

# St. Gianna Beretta Molla Parish

## Roman Catholic Church

*"All the strength of Satan's reign is due to lukewarm Catholics."* St. Pius X  
**AN OASIS OF FAITH AT THE GATEWAY TO THE SHORE**

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### ST. GIANNA PARISH SERVED BY

Rev. Anthony J. Manuppella, Pastor

#### Part-Time Parochial Vicar

Rev. Franklin Opara, MSSCC

#### In Residence

Rev. Sunny Mathew

Mr. George Del Rossi, Deacon

### PARISH STAFF

#### Parish Secretary/Bulletin Editor

Claudia A. Costa

#### Parish Finance Manager, Anne

Hyatt

#### Director of Music, Dr. Michael

Phelps

#### Director of Religious Education

Mrs. Cece Whittaker -DiAngelo

### MASS SCHEDULE

Monday-Friday 8:30 AM (English)

Friday 7:00 PM (Spanish)

Saturday Vigil: 4:30 PM

Sunday: 8:00 & 10:00 AM (English)

12 Noon: Traditional Latin Mass

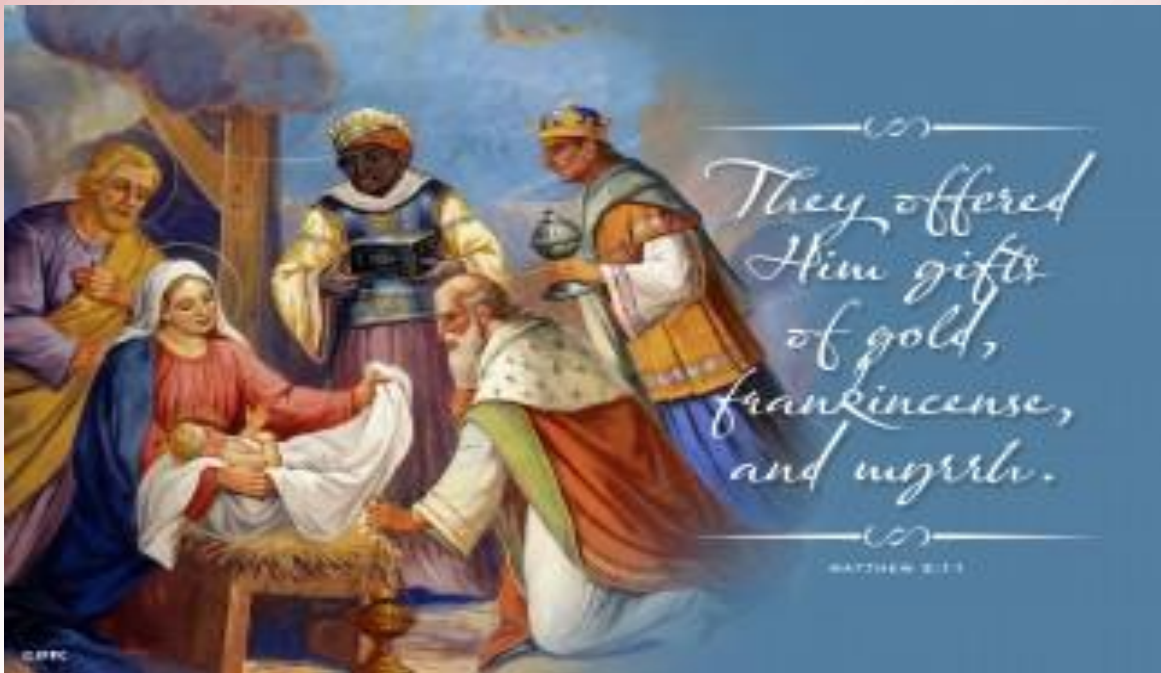
2:00 PM (Spanish)

#### Holy Days of Obligation

Vigil Mass: 7:00 PM

Holy Day: 8:30 AM & 12 Noon

7:00 PM Bilingual



## THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

### JANUARY 8, 2023

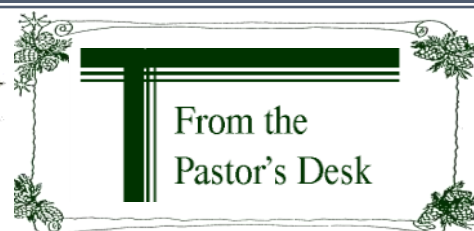
#### HYMNS FOR THE WEEKEND

ENTRANCE: # 822 in the St. Michael Hymnal "We Three Kings"

OFFERTORY: # 582 in the St. Michael Hymnal "In the Bleak Midwinter"

COMMUNION: # 780 "The First Noel"

CLOSING: # 600 in the St. Michael Hymnal "Joy to the World"



## Feast of the Epiphany

Several years ago, while in New York City, Manhattan, I had the opportunity to visit the Metropolitan Museum of Art. There, I noticed a little chained off exhibit with a sign hanging before it: "Masterpiece of the Month." The choice for January that year was the picture: The Adoration of the Magi. There was our Blessed Mother holding the Infant, St. Joseph standing proudly by, the shepherds in awe and wonder, and on their knees before the Child were the Three Wise Men offering their gifts. The colors and expressions were remarkable.

Today, we celebrate the Feast of the Epiphany—the day when the gentile Kings or Wise Men arrived from afar to worship Christ. But I would like to call it not merely the masterpiece of the month, but the masterpiece of all ages. Why? Because those Wise Men started something. They started a procession of countless wise men and women who, down the centuries since that time have been taking long journeys to find the Infant Christ under the mantle of Holy Mother Church.

Epiphany has been called the Feast Day of Converts, in the sense that every convert to the Catholic Church is a follower, a companion of the original Wise Men. Only Converts themselves know what long, arduous and difficult journeys they have had to make to find the Christ. Only they know what Faith and Courage it took to take the step into the Church.

Today, I want to say that we are mighty proud of all the converts in our Parish. We are proud of the fine qualities of mind and heart you have shown throughout your instructions and in your life as Catholics. The Church, your Parish, your Priest, are proud of you!

I also want you to know, our dear converts, men and women, that you are not alone. You are but a part of a magnificent procession of brilliant men and women, a procession that started on the first Epiphany when the learned men from the East came to Christ, a procession that has included some of the greatest Saints, some of the greatest intellectual giants of all times.

Outstanding among these is Cardinal Newman—undoubtedly the keenest intellect of the last century and perhaps many centuries. For forty-five years, he was an intellectual, religious and educational leader in England. But, like the Wise Men of old, he read history, he studied the stars, he studied and thought and prayed himself into the Catholic Church. We have named many Newman clubs and various Universities after him.

Books have been written about these modern Wise Men. In every country, there are countless leaders, statesmen, authors, poets, statesmen, doctors, educators, scientists, protestant ministers and even Bishops who have found their way into the Catholic Church. You, dear converts, are in that caravan. You are in the procession marching to the crib of Christ. You are in the very best company.



Perhaps you were somewhat surprised at things and conditions as you found them in the Catholic Church. Perhaps it was not as ideal as you had hoped or supposed. Perhaps you were somewhat disappointed. Imagine the Wise Men when they came to the lowly stable. Don't you think they might have wished that things had been more pleasant—for Christ and for those who elected to follow Him?

With the Faith and Courage of those Wise Men you also fell down and adored. Yes, you are a part of the masterpiece of all ages—the masterpiece of God's mercy and goodness. Another cause for happiness is that, as converts, you have brought gifts for Christ. You have brought the gold of life that fills your hearts. You have brought the gift of frankincense, fragrant and delightful to God in the form of your virtues. Yes, and you have brought the bitter myrrh, symbolic of the difficulties, the pain and even the torture you went through to find Christ.

All these you have generously, intelligently and lovingly placed at Christ's feet, knowing that He would accept—knowing that He would bless. For you, particularly, and for all Catholics, Epiphany is a day of special significance. The shepherds we saw on Christmas were simple, frank, uneducated, but sincere in coming to Christ, and soon after came the Magi, Wise Men, learned men. You will always find the simple-hearted and the intellectual side by side at the crib. God grant to all of us the humility and simplicity of the shepherd! God grant to all of us the wisdom of the Wise Men! Humbly and wisely, may we seek Him and adore Him! Find your way to the crib. Be another shepherd, another Wise Man!



*With Gratitude!*



Many Parishioners sent cards, gifts and generous expressions to the Priests of St. Gianna at Christmas. Fr. Anthony, Fr. Mathew, and Fr. Opara wish to acknowledge their appreciation and gratitude for the multitude of remembrances. A sincere "Thank you" to all!

### CHRISTMAS CALLS

We hope that you received and enjoyed your Christmas message from Fr. Anthony this year. *You didn't?* Do you have a new phone number? Did you notify the Parish office of the change??? If not, please call us ASAP to update our database so that you can receive important information and special greetings throughout the year. Thank you!





## 8 (Spiritual) New Year's Resolutions for Catholics by Gretchen Filz

January is here again, and it's time to make the annual New Year's resolutions. Every Catholic should add to their list a few spiritual resolutions designed to help them walk higher up that mountain of faith. Let the freshness of a new year be your impetus to make new strides in your walk with God! There is no time but the present! Here are some ideas.

**1. Increase Your Marian Devotion.** 2022 marked the 105th anniversary of the apparitions of the Blessed Virgin Mary to three shepherd children at Fatima, Portugal. In this most prophetic of all Marian apparitions, Our Lady of Fatima made urgent pleas for mankind to reform themselves and pray her rosary daily, along with other grave messages and warnings with dire consequences for the entire world. Her messages were then authenticated on October 13, 1917 with an undisputed public miracle of biblical proportions, when an estimated 70,000 people were gathered to witness what became known as the Miracle of the Sun. However, Our Lady's pleas were not heeded, and the last century has seen a widespread loss of Christian faith, breakdowns in marriages and families, and a rejection of basic morality. This affects all of us, and, as a result, anxiety and depression have risen to epidemic levels. The way to turn back to God is the same way that God came to us — through the Blessed Mother. In 2023, commit yourself to increasing your Marian devotion so that she may lead you to deeper conversion, to follow God's will for your life more perfectly, and to increase your faith and trust in Jesus Christ. Continue reading *How to Live the Message of Our Lady of Fatima*



**2. Make more time for Spiritual reading.** The brilliant St. Athanasius once said, "You will not see anyone who is striving after his advancement who is not given to spiritual reading. And as to him who neglects it, the fact will soon be observed in his [lack of] progress." If you want to make progress in your walk with God in 2023, spiritual reading should be high on your list. Your best bet is to stick to the classics written by Catholic saints known for their practical spiritual wisdom — such as Teresa of Avila, Francis de Sales, Therese of Lisieux, and John of the Cross. There are also audio books available for many classic Catholic titles. You can also get lots of salient snippets from classic Catholic works by reading our daily Morning Offering email. The four Gospels and the letters of St. Peter and St. Paul are also excellent choices for reading. If you struggle with finding the time to read, make a list of books that you'd like to complete in 2023 and pray that God will show you how you can find the time to read them. Maybe it will mean cutting out TV time or slimming back on unnecessary social activities. The time you spend feeding your soul is time better spent.

**3. Make good Stewardship a lifestyle.** Pope Francis has often spoken of the dangers of materialism, even writing an encyclical on the subject, *Laudato Si*, which calls us to greater justice in how we use the goods of this world. This boils down to one key concept in the life of the Christian: practicing good stewardship over the gifts God has given us. This means good management of our "time, talent, and treasure" for the greater glory of God. As Jesus warned us in his parables, all of his servants will be judged on how they used the graces he gave them. Do we neglect them and spend them selfishly, or are we generous in building up God's kingdom on earth? Prayerfully evaluate how you will spend your time, your talents, and your income in 2023 to see what lifestyle changes you can make that will positively impact your spiritual life. Make it big. God cannot be outdone in generosity!

**4. Share your Catholic Faith with others.** With so many people far away from God today (and with more and more people noticing it), the culture is ripe for evangelism. There is a palpable hunger for God and his Truth. Modern Catholics aren't usually great about sharing their faith with others, but this is something that can change with practice. You don't have to be obnoxious or overbearing about your faith, just focus on doing simple things like being joyful in your walk with Christ or inviting people to come to Mass with you. Another good idea is to buy some sacramental in bulk, get them blessed, and hand them out to people as the Holy Spirit leads. If someone you know is going through a difficult time and you hand them a Miraculous Medal or a prayer card out of a stash you always keep handy, it might be for them the touch of God in that moment.

**5. Bring back regular penances.** Living a penitential life, even outside of Advent and Lent, is the Catholic way of life. All of the Church's saints performed penances habitually, either internally or externally, great and small, for themselves and for others. Many do not know that the Fridays outside of Lent are also days of abstinence and fasting. While the Church law against eating meat on the Fridays outside of Lent was lifted by the U.S. bishops, it is meant to be substituted with some other form of penance in order to continue to give special reverence to the day of the week on which Our Lord died on the cross. What penitential practice can you do each Friday? Maybe it is tried-and-true abstinence from meat, or perhaps another penitential practice such as praying the Stations of the Cross, or even acts of service for the less fortunate. Be creative. Remember that penances aren't meant to be pleasant at first, but the graces that come from them grow sweeter with time.

**6. Go an extra day to Mass.** Mass is not only the source and summit of our faith, it is the source and summit of our very life. For 2023 think of ways you can arrange your schedule and activities so that you can make it to Mass either an extra day each week, or a few extra days a month. If you have trouble with this due to a packed schedule, pray and ask Our Lord to help you find the time. Maybe it will involve switching a travel route, or leaving for work an hour early, skipping lunch, or missing a regular Saturday morning activity for one Saturday a month. Check all the parishes in your area and their Mass times and see what can be done, and remember that daily Masses are usually only 30 minutes long. If still impossible with your schedule, find out when your local parishes keep their doors open, and try to add time for Adoration outside of Mass, even if just for 15 minutes.

**7. Pray the Rosary.** No Catholic list of New Year's resolutions would be complete without a daily rosary added in. If you already pray the rosary daily, that is fantastic. Your resolution can then be to spread devotion to the rosary in 2023. There are many ways you can do this. You can purchase inexpensive rosaries in bulk, get them blessed, and hand them out as the opportunity arises. You can also invite others to pray the rosary with you, teach others how to pray it, or encourage those who don't pray it daily to do so. Tell them about Our Lady's promises to those who pray the rosary. Maybe they don't know that the rosary is a spiritual weapon that will help them fight all their personal battles. If your parish doesn't have a regular time set aside for the faithful to come together to pray the rosary, for example before or after Mass on any given day, start it up in 2023.

**8. Pick a new Saint buddy.** Why not begin the tradition of walking along your pilgrimage of faith with a different Catholic saint each year? There are so many of them with unique graces to bestow. Pray about your New Year and the goals you have for your spiritual life, your family, your relationships, your career, etc. Then choose a patron saint whose virtues you would like to emulate in the New Year, and entrust your year to their special intercession. This is a great way to guard against the typical two week lifespan of New Year's resolutions; with a new saint by your side praying for you, it will be a lot harder for your goals to slip away. There may be a particular saint whom you already admire, but to whom you have never prayed or had a devotion. Ask this saint to be your guide for 2023.



## MASS SCHEDULE

Monday-Friday 8:30 AM (English)  
Friday 7:00 PM (Spanish)

Saturday Vigil: 4:30 PM

Sunday: 8:00 & 10:00 AM (English)  
12 Noon: Traditional Latin Mass  
2:00 PM (Spanish)

### Holy Days of Obligation

Vigil Mass: 7:00 PM

Holy Day: 8:30 AM & 12 Noon  
7:00 PM Bilingual

### Reconciliation

Saturday: 3:00 - 4:30 PM (English)  
Saturday: 7:30-8:30 PM (Spanish)  
Anytime by Appointment

### Parish Office Business Hours

Monday through Thursday  
9:00 AM to 4:00 PM



## EMAIL SOLICITATIONS FROM PARISH STAFF

**Y**our Parish Priests and staff members will never contact you via email to ask that you provide them with gifts cards or assist them financially in a crisis situation. If you receive an email which is seemingly being sent by a Priest or Staff member requesting financial assistance of any kind, please DO NOT respond to it but report it to the parish office immediately.

**P**riests and Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion are readily available to bring Holy Communion to the homes of the sick on a schedule agreeable to the sick person. If you or someone that you know is a shut-in and would like to receive the Sacrament, please let us know by contacting the Parish office.

**P**lease remember that family and friends for whose intentions the Mass is being offered are invited to bring up the Offertory Gifts at the Mass. Before the Liturgy begins, please indicate your intention to one of our Ushers.

**O**ur Parish community extends its deepest condolences to the family and friends of Angelina J. Martirone. May her soul and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God rest in peace.

### Be a Server at the Altar!

**W**e are in need of Adults who are available to become Altar Servers and help at Funerals, Weddings, daily Mass, and other holidays when our youth is not available. If you are interested please see Father Anthony after Mass or call the Parish office (609-646-5611).

### BINGO EVERY WEDNESDAY & SATURDAY

Doors Open at 8:30AM, Parish Hall  
Instant winners & Progressive Jackpots. Also, coffee, bagels, donuts and lots of fun. Come & join us!

**O** Prince of Peace, we humbly ask your protection for all our Men and Women in the Military Service. Give them courage to defend with honor, dignity and devotion the rights of all who are imperiled by injustice and evil. Protect them and bring them home safely. Amen.



**PARISHIONERS, VISITORS, AND FRIENDS, MAY OUR DEAR  
LORD BLESS YOU AND YOUR LOVED ONES  
WITH A SAFE, HEALTHY, AND BLESSED 2023!!**





#### SATURDAY, JANUARY 7

4:30PM Rev. Mick Lambeth r/b Justin McCarthy

#### SUNDAY, JANUARY 8

8:00AM Leo Barone Jr. r/b Justine O'Brien & Family

10:00AM Monir Gayed r/b Renee & Charbel Fleifel  
Edward Cramer r/b Pat Maccagnano  
Dorothea Guokas r/b Dan & Patti Delmonte

12Noon Giovanna Amato r/b Raymond Sands

2:00PM Juan A. Ayamamani r/b Familia

#### MONDAY, JANUARY 9

8:30AM Jack Haftner r/b BINGO Volunteers

#### TUESDAY, JANUARY 10

8:30AM Adelon Cabrezos r/b Olivia Pacana

#### WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 11

8:30AM Special Intention r/b Barabara Costello

#### THURSDAY, JANUARY 12

8:30 AM Helen Chiodo r/b Letitia Montes

#### FRIDAY, JANUARY 13

8:30AM Living & Deceased Members of the Parish

7:00PM Mass in Spanish

#### SATURDAY, JANUARY 14

4:30PM Elizabeth Laphen r/b Carmen & Barbara Faia

#### SUNDAY, JANUARY 15

8:00AM Joseph Ganiel r/b Smail Family

10:00AM Intentions of Rev. Franklin Opara r/b Gwen  
& Charles Coyle  
James Pontari r/b Marlene Pontari  
Dorothea Guokas r/b Michael & Nancy  
Fitzgerald

12 Noon Joseph Ganiel r/b Smail Family

2 PM Aniversario de la Muerte de Maria Christina  
Merito r/b La Familia

**JANUARY 7 – JANUARY 13**

**THE SANCTUARY LAMP WILL BURN**  
(Above the Main Altar)

**IN LOVING MEMORY OF**  
**RALPH AND FEDORA PHILLIP**

Requested By  
**PHILLIP FAMILY**



#### LAMPS FOR THE ALTARS

**SANCTUARY, BLESSED MOTHER'S ALTAR  
AND ST. JOSEPH'S ALTAR**

After many requests, we are happy to report that you will have the opportunity to dedicate the candle lamps burning at the altars of St. Joseph and our Blessed Mother (right and left of the main altar) as we do with the Sanctuary lamp above the main altar. These lamps will also burn for one week for the intentions of a particular person or in memory of a loved one. Kindly complete the form below and return it to the Parish office. Your request for the lamps (Sanctuary, Blessed Mother/St. Joseph's altars) will be sequentially (on a first-come, first-served basis) assigned and will be announced and published in the Parish bulletin.

#### LAMP REQUEST

Circle one: In Memory of Intentions of

Requested by:

Phone #:

Circle one:

SANCTUARY B. MOTHER ST. JOSEPH

**Father's Quick Quote:**

"No matter where you've been  
or what you've been through,

you can always  
start fresh.""



# Parish Notes

A warm welcome is extended to all who have come to the Faith community of St. Gianna Beretta Molla Parish this weekend to join us in worship. We are grateful to our faithful Parishioners who come every weekend and we welcome **all** of our neighbors and guests who visit us occasionally. Thank you for being here!

If you are not receiving envelopes or regular mailings from us and you usually join us for worship, please register! *You are important to us and hopefully we are to you.* Let us know who you are. Registration forms can be taken from the racks at the Church doors. Registration in the Parish facilitates access to the Religious Education Program and other Parish ministries. Also, it enables the Parish to provide Certificates of Eligibility to serve as Sponsors at Baptism and Confirmation.

## REQUESTS FOR ELIGIBILITY CERTIFICATES

The role of a sponsor is primarily a Spiritual role to model a Christian life for the child. Therefore, anyone requesting a certificate **must** be a registered, **participating** member of St. Gianna Beretta Molla Parish, a **practicing** Catholic in good standing (not living in violation of the Church laws), at least 16 years of age and **have received the sacraments of initiation** (Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist). Please call the Parish office to make an appointment.

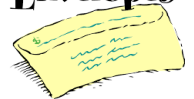
## Sacrament of Marriage

Couples planning to marry at St. Gianna are expected to contact the Priest to arrange a date and time **FIRST**. Second, they must attend the Pre-Cana conferences as mandated by the Most Reverend Bishop. The period of preparation for marriage is a minimum of **six** months to ensure completion of all arrangements before the wedding day. Please contact the Parish office for more information.

### MARRIAGE PREPARATION – PRE-CANA

Our Lady of the Angels, 35 E. Mechanic St., Cape May Court House, NJ 08210  
For information and to register for the class please call 609-287-9205 or 609-827-2127.

We are sincerely thankful to you for your cooperation in using contribution envelopes **Offering Envelopes** each Sunday. It shows not only good example but **helps us** in our system of running your Parish since donations are recorded by your I.D. # on your envelope. **PLEASE** we encourage **EVERYONE** to use contribution envelopes. If you would like to request them, please contact the Parish office. **Thank you!**



We would like to thank

J & M

609-600-4628

LICENSED & INSURED – FREE ESTIMATES

JandMPaintingAC@gmail.com

for advertising in our weekly Bulletin.

**GIVE**  
*the Gift of Giving*

## REPORT SEXUAL ABUSE

An independent, toll-free number has been established by the Diocese of Camden to help callers report cases of sexual abuse by priests, deacons, religious, employees and/or volunteers. Calls are handled by a Licensed Clinical Social Worker. In accordance with state law, cases of child sexual abuse are reported to the N.J. Division of Child Protection and Permanency and law enforcement. For more information or to inquire about counseling and support services, call 1-800-964-6588



**FIRST READING: A READING FROM THE PROPHET ISAIAH**

**R**ise up in splendor, Jerusalem! Your light has come, the glory of the Lord shines upon you. See, darkness covers the earth, and thick clouds cover the peoples; but upon you the LORD shines, and over you appears his glory. Nations shall walk by your light, and kings by your shining radiance. Raise your eyes and look about; they all gather and come to you: your sons come from afar, and your daughters in the arms of their nurses. Then you shall be radiant at what you see, your heart shall throb and overflow, for the riches of the sea shall be emptied out before you, the wealth of nations shall be brought to you. Caravans of camels shall fill you, dromedaries from Midian and Ephah; all from Sheba shall come bearing gold and frankincense, and proclaiming the praises of the LORD.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God**

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: *R. Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.*

O God, with your judgment endow the king, and with your justice, the king's son;  
He shall govern your people with justice and your afflicted ones with judgment. **R.**

Justice shall flower in his days, and profound peace, till the moon be no more.  
May he rule from sea to sea, and from the River to the ends of the earth. **R.**

The kings of Tarshish and the Isles shall offer gifts;  
the kings of Arabia and Seba shall bring tribute.  
All kings shall pay him homage, all nations shall serve him. **R.**

For he shall rescue the poor when he cries out,  
and the afflicted when he has no one to help him.  
He shall have pity for the lowly and the poor; the lives of the poor he shall save. **R.**

**SECOND READING: A READING FROM THE LETTER OF SAINT PAUL TO THE EPHESIANS**

**B**rothers and sisters: You have heard of the stewardship of God's grace that was given to me for your benefit, namely, that the mystery was made known to me by revelation. It was not made known to people in other generations as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit: that the Gentiles are coheirs, members of the same body, and copartners in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel. . The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God**

**R. Alleluia, alleluia.**

*We saw his star at its rising and have come to do him homage.*

**R. Alleluia, alleluia.**

**A READING FROM THE HOLY GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW**

**W**hen 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.

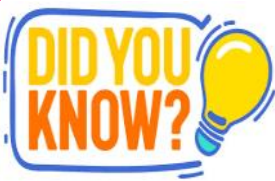
The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ**

PLEASE REMEMBER TO PICK UP YOUR 2023 BOXED SET OF CONTRIBUTION ENVELOPES PLACED ON THE TABLES AT THE SIDE ENTRANCE OF THE CHURCH.

*If you or someone that you know need us to mail or deliver their boxed set of contribution envelopes please let us know by calling the Parish office.*



God has given us all things richly to enjoy and is offering us a new opportunity to say “yes” to Him. Mary, whose own “yes” made possible the birth of Jesus, serves as a wonderful model and support for our Christmas journey. Let us be generous with gifts we can give to others. To be a good steward is to be conscious that all things we have on earth are generous gifts from God. Stewardship is to care, to have concern, and to give thanks by giving of what has been given to us.



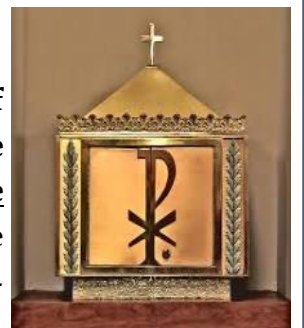
The term "Christmas season" is considered synonymous with Christmastide, which runs from December 25 (Christmas Day) to January 7 (Twelfth Night or Epiphany Eve), popularly

known as the 12 Days of Christmas. However, according to the Roman Catholic liturgical calendar, Ordinary Time doesn't officially begin until the Monday (January 9, 2023) after the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord, which (usually) falls on the Sunday *after* Epiphany (January 8th). This means that the Christmas season actually extends beyond the popular "Twelve Days of Christmas."



### THE LORD'S REAL PRESENCE

We are fortunate enough to worship in a Church in which the **Body of Christ** is reserved. It is right to acknowledge the **Lord's Real Presence** with a brief act of worship on entering or leaving the Church and every time passing by the Sanctuary. Normally, a *genuflection* in the direction of the place of Reservation is enough. One who is physically unable to genuflect may substitute a *profound bow* at the waist.



If You Cannot Be On Time, Then Be EARLY.

Making Time For Prayer Strengthens Our Connection with God



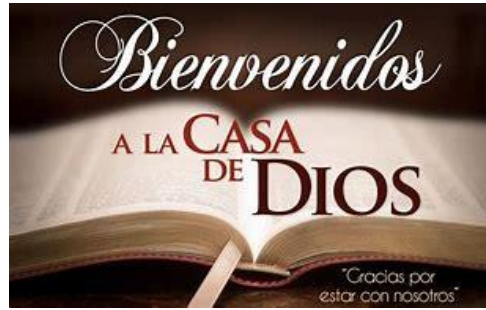


**H**ace varios años, mientras visitaba Manhattan en la ciudad de New York City, tuve la oportunidad de visitar el Museo Metropolitano de Arte. Allí, noté una obra de arte que estaba en exposición con un letrero que decía: "Obra Maestra del mes." La elección de ese año durante el mes de enero, fue la imagen de la Adoración de los Tres Reyes Magos. Allí se podía observar a nuestra Santísima Madre sosteniendo al Niño Dios, San José orgullosamente parado a su lado, a los pastores con sus caras de asombro y maravillados, y se podía observar a los tres Reyes Magos arrodillados ante el niño Jesús ofreciéndole sus regalos. Los colores y las expresiones de esta obra maestra eran dignas de admiración. Esta es la imagen que nuestra Madre Iglesia nos presenta en esta época del año. Hoy celebramos la festividad de la Epifanía, el día cuando los Reyes gentiles o Sabios del Oriente llegan desde lejos a adorar a Cristo. Sin embargo, yo no hubiese llamado a esa obra de arte la "Obra de Arte del Mes" sino la Obra de Arte de todos los tiempos. ¿Por qué? Porque aquellos sabios del Oriente iniciaron un desfile de innumerables sabios, hombres y mujeres, que a partir de ese momento y a través de los siglos emprendieron largos viajes para encontrar al Cristo Niño bajo el manto de la Santa Madre Iglesia. A la Epifanía del Señor se le llama también la *Fiesta de los Convertidos* porque en cierto sentido cada persona que se convierte a la fe Católica emprende un viaje en busca de Dios.

Estamos muy orgullosos de todas las personas que dieron el paso para convertirse a la fe Católica. También quiero que sepan, que no están solos. Forman parte de la magnífica procesión de brillantes hombres y mujeres que comenzaron su viaje en la primera Epifanía, cuando los sabios del Oriente vinieron a adorar a Cristo. Una procesión que ha incluido santos y algunos de los más grandes intelectuales de todos los tiempos. Entre ellos se destaca el Cardenal Newman, sin duda, uno de los intelectuales más importantes del siglo pasado y quizá de todos los siglos. Como todos los sabios de la antigüedad, leía historia, estudió las estrellas, se educó a si mismo y se convirtió a la iglesia Católica. En todos los países, hay innumerables líderes, personajes con liderazgo, autores, poetas, estadistas, médicos, educadores, científicos, ministros protestantes y hasta obispos que han encontrado su camino en la Iglesia Católica.

Ustedes están en esa caravana; en esa procesión que se dirige a la cuna de Cristo. Tal vez se sorprenda de las cosas y condiciones que encontrara en la iglesia católica. Tal vez no encuentre lo que había esperado. Tal vez se decepcione un poco porque hubiese querido que las cosas fueran de otra manera. Pero piense en los Reyes Magos cuando llegaron al establo. ¿No cree que a ellos les hubiese gustado que las cosas hubiesen sido más agradables para Cristo Jesús y para aquellos que decidieron seguirlo? Con la fe y el coraje de aquellos hombres sabios del Oriente usted también se arrodilló para adorar al Niño Dios. Sí, usted también es parte de esa Obra Maestra de todos los tiempos — la Obra Maestra de Misericordia y Bondad de Dios. Ustedes también le han traído regalos a Cristo. Han traído el oro de la vida que llena sus corazones. Han traído el regalo de incienso fragante y agradable a Dios en la forma de sus virtudes. Y también han traído la amarga mirra, símbolo de las dificultades, el dolor y la tortura por la que pasó para encontrar a Cristo. Todos estos obsequios fueron colocados generosa y amorosamente a los pies de Cristo, sabiendo que Él los aceptará y bendecirá. Para usted, particularmente y para todos los católicos, Epifanía es un día de especial significado. Los pastores que en Navidad vimos eran simples, francos, sin educación. Poco después vinieron los Magos, hombres sabios y educados. Usted siempre encontrará a las personas intelectuales y a las personas simples al lado de la cuna del pesebre. Oremos para que Dios nos conceda a todos nosotros la humildad y la sencillez de los pastores, la sabiduría de los sabios. Que tengamos la sabiduría y la humildad de buscar y adorar a Dios. Que usted encuentre el camino a la cuna del Señor y que sea un verdadero pastor, un verdadero sabio.





## MISAS EN ESPAÑOL

VIERNES 7 PM

DOMINGOS 2 PM

**S**i usted visita semanalmente Santa Gianna y aún no se ha registrado formalmente en la parroquia, por favor hágalo. Las planillas de registración están ubicadas en el vestibule de la iglesia. El proceso de registración es simple pero muy importante para la administración de nuestra iglesia y para servir mejor a nuestra comunidad. **También Necesitamos de su Colaboración...** Para mantener los archivos de nuestra parroquia en orden. Por favor comuníquese con la oficina parroquial si desea solicitar sobres de contribución, cambiar su número telefónico, su estado civil o su domicilio. Gracias!

**P**or favor por cortesía a toda la comunidad que se presenta en Misa, si sus niños están inquietos y pueden, de alguna manera, servir de distracción, diríjase al cuarto que está designado para niños en frente de la sacristía. Si no encuentra el cuarto, por favor, contáctelos algunos de los Ushers. Gracias por su colaboración.

**P**or favor recordémos en nuestras oraciones a todos aquellos que no están pasando por un buen momento en éstos días; especialmente los que se encuentran en hospitales y casas para ancianos y muy especialmente recordemos a todos aquellos que están terminalmente enfermos.

EL SANTISIMO SACRAMENTO ESTA PRESENTE EN NUESTRA IGLESIA. UNA PROFUNDA SALUTACION AL ENTRAR Y AL SALIR DE LA IGLESIA ES RECOMENDABLE. TAMBIEN LE RECORDAMOS POR FAVOR GUARDAR SILENCIO DENTRO DE LA IGLESIA POR RESPETO A LAS PERSONAS QUE ESTAN ORANDO. GRACIAS.

**R**ecuerden: Los Bautismos se celebran los **Primeros Sábados** de cada mes a las **11 AM**. Por favor llame a la oficina Parroquial para hacer los arreglos administrativos necesarios. La **clase de Preparación Bautismal** para los padres y los padrinos es **obligatoria** y se dicta el **último Viernes** de cada mes inmediatamente después de la Misa en la iglesia.

### **POR FAVOR TOMEN NOTA:** **CONFESIONES EN ESPAÑOL**

VIERNES: 6:00 PM

SABADOS: 7:30 PM

SI USTED NECESITA CONFESARSE FUERA DE ESTE HORARIO POR FAVOR LLAME A LA OFICINA PARROQUIAL LOS DIAS LUNES.

Es necesario el silencio para escuchar la Palabra de Dios, para prepararnos a escuchar esa Palabra. Dios se hizo Palabra en Jesús, y condición para escuchar esa Palabra es el silencio: silencio del corazón, de la mente, de los sentidos, silencio ambiental.

Estamos preparando los Sobres de Contribución para el año 2023. Por favor si desea solicitar un set, llame a la oficina parroquial.

## Solemnidad de la Epifanía del Señor

### PRIMERA LECTURA DEL LIBRO DEL PROFETA ISAIAS

Levántate y resplandece, Jerusalén, porque ha llegado tu luz y la gloria del Señor alborea sobre ti. Mira: las tinieblas cubren la tierra y espesa niebla envuelve a los pueblos; pero sobre ti resplandece el Señor y en ti se manifiesta su gloria. Caminarán los pueblos a tu luz y los reyes, al resplandor de tu aurora. Levanta los ojos y mira alrededor: todos se reúnen y vienen a ti; tus hijos llegan de lejos, a tus hijas las traen en brazos. Entonces verás esto radiante de alegría; tu corazón se alegrará, y se ensanchará, cuando se vuelquen sobre ti los tesoros del mar y te traigan las riquezas de los pueblos. Te inundará una multitud de camellos y dromedarios, procedentes de Madián y de Efá. Vendrán todos los de Sabá trayendo incienso y oro y proclamando las alabanzas del Señor. Palabra de Dios. **Te alabamos Señor.**

**SALMO RESPONSORIAL: R. *Que te adoren, Señor, todos los pueblos.***

Comunica, Señor, al rey tu juicio y tu justicia, al que es hijo de reyes; así tu siervo saldrá en defensa de tus pobres y regirá a tu pueblo justamente. **R.**

Florecerá en sus días la justicia y reinará la paz, era tras era.  
De mar a mar se extenderá su reino y de un extremo al otro de la tierra. **R.**

Los reyes de occidente y de las islas le ofrecerán sus dones.  
Ante él se postrarán todos los reyes y todas las naciones. **R.**

Al débil librará del poderoso y ayudará al que se encuentra sin amparo;  
se apiadará del desvalido y pobre y salvará la vida al desdichado. **R.**

### LECTURA DE LA CARTA DE SAN PABLO A LOS EFESIOS

**H**ermanos: Han oído hablar de la distribución de la gracia de Dios, que se me ha confiado en favor de ustedes. Por revelación se me dio a conocer este misterio, que no había sido manifestado a los hombres en otros tiempos, pero que ha sido revelado ahora por el Espíritu a sus santos apóstoles y profetas: es decir, que por el Evangelio, también los paganos son coherederos de la misma herencia, miembros del mismo cuerpo y partícipes de la misma promesa en Jesucristo. Palabra de Dios. **Te alabamos Señor.**

R. Aleluya, aleluya.

Hemos visto su estrella en el oriente y hemos venido a adorar al Señor.

R. Aleluya.

### LECTURA DEL SANTO EVANGELIO SEGUN SAN MATEO

**J**esús nació en Belén de Judá, en tiempos del rey Herodes. Unos magos de oriente llegaron entonces a Jerusalén y preguntaron: “¿Dónde está el rey de los judíos que acaba de nacer? Porque vimos surgir su estrella y hemos venido a adorarlo”. Al enterarse de esto, el rey Herodes se sobresaltó y toda Jerusalén con él. Convocó entonces a los sumos sacerdotes y a los escribas del pueblo y les preguntó dónde tenía que nacer el Mesías. Ellos le contestaron: “En Belén de Judá, porque así lo ha escrito el profeta: *Y tú, Belén, tierra de Judá, no eres en manera alguna la menor entre las ciudades ilustres de Judá, pues de ti saldrá un jefe, que será el pastor de mi pueblo, Israel*”. Entonces Herodes llamó en secreto a los magos, para que le precisaran el tiempo en que se les había aparecido la estrella y los mandó a Belén, diciéndoles: “Vayan a averiguar cuidadosamente qué hay de ese niño y, cuando lo encuentren, avísenme para que yo también vaya a adorarlo”. Después de oír al rey, los magos se pusieron en camino, y de pronto la estrella que habían visto surgir, comenzó a guiarlos, hasta que se detuvo encima de donde estaba el niño. Al ver de nuevo la estrella, se llenaron de inmensa alegría. Entraron en la casa y vieron al niño con María, su madre, y postrándose, lo adoraron. Después, abriendo sus cofres, le ofrecieron regalos: oro, incienso y mirra. Advertidos durante el sueño de que no volvieran a Herodes, regresaron a su tierra por otro camino.

Palabra del Señor. **Gloria a ti, Señor.**



**FELIZ NAVIDAD!!**



**ATENCION LECTORES!!**

Los libros de práctica para el año entrante ya han arivado. Diríjase a la oficina parroquial para retirar una copia de Lunes a Jueves de 9 de la mañana a 4 de la tarde.

Lo más importante es reconciliarse con Dios a través de un arrepentimiento sincero y humilde.

**ATENCIÓN COMUNIDAD!!**

Estamos en el proceso de formar diferentes grupos que se encarguen de la organización de las distinta festividades de nuestra Santísima Virgen bajo los diferntes países de Latino America. Si usted desea participar por favor comuníquese con Fidelina Acevedo o María Isabel Girón después de la Misa del Domingo. Próxima Festividad:

**Virgen de Altagracia: 21/22 de Enero, 2023**



DIOS LOS BENDIGA CON UN TIEMPO DE NAVIDAD FELÍZ Y UN 2023 PRÓSPERO. QUÉ SUS ALMAS SEAN GUIADAS POR LA LUZ DE CRISTO QUE NACIÓ PARA SALVARNOS.

**PREPARE**

**Sacramento de Penitencia**

*Confesiones 2022*

**TODOS LOS SABADOS DE 7:30 PM**

**A 8:30 PM CON FR. OPARA**



**Denuncie el Abuso Sexual**

Un número telefónico gratuito e independiente ha sido establecido por la Diócesis de Camden para ayudar a las personas a denunciar casos de abusos sexuales por sacerdotes, diáconos, religiosos, empleados y/o voluntarios.

Las llamadas son manejadas por un trabajador social clínico licenciado.

De acuerdo a la ley del estado , los abusos de manores son reportados a la División de Protección de la Infancia y la Permanencia y a la policía.

Para más información o para obtener servicios de consejería y apoyo , llame al 1-800-964-6588

