:30 pm Worship
29	30	31				
8:30am Worship (Sanctuary) 9:45am Bible Study/Fish Club 10:45am Worship (LOFT)		Dartball away - FOF				