

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

They were overjoyed at seeing the star, and on entering the house they saw the child with Mary his mother. They prostrated themselves and did him homage. - Mt 2:10-11a

PASTORAL STAFF

Pastor, Rev. James Barrett Residents, Rev. Harold Murphy Michael Okoro, C.S.Sp. Deacon, Michael Neba Accountant, Jim Masini **RE Co-ordinator**, Cynthia Splatt School Principal, Laurie Konicek Pastoral Council Chairpersons, Lenore Kanary & Cookie Krupa Director of Music, Steve Burke

MASS SCHEDULE

Weekend

Saturday 4:00 pm Sunday 8:30 am & 10:30 am 10:00 am Family Mass in Colletti Hall (On the Third Sunday of the Month) Weekday

Monday-Friday 7:00 & 8:45 am Saturday 8:45 am

RECONCILIATION

Saturdays from 3:00-3:30 pm. An appointment can also be made by calling one of the priests.

OFFICES

Rectory (773) 764-0615 2324 W. Chase Hours: Monday-Friday 9:00 am-12:00 pm & 1:00-5:00 pm School (773) 764-0641 7318 N. Oakley Website: www.smmschool.com **Activity Center** (773) 338-4144 7341 N. Claremont St. Vincent DePaul Society (773) 764-0615, ext. 27

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

Now that a new year has begun, I again would like to take this opportunity to share a new event that we will be having here at the parish on Sunday, January 19th. On that day, we will be celebrating the Feast of the Santo Niño aka the Infant Jesus.

The image of the Infant Jesus is one that holds a special place in the hearts of many Catholics. Many of us may have grown up with traditions and customs surrounding the holy image of Jesus as an infant made popular, of course, by the well-known Infant Jesus of Prague.

In the Philippines, the Infant Jesus—or Santo Niño—has a revered place in practically every Catholic church, chapel, home, office, place of business, and vehicle. It has been said that when the Spaniards first attempted to catechize the natives of the islands, the ancient Filipinos were unimpressed with the image of Jesus crucified. However, when the Spanish friars introduced the image of Jesus as a child dressed in the finest royal garb imaginable, the idea of God becoming a human child and yet remaining a powerful ruler became the catalyst by which virtually every Filipino converted and embraced the Catholic faith.



Customarily, the feast of the Infant Jesus would be associated with the feast of the Holy Name of Jesus which is January 3rd. However, in the Philippines the third Sunday of January has been given the honor of being the Feast Day of the Santo Niño and huge celebrations can be found in virtually every part of the nation. In particular, though, there is the region of the Philippines where it all began. On the island of Cebu in the region known as the Visayas, the history of the Santo Niño celebration began. It was there that Ferdinand Magellan arrived onto the shores of the Philippines and first introduced the image of the Santo Niño to the reigning chief and his wife. The chief's wife embraced the image of the Santo Niño and as a result everyone followed her in embracing the Catholic faith. The image of the Santo Niño has been loved ever since.

For centuries as an essential part of the celebration, there has been a unique dance in Cebu and the Visayas regions. Known as the Sinulog, it is a dance that dramatizes the coming of the Spaniards and the gift of the Catholic faith. The Sinulog is part of every procession on the Feast of the Santo Niño and the dance itself brings the energy and life out of every devotee.

Here at the parish, we will take the time to honor the Infant Jesus at the 10:30 a.m. Mass on Sunday, January 19th. Several of our Filipino parishioners who hail from the region of Cebu (or the Visayas) have volunteered to organize the Sinulog dance and bring this beloved festival to us. The will be a procession with images of the Infant Jesus prior to the start of the 10:30 a.m. Mass and ALL are invited to participate by bringing your images of the Infant Jesus—the Santo Niño—on January 19th and carry him in the procession. As part of the procession, our Filipino Cebuano parishioners will lead us in the Sinulog dance up the center aisle. Even if you do not know this particular dance—or have "two left feet"—you can still take part in this joyful procession. Let the energy of the dance get you into a festive spirit to honor our Savior. The images of the Santo Niño will be displayed prominently in the sanctuary.

Then, during the Mass, we are planning to have parishioners and friends of SMM share a few hymns in the Visayan dialect of the Philippines. This is the dialect spoken in the region of Cebu where, again, the feast of the Santo Niño began. After Mass, there will be hospitality in the Gathering Space of church.

Again, ALL are invited—Filipino and non-Filipino parishioners alike. ALL images of the Infant Jesus are welcomed—big or small. Bring them on January 19th and let us honor our King who became a human child to show us the way to become more like God.

Each new year brings us new opportunities to know Him more, to walk in faith, and grow by His grace.

May your year be blessed in the Lord.

"'...Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love Him.'"— 1 CORINTHIANS 2:9 KJV



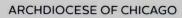
PARISH & COMMUNITY EVENTS

EXERCISE CLASS meets in the Activity Center on Tuesdays & Fridays from 9:30am to 10:30am. For more information, call Bernadette Dunne, 773-764-9422

BOY SCOUT TROOP 923

Come join the fun! Boys aged 11 and up are welcome to join Troop 923. We meet every Tuesday from 7:00 to 9 pm in the Rectory Hall. Contact us by email at HaveFun@BoyScoutTroop923.org or by voicemail at 312-772-4923.





















LEADER SPONSORS









FOCUS ON THE WORD

CYCLES OF FAITH

Epiphany of Our Lord

We may walk many roads when we search for God, and He leads us all the while. The men we honor today were not Jews. The Messiah wasn't coming for them, not in the minds of Jesus' contemporaries. These men were astrologers. They were adept at reading portents in the sky, a practice condemned in the Mosaic covenant. Still, to the best of their knowledge and awareness, they were seeking the truth. This truth led them to journey from their own homeland to honor a king they'd never met, one they couldn't be sure truly existed. "'We saw his star at its rising and have come to do him homage.'" Who do you know seeks God so tenaciously?

"Magi from the east arrived in Jerusalem," the Gospel tells us. Who are the seekers in your own life? Maybe it's your cautiously curious co-worker, the neighbor who unexpectedly found peace on a yoga retreat, or your desperately angry child who has chosen, for now, to go their own way. Perhaps they're not overtly headed for Jesus now, not yet. But they may well be seekers of truth in ways we didn't expect. Our invitation is to listen, inquire, and give directions when appropriate.

The magi and modern-day seekers can inspire us as well. When is the last time you sought God's truth so tenaciously? As believers, it can perhaps be easy to become desensitized to the Christmas season and to the miraculous reality we recently celebrated. Mass may have been lovely, but so was the succulent roast beef, the crisp smell of evergreen, and the warm glow of family. Consider asking yourself, "God, do I know you as well as I should? Would I journey as far as the magi to meet You, if I could? Do I journey to meet You daily in prayer? What do those answer say about me, and about our relationship?" Perhaps we, like the magi, can once again be "overjoyed" at seeing the Light of the World.

BAPTISMS

+Isaiyah Sims,

son of Lamont Sims & Ashley Durand, received new life in the Lord through the waters of Baptism. May his parents and godparents be a light to his life



+PARISH DEVOTIONS+

OUR MOTHER OF PERPETUAL HELP NOVENA

Every Wednesday at 8:30 am.

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Every Friday following 8:00 am Mass until 7:00 pm.

Please enter the middle door, school side.

(Become a regular, call

Mila Cobarrubias at 773-814-4282 or

Judith Seruelo at 773-764-0247.)

Mass at 7:00 pm on First Fridays;

Vespers and Benediction at 7:00 pm

on all other Fridays.

HEART OF THE SPIRIT PRAYER MEETING

Every Friday at 7:30 pm in Rectory Hall.

DEVOTION TO THE SACRED HEART OF JESUS

Every 1st Friday of the month beginning with Mass at 7:00 pm. Fellowship follows after Mass. Contact person: Terry Luciano, 773-677-7347

FATIMA ROSARY

First Saturday of the month immediately following 4 pm Mass.

SACRAMENTS

Marriage: Arrangements should be made at least three months in advance.

Baptisms: On the 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month immediately following the 10:30 am mass. Please make arrangements at least one month in advance.

Preparation class held on the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 7:00 pm in the rectory

R.C.I.A

Program/Process for adults interested in the Catholic Faith (Sept.-April). Call the Rectory for information.

NEW PARISHIONERS

We welcome our new parishioners and invite them to register at the rectory.

WORSHIP CALENDAR

MASS INTENTIONS

Sunday, January 5 Epiphany of The Lord

8:30 am Chris Murtaugh 10:30 am Rafael Zavala

Living members of Nwanah Family

Richard Sharp

Intentions of an SMM Donor

Ricker Family

In Thanksgiving: Luciano Family

Monday, January 6 St. Andre Bessette

8:00 am Jeremiah J. Oblena - anniversary **Tuesday**, **January 7 St. Raymond of Pentafort**

8:00 am Bill Hanlon **Wednesday, January 8**

8:00 am Deceased members of SMM

Thursday, January 9

8:00 am Deceased members of SMM

Friday, January 10

8:00 am Teodora Santos

Saturday, January 11

8:00 am Deceased members of SMM

4:00 pm Chuck Baggarly Ann Donohue

Sunday, January 12 Baptism of The Lord

8:30 am Deceased members of SMM

10:30 am Living members of Nwanah Family

Crispin Trovela Julita Trovela



Readings for the week of January 5, 2020

Sunday: Is 60:1-6/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13

[cf. 11]/Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6/Mt 2:1-12

Monday: 1 Jn 3:22–4:6/Ps 2:7bc-8, 10-12a [8ab]/

Mt 4:12-17, 23-25

Tuesday: 1 Jn 4:7-10/Ps 72:1-2, 3-4, 7-8 [cf. 11]/

Mk 6:34-44

Wednesday: 1 Jn 4:11-18/Ps 72:1-2, 10, 12-13

[cf. 11]/Mk 6:45-52

Thursday: 1 Jn 4:19–5:4/Ps 72:1-2, 14 and 15bc,

17 [cf. 11]/Lk 4:14-22a

Friday: 1 Jn 5:5-13/Ps 147:12-13, 14-15, 19-20

[12a]/Lk 5:12-16

Saturday: 1 Jn 5:14-21/Ps 149:1-2, 3-4, 5 and 6a

and 9b [cf. 4a]/Jn 3:22-30

Next Sunday: Is 42:1-4, 6-7/Ps 29:1-2, 3-4, 3, 9-10

[11b]/Acts 10:34-38/Mt 3:13-17

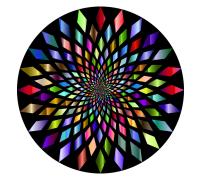
LITURGICAL ROLES

SMM serves, prays and celebrates.

Sacristans

Monday, January 6 A Volunteer Is Needed Wednesday, January 8

A Volunteer Is Needed **Saturday, January 11**A Volunteer Is Needed



Lectors

Saturday, January 4

4:00 pm Art B;umberg & Julie Ashbach

Sunday, January 5

8:30 am Reid Mackin & Richard Schaefer
10:30 am Analee De Remos & Jan Stoner

Eucharistic Ministers Saturday, January 4

4:00 pm B. Alban, A. Alban, D Cole,

J. Ashbach, M. Fallon, M. Varallo &

J. Moylan

Sunday, January 5

8:30 am M. Neba, L. Honda, P. & R. Mackin,

R. Hardy, B. Russell & L. Igboanugo

10:30 am M. Grigsby, A. Baldonado,

L. Ibekwem, T. Linwood, B. David &

B. Bingham

Lectors

Saturday, January 11

4:00 pm Lee Draus & Judy Moylan

Sunday, January 12

8:30 am Peter Scheidt & Michelle Okeifufe

10:30 am Bela Lopez & Greg Umogo

Eucharistic Ministers Saturday, January 11

4:00 pm D. Cole, G. Lindor, M. Varallo,

J. Moylan, J. Ashbach & M. Fallon

Sunday, January 12

8:30 am B. Russell, J. & T. Murtaugh &

L. Igboanugo

10:30 am M. Neba, T. Luciano, J. Seruelo,

K. Conorquie, G. Potucek, V. Onyeaghala & Y. Maliay