Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish-Shrine

The Epiphany of the Lord

Sunday, January 8th, 2017

The Italian National Parish of the Archdiocese of Chicago
Served by The Missionaries of Saint Charles – Scalabrinians
1101 N 23rd Ave - Melrose Park - IL– 60160
P (708) 344 4140 — F (708)344 0902

Staff

Pastor
-Fr. Miguel Alvarez, C.S.

Associate Pastors
-Fr. Augusto Feccia, C.S.
-Fr. Juan F. Aguiar C.S.

Parish Deacons
-John Battisto
-Giulio Camerini
-Jose Ramon Arenas

Secretaries
- Nancy Diaz
- Daniel Michel

Office Hours

Sunday
-8:00am—3:00pm

Tuesday- Friday
-8:30am—8:30pm

Saturday
-8:30am — 1:00pm
-2:00pm—5:30pm

Monday
- We're Closed

Sunday Mass Schedule

5:30pm - Sat. Vigil Mass
7:45am - English
9:00am - Español
10:30am - Italiano
12:00pm - English
1:30pm - Español
5:00pm - Español

Weekly Mass Schedule

English
-Monday - Saturday at 7:45am

Español
-Martes y Jueves a las 6:30pm

Italiano
-Sotto richiesta

THE SCALABRINIAN MISSIONARIES AT MOUNT CARMEL SINCE 1905

Our Lady of Mt Carmel, is served
by the Congregation of the Missionaries of St.
Charles – Scalabrinians – .
We are an community of Catholic religious
serving migrants and refugees of different cultures,
religions and ethnicities in 32 countries.
The Congregation was founded in Italy
on November 28, 1887,
by Blessed John Baptist Scalabrini (1839-1905),
bishop of Piacenza (Italy).
Our missionary focus is to be migrants
with the migrants and to be in mission
with people on the move,
with a special priority for the poorest
And neediest migrants.

OUR LADY OF MOUNT CARMEL —MISSION STATEMENT

We are a faith community bound by the Grace of God the Father
who adopted us all as beloved children through Baptism.
We journey as brothers and sisters
inspired in the Gospel of Jesus Christ, nourished with the Eucharist
and strengthened by the love of the Holy Spirit.
Encouraged in the practice of our Catholic Tradition,
we experience and honor the maternal protection of Our Lady of Mount Carmel
while joyfully celebrating the religious practices of our ancestors in Faith.
Heartened by the zealous ministry of the Missionaries of St. Charles (Scalabrinians),
we strive to create a welcoming space were justice for all and the wellbeing of God's people
become the inspiration in our efforts to build God's Kingdom.

+ + +

NUESTRA SENORA DEL MONTE CARMEL — VISIÓN

Somos una comunidad de fe vinculada por la Gracia de Dios Padre,
que nos ha adoptado como hijos amados por el Bautismo.
Caminamos como hermanos y hermanas
inspirados en el Evangelio de Jesucristo, nutridos con la Eucaristía
y fortalecidos por el amor del Espíritu Santo.
Alentados en la práctica de nuestra Tradición Católica,
experimentamos y honramos a la protección materna de Nuestra Señora del Monte Carmelo,
celebrando alegremente las prácticas religiosas de nuestros ancestros en la Fe.
Animados por el celo ministerial de los Misioneros de San Carlos (Scalabrinianos),
nos esforzamos por crear un espacio de bienvenida donde la justicia para todos
y el bienestar del pueblo de Dios nos inspiran en nuestros esfuerzos para construir el Reino de Dios.

Church Services

We encourage all to register
at the Parish-Shrine.
+ + +
Les invitamos a registrarse
en el Santuario Parroquial.

Support Staff

Business Manager
Alexander Sanchez 708.345.3632

Religious Education
Modesta Martinez 708.344.4140

Activities Coordinator
Miguel Aldana 708-345-3632

Music Coordinator
Ann Marie Nabor 708.579.5373

Community Center Site Director
Pablo Cruz 708.345.3632

Sacramental Life

Confessions *Confesiones*
Saturdays—*Sábados*
4:00pm—5:30pm or by appointment/ *o con cita.*

Baptisms *Bautizos*
Come to the parish office. *Pase a la oficina parroquial.*

Weddings *Bodas*
Contact the priest at least six months in advance.
Contactar al sacerdote seis meses antes de la ceremonia

Quinceañera
Contactar a la secretaria cuatro meses antes de la ceremonia.

Presentaciones
Contactar la Secretaria al menos dos semanas antes

Religious Services

Recitation of the Holy Rosary
Mon—Sat at 7:00am

Adoration *Adoración al Stmo. Sacramento*
Wednesdays 6:00pm—8:00pm

Novena & Benediction
Wednesday/Miércoles 7:30pm

Grupo de Oración Carismática
Martes a las 7:00pm

Grupo de Estudio Bíblico
Miércoles a las 7:00pm

Other Services

Gift Shop Hours *Venta de Artículos Religiosos*
During the regular office hours.
Durante las horas de oficina

Community Center *Centro Comunitario*
Social outreach *Servicios a la comunidad* (708) 345 - 3632

Food Pantry *Despensa de comida*
Wednesdays 4:00pm—6:00pm

Religious Education—*Catecismo*
Saturday - *Sábados* 3:30pm — 6:30pm
Sunday - *Domingos* 10:00am—1:00pm
- Mass Included—Incluye la Misa

For the Month of JANUARY

Jan 28 Sat/Sab
Health Fair / Feria de Salud 9:00am

Jan 30 Mon/Lun
Misa Por la Paz 7:30pm

They opened their treasures
and offered him gifts
of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.
— Matthew 2:11b

Weekly Offering

December 24 – 25, 2016
Regular Sunday Collection: $4,262.00
Second Collection: $6,450.00

December 31– January 1, 2017
Regular Sunday Collection: $5,510.00
Second Collection: $1,551.00

From the Pastor's Desk

On the Feast of the Epiphany, believers are called to reflect on the mystery of the Nativity of the Lord, as an event that blesses not only the chosen people of Israel, but rather expands itself to the furthest ends of the earth and becomes a cause of joy for all men and women of good will. By His coming into our human history, the infant child made known the Infinite Love of God the Father to the good ones -represented by the shepherds-; to the evil ones, -represented by Herod-; and to the indifferent ones -represented by the scribes and those well learned in the Scriptures -. Today, that manifestation of God's amazing love, becomes public knowledge and reaches the all peoples, represented by the wise men -the number is still uncertain, some say they were three, some say six, and some others insist in twelve as the right number. Still, the importance of the number is not as significant as the fact that in those pilgrims from the east, God's message of salvation becomes public knowledge and from now on, anyone can claim Jesus as Savior.

As a faith family, we are very blessed here at Mount Carmel, for the different faces and languages of our community are a concrete expression of the diversity of the Church. Regardless the color of our skin, the language we learned to express ourselves while growing up or the cultural background we come from, each one of us has been drawn here by the Graceful gift of God's call to Redemption. Our multicultural celebrations as well as our multilingual liturgies express in a very symbolic manner the purpose of God the Father's plan when sending His Only Son into the world: to provoke that all people become One Holy Nation under the inspiration of The Gospel of Christ and the communion of the Holy Spirit. Racial differences are to be seen as a richness rather than a reality to fight. The possibility of creating Unity in Diversity has been possible here in our Parish-Shrine; coming together to celebrate our Faith, in spite the diversity of our origins, is what makes us true witnesses of Christ and his Love -message in a world often divided because of sin and wickedness.

As we gather this day to remember and celebrate the encounter of the wise men with the son of God resting in a manger, let us draw courage from the Lord's desire to be known by all nations and become true and courageous ambassadors of his message: Salvation for all peoples!!!

Adsum,

health fair

Event: Family Health Fair

· **Date and time:** Saturday, January 28th, – from 9:00AM to 12PM

· **Location:** Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Parish - Gymnasium

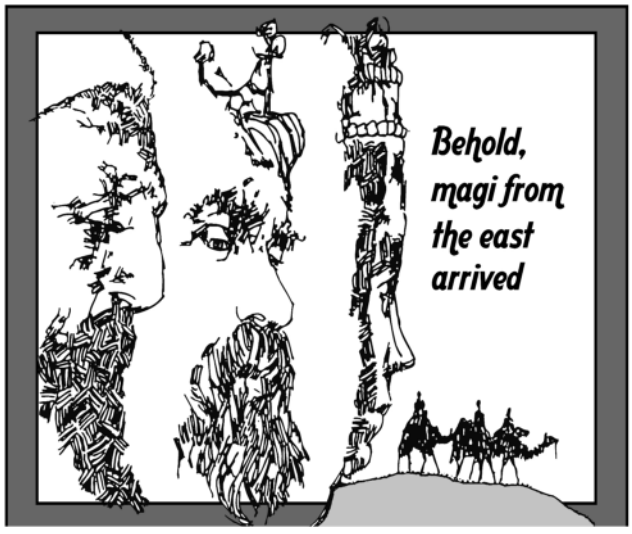
· **Health screenings offered:** Glucose, Cholesterol , Prostate Cancer, Blood pressure, and Bone Density. (fasting is preferred but not necessary)

· We will have a staff person from the West Cook YMCA for a 20 minutes fitness session around 10:00 am

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

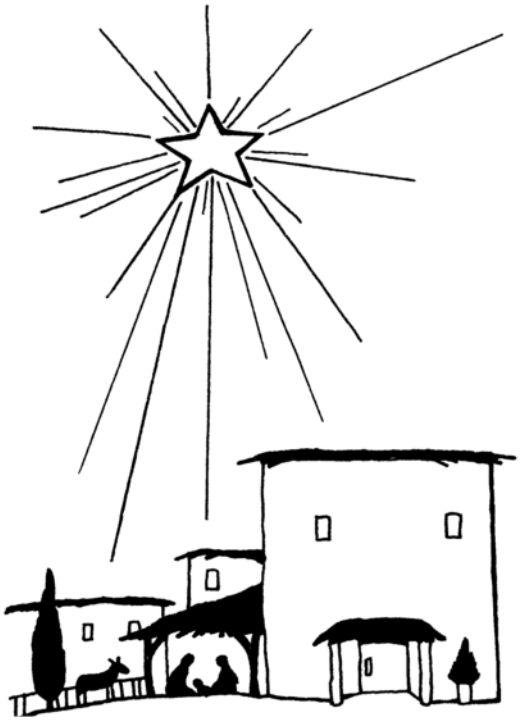
This year, in the United States the celebration of the Epiphany falls on January 8, but the traditional date for the Epiphany is January 6. The date we know as January 6 was established as the solstice in Egypt in 1996 BC, but the Egyptian calendar lost a full day every 128 years. Twenty centuries later the actual solstice had migrated to December 25. People still kept January 6 for the solstice celebration, but December 25, matching nicely with the Roman pagan feast of the Unconquered Sun, launched an extended solstice holiday. By the time of the early church, the whole period of twelve days was celebrated just about everywhere.

Christians began to celebrate Christ as the true light of the world in four themes: the Nativity, the manifestation to the Gentiles, the baptism of the Lord, and the wedding feast at Cana. That was entirely too much for one day to handle. A twelve -day season was ready to be adapted, so Christians borrowed from the pagan calendar for their own season of light. Thus early Christian celebrations of the Christmas season extended from one date for the solstice, December 25, to the older date, January 6. The darkest time in the Northern Hemisphere could now be filled with the Christian observance of the arrival of the Light of the World.



THE HOLY STAR

O Father, may that holy star
Grow every year more bright
And send its glorious beams afar
To fill the world with light.
- William Cullen Bryant



THE STAR OF BETHLEHEM

The unfolding of the story of the Incarnation continues today as the Church celebrates the Epiphany. The tale of the magi from the East is one of the most fascinating in all of scripture. It has much to teach us about what we can come to expect, even in circumstances and places that may seem insignificant or small. Bethlehem was a tiny town, what we might refer to today as a town without even one stop light. Yet it is over this seemingly insignificant place that the guiding star stops in its own search for the place where the Savior would be born. Too often we fail to recognize the fact that the star of Bethlehem comes to rest in our everyday lives, where we can experience God's presence, manifested in ever new ways. Epiphany calls us to shake off our stupor and recognize the One who comes to save us.

Mensaje del Párroco

Con la fiesta de la Epifanía concluimos la época de Navidad. Después de haber sido manifestado a los buenos y humildes en la persona de los pastores, a los malos y envidiosos en la persona del Rey Herodes y a los indiferentes en la persona de los Escribas y los expertos de la Ley, el Hijo Unigénito de Dios es manifestado a todas las naciones en la persona de los magos. La Fiesta de hoy es una de las más solemnes en el calendario de la Iglesia porque en la visita que estos reyes hicieron al portal, la Salvación que Dios ha querido ofrecer a la humanidad en la persona de Jesús niño, se ofrece a todos los pueblos de la tierra sin distinción alguna. La Humanidad entera puede ahora gozarse al saber que el Regalo del Padre Eterno no se queda recluido para un grupo en particular, sino que la Redención está llamada a tocar hasta los rincones más distantes del mundo.

La Fiesta de la Epifanía (Que significa *Manifestación*), invita a los creyentes a levantar los ojos -y el corazón- al cielo y a permitir que la luz inunde nuestras vidas y nos fascine como le sucedió a los Reyes. Ya nunca más podemos permitir que las sombras ni las tinieblas conquisten nuestra vida, ahora todo nuestro esfuerzo, debe enfocarse en que la claridad radiante del Recién Nacido inunde nuestra historia y la convierta en una auténtica experiencia de Salvación. La Luz de una estrella sirvió a estos hombres de oriente como guía hacia el portal donde la Sagrada Familia esperaba para mostrarles el Regalo de Dios a todas las naciones… así debe ser también con nuestra vida toda: es necesario que siempre nos dejemos guiar por la luz, no podemos convertirnos en seguidores de tinieblas, en partidarios de las sombras, pues únicamente la claridad y la Luz nos conducen a la Felicidad y la Vida en abundancia tal como Dios la sueña para cada uno.

Al llegar al termino de nuestras festividades navideñas, volvamos el corazón agradecido hacia Belén. Dejemos que la ternura del Nino que ha nacido y que hemos celebrado colme nuestra historia con Gracias Celestiales, con Bendiciones mil y con la certeza de que Dios de verdad nos ama. *Tanto amo el Padre Celestial al mundo que le dio a su Hijo único, de manera que todo el que crea en el no perezca, sino que tenga la luz de la vida.* (Jn.3:16).

Adsum,

FERIA DE SALUD

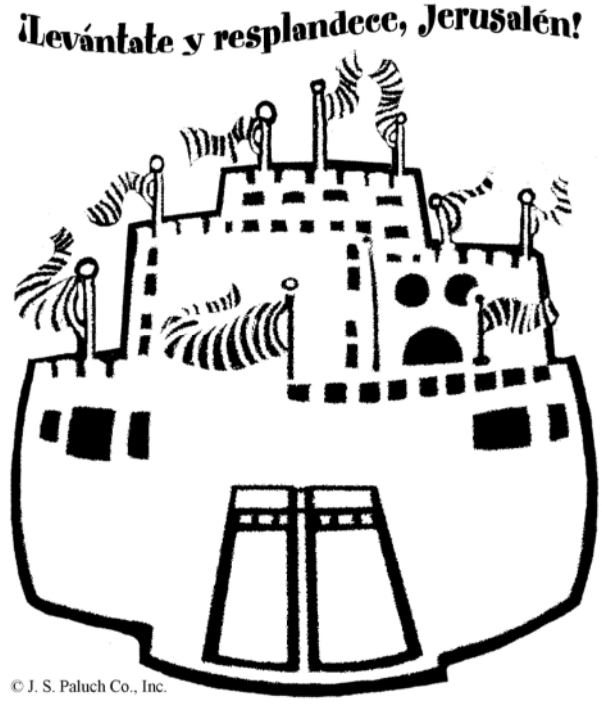
Evento: Feria de Salud

· **Fecha-Hora:** Sábado, Enero 28, – de 9:00AM a 12:00PM

· **Locación:** Gimnasio de Nuestra Señora del Monte Carmelo

· **Exámenes Médicos:** Glucosa (Diabetes), Colesterol, Revisión de la Presión Arterial, Cáncer de próstata, Densidad ósea (Huesos)
(Se recomienda venir en Ayunas)
Los exámenes son para cuidado preventivo!

Tendremos una demostración de ejercicios prácticos en casa de parte de YMCA.



TRADICIONES DE NUESTRA FE

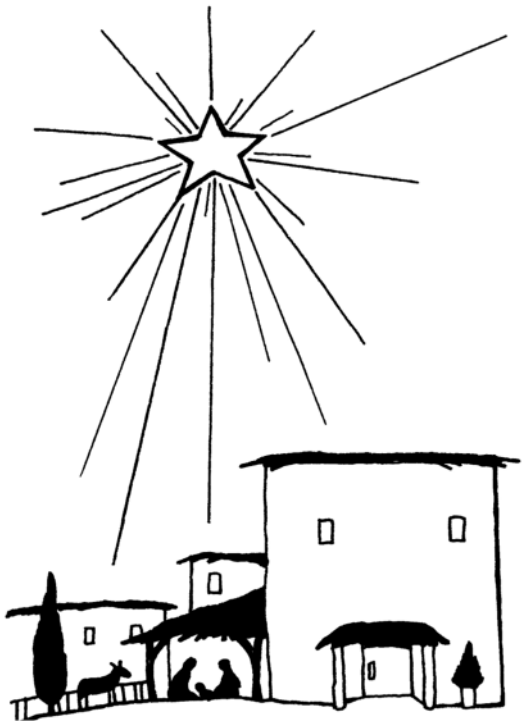
Es tiempo de añadir los reyes magos al pesebre. En 1448 llegaron los pesebres italianos a las iglesias españolas, pero no fue hasta que el Rey Carlos III le regaló un pesebre a su hijo en el siglo XVIII que el uso de pesebres se expandió en los hogares. Desde entonces, el uso de nacimientos llegó al continente americano en donde se convirtió en la decoración principal para las fiestas navideñas.

Así como en todo país latinoamericano el montaje del Belén es una tradición, lo es también en Venezuela. Con el pesebre venezolano llegan también aguinaldos, parrandas, Misas y patines. ¡Sí! ¡Patines!

Desde la mitad del siglo pasado los venezolanos celebran la época navideña con "patinadas". Estas "patinadas" normalmente se hacen por las mañanas y muchas calles están cerradas a los autos hasta las 8 a.m. para que niños y jóvenes puedan disfrutar de los patines, bicicletas y otros juguetes que les regala el niño Dios. Por esto, muchos niños duermen con un "cordoncito" atado al dedo gordo de los pies, que cuelgan por la ventana para que los despierten los que pasan patinado.

LA ESTRELLA DE BELÉN

El desarrollo del relato de la Encarnación continúa hoy cuando la Iglesia celebra la Epifanía. La historia de los Magos de oriente es uno de los relatos más fascinantes de las Escrituras. Nos enseña mucho sobre qué podemos esperar, incluso en circunstancias y lugares que pueden parecer insignificantes. Belén era un pueblo diminuto, lo que hoy diríamos un pueblo sin siquiera un semáforo. Sin embargo, es sobre este lugar aparentemente insignificante que la estrella guía se detuvo en su búsqueda del lugar en donde el Salvador nacería. Muchas veces no comprendemos que la estrella de Belén se posa en nuestra vida diaria, donde podemos sentir la presencia de Dios, manifestada de maneras diversas y nuevas. La Epifanía nos llama a salir de nuestro estupor y a reconocer a Aquél que viene a salvarnos.



Fr. Feccia's Reflection

Epifania del Signore. L'Epifania, con il suo fascino, è il coronamento gioioso di tutto il tempo natalizio. Una grande luce si sprigiona da questa solennità a diradare le dense tenebre che coprono la terra: una luce che proviene da un bambino che è il Figlio dell'Eterno Padre, il messia degli Israeliti. Il Dio dei pagani e di fronte ad Erode, il re delle genti.
Secondo la meravigliosa pedagogia divina, il messaggio di Natale viene annunciato attraverso segni adatti a ciascuno: ai pastori attraverso una mangiatoia, ai magi attraverso una stella, ai teologi attraverso la scrittura ad Erode stesso attraverso tre saggi venuti dall'oriente. Questi pagani rimangono per noi la figura dell'immensa moltitudine umana, sradicata dal paradiso e che serba di quel lontano ricordo una segreta fame inappagata. Quanti ebbero il presentimento della nascita di questo re dei giudei, sotto una buona stella? Non lo sappiamo. Soltanto i magi si misero in cammino e seguirono la sella fino a Betlemme.
«*I cieli narrano la gloria di Dio*» (Sl. 18, 2). Affidandosi alla sapienza umana i magi vanno in primo luogo a Gerusalemme, il centro spirituale del popolo ebraico. Perché nel piano di Dio bisogna che la loro scienza arrivi a cedere le redini alla Scrittura rivelata, che indicherà loro dove si trova il bambino La fede nascente e già messa alla prova, può allora intraprendere l'ultima tappa, quella che farà loro riconoscere nel neonato di Betlemme il re di un regno invisibile. Non rimarrà quindi che tornare in patria per un'altra via, con la stella in fondo al cuore, per sempre.
Gli scribi invece, non si muovono: sentinelle addormentate, lasciano che il deposito della Verità vivente diventi come un frutto secco fra le loro mani. Quanto ad Erode, che sente vacillare il suo trono, non fa che provare progetti omicidi. Ma Dio veglia su tutti coloro che camminano sulle tracce di una stella.
La fede del pagani— Un tempo il re pagano di Moab ebbe paura degli ebrei. Riunì gli anziani e fece venire un mago da oltre l'Eufrate. Ma costui, invece di maledire il popolo ebraico, lo benedisse vedendo «*una stella spuntare da Giacobbe, un uomo sorgere da Israele*» (Nm, 23-24). Matteo stabilisce un ironico parallelo tra Erode e il re di Moab, tra i magi e Balaam, tra il consiglio degli anziani e quello degli scribi. Così, oggi come ieri, spesso sono «*gli altri*» a riconoscere in Gesù il messia. Oggi, come ieri, Cristo è una provocazione per il suo popolo e una speranza per i lontani. L'aveva intravisto Isaia (60, 5ss), vedendo i pagani affluire nella città santa e ricostruirne le mura.

Il battesimo di Cristo è il «nostro battesimo»

La redazione degli evangelisti tende a presentare il battesimo di Gesù come il battesimo del «nuovo popolo di Dio», il battesimo della Chiesa. Nel libro dell'Esodo, Israele è il figlio primogenito che viene liberato dall'Egitto per servire a Dio e offrirgli il sacrificio (Es 4,22); è il popolo che passa tra la muraglia d'acqua del Mar Rosso e nel sentiero asciutto attraverso il fiume Giordano. Cristo è il «figlio diletto» che offre l'unico sacrificio accetto al Padre; Cristo che «esce dall'acqua» è il nuovo popolo che viene definitivamente liberato: lo Spirito non solo scende su Cristo, ma rimane su di lui «perché gli uomini riconoscessero in lui il Messia, inviato a portare ai poveri il lieto annunzio» (prefazio). Lo Spirito che non aveva più dimora permanente fra gli uomini (Gn 6,3) ora rimane sempre, per Cristo, nella Chiesa.

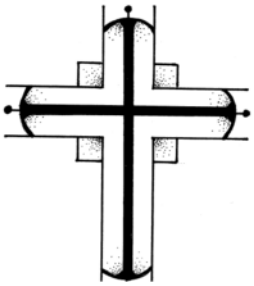
La missione di Cristo è prefigurata in quella del Servo sofferente di Isaia. Il «Servo di Iahvè» è colui che porta su di se i peccati del popolo. In Cristo che si sottopone ad un atto pubblico di penitenza, vediamo la solidarietà del Padre, del Figlio e dello Spirito Santo con la nostra storia. Gesù non prende le distanze da un'umanità peccatrice: al contrario, vi si immedesima per meglio «manifestare il mistero del nuovo lavacro» (pref.) e i conseguenti impegni di azione apostolica che ne derivano per il discepolo.

Mass Intentions

SATURDAY, JANUARY 7	**CHRISTMAS WEEKDAY**
7:30 am †	
5:30 pm † Don Cervone by Altar and Rosary	
† Ciro Covarrubias by Edelmira	
SUNDAY, JANUARY 8	**EPIPHANY OF THE LORD**
7:45 am † Thomas Opolony by Janney	
† Susan Palisi by Janney	
9:00 am †	
10:30 am † Filomena Roberto by Husband	
12:00 pm † Don Cervone by Arth & Pam Artman	
† Daniel Kudrna by Aunt Corinne Principe	
1:30 pm †	
5:00 pm †	
MONDAY, JANUARY 9	**THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD**
7:30 am †	
TUESDAY, JANUARY 10	**WEEKDAY**
7:30 am †	
6:30 pm †	
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 11	**WEEKDAY**
7:30 am †	
7:30 pm NOVENA	
THURSDAY, JANUARY 12	**WEEKDAY**
7:30 am †	
6:30 pm †	
FRIDAY, JANUARY 13	**WEEKDAY**
7:30 am †	
SATURDAY, JANUARY 14	**WEEKDAY**
7:30 am †	
5:30 pm † Gloria Orfei Bradley by Family	
SUNDAY, JANUARY 15	**SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**
7:45 am † Juan Antonio Montoya by Family	
9:00 am †	
10:30 am †	
12:00 pm † Haydee Rodriguez by Family	
1:30 pm †	
5:00 pm †	

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR BROTHERS AND SISTERS WHO ARE ILL OR INFIRMED :

Linda Bandy	Luke Westrick
Art Conti	Ann Yench
Antonela De Biasio	Angela Williams
Nico De Biasio	Alexandra Vitali
Mary Donato	Vicki Parisi
Judith Escamilla	Ken Douglas
Jacob Duda	Michael Turso
Kristie Goldi	Anna Baffa
Linna Goldi	Jan Clark
Susan Humpf	Sara Zonca
Carol Maioni	Nancy Oshea
Vandy Liala	Madeline Vittori
Ethan Maidl	Victor Mejia Jr.
Joseph Pulido	Tony Stellato
Lauren Rendi	Nico Felice
Bobby J. Villa	



Rest In Peace

† Maria P. Velasco
† Anthony C. Hudson

The Epiphany of the Lord

LIGHT OF THE WORLD

We believe that Jesus is the Light of the World. To say this about Jesus is to say something about ourselves. Christ's light is meant to illuminate every corner of the earth and gather all people together. Today's scriptures reveal what that means.

In the Gospel story of the magi from the East we see Jesus, even as an infant, gathering people of different religions and races to his light. The magi bring the child their finest gifts and tell others of the light that they have seen. The reading from Ephesians reminds us that all Christians are "members of the same body, and copartners" in divine life. There ought not to be divisions among us: all should gather together under the light of Christ. Finally, Isaiah paints a picture of what the people of God, the church, should look like. We are to reflect the Light of the World so that all nations can walk by Christ's light and rulers by his shining radiance. When we do, all people will be gathered to Christ, bearing their finest gifts and "proclaiming the praises of the LORD."

GOLD, FRANKINCENSE, AND MYRRH

The gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh portend the manner in which Jesus' light is to spread to the whole world. Myrrh, a perfume used for burial, foreshadows his death. Gold is a gift for royalty, and frankincense signifies holiness. Together they indicate that, through his suffering and death, Jesus will become both the afflicted King, in whose service we are to offer our gifts to the afflicted, and the eternal Priest, whose sacrifice we are to make known as the source of light uniting Christians and all humanity.

By our unity, our lives, and our witness, we are to reveal that Jesus Christ is indeed the Light of the World.

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