The Epiphany Of The Lord, January 05, 2020

Gifts For the King

On this day we encounter the Magi coming from the East to worship the baby Jesus. Magi were originally part of the Median or Persian priestly class, and later this term came to be used more broadly to refer to people who had some sort of mystic abilities. From a distant land in the East, the Magi in today's Gospel reading see a great star in the sky, which in ancient times signified the birth of a great ruler. They follow the star in search of this new king in Israel, and their journey takes them to the town of Bethlehem. Matthew tells us that they prostrate themselves before the child Jesus. This is a significant detail in the story because these Magi were important men, probably serving in royal courts back in the East. And yet these foreigners bow down to worship a baby in Israel. The Church Fathers recognized that this scene shows how the child who came to be the king of Israel was also the king of the whole world. Another interesting detail from today's reading is that the Magi bring the new king Jesus three gifts: gold, frankincense, and myrrh. The gold is a fitting gift for a king, and points to Jesus as the true king. Frankincense was a perfume used as incense in worship, and so it points to Christ's divinity. Since myrrh was an expensive spice used in burial, this gift points to Christ's mortality and tells us that this king one day will die. What can this mean for our lives? As we approach Jesus on this day of Epiphany - and on every day - we want to approach him in great reverence as our Lord and our King. Like the Magi we bow down before him as our king, we recognize his divinity and worship him, and we bring the gift of self-sacrifice, just as the Magi offered him myrrh.

(FORMED © Augustine Institute 2012/2015)
Serving Those with Special Needs - Special Mass

January 12, 3:00 pm St. Barnabas Church

Many in our community have special needs due to developmental delays or disabilities which can make them feel different or isolated. The Special Needs Inclusion Ministry works to ensure they experience welcome, support and spiritual nourishment within our faith community. For that purpose, the Alameda Deanery will again offer a Special Mass for Special Needs; this time at St. Barnabas (1427 Sixth Street) on Sunday January 12 at 3:00pm. All are welcome to attend a Sunday Mass that has been adapted to meet the special needs of those with developmental disabilities, and encourage their active participation. It will be followed by a reception in Fr. Selhorst Hall for families to network and share resources. For information contact St Barnabas Parish Office (510) 522-8933 ext 10 or Jenny Dow email: jdowcooper@gmail.com.

Family Mass January 12

At the 9:30 Family Mass next week, young people will proclaim the readings and assist as greeters, and the CIA Christ in Action ministry will enact the gospel. (The Children’s Choir will be singing on January 26 instead, for Catholic Schools Week.) If interested in helping with the Family Mass on February 9, join the CIA for Tuesday practices starting January 14 or contact Tina at tempetrich@gmail.com to volunteer as a reader or greeter. More info available at www.sjbalameda.org/blog/family-mass-ministry.

Grief Support Ministry

Thursday, January 10
6:30 - 8:30 pm Parish Center (Damien Room)

If you are suffering for any reason or grieving the loss of a loved one, we invite you to join us at the gathering. St Joseph Grief Support Ministry meets the 2nd Thursday of each month from 6:30 to 8:30 pm at the Parish Center, 1119, Lafayette Street. All are welcome at this sacred space. For more details, contact our Ministry leaders:

Pamela Prime, pamelaprime1@gmail.com;
Bill Kueppers, billkueppers@gmail.com; or
Suzanne Morris suzanne@morris.guide

Welcome to Visitors & New Parishioners!

Thank you for worshipping with us today! St. Joseph Basilica is an active and diverse Parish. If you are new and would like become a member of our Parish Family, we welcome you! You can register on our Church website: sjbalameda.org or fill up a registration form that is located in the Church’s vestibule or pick one up from the Rectory. Drop the completed form to the Rectory. Please join us at the New Parishioners’ Reception on January 25 after the 5:00 pm Mass for a Meet & Greet in the Rectory. RSVP by January 15 to Sherley Lim: email secretary@sjbalameda.org or (510) 995-9420

Becoming Catholic

How to Begin?

So you’re thinking about getting baptized, but where do you start? With RCIA Inquiry! The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) is a journey of preparation for the sacraments of Baptism and/or Eucharist and Confirmation. For those who have never been baptized, it begins with “Inquiry,” an informal gathering 7:30 to 9pm on Wednesday nights in the Parish Center at 1119 Lafayette Street. If already baptized, you have the option of joining the ongoing RCIA catechesis sessions on Tuesday nights instead. Newcomers are always welcome. For information contact Anne Marie at afourre@sjbalameda.org or 510-995-9409

Mark Your Calendar

January 10 through 18, Basilica
Novena to Santo Nino, 7:00 - 8:00 pm

Sunday, January 19
Feast of Santo Nino celebrated at the 11:30 am Mass

January 20 through 24, Basilica
“Walk For Life” Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, 7:00 - 9:00 pm

Saturday, January 25
Walk For Life West Coast
**A message from our Pastoral Associate**

*Where have you experienced God in your life?* Today we celebrate the Feast of the Epiphany – The time when Jesus Christ was revealed to the world in the encounter with the 3 Wise Men? This day reminds us that Christ is meant for everyone, not just the Jews (or Catholics!). Christ came into this world to call and save all of creation. As importantly, this feast invites us to remember where we experience Christ in our lives today.

*I have seen him. Have you?*

I see Christ’s healing through our St. Vincent de Paul members who have befriended 96 year old Emma. They help her pay her bills, bring her to the doctors, assist her in navigating services for Seniors and being her friend. Truly Christ enters her house through these people.

I have seen Christ’s generosity in the 100s of people who participated in this year’s Angel Tree Project enabling families to receive gifts this Christmas.

I have experienced Christ joy and hospitality through the many Greeters who welcome me at the door of our basilica. I hear his voice through our Lectors who proclaim his Word and I receive Christ through our many Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist.

I see Christ in those who bring him in the Eucharist to those in the hospital and our homebound.

I experience Christ as rabbi in our school teachers and catechists who share their faith with children and adults who are hungry for Good News.

I see Christ touch the homeless through those in our parish that help at Midway Shelter, prepare meals for the Warming Shelter Program and spend time showing respect for the marginalized and poor in our midst.

I hear Christ joy in the laughter and fellowship shared in our social gatherings, in our Young Adult and Young Families Groups as well as with our Knights of Columbus special events.

I feel the praying Christ in our Legion of Mary, at our Masses and in our many devotional prayer experiences like Taizé and our ethnic celebrations.

I find Christ in you.

Take a moment today to make your list of the times you find Christ in your life... it will be an epiphany! It will bring a smile to your face, a tear to your eye and fill you with hope.

Steve Mullin

**TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION**

The song of the angels, “Holy, Holy, Holy,” resounds from our lips at every Mass. There was a widespread belief in the first religions of the world that God stirred creation into being by a word, a song, a musical note. Music and a sense of God’s presence have always been inseparable. In the liturgy, your voice is invited into this song as the priest names the reasons for our praise. “Heaven and earth are full of your glory,” and we are not passive onlookers, but participants in this glory. Catholic prayer no longer assigns this angelic hymn to a choir, but gives it to you to sing. Even if your voice is thought to be suitable only for a well-insulated shower stall, you are called into this song.

We are born to sing - just listen to a baby testing the full range of newly-discovered vocal abilities. Soon we get shushed and hushed into quiet, and given lots of messages that our voices are unwanted, and that we need to raise our hands in order to be heard. All of that is overturned in liturgy, the place where God waits to hear us come alive in the song of all creation. In heaven, everyone’s in the choir; why not start practicing now?

—James Field, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.
Pray for the Sick

May those who are in need of our prayers, place their trust and faith in the comforting presence of the Lord


If you would like prayers for a loved one please call the Parish Office (510) 522 0181.

Mass Intentions

Saturday, January 4
8:00 am †Christina Goodman
5.00pm For The People of the Parish - Living & Deceased

Sunday, January 5
7:30 am For the People Of the Parish - Living & Deceased
9:30 am †Gerald Jalleh
11:30 am †Robert C. Williams
7:00 pm Amelia Nabaza - Birthday

Monday, January 6
8:00 am Agustina V. Mariano - Birthday

Tuesday, January 7
8:00 am †Emmanuel Nwadugbo

Wednesday, January 8
8:00 am †Antonio Finuliar
†Alfonso & Teresita Colobong

Thursday, January 9
8:00 am †Daniel Curry

Friday, January 10
8:00 am †Tony Macchiarella

Saturday, January 11
8:00 am †Rowan Francis Keough
5.00 pm †Deceased Family Members of Edna Go
†Marina Amajuin

Sunday, January 12
7:30 am †George Anthony & Daisy P.
9:30 am †Deceased Family Members of Lawrence Wong
11:30 am †Simon Chan
7:00 pm For the People of the Parish - Living & Deceased

DEVOTIONS

Rosary and Chaplet of Divine Mercy
Mon.- Sat., 7:30am

First Friday Adoration
10:00am - 1:00pm & 7:00 - 9:00pm

First Tuesday Adoration - Vietnamese
7:00pm - 9:00pm

Our Lady of Perpetual Help
Wednesday after 8:00am Mass

St. Joseph - Our Patron
Thursday after 8:00am Mass

Act of Consecration to
The Sacred Heat of Jesus
First Friday after 8:00am Mass

Prayers to The Sacred Heart of Jesus
Every Friday after 8:00am Mass

Anointing of the Sick
First Saturdays after 8am Mass

Christmas Mailing

Thank you to volunteers who have helped us get the Christmas mailing out on time and special thanks to Jan Curtis for organizing this important assignment. Many hands make the work light and all of you have displayed a wonderful example of stewardship!

Donate Your Old Electronics

Support your Knights of Columbus! With the holidays over, a great way to get rid of your old electronics is to donate them to the Knights. If you have any questions, contact Robert Ramos at (510) 504-0566. Or, you can visit the website: ewaste4good.com for more information on how to donate.
### Stewardship
**Offertory Collection for Month of December**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week of...</th>
<th>Goal</th>
<th>Cash/check</th>
<th>Faith Direct</th>
<th>Total Giving</th>
<th>Surplus/ (shortfall)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nov 30/ Dec 1</td>
<td>$13,500</td>
<td>$8,711</td>
<td>$2,903</td>
<td>$11,614</td>
<td>($1,886)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dec 7/8</td>
<td>$13,500</td>
<td>$12,133</td>
<td>$2,903</td>
<td>$15,036</td>
<td>$1,536</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dec 15/16</td>
<td>$13,500</td>
<td><strong>$7,755</strong> (includes $355 from Simbang Gabi)</td>
<td>$2,903</td>
<td>$10,658</td>
<td>($2,842)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MTD</td>
<td>$40,500</td>
<td>$28,599</td>
<td>$8,710</td>
<td>$37,309</td>
<td>($3,191)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Upcoming Collection: January 12 - Seminary
Note: Due to early deadline for Bulletin upload, Offertory collections information for week Dec 21 & 22 and Dec 28 & 29 will be available in future bulletin. Thank you for your patience.

### Bulletin Information
Please submit bulletin information at least two weeks prior to event to Parish Secretary at email: secretary@sjbalameda.org. Thank you.

### E-mail Scam
We have heard from several parishes, the email/text gift card scam is underway again. As we have shared before, it is a national scam. You can google “priest scam gift cards” and see how wide-spread it is. We need to battle this through education and communication.

If you received a ‘gmail.com’ account from any of our priest or parish staff, please do not response. It appears that the sender is phishing for valid email addresses and if you respond, the sender will follow-up with a request for some sort of monetary assistance, for example gift cards. It is truly unfortunate that cyber criminals will attempt to exploit the generous nature of our Parish Family. If you receive an unusual request, call the Parish Office directly to seek clarification. DO NOT USE any phone number provided in the e-mail or click on any links in the email. For more information on phishing scams and email security, you can google (or search for): Recognizing Phishing Emails. Or, the FBI website address to file an on line Internet crime complaint: https://www.ic3.gov

### Dec 1, 2019: Breakfast with Santa
Thank you to our Knights of Columbus for hosting our Parish annual breakfast with Santa after all the morning Masses. Special thanks to all who participated.
Parish Office Hours:
Monday - Friday: 8:30am - 5:00pm
(Office Closed for lunch: Noon to 1:00pm)
Volunteer Coverage
Sat. 8:30am - 12:30pm / Sun. 8:30am - 1:00pm

Parish Website: www.sjbalameda.org
Facebook: www.facebook.com/sjbalameda
FORMED: www.sjbalameda.formed.org

Clergy:
Rev. George Alengadan - Pastor
Rev. Sunil Orathel - Priest In Residence
(510) 917-9558 / sunil@sjbalameda.org
Dcn. Peter Lawongkerd (Youth Ministry Coordinator)
510-995-9474 / deaconpeter@sjbalameda.org

Sacrament of Marriage
Preparation for registered, active parishioners should begin at least six months in advance of the proposed wedding date. Please contact Parish Office (510) 522-0181 for details.

Sacrament of Baptism
Please stop by the Parish office or check our website under “Sacraments” for information.
- For infant baptism (6 or younger) contact Parish Office, 510-522-0181
- For adults or children over age 6 please contact Anne Marie, 510-995-9409

Parish Staff:
Steve Mullin - Pastoral Associate
510-995-9475 / smullin@sjbalameda.org
Stan Schonberg - Business Manager
510-995-9411 / business@sjbalameda.org
Anne Marie Fourre - Director of Faith Formation
510-995-9409 / afourre@sjbalameda.org
Sr. Asha Kooliyadan R. - Director of Pastoral Care
510-995-9406 / srasha@sjbalameda.org
Eric Bertelsen - Liturgy Coordinator
510-995-9404 / ebertelsen@sjbalameda.org
David Howitt - Music Director
510-995-9403 / dhowitt@sjbalameda.org
Michael Chinnavaso – 7:00pm Music Coordinator
mchinnavaso@sjbalameda.org / 510-5220181
John Scott - Youth Mass Music Coordinator
sjbyouthband@gmail.com / 510-522-0181
Susan Gahan - Coordinator for Funerals
510-995-9416 / sg@sjbalameda.org
Sherley Lim – Parish Secretary
510-995-9420 / secretary@sjbalameda.org

Community Staff:
Julie Guevara - Interim Principal, SJND High School
510-523-1526 / jguevara@sjnd.org
Katherine Francisco - Principal, Elementary School
510-522-4456 / kfrancisco@cso.org

St. Vincent de Paul Hotline: (510) 995-9471

St. Joseph Basilica Ministries
All God’s Children Prayer Group - Mondays, 7:00-9:00pm, Basilica
Basilica Choir Rehearsal - Wednesdays, 7:30-9:00pm, Basilica
Bible Study - Thursdays, 10:00-11:30am, Parish Center (St. Joseph Room)
Children’s Choir - Thursdays, 4:00-5:00pm, Basilica
CIA (Christ in Action Children’s Performing Arts) -Tuesdays, 3:30 - 4:30 pm, Basilica
Cub Scouts - 1st Monday, 6:45-8:00pm, Parish Center (St. Joseph Room)
Grief Support Ministry - 2nd Thursday, 6:30 - 8:30pm, Parish Center (Damien Room)
Girl Scouts - 2nd Wednesday, 6:15pm - 8:00pm, Parish Center (St. Joseph Room)
Guadalupe Ministry - 1st Thursday, 7:00 - 8:30 pm, Parish Center (St. Joseph Room)
Knights of Columbus - 2nd Thursday, 7:00-8:30pm, Parish Center (St. Joseph Room)
Legion of Mary - 2nd & 4th Fridays, 7:00 - 8:30pm, Parish Center (St. Joseph Room)
Legion of Mary - 1st & 3rd Saturdays, Reconciliation Room
Moms’ Bible Study Tuesdays, 10:00-11:30am, Parish Center (St. Joseph Room)
Pastoral Care Team - 1st Saturday, 8:45-9:30am, Parish Center (St. Joseph Room)
Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults Inquiry - Wednesdays, 7:30-9:00pm, Parish Center (Mother Teresa Room)
St. Vincent DePaul Society - 4th Thursdays, 7:00-8:30pm, Parish Center (St. Joseph Room)
Spirit Ensemble rehearsal Thursdays, 7:30-9:30pm, Basilica
Sp. Needs Caregivers Support Group - 2nd Mondays, 6:30 - 7:30 pm, Parish Center (St. Joseph Room)
Sp. Needs Inclusion Ministry - 4th Thursdays, 6:30 - 7:30 pm, Parish Center (Mother Teresa Room)
Taize Prayer Service - 4th Friday, 8:00-9:00pm, Basilica
Young Adults - 1st & 3rd Wednesday, 7:30pm-9:00pm, Parish Center (Damien Room)
Young Families Potluck - 3rd Saturday, 10 – noon, Notre Dame Hall
Simbang Gabi Dawn Masses
Dec 15 through 23rd

Thank you to the Simbang Gabi Ministry, Clergy and all Ministers who organized and helped at the pre-dawn Masses. Big thanks to all the special people who volunteered and donated food for the breakfast following the Masses. To our Parish Family, special thanks for your participation and in sharing the diversity of our Parish. Salamat!

For more pictures visit our Facebook:
https://www.facebook.com/sjbalameda/
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