

## THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

At one time or another, most of us have had epiphanies, those AH-HA moments, when something that was in question becomes crystal clear. It could be a sudden, powerful understanding of a vexing problem. It might be a realization of a path to be followed; or an insight into a relationship that has been troubling. However, when we speak of the Epiphany of the Lord we are talking about that great moment in history when God is revealed to the whole world in flesh. Biblical commentators have often compared the two revelations of Christ, first to the shepherds and then to the Magi. According to their understanding the revelation to the shepherds represents Christ making Himself known first to the poor or common, every-day people. The revelation to the Magi, according to their lights, represents Him making Himself known to the wise, the rich, and the powerful who, despite their exalted positions, must likewise bow low before Him. Likewise, the gifts that the Magi bring are seen as symbolic—the gold in honor of His kingship; the frankincense representing his priesthood, and the myrrh representing his sacrificial death. Magi, merely being the plural of the Latin “Magis” which means great persons, suggests whoever they were, they were important; important enough to gain an audience with King Herod. What is important, they came from a distance looking for Jesus, led by a star to guide them, to a land that they expected had revealed in the birth of a newborn King. Trusting their instincts, these Magi traveled on still following a star, and now a legend. Their faith was rewarded. The Gospel says, “The star that they had seen at its rising preceded them, until it came and stopped over the place where the child was. They were overjoyed at seeing the star, and on entering the house they saw the child with Mary his mother.” Interestingly, after they did Him homage and presented their gifts, the Magi again trusted their dreams, their instincts, and returned home by another route. As we begin this New Year, it’s worth noting that the entire Christmas picture is driven by God in dreams and visions, those of Mary and Joseph, Simeon and Anna, shepherds and magi. Knowing that we have a Savior whose Name is Jesus, who is Emmanuel, God who is with us, and that His Spirit dwells within us, makes us Magi (very important persons), too. Might this all not give us the courage to trust our instincts, follow our dreams, seek our star and go where it leads us? Too many of us settle for where we are in life, when God is calling us to come out of our comfort zones and seek the fullness of life He wants for us. May these seekers and visionaries of this Christmas lead us to seek

more; learn more; try more; give more; be more; and become more of all that God wants us to be. In this New Year, dare to be happy; dare to be your best self; dare to be the person God created you to become. This is God’s Will for you! HAPPY NEW YEAR! (Fr. Saju Oreethaparambil, C.Ss.R.)

## Mass for the Intentions Week

**Monday, January 6, 2020 9:00 a.m.**

Margaret Godfrey and family req Helen McSorley

**Tuesday, January 7 9:00 a.m.**  
**St. Andre Bessette**

Roberto Espiritu req Rudy and Imee Barrientos

**Wednesday, January 8 9:00 a.m.**  
**St. Raymond of Penyafort**

Tuyen family and Baby req Pauline Nguyen

**Thursday, January 9 9:00 a.m.**

Peter Baldwin and John the Baptist Phan  
req Therese Kim

**Friday, January 10 9:00 a.m.**

John Nguyen and Teresa Nguyen  
req Therese Kim

**Saturday, January 11 5:00 p.m.**

For the souls in purgatory req Therese Kim  
Remy Mercado and family req Teresa Arriola

**Sunday, January 12 10:00 a.m**

**St. Charles Garnier Parish Community**



**PARISH  
SUPPORT**

**For the Weekend of Dec 21/22, 2019**

Total collection \$ 3,512.00

Thank you for your continued financial  
and spiritual support to St. Charles Garnier  
Parish

Please pick up your envelopes for the year 2020. If you do not have envelopes and would like to have a set, please call the office and talk to Flo.



**OUR SANCTUARY LAMP  
BURNS THIS WEEK FOR  
THE INTENTIONS OF  
PHYLLIS PANEK  
REQUESTED BY BILL AND  
MARYANNE WILLIAMS**

### Sanctuary Lamp Intentions

Our Sanctuary Lamp burns continually in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament in our Church. You may dedicate our Sanctuary Lamp for a deceased loved one or for a special intention. We will publish the **Sanctuary Lamp Intentions** in the bulletin each week. Suggested donation for the Sanctuary Lamp is as follows:

One Week - \$25  
One Month - \$100

Please call or see Flo in the parish office to request an intention or for more information.

***"The light shines in the darkness and the darkness does not overcome it."***

**John 1:5**

### Recipe for a Happy New Year!

Take twelve fine, full-grown months; see that these are thoroughly free from old memories of bitterness, rancor and hate, cleanse them completely from every clinging spite; pick off all specks of pettiness and littleness; in short, see that these months are freed from all the past—have them fresh and clean as when they first came from the great storehouse of Time. Cut these months into thirty or thirty-one equal parts. Do not attempt to make up the whole batch at one time (so many persons spoil the entire lot this way) but prepare one day at a time. Into each day, put equal parts of faith, patience, courage, work (some people omit this ingredient and so spoil the flavor of the rest), hope, fidelity, liberality, kindness, prayer, meditation, rest (leaving this out is like leaving the oil out of the salad dressing—don't do it), and one well-selected resolution. Put in about one teaspoonful of good spirits, a dash of fun, a pinch of folly, a sprinkling of play, and a heaping cupful of good humor.



### **EXTENDED HOURS OF ADORATION**

We have formally begun our extended hours of adoration on December 2<sup>nd</sup> after 9:00 a.m. mass until 1:00 pm. For prayer request and thanksgiving Email us at [saintcharlesadoration@gmail.com](mailto:saintcharlesadoration@gmail.com)

## Thank You

My grateful thanks to all who made Christmas at St. Charles Garnier Parish a joyous and beautiful celebration.

To everyone who showed their care and gave their time and talents including:

- All our decorating people – for their great job; our church looks wonderful.
- All our music ministers for helping us raise our hearts to the Lord.
- All our faithful altar servers, lectors, Eucharistic ministers and ushers.

Thank you also to those who sent greetings, cards and gifts. Thank you and may God bless you all abundantly in the year of our Lord 2020.

Fr. Saju



**we HAVE seen  
HIS STAR in the east  
and have come to  
WORSHIP HIM.**