

EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

January 5, 2020

Dear Parishioners,

They departed for their country by another way. (Matthew 2:12)



Today we celebrate the fulfillment of Isaiah's prophecy that God would shine his light on all the nations, not just Israel. That's certainly what happened to the Magi as they followed a star to the home of the newborn King of the Jews.

But it seems that God's light led them somewhere they didn't expect. And that's often what light does.

Think about it. Following their own religious traditions, the Magi believed that the appearance of a new star heralded the birth of a new king. So intending to make a diplomatic visitation, they journeyed to King Herod's court in Jerusalem.

But instead of leading them to a royal palace, the star ultimately led them to a humble home in Bethlehem.

They accepted the light they received and kept looking for more, ready for whatever course correction might come their way. In the end, they found themselves before Jesus, not only the King of the Jews, but also the Lord of all creation. Receiving, leaning into, and seeking more light made them more open and able to receive even more light.

That's how it works for us too. Think back to a time when you experienced some insight from God. Maybe some confusing aspect of your faith started to make some sense. Or you found clarity about a new phase of life you had entered into. That one "light" didn't necessarily answer all your questions. It set you on a path, but it didn't give you the entire road map. So you had to do your best to follow it, and as you did, you sorted out the next step. Each step forward, each choice to be flexible, each response of trust made subtle or not-so-subtle changes in you. Light built on light, and slowly but surely, like the Magi, you started doing things differently. You started to see things as God does, in his light.

And that's what Epiphany is all about. It's a revelation that changes our hearts.

"Lord, make today an epiphany for me too!"

Deacon Mark Race, Administrator

Men, Mark Your Calendars

Transfiguration Annual Retreat for men will be held at Mater Dolorosa Retreat Center on the weekend of January 24, 25, and 26 2020. Join your fellow parishioners for this weekend of spiritual enrichment and growth. The Passionist retreat team offer inspirational talks on the theme, as well as time for quiet prayer, Mass, and Confession and Stations of the Cross. You may arrive as early as 3:00 PM Friday. Our retreat opens at 5:45 PM with a buffet supper and closes Sunday after lunch about 12:30 PM. A **\$50.00 non-refundable deposit is required to reserve your weekend Retreat, this is reserved for you.** This year's Retreat theme: **"God is doing something New In Us... Exploring paths of deepening Faith"**. For more information or to make your reservation please call Greg Warner your parish retreat Captain at 323.974.7405 or 310.538.2214.

You may register online at: materdolorosa.org/event/mens-weekend-retreat-jan-24-26-2020

Daily Scripture Readings

WHEN GOD COMES

My God, what joy is when you come to us in daily visitation; what peace is ours when by your coming we find life anew.

Come, O come to live with us and reign within, now and forever. Amen.

Sunday	Is 60:1-6, Ps 72:1-13, Mt 2:1-12
Monday	1 Jn 3:22-4:6, Mt 4:12-25
Tuesday	1 Jn 4:7-10, Mk 6:34-44
Wednesday	1Jn 4:11-18, Mk 6:45-52
Thursday	1 Jn 4:19-5:4, Lk 4:14-22
Friday	1 Jn 5:5-13, Lk 5:12-16
Saturday	1 Jn 5:14-21, Jn 3:22-30
Sunday	Is 42:1-7, Ps 29:1-10, Mt 3:13-17

Mass Intentions

Saturday	January 4
5:15 PM	Soul of Anthony Middleton
Sunday	January 5
8:00 AM	Soul of Elaine Martini
10:00 AM	Soul of Maurice Simon
12:15 PM	Intention of all Parishioners

Weekly Offering for December 29, 2019

\$4203.00 Tithes and Offering
165.00 Building Fund
5.00 "We Care"

Did You Know?

What is child sex trafficking?

Child sex trafficking occurs when a minor is involved in a commercial sex act where sex is traded for money, food, shelter, drugs or anything else of value. Perpetrators of sex trafficking often target children believing their age makes them easier to manipulate and control. This crime is occurring in all types of communities throughout the U.S. and traffickers are making an alarming profit while victims endure abuse and violence. One of the most important things you can do to protect your child is to create an environment in which he or she feels comfortable talking with you as a trusted adult.

For more information please visit, <http://www.missingkids.com/theissues/trafficking>.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

TRANSFIGURATION LENTEN REVIVAL

Sr. / Dr. Oralisa Martin, O.R.A.

Sunday, Monday, & Tuesday Nights at 7PM

March 15, 16, & 17, 2020 and

Sunday March 15th at 10AM Mass

Spread the Word!

Christmas Flower Offering

We are asking that you be as generous as possible with your giving. Envelopes are at the church exit. We will place the envelopes on the altar for prayer in Memory of, or in Honor of, your love ones.

Stewardship Thought

"Then they opened their treasures and

offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh." MATTHEW 2:11

The image of the Magi kneeling before the infant Jesus and opening their treasure chests for Him is an image that we should all try to follow each day. In gratitude for all that we have been given, we are called to generously share all of our gifts, not just the ones we pick and choose. God wants us to be generous with everything, but especially that one thing that means the most to you.

Transfiguration School Vacation Break

December 18, 2019 and return January 6, 2020

Memorial Service for Howlett Smith

The **memorial service** for Howlett Smith also known as "Smitty", former 8AM Cantor for Transfiguration, will take place on Saturday, February 1, 2020 at 10AM.

2020 Calendars are available in the church sacristy for a donation of \$2. Thank you for your support.

Pray for the Sick

LaVerne Agnew, Cyd Michelle Anderson, Brian Argusta, Percenia Beasley, Fr. Emile Belletty, Glenda Brown, Vivian Burgess, Barbara Butler, Brownie Cain, Sister Cecilia Calva, Alberto Casanova, Christopher Chestnut, Sister Ann Paul Clare, Katherine Clark, Agnes Cooper, Edward Cousin, Juanita Davis, Beverly Colvin-Dorsey, Jayden Dunn, Nigel Dunn, Alton Duhon, Cynthia Fortier, Teresa Franklin, Judy Felton-Gardner, Michael Frierson, Avis Gibbs, Barbara Harris, Darren Harris, Jacqueline Holman, Janie Jackson, Robert Johns, Aaron Katz, Briana Katz, Barbara Lagarde, Irwin Lagarde, Jeanne LeBlanc, Mercedes LeBlanc, Barbara Lindsey, Connie Louie, Joe McZeal, Vylfred Manor, Sister Marianna, Dorothy Okoye, Aliyah Patterson, Sally Price, Wiley R. Pugh, Vickie Race, Andrea Raggette, Doris Rogers, Dana Semien, Dudley Semien, Chris Simon, Joan Spencer, Annie Starks, Sandra Sterling, Leila Thomas, Iris Turner, Mabel Walton, Johnnye Washington, and Alice Williams.