

# Epiphany of the Lord — January 6<sup>th</sup>, 2012



*Saint Andrew the Apostle, pray for us*



## Mass Schedule & Intentions from January 5–13, 2012

Saturday	5:00PM	†	Antonio Gallo by family Mike Fazari by wife Nancy and Son George Pacasa by Veronica Pirosko
Sunday	9:00AM	†	For the intentions of Roger Costa by the Costa family Jessie & Veronica Kirby by Leo Kirby In Thanksgiving for all our blessings by the Van Ruyven family
Monday	11:00AM		For the People of our Parish No Mass
Tuesday	9:00AM		Linda Conway by the Van Ruyven family
Wednesday	9:00AM	†	Lottie Doherty by Linda Matchett
Thursday	9:00AM	†	Domenico Ventresca by wife & family
Friday	9:15AM		School Mass
Saturday	5:00PM	†	George Pacasa by Teresa Horvat Antonio Gallo by family Pasquale Vaccaro by family Panfilo Guglielmi by Angelo DiCesare & family
Sunday	9:00AM	†	Theresa, Raymond & Stephan Horvat by mother Teresa Horvat
	11:00AM		For the People of our Parish

WHERE  
IS THE  
NEW-  
BORN  
KING?



*On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.*

Matthew 2:1-12

**Last Sunday's Collection - \$1466.25**  
**New Year's Day - \$941.00**  
**Bless you for your continued generous support.**



## Celebration of The Epiphany in the East & West

The Feast of the Epiphany of Our Lord Jesus Christ is one of the oldest Christian feasts, though, throughout the centuries, it has celebrated a variety of things. *Epiphany* comes from a Greek verb meaning "to reveal," and all of the various events celebrated by the Feast of the Epiphany are revelations of Christ to man.

**Date:** January 6. (In most countries and dioceses, the celebration is transferred to the Sunday between January 2 and January 8, inclusive).

**History:** 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.

The Epiphany originally celebrated four different events: 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. The celebration of the Nativity was separated in the West, into Christmas; and shortly thereafter, Western Christians adopted the Eastern feast of the Epiphany, still celebrating the Baptism, the first miracle, and the visit from the Wise Men.

Over the centuries, the various celebrations were further separated in the West, and now the Baptism of the Lord is celebrated on the Sunday after January 6, and the wedding at Cana is commemorated on the Sunday after the Baptism of the Lord.

(by Scott P. Richert - *Catholicism guide*)

With each of these original four events celebrated this season, we can see a progression of God's revelation. At the Nativity of Christ, Jesus is revealed to Israel and the world; the visitation of the Wise Men is a revelation to the Gentiles; at the Baptism of the Lord with the presence of the Father and the Holy Spirit reveals Jesus as the Beloved Son; at the Wedding Feast at Cana, Jesus confirms these revelations, that he is the promised Messiah, through the act of performing his first miracle.

## On the Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord From a homily of His Holiness Benedict XVI

Today, the Solemnity of the Epiphany, the great light that radiates from the Cave of Bethlehem inundates all of mankind through the Magi from the East. The first Reading, taken from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah, sees the moment when the great light of God that seems powerless and incapable of protecting his people will rise to shine on all the earth so that the kings of nations bow before him. And the heart of the people will tremble with joy.

Compared to this vision, the one the Evangelist Matthew presents to us appears poor and humble: it seems impossible for us to recognize in it the fulfillment of the Prophet Isaiah's words. In fact, those who arrived in Bethlehem were not the powerful and the kings of the earth, but the Magi, not deemed worthy of special attention...The Nativity scenes also show where there are camels and kings of the world kneeling before the Child, laying down their gifts to him in precious caskets. Let us pay more attention to what the two texts communicate to us.

In fact, what did Isaiah see with his prophetic vision? In one single moment, he glimpsed a reality that was destined to mark all history. But even the event that Matthew narrates is not a brief and negligible episode that closes with the Magi hastening back to their own lands. On the contrary, it is the beginning. Those figures who came from the East were not the last but the first of a great procession of those who, throughout the epochs of history, are able to recognize the message of the Star, who know how to walk on the paths indicated by Sacred Scripture. Thus they also know how to find the One who seems weak and fragile but instead has the power to grant the greatest and most profound joy to the heart of man. In him, indeed, is made manifest the stupendous reality that God knows us and is close to us, that his greatness and power are not expressed according to the world's logic, but to the logic of a helpless baby whose strength is only that of the love which he entrusts to us. In the journey of history, there are always people who are enlightened by the light of the Star, who find the way and reach him. They all live, each in his or her own way, the experience of the Magi.

They had brought gold, incense and myrrh. These are certainly not gifts that correspond to basic, daily needs. At that moment, the Holy Family was far more in need of something different from incense or myrrh, and not even the gold could have been of immediate use to them. But these gifts have a profound significance: they are an act of justice. In fact, according to the mentality prevailing then in the Orient, they represent the recognition of a person as God and King, that is, an act of submission. They were meant to say that from that moment, the donors belonged to the sovereign and they recognize his authority. The consequence is immediate. The Magi could no longer follow the road they came on, they could no longer return to Herod, they could no longer be allied with that powerful and cruel sovereign. They had always been led along the path of the Child, making them ignore the great and the powerful of the world, and taking them to him who awaits us among the poor, the road of love which alone can transform the world.

## Upcoming Parish Events



**Great Adventure Bible Study** for kids. This program will resume on January 19, Saturdays 9-12am.

**Inscription Ceremony for Confirmation Students** on Sunday January 20th at the 11:00am Mass.

**Marriage Vow Renewal:** January 19th and 20th at all Masses.

**Trivia Night:** Saturday February 9th at 7:00pm in the Church Hall.

**Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper:** February 12 at 5:00pm.

**Ash Wednesday:** February 13 Mass will be said at 9:15am and 7:00pm.



## Trivia Night Saturday February 9th at 7:00pm

Our Parish's Youth Ministry is busy planning the upcoming Trivia Night to raise funds for those attending World Youth Day in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil this July.

We encourage all parishioners to gather their friends and family members to build a table of 8-12 players for the tournament. Tickets are \$10 each, which includes food, door prizes, music and lots of trivia fun.

Come out and enjoy the fun atmosphere in your parish community.

## Marriage Vow Renewal

On the weekend on January 19th and 20th, Fr. Paul will be offering a renewal of marriage vows to all married couples in attendance at each of the regular weekend Masses. All married couples are encouraged to participate in this celebration.



## Offering Mass for our loved ones

A Mass is offered to pray for a deceased person that they may be at peace in heaven. Masses are also offered for living members as a gift on their birthday or wedding anniversary, for healing of the sick, to give thanks to God for a blessing received or for any needs of a person or family. So Please offer Masses for your loved ones.