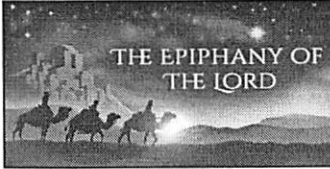


January 2nd - The Epiphany of the Lord



THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Saturday, January 1

9:00am

4:03pm

Sunday, January 2

8:00am *St. John Parishioners*

10:00am † *Maurice Brennan*

12:00pm † *Victoria Marroquin Ruano*

Monday, January 3

9:00am *YMI Brothers*

Tuesday, January 4

9:00am † *Albert & Michael Gagnani*

Wednesday, January 5

9:00am *KofC Council 615*

Thursday, January 6

9:00am

Friday, January 7

9:00am † *Henry & Teresa Thran*

Saturday, January 8

9:00am

4:30pm † *Rufino Labari*

Lord Jesus in imitation of the Magi from the East, may we also go frequently to adore you in your House, which is the Church, and may we never go empty-handed. May we bring you the gold of our offerings, the incense of our fervent prayer, and the myrrh of the sacrifices we make to remain faithful to You, and may we always find you next to your Blessed Mother Mary, whom we want to honor and venerate always as Your Mother and our Mother. Amen



SECOND COLLECTION

Today's Second Collection is for the **Reserve Fund** of St. John the Evangelist. This account was established to help fund the on-going major maintenance and needs of the Parish of St. John. Thank you for your continued generous support.

LAST WEEK'S COLLECTION

COLECTA DE LA SEMANA PASADA
December 20th - December 26th, 2021

Weekend Offering.....\$ 2,784.00

Christmas Offering.....\$ 4,126.00

From the Desk of the Pastor

The Gospel tells us that the wise men came searching for Christ. When they found Him, they worshipped Him, they opened their treasures and offered Him gifts of Gold, frankincense, and myrrh. Then, having worshipped Him, 'they returned to their own country by another route.'

Many have pondered on how this mystical encounter with the Divine child could have changed the course and direction of their lives.....

The human face of a tender loving God in Jesus must have transformed them... Prior to this encounter, the Magi needed the guiding light of a star to show them the way to Bethlehem; now the light of Christ itself that shone so bright that it illuminated their own hearts and minds. It was now their turn to go about spreading the good news of God's transforming love for them and for all nations in the world.

The Readings today remind us that all nations are invited to hear the Good News, to come to know God, to love Him, to adore Him, to serve Him and sing His praises. They have been called to hear the good news and worship the long-awaited Messiah and King with the gift of their lives.

Since then, millions of people have followed in these bold footsteps of the Magi and come to Christ. We come today to Christ to worship Him and offer Him our gifts.... We come with different attitudes, values and goals. It is impossible to encounter Christ without it affecting the way we live. His star shines for all, even for you and for me. His light is 'the true light which enlightens all peoples'.

PARISH COMMUNITY NEWS

Opportunities for Participation in Pope Francis's Synod Coming in the New Year!

Pope Francis invites the whole Church to participate in the preparatory process for the upcoming Synod of Bishops on Synodality. This unprecedented opportunity will facilitate discussion and reflection to help shape the Church's understanding of herself and her mission of evangelization and forming disciples. **The Archdiocese of San Francisco will kick-off the local synodal process in January** by asking every Catholic to participate in the Disciple Maker Index survey. The process will continue in February and March with engagement sessions offered throughout the Archdiocese. The Disciple Maker Index survey is a nationally recognized survey administered at parishes around the United States and Canada since 2013 by The Catholic Leadership Institute. The results from this survey will provide baseline feedback from which content for engagement sessions will be developed.

More details will be available through the Archdiocesan website beginning in January - <http://www.sfarch.org/synod>.

ARCHDIOCESAN ANNUAL APPEAL 2021

The Parish of St. John the Evangelist thanks everyone of you who supported and contributed towards making our Parish assessment of the "Archdiocesan Annual Appeal 2021". Our Parish assessment for the year 2021 was \$ 33,576.

- Our Parish raised through your contributions a total of \$ 27,108.10
- The balance we owe towards the Parish assessment is \$ 6,467.90

We take this opportunity to thank everyone of you who in everyway possible made this happen. May the good Lord always bless your generous hearts. Thank you! Happy New Year!

2021 CONTRIBUTIONS

The Parish Office will be happy to issue "Thank you" and Contribution letters for the year 2021. However, it can be issued **upon request only**. Thank you so much for sharing your blessings with the parish of St. John the Evangelist.

You must be a registered parishioner using Parish envelopes to receive this letter. The Parish envelope number identifies your contribution records. The Parish Office is open on Monday through Friday from 8:30am to 5:00pm

Please **call the Parish office (415-334-4646) a week ahead before dropping by to collect this letter**. Thank you.

The visit of the Magi occurs directly before the Holy Family's flight into Egypt. We know little about the Magi. All we are told is that they came from the East and journeyed to Bethlehem, following an astrological sign, so we believe them to be astrologers. We assume that there were three Magi based upon the naming of their three gifts. We have come to consider the gifts they bring as a foreshadowing of Jesus' role in salvation. We believe the meaning of the gifts to be Christological.

Gold is presented as representative of Jesus' kingship. Frankincense is a symbol of his divinity because priests burned the substance in the Temple. Myrrh, which was used to prepare with the embalming of the dead for burial, is offered in anticipation of Jesus' death. The word Epiphany means "manifestation" or "showing forth." Historically several moments in Christ's early life and ministry have been celebrated as "epiphanies," including his birth in Bethlehem, the visit of the Magi, his baptism by John, and his first miracle at Cana. The gift of God's Son is, of course, at the heart of our Christmas festivities. We are not--and never--alone, because "God is with us." Christ came to share in our humanity to sanctify it. The full significance of that mystery is a gift we have yet to unwrap completely.