

# Our Saviour's Voice



from Pastor Susan Wilmot.....

## January Blues or January Light?

The end of the twelve days of Christmas is celebrated in the feast of the Epiphany that is the season of light. January can be a real epiphany for many of us in many different ways. Not least of which is the horrible realization that we overspent our budgets in December and we are now facing credit card bills that have far more numbers on them than we anticipated. The weather is colder and our heating bills are consequently higher. With all the excitement of Christmas and New Year over, we may also be heading for an emotional crash landing. Then there's the increased possibility of getting sick because the 'flu season is in full swing. We might be wondering if anything good can possibly happen in January! Yes, yes, and yes.

There are other types of epiphanies as well. Perhaps by way of our prayerful discipline of Advent, followed by a renewed joy and peace in sensing the presence of our Lord in our lives we have discerned a new call to share our gifts in service to God and the community. Or maybe we have come to appreciate our family and friends in a new and deeper way than ever before. These epiphanies of the Holy Spirit are the truly priceless and matchless gifts in our lives. Beyond all things temporal, the gift of love, the gift of time, the gift of a letter, a kind deed, a smile or a hug, make an eternal difference. These gifts keep the light of God shining brightly in our own hearts. These gifts illumine the dreary days of January for a friend or stranger who is struggling on through the long winter after their Christmas visitors have left for home.

As the old saying goes, no one says at the end of their life that they wished they had spent more time at work. Relationships are the most important gift we have to share: our love of and relationship with Christ Jesus our Lord, and our loving support and compassion for one another. Why not make your New Year's resolution to bless someone else with an epiphany moment. How about thawing a frightened or frozen heart with the warmth and joy of God's light and love? How about dropping an extra can or two into the first fruit baskets for the Love Kitchen? What about calling a friend you haven't seen for a while just to tell them that you love them? Or invite your neighbor (again!) to come to a Sunday service with you, and stay for coffee and fellowship. I am sure you have many wonderful and creative ways to light up the world this month, including keeping your parish family in your prayers.

May God continue to bless you with joy, peace, and healing this year and always.

Susan<sup>+</sup>

### Inside Story Headline

This story can fit 150-200 words.

One benefit of using your newsletter as a promotional tool is that you can reuse content from other marketing materials, such as press releases, market studies, and reports.

While your main goal of distributing a newsletter might be to sell your product or service, the



Caption describing picture or graphic.

key to a successful newsletter is making it useful to your readers.

A great way to add useful content to your newsletter is to develop and write your own articles, or include a calendar of upcoming events or a special offer that promotes a new product.

You can also research articles or find "filler" articles by accessing the World Wide Web. You can write about a variety of

topics but try to keep your articles short.

Much of the content you put in your newsletter can also be used for your Web site. Microsoft Publisher offers a simple way to convert your newsletter to a Web publication. So, when you're finished writing your newsletter, convert it to a Web site and post it.

**"To catch the reader's attention, place an interesting sentence or quote from the story here."**

### Inside Story Headline

This story can fit 100-150 words.

The subject matter that appears in newsletters is virtually endless. You can include stories that focus on current technologies or innovations in your field.

You may also want to note business or economic trends, or make predictions for your customers or clients.

If the newsletter is distributed internally, you might comment upon new procedures or improvements to the business. Sales figures or earnings will show how your business is growing.

Some newsletters include a column that is updated every issue, for instance, an advice column, a book review, a letter from the president, or

an editorial. You can also profile new employees or top customers or vendors.

### Inside Story Headline

This story can fit 75-125 words.

Selecting pictures or graphics is an important part of adding content to your newsletter.

Think about your article and ask yourself if the picture supports or enhances the message you're trying to convey. Avoid selecting images that appear to be out of context.

Microsoft Publisher includes thou-

sands of clip art images from which you can choose and import into your newsletter. There are also several tools you can use to draw shapes and symbols.

Once you have chosen an image, place it close to the article. Be sure to place the caption of the image near the image.



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# Organization

from Pastor Susan Wilmot.....

Primary Business Address  
Your Address Line 2  
Your Address Line 3  
Your Address Line 4  
Phone: 555-555-5555  
Fax: 555-555-5555  
E-mail: someone@example.com

This would be a good place to insert a short paragraph about your organization. It might include the purpose of the organization, its mission, founding date, and a brief history. You could also include a brief list of the types of products, services, or programs your organization offers, the geographic area covered (for example, western U.S. or European markets), and a profile of the types of customers or members served.

It would also be useful to include a contact name for readers who want more information about the organization.

Your business tag line here.

We're on the Web!  
example.com

## Back Page Story Headline

This story can fit 175-225 words.

If your newsletter is folded and mailed, this story will appear on the back. So, it's a good idea to make it easy to read at a glance.

A question and answer session is a good way to quickly capture the attention of readers. You can either compile questions that you've received since the last edition or you can summarize some generic questions that are frequently asked about your organization.

A listing of names and titles of managers in your organization is a good way to give your newsletter a personal touch. If your organization is small,

you may want to list the names of all employees.

If you have any prices of standard products or services, you can include a listing of those here. You may want to refer your readers to any other forms of communication that you've created for your organization.

You can also use this space to remind readers to mark their calendars for a regular event, such as a breakfast meeting for vendors every third Tuesday of the month, or a biannual charity auction.

If space is available, this is a good place to insert a clip art image or some other graphic.



Caption describing picture or graphic.