

Weekend of January 8, 2023 The Epiphany of the Lord

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday Mass is livestreamed @ 8:00 AM, Barona.
Just go on Facebook under Herman Manuel

Changing Hearts, Saving Lives

Join Cardinal McElroy and Auxiliary Bishop Ramón Bejarano in the 2023 edition of the San Diego Walk for Life, whose theme "Changing Hearts, Saving Lives."

The event includes inspiring speakers, free drawings, exhibitors, children's activities, live entertainment and a coffee truck.

Saturday, January 14 – 8:30 AM – 12 PM
Waterfront Park, 1600 Pacific Highway, San Diego, CA 92101, this is a free event.

Blessing of the Home on Epiphany

Lord God of heaven and earth,
You revealed your only-begotten son to every nation
by the guidance of a star.

Bless this house
And all who inhabit it.
Fill us with the light of Christ,
That our concern for others may reflect your love.

We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Meaning of Epiphany Day

Epiphany, also known as "Three Kings Day" and "Twelfth Day," is a Christian holiday commemorated on January 6. It falls on the twelfth day after Christmas, and for some denominations signals the conclusion of the Christmas season. The 12 days between Christmas and Epiphany are known as the "Twelve Days of Christmas."

Though many different cultural and denominational customs are practiced, as a rule, the feast celebrates the manifestation of God to the world in the form of human flesh through Jesus Christ, his Son.

Origins of Epiphany

Epiphany originated in the East.

Epiphany was introduced into Western Christianity in the 4th century. The term *epiphany* comes from a Greek word meaning "appearance," "manifestation," or "revelation" and is commonly linked in Western churches with the visit of the wise men (Magi) to the Christ child (Matthew 2:1-12). Through the Magi, Jesus Christ revealed himself to the Gentiles:

This new Mass schedule will stay in effect until the Covid-19 crisis is over. Thanks for your patience.

Barona:

Mass: Tuesday through Friday. Rosary at 7:45 AM, Mass at 8:00 AM. @ Shrine

Saturday: 5:00 PM mass

Sunday: Sunday 8:00 AM. @ church

Confessions: By appointment only

Adoration: 1st Fri. of the month (8:00 AM).

Viejas:

Sunday: Sunday 10:30 AM. @ Church

Confessions: By appointment only.

Sycuan:

Sunday: Sunday Mass 12:30 noon @ the Church

Confessions: By appointment only

PLEASE PRAY FOR....

Sue Kierig, Martha Boone, Donna Berardi, Vicaldo Family, Anthony Pico, Mae Guerrero, Susanna Gotell, Michele Nikas Beaman, Richard Nikas, Purita Amparo, Wendy Reyes, Irmina Gines, Gimo Manuel, Ruben and Marcie Cu, Joyce Martinez, Elvira Hapin, Dustin Lutze, Deloris Loucks, Sam Halabo, Bobby Curo, Lisa Smallwood, Eleanor Davis Wallace, Walter Raczak, Robert and Margie Cruz, Gina Curo, Rick Lechner, Mark Wise, Neil Quizon, Jim Hughes, Mary Begay, Tonito Arcangel, Juliet Ray, Dennis Colton, Manny Ilagan, George Arviso, Ernie and Emy Lampa, Rose Ramos, Zita Haygood, Nicanor and Evacueto Elman, Lilly Gautreaux, Mark Noriega, Juan Miguel, Bert Zita, AJ & Angela Samot

Please check prayer list and add names as desired.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASSES

Barona, K-8th:

Classes have changed to **Wednesdays:**

3:30 pm – 1st year students/ First Communion

4:30 pm – 2nd year students/ First Communion

Sycuan: 2nd year youth class is at 10:30 am.

ADULT CLASS –

Please contact Judy Oyos (judy.otm@gmail.com) or Fr. Herman Manuel (herman_manuel@hotmail.com) for Adult class information.

On Epiphany some denominations commemorate Jesus' first miracle of turning water into wine at the Wedding at Cana (John 2:1-11), signifying the manifestation of Christ's divinity and his divine power as well.

In the early days of church history before Christmas was observed, Christians celebrated both the birth of Jesus and his baptism on Epiphany. The feast of Epiphany proclaims to the world that a child was born. This infant would grow to adulthood and die as the sacrificial lamb. The season of Epiphany extends the message of Christmas by calling believers to manifest the gospel to the whole world.

The STAR in our Journey

A reflection on the Epiphany of the Lord

Did you ever wonder why many newspapers and tabloids have a horoscope section? Horoscopes are all about stars. Many believe that people's lives are guided by stars. What is in the stars that even the learned of ancient times have been fascinated by them? Could it be the consistency that stars have served even as guides to mariners?

Today's Gospel happened because of a star—a guiding star. We heard of wise men from the East who traveled great distances only to arrive to Jerusalem, the place of great kings and the center of Jewish religion. But it was a place where the star failed to shine. Oftentimes, people seek wisdom from the rich and the famous, only to be disenchanted more often than not. Today, the Magi sought the help of Herod, who in the end was only to be advised by many nameless believers in the Word of God. Those who trusted in the Word of God were the ones that were able to point the way where the newborn King could be found: "In Bethlehem of Judea, for it has been written through the prophets. . . you are by no means least. . ." And as the wise men from the East pursued their journey, then already guided also by the Word of God, they saw HIS star again! This time it led them to a humble peripheral township at the outskirts of Jerusalem. It was there where they found the child-King whom their hearts desired to see.

Come to think about it, stars may be representative of one's dream in life; a dream bids us to move on. Some understand it as ambition because some think it comes only from their own hearts. But ambition can be deceptive many a times. Maybe that is why in the

Gospel today, when the star of the wise men disappeared as they walked into the space of the ambitiously worldly king, only the wisdom of the unnamed believers in the Word of God can guide them again. It was the Word of God that rekindled their vision, as they saw His star again.

Maybe that is the difference between ambition and vocation. If marriage is only your ambition, there comes a moment when the imperfection of one's partner may lead to deception and even separation. But if marriage is seen as a vocation, a dream place in one's heart by the God who gained a human heart, one can gain a divine heart even when things get grey and dark. When one's dream is seen within the Dream of God, one's whole journey becomes a calling and not just pursuit of an ambition. Learn from the Gospel of today. The wisdom enveloped in the Word of God can give clarity and can take away the clouds of deception and disappointment.

Finally, wisdom is found just among the rich and the famous, it may be found in the hearts of those who live in the peripheral corner of society, the poor. It is on the service of those in need that God may be found. Did he not say: "Whatever you do to the least of my sisters or brothers, you did it to me."

Christmas is a season for those who sincerely hunger for God. Maybe this is why Jesus was born in Bethlehem, which literally means the "house of bread." The Word who became flesh and was born in the house of bread became the Bread of Life whom we can receive in the Eucharist. May we who at every Mass are enlightened by the Word of God and receive the Eucharistic Bread who is Jesus, become a living dream of God that can enable people to see their guiding star especially when the going gets tough and tough. May the Dream of God be our dream. May his mission be our mission.

Fr. Bernard Espiritu, SVD

U.N., USA