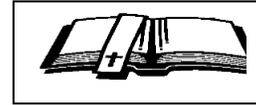


SCRIPTURE READINGS

These readings are found complete on our parish web page (www.olmcsi.org). Click on "USCCB Daily Readings."

TODAY: Epiphany
Isaiah 60:1-6
Ephesians 3:2-3a, 5-6
Matthew 2:1-12

Next Week: Baptism of the Lord
Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11
Titus 2:11-14; 3:4-7
Luke 3:15-16, 21-22



PASTOR'S ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING – Monday, January 18th at 5 p.m. in the Meeting Room.

TOURING TUESDAYS – CONSIDER a CATHOLIC EDUCATION FOR YOUR CHILDREN! Visit our Lady of Mount Carmel+St. Benedicta School, Tuesday, January 12th from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. Discover what a Catholic school can offer your child! For more information, please call: 718-981-5131.

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION – There will be Eucharistic Adoration after the 12:05 p.m. Mass on Friday, January 8th.

BIBLE STUDY – Want to learn more about the foundational source of our faith – the bible? We have classes on select Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 12 noon under the direction of Mr. Colin Voutrinot, our Director of RCIA. Upcoming classes: January 23, February 6 and 13. Classes are in the rectory on the first floor.

SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM for HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS – The Venerable Pierre Toussaint Scholarship Program offers a \$2,000 award to high school seniors graduating from any high school in the Archdiocese of New York so that they can attend a college, university or trade/training school of their choice. The grant can be renewed for three additional years, if the student fulfills certain academic and service requirements. Information is available in the vestibule of the church. All applications are due by February 19, 2016. Don't delay!

A PRAYER FOR THE NEW YEAR:

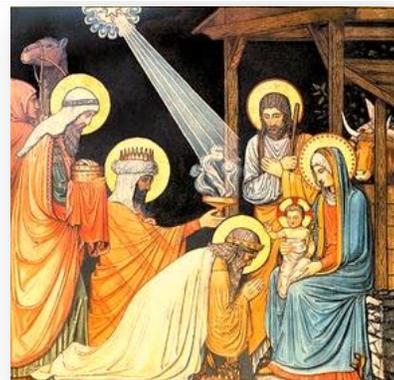
Dear Lord. As we start a new year, let us give thanks for all we hold dear: our health, our family and our friends. We praise and thank you for all the many gifts with which you have blessed us in our lives – great and small. Let us release our grudges, our anger and our pains, for these are nothing but binding chains. Let us live each day in the most loving ways. Let us serve all who are in need, regardless of their race, color or creed. Let us not forget the example Jesus showed to us with the way he lived. May his way of love be our way this year. We pray for all the possible opportunities that may come in this New Year. May we remember to praise and thank you for all the good and amazing things that will happen this year. In your abundant goodness, shower us with love, mercy and grace in the hard times that we will experience as well. You rejoice when your children come to you in joy and sadness, remind us to turn to you in all things. May our year be filled with peace, prosperity and love through your tender mercy and gracious goodness. Amen.

POPE FRANCIS on the MERCY of CHRIST - Jesus' attitude is striking: we do not hear the words of scorn, we do not hear words of condemnation, but only words of love, of mercy, which are an invitation to conversation. "Neither do I condemn you; go, and do not sin again." Ah! Brothers and Sisters, God's face is the face of a merciful father who is always patient. Have you thought about God's patience, the patience He has with each one of us? That is His mercy. He always has patience, patience with us, He understands us, He waits for us, He does not tire of forgiving us if we are able to return to Him with a contrite heart. "Great is God's mercy," says the Psalm.

CALL to AWARENESS and ACTION on GLOBAL CLIMATE CHANGE: *From Laudato Si, Pope Francis' Encyclical on the Environment:* Regrettably, many efforts to seek concrete solutions to the environmental crisis have proved ineffective, not only because of powerful opposition but also because of a more general lack of interest. Obstructionist attitudes, even on the part of believers, can range from denial of the problem to indifference, nonchalant resignation or blind confidence in technical solutions. We require a new and universal solidarity. [...] All of us can cooperate as instruments of God for the care of creation, each according to his or her own culture, experience, involvements and talents. (14)

WEEKLY OFFERING: Christmas: \$8539; December 27: \$4261. Thank you for your support of our parish!

"After coming into the house they saw the Child with Mary His mother; and they fell to the ground and worshiped Him. Then, opening their treasures, they presented to Him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh."
(Matthew 2: 11)





The Feast of the Epiphany of the Lord- January 3rd, 2016



All Kings shall pay him homage, all nations shall serve him. *-Psalm 72:11*

Weekly Mass Intentions



Saturday January 2

8:00am- † Josephine Bruno	<i>Offered By:</i> daughters, Barbra & Mary
5:00pm- † Mariam Luciano	<i>Offered By:</i> Family
7:30pm- † Parish Community Intentions	

Sunday January 3

8:30am- †	
10:00am- † Edward & Vivian Morgan	<i>By:</i> Coppucci Family
11:30am- † Parish Community Intentions	
1:30pm- † Parish Community Intentions	
6:00pm- † Parish Community Intentions	

Monday January 4

8:00am- † Grace Hinton	<i>Offered By:</i> Hinton Family
12:05pm- † Walter Federowski	<i>Offered By:</i> wife, Linda & Family

Tuesday January 5

8:00am- † Robert Plaut	<i>Offered By:</i> sister, Marianne Robertson
12:05pm- †	

Wednesday January 6

8:00am- †	
12:05pm- †	

Thursday January 7

8:00am- †	
12:05pm- †	

Friday January 8

8:00am- †	
12:05pm † Douglas Yamada	<i>Offered By:</i> Mary Guardiani

Saturday January 9

8:00am- † Isabel Maria Quiñones	<i>Offered By:</i> daughter, Marta
5:00pm- † Daniel Fuentes	<i>By:</i> Linda Federowski
7:30pm- † Parish Community Intentions	

Sunday January 10

8:30am- † Aldorah Williams	<i>Offered By:</i> children & grandchildren
10:00am- † Dolores Elizabeth Zukowski & Gregory Peter Zukowski	<i>Offered By:</i> Victoria & Wilfredo Garay
11:30am- † Parish Community Intentions	
1:30pm- † Parish Community Intentions	
6:00pm- † Parish Community Intentions	

Weekly Memorials

- Altar Bread & Wine
- Tabernacle Candle
- Memorial Candle
- Memorial Candle



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Lectors & E.M. ~ Schedule for January 2016~

Saturday - 5:00 PM

Lector: Linda Graves (*carry Gospel Book*) *E.M.:* Linfred Smith, Peg & Tom Ventrudo

Sunday - 8:30AM

Lector: Joan Knighton (*carry Gospel Book*) *E.M.:* Diane Carbonaro, Theresa Contardo & Cinderella Wonsewitz *S.M.:* Bill Hinton

Sunday - 10:00AM

Lector: Sharely Manuel (*carry Gospel Book*) *E.M.:* Emmanuel Fode, Beverly Marryshaw & Mariana Zukowski *S.M.:* Alexis Crowell



At the heart of today's Feast of the Epiphany is a truth both beautiful and perplexing.

The essential truth proclaimed in today's feast is that God wills the salvation of all people and it is Jesus Christ who is the Savior of the world. For Christians, this may seem to be a routine proclamation of faith, but, in fact, it presents a challenge to our understanding of how God effects the salvation of all persons of good will. The first Christians, who were Jewish, confronted this issue directly when St. Paul preached the Gospel to non- Jews, the Gentiles. The Jewish-Christians wanted these Gentiles to become Jews in order to become Christian. But St. Paul demanded that the Church accept the Gentiles as members of Christ's body simply through their proclamation of faith in Jesus Christ and baptism. Ultimately, the Church embraced the position of St. Paul and so the Christian faith, rooted in Judaism, assumed its own identity.

If Jesus is the source of the salvation that God desires for all people, does this mean that non-Christians cannot be saved? No! It is within the power of God to decide how the saving deed of Jesus Christ is efficacious for all people even those who do not make an explicit profession of faith in Jesus Christ. As Catholic Christians, we believe that the Jewish people represent a special case. We recognize that God never abrogated the Covenant God established with them. As long as the Jewish people remain faithful to that Covenant, then we believe that they will be saved. They may not embrace Jesus as their Messiah, but their lives reflect the Covenant values that Jesus himself embodied. For all others, we have to trust that if they are persons of good will, God will lead them on a path that will enable them to enjoy the salvation Jesus won for all through his suffering, death and resurrection. The power and desire of God to save is simply greater than our ability to comprehend.

As Christians, we rejoice today in our Savior Jesus Christ and give thanks that it is the will of God that all people be saved.

Fr. Mark Hallinan, S.J.