Herod Was Correct

King Herod, the most powerful man in the region, was greatly troubled to hear about the birth of a king. Why would a reigning king fear a little child? Perhaps because he believed if word spread that a future Messiah had been born, the Jews would be harder to control. They were easier to dominate when they were without hope, without a leader.

Herod was correct. Wise men from the East looking for the King of the Jews fulfilled prophecies that foretold all nations would come to Israel looking for a messianic leader.

Herod was also troubled because, if indeed this newborn was a king, he had a pretender and a competitor right under his royal nose. King Herod was correct again.

Although Jesus did not pretend to overthrow the Romans, he did come with authority and would upend the existing order. Jesus would preach to the heart and demand that no one sit on that throne except God his Father.

Pseudo Domenico presents the arrival of the Magi as a procession of vassals showing homage to their king. Kneeling, bowing, and standing erect with gifts in hand, authorities from far away are showing reverence to the newborn royalty who sits on Mother Mary’s lap. His royal hall is the hillside, his scepter a baby finger, his royal family is Joseph and Mary.

These Gentile kings were the first to do what all of creation and all of history have been doing since then—bending their knee to the King of the Universe. Herod was right to worry.

—Fr. Mark Haydu, LC

“For Reflection

Jesus’ reign comes to give security to those who love him. Does his authority and care give me security? Do I seek earthly securities aside from the treasures he offers me: his will, protection, and grace?”

When King Herod heard this, he was greatly troubled, and all Jerusalem with him.

Matthew 2:8

“Knowing God is more important than knowing about God.” - Karl Rahner, S.J.
TEN DAY TRIP WITH TWO NIGHTS IN LONDON AND 8 DAY CRUISE  
FRANCE, PORTUGAL, SPAIN, LONDON

The trip will depart on **Wednesday, October 16, 2019** and return on October 26th. We will fly from Philadelphia International Airport arriving in London for two nights prior to our cruise and we will also have a tour of the city. On Saturday, October 19th we will board Royal Caribbean Independence of the Sea to set sail. The cruise will have port calls in Le Havre, France (allowing for a day trip to Paris or Normandy), Vigo, Spain, Lisbon, Portugal and then return to London for our flight home.

The entire trip including hotel, cruise, transportation, transfers and fees is priced starting at $2995.00 per person based on double occupancy. For further information or to make your reservation, please contact Debbie Freas at 570-288-9311 or John Madden at TravelWorld - 570-342-5790.

**WORD—LEARNING ABOUT OUR FAITH**

**Sunday, January 6th** - Grade 8 Family Morning/Class Mass. All grade 8 students, both public and private schools and their families, are strongly encouraged to attend this morning. It will begin at 9:15 AM in Conlan Hall with a light continental breakfast and family activity, followed by the class Mass at 10:30 AM.  
**Sunday, January 6th** - classes resume for Grades 1 - 6.

**WEEKLY MEDITATION**

The Christmas season is such a wonderful season - filled with hope and promise. In today’s reading, we learn of the Magi’s trust as they followed the star and of their awe as they paid homage to this new born king - a king who chose to manifest himself in such a humble way. I pray that I, like the Magi, may have such faith to follow God’s plan, and I pray that I, like the Magi, may recognize Jesus when I encounter him in my daily life.
The Epiphany is traditionally celebrated on the 12th day after Christmas, January 6th. We invite you to continue the tradition of blessing the door to your home on the Epiphany. The family gathers to ask God’s blessing on their home and on those who live or visit the home. It is an invitation for Jesus to be a daily guest in our home, our comings and goings, our conversations, our work and play, and our joys and sorrows. Chalk and a card with an Epiphany blessing will be available in the back of the Church and Chapel after each Mass this weekend.

Respect Life Mass
The Annual Respect Life Mass, sponsored by the Wyoming Valley Councils, Knights of Columbus, will be here at St. Ignatius on Sunday, January 13th at 10:30 AM. The Knights, along with Pro-Life Representatives, will offer prayer intentions during the Mass for a greater respect of all human life and to end abortion. January is Respect Life month as abortion was legalized on January 22, 1973. Since then, upwards of 60 million innocent unborn children have been aborted. Monsignor Tressler, Father Mosley and Deacon O’Connor, warmly invite all to attend and pray for the most vulnerable of human lives, those with disabilities, the ill, and the unborn.

2018 Financial Statements
Financial Statements for the 2018 calendar year will be mailed in January 2019 to all parishioners. All credited donations for tax purposes for the year 2018 should be made by January 9, 2019. If you have any questions about your statement, please call the office and speak with Jen.
**APPOINTMENT OF NEW YOUTH MINISTER**

Father Mosley, Deacon O'Connor, and Monsignor Tressler are happy to announce the appointment of a part-time youth minister to minister to and with our young people. Mr. Robert Yanik will begin his ministry with us joining our ministry team in January 2019. A brief background of Rob is provided for your information.

Rob grew up in the Back Mountain as one of nine children. He is a graduate of Kings College where he studied theology and political science. He also spent one additional year studying philosophy at the University of Notre Dame. He currently serves as a support coordinator for Luzerne/Wyoming Counties Mental Health and Developmental Services. As a complement to his work and ministry, he also is a Court Appointed Special Advocate for the Luzerne County judiciary. All youth in Grades 7-12 are invited to meet Rob on Sunday, January 13, 2019 at 5:30 PM in Conlan Hall. Light refreshments will be served. All young people are encouraged to attend and hear Rob’s plans for our youth ministry program. Rob is very excited to begin his new ministry here at St. Ignatius.

**COMMUNITY—GROWING TOGETHER**

**MARY’S MINISTRY BUSINESS/PLANNING MEETING TUESDAY, JANUARY 8TH**

Mary’s Ministry leadership team will meet on Tuesday, January 8, 2019 in Bergan Hall at 6:30 PM to review our current budget and to finalize plans for our Winter Bake Sale, Pro-Life Baby Shower, February Luncheon and Ladies Night Out. Anyone interested in helping with these events are welcome to attend. All parishioners especially our women are reminded that an annual donation envelope for Mary’s Ministry is included in your parish packet this month. All contributions to support our efforts to seek the living Christ in shared spiritual and corporal works of mercy as modeled by our Blessed Mother are gratefully appreciated.

**WINTER BAKE SALE VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

After our weekend Masses on January 26-27th, Mary’s Ministry will host a bake sale to help support our work in the parish. If you like to make breakfast bake goods, cookies or sweet treats and would be willing to contribute items to sell. Volunteers are also needed to help make welsh cookies at Conlan Hall (1 or 2 dates TBA) and/or assist with selling in the vestibules at the church and chapel. Please contact Maribeth Girton at 570-814-0997 as soon as possible for details.

“The teach us to give and not to count the cost.” — Ignatius of Loyola
SERV рСЕ В—HELPING OTHERS

SOCKS & PERSONAL CARE ITEMS FOR VETERANS AT CHRISTMAS

St. Ignatius will once again be organizing a sock drive to benefit local veterans this Christmas season through service of the Commission on Economic Opportunity. Donations of new men’s and women’s socks to support our local veterans in need are most welcome. In addition to new men’s and women’s socks, we will also be collecting men’s and women’s personal care items this year. Collection of socks and personal care items will continue this weekend. We thank you for considering this worthy cause!

MARCH FOR LIFE

The Annual March for Life will be held on Friday, January 18th, 2019 in Washington, D.C. The Pennsylvanians For Human Life will be arranging a bus for this event. Cost-$50.00 - which includes bus and buffet dinner. Please make checks payable to PHL (by January 11th) and mail to Chris Calore, 37 Elder St., Wilkes-Barre, PA 18702. Departure time is 6:15 AM from St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish, 116 Hughes St. Swoyersville, (5:50 AM Mass). Return home approximately - 10:30 PM.

A NOTE FROM THE OFFICE!
This concerns anyone submitting information for the bulletin via E-Mail. Kindly call the office at 570-288-6446 to alert us when you send an announcement, as we are not always logged in to our email. Thank you for your cooperation!

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<th>Monday</th>
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<tr>
<td>7:30—Robert Patton-ALM</td>
<td>McGeehan Family</td>
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<td>12:10—Donald Brominski, Sr-ALM</td>
<td>Family</td>
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<td>7:30—Dec. Mbrs. Podesta Family-ALM</td>
<td>Patricia E. Podesta</td>
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<td>12:10—Rose Hasey-MM</td>
<td>Mary Pat Gill</td>
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<td>Wednesday</td>
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<td>7:30—Joseph D. Lloyd</td>
<td>Ed &amp; Judi Nowak</td>
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<td>12:10—Nancy Dee-MM</td>
<td>Pat &amp; Maura Fennell</td>
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<td>Thursday</td>
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<td>7:30—William Sabecky</td>
<td>Mary Ann Napersky &amp; Eric Haines</td>
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<td>12:10—Francis &amp; Dr. Robert Crossin-ALM</td>
<td>Family</td>
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<td>Friday</td>
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<td>7:30—Helen Gill-ALM</td>
<td>Keith S. Russin</td>
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<td>12:10—Adrian Guns-ALM</td>
<td>Daughter, Anna Guns</td>
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<td>Saturday</td>
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<td>7:30—Thomas J. MacFarland-ALM</td>
<td>Family</td>
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<td>4:00 PM—Marie Bouthiller</td>
<td>Kopicki Family</td>
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<td>5:30 PM—James Ferris</td>
<td>Bob &amp; Sheila Gabriesheski</td>
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<td>Sunday</td>
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<td>7:00 AM—For the People of the Parish</td>
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<td>8:30 AM—Douglas Koziel</td>
<td>Carol Lewis &amp; Family</td>
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<td>10:30 AM—Michael Kane</td>
<td>Curry Family</td>
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<td>12:00 PM—Thelma Januskeiwicz</td>
<td>Julia Chmielewski</td>
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PASTORAL CARE
OF THE SICK

Please note, the Federal privacy laws make it difficult for the parish to obtain information regarding a parishioner’s status in one of the local hospitals or his/her placement in one of the area’s long-term facilities. We request that you contact the Parish if a family member or friend is hospitalized (especially if they are admitted through the Emergency Room) or placed in a long-term facility so that Msgr. Tressler, Fr.Mosley, or one of the members of our Pastoral Care Team can visit with them. We apologize to any parishioner that may have been hospitalized recently and did not receive a visit. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

The need for all non-perishables continues but our immediate needs are raisins, canned fruit, applesauce and rice. The need for personal items such as toothpaste, shampoo, deodorant, toilet paper, razors, etc. also continues as does the need for monetary donations. Cash or checks are accepted with checks payable to the Al Beech Food Pantry. All items can be placed in the food collection bins in the Church and Chapel.

Thank you and God bless you.

ANNOUNCEMENT DEADLINES FOR UPCOMING BULLETINS:

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<tr>
<th>BULLETIN</th>
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<td>JAN. 20TH</td>
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ANNOUNCEMENTS RECEIVED AFTER NOON ON THE DEADLINE DATE WILL BE PUBLISHED IN THE NEXT BULLETIN.

@SILKingston

www.facebook.com/stignatiuspa
CHURCH ETIQUETTE

- Dress appropriately
- Arrive a few minutes early – take a few minutes to pray and ready yourself for the Celebration of the Eucharist
- Observe silence before Mass begins – people are trying to pray
- Please join the entire congregation by taking a seat; don’t stand in front of the confessional, especially while Confessions are being heard
- Don’t forget to bless yourself with Holy Water when you enter and leave the church building
- Before entering the pew, as a sign of reverence, genuflect to the Blessed Sacrament reserved in the tabernacle
- Turn off all cell phones or any other electronic device that may disrupt the celebration
- Please do not chew gum in church
- Did you fast one hour before receiving Holy Communion? Are you in the state of grace?
- Don’t forget to make a bow as a sign of reverence before receiving Holy Communion
- Did you say ‘Amen’ as you received Communion?
- Take a few moments after receiving Holy Communion to express your gratitude in private prayer. What are you saying to God if you leave church as soon as you receive Holy Communion?
- Pick up any tissues or wrappers that you may have left in the pew
- What’s the rush? Stay until the priest exits the church
- Don’t forget to take the bulletin home with you!
**ADULT FAITH FORMATION**

Save the Date!

Here's an idea you can use for a good New Year's resolution or to just give yourself a chance to grow & strengthen your faith in a comfortable environment with like-minded people. It's Scripture based Faith Sharing! It will be based on our Exploring the Sunday Reading pamphlets. Come as you are. There are no dues, fees, or obligations. All 18+ are welcome. Monthly meetings will begin **Friday, January 11, 2019** at 6 PM in Conlan Hall. If you are interested & want to sign up, or if you have questions, please call Mary at 570-690-7732.

**WEDDING ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION**

His Excellency, the Most Reverend Joseph C. Bambera, D.D., J.C.L., Bishop of Scranton, and the Office for Parish Life wish to invite couples celebrating their 25th or 50th wedding anniversary in 2019 to a diocesan Wedding Anniversary Mass on **Sunday, June 30th**. The event includes a 2:30 PM Mass at St. Peter’s Cathedral followed by a reception. Please call the Rectory to register by March 29th.

**QUALIFICATIONS FOR GODPARENTS FOR BAPTISM AND CONFIRMATION SPONSORS**

In order for a person to be a Godparent for Baptism or a Sponsor for Confirmation, Canon Law (Church Law) identifies several qualifications for that person:

1. Must be registered in a Catholic parish, attend Mass weekly, and receive the sacraments. **Please note, the pastor is not allowed to give a sponsor card for people who are not registered at the parish;**

2. Must have completed their sixteenth (16th) year and cannot be the father or mother of the one being baptized or confirmed;

3. Must have received the three Sacraments of Initiation: Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist;

4. If married, the marriage must be recognized as valid by the Catholic Church; couples who are not married may not be living together;

5. Those Catholics who have joined another religion may not act as a Godparent or Christian witness;

6. For Baptism, two sponsors are suggested, one of each gender; however, only one sponsor is required. For Confirmation, only one sponsor is needed.
BAPTISM
Expectant and new parents are asked to participate in a seminar on Baptism. Please call the Rectory at 570-288-6446. Godparents are welcome to attend, though it is not required. Please call the rectory to register at your earliest convenience. The celebration of the Sacrament of Baptism is on the third Sunday of every month.

MARRIAGE
Congratulations! You are asked to contact one of the parish priests at least six months before the date of your marriage so that the appropriate preparations can be made for this special celebration.

VISITATION OF THE SICK
Please call the office for visitation of the sick at home, in the hospital, or health care facility.

SACRAMENT OF THE ANOINTING OF THE SICK
Urgent calls will be attended to at any time of the day or night.

RELIGIOUS FORMATION
Grades 1–6 — Sunday morning from 9:15 AM to 10:20 AM.
Grades 7–8 — Released Time Confirmation Program
High School—Sunday Evenings (Monthly)

NEW PARISHIONERS
Please register by calling the rectory. Those moving should inform the office as soon as possible.

DEVOTIONAL LIFE
The Rosary is prayed after the 7:30 AM Mass daily and before the 8:30 AM Mass on Sundays at the Chapel of St. Ann. Eucharistic Adoration is held the First Friday of the month at Saint Ignatius Church beginning at 12:45 PM concluding with Benediction at 4:00 PM. (September—May)

THE RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS
This is a process the Catholic Church uses to bring adult members into the faith. Anyone interested in becoming a part of this process or in obtaining more information can call the Rectory at 570-288-6446. This journey in faith is concerned with the total formation of the person into living and serving with the Church community.

PARISH SCHOOLS
Good Shepherd Academy: Principal, Mr. James Jones
Phone: 570-718-4724
Holy Redeemer High School: Principal, Michael S. Reese
Phone: 570-829-2424

MINISTRY COUNCILS
Pastoral Council— Monsignor Tressler, Father Mosley, Deacon O’Connor, George Andresky, Nancy Bellas, Michelle Butcher, Pat Cole, Robert Dupre, Maria Edmunds, Maura Fennell, Gloria Galante, Molly Kachmar, Cynthia Liskow, Kimberly McNulty
Buildings & Grounds Committee— Pat Clemente, Steve Ellis, Matt Fiske, Carl Kachmar, John Schwartz, Jared Urbanski
Word Coordinating Team— Danielle Cino-Taylor, Patricia Cole, Gerry Dicton, Maria Edmunds, Carmella Faust, Gloria Galante, Linda Goff, Betty Habler, Cindy Liskow, Ruth McEvoy, Father Mosley, Art Piccone, Tony Verbyla
Worship Coordinating Team—George Andresky, Elaine Blessing, Debbie Lyons, Kathleen McCarthy, Denise Mosca, Peggy Yanklunas
Community Coordinating Team— Renee Anderson, Kristen Billek Boyle, Terri Bunton, Michael Denko, Betty Habler, Mary Hosey, Molly Kachmar, Michele Martin, Sally McGinley, Father Mosley, Helen O’Brien, Mike Stretanski
Service Commission— Steve Durk, Jane Girvan, Tom Hamill, Pat Kupetz, Mary McGinley, Kim McNulty, Deacon O’Connor, Tom Scappaticci, Mike Stretanski, Bob Tuttle

PARISH STAFF
Pastor Monsignor David L. Tressler
Parochial Vicar Reverend Joseph J. Mosley
Pastoral Outreach Deacon John E. O’Connor
Main/Business Office Ms. Mary Lewis
Receptionist Mrs. Jen Carey
Cemetery Clerks Ms. Mary Lewis, St. Ignatius
Mrs. Jen Carey, St. Mary & St. Hedwig
Religious Formation Mrs. Carmella Faust
Religiouseducation1@yahoo.com Mrs. Patty Kepec
Youth Minister Rob Yanik
Worship Mrs. Carmella Faust, Director of Liturgy
Mixed Choir Ensemble Mrs. Elaine Blessing
Contemporary Ensemble & Children’s Choir Director Mrs. Carmella Faust, Handbell Choir
Mrs. Pat Fennell, Accompanist
Mrs. Caprice Ryman, Accompanist
Mr. George Andresky, Accompanist
Maintenance Bill Gross
Sacristan Matt Fiske
Visiting Clergy Rev. Joseph Adonizio
Rev. Andrew Sinnott