

CHURCH OF CHRIST THE KING NEWVERNON, NJ

*We are a grateful and welcoming Catholic family of faith,
nourished by the Word and Eucharist,
called to serve as disciples of Christ, the King.*

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD
January 5, 2020



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MASS SCHEDULE

Sunday 7, 9, 11 AM & 5:30 PM

Saturday (vigil) 5 PM

Weekdays

Monday, Wednesday, and Friday 7 AM

Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday 9 AM

Epiphany of The Lord

We pray for the grace to have the open heartedness of the Magi.

We have been hearing throughout this beautiful season of Christmas about the gift that God has given us – the gift of his only begotten Son, Jesus, as our Savior. Jesus, who is God Incarnate, born as a helpless baby. Today's Feast of the Epiphany celebrates the public "announcement," if you will, that the gift of salvation is available to all, not just those of the Israelite covenant with God.

Long before Paul tells the Ephesians in today's reading that the Gentiles are coheirs, members of the same body, and copartners in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel, the revelation of Jesus Christ is made to the Magi. These Magi were not Jewish, but men from the east – Gentiles – who have traveled to Bethlehem to see the newborn king of the Jews. They were somehow drawn to the gift, and Matthew's Gospel tells us how they respond.

Their response is a beautiful example of how we ourselves should respond to Jesus – and to any gift that God offers to us. They have the vision to see the star, to follow it a great distance from their homeland and to accept the simple gift that is revealed to them: a humble, simple child who does not radiate the majesty of a king. The Magi are able to see beyond the surface, to see this child for who he is, and without hesitation pay him homage and present him with their gifts. Finally, they are obedient to the voice in their dreams and go home a different way, avoiding Herod.

Matthew's Gospel also gives us a completely opposite response to this gift, carried out by Herod. King Herod, hearing of the newborn King of the Jews, responds defensively and in great fear. If what the wise men report is true, Herod reasons, he will lose his status and prestige. Rather than see this child as a gift, as the long-promised Messiah, Herod sees him as a threat that needs to be extinguished right away. He responds with deceitful cunning, planning to kill the child once the Magi reveal to him where the child is. Herod closes his heart to the gift of God, the Messiah, wanting to keep his own power and glory.

None of us would claim to want to follow the example of Herod – to close our hearts and minds to God and to resort to killing innocent children to keep our power. Yet, it helps us to think about how open we are to the many gifts that God presents to us throughout our lives – from the rainy morning that greets us upon our awakening; to the family God has placed in our lives; the work we are called to do; and the sufferings we are called to endure. Each of these is, in different ways, a gift from God – some more easily seen as gift than others. We can either reject them as Herod did, or follow the example of the Magi and accept them in humility, trust and obedience.

As we continue our celebration of the Eucharist, we pray for the grace to have the open heartedness of the Magi throughout the coming year. All is gift from God. With the help of the Holy Spirit, may we greet the expected and unexpected gifts – the obvious gifts and those that are harder to understand – as truly gifts from our loving God. May we see the radiance and glory of Jesus in all we meet in the years ahead, and welcome them into our hearts with joy, reverence and trust.

Mass Intentions

Monday, January 6

7am Cristina Corsini

Tuesday, January 7

9am Frederick Horn, Sr.

Wednesday, January 8

11am Michael Sauchelli

Thursday, January 9

9am Dave Willean

Friday, January 10

7am James E Nugent

Saturday, January 11

9am Virgal Quick

5pm Ludo Nolfo

Sunday, January 12

7am Lee Lavita-Stanzione

9am William Reynolds

11am John & Gertrude Padian

5:30pm Frederick Horn

If you are a family member or friend of the person being remembered at Sunday Mass, please feel free to approach an usher and offer to bring up the gifts.

Pray for the Sick

Joan Dagostino, Kristen Johnson, Kathryn Olden, Grant Martin Scruggs, John Allen, Tawny Wamack, Theresa Padula, Susan Alai, Mary Borrello Cerreta, Gerry Matrisciano, Mary Lopez, Catherine Sorace, and all those listed in Our Lady's Chapel prayer book of intentions.

Collection

Due to the early holiday bulletin deadlines the collection for this weekend will be reported in a future bulletin.

Second Collection Next Weekend

Next weekend is our monthly second collection for *Project Faith*, our Diocesan Assessment. Your generosity in helping us meet this obligation is greatly appreciated.

Communion for the Sick and Homebound



Eucharistic Ministers are available to visit and bring Holy Communion to anyone who is sick or homebound. If you, or someone you know, would like to be visited by a Eucharistic Minister, please call the parish office.

Daily Reading

Find Today's Readings at www.bit.ly/2gGksiU

Religious Education



• Family-Based Religious Education

First Thursday Session – January 9

4 to 6pm – In the Parish Hall

First Friday Session – January 10

6 to 8pm – In the Parish Hall

Pizza will be served for both sessions at 5:45pm

• Junior High Religious Education

(Grades 5, 6, 7 & 8)

Student Session

Sunday, December 8 & January 12 | 4:15 – 6:30pm

Parent & Student Session

Sunday, January 26 | 4:15 – 6:30pm

All sessions will gather in the Parish Hall. We encourage families to attend the 5:30pm Sunday Evening Mass.

Sacramental Preparation Liturgy

Sunday, January 5 – 9am Mass

Interfaith Food Pantry



This weekend is our monthly collection of food/donations to benefit the Interfaith Food Pantry.

Everyday pantry needs are: Canned Fruit, 100% Fruit Juice (Bottle, juice packs, etc.), Pasta Sauce, Canned Tomatoes & Puree, Canned Vegetables (Low Sodium), Cereal (low sugar, high fiber), Pasta, White and Brown Rice (1 or 2 lb.), Parmalat, Dry Milk, Evaporated Milk, Canned Beans, Tuna Fish, Peanut Butter, Canned Meals (ravioli, stew, chili, etc.), Instant Mashed Potatoes, Rice-A-Roni, Pasta-Roni, Hamburger or Tuna Helper, Macaroni & Cheese, Soup (“low-sodium” and “Heart Healthy”), Enfamil Infant Formula (No Similac), Baby Food (Fruits, Vegetables, Meats & Meals), Baby Cereal, Diapers (especially Sizes 4, 5 & 6, larger Pull ups), Baby Wipes, Boost, Ensure, Boost Glucose Control, Glucerna, Paper Towels, Reusable Grocery Shopping Bags

Thanks for your continued support of this vital ministry. If you prefer to contribute a monetary donation, please make your check payable to the Interfaith Food Pantry.

Breakfast Club

Special Date - Tuesday, January 7



Our Christmas Breakfast was postponed due to inclement weather. Join us during the Christmas Season as we celebrate Epiphany together with all the Christmas cheer on Tuesday, January 7! Make sure to come and bring friends for this wonderful morning that starts with 9am Mass followed by a hot home cooked breakfast, fun trivia, carols and some extra Christmas cheer in Parish Hall.

Men's Cornerstone Retreat

Calling all men of the parish. Are you looking to start off the new year with a deeper relationship with our Lord? If so, you are invited to a 24-hour retreat held on January 24th and 25th at the Notre Dame of Mount Carmel Church located at 75 Ridgedale Ave, Cedar Knolls, NJ. Come listen to and reflect upon experiences that demonstrate how God is present in our lives. Contact Matt Cooney at (973) 832-5932 or Edwin Dsouza (908) 635-4135.

*Every nation on earth
will adore you, Lord!*

Faith Direct



Faith Direct enables parishioners to make your Church contributions through either direct debit from your checking/savings account or through your credit/debit card. No more writing checks or searching for envelopes on the way out the door. Now you can apply the convenience of direct debit to your parish offerings in much the same way as you may now use it to make your mortgage, car or tuition payments.

Visit www.faithdirect.net to enroll securely online. Our parish code is **NJ658**.

ATTENTION

ALL College Students and Young Adults!



GUATEMALA COLLEGE OUTREACH TRIP *IS BACK!*

Come to the upstairs of the Parish Life Center
Sunday, January 5 after the 11 am Mass!

Pizza will be served around 12 pm and
important information will be available regarding the trip!

There are two weeks we are looking at:
May 16-23, 2020 or May 23-30, 2020

Details will be decided based on interest/commitment.

For more information, email or call:

Erin Ranft

erin@churchofchristtheking.org

973-539-4955 ext. 22

BIBLE STUDY



Many people want to read the Bible because they know it is God's Word,
but they give up because it seems so complicated.
Unlocking the Mystery of the Bible helps you to get the "big picture" of the Bible
by showing how fourteen narrative books of the Bible tell the complete story
from Adam and Eve to Christ and the Church.

Join us as we

UNLOCKING THE MYSTERY OF THE BIBLE

8 Wednesday Sessions

February 5 – April 1

[no session Ash Wednesday 2/26/20]

9:30-11 am or 7-8:30 pm

Find Registration forms in the Church or Parish Office.

For more information, email or call:

Jonathan Camiolo

jonathan@churchofchristtheking.org

973-539-4955 ext 13