

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

Annunciation Catholic Church

Bogalusa, Louisiana

January 3, 2021

Weekly Mass Intentions

Saturday, January 2nd 4:00 PM
Mickey Paduda, EJ and Dody Champagne, John Underwood, Lawrence Wille, Sarah Parker, Helen and Dorman Crowe, Welfare of Sylvia Hughes, Marty Paige, Kathleen Shirer, Joe Krebs, Welfare of Baby Clara, Antionette Warner, Victoria Nielsen

Sunday, January 3rd 8:30 AM
Earl Hughes, Betty Scroggs, Irma Lee Callender, Lawrence Wille, Newell Bush, Jeff Dugan, Greg Dugan, Kathleen Shirer, Linda Haaga, Lyn Pigott, Welfare of Janet Bush, Welfare of Marette Corkern, Welfare of Buddy Adams

10:30 AM
Annunciation Catholic Church Parishioners

Tuesday, January 5th 8:00 AM
Lawrence Wille

Wednesday, January 6th 8:00 AM
Lawrence Wille, Irma Lee Callender

Thursday, January 7th 8:00 PM
Lawrence Wille, Linda Haaga

Friday, January 8th 8:00 AM
Lawrence Wille, Newell Bush, Joe Krebs

Saturday, January 9th 4:00 PM
Mickey Paduda, EJ and Dody Champagne, John Underwood, Irma Lee Callender, Lawrence Wille, Marty Paige, Kathleen Shirer, Joe Krebs, Welfare of Baby Clara, Leonard Mayfield, Victoria Nielsen

Sunday, January 10th 8:30 AM
Earl Hughes, Betty Scroggs, Irma Lee Callender, Lawrence Wille, Newell Bush, Linda Haaga, Mary and James Brignac, Lyn Pigott, Victoria Cerniglia

10:30 AM
Annunciation Catholic Church Parishioners

Sanctuary Lamp

Our Sanctuary Lamp burns for the
Repose of the Soul of:

Marty Paige

Last Week's Collection December 26th and 27th 2020

Loose-Checks & Cash	\$2,088.00
Envelopes	\$4,100.00
Total:	\$6,188.00

Funds Needed to Operate:
\$6,299.00

**Amount under Weekly Budget
\$111.00**

(Includes Christmas Coll.
\$2,240.00)

**Thank You for Your
Generosity!!!**

Star of Wonder, A Few Thoughts on the Epiphany

On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother. They prostrated themselves and did him homage. Then they opened their treasures and offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. Matthew 2:11

The word "Epiphany" literally translated, means "manifestation". And the "Epiphany of the Lord" is Jesus' manifestation not only to these three Magi from the East, but it's also a symbolic but real manifestation of the Christ to the whole world. These Magi, traveling from a foreign and non-Jewish nation, reveal that Jesus came for all people and all are called to adore Him.

These Magi were "wise men" who studied the stars and were aware of the Jewish belief that a Messiah was coming. They would have been versed in much of the wisdom of the day and would have been intrigued by the Jewish belief in the Messiah.

God used what they were familiar with to call them to adore the Christ. He used a star. They understood the stars and when they saw this new and unique star over Bethlehem they realized that something special was happening. So the first lesson we take from this for our own lives is that God will use what is familiar to us to call us to himself. Look for the "star" that God is using to call you. It's closer than you may think.

A second thing to note is that the Magi fell prostrate before the Christ Child. They fell to the ground in homage of our Lord and

Savior. The Magi laid their lives down before Him in complete surrender and adoration. In doing so they set a perfect example for us. If these astrologers from a foreign land could come and adore Christ in such a profound way, we must do the same. There are several times throughout the liturgical year where the Church's ministers prostrate themselves before the Lord. We see this principally at the beginning of the Good Friday liturgy (where the priest and deacons lay down on the floor of the sanctuary in silent supplication to the Lord). We also see this prostration happen during ordinations at the Cathedral; where those who are about to be ordained lie on the ground in heartfelt reverence to the Lord and His Church. Perhaps you could try literally lying down prostrate in prayer this day, in imitation of the Magi or at least do so in your heart through prayer. Adore Him with complete surrender of your life.

Lastly, the Magi bring gifts of gold frankincense, and myrrh. These three gifts presented to our Lord, show that they acknowledged this Child as the Divine King who would die to save the world from sin. Gold is for a King, frankincense is a burnt offering to God, and myrrh is used for one who would die. Thus the Magi's adoration is grounded in the truths of who this Child is. If we are to adore Christ properly, we must also honor Him in this threefold way.

Reflect, today, upon these Magi and see them as a symbol of what you are called to do. You are called from the foreign place of this world to seek out the Messiah. What is God using to call you to himself?

When you discover Him, do not hesitate to acknowledge the full truth of who He is, lying prostrate before Him in complete and humble submission.

Lord, I love You and adore You. I lay my life before You and surrender all. You are my Divine King and Savior. My life is Yours, Jesus I trust in You.

- Fr. Bru

**"HAPPY NEW
YEAR"**

