

January 8, 2017

Epiphany of the Lord

National Migration Week

Is 60:1-6/Ps 72/Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6/Mt 2:1-12

When the Three Kings arrived in Bethlehem, they were carrying The Original Gifts of Christmas

Gold ✦ Frankincense ✦ Myrrh

Gold – the Gift given by Melchior, a king of Arabia. He is said to have been the oldest of the Three Kings.

Frankincense – the Gift given by Balthazar, a king from Saba – present day Yemen. Frankincense is resin from the dried sap of the Boswellia tree – a tree that has grown on the craggy slopes of the Arabian Sea for thousands of years. In ancient times Frankincense and Gold were equally precious.

Myrrh – the Gift given by Caspar, is also a resin. It was first used by the Egyptians in mummifying the Pharaohs. It was thought to be the key to immortal life.



☪ 10:00 AM ~

✦ In Memory of ~

- Joseph Belpulsi
Req. Debra & Theresa Hamilton
- Kingsley Clarke Req. Mark Clarke

☪ 12 Noon ~

✦ In Memory of ~

- Musafi Jeanne Françoise
Req. Solange Ghunney
- Gerard & Nova Bastien
Req. Myrtha & Pascale

☪ 5:00 PM ~

Prayers for the families in the parish

Anima Christi

Soul of Christ, make Me Holy.
 Body of Christ, Save Me.
 Blood of Christ, Fill Me with Your Love.
 Water from Christ's Side, Wash Me.
 Passion of Christ, Strengthen Me.
 Good Jesus, Hear Me.
 Within Your Wounds, Hide Me.
 Never Let Me Be Parted From You.
 From the Evil Enemy, Protect Me.
 At the Hour of My Death, Call Me,
 and tell Me to
 Come to You, That with Your Saints
 I May Praise You
 Through All Eternity.
 Amen

Food Pantry ✦ Tuesday, January 10th

10:00 AM – 11:30 AM

Bring shopping bags & Acceptable Identification.

Morning Mass – 8:30 AM

Monday – Wednesday – Friday

St. Bonaventure

Tuesday – Thursday ~ St. Benedict the Moor

Weekly Readings & Observances

Monday: **Baptism of the Lord**

Is 42:1-4, 6-7 or Acts 10:34-38/Ps 29/Mt 3:13-17

Tuesday:

Heb 1:1-6 and 2:5-12/Ps 8/Mk 1:14-20 and 1:21-28

Wednesday: Heb 2:14-18/Ps 105/Mk 1:29-39

Thursday: Heb 3:7-14/Ps 95/Mk 1:40-45
Birthday Blessings Angela Lewis

Friday:

St. Hilary, Bishop and Doctor of the Church
Heb 4:1-5, 11/Ps 78/Mk 2:1-12

Saturday: Heb 4:12-16/Ps 19/Mk 2:13-17

Next Sunday:

Is 49:3, 5-6/Ps 40/1 Cor 1:1-3/Jn 1:29-34

Congratulations Vivian Murdock who earned Honor Roll status for the first trimester of 2016-2017 at St. Agnes Academic High School

Faith Formation Classes resumed today
Please be reminded to send your young person to scheduled classes. When they miss a class, they miss a lesson. Also on time! When they are late they disrupt the class. Thank you!

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

In some cultures, on the feast of Epiphany, The initials C+M+B is written in chalk over the doorway.

20+C+M+B+17

Epiphany, like Christmas, is celebrated in various ways by different cultures. The letters are the initials of the traditional names of the Three Magi: Caspar, Melchior, and Balthazar. These letters also abbreviate the Latin phrase *Christus mansionem benedicat*, "May Christ Bless the house." The beginning and ending numbers are the year, 2017 in the example above. The crosses represent Christ.

We are asking God's blessing on the home, marking it as though the Wise Men had come and found therein the Christ Child. It also recalls the marking of the doorways in Egypt with the blood of the lamb so that the angel of death would pass over. God's blessing comes to each home as a source of protection and grace.

In our day and age, the star of Christmas has become a kind of decorative symbol that adorns manger scenes and Christmas trees. It suggests something good and bright and holy, a visual indicator that the "Light of the world" has appeared. But today, on the feast of the Epiphany, we recall that originally, this star was not just a pretty symbolic ornament. This star was a sign from God that intervened in the operations of the physical universe. The Magi understood that this star was sent from God to indicate where his Son would be born.

The beauty of today's feast is found, in part, in the fact that the Magi were able to *recognize* this sign from God. The Magi's were seeking for the Savior. They waited for it, they saw it, and they rejoiced in it. Wise men still seek Him and are overjoyed in this season of God's special revelation to us. We have the gift of faith to give to the new born King.

Let us celebrate! God is at work in our physical world. He has come *here, now* to save us. This is cause for rejoicing!

Our Sacrificial Giving to our Parish



Together let's meet our weekly goal of \$5,000.00

- ✦ New Year's Eve - \$1,204.00
- ✦ 10:00 AM – 173 - \$3,797.00
- ✦ 12 Noon – 91 - \$1,468.00
- ✦ 5:00 PM – 26 - \$265.00

Please consider making your offering to our parish through our Electronic Funds Transfer "Parish Pay"

ParishPay is the easiest and most effective way to give back to our community on a consistent and supportive basis weekly or monthly.

www.ParishPay.com ☞ Diocese: Brooklyn ☞

Our Parish on page 3 ☞ Enroll to give!

A campaign such as *Generation of Faith* does not simply end when all the pledges are collected.

Now is the time when we start to see the wonderful effects of our efforts of our \$501,500.00 pledges! To date \$49,932.00 has been collected. Remember, over 50% of the funds collected will be returned to the parish!

I will like to give my genuine and heartfelt thanks to all the families and individuals that helped make the campaign a success. PLEASE BE SURE TO SEND YOUR PLEDGE PAYMENTS IN BY MAIL OR SUBMIT YOUR PLEDGE TO THE PARISH.

You have the opportunity to submit your pledge in the "Blue Generation of Faith envelopes" or see Angela to enroll into Electronic Payment. You may also visit

www.cfbq/generations/payments. Thank You!

Fitness Class

Thursday's ✦ 7:00 PM

St. Bonaventure Church Hall

Wear workout clothes, Yoga mat & bring towel
\$20.00 per month • Ages 12 & Above!

Foundations for Ministry Program this 10-week program designed for adult learners, covers a different topic each week. For example, The Emerging Role of the Laity; Jesus: His Message, His Ministry; and One Church, Many Faces. Classes begin in September at St. Mary Magdalene, Springfield Gdns. Visit <http://dioceseofbrooklyn.org/get-involved/pastoral-institute/foundations-ministry/> for more information and to register.

Registrations online only! For more information you may also contact the Pastoral Institute at [718/281-9556](tel:7182819556) or at pastoralinstitute@diobrook.org.

Sacred Scripture – Bible Study
"Ephesians - Discover our Inheritance"
Monday, January 23rd ✦ 7:00 PM
St. Benedict the Moor Meeting Room



Stay connected with our parish throughout the week with instant notifications, an easy-to-access event calendar, and the ability to quickly reply to or share messages via Facebook.

Also enjoy a bunch of additional features like prayers, daily readings, helpful reminders to silence your phone before Mass or Confession, and much more.

Help foster a stronger parish life at St. Bonaventure-St. Benedict the Moor embracing the New Evangelization. Download our app today on your iPhone and Android smart phones or ipads and Tablets at myparishapp.com or search your phone's app store for myparish.

Please consider volunteering with **Catholic Charities Southwest Queens Friendly Visiting Program**. Each senior that is eligible through our Case Management Program will be matched with a friendly volunteer 18 years or older who will visit once a week for at least an hour at a mutually agreeable time. The program provides support to seniors that would otherwise be isolated. Contact Mary Browne 917-306-2546

Job Opportunity:
EMERGENCY SNOW LABORERS: Register Now to Help Clear Snow and Ice After Major Winter Storms (NYC Department of Sanitation). Rate \$15.00 hr. (+\$22.50/hr. overtime). Snow laborers must be at least 18 yrs., be eligible to work in the U.S. and capable of performing heavy physical labor. To register, workers must have: Two small photos (1-1/2 inch square) / Two original forms of ID, plus copies of Social Security card.

Register at any DSNY garage on weekdays between 7 AM – 3 PM. For more info on how to register to become an emergency snow laborer, call 311 or visit www.nyc.gov/sanitation