

**Our Saviour Parish
of the Polish National Catholic Church**

2300 Princeton Pike; Lawrenceville, NJ 08648

Rev. Mariusz Mularczyk, ThM, STL

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January 5, 2020

Solemnity – Holy Family / Solemnity – Epiphany

FAITH SHARING

The Greek word Epiphany means *appearance* or *manifestation*. Multiple revelations of Jesus as God are celebrated in the Feast of the Epiphany. First, the angels revealed Jesus to the shepherds. In the Western Church, the Feast of the Epiphany celebrates Jesus' first appearance to the Gentiles, represented by the Magi, while in the Eastern Church, the feast is the commemoration of the Baptism of Christ where the Father and the Holy Spirit gave combined testimony to Jesus' identity as Son of God. Later, in the synagogue at Nazareth, Jesus revealed himself as the promised Messiah, and at Cana Jesus revealed his Divinity by transforming water into wine.

BIBLE READINGS

Isaiah 60:1-6

The Prophet Isaiah, consoling the people in exile, speaks of the restoration of the New Jerusalem from which the glory of Yahweh becomes visible even to the pagan nations.

Responsorial Psalm

R. Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.

Ephesians 3:2-3,5-6

St. Paul explains that God's plan of salvation includes both Jews and Gentiles.

Matthew 2:1-12

Today's Gospel teaches us how Christ enriches those who bring Him their hearts.

ENTRANCE HYMN (Malachi 3:1c; Matthew 2:2b)

V. The Messenger of the Covenant Whom you desire. Yes, He is coming, says the Lord of hosts.
R. We saw His star at its rising, and have come to do Him homage.
V. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit,
R. As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

Gospel

MT 2:1-12

A Reading from the Holy Gospel according to Saint Matthew.

R. Glory be to You, Lord.

When Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, in the days of King Herod, 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."

When King Herod heard this, he was greatly troubled, and all Jerusalem with him. Assembling all the chief priests and the scribes of the people, He inquired of them where the Christ was to be born. They said to him, "In Bethlehem of Judea, for thus it has been written through the prophet: And you, Bethlehem, land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; since from you shall come a ruler, who is to shepherd my people Israel."

Then Herod called the magi secretly and ascertained from them the time of the star's appearance. He sent them to Bethlehem and said, "Go and search diligently for the child. When you have found him, bring me word, that I too may go and do him homage." After their audience with the king they set out.

And behold, 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.

They prostrated themselves and did him homage. Then they opened their treasures and offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they departed for their country by another way.

The Gospel of the Lord.

The Gospel of the Lord.

R. Praise be to You, Lord Jesus Christ.

THE MAGI

The *Magi* were not Kings, but a caste of Persian priests who served Kings, using their skills in interpreting dreams and watching movements of stars. The sixth century Italian tradition, that there were three Magi, Casper, Balthazar, and Melchior, is based on the fact that three gifts are mentioned in Matthew's Gospel: gold, frankincense and myrrh. The Magi may actually have been Persian priests or Babylonian astronomers or Nabataean spice-traders. Eventually, however, they were pictured as representatives of different peoples and races. The Orthodox Church holds that the Magi consisted of twelve Kings, corresponding in number to the twelve tribes of Israel.

Today's Hymns

Processional Hymn

#57 O Come, All Ye Faithful

Hymn to the Holy Spirit

#144 Come, Thou Creator

Offertory Hymn

#83 We Three Kings of Orient Are

Communion Hymn

#42 Silent Night

Recessional Hymn

#80 Joy to the World

WORSHIP SERVICES

Wednesday, January 1

Solemnity – Circumcision of our Lord

12:00 Noon – Holy Mass

Sunday, January 5

Solemnity – Holy Family
& Epiphany of the Lord

12:00 Noon – Holy Mass with the blessing of families, and the blessing of incense, charcoal & chalk

Sunday, January 12

Solemnity – Baptism of the Lord

12:00 Noon – Holy Mass

Sunday, January 19

2 Ordinary Sunday

12:00 Noon – Holy Mass

PASTOR'S

DIRECT PHONE NUMBER

In case of all regular Parish issues please call Fr. Mariusz at 215-535-4978. This number is always linked to pastor's cell phone, so in case of real emergency please also use this number.

PASTOR'S ADDRESS

2330 Margaret St.
Philadelphia, PA 19137

BULLETIN INFORMATION

If you have any information which supposed to be in our parish bulletin, please call or email Fr. Mariusz. Due date for each bulletin is always Friday, 4:00 p.m.

INTENTIONS:

My Brothers and Sisters: Our prayers are needed: For the increase in men called to the priesthood and diaconate of the Polish National Catholic Church; For the health and growth of our Parish; For all of the sick and homebound members of our Parish; For the health and wellbeing of Howard Friedman, Michael and Bernice Muha, Stanley Sostak, Janet Caruso, Michael and Patricia Havrilla, Gerry Brunson, Frank and Shellie Fisher, Anthony Tonzini, Gregg Smith, Clint Koch, Duane Schulte, Bill and Bernice Biroscak, Stephanie Besterce, David Potts, Andrew Chernesky, Joan Piechota, John Smith, Ernie Hoffman, John and Jane Aldershoff, Peggy Harris, Ina Reese, Bob Stutz, Tom Goff, David Gavenda, Michelle Freer, Kay Stampone, James Stenz, Dorothy Nabinger, John Russell, Ronald Brower, Dorothy Zytczk. Jan Cherneski, Beverly Wunderlich, Peggy Kowalik, Thomas Oliver, Sally Bisch, Bea and Stan Sub, Ruth Mechowski, Ewelina Mendelewski-Filyushchenko, Richard Golazewski

For the repose of the soul of all our parishioners who passed away.

Our Father...

Parish Committee meeting Today, Sunday, January 5, 2020, after Mass

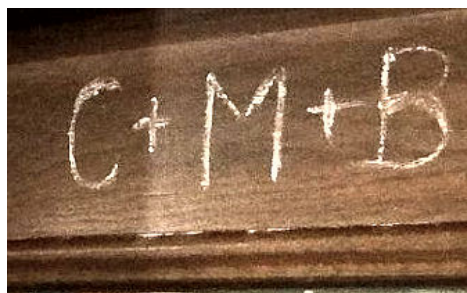
HOLY FAMILY SUNDAY AND EPIPHANY

The Solemnity of The Epiphany is this year on Monday, January 6, therefore we can combine this solemnity with The Holy Family and celebrate them both today, on Sunday, January 5.

The Church blesses on that day the Families, the incense, charcoal & chalk.

Using the blessed chalk please write on your door the inscription C+M+B 2020 or 20+C+M+B+20. This is a very old Polish custom.

C, M and B **are not** the initials for the traditional names of the Magi (Caspar, Melchior and Balthasar), like many people think, but they are the abbreviation of the Latin blessing **Christus mansionem benedicat**, which means, May Christ bless this house.



OUR SAVIOUR CHRISTMAS DINNER

Our annual Christmas Dinner will be held next Sunday, **January 12, at 2:00 PM** in the Fellowship Hall. Tickets will be:

ADULTS \$12.00 CHILDREN (under 12) \$3.00

We hope that everyone will be able to attend and that they will bring family, loved ones and friends for the good food and Christian Fellowship that we always enjoy at these events.

