

## THE EPHIPHANY OF THE LORD

JANUARY 8, 2017

*They opened their treasures and offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.*

— Matthew 2:11b

### THE STAR OF BETHLEHEM

The unfolding of the story of the Incarnation continues today as the Church celebrates the Epiphany. The tale of the magi from the East is one of the most fascinating in all of scripture. It has much to teach us about what we can come to expect, even in circumstances and places that may seem insignificant or small. Bethlehem was a tiny town, what we might refer to today as a town without even one stop light. Yet it is over this seemingly insignificant place that the guiding star stops in its own search for the place where the Savior would be born. Too often we fail to recognize the fact that the star of Bethlehem comes to rest in our everyday lives, where we can experience God's presence, manifested in ever new ways. Epiphany calls us to shake off our stupor and recognize the One who comes to save us.

J. S. Paluch Co.

### TODAY'S READINGS

**First Reading** — Rise up in splendor, Jerusalem! The Lord shines upon you and the glory of the Lord appears over you (Isaiah 60:1-6).

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

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

**Gospel** — Magi from the east arrive looking for the newborn king of the Jews (Matthew 2:1-12).

### THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

One day a rich father took his son on a trip to a village. He wanted to show him how poor someone can be. They spent time on the farm of a poor family.

On their return home from the trip, the father asked his son, "How was the trip?" "It was great Dad!" the son replied. "What did you learn from our trip?" the father asked. The son answered, "We have one dog, they have four. We have one pool, they have a river. We have foods, they grow theirs. We have lights, they have stars. We have walls to protect us, they have friends. We have television, they spend time with family. We have the world, they have God." The boy's father was speechless while his son was talking and realized somethings. Then his son added, "Thanks Dad for showing me how poor we are."

It's not about money that makes us rich. It's simplicity, love, compassion, friendships, values, family and our relationship with God that makes our lives rich.

*"For what does it profit a man to gain the world and forfeit his soul."*

Mk 8:36

### FLOWERS IN THE CHURCH ARE OFFERED BY:

1. Big Pat, Cathy Theresa and Family in loving memory of Kathleen "Alexis" Sherlock on the 4<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of her death;
2. and a Parish Family Member in thanks to St. Expedite.

**FR. CHERIAN** will be attending the Diocesan Annual Convocation of Priests this Monday, January 9<sup>th</sup> to Thursday, January 12<sup>th</sup> in Charleston. In his absence Dr. David and Fr. Healy will take care of the Mass.

**THE BANNES OF MARRIAGE** are announced for the second time for Pete Martin Suedle Carroll and Reed Sherlock.

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

### JOKE OF THE WEEK

At a monastery high in the mountains, the monks have a rigid vow of silence. Only at Christmas, only by one monk, and only with one sentence, is the vow allowed to be broken.

One Christmas, Brother Thomas is allowed to speak and he says, "I like the mashed potatoes we have with the Christmas turkey! And he sits down. Silence ensues for 365 days.

The next Christmas, Brother Michael gets his turn, and he says, "I think the mashed potatoes are lumpy and I hate them!"

Once again, silence for 366 day (it's leap year). The following Christmas, Brother Paul rises and says, "I am fed up with this constant bickering!"

### OUR GIFTS RECORD

	Offertory	Development
<b>Last Week's Collection</b>	\$4,002.00	\$3,009.00
Number of Families contributing	141	120
Total Pledge for 2017	\$175,815.00	\$188,514.00
Pledged to Date (1 Week)	\$3,325.00	\$4,538.00
Received to Date	\$3,363.00	\$3,009.00
Envelopes Outstanding	(\$38.00)	\$1,529.00

### LADIES OFFERTORY RECORD

Amount given last week	Amount given to Date in 2017
\$287.00	\$287.00

Twenty-two ladies made a contribution last week.

### BISHOP'S ANNUAL APPEAL WEEKLY REPORT

2017 Parish Goal	
Amount Received to Date	\$100.00
Amount Outstanding	

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
\$70.00	\$70.00

Three people made a Hall Fund contribution last week.

**PARKING LOT** totaled \$7.00.

23 **CHILDREN** contributed \$127.00

**POOR BOX** totaled \$133.00

**NEW YEAR'S COLLECTION** totaled \$248.00.

The **ATTENDANCE** for last Saturday 4:00 P.M. Mass was 280,

7:00 P.M. Mass was 150 and Sunday 10:00 A.M. Mass was 175.

## 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.*

## POPE FRANCIS LIST FOR NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTION

1. Don't gossip.
2. Finish your meals.
3. Make time for others.
4. Choose the "more humble" purchase.
5. Meet the poor "in the flesh."
6. Stop judging others.
7. Befriend those who disagree.
8. Make commitments, such as marriage.
9. Make it a habit to "ask the Lord."
10. Be happy.

## MASS INTENTIONS

*Monday:* For the suffering souls.  
*Tuesday:* For the living souls.  
*Wednesday:* In honor of the Holy Souls and St. Joseph.  
*Thursday:* For Pete Suedle Carroll.  
*Friday:* For the suffering souls.

## SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

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

### THE WORLD'S HOPE

*Where in His manger the Christ Child Lay,  
As Wise Men and shepherds with the Holy Mother stayed.*

*All giving praise to the Father above,  
For sending His Son so filled with love.*

*A silence was felt that hushed one and all,  
While angels filled the stable with peace and awe.*

*There was so much love filling the air,  
Almost more than human could bear.*

*All of the world's hope was placed in this child  
Who lay in a manger, innocent and undefiled.*

## READERS

Sat. Jan. 7 <sup>th</sup> , 4:00 P.M. Apple's Christina & Dayna	Sat. Jan. 7 <sup>th</sup> 7:00 P.M. Dominique & Natalie
Sun. Jan. 8 <sup>th</sup> , 10:00 A.M.	Jimmy Joseph & Tommy Mack
Sat. Jan. 14 <sup>th</sup> , 4:00 P.M. Christina & Julie Ann	Sat. Jan. 14 <sup>th</sup> , 7:00 P.M. Jay & Mary Melissa
Sun. Jan. 15 <sup>th</sup> , 10:00 A.M.	Theresa Maria & Jimmy Joseph

## READERS – WEEKDAYS

Monday	Kara
Tuesday	Tony's Kathy
Wednesday	Natalie
Thursday	Annette
Friday	Theresa Maria

## EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS – WEEKEND

Saturday 4:00 P.M. Front Left Cup	Jan. 7 <sup>th</sup> Bridget Ann Winnie Ann
Saturday 7:00 P.M. Front Cup	Jan. 7 <sup>th</sup> Jay Johnny Jay's Ann

## Sunday 10:00 A.M.

Jan. 8 <sup>th</sup> Pete Man's Nora Rose Marie	Jan. 15 <sup>th</sup> Pete Man's Nora Rose Marie
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## EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS - WEEKDAY

Monday	Mary Cat
Tuesday	Pete Man's Nora
Wednesday	Ann T.
Thursday	Rose Marie
Friday	Bridget Ann

## THREE TIMES TO CHURCH

Too many people come to Church three times primarily. They're baptized, they get married, and they have their funeral service at the Church. The first time they throw water on you, the second time rice, the third time dirt!

### LIFE

*Life is a circle of happiness, sadness, hard times, and good times. If you are going through hard times, have faith that good times are on the way.*

## 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.*