

Jackson County Catholic Community



The Epiphany of the Lord

January 4th, 2026

REFLECTING ON GOD'S WORD

This passage recounts the distinct story from Jesus' childhood in which educated men (*magoi* in Greek) from the East visit Judea after discerning His birth. They aim to pay him homage as the newborn "king of the Jews". They report that the movement of a star (evidently associated with the Judean monarchy) signaled his birth. Their skill in measured stargazing indicates that these visitors were learned men trained in the science of celestial observation (astronomy) and an accompanying symbolic interpretative art (astrology). Such skills, in antiquity, were typically associated with religious leaders such as priests, prophets, or scribes. Under normal circumstances, such experts served a monarch but probably would not have been royalty themselves.

According to our reading, Herod himself had a group of similar advisors (chief priests and scribes). They too were trained in the science of examining official resources (scripture) and applying their own interpretive art (hermeneutics). Consequently, a not-so-subtle contest marks today's Gospel scene. Along those same lines, Herod's official title was "king of the Jews". As the foreign visitors ascribe this title to a newborn who is otherwise unknown in Herod's royal household, they inadvertently announce a threat: an alternate claimant to the throne has been born.

When we recognize these dynamics, we can interpret Herod's secret meeting with these visitors as shrewd political gamesmanship. An earthly king (Herod) covertly seeks to retain his power when confronted by an emergent cosmic king (Jesus). As Herod plays his "Game", political machinations lead him to promise homage to the child-king, but only after his visitors first do the hard work of seeking out the boy. In stark contrast to the learned, hardworking visitors whose scholarship leads them to undertake extensive, perilous travel to find and honor a new, foreign king, Herod remains home to brood over the prospect of a domestic threat.

Although lacking much support from Herod, the visitors ascertain a specific destination—Bethlehem of Judah—as the likely place to find the child. With this modest guidance from scripture (Herod's chief priests and scribes referenced Micah 5:1), the visitors find the child at home, with his mother, Mary. Their homage and gifts indicate that they recognize the child's royal, cosmic status. And, much like Joseph, the travelers follow promptings from a dream and forgo a return trip to Herod thereby protecting themselves and the Holy Family.

Overall, the scene anticipates Jesus' mixed reception from eclectic audiences throughout his life, his passion and death as "king of the Jews", and his resurrection, in which he overcomes the ultimate lethal power, death.

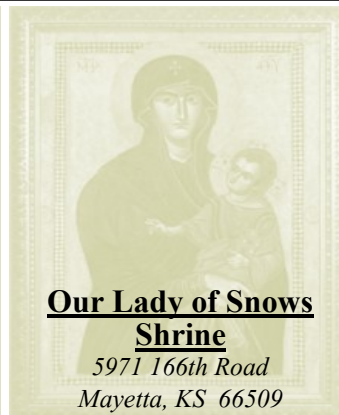
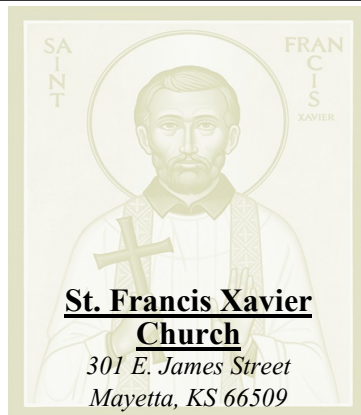
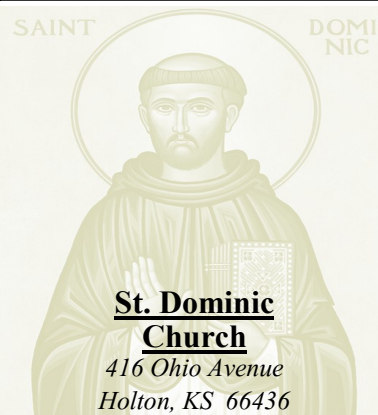
~Eric J. Wagner CR

TODAY'S READINGS:

Reading I: *Isaiah 60:1-6*

Reading II: *Ephesians 3:12-21*

Gospel: *Matthew 2:1-12*



PASTOR

Rev. Fr. Jonathan Dizon

jdizon@archkck.org

For sacramental emergencies, please call the Rectory: (785) 362-7026

PARISH OFFICE:

115 E. 5th St., Holton, KS 66436

Phone: (785) 364-3262

Website: <https://jacocatholics.com>

OFFICE HOURS:

8:30 a.m. ~ 1:30 p.m. Tues.~Thurs.

9:15 a.m. ~ 12 noon Friday

PARISH STAFF:

Pastoral Associate: S. Dyann Parks

parish.jacocatholics@gmail.com

Director Parish Life & Faith Formation:

Angie Reith

jacocatholicsre@gmail.com

Bookkeeper: Vera Rioux

Business Mngr.: Marilyn Atkinson

acct.jacocatholics@gmail.com

Custodians: Kenyon Moran (St. D)

Vera Rioux (St. FX)

WEEKDAY MASS Schedule:

St. Francis Xavier:

8:30 a.m. ~ Tues., and Thurs.

St. Dominic:

5:30 p.m. ~ Wednesday

8:30 a.m. ~ Friday

WEEKEND MASS Schedule:

Saturday Vigil

5:30 p.m. ~ @ St. Dominic

Sunday

7:00 a.m. ~ @ St. Dominic

8:30 a.m. ~ @ St. Francis Xavier

8:30 a.m. ~ @ Our Lady of Snows

10:30 a.m. ~ @ St. Dominic

CONFESSION Schedule:

Wednesday, 6:00 p.m. @ St. Dominic

Weekends, 30 minutes prior to each weekend Mass

(excluding 7:00 a.m. Mass)

ADORATION Schedule:

Wednesday, 6:00 p.m. @ St. Dominic

BAPTISM: Those requesting baptism

for their children need to be registered parishioners. Preparation classes are required for parents and Godparents prior to event.

MARRIAGE: Preparation begins with initial consult with parish priest. Please allow at least six months notice to fulfill the Archdiocesan marriage requirements.

ANOINTING of the SICK: Call the office during business hours. Call the rectory after hours or for emergencies.

If no answer, call (785) 364-7402.

DECLARATION of NULLITY:

Please call the parish office for details.

MINISTRY SCHEDULE: next week

The Baptism of the Lord

Jan. 10th & 11th	Sat. 01/10 @ 5:30 pm SD	Sun. 01/11 @ 7:00 am SD	Sun. 01/11 @ 8:30 am SFX	Sun. 01/11 @ 10:30 am SD
SACRISTAN	Wanda Weldin		Joann Walker	Josh Shupe
MUSIC	Cody Utz		Andrea Bailey Tony Rioux	Jenea Chartier Dyann Parks
LECTOR	Barb Heideman	CANCELLED	Marguerite Mzhickteno	Zach Lancaster
GREETER- USHER	Kenyon & Carolyn Moran		Jim & Marsha Seematter	Lee & Pam Doyle
EMHC	Tom Heideman		Marceta Reilly	Judy Arnold
Acolytes			Lanna Brown (CB) Charlii Brown, Izzy Harris	Colton Grisell (CB) Colby Grisell, Kyla Tanking

Homebound Communion Ministers: Niki Meerpohl (*St. Dominic*), Sharon Cole (*St. Francis Xavier*), and Annette Schreiber (*Nursing Homes*)

CALENDAR of EVENTS

January 5th, Monday Parish Office is Closed 6:30 p.m. Rosary Fellowship	St. Dominic Hall
January 6th, Tuesday 8:30 a.m. MASS	St. Francis Xavier
January 7th, Wednesday 5:30 p.m. MASS 6:00 p.m. NO Adoration OR Reconciliation 6:00 p.m. Catechist Appreciation Event 6:30 p.m. NO Religious Ed.	St. Dominic St. Dominic St. Dominic Hall St. Dominic Hall
January 8th, Thursday 8:30 a.m. MASS 6:00 p.m. O.C.I.A.	St. Francis Xavier St. Dominic Office
January 9th, Friday 8:30 a.m. MASS	St. Dominic
January 10th, Saturday 5:00 p.m. Confession 5:30 p.m. Mass 6:30 p.m. K of C Card Party	St. Dominic St. Dominic St. Dominic Hall
January 11th, Sunday 7:00 a.m. NO MASS 8:00 a.m. Confession 8:30 a.m. Mass 9:30 a.m. Religious Ed. 8:30 a.m. Mass 10:00 a.m. Confession 10:30 a.m. Mass	St. Dominic St. Francis Xavier St. Francis Xavier St. Francis Xavier Our Lady of Snows St. Dominic St. Dominic
January 12th, Monday Parish Office is Closed 6:00 p.m. Altar Society Mtg.	St. Dominic Hall

NEWS and ANNOUNCEMENTS



Knights of Columbus

Knight & Family of the Month For December

St. Francis Xavier
Larry & Jolene
Larkin

St. Dominic
Tom & Dee
McAsey

IGNITE FOR LIFE & KANSAS MARCH FOR LIFE

Topeka Performing Arts Center

JANUARY 28, 2026

Come Holy Spirit, enflame our hearts to protect the lives of unborn children and expectant women!



IGNITE for Life
9:00am



KS Mass for Life
10:30am



KS March for Life
12:00pm



REGISTER TODAY! archkck.org/ignite

All events are free.

PASTORAL COUNCILS

<i>St. Dominic</i>	<i>St. Francis Xavier</i>
Jenea Chartier	Jeri Albright
Jessi Deters	Marie Burdiek
Cathy Haug	Ben Ehrhart
Wayne Leiker	Chris Everts
Niki Meerpohl	Mike Henry
Joshua Shupe	Marquerite
Theresa Watkins	Mzhickteno

FINANCE COUNCILS

<i>St. Dominic</i>	<i>St. Francis Xavier</i>
Barb Heideman	Mary Lou Koch
David Ashcraft	Sharon Cole
Diane Gross	Farrell Holthaus
Mark Starr	Donald Sunday



PARISH STEWARDSHIP
December 27th & 28th, 2025

	St. Dominic	St. Francis Xavier
Envelopes	\$6,298.00	\$1,370.00
Plate	1,206.00	636.45
TOTAL	\$7,504.00	\$2,006.45
<i>Week of December 20th & 21st</i>	\$6,047.21	\$1,174.00
<i>Week of December 13th & 14th</i>	\$3,141.00	\$1,383.00

PRAYER INTENTIONS

INTENTIONS OF POPE LEO XIV 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.

INTENTIONS OF FR. JONATHAN FOR JANUARY:

That the new calendar year would bring joy, inspiration and hope to all.

PARISH PRAYER INTENTIONS:

Parishioners:

Barbara Bausch	Bill Berns	Bob Butts	Mary Devader
Steve Devlin	Mildred Eisenbarth	Sheila Fernkopf	Freda Galer
Martin John Hamm	Mary Harris	Pat Hasenkamp	Ed Hrenchir
Carolyn Koger	Karen McClaskey	Mike McClaskey	Don Morford
Mary Morford	Richard Mulroy	Mike Myers	Joe Purcell
Larry Reilly	Ramona Robinson	Barb Schussler	Kade Sides
Arneil Springer	Evelyn Sullivan	Ray Zeller	

Relatives of Parishioners:

Jorgan Beck	Christopher Brown	Roger Brown	James DeVader
Don Dillner	Brad Fiedler	Dennis Fiedler	Jennifer Fiedler
Mike Fiedler	Sherri Fiedler	Warren Fiedler	Van Fuqua
Allan Gibson	Gladys Gibson	Kase Glassel	Jamie Goldman
Vickie Goodman	Dan Gruber	Eric Harris	Floyd Klein
Felicia Nicholes	Lainey Parks	Leonard Riley	Danyell Russell
Butch Schiffbauer	Linda Schiffbauer	Anna Segenhagen	

PRAYERS FOR OUR MEN AND WOMEN IN UNIFORM:

US Army: MP ANG Therron Fox SSgt. Matthew Zeller **US Marines:** Maj. JP Turner
US Navy: E-5 Dennis Reed Potter **US Air Force:** MSgt. Dylan Parks, TSgt. Nicole Parks

To place or remove someone's name on the prayer list, please call the Parish Office.

MASS INTENTIONS for the WEEK

January 3rd (Sat) 5:30 p.m. St. Dominic	The Epiphany of the Lord All Parishioners, Living & Deceased
January 4th (Sun) 7:00 a.m. St. Dominic 8:30 a.m. St. Francis Xavier 10:30 a.m. St. Dominic	The Epiphany of the Lord NO MASS Corky Albright+ Mary Harris
January 6th (Tues) 8:30 a.m. St. Francis Xavier	St Andre Bessette, Religious Mark Dolinar+ Ray Serafin+
January 7th (Wed) 5:30 p.m. St. Dominic	St Raymond of Penyafort, Priest Charlene Herbers+ Bob & Harriet Buchholz+
January 8th (Thurs) 8:30 a.m. St. Francis Xavier	Christmas Weekday Bob Bausch+ Frank & Ann Sosna+
January 9th (Fri) 8:30 a.m. St. Dominic	Christmas Weekday Gail Schmitz+ Megan Yonke+
January 10th (Sat) 5:30 p.m. St. Dominic	The Baptism of the Lord John & Barbara Grau Family Members, Living & Deceased
January 11th (Sun) 7:00 a.m. St. Dominic 8:30 a.m. St. Francis Xavier 10:30 a.m. St. Dominic	The Baptism of the Lord NO MASS Marcelline Meyer+ All Parishioners, Living & Deceased

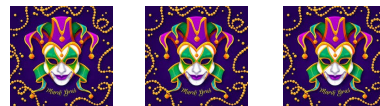
RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CORNER

Angie Reith, Director of Religious Education
 (785) 364-5941 or jacocatholicsre@gmail.com

UPCOMING DATES OF IMPORTANCE...

Class will resume...

Jan. 11th → **St. FX**
 Jan. 14th → **St. D**



Catechists'
Appreciation Event
January 7th, 2026, 6:00 p.m.
 St. Dominic Parish Hall

CLASS TIMES

St. Dominic:
 Wednesdays 6:30 – 7:30 p.m.
St. Francis Xavier:
 Sundays 9:30–10:30 a.m.

Sisters of Mary
World Villages for Children

ACT FAST!
Limited Space
Register Today!

A Pilgrimage for Life to Our Lady of Guadalupe
 Plus an unforgettable trip to the Sisters of Mary Girlstown
February 27 – March 2, 2026

Seek Our Lady's Blessing:

- Climb Tepeyac Hill where the pregnant Blessed Mother appeared and spoke to St. Juan Diego in 1531
- Celebrate Daily Mass
- Learn about the work of Venerable Aloysius Schwartz, founder of the Sisters of Mary
- Witness how the Sisters of Mary are transforming the lives of poor children through education, faith formation, and vocational skills training

Scan to register

For more information contact:
pilgrimages@worldvillages.org
www.worldvillages.org

Archbishop Emeritus Joseph F. Naumann of the Archdiocese of Kansas City

Fr. Anthony Saiki, Vice-Chancellor, Director of Canonical Services Kansas City, Rector at Cathedral of St. Peter

Fr. Luke Prihoda of St. Rose of Lima Parish Schulenburg, Texas

THEMES: THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD, YEAR A

Epiphany is celebrated on the Sunday between January 2nd and January 8th. The feast of the Epiphany of Our Lord commemorates when Jesus Christ was revealed as the Messiah. The Gospel of Matthew recounts that three wise men from the East visited our savior after His birth and acknowledged Him with gifts representing kingship, priesthood, and death.

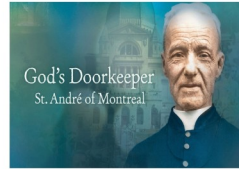
- ◆ **Jesus as Light:** Jesus is the light that shines in the darkness. He guides all people to God.
- ◆ **Universal Mission:** Jesus came for all nations and people. His salvation is not limited to one group.
- ◆ **Fulfillment of Prophecy:** Isaiah's prophecy about light and gifts is fulfilled in Jesus. The gifts of the Magi show this connection.
- ◆ **Humility and Kingship:** Jesus is a humble king. He shows true power through love and gentleness.
- ◆ **Inclusiveness:** Paul teaches that both Jews and Gentiles share in Jesus' promises. The Epiphany shows that everyone is included in God's plan.
- ◆ **Guidance of the Star:** The Star leads the Magi to Jesus. This shows God's guidance to all who seek Him.
- ◆ **Gift Giving:** The Magi bring gifts to honor Jesus. This shows recognition of His kingship and divinity.
- ◆ **Contrast with Herod:** Herod's fear and violence contrast with Jesus' humble birth. This shows the difference between earthly and heavenly kingship.

These themes remind us of the rich meaning of the Feast of the Epiphany. They invite us to reflect on Jesus' mission and our role in spreading His light.

(YoungCatholics.org)



This Week on Formed
Week of January 04, 2026



God's Doorkeeper

This week, we celebrate the memorial of a humble doorkeeper, St. André of Montreal. Learn how this man became a great saint through his small acts of love!



The Three Wise Men

Ms. Kim explains the Solemnity of the Epiphany and the importance of the wise men's gifts by teaching students how to draw the three magi. She challenges kids to do an act of kindness for someone, offering it as a gift to Jesus.



Epiphany

Have you ever wondered what the Epiphany is? In this engaging episode of the True Meaning of Christmas, join Dr. Michael Barber to find out what the Epiphany is.

Our parish has a Formed subscription. Visit signup.formed.org and select our parish name.

An offering from the AUGUSTINE INSTITUTE

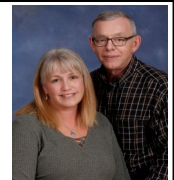
Chapel Oaks Funeral Home

Wayne & Karen Leiker

Holton
524 Pennsylvania Ave.
(785) 364-2141

Nancy Bailey, Sean Cahill, Sharon Gabriel, Shirley Horr, Sarah Milligan, Jeff Moszeter, Brenda Pahlmahmie, Mike Spade, Kathy Wende
chapelsoaksfuneralhome.com

Hoyt
100 Apache Drive
(785) 986-6548



Serving the families of St. Dominic and St. Francis Xavier Catholic Churches for over 90 years.



Chris & Tracy Mercer
Jim Braum, Kaleb Smith,
Travis Farwell, Alberta Lierz
Linda Beightel, Camille Jones,
Judy Strawn, Phyllis Scott,
Rena Askren, Rita Ent,
Candee Jacobs, Terri Young,
Kathleen Armstrong,
Freda Smith Phil Dunn,
June Huston, Mike Kirby

1101 West 4th St
Holton, Kansas
(785) 364-2626

810 Broadway St
Valley Falls, Kansas
(785) 945 - 3223

www.mercerfuneralhomes.com



521 N. Arizona
Holton, KS 66436

(785) 364-2111



2404 NE Grantville Rd.
Topeka, Kansas 66608
Office (785) 354-4000
Fax (785) 354-4007

TIM MULROY
President
Call: (785) 640-6401
E-mail tim@blackgoldinc.biz



Chris Gross, Owner
(785) 364-5600



12423 Memory Lane
Holton, Kansas 66436

chrisgrossconstruction.com



Locally Owned
Long-Term Care

www.thepinesofholton.com
(785) 364-0106



Local Full-Service Grocery Store
423 Arizona Ave., Holton, KS
(785) 362-7997



HEARTLAND VETERINARY HEALTH CENTER
Animal Care with Quality and Compassion.

2107 Frontage Rd
Holton, KS 66436
785.364.4495

Dr. Donald Sunday, DVM
Dr. Amy Sunday, DVM

heartlandvetks@yahoo.com • heartlandvetholton.com



118 W 5th Street Holton, KS 66436
Business Phone (785) 364 4662
Toll Free: 1 800 569 5198
Fax: 888 541 8017
www.edwardjones.com



Shannon Wright
Financial Advisor
www.edwardjones.com/shannon-wright



Robyn Wright
Financial Advisor
robbyn.wright@edwardjones.com