

The Epiphany of the Lord



January 5, 2025

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Office Hours

Monday -Thursday

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BLESSED SACRAMENT

CATHOLIC PARISH

"All Are Welcome Here"

1701 East Oakland Park Blvd. Oakland Park Florida 33334

Our Pastor

Reverend Robert F. Tywoniak,

M.S.W., C.S.W.M

Music Director

Daniel J. Perez

MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday Vigil

4:00 pm

Sunday

9:00 am & 10:45 am

Daily: Tuesday - Friday 8:00 am

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturdays

3:00 pm - 3:30 pm

Thursday evenings

6:30pm -7:00 pm

Baptism for Infants and Preschool Children under 7 years old

At Baptism, infants and preschool children are initiated into the Christian community and begin a life-long journey as a committed disciple of Christ. Since the child cannot make this commitment on their own, the parent who requests Baptism states that they wish to pass on the faith in which they believe and live. Parents wishing to have their infant or preschooler Baptized are required to attend Baptism Preparation. This gives them the opportunity to reflect on the meaning of Baptism and to have their questions answered concerning the Sacrament of Baptism and the ceremony. In order to begin preparing for their child's Baptism, parents are asked to contact the parish office at 954-564-1010 prior to the anticipated birth or adoption process. We wish to celebrate this joyful time with you!

Marriage

Blessed Sacrament parish wishes to support couples as they prepare for the Sacrament of Marriage through prayer and action. For this reason, guidelines have been established for marriage preparation by the Archdiocese of Miami. This is not done to create obstacles, but to increase the opportunity for a lasting, loving marriage in a society where divorce is prevalent. Couples should contact the parish office at 954-564-1010 at the time of their engagement to allow time to complete the necessary preparation.

January 5, 2025 The Epiphany of the Lord

Isaiah 60: 1-6
Psalm 72
Ephesians 3: 2-3a, 5-6
Matthew 2: 1-12

Life Is a Journey in Faith

Today's feast of the Epiphany is the most important of the Christmas Season. Yes, it is greater than Christmas Day. Many cultures around the Christian world celebrate it with greater emphasis than they do December 25th.

The Magi are featured in the story. They are defined variously. In profane Greek, the word *magos* may mean a member of the Persian priestly caste or the possessor of occult knowledge and power or magician or a charlatan. In our story from Matthew 2, they are possessors of occult knowledge as implied regarding their use of astrology. Matthew's story also reflects much from the Old Testament regarding the coming of a King-Messiah.

Epiphany means the appearance of something or the coming to awareness of something. Sometimes, one might say he or she just had a great epiphany as to say, "I just realized something". Thus, the Christian epiphany is to find the King-Messiah. In the case of the Magi, they knew something special had just happened. This child they were led to was of great importance. Yet, they might not have fully understood the fullness of revelation in front of them.

The magi were not Jewish. They were gentiles. Thus, the Gospel makes the point that later is very clear at the Passion of Jesus Christ. Jesus' own people did not "get it". He was not recognized or appreciated by the Jewish nation. They were not ready for the coming of the Messiah! But, others did and do have a revelation. At that, even the Magi continued on their journey. Still seeking.

Brothers and sisters, how much are we still seeking? Is there not a yearning within to fill in emptiness? Do we not step back and wonder how much farther we need to go to find fulfillment?

The feast of Epiphany is important because it forces us to look at our own journey. Do not focus on gifts brought to Jesus. The draw of the story is more to wonderment concerning Jesus. It is, "who is this child?" Why is He important? What does he have to do with my life? Why do I and all the world celebrate the Christmas Season at all? Non-Christians do too.

You might do well to reflect on the above questions. It is good to make a spiritual reflection and renewal. Such inquisitiveness helps in the spiritual need for

understanding, even for the most ardent believer. Earthly life is a journey in faith and we together as a faith community must keep on the journey.

Pray that God will continue to reveal to us His presence in the Word and Eucharist. Let us commit again and again to the journey.

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS

Baptism of the Lord

Is40:1-5, 9-11; Acts10:34-38; Lk3:15-16, 21-22

Stewardship

Attendance last week:

Tithes Collected:

Per capita:

IN NEXT

WEEK'S

Solemnity of Mary Collection:

Christmas Collection:

BULLETIN

Attendance weekend of Dec 22:

Tithes Collected:

Per Capita:

263

\$4,624.00

\$17.58

Stewardship is the care we take of the gifts we have been given. The primary gifts are those of Time, Talent and Treasure. Within these are found all the other attributes you may find in yourself.

I think of the talents I have been given by God. There are many. I could not decide what course in life I should take. I wanted to do all the things I ever dreamed of. Yet, in the practical sense I could only pick one way in life, one vocation.

However, once I said yes to God, all the things I thought of doing in my lifetime slowly began to unfold for me. By saying yes to God and accepting His call to the priesthood, all my talents were put to good use.

Take a good look at yourself. What talents do you have? What gifts stand out to you? How might you put them to use for the glory of God and His people?

You are gifted. You are a unique creation of God. Take care of all that you are and take care of all that is around you. Be a good steward.

Stewardship Days begin January 12th. Everyone will have the chance to contribute his and her Time, Talent and Treasure. Do know, ABCD Letters from the Archbishop will be coming in the mail on or around January 4th and 5th.

Parish Life

We Need to Tithe! We Need Your Tithe!

I tithe to this parish every week, \$30! Above and beyond that I donate all the altar wine used all year. Also, I donate another 2% of my yearly stipend to the ABCD. I am not bragging. I am giving witness. I do not get paid much by standards of a chief executive. BUT, I trust in the Lord. Yes, I have done my best to be responsible and have saved and planned for my future. The Lord knows I am sincere now and I trust He will help me later when I need it.

So, you need to tithe. Some of you do expect the rest of us to support your share too. I am not imposing guilt. I am guiding you all to do what is necessary. Please, as a good steward, help everyone here to support the parish. You might very well be able to do more than I can or as you have been. Thanks in advance.

Fr. Bob

CALENDAR OF SOME IMPORTANT EVENTS

Scripture Sharing Resumes
January 9th (Thursday)

Stewardship Sundays
January 12, 19, 26

Stewardship Recognition Sunday
February 2nd

Scripture Sharing
Begins again January 9th and continues each
Thursday from 7 to 8pm

Parish Mission Begins Ash Wednesday
March 5th, 6th, 7th from 7 to 8:30pm

Scriptural Stations of the Cross Begins
Thursday, March 13th and continues each Thursday during Lent.
7:00pm

Holy Week
Passion Sunday, April 13th
Holy Thursday, April 17th at 7pm
Good Friday, April 18th at 7pm
Easter Vigil, April 19th at 8pm
Easter Sunday, April 20th Masses at 9am and 10:45am

Scripture Sharing
Begins Again May 1st and continues every Thursday from 7 to 8pm

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK

Angiolina Armenti, Mary Benive-
na, Carl Bocchino, Margarita Bogle,
Michael Bryant, Ronald Gustinella,
Richard & Cathy Harper, Dil Hatchett,
Patrick Keough, Doris Lakso, John
LaNeve, Gail Martin, Sean Martin, Luz
Mercado, Teresita Nazareno, Lauren
Nicole, Austin R., Fr. Robert (Bob)
Traupman, Renette Valcourt, Sr. Fran-
ces Vass, OSC, Nancy Zakem, Marie
& Jeff, Monica Yassa, Lucas Zaky

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, January 4
4:00pm †Arturo Cuan by Family

Sunday, January 5
9:00am Blessed Sacrament Parish
10:45am Dan Brommer & Family
by Anita
Laura, Ron, & Sam
by Anita

Monday, January 6
NO MASS

Tuesday January 7
8:00am Carol Wyatt by Chris

Wednesday, January 8
8:00am †Norman Pratis by Parish

Thursday, January 9
8:00am † Fr. Ken Wolnowski
by Parish

Friday, January 10
8:00am Fr. Bob Traupman
by Parish

Saturday, January 11
4:00pm †Mary-Ellen Barcho and
Stan & Ruth Chaner
by Ed Batcho
†Carmela Dee by Family

Sunday, January 12
9:00am Crepage Family by Family
10:45am †John E. Rudnik
by Mazzurco Family
†Dale Wenal
by Mazzurco Family