

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

8 January 2017

Dear Parishioners,

The star that they had seen at its rising preceded them. (Matthew 2:9)



The Magi certainly weren't the first to follow a star. Ancient mariners used stars to navigate the seas. Greeks and Persians and Egyptians saw noble stories and even future predictions in them. Poets invoked their aid in their quest for love. But this star was different. This star led wise sages from the East to a humble carpenter, his wife, and . . . the Son of God.

Wouldn't it be wonderful if a bright star could lead us to Jesus? Life would be so much simpler, wouldn't it? We hear so many different voices and see so many different paths before us—how can we ever know the right way?

Actually, God has given us something much better than a star: the Holy Spirit, the "Spirit of truth" (John 16:13). He is not just a distant star but God himself, living and active in our hearts. So let's practice learning how to hear him.

One important way is through Scripture. More than just a set of stories and teachings, Scripture is "living and effective" (Hebrews 4:12). That means that the Spirit can take a passage that was written thousands of years ago and bring it to life for you. He can show you God's love more deeply, give you guidance, or console you in a time of trial.

Try listening to the Spirit today. Take one of the readings from Mass, and read it slowly and prayerfully. Try to quiet the distractions in your mind, and keep your focus on Jesus. See if something from this passage speaks to you personally. If it's a good and encouraging thought, it may well be the Holy Spirit! Remain with that thought for a while, and watch as the Spirit opens your heart to Jesus a little bit more.

Remember, the Spirit's goal is not to tell you how to do every little task in life. Rather, he wants to help you recognize Jesus, even in the most unlikely places—just as the Magi did.

"Holy Spirit, thank you for guiding me. Help me to follow your lead today."

Deacon Mark Race, Administrator

DAILY SCRIPTURE READINGS

Sunday	Is 60:1-6, Ps 72:1-13, Mt 2:1-12
Monday	Is 42:1-6, Mt 3:13-17
Tuesday	Heb 2:5-12, Mk 1:21-28
Wednesday	Heb 2:14-18, Mk 1:29-39
Thursday	Heb 3:7-14, Mk 1:40-45
Friday	Heb 4:1-11, Mk 2:1-12
Saturday	Heb 4:12-16, Mk 2:13-17
Sunday	Is 49:3-6, Ps 40:2-10, Jn 1:29-34

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday	January 7
5:15 PM	Intention of Christian Channie
Sunday	January 8
8:00 AM	Intention of all Parishioners
10:00 AM	Intention of Briana and Aaron Katz
12:15 PM	Intention of Jo Ann Levi
Sunday	January 15
10:00 AM	Intention of all Parishioners

WEEKLY OFFERING for JANUARY 1, 2017

\$7,642.00 Tithe and Offering
96.00 Building Fund
51.00 We Care"

Stewardship Thought

"Then they opened their treasures and offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh." MATTHEW 2:11

The image of the Magi kneeling before the infant Jesus and opening their treasure chests for Him is an image that we should all try to follow all year long. In gratitude for all that we have been given, we are called to generously share all of our gifts, not just the ones we pick and choose. God wants us to be the most generous with that one thing that means the most to us.

PRAY FOR THE SICK

Virgie Aguilar, LaVern Agnew, Brian Argusta, Joyce Barnett, Rose Ball, Percenia Beasley, Veronica Bearce, Fr. Emile Belletty, Sister Juliet Berber, Glenda Brown, Andrei Briggs, Vivian Burgess, Barbara Butler, Brownie Cain, Sister Cecilia Calva, Mary Captain, Alberto Casanova, Jeannie Chapron, Katherine Clark, Sister Ann Paul Clare, Agnes Cooper, Rita Cormire, Edward Cousin, Juanita Davis, Beverly Colvin-Dorsey, Jayden Dunn, Nigel Dunn, Betty Eason, Ferdinand Foye, Betty Flowers, Teresa Franklin, Stacy Franklin, Marian Fussey, Judy Felton-Gardner, Mavis Gibbs, Refugio Godinez, Nancy Goosby, Barbara Harris, Jacqueline Holman, Mattie Hilburn, Janie Jackson, Mary Jené, Aaron Jittu, Robert Jordan, Aaron Katz, Briana Katz, Irwin Lagarde, Jeanne LeBlanc, Barbara Lindsey, Connie Louie, Joe McZeal, Vylfred Manor, Sister Marianna, Dorothy Okoye, Martina Peters, Daisy Pratt, Wiley R. Pugh, Andrea Raggette, Michelle Raines, Basil Raymond, Dottie Rodriguez, Dana Semien, Dudley Semien, George Simon, Sr., Jeremiah Skyes, Darnell Stang, Michele Starks, Annie Starks, Alice Tenette, Leila Thomas, Stephanie Thompson, Emma Thornton, Iris Turner, Frank Vidrio, Peggy Wright and Emmerson Young

SAVE THE DATES

You are invited to the 23rd Annual Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Prayer Breakfast 8AM Saturday, January, 14, 2017, at the Double Tree by Hilton in Culver City. Keynote Speaker: Very Reverend Michael Thompson, S.S.J., Drum Major Award: Dr. George McKenna, LAUSD Board of Education and Master of Ceremony: Gregory Warner, Jr. Donation \$50. For more information see Mable Simon, Thelma Foye or call the rectory.

Mass at the Cathedral

On Monday, January 16, 2017 at 2:30 PM in Cathedral of Our Lady of the Angels, Most Reverend José Gomez will be the celebrant and homilist for the Annual Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial Mass. Very Reverend Michael Thompson S.S.J. will concelebrate. Transfiguration's Choir has been invited to sing at the Cathedral for this Mass.

Men, Mark Your Calendars

Transfiguration Annual Retreat for men will be held at Mater Dolorosa Retreat Center on the weekend of January 20, 21 and 22, 2017. Join your fellow parishioners for this weekend of spiritual enrichment and growth. The Passionist retreat team offer inspirational talks on the theme, as well as time for quiet prayer, Mass, and Confession and Stations of the Cross. You may arrive as early as 3:00 PM. Friday. Our retreat opens at 6:15 PM with a buffet supper and closes Sunday after lunch about 1:30 PM. *A \$50.00 non-refundable deposit is required to reserve your weekend Retreat, this is reserved for you.* This year's Retreat theme: *"The Crucified One Is No Stranger"*. For more information or to make your reservation please call Greg Warner 323.974.7405 or 310.538.2214 or Maurice Simon at 323.296.1501.

Transfiguration's Ushers Meeting

Saturday, January 14, 2017 at 10:00 AM in the hall. If you are an Usher here at Transfiguration you are asked to please attend this meeting.

Did you know?

A review of a young person's cell phone text messages may provide a parent or caring adult with information such as who your child talks to, where they are going, and what they're doing. Unfortunately, all of that may be in the past. Today, some new cell phone text messaging services keep cell phone texting activity increasingly private. In order to protect young people, one must stay current and re-connect with ever changing technology. For a copy of the VIRTUS® article "Vanishing, Self-Destructing Texting, and Electronic Communication," email jvienna@la-archdiocese.org or call 213.637.7227.

COFFEE & DONUTS SUNDAY, JANUARY 15th

Transfiguration Hostility Ministry will return next Sunday, for Coffee and Donuts in the hall after all masses. Come fellowship with us.