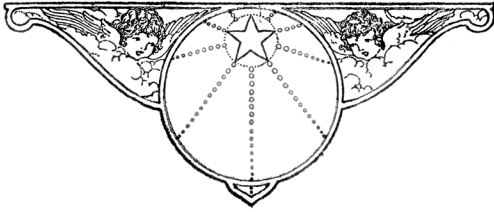


ST IGNATIUS  
& ST LUKE'S



5 January 2020



From the *Directory on Popular Piety and the Liturgy*,  
 Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the  
 Sacraments, December 2001

### Solemnity of the Lord's Epiphany

118. Many traditions and genuine manifestations of popular piety have been developed in relation to the Solemnity of the Lord's Epiphany, which is of ancient origin and rich in spiritual content. Among such forms of popular piety, mention may be made of :

- the solemn proclamation of Easter and the principal dominical feasts; its revival in many places would be opportune since it served to make the connection between the Epiphany and Easter, and orientate all feasts towards the greatest Christian solemnity;
- the exchange of "Epiphany gifts", which derives from the gifts offered to Jesus by the three kings (cf. Mt 2,11) and more radically from the gift made to mankind by God in the birth of Emmanuel amongst us (cf. Is 7, 14; 9, 16; Mt 1, 23). It is important, however, to ensure that the exchange of gifts on the solemnity of the Epiphany retain a Christian character, indicating that its meaning is evangelical: hence the gifts offered should be a genuine expression of popular piety and free from extravagance, luxury, and waste, all of which are extraneous to the Christian origins of this practice;
- the blessing of homes, on whose lintels are inscribed the Cross of salvation, together with the indication of the year and the initials of the three wise men (C+M+B), which can also be interpreted to mean *Christus mansionem benedicat*, written in blessed chalk; this custom, often accompanied by processions of children accompanied by their parents, expresses the blessing of Christ through the intercession of the three wise men and is an occasion for gathering offerings for charitable and missionary purposes;
- initiatives in solidarity with those who come from afar; whether Christian or not, popular piety has encouraged a sense of solidarity and openness;
- assistance to the work of evangelisation; the strong missionary character of the Epiphany has been well understood by popular piety and many initiatives in support of the missions flourish on 6 January, especially the "Missionary work of the Holy Child", promoted by the Apostolic See;
- the assignation of Patrons; in many religious communities and confraternities, patron saints are assigned to the members for the coming year.

### **CHALKING THE DOOR:**

#### **AN EPIPHANY HOUSE BLESSING**

It is an old custom either on Twelfth Night (January 5), the twelfth day of Christmastide and eve of the feast of the Epiphany, or on Epiphany Day (January 6) itself, to ask God's blessing on our homes, and on those who live in or visit there, in a very special way. This blessing serves as an invitation for Jesus to be a daily guest in our home; in our comings and goings, our conversations, our work and play, our joys and sorrows.

To bless the home on Epiphany, use chalk to write above the home's entrance, 20 + C + M + B + 20. The letters C, M, B have two meanings. They are the initials of the traditional names of the three magi: Caspar, Melchior, and Balthazar. They also abbreviate the Latin words *Christus mansionem benedicat*, "May Christ bless the house." The + signs represent the cross and 2020 is the year.

#### **INSTRUCTIONS FOR BLESSING THE HOME**

Using blessed chalk mark the lintel of your front door (or front porch step) as follows:

**20 + C + M + B + 20**

*Then offer the following prayer:*

**L**ORD, HOLY FATHER, ALMIGHTY AND EVERLASTING GOD, we beseech thee to hear us and vouchsafe to send thy holy Angel from Heaven, to guard and cherish, protect and visit, and evermore defend all that dwell in this house. I call upon thy Saints Caspar, Melchior, and Balthazar, to protect my family and my home from every harm and danger; and I place this mark over my door to remain as a constant reminder to us and all who enter here that my house is truly a house of the Lord. O God, make the door of my house the gateway to thine Eternal Kingdom. All this we ask through Jesus Christ, Thy Son, our Lord. Amen.



## **REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS**

All who are suffering or sick and all caregivers who minister to the sick: Wesley Jackson, Sister Constance Ward, George Cochran, Mark Anthony Turner, Rachel Fisher, Joyce Doyle, Patricia Ransom, David Hoppe, Jacqueline Chancio, Victoria P.; C. M., C.A., E.D., E.G., W.B., J.M., and J.G.

*Please call or email the office to add a name to the prayer list. Before calling, please be sure you have spoken to the person [or a member of his family] about adding the name—we do not want to inadvertently disregard someone's desire for privacy.*

Names of those who are sick or suffering will be kept on the list for one month; to keep a name on the list for longer, you must email the parish office.

## **MASS READINGS THIS WEEK**

**5 January** *The Feast of the Epiphany of the Lord*

Isaiah 60: 1-6; Psalm 72: 1-2, 7-8, 10-13;

Ephesians 3: 2-3a, 5-6; Matthew 2: 1-12

**6 January** *André Bessette, Religious*

1 John 3: 22—4: 6; Psalm 2: 7-8, 10-12; Matthew 4: 12-17, 23-25

**7 January** *Raymond of Penyafort, Priest*

1 John 4: 7-10; Psalm 72: 1-4, 7-8; Mark 6: 34-44

**8 January** *Christmastide Feria*

1 John 4: 11-18; Psalm 72: 1-2, 10, 12-13; Mark 6: 45-52

**9 January** *Christmastide Feria*

1 John 4: 19—5: 4; Psalm 72: 1-2, 14, 15, 17; Luke 4: 14-22a

**10 January** *Christmastide Feria*

1 John 5: 5-13; Psalm 147: 12-15, 19-20; Luke 5: 12-16

**11 January** *Christmastide Feria*

1 John 5: 14-21; Psalm 149: 1-6a, 9b; John 3: 22-30

**12 January** *The Feast of the Baptism of the Lord*

Isaiah 42: 1-4, 6-7; Psalm 29: 1-4, 9-10;

Acts 10: 34-38; Matthew 3: 13-17

## **MASS INTENTIONS**

**Saturday, 4 January**

*Anticipated Mass for Sunday*

4:30 pm Nick Cole + [Joe and Jackie Chancio]

**Sunday, 5 January**

*The Feast of the Epiphany of the Lord*

8 am Pro populo

9:30 am Patricia Seward [Jane Slattery]

11 am Mike Mazu and family [Joseph Conklin and Dagny Rughin]

**Monday, 6 January**

*André Bessette, Religious*

9 am *no public mass*

**Tuesday, 7 January**

*Raymond of Penyafort, Priest*

9 am Bonnie Palmer and family [Joseph Conklin and Dagny Rughin]

**Wednesday, 8 January**

*Christmastide Feria*

9 am Mary Ceralvalo and family [Joseph Conklin and Dagny Rughin]

**Thursday, 9 January**

*Christmastide Feria*

9 am Angela Mowry + [Mark Arbeen]

**Friday, 10 January**

*Christmastide Feria*

9 am Lorraine LaValley

**Saturday, 11 January**

*Anticipated Mass for Sunday*

4:30 pm Patricia Ransom [Joe and Jackie Chancio]

**Sunday, 12 January**

*The Feast of the Baptism of the Lord*

8 am Pro populo

9:30 am Maureen Elia [Jane Slattery]

11 am Antonio Figueroa + [Mark Arbeen]

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