



**WELCOME TO
THE CHURCH OF THE EPIPHANY
ROYERSFORD, PA**

*A friendly welcome to all! If you are visiting, please fill out a visitor's card
and place it in the offertory plate or give it to an usher.
We hope you'll join us for refreshments and fellowship after worship today.*

HYMNS: Procession: 408 Sequence: 488 Offertory: 516 Communion: 513,455 Closing: 347

**THE ORDER OF SERVICE IS IN THE SEASONAL SERVICE BOOKLET
FOUND IN THE PEW**

The Collect of the Day

O God, you have prepared for those who love you such good things as surpass our understanding: Pour into our hearts such love towards you, that we, loving you in all things and above all things, may obtain your promises, which exceed all that we can desire; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

The First Reading

Acts 17:22-31

Paul stood in front of the Areopagus and said, "Athenians, I see how extremely religious you are in every way. For as I went through the city and looked carefully at the objects of your worship, I found among them an altar with the inscription, 'To an unknown god.' What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. The God who made the world and everything in it, he who is Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in shrines made by human hands, nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mortals life and breath and all things. From one ancestor he made all nations to inhabit the whole earth, and he allotted the times of their existence and the boundaries of the places where they would live, so that they would search for God and perhaps grope for him and find him—though indeed he is not far from each one of us. For 'In him we live and move and have our being'; as even some of your own poets have said, 'For we too are his offspring.' Since we are God's offspring, we ought not to think that the deity is like gold, or silver, or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of mortals. While God has overlooked the times of human ignorance, now he commands all people everywhere to repent, because he has fixed a day on which he will have the world judged in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed, and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead."

Psalm 66:7-18

- 7 Bless our God, you peoples; *
make the voice of his praise to be heard;
- 8 Who holds our souls in life, *
and will not allow our feet to slip.
- 9 For you, O God, have proved us; *
you have tried us just as silver is tried.
- 10 You brought us into the snare; *
you laid heavy burdens upon our backs.
- 11 You let enemies ride over our heads; we went through fire and water; *
but you brought us out into a place of refreshment.
- 12 I will enter your house with burnt-offerings and will pay you my vows, *
which I promised with my lips and spoke with my mouth when I was in trouble.
- 13 I will offer you sacrifices of fat beasts with the smoke of rams; *
I will give you oxen and goats.
- 14 Come and listen, all you who fear God, *
and I will tell you what he has done for me.
- 15 I called out to him with my mouth, *
and his praise was on my tongue.
- 16 If I had found evil in my heart, *
the Lord would not have heard me;
- 17 But in truth God has heard me; *
he has attended to the voice of my prayer.
- 18 Blessed be God, who has not rejected my prayer, *
nor withheld his love from me.

The Second Reading

1 Peter 3:13-22

Now who will harm you if you are eager to do what is good? But even if you do suffer for doing what is right, you are blessed. Do not fear what they fear, and do not be intimidated, but in your hearts sanctify Christ as Lord. Always be ready to make your defense to anyone who demands from you an accounting for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and reverence. Keep your conscience clear, so that, when you are maligned, those who abuse you for your good conduct in Christ may be put to shame. For it is better to suffer for doing good, if suffering should be God's will, than to suffer for doing evil. For Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit, in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were saved through water. And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you-- not as a removal of dirt from the body, but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

The Holy Gospel

John 14:15-21

Jesus said, "If you love me, you will keep my commandments. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever. This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, because he abides with you, and he will be in you." "I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live. On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. They who have my commandments and keep them are those who love me; and those who love me will be loved by my Father, and I will love them and reveal myself to them."

The Prayers of the People

Let us now demonstrate the hope that fills our hearts by turning to God in prayer, saying: Lord, hear our prayer.

Empower with your Spirit, O Lord, all ministers of the gospel, that they may preach the word boldly and without apology.

Empower with your Spirit, O Lord, all leaders of nations, that they may be unrelenting in their quest for peace.

Empower with your Spirit, O Lord, all the suffering peoples of this world, especially those who suffer for doing right.

Empower with your Spirit, O Lord, those among us who experience desolation, especially those for whom God seems most remote.

Empower with your Spirit, O Lord, all the sick and the dying [especially N.], that they may find life.

Empower with your Spirit, O Lord, the newly baptized, that they may never cease to praise you for the hope that fills their hearts.

[Here other intercessions may be offered.]

Gracious God, it is in the power of your abundant and life-giving Spirit that we call upon you in prayer. Deepen our hope in your presence and your promise; hear us in your tender love, now and forever.

Altar Flowers: Given in remembrance of the family members we have lost by the Tosco family.

Birthday's: 21 - Mike Smokowicz 22 - Joe Tosco

Announcements

BAPTISM RECEPTION: On June 4th Charlotte Millet will be baptized. Ben and Tanya invite all to join them for a reception downstairs following the service.

COFFEE HOUR: I am writing about a change in coffee hour host duties and to also ask for people to sign up for the coming weeks. The role of the coffee hour host family, person, group will now include one extra step, taking the trash out.

For a long time either Paul E. or I have taken the trash out, but with us missing more Sundays or having to leave this is causing the trash to get left. The roll of the host will still be to bring food and make coffee but will now include taking the trash to two new large cans (that have wheels!!!!) and rolling them to the curb **OR** asking someone to help you with this.

That's right, you don't actually have to do it yourself, you just have to make sure it happens by politely asking others in our Church family if the trash cans are too much for you to move. We don't want people to feel the cant do coffee hour now with this new roll, but we also need the trash go to the street and we don't have a janitor. Thank you all how have done coffee hour in the past and continue to support the powerful ministry to ourselves.

Benjamin Millet

THE FEAST OF PENTECOST READING IN MULTIPLE TONGUES: On June 4th, we will celebrate the Feast of Pentecost, the giving of the promised Advocate, the Holy Spirit, and the launching of the Jesus Movement, the Church. The first reading from the Acts of the Apostles (2:1-21) is the story of the Holy Spirit poured out on the gathered community of disciples many of whom were empowered speak in the many languages of pilgrims gathered in Jerusalem. If you will be at the 10 am service on June 4th, know a foreign language, and would like to read the passage in that language, please contact Beth (rector@epiphanystar.net) by May 29th with your name and your language and any assistance you need to translate the passage

STEWARDSHIP AT EPIPHANY (RECYCLING): Please participate with your parish leadership to RECYCLE ALL APPROPRIATE ITEMS according to Borough of Royersford guidelines. Here are important things to know:

- Use the Round Green recycling plastic cans **only** for **ALL** recyclable items (see list posted on bulletin board next to the kitchen)
- Quick rinse food / drink from items (please no partially filled soda cans)
- No Lids
- No need to remove labels
- Collected on Tuesday with Trash (No more than 6 containers of any kind total)
- Please help children (whether they're yours or not :-)) learn how as well as why it's important to do this

Thanks for caring!!!

THANKS: to everyone who helped with the cleanup of the Epiphany grounds on Sat. May 6, 2017. There were 19 people who helped. The gardens were weeded and mulch applied and flowers planted. Please note that the handicap ramp has been repaired and many parts of it rebuilt thanks to Joe Tosco and all of his helpers. All of these tasks could not have been completed without the number of volunteers that showed up to help. Thanks again-Sherri Quinlan

SPECIAL THANKS: to Joan McCracken, who is single-handedly tackling our messy kitchen! Bless Joan for taking on this ministry—voluntarily! She's already reorganized and straightened out paper-goods closet. Have you noticed how much easier it is to get out the coffee hour supplies? Who knows? In a neat kitchen you might be tempted to sign up to host a coffee hour! Joan will put items she's not sure whether we need to keep or not on the island. Please let her know if there's a compelling reason to hold on to something; otherwise it goes out. At Epiphany, miracles never cease; this chore used to be an annual, dreaded, Women of Epiphany endeavor, and Joan has stepped up on her own to undertake this. What gift of talent that you never thought of might you have to offer? Thank you again, Joan, for being a true steward of Epiphany.

SCRIP: The June scrip dates are June 4 and June 25. Thank you for being flexible as we move into the summer. Contact Susan Garone at 610-415-9233 or proutygarone@verizon.net if you have questions or would like to help with the program.

MASS TO SUPPORT THOSE STRUGGLING WITH ADDICTION: Throughout the country, the world and in our own back yard, addiction continues to devastate individuals and families. The Reverend Charles O'Hara, pastor at St. Joseph's Roman Catholic Church, Spring City (route 724) is inviting any who suffer losses associated with addiction to worship together on Saturday, June 3 at 12 Noon. ALL are welcome to attend so please pass the word.

WHO YOU GONNA CALL? Do you have a question, comment, request, observation or suggestion for the parish? Are you unsure how to get heard on something close to your heart about Epiphany?

Here are parish contact email addresses:

To contact Beth confidentially: rector@epiphanystar.net (The quickest way to communicate)

To add something to the weekly bulletin: bulletin@epiphanystar.net

For Prayer Requests, send to both: churchoffice@epiphanystar.net & charlesbetcha6@verizon.net

[Send to churchoffice@epiphanystar.net](mailto:churchoffice@epiphanystar.net)

- General questions, suggestions and requests
- To add something to the monthly newsletter
- If you see something that needs to be repaired, fixed or adjusted

LET'S READ THE WHOLE BIBLE TOGETHER THIS YEAR! This week's readings:

May 22 Day 141 – I Chronicles 7-9, Psalm 117, Romans 4
May 23 Day 142 – I Chronicles 10-12, Psalm 118, Romans 5
May 24 Day 143 – I Chronicles 13-15, Psalm 119:1-32, Romans 6
May 25 Day 144 – I Chronicles 16-18, Psalm 119:33-72, Romans 7
May 26 Day 145 – I Chronicles 19-21, Psalm 119:73-112, Romans 8
May 27 Day 146 – I Chronicles 22-24, Psalm 119:113-144, Romans 9
Sunday 5/28 Day 147 – Enjoy hearing the Scriptures read aloud in church

OR... go to www.epiphanystar.net and...

Scroll down to Bishop's Bible Challenge, click day or week of your choice, find the red link: click & read

SAVE THE DATES:

5/25	7:30 pm	Ascension Day Service @ Holy Spirit, Harleysville
6/3	9:00 am	Epiphany Book Club
6/3	12:00 Noon	Mass to support those struggling with addiction @ St. Joseph's Roman Catholic Church Spring City.

ASSISTING IN TODAY'S WORSHIP

	8am	10am
Eucharistic Minister:	Volunteer	Marti Wilson
Lectors:	Ed Hill	Marie Kearns
Acolyte:		TBD
Greeter:		Cathy Bailey
Usher:		Chris Schmitt & Kathy Cobbs
Counters:		Tom Bailey & Frank Borst
Altar Guild		Julie Dattilo, Joanne Arnold, Cathy Bailey, Tanya Millet
Godly Play Greeter		Kathy Cobbs
Godly Play Teacher		Liz Leary

ASSISTING IN NEXT WEEK'S WORSHIP (5/28)

	8am	10am
Eucharistic Minister:	Paul Atlee	Marie Kearns
Lectors:	Marsha Hill	Paul Atlee & Joanne Arnold
Acolyte:		Marie Kearns
Greeter:		Bill Wilson
Usher:		Chris Schmitt & Kathy Cobbs
Counters:		Vincent & Susan Garone
Altar Guild		Julie Dattilo, Joanne Arnold, Cathy Bailey, Tanya Millet
Godly Play Greeter		No Class
Godly Play Teacher		

OUR PARISH LIFE AND WORK THIS WEEK

Monday	7:30pm	N.A. (Undercroft)
Tuesday	8:00pm	A.A. (Undercroft)
Wednesday	6:00pm	TBMP Weight Loss Program (Office)
	7:00pm	Daisy Troop 7390 (Undercroft)
Thursday	7:30pm	Choir Rehearsal
Sunday 5/28	8:00am	Holy Eucharist Rite I Spoken
	10:00am	Holy Eucharist Rite II Music
		Church School Children process from the church nave to Education Building at 10 and return at the Peace

CHURCH OF THE EPIPHANY

209 S. Third Avenue, Royersford, PA 19468
610-948-9655

[WWW.EPIPHANYSTAR.NET](http://www.EPIPHANYSTAR.NET)

WORSHIP SERVICES

MIDWEEK HOLY EUCHARIST WITH HEALING LITANY

10:15AM WEDNESDAYS

SUNDAY

8AM HOLY EUCHARIST RITE I (SPOKEN)

10AM HOLY EUCHARIST RITE II (MUSIC)

THE REV. BETH W. HIXON, RECTOR

215-896-0828 OR RECTOR@EPIPHANYSTAR.NET

DODI KEARNS, MUSIC DIRECTOR

ROBIN SMITH, ORGANIST

PAUL EXLEY, PARISH ADMINISTRATOR