

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

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We may walk many roads when we search for God, and He leads us all the while. The men we honor today were not Jews. The Messiah wasn't coming for them, not in the minds of Jesus' contemporaries. These men were astrologers. They were adept at reading portents in the sky, a practice condemned in the Mosaic covenant. Still, to the best of their knowledge and awareness, they were seeking the truth. This truth led them to journey from their own homeland to honor a king they'd never met, one they couldn't be sure truly existed. "We saw his star at its rising and have come to do him homage." Who do you know seeks God so tenaciously? "Magi from the east arrived in Jerusalem," the Gospel tells us. Who are the seekers in your own life? Maybe it's your cautiously curious co-worker, the neighbor who unexpectedly found peace on a yoga retreat, or your desperately angry child who has chosen, for now, to go their own way. Perhaps they're not overtly headed for Jesus now, not yet. But they may well be seekers of truth in ways we didn't expect. Our invitation is to listen, inquire, and give directions when appropriate.

The magi and modern-day seekers can inspire us as well. When is the last time you sought God's truth so tenaciously? As believers, it can perhaps be easy to become desensitized to the Christmas season and to the miraculous reality we recently celebrated. Mass may have been lovely, but so was the succulent roast beef, the crisp smell of evergreen, and the warm glow of family. Consider asking yourself, "God, do I know you as well as I should? Would I journey as far as the magi to meet You, if I could? Do I journey to meet You daily in prayer? What do those answer say about me, and about our relationship?" Perhaps we, like the magi, can once again be "overjoyed" at seeing the Light of the World

Sunday Collection for December 21/22, 2019 was \$2,859.00.

The Mass Book for 2020 is open for intentions from January to June. Come to 219 Conselyea St. to book your Masses.

Are You Registered As a Member of the Parish?

Start the New Year by completing a membership form. The form can be found in the rear of the Churches. Complete it and submit it to the Parish Office by either dropping it off in the collection basket on Sunday or by mailing it in.

La Epifanía del Señor

La Epifanía del Señor es una de las Solemnidades que más disfrutaban los niños en la comunidad hispana (Fiesta de los Reyes Magos), por aquello de que llegan los regalos y las piñatas llenando de alegría este tiempo navideño. Las familias se preparan para la ocasión y disfrutaban el reunirse con amigos y familiares cercanos. Sin embargo, aparte de regalos y fiesta, hay muchas cosas que aprender sobre esta solemnidad y, una de ellas es lo que significa la palabra Epifanía, Manifestación del Señor. Cristo se revela de muchas maneras como: Señor y Rey. Y algo importante, la forma de como Dios se manifiesta en Jesús con hechos (Milagros). Todas las manifestaciones de Jesús en su tiempo histórico fueron luces de amor para la humanidad. Las lecturas de hoy, de alguna manera, y de formas diferentes, manifiestan quien es Cristo para el que cree en Él.

El profeta Isaías dice: "Levanta los ojos y mira alrededor: todos se reúnen y vienen a ti; tus hijos llegan de lejos, a tus hijas las traen en brazos." San Pablo aclara que "también los paganos son coherederos de la misma herencia, miembros del mismo cuerpo y participes de la misma promesa en Jesucristo." El Evangelio de Mateo nos orienta hacia el punto clave de quien se manifiesta: "Y tú, Belén, tierra de Judá, no eres en manera alguna la menor entre las ciudades ilustres de Judá, pues de ti saldrá un jefe, que será el pastor de mi pueblo, Israel". Estos pasajes de la Sagrada Escritura muestran la universalidad del Mesías, que ha venido a redimir a toda la humanidad. ¡Feliz Epifanía!

Readings for the week of January 5, 2020

Sunday:	Is 60:1-6/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13 [cf. 11]/Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6/Mt 2:1-12
Monday:	1 Jn 3:22—4:6/Ps 2:7bc-8, 10-12a [8ab]/Mt 4:12-17, 23-25
Tuesday:	1 Jn 4:7-10/Ps 72:1-2, 3-4, 7-8 [cf. 11]/Mk 6:34-44
Wednesday:	1 Jn 4:11-18/Ps 72:1-2, 10, 12-13 [cf. 11]/Mk 6:45-52
Thursday:	1 Jn 4:19—5:4/Ps 72:1-2, 14 and 15bc, 17 [cf. 11]/Lk 4:14-22a
Friday:	1 Jn 5:5-13/Ps 147:12-13, 14-15, 19-20 [12a]/Lk 5:12-16
Saturday:	1 Jn 5:14-21/Ps 149:1-2, 3-4, 5 and 6a and 9b [cf. 4a]/Jn 3:22-30
Next Sunday:	Is 42:1-4, 6-7/Ps 29:1-2, 3-4, 3, 9-10 [11b]/Acts 10:34-38/Mt 3:13-17

PRAY FOR VOCATIONS

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

A Message from Fr. Tom

We gather to celebrate the Epiphany of the Lord. 'Epiphany' means literally manifestation—a sudden moment of intuition or perception initiated often by a commonplace occurrence. The Solemnity we celebrate today under the title Epiphany means for us the presence of God incarnate in our time and space. This is the Christ child just born to us. The presence of a God entering into human form and likeness means that God wishes to share *in* and reveal himself *to* all who share this human likeness. Isaiah proclaims the universal mission of Israel. "Rise up in splendor Jerusalem—your light has come—nations shall walk by your light." Israel shall be recipients of great favor symbolized by light. Not only will they receive a great light, but this light will transform them so that they themselves will be bearers of that which they receive and reflect for "every nation" the light given to them. And so we recall today the Magi's adoration of Christ the infant King. They represent peoples of all nations who seek and desire to find the truth which has been definitively revealed to us in the person of Jesus Christ. This theme is stated in St. Paul's letter to the Ephesians as the gentiles will be "coheirs and members of the body in Christ Jesus." The Magi are seekers. Perhaps we take our faith for granted—assuming we know all the right answers—so who needs to ask questions? We have to remember that to follow Jesus is more than knowing facts about our religion. Being Christian is to be a person on a journey. The Magi make a journey following a star. Many saw the star, but only the few followed it!! The Magi desire more than knowledge about things. They ask questions, and they seek the truth. They read the signs around them (the star) and follow that sign. At the heart of every human person is this desire to know what life is all about. Often this compels us to make a journey—to leave what is familiar and enter into uncharted territory. Christian faith is not just knowing facts about God or the resolution of questions over which we struggle. Christian life is a journey—a mystery to be lived and encountered in the person of Jesus Christ.

Support for Bishop Nicholas DiMarzio

We need to pray for and support our Bishop Nicholas DiMarzio and for all those affected by the sexual abuse crisis in our church. It is hard for me to believe this allegation in the light of how open, proactive and strong he has been as a leader in addressing this issue. The timing of its release seems to me highly suspicious. The accusation against our Bishop was made while he

was in Rome meeting with the Pope and came shortly after the conclusion of his investigation in the Diocese of Buffalo. Whatever the outcome may be—we owe him our prayers. Let us remember Jesus is with his faithful people and with his church; we will survive this difficult period by God's grace and our faith and prayers.

Many Thanks

to those who have given a contribution towards the flowers the Parish will be using during the Christmas Season. If you have not already made an offering please consider doing so.

Muchas gracias a todos ustedes quienes dieron su contribución acerca de los Flores de navidad para la parroquia que serán usadas durante la temporada de Navidad. Si usted no tiene preparada una ofrenda, por favor, considere una contribución para la parroquia para las Flores de Navidad. "Gracias"

Congratulations

We congratulate the following student from our Parish who has attained Honor Roll status at The Mary Louis Academy:

Dominique Earle First Honors

Transfiguration Men's Shelter

We have completed our fall week at the Transfiguration men's shelter and would like to thank everyone who participated in providing and serving hot meals for those who may not have had one otherwise.

We have been assigned our 2020 winter week for the Transfiguration Men's Shelter. The dates we will be needing assistance are:

Sunday, January 19, 2020 through
Saturday, January 25, 2020

If you can help us by providing a complete hot meal for 35 men consisting of salad, entrée, dessert and beverage, or if you are unable to provide the food but would like to help by serving, we can always use a helping hand.

Please contact Angela Scotti @ 718-782-3881 or the Parish Office @ 718-387-0256. Please be assured whether you do this personally, with your family, group or organization your kindness and generosity is always greatly appreciated.

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**Gifts of Love—Emergency Food Pantry
At Divine Mercy Parish**

“For I was hungry and you gave me food; I was thirsty and you gave me drink; I was a stranger and you made me welcome... “(Matt 25:35-36)

Your support of our parish pantry provides some relief to those in need.

Special Items needed: **Canned meats**
Food Pantry Coordinator

**St. Francis of Paola Church
Memorial Gifts – January 5, 2020**

BREAD & WINE

Fay Carbone by Annette Marino-D’Arienzo

SANCTUARY LAMP

Anna & Joseph Rocco by Teresa Puccio & Family

St. Theresa Guild

The next meeting of the St. Theresa Guild will take place on Thursday, January 9th, 2020, at 7:30 pm in the St. Francis of Paola rectory basement.

Religious Education Up-Dates

- January 11: Confirmation Workshop 3-5 pm, in
St. Francis of Paola basement
January 16: Confirmation Parents Meeting 7 pm, in
St. Francis of Paola basement

For more information on the above call the Religious Education Office at 347-521-0068, 9 am to 3 pm.

**Diocesan Pilgrimage
Oberammergau
The Passion Way**

Visits to: Wurzburg, Rothenburg, Rebensburg, Passau,
Salzburg & Munich May 12-21, 2020
Bishop Octavio Cisneros, Spiritual Director and Rev.
Frank Schwarz, Chaplain

For a Brochure Call Peters Way Tours 516-605-1551x
17. For more information kaitlin@petersawy.com

**PLEASE SILENCE YOUR CELL
PHONE DURING MASS**

**Mass Intentions for the Week
St. Francis of Paola Church**

Saturday, January 4, 2020

5:00pm For the People of Divine Mercy Parish

Sunday, January 5, 2020

8:00am Open Intention

11:30am Rita DeMartino by Anthony D’Angelo

Monday, January 6, 2020

7:45am Carmela (Gallo) Ferrante by Pat & Mike
Rizzo & Family

Tuesday, January 7, 2020

7:45am Thomas Marciano by Yannello Family

Wednesday, January 8, 2020

7:45am Ralph Varano by Dennis Torre & Sonia
Rivera

Thursday, January 9, 2020

7:45am Nicola & Elisa Menta by Igino &
Giovanna Falce

Friday, January 10, 2020

7:45am Giuseppe Ruggiero by Rosa

Saturday, January 11, 2020

7:45am Concetta Di Giovanna by Daughter
5:00pm Carmela San Pietro by Scotti Family

Sunday, January 12, 2020

8:00am For the People of Divine Mercy Parish
11:30am Immacolata Baglivo by Family

**Memorial Gifts
Divine Mercy Parish**

Memorial Gifts are a wonderful way to honor and remember your loved ones.

Please come to the Rectory (or call) for information and available dates.

Bread & Wine
Sanctuary Lamp
Altar Candles
Blessed Mother Candles
St. Joseph Candles

Save the Date

St. Anthony’s
“Carnevale”

Tuesday February 25, 2020

JANUARY 5, 2020

**Mass Intentions for the Week
St. Nicholas Church**

Sunday January 5, 2020

10:30am Pasquale Amato by Pasko Family

Wednesday, January 8, 2020

7:00pm Pasquale Amato by Gianna, Carina &
Rocco

Sunday, January 12, 2020

10:30am Open Intention

Pray For the Sick

*Contact the Parish Office to add (or remove) a name to
this list...*

Dorothy Madigan, Marlena Ferone-Washack, Patricia
Clarke, Lori Sefcik, Trish Randall, Anthony Delio

Pray For the Recently Deceased

James Sullivan, Michael Younghese, Agnes Sullivan

Rosary Society

The next meeting of the Rosary Society will take place
on Wednesday, January 8th, 2020, at 7:00 pm in the
auditorium of St. Cecilia's.

**Wednesday Prayer Group
at St. Cecilia's**

The Wednesday Prayer Group that meets in the Chapel
at St. Cecilia's on Wednesdays from 3 to 4 pm will not
meet for the winter months of January and February.
Please mark this on your calendar.

Annual Catholic Appeal 2019

As of

December 16, 2019

Goal: \$35,578.00
Pledged \$45,607.00
Received \$42,309.55
Total Pledges 151

St. Cecilia's Chapel

St. Cecilia's Chapel located at 84 Herbert Street is open
weekdays following the 8:30 morning Mass until
approximately 3:00 pm.

**Mass Intentions for the Week
St. Cecilia Church**

Sunday, January 5, 2020

9:30am Rose Del Vicario (Anniversary)
Janice Angelicola

7:00pm Deepest Gratitude Pope St. Paul VI
Msgr. Edward McGoldrick

Monday, January 6, 2020

8:30am James Sullivan

Tuesday, January 7, 2020

8:30am Angelina Battista

Wednesday, January 8, 2020

8:30am Janice Angelicola

Thursday, January 9, 2020

8:30am Timmy McErlean

Friday, January 10, 2020

8:30am Josephine Beneventin

Saturday, January 11, 2020

8:30am Agnes Riccio

Sunday, January 12, 2020

9:30am Barney & Angie Cavallo
Lucy & Pete LaVeglia
Caliendo Family
President Donald Trump: Living
Intention

7:00pm Monsignor Errico Dante

St. Cecilia's Church

Memorial Gifts – January 5, 2020

Bread & Wine

Timmy McErlean by Mom and Dad

Brooklyn Evening of Fraternity

Saint John Paul II House of Discernment
January 27, 2020

Holy Hour // Conference // Dinner
341 Highland Blvd., Bklyn., N.Y., 718-827-2454
Re. Vincent Chirichella Asst. Vocation Director

St. Cecilia's Seniors

The Saint Cecilia's Seniors will resume their meeting
on Thursday, January 9, 2020. All are welcome.

END OF BULLETIN
ANY TEXT OR GRAPHICS ENTERED ON THIS PAGE
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EDITOR/ CONTACT: **Maryann**

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Comments:

RECENT PUBLIC SAFETY ISSUES

Divine Mercy Parish is deeply grateful to Captain Williams Glynn and representatives of the 94th Precinct who took the time to speak at a few concerning public safety issues. The old adage applies—If you see something, say something. Following is some information about reporting criminal or suspicious activity.

Call 911—Emergencies

Call 311—Quality of Life Issues

P.O. Andrea Haro

Office: (718) 383-3879

Cell: (929) 371-4355

Andrea.Haro@nypd.org

Also note that a local community meeting is held on the first Wednesday of each month with local police to receive your input at 155 Milton Street, Brooklyn, NY 11222 at 7pm

Receive Our Parish Bulletin **Electronically**

Would you like to receive our parish bulletin electronically days before everyone else? Then log on to “Parishesonline.com” to register. In a few simple steps you can receive our parish bulletin and more easily stay on top of parish events and other important parish information.