HOLY NAME OF JESUS CHURCH

245 PROSPECT PARK WEST, BROOKLYN, NY 11215

PH: (718) 768-3071 | FAX: (718) 369-2039 | WWW.HOLYNAMEBROOKLYN.COM | f/HOLYNAMEBROOKLYN

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

JANUARY 5, 2025

**"Behold, magi from the east arrived
in Jerusalem, saying,
'Where is the newborn king of the Jews?
We saw his star at its rising
and have come to do him homage.'"**

~ Matthew 2:1-2

Rev. Lawrence D. Ryan, Pastor

Rev. Emmanuel Conduah, In Residence
Rev. Joseph D'Aco, In Residence
Deacon Edwin Arguera
Deacon Gerry Devine
Deacon Michael Saez

Louise OConnor, Office Manager

Kathryn Sisto, Coord. of Religious Education

Ivonne Rojas, Director of Music

Mass Schedule

Monday - Friday:	9 am*
Saturday:	9 am, 5:30 pm (Vigil)
Sunday:	7:30 am, 9 am* (Sp.), 10:30 am* & Noon.

(Masses are also livestreamed on our Facebook page.)*

Private Prayer

Monday - Saturday, 10 a.m. to Noon

Confessions

Saturdays: 5 - 5:20 p.m., or by appointment.

Weddings and Baptisms

Please call the Rectory.

Funerals

Please have the Funeral Home call the Rectory.

St. Joseph the Worker Catholic Academy

241 Prospect Park West
Brooklyn, NY 11215
sjwca.org
(718) 768-7629

Grades PreK-3 through 8

Stephanie Germann, Principal

THIS WEEK @ HNJ

Sunday, January 5

7:30 a.m. Rosary Mariana Group: *Rectory Bsmt.*
8 a.m. Hispanic Committee: *Rectory Basement*
8:30 a.m. Blood Drive: *Shepherds Hall*
10 a.m. Cursillo: *Rectory Basement*

Tuesday, January 7

10:30 a.m. FORMED Home Group: *(917) 981-8644*

Wednesday, January 8

6:30 p.m. AlAnon: *Rectory Basement*
8:30 p.m. AA: *Rectory Basement*

Thursday, January 9

6:30 p.m. Girl Scouts: *Shepherds Hall*

Friday, January 10

4 p.m. Irish Step Dance: *Shepherds Hall*
7 p.m. Grupo de Oracion: *Rectory Basement*
7 p.m. Cub Scouts: *CS Room*

Saturday, January 11

8 a.m. Umpire Clinic: *Gym*
1 p.m. Food Pantry: *Rectory Basement*
7 p.m. AA: *Rectory Basement*

Sunday, January 12

8 a.m. Hispanic Committee: *Rectory Basement*
9 a.m. Communion Proxima Prep: *Shep. Hall*
10 a.m. Cursillo: *Rectory Basement*

THIS WEEK'S REFLECTIONS

LET THE HEALING BEGIN

The revelation that comes with Epiphany is not only that God is with us but that his mission is to make us well. That is our mission also. Pope Francis expressed it this way in his first interview after being elected: “The thing the church needs most today is the ability to heal wounds and to warm the hearts of the faithful.” Look around you. Notice the quiet anguish or distant sadness in the faces of others. Offer a smile, a listening ear, or a simple word of encouragement.

’TIS THE SEASON TO ACCLIMATE TO YOUR NEW LIFE

Why does the church extend the Christmas season so long? Two words: new life. Christmas is not only a time to remember the occasion of Jesus' birth; it is also a time to immerse ourselves in God's call to new life. As believers, Pope Benedict XVI said, we must become a “new creation,” capable of “bearing witness to the Christian hope that inspires us.” Throughout this season we have opportunities to experience and give witness to this new life filled with the Good News of God’s love.

The results of the December 22 through December 29, 2024 Collections will be published in a future Bulletin.

A NOTE FROM FR. LARRY

This short note will appear in our bulletin for Epiphany Sunday, January 5, 2025. However, because of our bulletin company’s Holiday deadlines, I am actually writing it on December 23. This gives me one more opportunity to wish everyone a Blessed and Merry Christmas and a Holy, Healthy and Happy New Year. This also gives me one more opportunity to thank everyone who helped in any way with our Christmas liturgies. And of course this gives me one more opportunity to thank everyone for their generous donations and gifts. God bless you all.

The Infant Jesus’ “Epiphany” (i.e., His “manifestation” or “showing” of Himself to the three “magi from the east”) reminds us that Jesus, the Saviour and Light of the World, came to earth for every nation and people. We share the responsibility to spread that light that is Christ.

Epiphany Sunday is when the Church officially proclaims the dates of the movable feasts which, in 2025, are:

- Ash Wednesday, March 5
- Easter Sunday, April 20
- Ascension Thursday, May 29
- Pentecost Sunday, June 8
- Corpus Christi, June 22
- First Sunday of Advent, November 30 ✞

CELEBRATE A RADICAL MOMENT

It is two weeks since Christmas. You remember Christmas—"May your days be merry and bright" and all that. Too often we think of "getting through the holidays" rather than, like fine wine, savoring the truth of "God with us." What Christmas celebrates is nothing less than the “most radical and elevating affirmation of the value of every human being,” according to Saint John Paul II. It is the leap from the divine to the human, piercing the veil, God taking root in skin and bone and changing our destiny forever. The lights may be packed away, the gifts exchanged, but you can’t really get over Christmas. Consider how you have been changed by God’s appearance in the flesh.

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Looking More Closely at the Word

MORNING STAR

After reading the Gospel on the Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord, traditionally the Deacon proclaims in chant the date of Easter and the other movable feasts for the coming year. This solemn proclamation explicitly links the Nativity of Christ to his Resurrection at Easter: it may be that the liturgical and calendar years open with the events surrounding the coming and manifestation of Christ, but at the heart of our liturgy and of the Christian faith are the events of Easter.

The tone proposed in the Roman Missal for the Epiphany proclamation even echoes that of the Exsultet, the proclamation at the beginning of the Solemn Vigil of Easter Night. You can work out from today's Epiphany proclamation that the Easter Vigil will take place on April 19, 2025 – make sure it is in your diary, and do not miss out on the richest and most sacred celebration of the whole year. In turn, the Easter proclamation of the Exsultet interestingly concludes by asking that the flame of the Paschal candle:

"...be found still burning by the Morning Star: the one Morning Star who never sets, Christ your Son, who, coming back from death's domain, has shed his peaceful light on humanity, who lives and reigns for ever and ever."

So the Epiphany proclamation points to Easter; but the Easter proclamation points round to the rising of the Morning Star, the star in the East. This star stands for (and, in a sense is) Christ: it is at the rising of the star that the Magi set out in search for the infant king of the Jews.

Why the East, you might ask? There are several answers to that question. "The East" is a suitably generic term. There is an awful lot East of the Holy Land; if you went west from Bethlehem, you soon just hit the Mediterranean, the sea at the center of the known world, and the Roman Empire which stretched along its shores. East was where other peoples – known and unknown – lived. There were a lot of them then, and even more now.

East too is where things rise – indeed the Greek word for "east" in today's gospel passage means "rising"; and ultimately our own words for both "east" and "Easter" derive from the dawn, the rising of the sun. Obviously a new star will rise in the east... because everything rises in the east!

More concretely speaking, the gospel may speak of "the East" because to the east of Judea lay the Parthian Empire of Ancient Persia. And that is at least one place where one would certainly have found pagan astrologers, looking to the stars and trying to find meaning in them. If you go due east from Bethlehem and Jerusalem today you'll pass first through the Palestinian territories and Jordan, before crossing into the land of the Parthian Empire: modern day Iraq, Iran, Afghanistan and Pakistan – not exactly untroubled areas of the world. Although there are other theories, many think this is where these traveling astrologers came from.

I wouldn't want to suggest that the magi themselves should be likened to the troublesome figures of that region – Saddam Hussein, or the Ayatollah Khoméini, or Osama bin Laden – on the contrary, the Magi are traditionally venerated as saints. But it is this troubled part of the world, these lands where there has been so much suffering and violence, which are particularly represented by today's visitors to the Christ child. And through them all of sinful and suffering humanity is represented.

SUNDAY'S READINGS

First: **Isaiah 60:1-6 14:18-20**

Second: **Ephesians 3:2-3a, 5-6**

Gospel: **Matthew 2:1-12**

It is right that it should be so. As our Lord himself said, "those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick... for I came not to call the righteous, but sinners." The suffering come to him seeking peace; and sinners come seeking mercy. The mercy we seek was truly shown in the Christ. The Magi beheld him on our behalf – on behalf of the nations, on behalf of the gentiles – and together with them we worship him today.

The Morning Star has appeared and risen. Christ has appeared and risen. He lives and reigns for ever and ever: may we take his peaceful light throughout the world, and live in that peace for ever.

~ Fr. Benjamin Earl, O. P.; © english.op.org

MASS INTENTIONS

Sunday, January 5
Epiphany of the Lord

7:30 a.m. Gregory Rydgyk
Parish Purgatorial Society
9 a.m. People of the Parish
10:30 a.m. Francesco Pira
12 p.m. People of the Parish

Monday, January 6
St. André Bessette

9 a.m. Mario Peccia

Tuesday, January 7
St. Raymond of Peñafort

9 a.m. Denise Lombardi

Wednesday, January 8

9 a.m. William J. Krumbholz

Thursday, January 9

9 a.m. James Dolan
Birthday

Friday, January 10

9 a.m. Cornelius Buckley

Saturday, January 11

9 a.m. Genevieve Constantino
5:30 p.m. People of the Parish

Sunday, January 12
Baptism of the Lord

7:30 a.m. Parish Purgatorial Society
9 a.m. People of the Parish
10:30 a.m. Margaret & Daniel Sullivan
12 p.m. People of the Parish

HOLY NAME FOOD PANTRY

SERVING THE COMMUNITY SINCE 1987

The Food Pantry will distribute food from the Rectory basement from 1 - 2:30 p.m. on Saturdays, January 11 & 25 and February 8 & 22.

The Food Pantry currently needs rice and tomato sauce.

Thank you to the teachers and parents at K280 for their Holiday Food Drive. Thank you, also, to the Brooklyn Quilters for their recent generous food and monetary donations.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO ARE ILL:

Please pray for the health and wholeness of all the sick and those who give them care, especially: Maureen Cullen; Diane Paul, Reese Lambert. Jean Volkes; Jack Cregg; Dora Sisto; J. M.; Mistie Owens; Frank Owens; Tom Duggan; Lina Pira; Linda Papio; Christine Harkins; Joseph Parma Delia; Mary Ann Robertson; Coach Donald Kent; Richard Rodriguez; Hyunja Paasch; George Capella; John Marsillo; Connie Nugent; Alayne Cox; Holly Palazzo; Ted Shea; Penelope Seiss; Thomas Nugent; Mary Pat Stasiak; Rosauro Peña; Lisa Feldman; Patricia Donleavy; Bill Slattery; Camille Tiftafeh; Patrick Cregg; Judy Heegan; Catherine Donovan; Joseph Cox; Cheryl Jablow; and Dcn. Felipe Almendárez.

... AND FOR OUR DEPARTED LOVED ONES:

Please pray for the members of our community who have gone before us into the fullness of life, especially **Neil Francis Passaretti**.

Please remember those enrolled in our Purgatorial Society as well.

Holy Name of Jesus K of C

Sunday, January 5
8:30 AM – 2:30 PM

Shepherd's Hall
245 Prospect Park West, Brooklyn

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17+

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