

EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

JANUARY 4TH, 2014



MASSES FOR THE WEEK

SATURDAY JANUARY 3RD:

5:00 pm Salvatore and Libera Mazzella

SUNDAY JANUARY 4TH:

7:30 am Anthony Camanda
9:00 am Domenico and Maria D'Elia
10:30 am Patricia May
NOON John Portano

MONDAY JANUARY 5TH:

7:15 am For Our Parishioners
8:30 am Jaymee L. Anderson

TUESDAY JANUARY 6TH:

7:15 am Marietta Rocca
8:30 am Judy Vivolia

WEDNESDAY JANUARY 7TH:

7:15 am Vincent Gigante
8:30 am Armando Annesi

THURSDAY JANUARY 8TH:

7:15 am For All The Souls in Purgatory
8:30 am Sarah Squicciarini

FRIDAY JANUARY 9TH:

7:15 am Mary Granese
8:30 am Fiorenza Venturoso

SATURDAY JANUARY 10TH:

8:00 am Dorothy Hollywood
5:00 pm John Lagana

SUNDAY JANUARY 11TH:

7:30 am Jaymee Anderson
9:00 am Nancy Hammer
10:30 am Anna and Joseph Venditto
NOON Lena Terracino

BEREAVEMENT

"Blessed are those who mourn; for they shall be comforted."
-Matthew 5:4.

Our Bereavement Minister, Deacon Michael Venditto, is available to assist anyone who has experienced a loss. Call the rectory (718-761-5421) weekdays between 9 am and 5 pm to set up an appointment with Deacon Michael.

SPONSOR CERTIFICATES

Anyone desiring a Certificate to serve as a sponsor for a Sacrament must be a Roman Catholic who has received the Sacrament of Holy Eucharist and Confirmation. They must be registered in the parish for at least 3 months or known by one of the priests. **Certificates are distributed only after weekend Masses in the sacristy NOT IN THE RECTORY.**

RCIA PROGRAM

Are you or a friend interested in becoming Catholic. Or perhaps you need to be confirmed. The RCIA Program invites you to meet every Wed. at 7:30 pm in our Parish Center. No registration necessary.



MEMORIALS FOR WEEK OF JAN. 4TH:



The **SANCTUARY LAMP** burns this week in memory of:
Coletta Guastella
requested by the Tacopina Family.

REST IN PEACE

Let us pray for our deceased relatives, friends, parishioners and benefactors and for those who are most forgotten. Sympathies of our parish are extended to the families of those whose loved ones were buried from Our Lady of Pity in early December 2014:

Gina Costantini and John Trentacoste



JOIN THE CHOIRS

The **Adult Choir** holds practices on Wednesday evenings at 8:00 pm in the Parish Center. **NEW MEMBERS ARE WELCOME.**



Children's Choir: Do you like to sing? Children (from second grade or older) practice on Wednesdays at 7:00 pm in the Parish Center. Join the Choir and make new friends.

CCD PROGRAM

We thank Sister Marcia, along with all our CCD teachers, aids and of course the parents who helped make our Christmas Pageant on Dec. 21st so beautiful. It was wonderful to see how reverent our children were.

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Adoration will be held Mon. through Fri. from 12 to 4:30 pm in St. Christopher's Church, Midland Ave. Each Wednesday from 3 to 4 pm adoration is dedicated to praying for vocations. For further information call 718-351-2452.

MARRIAGE BOOK FOR 2016

The Marriage Schedule Book here at our parish for the year 2016 weddings opens on Monday January 12th. Please call the rectory between 9 am and 4:30 pm on that day to set up an appointment to meet with a priest to set your marriage date. In order to be married at our Church, your family must be registered here at the parish.

MARRIAGE

Congratulations to the newly married couple from our parish who were married during the month of December:

Mr. & Mrs. Eric Naylor (Amanda Venturi)

GOLDEN AGE CLUB meetings resume next Tuesday January 13th at 12 Noon in the Parish Center.

CCD CLASSES resume on January 6th and 7th.

WHO WERE THE THREE WISEMEN?

While the bible does not contain much detail about the Three Wisemen, much study has been done on the astrologers named Melchior, Balthazar and Caspar.

Research indicates that each of them descended from a different part of the world. Melchior was Asian, Balthazar was African and Caspar was of European descent. These were the three continents known to the Old World so their presence signified the acceptance of Christ by all nations.

Each man presented a special gift to the baby Jesus. Melchior gave the gift of gold which symbolized Christ's "kingship." Balthazar brought frankincense which was used in temple worship and symbolized "honor and reverence." Caspar brought a flask of myrrh. Myrrh had medicinal qualities and was also used in burials. This gift symbolized Christ's "mortality."

Following their visit with the infant Savior, each man gave all of his possessions to the poor and lived his life preaching the Gospel of Peace.

All three were martyred in India. Their bodies are in the Cologne Cathedral where they are venerated as saints and called the Three Kings of Cologne. They are the patron saints of travelers.

BIBLE STUDY

The Bible Study "*Mary in the Bible*, led by Sister Marcia, will begin on Monday Jan. 12th and run for eight (8) weeks. *Mary: A Biblical Walk with the Blessed Mother* is a Catholic Bible study that reveals Mary's unique role in God's Kingdom and in our lives. Sessions will be held on Mon. evenings at 7:30 pm and Wed. mornings at 9:30 am. Cost is \$30. Register at the rectory.



GOSPEL: MATTHEW 2: 1-12

Astrologers from the east came looking for the newborn King of the Jews, which greatly disturbed King Herod. Herod wanted to kill Jesus, and asked the astrologers to return and tell him where Jesus was. The astrologers found Jesus and brought Him gifts, but received a message in a dream telling them not to return to Herod.



MORNING DEVOTIONS

Following the 8:30 am weekday Mass is the Recitation of the Rosary and spiritual devotions. On Fridays there is the exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Holy Hour. On First Fridays there is Benediction. On Sat. following the 8 am Mass, novena prayers are said.

WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER

"Nations shall walk by Your light..." We as Catholics must be a light to the world. Spend a weekend growing closer to your spouse and to God and make your marriage be a "light" shining brighter than ever. For information on the Marriage Encounter Weekends call 1-877-NYS-WWME, extension 3.

BAPTISM

Through the Sacrament of Baptism we welcome into the Church and our parish family the following child who was baptized during the month of December:

Zacharey Alfred Calimlim

Congratulations to the happy parents! Let us all pray and be mindful of our serious obligation to bring up this child in the practice of the faith.

ELECTRONIC GIVING (Parish Pay Program)

This is an alternate means of supporting your parish instead of using the envelope system. This program will collect monthly contributions from your checking, savings or credit card accounts. There is **NO COST** to you, the parishioner, to participate in this program. Log onto www.parishpay.com or call 1-866-727-4741 Ext. 1.

RICHMOND DIVISION

The annual retreat for the Holy Name Societies on Staten Island will be held this year on Jan. 17, 2015 (snow date January 31) at Our Lady Star of the Sea Church. Rev. Thomas Devery will be the spiritual leader. Day starts with Mass at 9 am, continental breakfast at 10:15 am, discussion at 11 am, lunch at 12:30 pm, final discussion at 1:30 pm. Cost; \$25 per person. This retreat is open to both men and women. For reservations call Steve at 347-861-0316.

ST. PAULS PUBLISHING

The Society of St. Paul at the Alba House on Victory Blvd. has a vacancy for a part-time sales assistant in its marketing department. Fluency in both English and Spanish, good computing skills and a pleasant phone manner are required. For a job application form, call Dora at 800-343-2522 from 1 pm to 5 pm, weekdays or email dora@stpauls.US.

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION MASS SCHEDULE:

SATURDAY JANUARY 10TH:

5:00 pm A. Davis – I. Pastena

SUNDAY JANUARY 11TH:

7:30 am M. Mendez – T. Hanley

9:00 am M/M D. Marro

10:30 am J. Carluzzo – J. Almero

NOON M/M E. Boccieri

LECTORS MASS SCHEDULE:

SATURDAY JANUARY 10TH:

5:00 pm P. Magliocco

SUNDAY JANUARY 11TH:

7:30 am M. Donadic

9:00 am R. Rose

10:30 am L. Buttacavoli

NOON S. Kelly

ALTAR BOY MASS SCHEDULE:

SATURDAY JANUARY 10TH:

5:00 pm C. Rodriguez – C. Baria – J. Venditto

SUNDAY JANUARY 11TH:

7:30 am M. Tubay - J. Inigo

9:00 am J. Flood – J. Tangco – D. Boniface

10:30 am N. Lopez – R. Whalen – L. & S. DeMartino

NOON R. Eckman – D. Pangilinan – J. Foresta



The great celebration of the **Epiphany** also known as the **visit of the Magi** or the **journey of the Three Kings**, is well noted in art, music and literature. Stories related to the wise men or astrologers, tell of persons searching, inquiring and discovering the person of the Christ. After their visit with the Christ Child they faded into history but the plan of God was revealed.

The joy surrounding the visit should be little in comparison to our search and discovery, as we encounter Christ today. We are not the gift bearers but the receivers of the great gift of inheritance, membership and sharers in the promise.

At this time of gift giving and gift returns, apply the Epiphany moment to consider the gift of God to us of the Savior. Is it not more precious than those brought by the Magi? As we pay Him homage, what is the gift we offer Him in return? The drummer boy's was His song, the shepherd's a lamb. What gift do we bring?

How often, when receiving a gift a person says "you shouldn't have..." As we find the Lord in our life today we say "Thank you for giving Him to us." We too search, inquire and discover.

ANNUAL DINNER DANCE FOR HOLY CHILD

The CCD Program from Holy Child Parish on Staten Island sponsors an Annual Dinner and Show at the Old Bermuda Inn. This year it will be held on Sat. March 14th from 7 pm to 11 pm. Enjoy the sounds of the all-star band "Rhythm Rascals", music of the 60's, 70's and 80's. Price: \$65.00 per person. All tickets must be purchased by Feb. 25th. For further information and/or reservations call Marie at 718-356-5277.

NEW AT ST. PETER'S CEMETERY

St. Peter's cemetery has served the Catholic faith community for well over a century. As a response to the desire to pre-plan one's final arrangements, St. Peter's Cemetery will now offer families the opportunity to purchase graves for future use. These future use graves will be limited to the graves available in Section R only (at the intersection of Tyler Ave. & Clove Rd.). Other sections of the cemetery will still be available for the purchase of immediate need of burial space. For individuals who prefer cremation, St. Peter's Cemetery also offers cremation niches that can hold 2 standard sized urns. The niches are available in St. Peter's Columbaria Garden for pre-need or immediate need. For information call the cemetery office at 718-442-2363, Mon.-Fri., 8 am to Noon and 1-3 pm.

**GOD HIMSELF DOESN'T PROPOSE TO JUDGE
A MAN UNTIL HE IS DEAD...
SO WHY SHOULD YOU!**

A NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTION

The priests of the parish ask that everyone try to arrive at Church in time for the gathering song and remain in Church until the departure song has ended and the celebrant has completed the recessional to the Church vestibule. This would make a wonderful and should be an easy resolution for all in the New Year. Give a full hour to our Lord....look what He has given to us!

ANNUAL MEMORIAL MASS

"It's a Holy and Wholesome Thing to Pray for the Dead"

During the year 70 families in our parish experienced the death of a loved one. As is our custom, there will be a Memorial Mass for our beloved deceased who were buried from our parish this year. All family members, friends and parishioners are invited to this Memorial Mass which will be held on Sat. morning January 10th at 9:00 am. Our prayer is that God will give your loved ones eternal life and those who remain behind the strength and courage to carry on.

"We give back to You, O God, those whom You gave us. You did not lose them when You gave them to us, and we did not lose them by their return to You. Your dear Son has taught us that life is eternal and love cannot die."

NY BLOOD DRIVE

The New York Blood Center plans to run another Winter Blood Drive here at the parish. It is planned to take place the morning of January 25th, weather permitting. Further information will be posted in upcoming bulletins.

THE SICK

Prayer Request for Sick Parishioners

Every worshipping community is called to pray for the sick or elderly in their parish. It is a privilege to ask Our Lord to heal and strengthen the sick. **The Prayer List for the Sick** is our way of reaching out to our parishioners, young and elderly, who have received a critical diagnosis and are unable to go about the routines of life:

Maryann Azzarello, Brook Balacco, Nora Bonilla, Sally Caputo, Rosalie Carroll, Vera Cerullo, Josephine Cordaro, Michael Delfino, Carol Devine, Margaret Ryan Galeoto, Nicole Giambrone, Donna Hazen, John Hudson, Vanessa McIntosh, Ralph Moceo, Maria Scaglione and Ann Volpe.

The listed names above for those asking for prayers has been updated according to months on the list. Those remaining have been reinstated by parishioners calling after the six month period. If anyone wishes to put a name back or to add a new name of a parishioner who is sick please contact the rectory Mon.-Fri. from 9 am to 5 pm.

SHUT-INS

If any member of your family is homebound and unable to attend Mass, notify the girls at the rectory and if you wish, a priest or an extraordinary minister will bring you the Eucharist on the first Friday of the month.

**THE ART OF BEING WISE
IS THE ART OF KNOWING
WHAT TO OVERLOOK!**