

# Church of St. Philip the Apostle

est. 1898

Diocese of Charlotte

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Statesville, North Carolina 28677

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## The Epiphany of the Lord

**Rev. Fr. Thomas J. Kessler, *Pastor***

**Rev. Mr. Charles Brantley, *Deacon***  
**Ms. Regina McCollum, *Secretary***  
**Mr. & Mrs. Jim Kermes, *Food Closet***

**Mrs. Mary Brown, *Faith Formation Director***  
**Mrs. Norma Echevarria, *Faith Formation***  
**Mrs. Raquel Swierczewski, *R.C.I.A***  
**Mrs. Anita Lund, *Youth Director***

### **Marriage - Baptism**

Call the church office. Marriages, call at least 6 months in advance.

### **Reconciliation**

3:45 p.m. - 4:45 p.m. on Saturday or by appointment.

### **Pastoral Council**

Meetings are 2nd Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m. September thru May except National Holidays.

### **Religious Education**

Children, grades 1-Confirmation, are required to attend religious education classes. Call the office to register your children. Adult classes also available.

### **Parish Registration**

We welcome new parishioners to the parish and we ask them to register as soon as possible. Parish registration is important and necessary. Also, if you move away from the Parish please notify the office. Thank you.

*From the pastor...*

**The Epiphany of the Lord – Following that star** must have cost the Magi dearly in time, treasure and travel. Following Scripture demanded an even more costly conversion. In Jerusalem's palace, where they naturally expected to find the King of the Jews, the Magi found instead the powerful, pathetic, eventually homicidal Herod. So just like the GPS in our cars, Scripture challenged them to recalculate and journey toward an insignificant village. By humbling themselves to do so, the Magi rediscovered their lost star. Following it led them into a deeper challenge: Could they recognize in a poor child, born to powerless parents, the mystery of God-with-us? They did – and humbly prostrated themselves in heartfelt worship.

King Herod tried to deceive the Magi by telling them "Go and search diligently for the child. When you have found him, bring me word, that I too may go and do him homage." They set out and behold the star preceded them until it came and stopped over the place where the child was. They were overjoyed at seeing the star, and they saw the child with Mary his mother. They prostrated themselves and did him homage. Then they opened their treasures and offered him gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. But they weren't deceived by the powerful King Herod – but having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they departed for their country by another way. Let's not be deceived by ourselves or anyone else.

By showing us that we encounter God personally, not in the splendor of worldly power but in the gentleness of humble love, the Magi challenges us to an ongoing conversion, to chart our course by the bright star of God's unfailing mercy and Jesus' gospel of love.

**Next Sunday** we'll celebrate the end of the Christmas Season with **The Baptism of the Lord**. The readings at Mass will be taken from Isaiah 42:1-4, 6-7; Acts 10:34-38; Luke 3:15-16, 21-22.

**During the construction of our new Social Hall**, we will temporarily discontinue the service of our **Food Closet**. We will continue to take up the monthly collection, and every month, we will donate every penny collected to different and local Christian Ministries with the stipulation that they only use these funds to feed the poor. The place and amount will be listed in the Sunday Bulletin every month. Our parishioners, who daily pick-up day old bread, etc. from Publics grocery store will continue to do so, and deliver it to the local Christian Ministries as well. This way, we will continue this important ministry, until we can re-open our own doors.

The **Forward With Christ Building Campaign** update - Because the publisher of this bulletin requires that we submit them early during the holiday season, the stewardship report is not always up to date. Thanks to your sacrificial generosity, we have the 2.5 million dollars in the bank to pay cash for our new Social Hall, etc. I also thank the members of the Planning & Building Committee for their tireless work. We were told that the old rectory would be razed at the end of January and construction would begin in the beginning of February. We still need to approve the final plans, get the Diocesan approval and sign some papers, etc. We'll keep you informed. Meanwhile, we will continue to collect funds towards Phase II, which will be for the new and larger classrooms, offices, storage, etc., etc.

**For your convenience** and as with last year, a list of your financial contributions to our parish during 2018 will be sent to your homes to assist you with your charitable contributions as you complete your **Income Tax Forms**. As always, we are most grateful for your generous and sacrificial donations. If there are any questions or discrepancies, please don't hesitate to call the office.

**Saturday, Jan 5th**

9:00 a.m. Pro Populo

5:00 p.m. Jody Harris † by Becky Scales

**Sunday, Jan 6th**

8:00 a.m. Deceased family members † by Catholic Daughters

10:30 a.m. Bill Bennett † by Ellen Upton

12:30 p.m.

**Monday, Jan 7th**

9:00 a.m. Danielle Flanagan † by Maryann, Noreen & Bob

**Wednesday, Jan 9th**

6:00 p.m. Robert Marquis † by Carol Micalizzi

**Thursday, Jan 10th**

9:00 a.m. Trish Hutchinson by Maryann, Noreen & Bob

**Friday, Jan 11th**

9:00 a.m. Sam by Charles & Connie Ries

**Saturday, Jan 12th**

5:00 p.m. Patricia Bennett Miller † by Milli Page & Anneliese Bennett

**Sunday, Jan 13th**

8:00 a.m.

10:30 a.m. John & Josephine Ortiz † by Linda Ortiz

12:30 p.m. Felipa de Jesus Perez † by Amelia Vera

**READERS**

Jan 12 5:00 p.m. Linda Fitzgerald

Jan 13 8:00 a.m. Joseph Chulick

10:30 a.m. Jason Wodecki

**EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION**

Jan 12 5:00 p.m. B. Myers (H), I. Poston, R. Reed, C. Ries

Jan 13 8:00 a.m. B. Papandrea (H), P. Klvana, S. Staples

10:30 a.m. L. Hardig (HM), P. Eaverson (HA),

T. Eaverson (HC), S. McMurry, L. Ortiz,  
S. Soltysiak, B. Stickle

**ALTAR SERVER**

Jan 12 5:00 p.m. Kailey L., Reagan L.

Jan 13 8:00 a.m. Evie S., Braeden S.

10:30 a.m. Daniel G., Paul C.

**Happy Birthday 1/6/2018-1/12/2019**

1/6 Ken Jewell, Baltazar Vargas 1/7 Elizabeth Canales, Margarita Morales, Rose Morales, Troy Rutten, Luz Maria Solis

1/8 William Frye, James Masquef, Luis Vega 1/9 Maria Calvo, Benedicto Mejia, Nuvia Mejia, Mary Rash 1/10 Ronald Bakowski, Marta Gould, Christine Johnson, James Kelley, Jose Moreno, Maribel Torres 1/11 Ralph Altavilla, Hebert Marino, Crystal Rogers 1/12 Rashell Alarcon Manzano, Edy Camacho Vargas, Robert Grajewski, Joselyn Santibanez Cruz

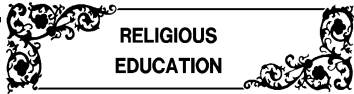
**Happy Anniversary 1/6/2018—1/12/2019**

1/6 Juan & Gemma Rafols, Al & Joyce Martucci

1/8 Andrew & Ann DeRiso

1/11 Bobby & Blanca Overcash

January 6, 2019



RELIGIOUS  
EDUCATION

**Mrs. Mary Brown:** If you need to contact Mrs. Brown, Faith Formation Director, please call or text 704-929-0152 or email her at [faithformationdir@att.net](mailto:faithformationdir@att.net) or if you need to contact **Mrs. Norma Echevarria** please call the office at 704-872-2579 or email her at [echevarria\\_norma@yahoo.com](mailto:echevarria_norma@yahoo.com).

**All sacramental year students** must have a copy of their Baptismal Certificates. All Confirmation students should also have a copy of their First Communion Certificates in their file. Please see Mary or Norma with any questions.

**All sacramental year students** must attend Mass and see the table in the gathering space after Mass to get checked off. Please see Mary or Norma with questions.

**Mass attendance is not taken on weekends there are no Faith Formation classes.** All sacramental Faith Formation students were counted as present the weekend of the snow, Dec. 8th & 9th. Please contact Mary Brown if you have any questions.

**Faith Formation classes start back** up on Sunday, January 6th and Wednesday, January 9th.

PARISH SUPPORT  
CHURCH YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2019

Collections last week

<b>Regular</b>	
5:00 p.m.....	\$.00
8:00 a.m.....	.00
10:30 a.m.....	.00
12:30 p.m.....	<u>.00</u>
Total.....	\$.00

<b>Food Closet</b>	
Total.....	\$.00

<b>Forward With Christ</b>	
Total.....	\$.00

<b>Spanish Food Fundraiser FWC</b>	
Total to date.....	\$21,509.06

Collections Year to Date as of 12/23/2018

	Last year	This Year
Regular	\$204,544.42.....	\$196,017.31
Forward With Christ	.....	<b>1,500,000.00</b>
Phase 2.....		10,295.10
Food Closet	10,002.00.....	10,218.50

*Thank you for returning some of God's gift to you to His Church.*

THE WEEK AHEAD

**Sunday, Jan 6th**

- 9:00 a.m. Faith Formation / Donut & Coffee Social
- 11:00 a.m. Spanish Faith Formation
- 11:30 a.m. Donut & Coffee Social
- 5:00 p.m. Adult Dinner Group

**Monday, Jan 7th**

- 9:30 a.m. Holy Rosary
- 6:30 p.m. Bible Study

**Wednesday, Jan 9th**

- 11:15 a.m. Bible Study
- 6:30 p.m. Faith Formation
- 6:45 p.m. RCIA

**Thursday, Jan 10th**

- 7:00 p.m. Knights of Columbus & Catholic Daughters mtgs

**Sunday, Jan 13th**

- 9:00 a.m. Faith Formation
- 11:00 a.m. Spanish Faith Formation

**12/23/2018 Contribution totals**

Regular.....	\$6,716.76
Forward With Christ .....	3,922.00
Food Closet.....	325.00

**Christmas Contributions 12/24-12/25/2018**

Regular.....	10,305.26
Forward With Christ.....	6,992.00
Food Closet.....	195.00

**Contributions from 12/3018** were unavailable at the time of transmission due to the holiday, totals will be updated in the 1/13/2019 bulletin. Thank you, Regina



**At home..** Richard Homola, Lillian Alvey, Anna Eisele Shingleton, David Eisele, Jessica Allison, Jessica Crosso, Andrew Gulley, Jackie Mejia, Angela Moreno, Howard Stewart, Rick Stoup, Robinette Tilley, Alan Eisele, Joe Stallings, Arthur & Marion Weber, Joan Chiodo, Nelson La-Clair.. **Bryan Center**...Marion Kelly Culler, Frank Bollero.. **Autumn Care**-Monica Charles, Bettye Byers.. **Please pray for the intentions on Our Prayer Tree. To place a name on the Prayer Tree, please sign the Prayer Book in the Lobby or e-mail;grammad1229@gmail.com**

Your Secretary would like to thank everyone for the cards, gifts and candy for Christmas. It was very much appreciated:)