



# January 7, 2018 Epiphany of The Lord

## UPCOMING DATES

**Wed Jan 10, Finance Committee Meeting 4 PM**

Tues Jan 23, St. Colman Guild Meeting 12 PM

Wed Feb 7, St. Elizabeth Guild Meeting 1 PM

## PRAY FOR OUR BROTHERS & SISTERS

**Who are ill or in pain:** Helen Johnson, Billy Henthorn, Steve Arcia, Jim & Mary Crowther, Steve Darling, Lorelie Fulwider, Fr. Andrew Metcalf, JoAnn Coules, Dinah Smith, Lorna Marie Hastings, Laverne Jones, Carol Williams, Joanne & Bill Rodgers, John Breig, Linda Schmidt, Michell Jackson, Degi Milko, Jim Ward, Nini Sanchez, Jacqueline Donovan, Art McNulty, Terry Devlin, Kathy Cissell, Mary Hall Smith, Stan Moorman, Maggie Nelson, Stella Dunne, George Ayoob, Nina Cantacessi, John Hoffman, Mary Tamargo, Don La Plante, Bruce & Trish, Sarah & David, Ed Fulwider, Vicki Gonzalez, Jesus Chavez Torres.

**Who have been called to Eternal Life:** Rebecca Jane Ruiz, Janine Bekker Carrig, Margie Sanchez, Glenna Enorme Schutz, Matthew Gonzalez, John Tivenan, Fr. Thomas Devereaux, Billy Ferree, Maureen Shaw, Charlie Castillo, Tom King, Tom Kelly, Axel Avera, Victor Theander, John Sanchez, Ed Botta, Nina Giacometti, Don Covello, Paula Epperson.

## MASS INTENTIONS

**Sat. 4 pm:** Scott Rush<sup>+</sup>

**Sat. 5 pm:** Fr. Andrew [healing]

**Sun. 9 am:** Scott Rush<sup>+</sup>, Jim T. Breslin<sup>+</sup>

**Sun. 11 am:** Fr. Philip Ryan<sup>+</sup>

## READINGS

*Isaiah 60: 1-6*

*Psalms 72: 1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13*

*Ephesians 3: 2-3a, 5-6*

*Matthew 2: 1-12*

On the 5th Sunday of a month, the 2nd collection will benefit the St. Vincent de Paul Society.

The deadline for Bulletin items is Wednesday at 5 p.m. Submit them (proofread and spell-checked) via email or the following meetings at St. Hubert's Hall: St. Elizabeth Guild Meeting (1st Wednesday 1 PM); Finance Committee Meeting (2nd Wednesday 4 PM); St. Colman Guild Meeting (4th Tuesday 12 PM).

To be placed on our Sunday Bulletin email list, send your request via email to: ChurchElizabeth@comcast.net

## LITURGICAL MUSIC CORNER

*by our Music Director, Rebecca Brown*

### **Jan. 7<sup>th</sup> The Feast of the Epiphany**

*“Behold, the Lord, the Mighty One, has come; and kingship is in his grasp, and power and dominion.”*

*The Feast of the Epiphany (meaning “manifestation”) celebrates the revelation of God the Son as a human being in Jesus Christ, and commemorates Jesus’ physical manifestation to the Gentiles.*

Processional Hymn: O Come, All ye Faithful BB #82

Gloria: *Gloria in excelsis Deo, gloria, gloria!*

*Gloria in excelsis Deo, et in terra, terra pax!*

Psalm 72: *Lord, ev’ry nation on earth will adore you.*

Preparation of the Gifts: We Three Kings BB # 108

Communion Song: What Child is This BB # 104

Recessional Song: Joy to the World BB # 78

*The Christmas season continues until Jan. 8<sup>th</sup>, the Baptism of the Lord. The choir would like to thank the kind benefactor who provided the new chairs, and all those who help with our music expenses each week, and especially this Christmas. May God bless and reward you!*

## PASTOR'S DESK

### ***Into the Hands of Love***

*by Fr. John Foley, SJ, St. Louis University*

On this Epiphany Sunday we hear a classic story about innocence in the midst of evil, innocence betrayed by those who should have cared.

The Gospel begins by referring to the fact that a guiltless child has been born. Angels in their rapture paint the sky with song. Shepherds hear and come a-running. The star pulls magi out of far lands to run and see. A beautiful, humble scene, giving such joy to all created beings.

Or at least to most of them. Our story contains another reaction as well. Jealousy. Herod feels a spasm of it when the magi ask their simple, trusting question.

Where is the newborn king of the Jews?

We saw his star at its rising

and have come to do him homage.

Newborn king? Star rising? Herod, like the magi, should have been filled with joy at this news. But no. Instead, he is “greatly troubled, and all Jerusalem with him.” I suppose it would be like envoys from outer space visiting the White House to tell the president that they had selected a different ruler to take his place.

***By putting ourselves into the hands of love, Christ’s light will stay alight.***

Cunning Herod does not show his distress to the magi but instead hatches a plan. He has never been very interested in his people, so now he seeks only information. He rushes the Jewish chief priests and scribes together and demands to know where this Messiah person is supposed to be born.

“In Bethlehem of Judea,” they answer. “God promised that a ruler would come from there, one who is to shepherd his people Israel.” It was the very good shepherd that God had been pledging for ages. Innocent hearts rejoice.

But Herod acts quickly. He oils his way back to the magi and suckers them with a story about Bethlehem. Oozing charm he lures them into a promise of information about the child. He wants to give homage too, he lies, whereas his aim is simple: get rid of the competition.

The magi travel on to Bethlehem and give true homage to Jesus. Herod finds out nothing from them because they go back home by a different route, warned by God in a dream.

That is the story. What are we to learn from it?

For myself, I wonder if you or I can retain something of innocence in today’s world? If “darkness covers the earth, and thick clouds cover the peoples” (First Reading), maybe Herod’s plan is the only smart way out. Lie, cheat, kill.

Isn’t the Church today engulfed in sins of priests and bishops and lay persons, who betray the youths they vowed to protect? Isn’t the world steeped in self interest? What makes us so sure we would not follow Herod’s

example in detail if the opportunity presented itself? Where is our hope?

You will find it in the First Reading. Yes, it is dark outside, that reading says, but light shines into the darkness. If we bother to look at the light, at the child in a manger, we will take on some of the Godly glow we will find there. Our lives will settle down and our goals will become simple. By putting ourselves into the hands of love, Christ’s light will stay alight, sheltered like a candle in the wind.

Innocence in the midst of evil. Innocence betrayed by those who should have cared. But now you see why the Epiphany is actually a story of great hope.

John Foley, SJ

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

Save the date for the rescheduled Pasta Feed, Sat. Feb 10 6pm after mass. Info to follow. Also, congrats to newly installed Guild officers. Treasurer Sharilyn Parmeter, Secretary Maryanne Gustafson, Vice President, Katrina Angeli and President Francine Korn. We look forward to working to serve our Churches needs and hopefully you may give it some thought to joining us in our work this year. Happy New Year!  
-Guild

## PARISH DONATIONS

### ***Period reflected: Dec. 23 – Dec. 24***

St. Elizabeth 1 <sup>st</sup> collection	\$942.00
St. Elizabeth 2 <sup>nd</sup> collection	\$523.00
St. Catherine 1 <sup>st</sup> collection	\$437.00
St. Catherine 2 <sup>nd</sup> collection	\$33.00
St. Colman 1 <sup>st</sup> collection	\$175.00
St. Colman 2 <sup>nd</sup> collection	\$140.00
<i>Thank you for your generosity!</i>	\$2,250.00

### ***Period reflected: Dec 30 – Dec 31***

St. Elizabeth 1 <sup>st</sup> collection	\$1,432.00
St. Elizabeth 2 <sup>nd</sup> collection	\$242.00
St. Catherine 1 <sup>st</sup> collection	\$169.00
St. Catherine 2 <sup>nd</sup> collection	\$260.00
St. Colman 1 <sup>st</sup> collection	\$108.00
St. Colman 2 <sup>nd</sup> collection	\$85.00
<i>Thank you for your generosity!</i>	\$2,296.00