

JANUARY 3, 2021

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

Reflection from Fr. Bernard Doré

Today we celebrate The Feast of Epiphany. The word “Epiphany” means “Manifestation or Revelation”. Today, Jesus reveals himself to The Magi who are all Gentiles. The Sacred Scriptures tell us the fact that it is God who always takes the initiative to reveal Himself to His People. When The Jews were slaves and persecuted in Egypt, God took pity on His People and sent Moses and delivered His People from the slavery. God was leading His People towards The Promised Land, during the day time, by The Pillar of Cloud and at night time, by The Pillar of Fire. Today, God is leading The Magi towards The Child Jesus, through the guidance of a star and reveals Himself to them.

In The First Reading, The Prophet Isaiah, rejoices over the light and glory that will shine upon Jerusalem. He describes how the wealth of nations will be brought to Jerusalem, and people will arrive, bearing gifts and praising God.

In The Second Reading, St. Paul explains that The Gentiles are now Co-heirs with the Jews. Through Jesus, they became members of the same body.

The Gospel tells us that The Magi from the East, came looking for the newborn Jesus. The Birth of Jesus greatly disturbed King Herod. He wanted to kill Jesus and asked The Magi to return and tell him where Jesus was. The Magi found Jesus and brought him gifts. They received a message in a dream, not to return to Herod, they departed for their country, by another way.

The Magi are the central persons in today’s Feast of Epiphany. They were pagans who did not know the true and living God of the Jews. Today God reveals Himself to them. He is God, not only for the Jews but also for all peoples of all nations, races, cultures and languages.

Today, we are celebrating the coming of the first Gentiles to the feet of Christ. Let us resolve to make The Magi, our Models, to follow them to Bethlehem and offer him all that we have and are.



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OFFICE HOURS	9:00 AM – 2:00 PM (MON, WED, THU, FRI)
WEEKDAY MASSES	9:00 AM (MON, WED, FRI)
SATURDAY VIGIL MASS	5:00 PM
SUNDAY MASSES	8:00 AM 10:00 AM

ST. PAUL'S UPCOMING SCHEDULE

Saturday January 2
5:00 PM Mass:

Sunday January 3
8:00 AM Mass: Living & Deceased Members of the
Parrillo & Paesano Families
9:15 AM Rosary
10:00 AM Mass: Anthony Kachanis (RIP)

Monday January 4
8:35 AM Rosary
9:00 AM Mass:

Wednesday January 6
8:35 AM Rosary
9:00 AM Mass:

Friday January 8
9:00 AM Mass: Souls in Purgatory

NEXT WEEKEND'S MASS INTENTIONS

5:00 PM Mass: People of the Parish
8:00 AM Open for your Intentions
10:00 AM Mass: Ricky Brousseau (RIP)

PLEASE CONSIDER COMMEMORATING
A LOVED ONE AT THE EUCHARIST

Epiphany of the Lord

Epiphany Blessing of the Home

There is a tradition of blessing our homes on the Feast of the Epiphany. The lintel of our main doorway is marked with chalk like this:

20 + C + M + B + 21

The numbers indicate the year on which we ask God's blessing. The crosses indicate the four corners of the Earth from which all nations are called to God. Some say the letters, C, M and B stand for the traditional names of the three Magi: Caspar, Melchior, and Balthazar. The letters stand for the Latin "Christus Mansionem Benedicat: which means "May Christ Bless our Home". Use the following prayer with your family this weekend:

Leader: Peace to this house

All: And to all who dwell or enter here

Leader: Let us pray . Father, you revealed your son to the nations by the guidance of a star. Lead us to your glory and our eternal home by the light of our faith in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

(The inscription: 20 + C + M + B + 20 is made with chalk above doorway.)

Leader: Arise! Shine! Jerusalem, your light has come.

All: Kings are led by your shining radiance.

Leader: Almighty God, bless this home. Let here abide health and goodness, humility and faith, and every triumph over sin. Let your word be obeyed and fulfilled here, and thanksgiving ever made to you, Father, Son and Holy Spirit , now and forever.

All: Amen

January Birthdays

Happy Birthday to all parishioners with a birthday in the month of January. May your birthday be touched with His presence, and your heart be filled with His love and joy!

2021 Calendars

St. Paul's 2021 Calendars sponsored by St. Paul's K of C are available, please feel free take one per family.

I Heard God Laugh

A book by Matthew Kelly

Is your life Working? Most of us are trying to put together the JIGSAW puzzle we call life without a very important piece. Over time this becomes frustrating. In this book, Matthew Kelly powerfully demonstrates that we cannot live the life we have imagined, or experience the joy we yearn for, unless we learn to tend the soul. Most people have never really been taught how to tend their souls. I Heard God Laugh will help you to do just that, and so much more.

Copies are available to all parishioners who would like one! Merry Christmas!

Commitment to Sunday Offertory

To help the parish meet its financial obligations, we ask that you remain committed to the weekly offertory.

Please consider using the parish envelopes and mailing your weekly/monthly offertory contribution. Or consider the convenient option of setting up an automatic contribution online. Details below.

Support St. Paul's

Set up a reoccurring donation (or make a gift at anytime) using our secure, online giving tool by ParishSOFT.

Visit our website at stpaulsfoster.org, and click the "Donate Now" button.

Thank you!

Second Collection—January 2/3

This weekend's second collection will be used to help with cost of **utilities**.

End of Year Gift

This year, the Finance Council has asked Fr. Dore to allocate the End of Year Gift for the *Food Closet Ministry and needed Tree Removal*. Please consider making a gift toward this fund. All donations dated December 31, 2020 are deductible from 2020 taxes.

GIFTS RECEIVED

Offertory Collection - Dec 26/27
\$2,458.00

Christmas Offering - Dec 24/25
\$2,448.90

End of Year Gift - To Date
\$ 8,050.00

Thank you for your support!



Year of Saint Joseph

My Dear Parishioners,

Pope Francis recalls the 150th anniversary of the declaration of St. Joseph as the patron of the universal church by Blessed Pope Pius IX on 8 December 1870. To mark the occasion, the Holy Father has proclaimed a "Year of Saint Joseph" from December 8, 2020 to December 8, 2021.

This year is to increase our love and devotion to this great Saint, to encourage us to implore his intercession and to imitate his virtues and his zeal. After our Blessed Mother Mary, St. Joseph is the most powerful intercessor. The world of today more than ever has to recognize the holiness, greatness and power of St. Joseph.

May St. Joseph bless and protect you and your families.

Fr. Doré

A PRAYER TO ST. JOSEPH

*Hail, Guardian of the Redeemer,
Spouse of the
Blessed Virgin Mary.
To you God entrusted
his only Son;
in you Mary placed her trust;
with you Christ became man.
Blessed Joseph, to us too,
show yourself a father
and guide us in the path of life.
Obtain for us grace,
mercy, and courage,
and defend us from every evil. Amen.*

Food Closet Ministry

This month we are in need of **Canned Tomatoes & Vegetables, Dried Pasta, and Spaghetti-O's. And also Plastic Bags.** The Food Closet is open every other Saturday morning 9:30- 11 AM