



*We saw his star
at its rising and have come
to do him homage.*

Matthew 2:2



St. Dominic Church

January 7, 2024

Pastoral Staff

Father George P. Schommer, O.P., Pastor
 Father Bede Shipp, O.P., Parochial Vicar
 Ms. Maggie Friedmann, Pastoral Ministry Intern

Parish Staff

Pastoral Associate - Margaret Maxwell
 Business/Facilities Manager - Ed Von Hagel
 Music Director - Denny Layendecker
 Assistant to the Music Director - J.C. Cantrell

Parish Pastoral Council

Philip Clarke	Doris Stukes
Jules Hurst	Susan Timoney
Tim Lang	Carrie Traverso
Maggie LaPrairie	

Parish Finance Council

Thomas Bolger	MJ Morrow
Jim Courtney	Carol Pica
Michael Grace	Scott Warady

Celebration of Holy Mass

Saturday: 9:00 a.m.; 5:00 p.m. (Vigil of Sunday)
 Sunday: 8:00 a.m., 10:30 a.m., 5:00 p.m.
 Weekdays: 8:00 a.m. and 12:10 p.m.
 (8:00 a.m. **only** on a Federal Holiday)

Holy Days: See Bulletin or Website

Celebration of the Sacrament of Reconciliation

Monday-Friday: 11:45 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.
 Thursday: 7:00 p.m. - 7:45 p.m.
 Saturday: 4:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.
 Sunday: 9:45 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.

* Or by appointment through the Parish Office

Eucharistic Adoration and Holy Hour

Thursday: 7:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Devotions—Rosary Shrine of St. Jude

Rosary: 11:45 a.m. Monday-Friday
 (not on Federal holidays)

Scriptural Rosary: 9:45 a.m. Saturday

Administration of the Sacraments

- **Baptism**
 Please contact the Parish Office.
"Parents are obliged to take care that infants are baptized in the first few weeks."
 (Code of Canon Law, 867§1).
- **Matrimony**
 Please contact the Parish Office.
 A minimum of six months preparation is required by the Archdiocese.
- **Holy Eucharist at Home**
 Please contact the Parish Office.
- **Anointing of the Sick or Prayers for the Dying**
 Please contact the Parish Office.

Church & Parish Office Addresses & Hours

Church — 501 6th Street, SW
 Parish Office/Priory — 630 E Street, SW
 Washington, DC 20024
 Phone: (202) 554-7863
 Fax: (202) 554-0231

Web address — www.StDominicChurch.org
 E-mail — Office@StDominicChurch.org
 FaceBook — [stdominicchurhdc](https://www.facebook.com/stdominicchurhdc)

Parish Office Hours
 Monday-Friday: 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m.

Church Hours
 Monday-Friday: 7 a.m.-7 p.m.
 Saturday: 8 a.m.-7 p.m.
 Sunday: 7 a.m.-7 p.m.
 Federal Holidays: 7 a.m.-9 a.m.

Community Fellowship with Coffee & Donuts

Each Sunday after the 10:30 a.m. Mass,
 in the parish meeting room
 (unless otherwise noted).
 All are welcome.



Recently, someone told me a story about the late Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia. I found reference to the story on the Newsweek website. Justice Scalia attended Georgetown University for his undergraduate degree. At that time, an oral examination was a prerequisite for graduation. Near the end of that exam, his history professor Walter Wilkerson tossed him what he believed to be a real softball question: Which of all the historical events he had studied was the most important? Scalia recalled thinking that there was obviously no single correct answer. The Battle at Lepanto; the American Revolution; and the French Revolution all came to mind. Scalia states, "I forgot what I picked because it was all driven out of my mind when Dr. Wilkerson informed me of the right answer. Of course, it was the Incarnation."

I imagine that very few people would provide the right answer to the same question, myself included. While we believe in the Incarnation of God in the Person of Jesus, the significance of his human birth seems to be lost in the fog of so many other human/world events. Nevertheless, the impact and influence of the birth of Jesus in the little town of Bethlehem remains in modern times. For example, the numbering of calendar years. "A.D." is the abbreviation of *Anno Domini*, the year of the Lord. While there are attempts to rename the numbering to C.E. (Common/Current Era), the year numbering used around the world finds its beginning with the birth of Christ.

The observance of Epiphany Sunday today reminds us that the manifestation or revelation of Jesus to the world changes the course of history. He comes for the whole of humanity. He comes for every human heart. No one is omitted from God's plan of redemption and salvation. As St. Paul writes to Timothy, God "desires all people to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth" (1 Tim 2:4). When each person encounters Jesus and comes to faith in him as Lord and Savior, life moves forward in a new direction. Such a change is indicated in the Gospel reading for today when we are told that the magi "departed for their country by another way."

Christmas joy can remain with us throughout the year because the Incarnate Lord remains with us in the Holy Eucharist. He is truly present, Body and Blood, Soul, and Divinity. We encounter his Real Presence in Eucharistic

Adoration and Holy Communion. As Jesus taught, "For my flesh is true food, and my blood is true drink. Whoever feeds on my flesh and drinks my blood abides in me, and I in him"(Jn 6:55-56). There is a sacramental Incarnation of the Lord at every Mass. Bread becomes his Body, wine becomes his Blood. He is the "source and summit of the Christian life"(Catechism 1324). In your prayer, consider how this sacramental Incarnation is an historical event in your life. Ponder how the Lord is sharing his life with you. Surrender to his truth and will for your life. Choose to be his disciple on a new way that leads to the fulness of life.

Let us love one another and pray for each other,

Fr. George, O.P.

George P. Schommer, O.P.
Pastor

Volunteers Needed
to help
*Un-Deck
the Halls*
Tuesday, January 9
after the 8 a.m. Mass
in the Church

Monday January 8	Tuesday January 9	Wednesday January 10	Thursday January 11	Friday January 12	Saturday January 13	Sunday January 14
A.A. Meeting 12 p.m. <i>Parish Mtg Room</i>	A.A. Meeting 12 p.m. <i>Parish Mtg Room</i>	A.A. Meeting 12 p.m. <i>Parish Mtg Room</i>	A.A. Meeting 12 p.m. <i>Parish Mtg Room</i>	A.A. Meeting 12 p.m. <i>Parish Mtg Room</i>	Scriptural Rosary 9:30 a.m. <i>Church</i>	Modern Well- Married Saints & Holy Couples 9:15 a.m. <i>Parish Mtg Room</i>
		Music Ministry Rehearsal 7 p.m. <i>Church</i>	Holy Hour 7 p.m. <i>Church</i>		Becoming Catholic 10 - 11:30 a.m. <i>Parish Conf Room</i>	Donut Social after the 10:30 a.m. Mass <i>Parish Mtg Room</i>
						Parish Council Mtg 11:45 a.m. <i>Parish Conf Room</i>
						Religious Movie Seminar 6:30 p.m. <i>Parish Mtg Room</i>

Sanctuary Candle



*For our parish community: that we may
constantly keep Jesus as the center of
our lives.*

Arrangements to donate the Sanctuary Candle for a week for \$15 or a Mass Intention for \$10, can be made in the Parish Office.

Let Us Pray For...

THE SICK AND THE HOMEBOUND:

Phyllis Chesley, Nora Courtney, Eileen Maturi, and Frances White.

THOSE IN THE MILITARY SERVICES:

All those serving in our country and around the world.

THE RECENTLY DECEASED:

Frank Chesley, and all of our beloved dead.

This Week's Mass Intentions

Sunday, January 7

- 5:00 p.m. (Vigil) † Michelle Ramstack
- 8:00 a.m. People of the Parish
- 10:30 a.m. Rosary Shrine of St. Jude Benefactors
- 5:00 p.m. St. Jude Novena in honor of New Year

Monday, January 8

- 8:00 a.m. St. Jude Novena in honor of New Year
- 12:10 p.m. Joanna Shaw

Tuesday, January 9

- 8:00 a.m. † Rev. Alexander Mercier, OP
- 12:10 p.m. St. Jude Novena in honor of New Year

Wednesday, January 10

- 8:00 a.m. St. Jude Novena in honor of New Year
- 12:10 p.m. Mary Healey

Thursday, January 11

- 8:00 a.m.
- 12:10 p.m.

Friday, January 12

- 8:00 a.m.
- 12:10 p.m.

Saturday, January 13

- 9:00 a.m. Joyce K. S. Babiak

ALL ARE INVITED
Solemn Vespers
 on
Epiphany Sunday
 January 7th
 7 PM

Reception immediately following
 in the parish meeting room

TONIGHT



St. Dominic Church

Request a Blessing of Your Home

The Church offers an Order of Blessing of Homes during the Christmas season, especially the feast of Epiphany, which will be celebrated this year on January 7, 2024.

Contact the parish office to schedule for a priest to come to your home. There is a 2-week scheduling window from January 2 through January 14.



Epiphany Home Blessings

Each year on the feast of Epiphany, chalk is blessed by priests around the world and then distributed to the parish. Parishioners are instructed to **mark their doorposts** in an action clearly **inspired by the book of Exodus**.

The Lord said to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt ... “take some of the blood [of the lamb], and put it on the two doorposts and the lintel of the houses in which they eat them. They shall eat the flesh that night, roasted; with unleavened bread and bitter herbs they shall eat it ... The blood shall be a sign for you, upon the houses where you are; and when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and no plague shall fall upon you to destroy you, when I smite the land of Egypt.” (cf. Exodus 12:1-13)

It is an ancient tradition that calls upon God’s blessing and protection.

Traditionally a priest blesses chalk on the Feast of the Epiphany by saying the following prayer (from the *Roman Ritual*):

Bless, + O Lord God, this creature, chalk, and let it be a help to mankind. Grant that those who will use it with faith in your most holy name, and with it inscribe on the doors of their homes the names of your saints, Casper, Melchior, and Baltassar, may through their merits and intercession enjoy health in body and protection of soul; through Christ our Lord.

Many families would take this seriously and **prayed the blessing with faith**, trusting that God would spare them diseases, plagues and other illnesses.

This is reflected in the prayer typically said by the head of the household when marking the doors with chalk.

Bless, + O Lord God almighty, this home, that in it there may be health, purity, the strength of victory, humility, goodness and mercy, the fulfillment of Thy law, the thanksgiving to God the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit. And may this blessing remain upon this home and upon all who dwell herein. Through Christ our Lord.

From: [Blessed Epiphany chalk was used to protect homes against illnesses \(aleteia.org\)](https://aleteia.org)



Taking the Catholic Faith to the Streets!

St. Dominic Church is partnering with the St. Paul Evangelization Institute to bring the Gospel of Jesus and the faith of the Catholic Church to our neighborhood and city. The mission of the Institute is to Train, Equip and Mobilize Catholics for the urgent work of evangelization.

Why evangelize? Consider that 41% of those baptized and raised as a Catholic leave the Church permanently; 69% of Catholics do not believe in the Real Presence of Jesus in the Eucharist; and for every 1 person that joins the Catholic Church, 6 people leave. Beyond the Catholic realm, about 3 in 10 US adults are now religiously unaffiliated, some identified as “nones” - people who describe themselves as atheists, agnostics or “nothing in particular” when asked about their religious identity.

Consider that God “desires all people to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth,” there is an Imperative for the disciples of Jesus to give witness to the love, mercy, forgiveness, and new life received from a personal relationship with Christ.

The training program, with Father George in attendance, begins on Sunday, January 28, 2024. All interested persons are invited to contact the parish office for information and registration.

(Office@StDominicChurch.org or (202) 554-7863)

Christmas Poinsettias



Poinsettias from Christmas will be available FREE to anyone interested beginning Friday, January 12th until they are all gone. You’ll find them on a tarp on the floor of the St. Joseph Shrine.

Offertory

Week Ending December 31, 2023

Received	\$2,730.00
Budgeted	\$3,846.00
Deficit/Surplus	(\$1,116.00)

Electronic Giving Options



Poor Box



Donations to the parish Poor Box can be made by using the envelope in your packet, Faith Direct, dropping it off at the Parish Office, Venmo or by giving it to one of the priests. Your generosity enables the parish to assist the poor with one-meal gift cards, rent assistance, utility assistance, and other important, local social concerns and organizations.

Mass Intentions Availability

Plenty of 2024 dates available! Or, if the date of your Mass intention isn’t important, nor does it need to be mentioned during the Mass or in the bulletin, “unannounced” Masses are also available.



Contact the Parish Office, at (202) 554-7863 or email us at Office@StDominicChurch.org.

COMING SOON—MASS INTENTIONS ONLINE!

**Select your own date(s) and pay via credit card!
(Announced Masses Only)**



NATIONAL
**Eucharistic
Revival**

From the Catechism of the Catholic Church. A weekly, continuous reading of the Article on the Sacrament of the Eucharist:

VII. THE EUCHARIST - "PLEDGE OF THE GLORY TO COME"

1402 In an ancient prayer the Church acclaims the mystery of the Eucharist: "O sacred banquet in which Christ is received as food, the memory of his Passion is renewed, the soul is filled with grace and a pledge of the life to come is given to us." If the Eucharist is the memorial of the Passover of the Lord Jesus, if by our communion at the altar we are filled "with every heavenly blessing and grace," then the Eucharist is also an anticipation of the heavenly glory.

1403 At the Last Supper the Lord himself directed his disciples' attention toward the fulfillment of the Passover in the kingdom of God: "I tell you I shall not drink again of this fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father's kingdom." Whenever the Church celebrates the Eucharist she remembers this promise and turns her gaze "to him who is to come." In her prayer she calls for his coming: "Marana tha!" "Come, Lord Jesus!" "May your grace come and this world pass away!"

1404 The Church knows that the Lord comes even now in his Eucharist and that he is there in our midst. However, his presence is veiled. Therefore we celebrate the Eucharist "awaiting the blessed hope and the coming of our Savior, Jesus Christ," asking "to share in your glory when every tear will be wiped away. On that day we shall see you, our God, as you are. We shall become like you and praise you for ever through Christ our Lord."

1405 There is no surer pledge or dearer sign of this great hope in the new heavens and new earth "in which righteousness dwells," than the Eucharist. Every time this mystery is celebrated, "the work of our redemption is carried on" and we "break the one bread that provides the medicine of immortality, the antidote for death, and the food that makes us live for ever in Jesus Christ."

Monthly Church Cleaning



Volunteers needed to help with our monthly church cleaning on Saturday, January 13th after the 9 a.m. Mass. No experience required. New volunteers are always welcome. ***No more than an hour of your time is required.***

If you are interested in helping, please call the Parish Office at (202) 554-7863 or email us at Office@StDominicChurch.org.

Catholic Charities Legal Network

Catholic Charities Legal Network counsels and provides legal representation to low-income and poor residents throughout the Archdiocese of Washington, D.C. and relies heavily on volunteer lawyers to fulfill its mission. If you are a lawyer in active status who wants to make a real difference in the lives of families and individuals struggling in our community, please reach out to Dan Collopy at (301) 615-0949 or daniel.collopy@cc-dc.org to discuss how you can help. The Legal Network handles most civil practice areas and criminal expungements.



"Love your children. In them you can see Baby Jesus. Pray for them a lot and every day put them under Holy Mary's protection."

—St. Gianna Molla

Interested in Joining St. Dominic Parish?

We would love to welcome you into our parish! Visit StDominicChurch.org and on the landing page click on Parish Registration Form. Be sure to fill out both sides and mail it or email it to the parish office. Paper copies of the registration form can be found in the church and in the Parish Office.

Feast of the Baptism of the Lord



The Feast of the Baptism of the Lord is a liturgical bridge that connects the Christmas season to Ordinary Time. During the Christmas season we pondered the Incarnation, Nativity, Presentation in the Temple, and Epiphany. Today, we see Jesus manifesting Himself to the world as He began His three years of public ministry.

John the Baptist had been preaching in the desert and offering a baptism of repentance, a sign of one's willingness to turn away from sin and turn toward God. Jesus, of course, was sinless in every way, but he chose to receive the baptism of repentance to unite Himself with fallen humanity. Out of love for us, he took upon Himself our own sins and would suffer their consequences.

By bowing His sacred head to receive the baptism of repentance, Jesus united Himself and His divinity to everyone who had already chosen to repent. And He gave power to every forthcoming act of repentance others would make, even until today. When we repent today, we meet Jesus in that same water of repentance.

It was not only the Eternal Son Who was present at that baptism of repentance, but the Father and the Holy Spirit as well. The Spirit descended upon Jesus in the form of a dove, and the Father's Voice spoke to acknowledge His oneness with His Son. Therefore, every time we make a humble act of repentance, such as when we combine the crucifixion, the Trinity, and holy water upon entering a church and blessing ourselves, we not only meet our Lord but also receive the outpouring of the Holy Spirit and share more fully in our adoption as sons and daughters of the Father in Heaven.

As we commemorate Jesus' baptism, we celebrate the fact that our Christian baptism was the beginning of a new unity with the Holy Trinity. We also celebrate our oneness with God, which is renewed every time we make an interior act of repentance for our sins. Every time we acknowledge and repent of our sin, we meet Christ anew, receive a greater outpouring of the Holy Spirit, and affirm and deepen our adoption by the Father in Heaven.

From Franciscan Media

COVER IMAGE:

The Baptism of Christ
By Francesco Trevisani
1723
Leeds Art Gallery, Leeds, UK



Visit **St. Dominic's website!**

St. Dominic Church is a Christ-centered, Roman Catholic, and Dominican parish for the people of Southwest, DC and beyond.

Our mission is to preach the Gospel and make disciples, and glorify God through the Eucharist and the other Sacraments, build up the communion of the Church, and serve others through the spiritual and corporal works of mercy.