

January 8, 2017 and January 15, 2017

# Stewardship Bulletin Reflection: January 8, 2017

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IS 60: 1-6; PS 72: 1-2, 7-8, 10-13; EPH 3: 2-3A, 5-6; MT 2: 1-12



Today the Church celebrates the Solemnity of the Epiphany. The word "epiphany" comes from the Greek *epiphainen*, a verb that means "to shine upon," "to manifest," or "to make known." What the Church celebrates today is the manifestation of our Lord Jesus Christ to the whole world; after being made known to the shepherds of Bethlehem, He is revealed to the Magi who have come from the East to adore Him.

The Epiphany should be and is a great Feast for us. The joy we felt at the birth of Christ on Christmas must be renewed today (and every day for that matter). In a sense this is a second Christmas Day as it puts the Lord in a new light. This day manifests the divinity of Jesus. At Christmas it was a few shepherds who were invited by the Angels to go and witness and recognize the Lord.

However, today, at the Epiphany, the voice of God calls the whole world, each and every one of us, to adore Jesus, and to hear Him. The Epiphany or the realization of the divinity and saving grace of the Lord should lead us as individuals to a personal epiphany. In a sense an epiphany is representative of conversion, conversion to the truth.

If we accept Christ as our Savior and if we truly strive to live our lives as His disciple, we begin to pursue lives of stewardship, lives of love and service. Today of all days should help us in that realization and in that goal.

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## COFFEE SUNDAY



Hosted by the Couples for Christ, everyone is cordially invited to a "Coffee Sunday" today, January 8<sup>th</sup>, after the 11 A.M. Mass at the Church Hall.

**ANNOUNCED MASSES**  
**January 7<sup>th</sup> – 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2017**

<b>Saturday</b> 10:00 a.m.	<b>Jan. 7<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Saint Andre Bessette</b> Gloria David – RIP – by Julia and family
<b>Saturday</b> 4:30 p.m.	<b>Jan. 7<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Sunday Mass of Anticipation</b> Hugh Boisvert – RIP – by Pauline
<b>Sunday</b> 9:00 a.m. 11:00 a.m.	<b>Jan. 8<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Epiphany of the Lord</b> Elizabeth Csaki – RIP – by her loving family Feliks Rewers – RIP – by Wanda Rewers
<b>Monday</b>	<b>Jan. 9<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>NO MASS</b>
<b>Tuesday</b> 7:00 p.m.	<b>Jan. 10<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Weekday</b> Justino Dalisay – RIP – by the Dalisay family
<b>Wednesday</b> 9:00 a.m.	<b>Jan. 11<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Weekday</b> Margaret Corrigan – RIP – by William Moran
<b>Thursday</b> 9:00 a.m.	<b>Jan. 12<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Saint Marguerite Bourgeoys</b> For Souls in Purgatory – by Maria
<b>Friday</b> 9:00 a.m.	<b>Jan. 13<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Saint Hilary</b> Sebastian Victor – RIP – by Raymond and family
<b>Saturday</b> 4:30 p.m.	<b>Jan. 14<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Sunday Mass of Anticipation</b> Gerald O'Donnell – RIP – by Ron and Carolyn
<b>Sunday</b> 9:00 a.m.  11:00 a.m.	<b>Jan. 15<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Second Sunday in Ordinary Time</b> Bill Yvorchuk – RIP – by Maria Keller and family Feliks Rewers – RIP – by Wanda Rewers
<b>Monday</b>	<b>Jan. 16<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>NO MASS</b>
<b>Tuesday</b> 7:00 p.m.	<b>Jan. 17<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Saint Anthony</b> Paciencia Manzo Manzanal and Domenico Inga - RIP – by Jerry and Ofelia Roy
<b>Wednesday</b> 9:00 a.m.	<b>Jan. 18<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Weekday</b> Tom Kennedy – RIP – by Eva and family
<b>Thursday</b> 9:00 a.m.	<b>Jan. 19<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Weekday</b> Andy Machny and Olga Lavallee – RIP – by Maria
<b>Friday</b> 9:00 a.m.	<b>Jan. 20<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Saint Fabian</b> Irene Castillo Buguis – Birthday Blessings – by Elena
<b>Saturday</b> 4:30 p.m.	<b>Jan. 21<sup>st</sup></b>	<b>Sunday Mass of Anticipation</b> Deceased and Living Members of the Rodrigues Family – by Leo and Lavinia
<b>Sunday</b> 9:00 a.m. 11:00 a.m.	<b>Jan. 22<sup>nd</sup></b>	<b>Third Sunday in ordinary Time</b> Personal Intentions – by Teresa Rico Adrian de Souza – RIP – by the family

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*Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord,  
and let perpetual light shine upon them.  
May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed  
through the mercy of God rest in peace.*

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**Collection:**

January 1, 2017 - **\$2,957.00**

*Regular Sunday Collection - \$970.00*

*New Year's Day - \$1,987.00*

**...Thank you for your generosity.**

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## **EPIPHANY OF THE LORD**

Like many of the most ancient Christian feasts, Epiphany was first celebrated in the East, where it has been held from the beginning almost universally on January 6. Today, among both Eastern Catholics and Eastern Orthodox, the feast is known as Theophany—the revelation of God to man.

Epiphany originally celebrated four different events, in the following order of importance: the **Baptism of the Lord**; Christ's first miracle, the changing of water into wine at the wedding in Cana; the **Nativity of Christ**; and the visitation of the **Wise Men** or Magi. Each of these is a revelation of God to man: At Christ's Baptism, the Holy Spirit descends and the voice of **God the Father** is heard, declaring that Jesus is His Son; at the wedding in Cana, the miracle reveals Christ's divinity; at the Nativity, the angels bear witness to Christ, and the shepherds, representing the people of Israel, bow down before Him; and at the visitation of the Magi, Christ's divinity is revealed to the Gentiles—the other nations of the earth (*Scott P. Richert, 2016 About, Inc*).

## **THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD**

The Baptism of the Lord has historically been associated with the celebration of Epiphany. Even today, the Eastern Christian feast of Theophany, celebrated on January 6 as a counterpart to the Western feast of Epiphany, focuses primarily on the Baptism of the Lord as the revelation of God to man.

After the Nativity of Christ (Christmas) was separated out from Epiphany, the Church in the West continued the process and dedicated a celebration to each of the major epiphanies (revelations) or theophanies (the revelation of God to man): the Birth of Christ at Christmas, which revealed Christ to Israel; the revelation of Christ to the Gentiles, in the visit of the Wise Men at Epiphany; the Baptism of the Lord, which revealed the Trinity; and the miracle at the wedding at Cana, which revealed Christ's transformation of the world. (For more on the four theophanies, see the article on Christmas.)

Thus, the Baptism of the Lord began to be celebrated on the octave (eighth day) of Epiphany, with the miracle at Cana celebrated on the Sunday after that. In the current liturgical calendar, the Baptism of the Lord is celebrated on the Sunday after January 6, and, a week later, on the Second Sunday of Ordinary Time, we hear the Gospel of the Wedding at Cana (*Scott P. Richert, 2016 About, Inc*).

## **ENVELOPES FOR 2017 SUNDAY OFFERINGS**

Envelopes for 2017 Sunday offerings are at the front of the Church. **PLEASE TAKE ONLY THE BOX WITH YOUR NAME AND NUMBER ON IT.** If you have never used the envelopes and wish to start, please ask for a new box at the Rectory or call (514) 747-4226 during office hours (9 A.M. to 2:00 P.M.) to register. **We request all users to please put your name and address on the first few envelopes for the New Year to ensure proper recording.** Thank you.