

January 3rd - The Epiphany of the Lord

The Parish Financial Reports

The Parish Finance Council is pleased to present to you the '**Parish Finance Report**' for the 12-month period ended June 30, 2020. The Parish is grateful to God and for the incredible resilience and dedication of our parishioners, staff, and volunteers. Our Church finances and the Parish community remain strong. We thank you for your continued financial support and prayers. Please visit the Parish website at: www.saintjohnevangelist.org

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Saturday, January 2

9:00am *YMI Brothers & Families*
4:30pm *Oliver Moyrong (bdy)*

Sunday, January 3

8:00am † *Antonia Hechanova*
10:00am † *Juanita Aguilera*
12:00pm † *Juanita Aguilera*

Monday, January 4

9:00am † *Albert & Michael Gragnani*

Tuesday, January 5

9:00am † *Rupert C. Palacion*

Wednesday, January 6

9:00am † *Geronimo Sr. & Pacienca Samones*

Thursday, January 7

9:00am † *Henry & Theresa Thrane*

Friday, January 8

9:00am † *Eduardo Genoves*

Saturday, January 9

9:00am *St. John Volunteers*
4:30pm † *Rufino Labari*

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.

From the Desk of the Pastor

The Gospel tell 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 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 first Reading today reminds 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.

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. One cannot intentionally encounter Christ and walk away without something radical happening in our lives and affecting the way we live. His star shines for all, even for your and for me. His light is 'the true light which enlightens all peoples'.

If we have courage and open ourselves to His Light, then his presence will dispel the darkness in our minds and hearts and give us hope.

PARISH COMMUNITY NEWS

2020 CONTRIBUTIONS

"Individual Contribution acknowledgement letters" for the year 2020 will be issued by the Parish Office **upon request only**. You must be a registered parishioner using Parish envelopes in order to receive this letter. The Parish envelope number identifies your contribution records. The Parish Office is open on Mondays and Wednesdays 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.

ARCHDIOCESAN ANNUAL APPEAL 2020

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 2020". Our Parish assessment for the year 2020 was \$ 39,090.00.

- Our Parish raised through your contributions a total of \$ 24,632.14
- The balance we owe towards the Parish assessment is \$ 14,457.86

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

The Mass Intentions Book for the New Year 2021

Please come to the Parish office with your request for Mass intentions. Please bring a written list with all the names, mass dates and times that you would like to request along with the stipend. The process is on a "first come, first serve basis". The Archdiocese of San Francisco has traditionally regulated Mass stipends for announced and unannounced mass intentions. The suggested donation for an announced mass is \$10.00; for an unannounced intention it is \$5.00. Mass intentions are published in the Parish bulletin with the deadline for printing on Monday afternoon. The Parish Office is open Monday from 8:30 am to 5:00 pm.

Sunday masses

Are recorded and made available on YouTube and posted on the Parish website every weekend. You may access the masses at <https://www.saintjohnevangelist.org/>

The church is open for Personal Prayer

And Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament on Sundays from 8:00am to 1:00pm. The Knights of Columbus generously offer their time and treasure in faithful stewardship by keeping watch in the church.

The Epiphany of the Lord...Did you know that the only reason we say that there were three wise men is that they brought three gifts? The Bible never says their number or their names. The gifts tell us about the givers. And these special gifts—gold, frankincense, and myrrh—tell us much. When one king visited or sent an ambassador to another, he would give a gift of gold to show that he acknowledged the kingship of the other. So the first gift of the wise men tells us they recognized Jesus as King. The second gift is a type of incense, which was used in Jesus time to worship God. So this gift shows the wise men paying homage to Jesus' divinity. The gift of myrrh is oil used to anoint the dying. It reminds us of Jesus suffering and death on the cross. So what gifts do we have for Jesus? Maybe we can take a hint from the wise men. If we acknowledge Jesus as king, maybe a better gift than gold would be to pledge our obedience to him. Each day we can promise to live our vocation as best we can, to love those around us, and forgive those who hurt us. A better way than burning incense to pay homage to Jesus' divinity is to take time to pray throughout the day. Some people are able to attend daily Mass, others spend time in adoration before the Eucharist. As for the gift of myrrh, we can give Jesus the crosses we bear each day. The song "Little Drummer Boy" reminds us that the best gift is not necessarily the most expensive. Instead, it is the simple gift that only we can give. Let Epiphany remind us to offer our lives to Jesus each day.