

THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD

December 25, 2011



FROM THE DESK OF FR. MICHAEL TANG

The Gospel writer Luke's account of the birth of Jesus forms the Gospel for the first two Masses of Christmas. The story reflects the faith of the post-resurrection Church. The same title that Peter attributes to the risen Jesus "Lord and Messiah" (Acts 2:36), are now applied to the newborn child by the angels. Luke's chief concern is theological; as such, every detail in the story serves a purpose. This is not to say that there is no historical basis for what he recounts.

Luke gives the birth of Jesus a solemn setting. He is also hinting at the cosmic significance of the event. Unwittingly Augustus becomes an instrument of the Lord by ensuring that Jesus (the Messiah) was born in the town of David. His rejection at the inn anticipates his rejection by the Jewish people as a whole. Mary is shown to be a caring mother, wrapping the child in swaddling clothes and laying him in a manger-cradle.

Since Jesus was born in poverty, it is fitting that the news of his birth was first announced to simple shepherds. This also reflects Jesus' concern (and Luke's) for the poor and the lowly. The faith of shepherds serves as a model for future believers, and their joy anticipates the blessings that will come to those who accept Jesus as the Savior sent by God.

The beautiful crib that graces our sanctuary is made possible by the generosity of several donors. I would like to thank all of them in a special way, as the crib enhances not only our Christmas liturgies, but also deepens the spirituality of this holy season. The Ladies Auxiliary of the Knights of Peter Claver Court #220, donated the Holy Family; Miss Thelma Foye, gave the Gloria Angel in memory of her sister Velma. Sylvia Tureaud and family donated the Black Wiseman; Maurice and Mable Simon, Juanita Davis, Walita Keyes, Eula Dupre, Barbara Johnson, Gloria Robottom and Lillian White worked together to sponsor the Shepherd and sheep. God bless all of you for your generosity to our parish family.

On this Christmas Day, may the Christ Child bless all of you abundantly and may the New Year of 2012 bring each of you health, happiness and much prosperity. Finally a reminder that next weekend's schedule will remain a regular Sunday Mass Schedule. Happy Christmas to all of you!

DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING DAY 2012 REVIVAL **Friday, Saturday & Sunday - January 13, 14 & 15 @ 7pm nightly** **Father Charles "Chuck" Andrus, SSJ - Revivalist**

Retain HOPE and fulfill the DREAM!

Music by: St. Agatha Choir, St. Brigid Choir, Holy Name Brighter Day Jr. Choir,
Chris Nuño, Reverence, Transfiguration Gospel Choir.

PETITION FOR THE SICK

Virgie Aguillar, Yolanda Anderson, LaVern Agnew, Oliver Bartholomew, Booker T. Ball, Edgar Banks, Timothy Baker, Sr. Juliet Berber, Jerone Bill, Glenda Brown, Mary Brown, Andrei Briggs, Manual Brule, Bernard Byars, Barbara Butler, Brownie Cain, Dorothy Campbell, Mary Captain, Alberto Casanova, Katherine Clark, Lois Gomes Clark, Shirley Dieudonne, Beverly Colvin-Dorsey, John Crear, Nigel Dunn, Angela Dupré, Ethel Earley, Robert Evans, Connie Farlice, Anita Finie, Edith Foster, Teresa Franklin, Stacy Franklin, Marian Fussey, Mavis Gibbs, Catherine Green, John Grossman, Pat Hernandez, Marion Hernandez, Mattie Hilburn, Janie Jackson, Angela Johnson, Ellis Jones, Irwin Lagarde, Connie Louie, Joe McZeal, Sr. Marianna, Vyldred Manor, Yvonne Morgan, James U. Mundy II, Dorothy Okoye, Paula Osborn, Dale Payne, Daisy Pratt, Gerald Pratt, Wiley R. Pugh, Michelle Raines, Emma Rausch, Evelyn Roach, Reanna Semien, Lionel Smith, Sr., Shirley Spicer, Darnell Stang, Michele Starks, Wilbur Starks, Ken Ruff, Alice Tenette, Louise Thomas, Emma Thornton, Curtis Tureaud, David Tureaud, Iris Turner, Lubertha Weathers, Doris Whayne, Leon Williams, Lilla Williams, Patricia Williams and Agnes Wilson.

MERRY CHRISTMAS



CHRISTMAS FLOWER OFFERING

We are asking that you be as generous as possible with your giving. Envelopes are in the pew. We will place the envelopes on the altar for prayer in Memory of, or in Honor of, your love ones.

NEW YEARS MASS SCHEDULE

Vigil Mass for the Feast of the Epiphany

Saturday, December 31, 2011 – 5:15 PM

Sunday, January 1, 2012

8:00 AM, 10:00 AM & 12:15 PM

THANK YOU

We thank Mr. and Mrs. Derek Madere and Family for their gracious Sunday Hospitality Services provided after each Mass. Their continued commitment throughout the year is warmly appreciated. **No coffee and donuts on Christmas and New Year's Day.**

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 2012. 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, 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 years Retreat theme: ***CATCH THE FIRE! Responding to God's Touch.*** To make your reservation please call Greg Warner 323.974.7405, 310.538.2214 or Maurice Simon 323.296.1501.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Sunday Is 52:7-10, Ps 98:1-6, Jn 1:1-18

Monday Acts 6:8-59, Mt 10:17-22

Tuesday 1 Jn 1:1-4, Jn 20:1a, 2-8

Wednesday 1 Jn 1:5-2:2, Mt 2:13-18

Thursday 1 Jn 2:3-11, Lk 2:22-35

Friday Sir 3:2-6, Lk 2:22-40

Saturday 1 Jn 2:18-21, Jn 1:1-18

Sunday Nm 6:22-27, Ps 67:2-8, Lk 2:16-21

SACRIFICIAL GIFTS

Sunday, December 19, 2010

\$4,640.69 Sacrificial Gift

1,301.00 Building Fund

193.15 "We Care"

SACRIFICIAL GIFTS

Sunday, December 18, 2011

\$5,170.70 Sacrificial Gift

438.14 Building Fund

250.36 "We Care"

SCHOOL NEWS

The students, parents, teachers and staff of Transfiguration School would like to wish its parishioners, friends and family a very Merry Christmas and Happy & Prosperous New Year.

School resumes Tuesday, January 3.

CALLING ALL BINGO PLAYERS!

Next Bingo is Sunday, January 8th at 2pm in the hall.

Join the school as we celebrate **Dr. Martin Luther King Day** with our parade on Friday January 13, 2012.

Important Message Regarding Anointing of Sick

In order to comply with the wishes of **ALL** families needing anointing for their loved one (s), it is requested that a call be made to the rectory **ONLY** by an immediate family member. This will eliminate confusion and insure that we are respecting the wishes of the family. **Also please do not wait until the last minute. A priest may not be available.** Please adhere to this directive and thank you in advance for your cooperation.

Dear Friends in Christ at Transfiguration,

As some of you know, I am embarking on a two week round trip cruise to Hawaii as Chaplain aboard the SS. Symphony. This will be my first time away from my home congregation in 48 years. When I return I will embark on a four month sabbatical. I'll be back in Early May. Please pray for me to be renewed in Jesus Christ and know that you will all be remembered in my fondest prayers especially at Christmas and New Year's Masses aboard ship.

Love in his heart,

Fr. Michael McCullough

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, December 24

5:15 p.m. +Angula Bates

Midnight Int. of all Parishioners

Sunday, December 25

8:00 a.m. +Gwen Harmon

10:00 a.m. +Jackeline, Dilcia, & Wilfred Morgan, Jr.

Monday, December 26

8:00 a.m. +Edmund Richards

Tuesday, December 27

8:00 a.m. Int. of Anita Samuels

Wednesday, December 28

8:00 a.m. Int. of Jeanette Fruge

Saturday, December 31

5:15 p.m. Int. of all Parishioners

Sunday, January 1

8:00 a.m. +Tom Franklin

10:00 a.m. +Johnny Moll

12:15 p.m. Int. of Eula Dupre