



SACRED HEART BEAT

JANUARY 2020

NEWSLETTER OF SACRED HEART PARISH

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Three Theories on What Caused the Star the Wise Men Followed



According to Matthew's Gospel, the Magi from the east were guided by a star that came to rest over the birthplace of Jesus (Matthew 2:9). In modern times, various attempts have been made to explain the star in terms of astronomical phenomena. Here are three possibilities:

1. A Conjunction of Planets – In 1595, German astronomer Johannes Kepler

discovered the periodic conjunction of Saturn and Jupiter. Planetary conjunctions occur when two or more planets appear, from our earthbound perspective, to approach each other before separating again. Kepler argued that the Star of the Magi, rather than being a single celestial body, was actually a conjunction of Saturn and Jupiter that occurred in the constellation of Pisces in the year 7 BC. Kepler showed that, in 7 BC a rare triple conjunction of these planets took place. However, there are significant problems with this theory. For one thing, the star by which the Magi were guided must have directed their paths for at least several weeks. Yet, none of these planetary conjunctions would have lasted for more than a few days. Arthur C. Clarke, in his book *Report on Planet Three* identifies a further problem with Kepler's theory: 'Better calculations than those [Kepler] was able to make in the seventeenth century have shown that this particular conjunction was not a very close one, and the planets were always far enough apart to be easily separated by the eye. Moreover, there was a closer conjunction in 66BC, which on Kepler's theory should have brought a delegation of wise men to Bethlehem sixty years too soon!'

2. A Comet – In the late second century, the early Christian theologian Origen proposed that the Star of the Magi might be a comet. In a paper published in the *Quarterly Journal of the Royal Astronomical Society* in 1991, British physicist Colin J. Humphreys defended the idea that the Star of the Magi was in fact a comet. He argued that 'an examination of historical records shows that comets were interpreted as heralding both good and bad major events, in particular the births and deaths of kings and important victories or defeats in wars.' The theory that the Star of the Magi was a comet has been defended more recently by Colin Nicholl, in his 2015 book, *The Great Christ Comet – Revealing the True Star of Bethlehem*.

3. An Angelic Presence? – Another theory is that the Star of the Magi was some angelic presence, or even some other supernatural phenomena. The Christian who subscribes to a worldview that includes the supernatural need not necessarily subscribe to any naturalistic explanation of the Bethlehem star.

Conclusion – There are some other alternative ideas including the hypothesis that the astronomical phenomenon resulted from a nova or from a supernova. If one is to subscribe to some naturalistic

hypothesis, then I would suggest that the comet hypothesis seems to be the most plausible.

There might be no naturalistic explanation of the Star of the Magi, and it may instead be the result of supernatural phenomena. But whatever the explanation, we can rejoice that God has broken into human history in the person of Jesus Christ, and made himself known at an intimate level to mankind.

This presentation is from an article written by Jonathan McLatchie and found on Premier Christianity.com

Adult Religious Formation Team Commission – Karl Grover

JANUARY AT A GLANCE

Jan. 2 ~ Adult Religious Formation Team Meeting, 6:00 PM
 Jan. 6 ~ Faith Formation Scripture Study, 7:00 PM
 Jan. 7 ~ Knights of Columbus Meeting, 7:00 PM
 Jan. 7 ~ Choir Practice, 7:00 PM, Choir Loft
 Jan. 8 ~ Adoration, 9:00 AM to 10:00 PM
 Jan. 8 ~ Game Morning, 9:30 to 11:30 AM
 Jan. 8 ~ PSR Classes (Gr. K-8), 6:00 to 7:30 PM
 Jan. 8 ~ PSR Classes (Gr. 9-12), 6:30 to 8:00 PM
 Jan. 8 ~ RCIA, 7:00 PM
 Jan. 9 ~ Stewardship Council Meeting, 6:30 PM
 Jan. 12 ~ Women's Prayer Group, 8:45 AM
 Jan. 12 ~ Kapaun's Men Group, 8:45 AM
 Jan. 13 ~ Faith Formation Scripture Study, 7:00 PM
 Jan. 14 ~ Safety Committee Meeting, 6:00 PM
 Jan. 14 ~ Choir Practice, 7:00 PM, Choir Loft
 Jan. 15 ~ Adoration, 9:00 AM to 10:00 PM
 Jan. 15 ~ "Lunch with Friends", 12:00 PM
 Jan. 15 ~ Endowment Board Meeting, 5:00 PM
 Jan. 15 ~ PSR Classes (Gr. K-8), 6:00 to 7:30 PM
 Jan. 15 ~ Confirmation Mentor Session, 6:30 PM
 Jan. 15 ~ PSR Classes (Gr. 9-12), 6:30 to 8:00 PM
 Jan. 15 ~ RCIA, 7:00 PM
 Jan. 16 ~ Pastoral Council Meeting, 6:30 PM
 Jan. 19 ~ Confirmation Retreat, 10:00 AM to 6:00 PM, Great Bend
 Jan. 19 ~ Altar Society Meeting, 5:00 PM
 Jan. 20 ~ Heart to Heart Ministry Meeting, 6:30 PM
 Jan. 20 ~ Faith Formation Scripture Study, 7:00 PM
 Jan. 21 ~ Finance/Property Meeting, 12:00 Noon
 Jan. 21 ~ Liturgy Commission Meeting, 5:30 PM
 Jan. 22 ~ Adoration, 9:00 AM to 10:00 PM
 Jan. 22 ~ PSR Classes (Gr. K-8), 6:00 to 7:30 PM
 Jan. 22 ~ PSR Classes (Gr. 9-12), 6:30 to 8:00 PM
 Jan. 22 ~ RCIA, 7:00 PM
 Jan. 27 ~ Faith Formation Scripture Study, 7:00 PM
 Jan. 29 ~ Adoration, 9:00 AM to 10:00 PM
 Jan. 29 ~ PSR Classes (Gr. K-8), 6:00 PM to 7:30 PM
 Jan. 29 ~ PSR Second Grade Parent Meeting, 6:30 PM
 Jan. 29 ~ PSR Classes (Gr. 9-12), 6:30 PM to 8:00 PM
 Jan. 29 ~ RCIA, 7:00 PM



FINANCE/PROPERTY COMMISSION

- ❖ Did not meet in December
- ❖ Next meeting: January 21, 2020 @ 12:00 Noon

PASTORAL COUNCIL

- ❖ Did not meet in December
- ❖ Next meeting: January 16, 2020 @ 12:00 Noon

HEART TO HEART MINISTRY

- ❖ Met December 16th
- ❖ Members present: Kathy Kazmaier, Debbie Steinert, Mary Klinge, Lee Gilcris, Barbara Hammond, Melinda Axman, Sally Dreiling.
- ❖ Barbara gave a card ministry report.
- ❖ Planned the next cupcake project for Thursday, February 13th.
- ❖ The items will be taken to the Food Pantry from our Reverse Advent Calendar project on December 30th.
- ❖ The group prepared and addressed Christmas cards to send to our active and retired priests in the Diocese.
- ❖ Next meeting: January 20, 2020 @ 6:30 PM



PRO-LIFE BABY SHOWER

Throughout the month of January the Knights of Columbus will be conducting their Pro-Life Baby Shower with the proceeds given to Catholic Social Services. A crib is in the entrance of church where you may leave your items (maternity & baby clothing, diapers, blankets, bottles, formula, etc.) or you may bring them to the Parish Center during the week. Monetary donations may be placed in the weekend collection; mark the envelope "Pro-Life Baby Shower". Thanks for your support & prayers.



Knights of Columbus 51st Annual Sausage Supper

Thursday – February 6, 2020

5:00 to 7:30 PM

Adults: \$9.00 Under 12: \$5.00

Preschool: Free

K of C Hall on Scenic Drive ~ 1216 M Road



GAME MORNING

Wednesday, January 8th ~ 9:30 to 11:30 am
Parish Education Center

Come enjoy the entertainment, laughs and fellowship.
Refreshments will be provided!

THE ORPHAN GRAIN TRAIN is seeking new board members. The OGT board meets every couple months, holds annual garage sales/fundraisers, sorts and packs donated items into boxes, and loads the boxes onto the truck when it arrives. A few good men are needed to run the pallet lift. Anyone interested in serving is asked to call Lois Eye at 620-804-0019.



PSR NEWS

Welcome back to a routine!! The holidays are over and hopefully we all recovered and are back to a regular schedule. What were your New Year's resolutions for this year? Two things that I have found that I would like to adopt is having each person in your family decide on a word for your year and then agreeing on a family bible verse for the year. What a unique way to start off the New Year.

Obviously, you will be getting this newsletter after the New Year has started, but don't let that stop you. I am betting most of us haven't started or ironed out our family's goals, words, bible verses or whatever it is we do for the New Year. Figure it's not worth it as you will never follow through for the whole year? Don't let that stop you!! Once again, I would venture a guess that more of us don't finish these activities for the entire year than do and the planning and working together to form a plan is one of the most important elements of the activity. I promise this will stay with your kids forever.

Personally, we have had a really rough 2019. My patience has been lacking with my family and myself more than even my normal. I'm looking forward to starting fresh and with a more positive outlook on 2020. What about you?

Christmas Blessings! Stacy Sanger, CRE

P.S. Don't forget....leaving those trees up until The Epiphany of the Lord is fair game and a fantastic way to remind our children the Christmas season doesn't end on Christmas Day!

January 2020 PSR Schedule

- January 1st – No Class – Christmas Break
- January 8th – Regular Classes
- January 15th – Regular Classes
- January 15th – Confirmation Mentor Session
- January 19th – Confirmation Retreat, Great Bend
- January 22nd – Regular Classes
- January 29th – Second Grade Parent Meeting
- January 29th – Regular Classes

THANK YOU

We can always depend on you, our Sacred Heart parishioners, to come through when there is a need. The need to help with restocking the shelves at the local Food Pantry has lightened because of your generous response to the "Reverse Advent Calendar." For that, the volunteers of the Heart to Heart Ministry say a very sincere "THANK YOU!"

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

- | | |
|-----------------------|---------------------------|
| (01) Philip Hammeke | (17) Logan DeMond |
| (02) Josh Holmes | Shannon Foster |
| Colleen Wolf | Darrell Tanner |
| (04) Samuel Gonzalez | Kim Walker |
| (05) Michele Collins | Gretchen Whittington |
| Gavin Reece | (18) Morgan Kelty |
| Troy Welsch | (19) Joe Gasser |
| (06) Cindy Colglazier | (20) Rosendo Cenicerros |
| Shawn Gasser | Regis Lopata |
| Jared Skelton | Madelyn Mull |
| (07) Lewis McDonald | Roy Penka |
| Kate Reece | (21) Alyxandra LeRoy |
| (08) Tanner Lang | (22) Mickey Perez |
| (09) Jason Hammeke | (23) Matthew Fitzsimmons |
| (10) Mary Perez | Stacy Parr |
| Beverly Taylor | Mike Schartz |
| (11) Jesse Medina | (24) Kimberleigh Chilcott |
| Owen Reece | Eli Fox |
| (12) Ramona Howard | Bud Johnson |
| Bethany Steinlage | (25) Carol Moeder |
| (13) Sydney Bailey | Judy VonFeldt |
| (14) Ray Colglazier | (26) Xavier Hammeke |
| Kathy Flores | (27) Gage Hammeke |
| (15) Camden McDonald | Hailey Sickles |
| Pat Thompson | Camry Snyder |
| (16) Mark Lessard | Teagan Walker |
| Jim Ryan | (29) Amy Froetschner |
| Chris Whittington | Palmer Froetschner |
| | Jim Mitchell |
| | Karen Stacey |
| | (30) Ann Hutfles |
| | Benton Simmons |



JANUARY ANNIVERSARIES

- (02) Jon Roy and Michelle Kely
 (05) Michael and Amy Simmons
 (11) Dennis and Pam Theis



DIED IN CHRIST

Leonardo B. Mabugat ~ November 30, 2019
 Cecilia A. Hall ~ December 8, 2019



BAPTIZED IN CHRIST

Baker Ty, the son of
 Ty & Kayla Josefiak on November 23, 2019

James Thomas, the son of
 Bret & Paige (Bauer) Wilkens on November 30, 2019

Ignacio Rafael Gonzalez, the son of
 Rafael Rodriguez & Guadalupe Gonzalez on
 December 21, 2019

Remember with Prayer

Grace Perez
 Fhen Perez
 Don Jensen
 Eleanor Sanders
 Ann Haremza
 Frank Garcia
 Jayden Waller
 John Harmon
 Fr. Warren Stecklein
 Fr. Charles Mazouch



Betty Tauscher
 Sharon Larsen
 Corrine Brack
 Mickey Perez
 Clayton Kelty
 Rita Sanger
 Trenton Welsch
 Sue Haymaker
 Kevin Simmons
 Ryan Shelton

All of our men and women serving in the
 United States Military



Lunch Time

The January "Lunch with Friends" will be Wednesday, January 15th in the Parish Education Center. All are invited to come enjoy lunch and visit. Please call Pam 285-2035, by January 10th if you plan to attend so that enough food is prepared. We look forward to seeing you for lunch!

KNIGHTS JANUARY EVENTS

- Jan. 7 Knights of Columbus Meeting, 7:00 PM
 Jan. 18 Pheasants Forever (R)
 Jan. 25 USDA Dinner (G)
 Feb. 6 K of C Annual Sausage Supper, 5:00 to 7:30 PM



NET INCOME/EXPENSES BEGINNING JULY 1, 2019

	NOVEMBER	YTD
INCOME:		
Collections	13,729.75	73,373.41
Special Donations	1,140.00	1,140.00
Endowment	3,500.00	3,500.00
Interest	3,765.57	3,869.65
Farm	642.64	8,062.67
PSR		13,358.50
Fundraisers	746.82	1,590.19
Miscellaneous	<u>1026.00</u>	<u>5,040.00</u>
TOTAL	\$24,550.78	\$109,934.42
EXPENSES:		
Stewardship	1,324.68	8,291.70
Salaries	11,020.82	61,260.88
Insurance	851.00	10,994.00
Utilities	1,896.69	10,874.72
Maintenance	531.45	7,508.45
Improvement		
Office	2,221.15	6,532.18
PSR		11,711.06
Farm		798.29
Miscellaneous	<u>1,892.42</u>	<u>7,508.38</u>
TOTAL	\$19,738.21	\$125,479.66
		YTD: (\$15,545.24)



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A Prayer for the New Year

Come, Holy Spirit,

Spirit of the Risen Christ,

Be with us today and always.

Be our Light, our Guide, and our Comforter.

Be our Strength, our Courage, and our Sanctifier.

May this new year be a time

Of deep spiritual growth for us,

A time of welcoming your graces and gifts,

A time for forgiving freely and unconditionally,

A time for growing in virtue and goodness.

Come, Holy Spirit,

Be with us today and always.

Amen.

