

## PARISH CALENDAR

Solemnity of the  
Epiphany of the Lord

January 5, 2020

All nations walk by His light!

Saturday, Jan 4	..... 5:00 p.m.	Mass, Aloha Sunday
Sunday, Jan 5	..... 7:00 a.m.	Mass, Aloha Sunday
	..... 9:00 a.m.	Mass, Aloha Sunday
	..... 5:00 p.m.	Mass, Aloha Sunday
Monday, Jan 6	..... 7:45 a.m.	Morning Prayer
	..... 8:00 a.m.	Mass
	..... 9:00-11:00 a.m.	Food Pantry Open
Tuesday, Jan 7	..... 7:45 a.m.	Morning Prayer
	..... 8:00 a.m.	Mass
Wednesday, Jan 8	..... 7:45 a.m.	Morning Prayer
	..... 8:00 a.m.	Mass
	..... 9:00-11:00 a.m.	Food Pantry Open
Thursday, Jan 9	..... 7:45 a.m.	Morning Prayer
	..... 8:00 a.m.	Mass
	..... 7:30 p.m.	Prayer Meeting - Church
Friday, Jan 10	..... 7:45 a.m.	Morning Prayer
	..... 8:00 a.m.	Mass
	..... 9:00-11:00 a.m.	Food Pantry Open
Saturday, Jan 11	..... 4:00-4:45 p.m.	Confession
	..... 5:00 p.m.	Mass

### NEXT SUNDAY READINGS:

**Isaiah:42:1-4, 6-7:** *This is my servant, my chosen one.*

**Acts:10:34-38:** *God anointed Jesus with the Holy Spirit and with power.*

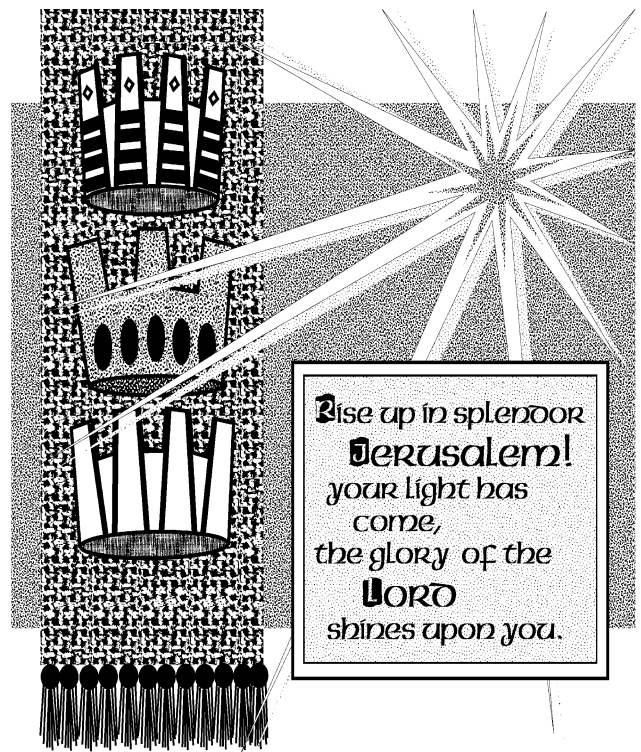
**Matthew:3:13-17:** *The Baptism of Jesus.*

### Reflection

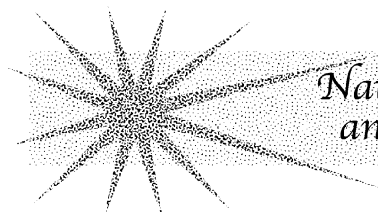
Pilgrims know they are in a geographical place and have a family and friends, a job, a collection of possessions. But they do not exactly feel at home. Something is missing; an itch needs scratching. So, pilgrims set out in search of what is missing. They do not necessarily wander the earth. They do not even have to leave home, actually. But they search, and they search purposefully. They follow their lights—insight and the advice, guidance, and direction of those they trust.

The magi were pilgrims—traveling pilgrims. But another character in this story, Herod, was firmly ensconced in his home place. He liked his position of power and meant to keep it. He didn't want any usurpers. He wanted only to know what was necessary to keep that power. He was not looking for anything else.

The magi, those pilgrims and seekers, finally descended from the East into a temperate valley and to the unlikely village of Bethlehem. They found their spiritual home there. When they entered the humble home of the Holy Family, they found their gift, their reward, their souls' longing. They knew it and expressed it in their gifts befitting royalty—gold and frankincense—and the added gift that hinted at mortality, myrrh. They quietly slipped by the boundaries of the country and returned to their homeland by a new route. And their souls also knew a new way. Copyright © 2004, World Library Publications. All rights reserved.



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*Nations walk by your light  
and kings by your shining radiance*

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# ANNOUNCEMENTS

**PRO-LIFE:** The 47th annual Hawaii March for Life will be **Thursday January 16, 2020 from 4-6PM** at the State Capital rotunda. This year's theme is : **RAISE YOUR VOICE** for all of human life because Ohana begins at conception. For more information call the Diocesan Respect Life Office at 203-6722.

**WORD OF LIFE:** "When I meet another parent of a child with Down syndrome, there is usually a moment of instant recognition and understanding. Our eyes meet, and we smile conspiratorially, as if we're in on the same secret: the fundamental truth that every life is a good and perfect gift. . . . Our love for our children has nothing to do with their abilities. We love them simply because of who they are, an understanding this teaches us how to truly love everyone." *USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities "A Perfect Gift" ([www.respectlife.org/a-perfect-gift](http://www.respectlife.org/a-perfect-gift))*

## WEEKLY READINGS

**Jan 5 Sun: The Epiphany of the Lord**

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

**Jan 6 Mon: Christmas Weekday**

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

**Jan 7 Tue: Christmas Weekday**

1 Jn:4:7-10; Ps:72:1-2, 3-4, 7-8; Mk:6:34-44

**Jan 8 Wed: Christmas Weekday**

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

**Jan 9 Thur: Christmas Weekday**

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

**Jan 10 Fri: Christmas Weekday**

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

**Jan 11 Sat: Christmas Weekday**

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

## EMBRACING A STEWARDS' MINDSET FOR THE COMING YEAR

Christian stewards may very well interpret the greeting "Happy New Year" to mean: "I hope and pray for you a joyous year ahead in proclaiming the good news of Jesus Christ?" If we are to interpret this cheery salutation in that way, should we not consider similar greetings throughout the year?

**"Happy New Day!"** In the lyrics of the popular gospel song "Oh Happy Day!" We are reminded that Jesus taught us " . . . how to live rejoicing everyday." Be grateful for each of God's amazing days.

**"Happy New Week!"** The motto of many is to Live for the Weekend. Why not live for the entire week? Let's resolve to make a difference in our lives and the lives of others in our homes, offices and schools each week of the year.

**"Happy New Month!"** As we examine our monthly planners and budgets, we should ask ourselves: Have I left room for Jesus Christ this month? How can I be a good steward of God's gifts in the coming month? What am I willing to do this month for the sake of the Gospel?

As we turn over 2019 to the history books, let us approach 2020 with renewed vigor. Let us see the days, weeks and months for the God-given gifts they truly are: "Happy New Year!" (*International Catholic Stewardship Council*)

## NOTE ON STEWARDSHIP

"You have heard of the stewardship of God's grace. . ." This is how Saint Paul begins his letter to the members of the Church at Ephesus in today's second reading. He proclaims that he, and they, are stewards of the gospel of Jesus Christ, and therefore stewards of God's loving unifying and inclusive grace. He also proclaims that the Holy Spirit is at work within each of them, if only they would be open to the Spirit. Today, our world races by with intolerance, violence, desperate poverty, fear and division. At the beginning of this New Year, perhaps it is appropriate to reflect on Saint Paul's words and ask ourselves how we can be good stewards of the gospel today. How will we allow the Holy Spirit to work within us? How can we be better stewards of Christ's justice and peace? (*International Catholic Stewardship Council*)

The prophet Isaiah sings the song of Israel's great return from exile. Jerusalem pulses with great and splendid light. Jerusalem is irresistible; it draws those who are far off as a light draws the moth. Everyone from vulnerable nursing mothers to the powerful kings moves toward Jerusalem. The city itself is urged simply to look up and behold that this is truly so.

The places Isaiah names are places where the Jewish people had scattered. The sons and daughters of Ishmael and Esau, first named in Genesis 25, are the first to come from Midian and Ephah and Sheba. An exotic picture is set before us. These royal and rich peoples come in caravans of camels. They come bearing gifts fit for royalty—gold and frankincense.

The second reading takes this great return one step further. It was Paul who first understood that God's salvation in Jesus was available to Jews and Gentiles alike. Those who came to the new Jerusalem, the Church, came from the ends of the earth. One of the mysteries at the heart of God's dealing with Israel was that salvation is meant for the whole world. Israel was to announce and bring salvation to the very ends of the earth. This was embedded in its Scriptures and made manifest in Jesus. Paul insists in his letter to the church at Ephesus that in Christ Jesus Jews and Gentiles together share the same body, possess the same inheritance, receive the same promise, and share in the good news.

Matthew takes great pains throughout this Gospel to connect the Old Testament with the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus. The first two chapters of his Gospel are filled with allusions to the Jewish Scriptures. The genealogy that opens this Gospel reveals its intention to set forth a testament to Jesus as fulfillment of God's promise. We learn he is born of a virgin; he is "God with us"; he is from Nazareth. Now, the magi focus on the prophecy from Micah, which identifies a great king from Bethlehem.

The magi, those great seekers, stand for all who come to faith in Christ Jesus. In the Near Orient, the star was a sign of some kind of divinity. The unique star sighted by the magi focused their attention and set them on their journey. The Greek word epiphaneia signifies the manifestation or appearance of a god or of divine intervention. The term also applied to the appearance of kings. The magi meant to find out about this new god or king. They began their arduous journey bearing rich gifts. They were in turn richly rewarded.

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