

EPIPHANY OF OUR LORD

Today the child born on Christmas is revealed to be the long-awaited king of the Jews. As the priests and scribes interpret the prophecies in today's Gospel, he is the ruler expected from the line of King David, whose greatness is to reach to the ends of the earth.

Jesus is found with His mother, as David's son, Solomon, was enthroned alongside his Queen Mother. And the magi come to pay Him tribute, as once kings and queens came to Solomon.

His coming evokes promises that extend back to Israel's beginnings.

Centuries before, an evil king seeking to destroy Moses and the Israelites had summoned Balaam, who came from the East with two servants. But Balaam refused to curse Israel, and instead prophesied that a star and royal staff would arise out of Israel and be exalted above all the nations.

This is the star the three magi follow. And like Balaam, they too, refuse to be tangled in an evil king's scheme. Their pilgrimage is a sign - that the prophecies in today's First Reading and Psalm are being fulfilled. They come from afar, guided by God's light, bearing the wealth of nations, to praise Israel's God.

We celebrate today our own entrance into the family of God, and the fulfillment of God's plan that all nations be united with Israel as co-heirs to His Fatherly blessings, as Paul reveals in today's Epistle.

We too, must be guided by the root of David, the bright morning star, and the light of the world.

As the magi adored Him in the manger, let us renew our vow to serve Him, placing our gifts - our intentions and talents - on the altar in this Eucharist. We must offer to Him our very lives in thanksgiving. No lesser gift will suffice for this newborn King.

CONFIRMATION CANDIDATES

Reminder next confirmation class is Saturday, January 13 from 9:30AM – 10:45AM.

INCOME TAX ENVELOPE

In your **2023** offertory envelope boxes, the last envelope is the income tax envelope. Should you require a tax receipt, please deposit the envelope (empty) in the collection basket. Please make sure to fill out your name and FULL address. We would appreciate it, if you would put a stamp on the envelope to help defray the cost of postage.

REQUIESCANT IN PACE'

Please pray for the souls of Emmanuela Barbuto, Teresa Aloia, Filomena Pietroangelo, Francesco Santaguida, Maria Appugliese, Salvatore Sgro, Alfredo Sottile, Giuseppina Bartolomeo, Michele Lacava, Anna Nuzzo whose funerals were celebrated during these past couple of weeks in our Church.

**WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY
PRAYER SERVICE 2024**

Sunday, January 21, 2024 04:00 PM - Sunday, January 21, 2024 06:00 PM

St. Mark Coptic Orthodox Cathedral, 455 Ferrier St
Join Archbishop Francis Leo and a wide representation of Christian leaders to pray for the restoration of full visible unity willed by Jesus Christ for the Church. The homilist is H.G. Anba Archilids, General Bishop and Papal Vicar, Coptic Orthodox Archdiocese of Toronto. In this annual celebration we are reminded that the unity of the Church is both a gift of the Holy Spirit and a task for all Christians.

This event is jointly organized by the Office for Promoting Christian Unity and the Greater Toronto Area Council of Christian Churches (GTACCC). All are welcome to attend.

**ROLL THE DICE & GRAB A SLICE! YA
BOARD GAME & PIZZA SOCIAL**

Friday, January 19, 2024 06:30 PM - Friday, January 19, 2024 09:30 PM

St. Patrick's Church Hall, 139 McCaul St.

Come and Meet other Young Adults (ages 19–39) at St. Patrick's Parish for a social evening of Board Games in the Parish Hall, 139 McCaul St., Toronto. BYOG: Bring your own games or join in a game brought by others. Pizza will be served. Cash bar available. This is a ticketed event. Suggested donation: \$5. Donations help us cover the cost of this event and to continue offering events like this in the future.

EPIFANIA DEL SIGNORE

La festa dell'Epifania, l'ultima delle feste natalizie, che il consumismo in molte regioni ha ridotto ad una manifestazione esteriore, prendendo pretesto del regalo ai bambini, sia per noi motivo di riflessione sul senso della nostra presenza

in questo mondo e in questo ambiente.

Brevi versetti presi dalla lunga descrizione della futura gloria di Gerusalemme. Autore è il terzo Isaia, che scriveva dopo il ritorno dall'esilio di Babilonia. Gerusalemme appare come il centro del mondo e ad essa accorrono tutti i popoli: chiara allusione ai magi.

Per Paolo è un grande mistero l'intenzione di Dio di chiamare i pagani a formare un solo popolo con gli israeliti in Gesù Cristo, per mezzo dello Spirito Santo. Purtroppo, il giorno della unificazione del genere umano attorno a Cristo sembra allontanarsi e non avvicinarsi.

Muovendo da un imprecisato paese d'oriente, misteriosi personaggi, tra l'indifferenza di Gerusalemme e dei suoi abitanti, non si danno pace fin quando non trovano il Bambino. Racconto carico di significati. In evidenza il fatto che i lontani spesso sono più pronti dei vicini ad accogliere gli inviti di Dio.

CERTIFICATO DELLE TASSE

Nel pacchetto delle buste parrocchiali, c'è una busta speciale che si usa per il certificato delle tasse (è l'ultima busta nel pacchetto). Se volete ricevere il certificato, depositate questa busta (vuota) nella colletta. Se non vi dispiace, potete mettere un francobollo per aiutarci con le spese postali. Per favore, non dimenticate di includere il nome, indirizzo e numero delle buste sulla busta.

Masses of the Week**SATURDAY, JANUARY 6**

4:30PM Teresa & Michele Pignataro

SUNDAY, JANUARY 7

8:00AM Benito Ferraro

9:30AM Pro Populo

11:00AM Angelo e Maria Azzoli, Francesco e Maria Dinatolo, Nicola e Giuseppe Cristello, Vito e Natale Marcoccia e Defunti della famiglia Marcoccia e Trasolini

12:30 PM Luis Pontes

MONDAY, JANUARY 8

8:00AM Defunti Iscritti Alle Messe Perpetue

12:05PM Mass Association

TUESDAY, JANUARY 9

8:00AM Defunti Iscritti Alle Messe Perpetue

12:05PM Luisa & Giovanni Celenza, John Mores, Santo Giordano, Mary's Personal Intentions

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 10

8:00AM Michele e Concetta D'Uva

12:05PM Jack Vilata & Antonio Martins

THURSDAY, JANUARY 11

8:00AM Defunti Iscritti Alle Messe Perpetue

12:05PM Rosario & Calogera Falzone

FRIDAY, JANUARY 12

8:00AM Defunti Iscritti Alle Messe Perpetue

12:05PM Mass Association

SATURDAY, JANUARY 13

4:30PM Antonio Gomes, Francesco Riga

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C	H	L	K	I	D	E	T	S	E	EAST
H	T	I	I	N	I	H	A	A	G	INFANT
I	N	H	N	H	H	E	S	T	E	KING
T	A	R	G	F	C	L	O	R	A	STAR
A	F	R	O	I	E	H	A	A	M	HOMAGE
D	N	Y	L	A	L	T	A	S	O	LEADER
E	I	M	D	R	S	E	R	R	H	DATE
S	K	E	T	A	D	B	D	Y	I	CHILD
A	R	B	E	T	L	E	M	E	M	DELIGHT
										GOLD
										MYRRH

