

St. Boniface Church

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Epiphany of the Lord



We have come to Homage Him.



JANUARY 5, 2025 EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

CYCLE C (LUKE)

A King to Behold: Scott Hahn Reflects on the Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord

An "epiphany" is an appearance. In today's readings, with their rising stars, splendorous lights, and mysteries revealed, the face of the child born on Christmas day appears. Herod, in today's Gospel, asks the chief priests and



scribes where the Messiah is to be born. The answer Matthew puts on their lips says much more, combining two strands of Old Testament promise—one revealing the Messiah to be from the line of David (see 2 Samuel 2:5), the other predicting "a ruler of Israel" who will "shepherd his flock" and whose "greatness shall reach to the ends of the earth" (see Micah 5:1-3). Those promises of Israel's king ruling the nations resound also in today's Psalm. The psalm celebrates David's son, Solomon. His kingdom, we sing, will stretch "to the ends of the earth," and the world's kings will pay Him homage. That's the scene too in today's First Reading, as nations stream from the East, bearing "gold and frankincense" for Israel's king. The Magi's pilgrimage in today's Gospel marks the fulfillment of God's promises. The Magi, probably Persian astrologers, are following the star that Balaam predicted would rise along with the ruler's staff over the house of Jacob (see Numbers 24:17). Laden with gold and spices, their journey evokes those made to Solomon by the Queen of Sheba and the "kings of the earth" (see 1 Kings 10:2, 25; 2 Chronicles 9:24). Interestingly, the only other places where frankincense and myrrh are mentioned together are in songs about Solomon (see Song of Songs 3:6; 4:6, 14). One greater than Solomon is here (see Luke 11:31). He has come to reveal that all peoples are "co-heirs" of the royal family of Israel, as today's Epistle teaches. His manifestation forces us to choose: will we follow the signs that lead to Him as the wise Magi did? Or will we be like those priests and scribes who let God's words of promise become dead letters on an ancient page?

Thank you to Dr. Scott Hahn and the St. Paul Center for the use of the weekly Mass reflections. More resources are available at www.stpaulcenter.com

Mass Intentions FOR THE WEEK



JANUARY 4TH TO JANUARY 11TH

- Sat Jan 4th 5:00pm - Joanne Knaffler †
- Sun Jan 5th 7:30am - People of the Parish
- 9:00am - Birthday blessings for Soledad Lacsamana
- 10:30am - Cecilia & Cyril Rodriguest
- 12:00pm - Novalita S. Mandac †
- Mon Jan 6th 8:30am - Ana Loida Jimenez †
- Tue Jan 7th 8:30am - All Souls in Purgatory
- Wed Jan 8th 7:30pm - Hospicio Mercado Jr. †; Janet Lim Exconde †; and Thanksgiving for Divine Mercy
- Thur Jan 9th 8:30am - Special Intention for Anthony & Marie Terese
- Fri Jan 10th 7:30pm - Thanksgiving of 45 years for Knights of Columbus Maharlika Council 7488
- Sat Jan 11th 8:30am - Chacko Sebastian †; and 60th Wedding Anniversary Blessings for Reg & Jessie Hasting

WHAT IS THE FEAST OF THE EPIPHANY?

"Epiphany" means "manifestation." It comes from Greek roots that mean "to show, to display".

The Epiphany is the manifestation of Jesus as Messiah of Israel, Son of God and Saviour of the world. The great feast of Epiphany celebrates the adoration of Jesus by the wise men (Magi) from the East, together with his baptism in the Jordan and the wedding feast at Cana in Galilee.

In the Magi, representatives of the neighbouring pagan religions, the Gospel sees the first-fruits of the nations, who welcome the good news of salvation through the Incarnation. The magi's coming to Jerusalem in order to pay homage to the king of the Jews shows that they seek in Israel, in the messianic light of the star of David, the one who will be king of the nations. Their coming means that pagans can discover Jesus and worship him as Son of God and Saviour of the world only by turning towards the Jews and receiving from them the messianic promise as contained in the Old Testament. The Epiphany shows that "the full number of the nations" now takes its "place in the family of the patriarchs", and acquires Israelitica dignitas (is made "worthy of the heritage of Israel") [CCC 528].



EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

Lay Pastoral Associate (LPA), Part-time (15-19 hours per week).

St. Boniface Parish, Scarborough, Ontario.

The Lay Pastoral Associate (LPA), under the direction of the Pastor, is responsible for religious education initiative in the parish including RCIA, Sunday school, and sacramental preparation for Baptism, First Reconciliation, First Holy Communion and Confirmation. The Lay Pastoral Associate also serves as a liaison to three parish schools and is a member of the Pastoral Team.

Those wishing to be considered for the position should submit a resume and cover letter to Fr. Alex Osei, CSSp. Pastor, at st.boniface@rogers.com or stbonifacesc@archtoronto.org by **Friday, January 9th 2025.**

Applicants with formal pastoral education preferred. The successful applicant will be required to submit to a police background check.

Thank you to all those who have applied.



OUR SICK:

Ron McGarry; Erwin Wagner, Anne Dyer, Jocelyn San Juan, Amy McCordy, Roberto Ressa, Tonya Nedelkovski, Evelyn Santiago, Edgardo Ramos, Dina Sorbera, Joan Fitzgibbon, Virginia Johnson, Derek John Taylor, Oliver Malinowski, Derek Rosario, Maria Theresa, Maria Johanna Tizon, Linda Morgan, Sally Benadetto, Maverick Valle, Richard Stockman, Don O'Shaughnessy, Alana Maurica Gerardine, Bette McDermott, Josephine Lavecchia, Romeo Dimalanta, Mara Ezgeta, Fredrick Martyn, John Rodriguez, Sabrina Achaibar, Cheryl Garisto, Elizabeth Singh, Richard Rodriguez, Kenny Gonsalves, Kris Gonsalves, Carlo Tomasi, Anna Tomasi, Evelyn Gatila, Judith Ritch, Rita Clemenz, Estela Pett, Steve McAuley, George Paramby Varghese, Emmanuel Carpio, Ligaya Carpio, Holly Macinnis, Ursula Solomon, Jennifer Solomon, Randeer Kumar Hulooman, Norma Dulnuan, Bill Filipchuk, Kathleen Filipchuk, Dionne Hastings, Sonia Miranda, Kevin Andrey Morales, Rhaquel Elizabeth Jojan, Ramona Labo, Ruth Claire Alinas, Andre Baksh, Alicia Alvares, Anna Ardurini, Lolita Ramos, Rose Marie Sorbera, Alice Rego, John Jansen In De Wal, Mary Foulkes, Jean Griffin Davis, Stephanie Solomon, Shirley Ecclejton, Kathleen Copeland, Conchita Estolano Paran, Giacomina Genova, Frosa Karakolis, Rosa Lim, Vera Conway, Joe D'Souza, Claudio Borgono, Jennifer Young, Glenda McNeil, Liam Matthews, Benigno Jose Jr., Irene Bituin, Leonisa G. Albaran, Innes Potgieter, Rebecca C. Baltazar, Monica Bouchard, Harold Hunt, Antonio Sorbera, Julia Genova, Christina Lochan, Ronaldo Maravilla, Lucas Sorbera, Sheryl Watson, Stanley de Freitas, Peter Pinto, Marina Sequeira, Ofelia Magat, Paul Swoffer, Minoli Paul, Isabel Grosvenor, Marie Herrera, John Germain, Ms. Dalhoo, Carla Di Cecco, Wynn Young, Mary Rocha, Eric Hudder, Simon Fernandes, Arnold Uy Cruz, Charles Gill, Patrick Doty, Debra Fernandes, Marina Jose, Frances Schober, William Schober, Marie Dignum, Ahilla Kissoon.

REMINDER TO CONFIRMATION CANDIDATES



Confirmation Candidates who have registered with the Parish for the Sacrament of Confirmation are reminded that the Enrollment Ceremony where you receive the cross will take place next weekend of **January 11th and 12th 2025 at any one of the five (5) Masses.**

Please remember to bring you dove with you.

Catechesis Sessions:

SATURDAY JANUARY 18, 2025— 10:00 AM TO 12 NOON

SATURDAY FEBRUARY 8, 2025 — 10:00 AM TO 12 NOON

SATURDAY MARCH 1, 2025 — 10:00 AM TO 12 NOON

SATURDAY MARCH 29, 2025 — 10:00AM TO 12:00 NOON

SATURDAY MAY 10, 2025 — 10:00 AM TO 12 NOON

THESE SESSIONS ARE FOR CANDIDATES ONLY AND WILL TAKE PLACE IN THE CHURCH HALL

MANDATORY CONFIRMATION RETREAT

FRIDAY, MAY 30, 2025 – 9AM TO 3:30PM

RETREAT IS FOR CANDIDATES ONLY AND WILL TAKE PLACE IN THE CHURCH HALL

RECEPTION OF THE SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION

SATURDAY, JUNE 7TH 2025 @ 11AM

CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD



CHILDREN'S
LITURGY

Our next Children's Liturgy of the Word Program will be on **Sunday, January 12th, 2025 at the 10:30am Mass.**

All children 4 to 7 years of age are welcome.

Catholic Women's League of St. Boniface Parish (CWL)

Membership:

Please pick up a registration form at the front entrance. Drop off your completed form with \$40 fee at the church office or put it in an envelope and place it in the collection basket.



Coffee Sunday:

Coffee Sunday will be this **Sunday, January 5th, 2025 after all Masses.**

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul

Dear Parishioners,

Thank you for supporting our neighbours in need. If anyone is interested in volunteering with us, please contact: stboniface@ssvptoronto.ca or call the SSV Helpline 416 261 3528 for more information.



Thank you.



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