



ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST

29 N. WASHINGTON AVE, BERGENFIELD, NJ | 201.384.0101 | SJRC.ORG

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD JANUARY 4, 2026

PASTOR

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pastor@sjrc.org

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Deacon Alfonso Madé
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MsgrRJA@aol.com

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ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF RELIGIOUS ED.

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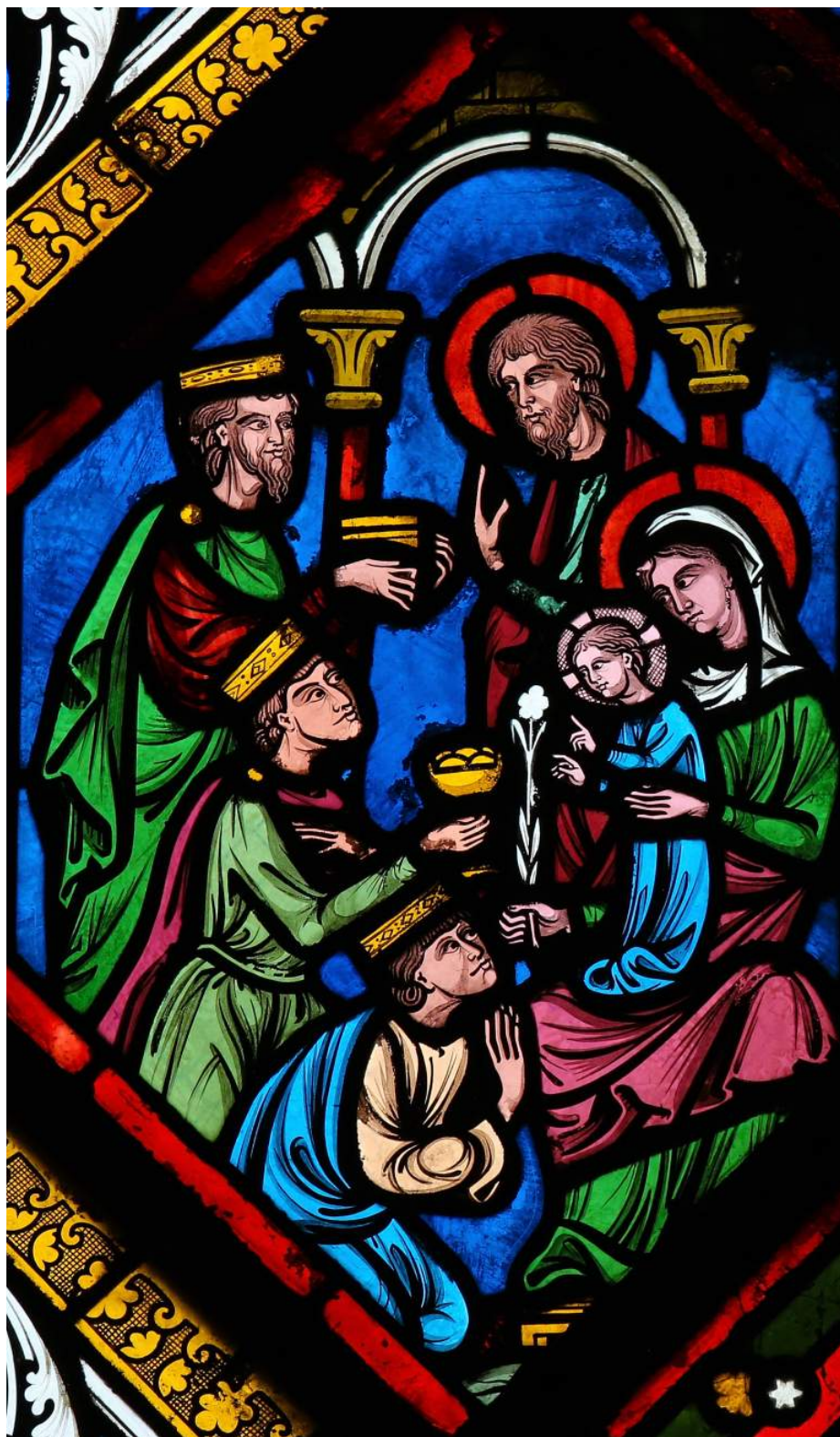
MASS SCHEDULE

Sat Vigil: 5:30 , 7:00 PM (Sp)

Sun Masses: 7:30 AM, 9:00 AM,
10:30 AM, 12:00 PM, 1:15 PM (Sp)

Daily (Mon-Fri): 7:00 AM, 9:00 AM,
6:30 PM (Tues: 6:30 PM Sp)

Sat Masses: 7:00 AM, 9:00 AM
Penance (Sat): 1:00 PM-2:00 PM



MASS INTENTIONS

SATURDAY, JANUARY 3

5:30 PM Nancy L. Osbourne

7:00 PM (Spa) Gisela Astwood

SUNDAY, JANUARY 4

7:30 AM People of The Parish

9:00 AM Felipe Tan, Sr. – 96th Birthday (L)

10:30 AM James Casey

12:00 PM Daniel Manoming

1:15 PM (Spa) Lucy Vele

MONDAY, JANUARY 5

7:00 AM Matthew K. Mathai

9:00 AM Telesforo Mendoza

6:30 PM Vincent P. Brennan

TUESDAY, JANUARY 6

7:00 AM Virginia Tobes

9:00 AM For The Soul of Erlinda Gloria

6:30 PM (Spa) Amparo Alvarez & Alvarez Family

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 7

7:00 AM Felixberto Tubeo

9:00 AM Souls in the Purgatory

6:30 PM Marsha Scordia

THURSDAY, JANUARY 8

7:00 AM Gloria Martell

9:00 AM John Brennan

6:30 PM Harold Ginsburg

FRIDAY, JANUARY 9

7:00 AM Carmelo Savoia

9:00 AM Kristabel Pineda – Birthday

6:30 PM Harold Ginsburg

SATURDAY, JANUARY 10

7:00 AM Mary McNicholas

9:00 AM Patricia Huber

5:30 PM Lis & Jendrysik Family

7:00 PM (Spa) Christian Picharido

SUNDAY, JANUARY 11

7:30 AM People of The Parish

9:00 AM Teresita Casanova

10:30 AM John Brennan

12:00 PM John Gallagher

1:15 PM (Spa) Maria & Alejandro Espinal – Wedding A.

MASS PRESIDERS

SATURDAY, JANUARY 3

5:30 PM – Father Sean Manson

7:00 PM (Spa) – Father Hector Larrea

SUNDAY, JANUARY 4

7:30 AM – Father Oliver Nilo

9:00 AM – Father Sean Manson

10:30 AM – Father Michael Bollinger

12:00 PM – Father Sean Manson

1:15 PM (Spa) – Father Hector Larrea

3:00 PM (Gifted) – Father Michael Bollinger

3:00 PM (Tag) – At the Cathedral

Baptism

Call the rectory (201-384-0101) to schedule.

Parent meeting: 1st Sun. 1:30 PM (Eng),
3rd Sun. 2:45 PM (Sp).

Baptisms: 2nd & 3rd Sun. 3 PM (Eng),
4th Sun. 2:45 PM (Sp).

Parents **must** be parishioners, provide child's birth certificate, and select Catholic godparents (16+, confirmed, Eucharist, married in Church if applicable).

Sponsor certificates due 1 week prior.

Marriage

Arrange one year in advance. Call the rectory (201-384-0101) for an appointment with a priest. Please obtain an updated baptismal certificate.

Prayers for the Deceased

Please remember

Rosemarie Dana

in your prayers.

Religious Education News

- Happy New Year to all of our Religious Education Families!
- Classes resume on January 8th & January 11th.
- Please remember to turn in any assignment, Mass Attendance Sheets, & sacramental paperwork as soon as possible.
- Our next Youth group meeting will be January 11th 12pm to 2pm.
- A special thank you to our lectors that read on Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, & January 4th. You all did amazing! If your child is interested in reading at the 10:30 AM Mass, please email us at: stjohnsreligiouseducation@gmail.com

Dear Brothers and Sisters



Have you ever noticed that our church faces east?

The sanctuary is oriented, such that when you come to Mass you look east.

When God created the earth he ‘planted a garden in Eden, which is in the east, and there he put the man he had fashioned.’ (Genesis 2, 8)

The first pages of the Bible reveal God’s plan for us, namely that we be oriented, a people who face east. The east means Paradise, communion with God and with others.

Geographically the east witnesses the rising of the sun at daybreak. It is from the east that light appears, light which dispels darkness.

Spiritually the east also witnesses the light of God’s love. This light is Christ: ‘what has come into being in him was life, life that was the light of men; and light shines in darkness’ (John 1, 4-5)

It is only after the Fall, the sin of Adam and Eve, that humanity finds itself ‘expelled from the garden of Eden’ (Gen 3, 23). Spiritually we were no longer able to face east; we were banished, not by God, but through our own doing: ‘he was in the world that had come into being through him, and the world did not recognize him. He came to his own and his own people did not accept him.’ (John, 1, 10-11)

Today’s feast of the Epiphany witnesses ‘some wise men who came to Jerusalem from the east asking, ‘Where is the infant king of the Jews? We saw his star as it rose and have come to do him homage.’ (Matthew 2, 1-2)

At Midnight Mass we heard the words from the Prophet Isaiah: ‘The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light.’

We are a people who walk - pilgrims- and all around us, and within us, there is darkness and light. On Christmas night, as the spirit of darkness enfolds the world, there takes place anew the event which always amazes and surprises us: the people who walk see a great light.

“God is light, and in him there is no darkness at all” (1 Jn 1:5). Yet on the part of the people there are times of both light and darkness, fidelity and infidelity, obedience, and rebellion; times of being a pilgrim people and times of being a people adrift.

In our personal history too, there are both bright and dark moments, lights and shadows. If we love God and our brothers and sisters, we walk in the light; but if our heart is closed, if we are dominated by pride, deceit, self-seeking, then darkness falls within us and around us. “Whoever hates his brother – writes the Apostle John – is in the darkness; he walks in the darkness, and does not know the way to go, because the darkness has blinded his eyes” (1 Jn 2:11).

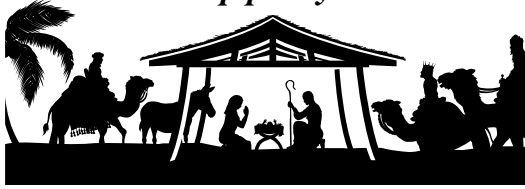
On this night, like a burst of brilliant light, there rings out the proclamation of the Apostle: ‘God’s grace has been revealed, and it has made salvation possible for the whole human race’ (Tit 2:11)”.

We are a people who are walking, traveling, like the wise men. Our life is a journey, with a beginning and an end, and we as pilgrims on the face of the earth now have the possibility to spiritually follow the light of Christ, to face east. Without this light there is disorientation. May the light of Christ accompany us on this Great Feast of the Epiphany, and remain with us during our journey in this year, 2026.

Happy Epiphany! Happy New Year!

Fr. Sean

Blessing of the Home and Household on Epiphany



The traditional date of Epiphany is January 6, but in the United States it is celebrated on the Sunday between January 2 and January 8.

As a Family: Bless your home!

Gather together at the door of your home.
(Have chalk & Holy Water.)

Directions:

Pray and Sprinkle Holy Water

Set aside 10-15 minutes when all your family members are at home together. Gather by the front door, make the sign of the cross, sprinkle holy water on the door and frame, and say a prayer. You can use the prayer below or write your own.

Dear God,

Thank you for sending Jesus into the world to rescue us. May we follow the example of the Magi, who humbly bowed themselves in worship, bringing gifts for a king. In this new year, bless our home and all who walk through this door with your love and peace. Give us soft hearts that are open to serving and giving to others. In the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, amen.

Now it's time to chalk the door! You'll write this simple inscription: **20+C+M+B+26**.

Here's what it means:

20 – The first two numbers of the year.

CMB – The meaning is twofold. The first meaning is the initials of the Magi — Caspar, Melchior and Balthazar. The second meaning stands for the Latin phrase *Christus mansionem benedicat*, which means "May Christ bless the house."

26 – The last two numbers of the year.

+ – This symbolizes the cross.



St. Walburga Monastery
851 North Broad Street
Elizabeth, NJ 07208
<https://bensisnj.org>
center@bensisnj.org

Join Us For a Retreat!

Savoring Winter Silence

Thursday, January 15, 2026
9:15 AM - 12:30 PM

Come away from the holiday season to rest in sustained silence for a morning. This retreat will offer a "winter desert" experience of quiet and solitude, ending with a brief opportunity for shared reflection.



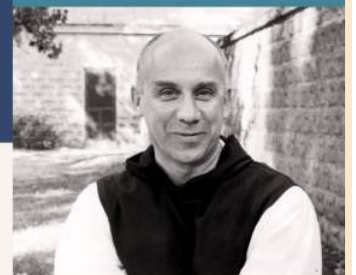
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851 North Broad Street
Elizabeth, NJ 07208
<https://bensisnj.org>
center@bensisnj.org

Join Us For a Retreat!

Thomas Merton: An Invitation to the Search

January 30 - 31, 2026

You don't have to live in a monastery to enjoy the fruits of regular prayer, hospitality, and community. Discover your own unique monastic heart and find ways to nurture it.



For more information on the Benedictine Sisters Retreats above contact them at:
advancementoffice@bensisnj.org
1-908-352-4278



Saint of the Week



St. John Nepomucene Neumann, born in 1811 in Bohemia, was a missionary priest and Bishop of Philadelphia who served poor immigrant Catholics with humility and sacrifice. He founded the first diocesan school system in the United States and lived in great simplicity. His feast day is **January 5**, and he is a patron and intercessor for immigrants, educators, and missionary clergy.

St. John's Choirs to Celebrate Jubilee Year Finale in Concert

Together with the choirs of Ascension parish, our choirs will present a concert at Ascension Church in New Milford on **Jan 4th, 2026 at 4:30pm**. It will be a festive way to close out both the Christmas season and the Jubilee Year. Admission is free and we are hoping to see many of you from St John's!

Please contact Lisa Marciano at opus58@optonline.net for any additional information, or just stop by up in the choir loft after mass.

Where is the newborn king of the Jews?
We saw his star at its rising and have come to do him homage.

MATTHEW 2:2



The Pope's Monthly Intentions

Each year, the Holy Father asks for our prayers for a specific intention each month. You are invited to answer the Holy Father's request and to join with many people worldwide in praying for this intention each month. From time to time, the Holy Father may add a second prayer intention related to current events or urgent needs, like disaster relief. The second prayer request will help mobilize prayer and action related to the urgent situation.

Intention for January

For prayer with the Word of God

Let us pray that praying with the Word of God be nourishment for our lives and a source of hope in our communities, helping us to build a more fraternal and missionary Church.

RESPECT LIFE NEWS

Baby Bottles: We are still looking for the return of at least 100 Bottles Please continue to drop off at the rectory any bottles you may find.

ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST CHURCH PRESENTS OUR SECOND ANNUAL

Handbag
BINGO
FRIENDS, FUN & PRIZES!

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2026

CONLON HALL | 19 N WILLIAM STREET | BERGENFIELD, NEW JERSEY
DOORS OPEN AT 8:30PM | FIRST GAME CALLED AT 7:30PM

bingo, baskets, raffles & more!

TABLES WILL ACCOMMODATE UP TO 10 GUESTS

ALL PROCEEDS WILL BENEFIT ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST CHURCH

SCAN BELOW TO REGISTER OR TEXT 'SJRCBINGO' TO 234-324-3332

QUESTIONS? REACH OUT TO [SJRCBINGO@GMAIL.COM](mailto:SJRCHANDBAGBINGO@GMAIL.COM)



St. John's Prayer Groups



Legion of Mary

Saturdays, 9:30–11 AM, Lower Church
(Eng)

Padre Pio Prayer Group

2nd Sat., 2:00–4:30 PM, Conlon Hall
Cafeteria

El Shaddai DWXI-PPFI

2nd–4th Sat., 1:30–5:30 PM, Lower Church.
Info: Lourdes 201-233-8235 / John 201-658-4032

Anointing Fire Ministry

Mondays, 7:00–10 PM, Parish Life Center
Chapel 2nd Fri., 10:00 PM–6:30 AM, LC
(Adoration).





Grupo Luz y Vida
Te invita a su
primera reunión del año

Jueves
08
Enero
7:00 PM
IGLESIA DE ABAJO

En la predica:
Ylma Acevedo



Gran Fiesta de San Valentín

14 de Febrero, 2026
Conlon Hall
18N William Street, Bergenfield, NJ
INFORMACIÓN AL TEL: 646.772.7571

ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST CATHOLIC CHURCH

Grupos Parroquiales

La Palabra

Lunes, 7:30–9:30 PM, Iglesia de abajo

Legión de María

Martes, 6:00–7:30 PM, Capilla PLC

Emaús Mujeres

Miércoles, 7:00–9:30 PM, Iglesia de abajo

Emaús Hombres

Miércoles, 7:00–9:30 PM, PLC Basement

Luz y Vida

Jueves, 7:00–9:30 PM, Iglesia de abajo

Preciosa Sangre de Cristo

Viernes, 8:00–9:00 PM, 2do piso de PLC

Matrimonios Con Cristo

3er Viernes, 7:00–9:45 PM, Iglesia de abajo

Las Intenciones Mensuales del Papa

Oremos para que la oración con la Palabra de Dios sea alimento para nuestra vida y fuente de esperanza en nuestras comunidades, ayudándonos a construir una Iglesia más fraterna y misionera.



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P. Diego Navarro
St. Andrew, Westwood

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MARTES

13 Enero
7:30 PM - 9:00 PM

Centro Pastoral Arquidiocesano
171 Clifton Ave, Newark

¡Inscríbete!

Para más Información:
DEACONASTERIO.VELASCO@RCAN.ORG / ESTHER.PARDO@RCAN.ORG
973-497-4335 / 973-497-4571



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ASK **#WHATS
MYNAME**
in remembrance of *samantha josephson*

**BEFORE YOU GET
IN A RIDE SHARE**

SAMI

STOP | ASK
MATCH | INFORM

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