

# The Epiphany of the Lord

January 3, 2016



## LOOKING IN THE RIGHT PLACES

“Appearances can be deceiving,” as the saying

goes. As we celebrate the *epiphania*, the “appearing” of the eternal Word of God on earth, this is still true.

What rapturous foresight must have filled Isaiah as he wrote the words we hear today. How, for four hundred years, they must have filled the hearts of the people of Israel with hope for the day when God’s glory would shine on them. How deceived some must have felt when the glory of God came to them in the lowliest and humblest of human lives.

We have many expectations about how the divine presence will appear among us. But we can also set ourselves up, through these expectations, to miss the divine glory when it truly appears. We get caught up in looking for the star, forgetting that the star is not the divine sign, the babe is. It may take a persistent journey for us to come upon the true appearance of God’s glory in our lives: Jesus Christ.

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## TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

Over the next few weeks, if you were to stroll around Prague or Budapest or Kraków, you might see curious grafitti scratched in chalk over some doorways:

“20 + C + M + B + 16.” The families dwelling behind those doors have celebrated the Epiphany door blessing. They have gathered before the feast-day meal, probably after Mass, and the head of the family has traced the sign of the cross on the piece of chalk. Standing on a ladder, the leader traces the numbers for the new year, and the letters C M B for *Christus Mansionem Benedicat*, Latin for “May Christ bless this house.” The letters also point to the names that tradition has assigned to the mysterious magi, Caspar, Melchior, and Balthasar—although scripture tells us nothing of their number, their country, or their names.

The blessing speaks of journeys ended and journeys begun at the doorway, and prays that all journeys be as satisfying as was the magi’s. It prays that the house beyond the door have the quality of love and peace that the magi marveled at when they

at last arrived in Bethlehem. In some countries where the Soviet Union tried to impose a harsh atheism, the vigor of this household custom survived all efforts to erase Christian customs. In the years of struggle, the chalked blessings were a pervasive sign of defiance, and now in the light of new freedoms, they are a sign of the resilience of our tradition and the fulfillment of the magi’s quest for meaning and peace.

—Rev. James Field, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.



## 2016 Mass Schedule Change

Our new mass schedule for 2016 has begun.

Masses are as follows:

**Wednesday, Thursday, Friday – 8:30AM**

**Saturday Vigil Mass @5:00PM**

**Sunday Mass @ 10:00AM**



## Mardi Gras Celebration

**St. Paschal Baylon**

**Saturday, January 16 from 6-9:30PM**

**An Adults ONLY Event**

**\$20pp presale ticket price**

**“Laissez le Bon Temps Rouler”**

Reserve your table now – tickets will be sold after each mass. Friends, food, music, dancing and a costume contest – don’t miss out on the FUN!

**Please Help**

**Volunteers Needed**

We need volunteers to help at 9:30AM to set-up for the Mardi Gras celebration and at 9:30PM to help clean-up after the party.

Please contact Jeanine Paz (510-636-9217) or Camille Moore (510-569-1783) if you are able to help.

*This event is sponsored by the parish pastoral council and the social justice committee.*

## STEWARDSHIP

2015 Christmas Collection	\$ 6,043.00
December 27, 2015 Collection	\$ 1,422.00
Capital Improvement Campaign	
Our 2016 Goal	\$ 20,000.00
<i>Reclaiming Christ's Mission Together:</i>	
Our Goal	\$ 163,740.00
Pledged as of 11/2/2015	\$ 135,525.00
<b>Remaining Balance</b>	<b>\$ 28,215.17</b>
<b>25% received as of 11/18/2015</b>	<b>\$ 11,512.00</b>

**Thank you for your continued generosity!**

## SPECIAL INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

**Sunday, January 10**

10:00AM – For the Intentions of Barbara Wickhorst

## MASS INTENTIONS

When we celebrate the Eucharist, heaven and earth unite. We are one with our loved ones who have gone before us. We would like to encourage you to consider remembering by name your loved ones at a mass on the weekdays or on the weekend.

## THIS WEEK AT ST. PASCHAL BAYLON

**Sunday, January 3**

Choir Practice, 9:15AM, Church

First Communion Class, 9:00AM, Rectory Conf. Rm

**Thursday, January 7**

Choir Practice, 7PM, Church

**Saturday, January 9**

SPRED Training, 9AM-3PM, Hall

**Sunday, January 10**

Choir Practice, 9:15AM, Church

Pope Francis' Encyclical Discussion Group,

Noon-1:30PM, Rectory Conference Room

## READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: 1 Jn 3:22 — 4:6; Ps 2:7bc-8, 10-12a;  
Mt 4:12-17, 23-25

Tuesday: 1 Jn 4:7-10; Ps 72:1-4, 7-8; Mk 6:34-44

Wednesday: 1 Jn 4:11-18; Ps 72:1-2, 10, 12-13;  
Mk 6:45-52

Thursday: 1 Jn 4:19 — 5:4; Ps 72:1-2, 14, 15bc, 17;  
Lk 4:14-22a

Friday: 1 Jn 5:5-13; Ps 147:12-15, 19-20; Lk 5:12-16

Saturday: 1 Jn 5:14-21; Ps 149:1-6a, 9b; Jn 3:22-30

Sunday: Is 42:1-4, 6-7 or Is 40:1-5, 9-11; Ps 29:1-4,  
3, 9-10 or Ps 104:1b-4, 24-25, 27-30;  
Acts 10:34-38 or Ti 2:11-14; 3:4-7;  
Lk 3:15-16, 21-22

## SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday: Epiphany of the Lord;  
National Migration Week

Monday: St. Elizabeth Ann Seton

Tuesday: St. John Neumann

Wednesday: St. André Bessette

Thursday: St. Raymond of Penyafort;  
Julian Calendar Christmas

## PRAYER REQUESTS

Please remember in your prayers those who are ill,  
especially:

Anna Alberti	Shirley & Ed Mannette
Stephen Alberti	Gary Manuel
Jocelyn Alcantara	Rosie Martin
Claudia Blancher	Sandra Meekins
Lani Borges	Sam Meo
Andrew Brown	Grady Miles
Benigno Cusortelli	Dakota Neal-Soublet
Peter Cuddyre	Bob Norris
Jerry DeMaria	Angela Paz
Alex & Dorothy Donaville	James Pearson
Sue Ann Dunford	Norma Perry
Gerri Escobar	Sonja Phillips
Juanita Estrella	Carol Reiner
Jess Felis	Bea Scott
James Ferguson	Rich Selby
Jane Framsted	Bill Slon
Libia George	Bruce Soublet
Ernie Gonsalves	Margaret Soublet
Chanel Marie Gordon	Rosetta Souza
Sue Holmes	Jared Springer
Meghan Johnson	Nancy Stoeber
Lisa Johnston	Sandra Tanhuanpaa
Heidi Kauzlarich	Leila Tassano
Sarah Leech	Elizabeth Vallerga
	Barbara Wickhorst



And for those who have died.

