

# THE EPHIPHANY OF THE LORD

JANUARY 7, 2018

All kings shall pay him homage, all nations shall serve him.  
— Psalm 72:11

## GOD'S PROMISE TO ALL PEOPLE

Today Isaiah reminds the people of God that the land shall be restored to their possession, they shall rejoice to see their people return from the bondage of exile, and that they shall be a light to the nations. In other words, through the people of Israel, the Savior shall come to all people who seek God with a sincere heart. This brings joy and the radiance of God's glory to all the world and to all people everywhere. Through the fidelity of the people of God, and through God's fidelity to them, all people shall become God's children and rejoice in the fulfillment of God's promise to Israel.

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## TODAY'S READINGS

**First Reading** — You shall be radiant at what you see, your heart shall throb and overflow (Isaiah 60:1-6).

**Psalm** — Lord, every nation on earth will adore you (Psalm 72).

**Second Reading** — The Gentiles are copartners in the promise in Christ Jesus (Ephesians 3:2-3a, 5-6).

**Gospel** — The magi were overjoyed at seeing the star (Matthew 2:1-12).

## OUR GIFTS RECORD

|                                 | Offertory    | Development  |
|---------------------------------|--------------|--------------|
| <b>Last Week's Collection</b>   | \$3,546.00   | \$2,419.00   |
| Number of Families contributing | 108          | 78           |
| Total Pledge for 2017           | \$170,088.00 | \$170,342.00 |
| Pledged to Date (52 Weeks)      | \$170,088.00 | \$170,342.00 |
| Received to Date                | \$178,072.56 | \$150,739.20 |
| Envelopes Outstanding           | (\$7,984.56) | \$19,602.80  |

## LADIES OFFERTORY RECORD

| Amount given last week | Amount given to Date in 2017 |
|------------------------|------------------------------|
| \$275.00               | \$15,270.00                  |

Thirty ladies made a contribution last week.

## BISHOP'S ANNUAL APPEAL WEEKLY REPORT

|                         |             |
|-------------------------|-------------|
| 2017 Parish Goal        | \$25,705.00 |
| Amount Received to Date | \$15,031.61 |
| Amount Outstanding      | \$10,673.39 |

Three people made a B.A.A. contribution last week.

## HALL RENOVATION FUND WEEKLY REPORT

| Amount given last week | Amount given to Date in 2017 |
|------------------------|------------------------------|
| \$60.00                | \$11,596.00                  |

Two people made a Hall Fund contribution last week.

**PARKING LOT** totaled \$7.00.

19 **CHILDREN** contributed \$71.00.

**POOR BOX** totaled \$123.00.

The **ATTENDANCE** for last Saturday 4:00 P.M. Mass was 250, 7:00 P.M. Mass was 120 and Sunday 10:00 A.M. Mass was 150.

## THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

On the Caribbean islands of Aruba, Bonaire and Curacao, there's a tree that grows in the direction of the trade winds. It's called the Divi Divi, or Watapana in Arawak. Instead of growing straight up, its branches yield to the trade winds, permanently swept in one direction.

Much can be learned from the Divi Divi's growth pattern. There are times in our lives when the wind blows us in a different direction from others.

Will we stiffen against it? Do we realize that resisting our path can be as challenging as accepting it, will we gain the individual shape meant for us?

The Divi Divi beautifies its corner of the world by adapting. May we also adapt, becoming who we are supposed to become; beautifying our corner of God's good earth.

**The tree once went out to anoint a king over themselves. So they said to the olive tree, 'Reign over us.' The olive tree answered them 'Shall I stop producing my rich oil...and go to sway over the trees?'**

—Judges 9:8-9

*Loving Creator, give us the courage to be no more and no less than the beings You created us to be.*

## FLOWERS IN THE CHURCH ARE OFFERED BY:

1. a Parish Family Member in thanks to St. Expedite.

**FR. CHERIAN** will be attending the Annual Diocesan Convocation of Priests this Monday, January 8<sup>th</sup> to Thursday, January 11<sup>th</sup> in Charleston. In his absence Fr. Healy will take care of the Mass. Mass this Monday will be at 10:00 A.M.

**DIVINE CHILD JESUS NOVENA** Beginning this Sunday, January 7<sup>th</sup> a Novena to the Divine Child Jesus will held in the Church from 2:00-4:00 P.M. for nine Sundays.

**BANNS OF MARRIAGE** The Banns of Marriage are announced for the second time for Jimmy Dominic McNally and Somer O'Hara.

**JOKE OF THE WEEK** A teacher was struggling to teach arithmetic to a young boy. So she said: "If you reached in your right pocket and found a nickel, and you reached in your left pocket and found another nickel, what would you have?"

The boy thought for a moment and replied: "Someone else's pants."

## LUCK

**LUCK is not in your hands...**

**But DECISION is in your hands.**

**Your DECISION can make LUCK,**

**But LUCK can never make your DECISION.**

**SO ALWAYS TRUST YOURSELF.**

**THANK YOU** to three members for their donations in thanks to St. Expedite.

**RECIPE FOR A HAPPY NEW YEAR**

**I will:**

- Like Abraham – trust implicitly in my God.
- Like Job – be patient under all circumstances.
- Like Moses – choose to suffer rather than enjoy the pleasures of sin.
- Like David – lift up my eyes to the hills from which comes my help.
- Like Daniel – commune with God at all times and in all places.
- Like Paul – forget those things that are behind and press forward.

**GOD PROTECTS US**

*When you kneel down to God,  
He stands up for you.  
And when He stands up for you,  
No one can stand against you.*

**ONLY THREE THING MATTER**

*In the end, only three things matter,  
How much you loved,  
How gently you loved,  
And how gracefully you let go of things not meant for you.*

**SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES**

**Sunday:** The Epiphany of the Lord  
**Monday:** The Baptism of the Lord  
**Tuesday:** First Week in Ordinary Time begins  
**Saturday:** St. Hilary; Blessed Virgin Mary

**MASS INTENTIONS**

**Monday:** In thanks to St. Expedite.  
**Tuesday:** For a special intention.  
**Wednesday:** In honor of the Holy Souls and St. Joseph.  
**Thursday:** In thanks to St. Expedite.  
**Friday:** In thanks to St. Expedite.

**ALL ALONG**

There's a mountain on my back,  
And the wind is blowing strong,  
The waves are getting higher –  
Everything is going wrong!

Now the clouds are rolling in,  
And the sun has hid its face;  
In distress, I cry to God –  
“Lord, please save me with Your grace!”

I feared He would not hear me,  
But I'm so glad I was wrong!  
Yes, and quite surprised to find...  
He was with me all along.

**READERS**

|  |  |
|--|--|
| <b>Sat. Jan. 6<sup>th</sup>, 4:00 P.M.</b><br>Grace &<br>Rita Riley        | <b>Sat. Jan. 6<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 P.M.</b><br>Carolyn &<br>Mary Regina |
| <b>Sun. Jan. 7<sup>th</sup>, 10:00 A.M.</b>                                | Theresa Maria Cat & Jimmy Joseph                                       |
| <b>Sat. Jan. 13<sup>th</sup>, 4:00 P.M.</b><br>Cathy Lisa Butts &<br>Karen | <b>Sat. Jan. 13<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 P.M.</b><br>Jay &<br>Mary Melissa   |
| <b>Sun. Jan. 14<sup>th</sup>, 10:00 A.M.</b>                               | Theresa Maria Cat & Jimmy Joseph                                       |

**READERS – WEEKDAYS**

|                  |                   |
|------------------|-------------------|
| <b>Monday</b>    | Taniel            |
| <b>Tuesday</b>   | Theresa Maria Cat |
| <b>Wednesday</b> | Natalie           |
| <b>Thursday</b>  | Christina         |
| <b>Friday</b>    | Fallon            |

**EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS – WEEKEND**

|  |  |
|--|--|
| <b>Saturday 4:00 P.M.</b><br>Front<br>Left Cup | <b>January 6<sup>th</sup></b><br>Bridget Ann<br>Winnie Ann |
| <b>Saturday 7:00 P.M.</b><br>Front<br>Cup      | <b>January 6<sup>th</sup></b><br>Jay<br>Johnny Jay's Ann   |

**Sunday 10:00 A.M.**

|  |   |
|--|---|
| <b>January 7<sup>th</sup></b><br>Pete Man's Nora<br>Rose Marie | <b>January 14<sup>th</sup></b><br>Pete Man's Nora<br>Rose Marie |
|--|---|

**EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS - WEEKDAY**

|                  |                        |
|------------------|------------------------|
| <b>Monday</b>    | Mary Cat               |
| <b>Tuesday</b>   | Pete Man's Nora        |
| <b>Wednesday</b> | Ann T.                 |
| <b>Thursday</b>  | Bibbie's Catherine Ann |
| <b>Friday</b>    | Bridget Ann            |

**NATURE**

**Nothing in nature lives for itself.  
Rivers don't drink their own water.  
Trees don't eat their own fruit.  
The Sun doesn't shine for itself.  
A flower's fragrance is not for itself.**

**Living for each other is the rule of nature.**

**PRAYER CORNER**

**TO KEEP THE FAMILY HEALTHY**

*Holy Father, look with mercy on my family as You did with Your family. I put all my trust in You to help keep us alive and following Your vision for our family's future. Give meaning to our lives and make our home an authentic expression of Your will. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.*