

EPIPHANY

Epiphany is celebrated on January 6, in Canada and the U.S.A., on the Sunday between January 2 and 8.

Epiphany comes from the Greek *epiphanein* (a showing, appearance or revelation).

The Greek-speaking church of the East found it natural to use the word to describe the appearance of the true God in the flesh. Consequently, some churches in that part of the world celebrated a festival on January 6 recalling Jesus' baptism in the Jordan and his Cana miracle; others celebrated a festival commemorating his birth, and eventually, a combination of both.

By the end of the 4th century, Eastern and Western churches adopted part of each other's Nativity feasts. Since then, Christmas and the Epiphany have been celebrated in both churches. This duplication led to the evolution of a separate theme for each. The Eastern church continued to emphasize the theme of Jesus' Epiphany with the gospel stories of Jesus' baptism and his miracle in Cana. In the Western church, the Epiphany evolved into a celebration of the gospel story of the visit of the Magi (Matthew 2:1-12), Jesus' manifestation to the gentiles.

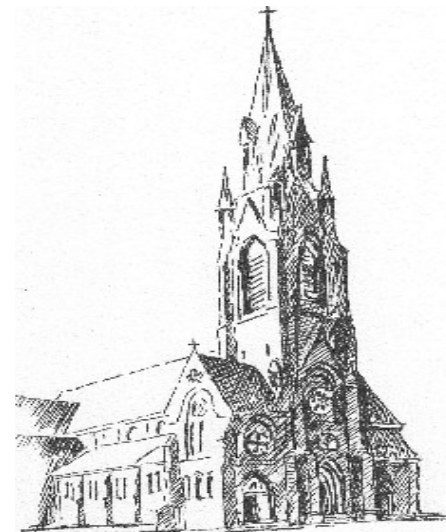
The gospel story of the Magi is not meant to be read as an historical event. Rather, it is a reflection on an important aspect of the mystery of Incarnation: the Messiah has come to all people and not just to the Jews, a theme highlighted in Matthew's gospel.

Gold, frankincense and myrrh, the three gifts mentioned in the gospel, were traditional symbols of homage in the East and traditionally have come to symbolize the destiny of Jesus: gold for his royalty, frankincense for his divinity, and myrrh for his suffering and death.

Christian legends in the 9th century describes the wise men as representing the three major races and gave them names: Melchior, an old white man with a long white beard, bearing the gift of gold; Gaspar, young and of darker hue, carrying incense; and Balthazar, a black man, offering myrrh.

St. Mary's Church

Rev. Msgr. Fernando Couto (Pastor)
Rev. Fr. João Ferreira (Associate Pastor)



Rectory

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OFFICE HOURS

Mon.– Fri. 8:30—12:00 and 1:00—4:00 pm

Sunday Masses

8:30 am Portuguese

10:00 am Portuguese

11:30 am English

1:00 pm. English

Weekday Masses

Monday—Friday 9:00 am Portuguese

6:00 pm English

Saturday 5:00 pm English
6:30 pm Portuguese

Parish Council

Parish Finance Council

Legion of Mary

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

First Friday of Every Month at 5:00 p.m.

English Choir

Portuguese Choir

Ana da Silva 905-891-5444

Santo Cristo

Joey Teves 647-887-2804

Santo Cristo Band (Hall)

Marco Lima (President) 416-703-2231
416-818-5462

Santo Cristo Association

Please contact the parish 416-703-2326

Espirito Santo

John & Lucy Silva 905-890-4771

Saint Vincent De Paul

416-247-8868

Volunteer Co-ordinator

Delia Medeiros (contact the parish)

Baptism—Sundays

Baptisms will be booked by appointment only

Marriages

Please contact the priest 12 months in advance

Confessions

Every day before Mass, except on Sunday

Schools

St. Mary Elementary 416-393-5205

Bishop Macdonell 416-393-5462



Epiphany of the Lord January 2, 2022

Psalm—Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.

God revealed himself to the Jews through the Scriptures, and to the Gentiles through nature.

Since the Magi were Gentiles, Matthew shows them receiving a revelation through astrology. For Matthew the story of the Magi becomes an anticipation of the fate of the Good News of salvation, a fate that he knew in the aftermath of the resurrection. There is little to be gained by speculating where the Magi came from and what exactly the star was.

The star was only the means by which a great mystery was revealed—the revelation of Christ as the Saviour.

The Second Reading expresses the theological meaning of the feast. God invites Jew and Gentile to share on an equal footing the benefits of the salvation brought by Christ. The feast shows that election by God is not a privilege for some but a hope for all.

First Communion Meetings

We do not have a date when the First Communions will take place.

We invite all children attending St. Mary and Bishop Macdonell, and their parents for a meeting on Friday, January 7th or Wednesday, January 12th at 7:30 p.m. in the church.

Confirmation Meeting

All young adults receiving their Confirmation, must attend a meeting that will take place on Tuesday, January 11th at 7:30 p.m. in the church.

O Come All Ye Faithful

O come, all ye faithful
Joyful and triumphant
O come ye, o come ye to Bethlehem
Come and behold Him
Born the King of Angels!

**O come, let us adore Him
O come, let us adore Him
O come, let us adore Him
Christ the Lord.**

Adeste fideles laeti triumphantes,
Venite, venite in Bethlehem;
Natum videte, Regem Angelorum.

**Venite adoremus, venite adoremus,
Venite adoremus Dominum.**

Sing, choirs of angels sing in exultation
Sing all ye citizens of heaven above.
Glory to God in the highest.

What Child Is This

What Child is this
Who laid to rest
On Mary's lap is sleeping?
Whom Angels greet with anthems sweet,
While shepherds watch are keeping?

**This, this is Christ the King,
Whom shepherds guard and Angels sing
Haste, haste, to bring Him laud,
The Babe, the Son of Mary.**

Why lies He in such mean estate
Where ox and ass are feeding?
Good Christian, fear, for sinners here
The Silent Word is pleading.

We Three Kings

We three kings of Orient are
Bearing gifts we traverse afar
Field and fountain, moor and mountain
Following yonder star

**O Star of wonder, star of night
Star with royal beauty bright
Westward leading, still proceeding
Guide us to thy Perfect Light**

Born a King on Bethlehem's plain
Gold I bring to crown Him again
King forever, ceasing never
Over us all to reign

Frankincense to offer have I
Incense owns a Deity nigh
Prayer and praising, all men raising
Worship Him, God most high

Myrrh is mine, its bitter perfume
Breathes of life of gathering gloom
Sorrowing, sighing, bleeding, dying
Sealed in the stone-cold tomb

Glorious now behold Him arise
King and God and Sacrifice
Alleluia, Alleluiae earth to heav'n replies

Joy to the World

Joy to the world, the Lord is come
Let earth receive her King
Let every heart prepare Him room
And Heaven and nature sing
And Heaven and nature sing,
And Heaven, and Heaven, and nature sing!

Joy to the World, the Saviour reigns!
Let men their songs employ;
While fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains
Repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat the sounding joy
Repeat, repeat, the sounding joy!

Mass Intentions for this Week

Saturday, January 1

10:00 am. Portuguese
11:30 am. English
1:00 pm. English

Sunday, January 2

8:30 am.
10:00 am. Community—José Luis e Maria Teresa Branco—José Caldas
11:30 am.
1:00 pm Veneranda Damaso, parents & intention of Natalia Damaso

Monday, January 3

9:00 am. Familiares falecidos da familia Arruda
6:00 pm. No Mass—Holiday

Tuesday, January 4

9:00 am. Mario Gomes Ferreira, family intentions & world peace
6:00 pm.

Wednesday, January 5

9:00 am. Praise to St. Amaro
6:00 pm.

Thursday, January 6

9:00 am. Souls in purgatory
6:00 pm. Agostinho & Maria Lucinda Mota

Friday, December 7

9:00 am. Ermelinda Arrunda
6:00 pm. Anibal & Conceição Rocha

Saturday, January 8

5:00 pm. Souls in purgatory—Michael Jenkowski, Frank Sr. & Bernice Jenkowski
6:30 pm. Maria da Conceição Batista