

PARISH CALENDAR

Solemnity of the
Epiphany of the Lord

January 2, 2022

Shed Your light
upon our hearts, Lord!

Saturday, January 1	..... 5:00 p.m.	NO MASS
Sunday, January 2	..... 7:00 a.m.	Mass
	..... 9:00 a.m.	Mass (Live Stream)
	..... 5:00 p.m.	Mass
Monday, January 3	..... 8:00 a.m.	Mass
	..... 9:30-11:00 a.m.	Parish Office Closed - New Year's Holiday
Tuesday, January 4	..... 8:00 a.m.	Food Pantry Open
Wednesday, January 5	..... 8:00 a.m.	Mass
	..... 9:30-11:00 a.m.	Mass
Thursday, January 6	..... 8:00 a.m.	Food Pantry Open
Friday, January 7	..... 8:00 a.m.	Mass
Saturday, January 8	..... 10:00-12 pm	Communion Service
	..... 5:00 p.m.	Confession - 87-1511 Nakii St.
		Mass

NEXT SUNDAY READINGS:

Isa:40:1-5, 9-11: "Comfort, give comfort to my people."

Ti: 2:11-14; 3:4-7: Through the grace of God's appearance, we have been saved. . . through Jesus Christ our savior.

Lk:3:15-16, 21-22: When Jesus was baptized, the heavens opened and a voice said, "You are my beloved Son;

(Everyone who attends Mass must wear a Masks)

We continue to live streaming the Sunday Mass at 9:00 a.m. @

<https://www.sritananakuli.org/livestream> or

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCepqtr_VuHL7R-MjmZpe7Cg/

REFLECTING ON GOD'S WORD

Matthew's tale is less a story of adventurous seekers than of a luring God, drawing others into the mystery of divinity through the birth of Jesus. A star that guides and wise words that explain are what help lead the magi to their destination. Natural signs and words of revelation are what God works through in our own day to bring us into the presence of Jesus, the Son of God. The story of the wise men is a journey that surrounds the birth of Jesus. It speaks to all seeking God in today's world. God does not use force to attract others. Angels speak a message of joy for all but give no orders that insist that the shepherds journey through the dark of night to worship. A star appears in the sky but no one forces these astrologers to pack up some gifts and make their way across foreign terrain to kneel and prostrate themselves and do Jesus homage.

At the heart of this story is the message announced in the letter to the Ephesians: God's plan was that everyone be included in the mystery of salvation, that, along with the children of Abraham, "the Gentiles are coheirs, members of the same body, and copartners in the promise in Christ Jesus" (Ephesians 3:6). God wants everyone to share in divine life—everyone! Give it your thoughtful consideration.—James A. Wallace, C.S.S.R.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

SPECIAL COLLECTION FOR PHILIPPINE TYPHOON

RECOVERY: Typhoon Rai has devastated a vast area in the Philippines, and funds are needed for humanitarian rebuilding and recover needs. We will have special envelopes at the back of church, if you able to give please be generous.

THE ORDER OF MALTA SEEKING ILL PERSON TO

TAKE TO LOURDES: The Order of Malta Western Association U.S.A. is looking for Hawaii Catholics with a life changing illness or physical challenge to go on a pilgrimage next year, April 26 to May 4, to wash in the healing waters of Lourdes, France.

The trip is free for the ill person, whom the Order of Malta refers to a "malade." However, he or she must travel with a paying caregiver.

To be considered as a malade, **contact Thomas Cabrinha at thomascabrinha@att.net or (808) 284-3224, or Darryl Wong at dwong@99imperial.net or (808) 381-2711.**

The malade must be able physically to make the trip. Those on dialysis or other treatments that would cause them to miss processions, visits to the grotto spring, meals and Masses, will not likely be selected.

Likewise, the malade's caregiver must be able to participate in all the events and assist the malade if needed. Vaccinations for both COVID-19 and the flu are required.

The pilgrimage leaves from Los Angeles on **April 26**. The air and land travel cost for the malade's companion is \$3,600.

The Order of Malta is a 900-year old international lay Catholic religious order that cares for people in need. This is the 47th Western Association Lourdes pilgrimage.

WEEKLY READINGS

Jan 2 Sun: THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

Isa:60:1-6; Ps:72; Eph:3:2-3a, 5-6; Mt:2:1-12

Jan 3 Mon: Christmas Weekday

1 Jn:3:22-4:6; Ps:2:7bc-8, 10-12a; Mt:4:12-17, 23-25

Jan 4 Tue: Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton

1 Jn:4:7-10; Ps:72:1-2, 3-4, 7-8; Mk:6:7-10

Jan 5 Wed: Saint John Neumann, Bishop

1 Jn:4:11-18; Ps:72:1-2, 10, 12-13; Mk:6:45-52

Jan 6 Thur: Christmas Weekday

1 Jn:4:19-5:4; Ps:72:1-2, 14 & 15bc, 17; Lk:4:14-22

Dec 31 Fri: Christmas Weekday

1 Jn:5:5-13; Ps:147:12-13, 14-15, 19-20; Lk:5:12-16

Jan 1 Sat: Christmas Weekday

1 Jn:5:14-21; Ps:149:1-2, 3-4, 5-6a, 9b; Jn 3:22-30

STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE

MAHALO FOR SHARING YOUR TREASURE

You can still continue contribute to St. Rita during this time of Social - distancing by going to our web-site www.sritananakuli.org And click "On-line Giving" on the banner line. You can also send your Tithe/Donation via mail: St. Rita Catholic Church/ 89-318 Farrington Hwy. / Nanakuli, HI 96792

ADOPTED CHILDREN

If the sports team from your city wins the championship, you feel like you personally won the championship. Even if you have never played this sport in your life, even if you do not know anyone on the team, even if you have never attended a game — you feel like it is your team. You wear the team colors. You post the team schedule on your refrigerator. You follow the scores day by day. You feel responsible to support your team in good times and in bad. Everyone loves a winner, and when your home team wins, you want to be identified as a winner too.

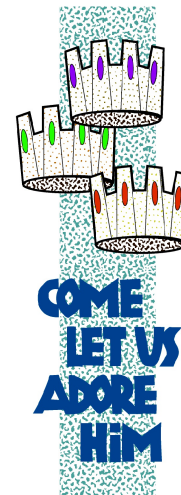
Christmas has made us all winners. The birth of Jesus Christ has had an effect on every human being in the history of the world. In Jesus, God became human. In Jesus, we have become children of God. The birth of Jesus has turned all humanity into a global city with a winning team — the Holy Trinity — which has won the contest against sin and death.

The Letter to the Ephesians says, "In love God the Father destined us for adoption to himself through Jesus Christ."

*Christmas celebrates the birth of Jesus, but it also celebrates the adoption of everyone else. This new year, let us recall that we are all brothers and sisters of the same family, a holy family. We are responsible for one another. We are all children of God. **Lectionary Bulletin Inserts: Reflections on the First and Second Readings, Year C © 2019 Archdiocese of Chicago: Liturgy Training Publications. All rights reserved. Written by Paul Turner. Lectionary for Mass © 2001, CCD.***



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THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD



Be Our Light

Father,
you reveal yourself throughout the ages,
showing us the light of your love.
You said, “Let there be light,”
and there was light.
When you sent your Son to reveal
yourself most fully,

you gave a star as a sign.
Be our light.
Fill us with your light
that we might light the way to you.
Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Sunday, January 2, 2022

Overjoyed

Today's readings: Isaiah 60:1–6; Psalm 72:1–2, 7–8, 10–11, 12–13; Ephesians 3:2–3a, 5–6; Matthew 2:1–12. “They were overjoyed at seeing the star.” The Magi had gone to the palace because their way of seeking wisdom—following the natural signs of the world—told them a king had been born. A king whose importance was so great that his birth was told in the stars. But the king was not in the palace. This birth, so significant as to be marked by a star, was hidden away in Bethlehem, a small town.

The Magi were not Jewish. They did not know about the promise of God that was now being fulfilled. But God gave them a light to follow. The new thing that God was doing—fulfilling the promises of old to bring salvation to the ends of the earth—included them.

Scripture tells us that when the star stopped over the place where Jesus was, the Magi were overjoyed to see it. Inside the home, they found Jesus with Mary, his mother. They fell down and worshiped him, so overcome were they with joy at what God was doing and at the gift of being allowed to share in it.

Then the Magi went home by another route. This is, of course, practical, in that they were avoiding Herod. But they went home a different way because they were themselves different. They were changed by their joy. What light has God given you to follow? When have you been filled with joy? How did it change you?



THIS WEEK AT HOME

Monday, January 3 A Great Light

“The people who sit in darkness have seen a great light.” Jesus reveals himself as the light when he preaches the kingdom of God and heals those who come to him. One purpose of the healing Jesus performed was to return to the community those who were separated from society because of illness or disability. As Jesus heals, his identity shines forth as clearly as it did in the star of Bethlehem. With each healing, he also enters into the vocation of the messiah. *Today’s readings: 1 John 3:22—4:6; Psalm 2:7bc–8, 10–12a; Matthew 4:12–17, 23–25.*

Tuesday, January 4 St. Elizabeth Ann Seton

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton was the first person born in the United States to be canonized a saint. As a young widow and mother of five, she converted to Catholicism. She founded the Sisters of Charity of St. Joseph’s, and began the first Catholic girls’ school in the United States. She is the patron saint of Catholic schools. *Today’s readings: 1 John 4:7–10; Psalm 72:1–2, 3–4, 7–8; Mark 6:33–44.*

Wednesday, January 5 Perfect Love

“Perfect love drives out fear.” John certainly knew that the world was a broken place when he wrote his first letter. He had witnessed the crowds turning on Jesus and the early persecutions, in addition to the daily worries and anxieties all human beings experience. John knew that there were many dangers in the world. He does not say that perfect love causes fear not to arise. He says perfect love drives it away. This is not about a feeling but about whether we choose to let fear overwhelm us, or whether we choose a different path. Do not be afraid, God says. How can you choose love today? *Today’s readings: 1 John 4:11–18; Psalm 72:1–2, 10, 12–13; Mark 6:45–52.*

Thursday, January 6 Fulfilled in Your Hearing

Proclaiming the Scripture from Isaiah, Jesus describes the messiah and the era he has come to inaugurate. As Christ’s hands and feet in the world, we too must live this fulfillment. What might it mean to proclaim glad tidings to the poor? How can you proclaim liberty to captives? Where can you heal brokenness? The heartbreak that you feel over conditions is your call to live in the kingdom of God. *Today’s readings: 1 John 4:19—5:4; Psalm 72:1–2, 14, 15bc, 17; Luke 4:14–22.*

Friday, January 7 Carrying the Light

Some people keep their Christmas tree or manger until the traditional date of Epiphany, which was yesterday. There is also a tradition of keeping some decorations until the Feast of the Presentation in the Temple, or Candlemas, which is celebrated February 2. It can be beautiful to carry the joy of Christmas into Ordinary Time by leaving up a few decorations, possibly some lights to symbolize that Jesus is the Light of the World. *Today’s readings: 1 John 5:5–13; Psalm 147:12–13, 14–15, 19–20; Luke 5:12–16.*

Saturday, January 8 Joy Made Complete

Human beings are prone to conflict. In today’s Gospel, we hear the disciples of John the Baptist perceiving rivalry between John and Jesus. As a prophet, John knows that God’s project is healing all such divisions. He knows that he was called to prepare the way for the messiah, and now that the messiah is come, he feels nothing but joy. Where in your life has unnecessary conflict and rivalry stolen your joy? How can you be a peacemaker in those situations? John’s joy comes in seeing with God’s eyes. Can you look at a difficult situation with new eyes? *Today’s readings: 1 John 5:14–21; Psalm 149:1–2, 3–4, 5, 6a, 9b; John 3:22–30.*

