

# SAINT STEPHEN'S PARISH

Pittsfield, Massachusetts

## The Feast of the Epiphany

January 3, 2021



P S A L M 7 2 : 1 1

### Our Mission

is to be the heart and hands of Christ: nourishing people, transforming lives

### Our Core Values

May be found on our Web Page

Welcome to Saint Stephen's Parish!

*The Feast of the Epiphany*

*January 3, 2021*



**THE HOLY EUCHARIST**

10:00 a.m.

Voluntaries      “Shepherds loud their praises singing”  
                         “Bring a torch Jeanette Isabella”  
                         “The First Nowell”

Helmut Walcha  
*French Carol*  
*English Carol*

**Hymn 128**      “We three kings of Orient are”  
*(Stanzas 1&5 all; Stanzas 2,3,4, solos; Refrain all)*

*Three Kings of Orient*

1. We three kings of Orient are, bearing gifts we traverse afar,  
field and fountain moor and mountain, following yonder star. *(Refrain)*

*Refrain:* O star of wonder, star of night, star with royal beauty bright;  
westward leading, still proceeding, guide us to thy perfect light!

2. Born a King on Bethlehem's plain, gold I bring to crown him again,  
King forever, ceasing never over us all to reign. *(Refrain)*
3. Frankincense to offer have I; incense bring to crown him again,  
prayer and praising, gladly raising, worship him, God Most High. *(Refrain)*
4. Myrrh is mine: its bitter perfume breathes a life of gathering gloom;  
sorrowing, sighing, bleeding, dying, sealed in the stone-cold tomb. *(Refrain)*
5. Glorious now behold him arise, King and God and Sacrifice;  
heaven sings alleluia; alleluia the earth replies. *(Refrain)*

## The Word of God

*Celebrant* Blessed be God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

**People** **And blessed be God's kingdom, now and forever. Amen.**

*The Celebrant prays:*

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord.

**People** **Amen.**

**Gloria in excelsis** *(all saying together)*

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth.

Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us; you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer.

For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

### Collect of the Day

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

**People** **And also with you.**

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

*The Celebrant prays the Collect.*

O God, by the leading of a star you manifested your only Son to the peoples of the earth: Lead us, who know you now by faith, to your presence, where we may see your glory face to face; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

*The people sit.*

**First Lesson** Isaiah 60:1-6

Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you. For darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples; but the LORD will arise upon you, and his glory will appear over you.

Nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn. Lift up your eyes and look around; they all gather together, they come to you; your sons shall come from far away, and your daughters shall be carried on their nurses' arms. Then you shall see and be radiant; your heart shall thrill and rejoice, because the abundance of the sea shall be brought to you, the wealth of the nations shall come to you. A multitude of camels shall cover you, the young camels of Midian and Ephah; all those from Sheba shall come. They shall bring gold and frankincense, and shall proclaim the praise of the LORD.

*Reader* Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.  
*People* **Thanks be to God.**

**Psalm 72:** 1-7, 10-14 *(please read responsively at the half verse)*

- 1 Give the King your justice, O God, \*  
**and your righteousness to the King's Son;**
- 2 That he may rule your people righteously \*  
**and the poor with justice;**
- 3 That the mountains may bring prosperity to the people, \*  
**and the little hills bring righteousness.**
- 4 He shall defend the needy among the people; \*  
**he shall rescue the poor and crush the oppressor.**
- 5 He shall live as long as the sun and moon endure, \*  
**from one generation to another.**
- 6 He shall come down like rain upon the mown field, \*  
**like showers that water the earth.**
- 7 In his time shall the righteous flourish; \*  
**there shall be abundance of peace till the moon shall be no more.**
- 10 The kings of Tarshish and of the isles shall pay tribute, \*  
**and the kings of Arabia and Saba offer gifts.**
- 11 All kings shall bow down before him, \*  
**and all the nations do him service.**
- 12 For he shall deliver the poor who cries out in distress, \*  
**and the oppressed who has no helper.**
- 13 He shall have pity on the lowly and poor; \*  
**he shall preserve the lives of the needy.**
- 14 He shall redeem their lives from oppression and violence, \*  
**and dear shall their blood be in his sight.**

## **Second Lesson** Ephesians 3: 1-12

This is the reason that I Paul am a prisoner for Christ Jesus for the sake of you Gentiles-- for surely you have already heard of the commission of God's grace that was given me for you, and how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I wrote above in a few words, a reading of which will enable you to perceive my understanding of the mystery of Christ. In former generations this mystery was not made known to humankind, as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit: that is, the Gentiles have become fellow heirs, members of the same body, and sharers in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel.

Of this gospel I have become a servant according to the gift of God's grace that was given me by the working of his power. Although I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given to me to bring to the Gentiles the news of the boundless riches of Christ, and to make everyone see what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God who created all things; so that through the church the wisdom of God in its

rich variety might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. This was in accordance with the eternal purpose that he has carried out in Christ Jesus our Lord, in whom we have access to God in boldness and confidence through faith in him.

*Reader* Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.  
*People* **Thanks be to God.**

**Hymn 119** "As with gladness men of old" (*stanzas 1-4*)

*Dix*

1. As with gladness men of old did the guiding star behold;  
as with joy they hailed its light, leading onward, beaming bright;  
so most gracious Lord, may we evermore be led to thee.
2. As with joyful steps they sped to that lowly manger bed;  
there to bend the knee before him whom heaven and earth adore;  
so may we with willing feet ever seek the mercy seat.
3. As they offered gifts most rare at that manger rude and bare;  
so may we with holy joy, pure and free from sin's alloy,  
all our costliest treasure bring, Christ! to thee, our heavenly King.
4. Holy Jesus! Every day keep us in the narrow way;  
and, when earthly things are past, bring our ransomed souls at last  
where they need no star to guide, where no clouds thy glory hide.

**The Holy Gospel** Matthew 2:1-12

*Celebrant* The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew  
*People* **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage." When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet:

`And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,  
are by no means least among the rulers of Judah;  
  
for from you shall come a ruler  
who is to shepherd my people Israel."

Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage." When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt



*Leader:* For the just and proper use of your creation;  
*People:* **For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.**

*Leader:* For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;  
*People:* **For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.**

*Leader:* For the peace and unity of the Church of God;  
*People:* **For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.**

*Leader:* For Michael Curry our Presiding Bishop, and Douglas Fisher our Bishop(s); and for all bishops and other ministers;  
*People:* **For all who serve God in his Church.**

*Leader:* For the special needs and concerns of this congregation.

Silence

*The People may add their own petitions*

*Leader:* Hear us, Lord;  
*People:* **For your mercy is great.**

*Leader:* We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life.

Silence

*The People may add their own thanksgivings*

*Leader:* We will exalt you, O God our King;  
*People:* **And praise your Name for ever and ever.**

*Leader:* We pray for all who have died, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom.

Silence

*The People may add their own petitions*

*Leader:* Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;  
*People:* **Who put their trust in you.**

*Leader:* We pray to you also for the forgiveness of our sins.

*Silence may be kept.*

**Leader and People: Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father; in your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone; and so uphold us by your Spirit that we may live and serve you in newness of life, to the honor and glory of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

*Celebrant*

O God, may our words of praise and petition be strong echoes of your Christmas word, so that all might come to the peace you promise in Jesus, who is Lord and God this day and forever . **Amen**

## The Peace

*Celebrant* The peace of the Lord be always with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

**Solo** “Gesù Bambino”

Pietro Yon

## The Great Thanksgiving (Eucharistic Prayer B)

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

*Celebrant* Lift up your hearts.

*People* **We lift them to the Lord.**

*Celebrant* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

*People* **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

*The Celebrant proceeds*

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. Because in the mystery of the Word made flesh, you have caused a new light to shine in our hearts, to give the knowledge of your glory in the face of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name.

*Sanctus* *said by all*

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

**Bless'd is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

*The people stand or kneel. Then the Celebrant continues*

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, “Take, eat: this is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.” After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, “Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me.”

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

*Celebrant and People say:*

**We remember his death,**

**We proclaim his resurrection,**

**We await his coming in glory;**

*The Celebrant continues*

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine. We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation. By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **Amen.**

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name,  
thy kingdom come, thy will be done,  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread.  
And forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us.  
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,  
for ever and ever. Amen.**

## **The Breaking of the Bread**

### **Fraction Anthem**

*Celebrant* Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

*People* Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

### ***Spiritual Communion Prayer***

In union, O Lord, with your faithful people at every altar of your Church, where the Holy Eucharist is now celebrated, I desire to offer to you praise and thanksgiving. I remember your death, Lord Christ; I proclaim your resurrection; I await your coming in glory. Since I cannot receive you today in Sacrament of your Body and Blood, I beseech you to come spiritually into heart. Cleanse and strengthen me with your grace, Lord Jesus, and let me never be separated from you. May I live in you, and you in me, in this life and in the life to come. Amen

*Celebrant:* Let us pray.

*The Celebrant and People say:*

### **Epiphany Blessing**

May Christ, the Son of God, be manifest in you, that your lives may be a light to the world; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. Amen

Hymn 117 “Brightest and best”

*Morning Star*

1. Brightest and best of the stars of the morning,  
dawn on our darkness, and lend us thine aid;  
star of the east, the horizon adorning,  
guide where our infant Redeemer is laid.
2. Cold on his cradle the dewdrops are shining,  
low lies his head with the beasts of the stall;  
angels adore him in slumber reclining,  
Maker and Monarch and Savior of all.
3. Shall we then yield him, in costly devotion,  
odors of Edom, and offerings divine,  
gems of the mountain, and pearls of the ocean,  
myrrh from the forest, and gold from the mine?
4. Vainly we offer each ample oblation,  
vainly with gifts would his favor secure,  
richer by far is the heart's adoration,  
dearer to God are the prayers of the poor.
5. Brightest and best of the stars of the morning,  
dawn on our darkness, and lend us thine aid;  
star of the east, the horizon adorning,  
guide where our infant Redeemer is laid.

*Celebrant* Let us go forth rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit!  
*People* **Thanks be to God.**

Voluntary *Il est né* (He is born)

Richard Hudson



## Ministers of the Celebration

### CELEBRANT & PREACHER

The Rev. David DeSmith

### LECTOR

James Alden

### PRAYERS

William Frazier

### ALTAR GUILD

Marie Sutton, William Frazier

### QUARTET

Sarah Novak, *soprano*  
Jeffrey Hine, *tenor*

Wavelyn Hine, *alto*  
Robert Szczepaniak, *bass*

### BEHNKE TRIO

Colin Behnke, *violin*  
James Behnke, *cello*  
Matthew Behnke, *piano*

### VIDEO PRODUCTION

MusiChris DJ and Lighting Service

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## THIS WEEK AT ST. STEPHEN'S

### SUNDAY, January 3

10:00 a.m. Facebook Service  
1:00 p.m. Cathedral of the Beloved  
Grab and Go Lunch

### FRIDAY, January 8

4:30 p.m. Parish Office Closed  
St. Stephen's Table-  
Grab and Go

### MONDAY, January 4

9:00 a.m. Parish Office Re-Opens

### SATURDAY, January 9

### TUESDAY, January 5

### SUNDAY, January 10

10:00 a.m. Facebook Service  
1:00 p.m. Cathedral of the Beloved  
Grab and Go Lunch

### WEDNESDAY, January 6

### THURSDAY, January 7

4:30 p.m. St. Stephen's Table-  
Grab and Go

## THIS WEEK'S PRAYER LIST

### SUNDAY

All persons serving in the armed forces and their families: MAJ Andrew B., CPT Nicholas P., ILT Curran J. D., Lance CPL Chad L., SPC Amanda D., Pvt. Corey F. D., Army Ranger Sean J., MAJ Michael C., Micah H.

St. David's, Agawam  
The Rt. Rev. Douglas J. Fisher and the Rev. Betsy Fisher  
The Presiding Bishop and Primate

Dioceses of Lahore (Pakistan), South Western Brazil and Southeast Florida (USA)

### MONDAY

Dioceses of Lainya (South Sudan) and Southeastern Mexico

### TUESDAY

*We remember all who need our prayers especially:* Timothy A., Madge B., Clarence D., Ken & Diana E., Cyndi K., Henry L., Christina O., Kevin S., Clara V., Maureen W., Abby, Becca, Betty, Donna, Faye, Fiona, Heather, Jay, Jim, Joan, John, Josh, Judy H., Karen, Keith, Linda, Lisa, Maia, Marilyn, Mary, Melissa & Family, Nancy & Rick, Noreen, Pam, Patrick, Paula, Susan, Barbara, Zeke, Marion, Joe, Roy, Marie, Bob, Robert J., Walter H., Jill, Barbara A., Jeff S., Shirley, Maryann J. and family, Marion, Charles W. H., Sydney A., Jeffrey B., Ray, Thomas S., Peter, Barbara D., Ray, William, Doris, Barbara, Erika, Johnathan W., Nancy G., Louis C., all who are impacted by the Coronavirus, Pat, Jack, Francis, Susan, Frank L., Deane, Tom, David P. Joan K., Teddy C., Eileen, Joan M., David W.

Those with mental health issues

Dioceses of Lake Malawi, Southern Brazil and Gippsland (Australia)

### WEDNESDAY

The Anglican Church in Aotearoa, New Zealand and Polynesia

### THURSDAY

Habitat for Humanity in Pittsfield  
Department of Mental Health  
Government of the United States

Dioceses of Lake Rukwa and the Southern Highlands (both in Tanzania) and Gitega (Burundi)

### FRIDAY

St. Stephen's Welcoming Team  
St. Stephen's Cooking Team

Dioceses of Lango (Uganda), Southern Malawi, and Glasgow & Galloway (Scotland)

### SATURDAY

Dioceses of Langtang (Nigeria) and Southern Nyanza (Kenya)

## PARISH NOTICES

**WHO ARE WE?** St. Stephen's Parish is a community of people who together seek to serve our community, drawing strength and joy from worshipping together. We don't all believe the same, act the same, vote the same, or dress the same – but we strive to love the same, as Christ loved and served all people.

**ST. STEPHEN'S TABLE** - Gifts in thanksgiving or in memory can be made by sending a donation to the church with the name of the person to be honored or remembered. You can also make a donation online! Just go to our website, select "Support Our Ministries," and follow the prompts to the list of gift opportunities. Select "St. Stephen's Table" and follow the directions. *This week's Gifts to the Table are given by Hannah Anderson, Barbara Barry, John Culver, Charlene DiCicco and Ken Wheelock.*

**2021 PLEDGES ENVELOPES WERE MAILED BEFORE CHRISTMAS** if you did not receive yours, please contact the office.

### **LIVING GREEN TIP**

**Working at home in 2021?** If you are outfitting a home office try to use products that are Cradle-2-Cradle (C2C) or made of easily recycled materials. ([treehugger.com/how-to-go-green-furniture](http://treehugger.com/how-to-go-green-furniture))

Cardboard Breakdown: Susan Wojtasik

Bottles and Cans Toter: John Garinther

### **St. Stephen's calls a new Rector!**

The Rev. Dr. Nina Pooley will be joining St. Stephen's in February.

Nina comes to us from St. Bartholomew's in Yarmouth Maine. She will be joined by her husband Ken, adult daughters, Mackenzie and Channing, dog Finn, and a few cats.

The calling of this Rector was the coordinated effort of the Profile and Search Committees and the Vestry. The Profile Committee, Craig Reynolds, Maribeth Barney, Liz Trapani, Susan Wojtasik, and Chris Plankey, truly captured the heart of St. Stephen's and attracted qualified candidates. The Search Committee, David Nevins, Alec Gilman, Susan LeBourdais, Craig Smith, Josie Ellis, Cathy Carchedi, John Garinther, Chris Perry and Wendy Coakley did their due diligence to find the best match for us. A few weeks ago, the Vestry invited Nina for a conversation which we did in person here at St. Stephen's using all safety protocols. Both the Search Committee and Vestry voted unanimously to call Rev. Dr. Nina Pooley as our new Rector.

Additional information, including a letter from Rev. Dr. Pooley, has been mailed or emailed to the parish and can be found on St. Stephen's website.

### **MEETINGS HELD AT SAINT STEPHEN'S**

All AA and NA meetings remain suspended due to COVID-19

# Saint Stephen's

A Jubilee Parish in the Episcopal Diocese of Western Massachusetts

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## Our Vestry

Tom Dillon, Co-Warden

Erin Sullivan, Co-Warden

Mark Miller, Clerk

Leah Luczynski, Treasurer

Valerie Andersen

Louise Penney

Angie Moon

John Culver

Chris Plankey

Wendy Coakley

## Our Staff

The Rev. David DeSmith, Bridge Pastor

[dsmith@ststephenspittsfield.org](mailto:dsmith@ststephenspittsfield.org)

Joy Mullen, Director of Music

[jmullen@ststephenspittsfield.org](mailto:jmullen@ststephenspittsfield.org)

Sarah Morrison, Parish Administrator

[smorrison@ststephenspittsfield.org](mailto:smorrison@ststephenspittsfield.org)

Dan Moon, Coordinator of St. Stephen's Table

[dmoon92@nycap.rr.com](mailto:dmoon92@nycap.rr.com)

William Frazier, Pastoral Leader

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Bert Boos, Office Assistant

[bboos@ststephenspittsfield.org](mailto:bboos@ststephenspittsfield.org)

Weekday Sextons-Berkshire County ARC Jenell Pullano, Supervisor

Sunday Sexton Roy Stillman

The Diocese of Western Massachusetts

The Rt. Rev. Douglas Fisher

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