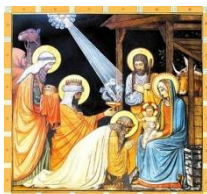


January 4, 2015

Epiphany of the Lord (B)



From The Desk of Msgr. Corrigan:

Today we celebrate Epiphany. For many nations it is the day for gift-giving, not Christmas. Our Hispanic community will be giving gifts to the children after the 9:00am Mass.

The original meaning was the focus on the Magi representing the nations of the non Jewish world. The early Christian communities struggled with the baptism of Gentiles. Did Gentiles have to first become Jewish before they became Christians? The story of the Magi helped them understand that the Christ child had come for all people.

Today one of the challenges for our church is how do we relate to the billions of people of the world who are not Christians. The best approach is to emphasize what we have in common, not our differences. Pope Francis seems to have found the right approach. People of all faiths (even atheists) look to him for guidance and healing; he has become the

spiritual leader of the world. May God grant him many more years!

I just finished reading the book "Yonkers in the Twentieth Century" by Marilyn E. Weigold and the Yonkers Historical Society. I recommend it.

Our Hispanic parishioners had a great celebration ushering the New Year in our Parish Hall. They called it "All Night". It was sold out. All the profits were donated to our church. Thank you!



COLLECTION:

The collection for last Sunday, December 28, 2014 was \$2,901.00

The second collection this Sunday, January 4, 2015 will be for the Catholic New York Newspaper.

The second collection next Sunday, January 11, 2015 will be for the Catholic Communications & Catholic University



Food Collection: this Sunday, January 4, 2015 is our monthly food collection; thank you for keeping the needy in our community in mind.

Epiphany of the Lord:

*The Christmas season continues today with our celebration of the **Epiphany**. Mathew's Gospel makes it clear that even from the very beginning **Jesus** came to save all people of the*

*world. And so we have **Magi**, representing all the known world at the time, making their way to **Jesus'** humble birthplace. Gathered as we are from many places, let us pray in thanksgiving that **God** has seen fit to reach out to all of us in love.*

In the first reading, the nations make their way to **Jerusalem**. They bring gifts to show their devotion to the **Lord**.

In the second reading, we hear of the mystery of salvation. **God** has commissioned apostles and prophets to make known this mystery.

In the Gospel, the gentiles, in the form of **Magi**, recognize and pay homage to **Jesus** the new born king of the **Jews**. The **Jews**, in the person of **King Herod** fear and reject **him**.

Today' Focus: Our Encounter with Christ: The star of Bethlehem was a sign of **Christ**, light from light: our own sign is coming to encounter and know **Christ** in a personal way.



Praying with the Word

Shine forth, **O God**, the light of **Christ** into the darkest places of our hearts, so that we may come to know him and come to know ourselves as your beloved children.



Question of the Week: When I think about Jesus, do I think of him as someone who lived long ago, or as someone whom I can encounter even now?



Today people are suffering from poverty, but also from lack of love.

Open enrollment ends February 15

NYS Affordable Health Care Open Enrollment:

If you do not have health insurance you can get information on different plans, costs and subsidies on the **New York State official Affordable Care Act health plan marketplace** website:

www.nystateofhealth.ny.gov.

The marketplace's open enrollment period ends on February 15th. **You can also get information by calling 1-855-355-5777.**

If you purchased health insurance on the State's marketplace you should have received information in October about renewing and changing plans.

If you have not renewed or changed plans and need information call the above phone number.

