

# January 5<sup>th</sup> 2019 - The Epiphany of the Lord



## MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

### Saturday, January 4

9:00am † Michael & Albert Gragnani  
4:30pm YMI Brothers & Families

### Sunday, January 5

8:00am † Carol Meyer  
10:00am St. John Parishioners  
12:00pm St. John Volunteers

### Monday, January 6

9:00am † Jose Ibarra

### Tuesday, January 7

9:00am † Henry & Theresa Thran

### Wednesday, January 8

9:00am † Eduardo Genoves

### Thursday, January 9

9:00am YMI Brothers & Families

### Friday, January 10

9:00am St. John Parishioners

### Saturday, January 11

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

## 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

### 2019 CONTRIBUTIONS

"Individual Contribution acknowledgement letters" for the year 2019 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.

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

### ARCHDIOCESAN ANNUAL APPEAL 2019

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 2019". Our Parish assessment for the year 2019 was \$ 40,216.31.

- Our Parish raised through your contributions a total of \$ 38,329.38
- The balance we owe towards the Parish assessment is \$ 1,886.93

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!

### UPDATE ON "FIXING GOD'S HOUSE"

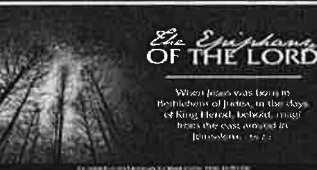
It has now been nearly 16 months since we began the "Fixing God's House" pledge drive to raise funds for vital improvements to our Church and other Parish buildings and property. To date we have received donations and pledge payments totaling \$80,796.32 In addition, we have outstanding pledges of \$37,425.

So far, \$7,136 has been expended for improvements to gates and fences on the Church property. This leaves \$73,660.54 towards upcoming projects. Immediate needs are replacement of the Church's front doors, repair or replacement of the heating system, and safety upgrades for St. Anne's Hall.

We thank all who have made donations or pledges. For those with pledge balances, you should consider making a payment towards your pledge before year-end. The amount can then be included on your year-end summary of 2019 gifts that will be available from the Parish office early in the New Year.

If you have not yet made a donation or pledge towards "Fixing God's House", we encourage you to consider it now. There is much to be done to ensure St. John the Evangelist continues its goal of maintaining and improving our properties for future generations of parishioners.

Once again, your on-going support is truly appreciated. Thank you!



## 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 23<sup>rd</sup> - December 29<sup>th</sup>, 2019

|                                 |             |
|---------------------------------|-------------|
| Tuesday's Spec coll. ....       | \$ 190.00   |
| Tues. On-line giving .....      | \$ 5.00     |
| Christmas coll.....             | \$ 6,101.00 |
| Christmas On-line giving..      | \$ 90.00    |
| St. John Feast Day.....         | \$ 286.00   |
| Weekend Offering.....           | \$ 3,718.91 |
| Weekend On-line giving...\$     | 325.00      |
| St. Vincent De Paul.....        | \$ 1,158.00 |
| St. Vincent On-line giving...\$ | 125.00      |

**Bearing Gifts...** The magi brought gifts to the baby Jesus. What gifts do you bring to the Lord? You might have the gift of patience or understanding and bring this gift in your interactions with others. You might have a talent for bringing new ideas and creative insights into situations at home, work, parish, or your city. You might have a gift for helping people to work together for a great cause or purpose. All of these gifts have been given to you by God, to be used for God's purposes, for God's greater glory. All of these are glimpses of God's grace, and like Saint Paul, you are called to be a good steward of them, as a sign of Christ's life within you. You bring your gifts to the Lord by using them well, sharing them generously and responsibly in caring for others and for all of creation. We have been blessed with the gift of faith, and are called to be good stewards. This is a sacred responsibility, a blessing, a privilege.