

The Epiphany of the Lord

January 2, 2022



My dear Sisters and Brothers,

Merry Christmas! Happy New Year!

Glory to God in the Highest! The Angels proclaimed this when singing the praise of the Baby, who came as a gift to all creation. Our Faith-family continues to celebrate the gift that keeps on giving with the Nativity of Our Lord, because Christmas is bigger than just one day. We come together on this part of our journey on the mountain top while still celebrating the Incarnation, our Christmas miracle. Following our theme; “Celebrating Our Breakthrough!” Today is the feast of the Epiphany.

Epiphany, also known as Theophany in the east, is a Christian feast day that celebrates the revelation of God incarnate as Jesus Christ. In Western Christianity, the feast commemorates principally the visit of the Magi to the Christ Child, and thus Jesus Christ's physical manifestation to the Gentiles. It is sometimes called Three Kings' Day, and in some traditions celebrated as Little Christmas. Moreover, the feast of the Epiphany, in some denominations, also initiates the liturgical season of Epiphanytide... [Wikipedia]

Even at the birth of Christ that night of wonder and mystery, many knew nothing of God's mission being revealed and beginning physically at this event. Thousands of years prior to His Nativity, the Promised One, the Messiah was proclaimed to the Jews. Christ was King of the Jews and their personal Savior until that moment. The Epiphany definitively refutes the idea with the events that occurs on this feast. The Magi is our hope and reminder of the fact that God came to Earth for everyone, not just the Jews. This concept is foreign to our psyche as American Catholics just like it was for the Jewish folk of the early New Testament. Some think, erroneously, that the Baby came just for them. Our name Catholic refutes this concept also. Catholic means universal. The Magi were Gentiles. Gentile is a word that usually means "someone who is not a Jew". Other groups that claim Israelite heritage sometimes use the term gentile to describe outsiders, notably Mormons. More rarely, the term is generally used as a synonym for heathen or pagan. In some translations of the Quran, gentile is used to translate an Arabic word that refers to non-Jews and/or people not versed in or not able to read scripture. [Wikipedia] If this was true, “anyone who was not Jewish” is a Gentile? Then we could not be the “Chosen ones”, according to some, because Jewish folk are the “Chosen ones!” All non-Jews can be Gentiles, but ALL humankind have the propensity of being part of the “Chosen Ones!” We have it by birth right, manifested through what we celebrated last week, the Feast of the Holy Family.

We continue “celebrating our breakthrough,” because of the Light we lionize illuminates the fact that we are the “Chosen Ones” and God wants all His people to know it! The gift we receive, the miracle we celebrate, the Epiphany revealed to us gives us Hope! Just like the dark world 2000 years ago received an awesome Light, Christ has reignited the Light in us to illumine the world in 2022 that He is the Messiah, Our Brother, and we are all Family! Glory to God In the Highest!

Christmas & New Year Blessings
Fr. Anthony Bozeman

Weekly Tithes and Offerings

Christmas Day - December 25, 2021 - \$2,758.00

Sunday, December 26, 2021 - \$4,972.89

Stewardship

"...They prostrated themselves and did him homage.

Then they opened their treasures and offered him gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh." (MATTHEW 2:11)

What gifts do you give to the Lord? Pope St. Gregory said that these three gifts represent what we should give God every day. Gold – we should reflect Christ's wisdom in all our relationships. Frankincense – represents our daily prayer and adoration to God. Myrrh – is a symbol of our daily sacrifices that we unite with Jesus for the sake of others.

Did you know?

Online safety review for the new year

Take some time this month to review your family's online safety. Make sure you have strong passwords in place, and that your security settings are updated. Check where you have passwords stored as well — children who are tech savvy can easily access inappropriate materials on smart TVs and devices where passwords do not have to be entered. Consider installing accountability software on any devices that your children access. Software like Covenant Eyes or other options can keep your child from visiting any inappropriate or forbidden sites. For more tips, request a copy of the VIRTUS® article "Revisit Online Safety Practices" at lacatholics.org/did-you-know.

RCIA Come, learn or renew your Catholic faith...

Tuesday, January 4, 2022 at 7:00 PM. The topic will be about the "The Sacrament of Baptism" by Deacon Greg Patterson at Holy Name of Jesus (*Acacia Center*), 1955 W. Jefferson in Los Angeles.

Pray for the Sick

LaVerne Agnew, Brian Argusta, Helen Argusta, Gloria Bazemore, Victor Bozeman, Vivian Burgess, Brownie Cain, Kathleen Charles, Christopher Chestnut, Sister Ann Paul Clare, Cynthia Cyrus, Juanita Davis, Carolyn Didney, Beverly Colvin-Dorsey, Bobby Eason, Mark Eason, Cynthia Fortier, Sherie Frierson-Chenier, Brenda Garibaldi, Avis Gibbs, Barbara Harris, Jennifer Hallman, Barbara J. Jones, Marjorie Jones, Briana Katz, Barbara Lagarde, Irwin Lagarde, Mercedes LeBlanc, Victor Levi, Vydred Manor, Dorothy Okoye, Tyrone Pitts, Sally Price, Wiley Pugh, Frank Rhodes, Dana Semien, Dudley Semien, Mike Simon, Joan Spencer, Annie Starks, Kay Sterling, Leila Thomas, Iris Turner, Mabel Walton, William Warrior, Alice Williams, Jacqueline Williams, Peggy Wilson and Mechele Yerima.

Daily Scripture Readings

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	1 Jn 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, Lk 3:15-22

RECTORY RE-OPENS *Tuesday January 4, 2022*

SAVE THE DATES

You are invited to the **28th Annual Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. PRAYER BREAKFAST 8:00AM Saturday, January, 15, 2022**, at the St. Monica Catholic Church Pavilion, 725 California Avenue, Santa Monica, CA. The Keynote Speaker is Dr. Kim Harris and Drum Major Awardee is Most Reverend Edward Wm. Clark, Auxiliary Bishop, our Lady of the Angels Pastoral Region. This year's theme is **ADVANCING THE DREAM: Time to Reflect, Imagine and Build the Future.** Reserved Ticket Donation is \$50 and \$300 for a table of 7. You may also purchase tickets online: AACCFE.org-or send checks to the African American Catholic Center for Evangelization, 9505 Hass Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90047. For more information call 323.777.2106.

Mass at the Cathedral

On Monday, **January 17, 2022 at 3:00 PM** in the Cathedral of Our Lady of the Angels, Most Reverend José H. Gomez will be the celebrant and homilist for the 40th Annual Martin Luther King, Jr. **MEMORIAL MASS.** Reverend Jeffery Harvey, Assistant Professor of Homiletics is the Homilist. The African American Catholic Center for Evangelization in Collaboration with the Knights of Peter Claver and Ladies Auxiliary invites everyone to attend.

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.

Thank You

I would like to thank my Transfiguration Parish Church family for supporting me throughout this difficult time. Your Kindness will always be remembered.

~Beatrice Harris & Family