

January 2, 2022

The Epiphany of the Lord

Christmas is a season of abundance. Christmas cookies and carols. Parties and presents. Mangers and mistletoe. The same is true in our church. Within a period of nine days we celebrate Christmas, the Holy Family, Mary Mother of God, and today the Solemnity of the Epiphany. Truly an embarrassment of liturgical riches. (And we are not finished yet!)

However, for many people, Christmas is already over. Trees litter the curbside or make their way back to the attic. Presents are put away or returned. We prepare to go back to school or work. But as Christians we have barely dipped our toes into the profound mystery of a God who walks among us. What kind of a God is this whose kingdom is not limited by our borders, fears, expectations, or imaginations? Today's psalm reminds us, "Lord, every nation on earth will adore you." Diversity and inclusion are not new to God's agenda.

TRADITIONS UNCOVER MEANING

Two traditional rituals, one liturgical and one domestic, help underline the meaning of the Epiphany. The Proclamation of the Date of Easter is an option for inclusion at Mass today. This text which formally announces the dates of the upcoming major feast days reminds us that Christmas is best honored in the context of the whole story of salvation that culminates in Easter. Or as writer Nathan Mitchell reflects, the wood of the crib becomes the wood of the cross.

The second tradition connected to Epiphany is the blessing of the door of one's home with chalk. It includes a prayer for protection for all who enter therein. One explanation of this tradition ties it to the Passover in the Book of Exodus: the marking of the doorposts with the blood of the lamb kept the Israelites safe. This tradition too offers a connection between Christmas and Easter.

As we continue to mine the richness of this season we hum along with the angels, *Gloria in excelsis Deo!*

Today's Readings: Is 60:1-6; Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13; Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6; Mt 2:1-12

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2 de enero de 2022 La Epifanía del Señor

La Navidad es una temporada de abundancia. Galletas navideñas y villancicos. Fiestas y regalos. Pesebres y muérdago. Lo mismo ocurre en nuestra iglesia. En un período de nueve días celebramos la Navidad, la Sagrada Familia, María Madre de Dios, y hoy la Solemnidad de la Epifanía. Un verdadero cúmulo de riquezas litúrgicas. (¡Y aún no hemos terminado!)

Sin embargo, para mucha gente, la Navidad ya ha terminado. Los árboles están en la acera o vuelven al desván. Los regalos se guardan o se devuelven. Nos preparamos para volver a la escuela o al trabajo. Pero, como cristianos, apenas nos hemos sumergido en el profundo misterio de un Dios que camina entre nosotros. ¿Qué clase de Dios es este cuyo reino no está limitado por nuestras fronteras, miedos, expectativas o imaginations? El salmo de hoy nos recuerda: "Señor, todas las naciones de la tierra te adorarán". La diversidad y la inclusión no son nuevas en la agenda de Dios.

LAS TRADICIONES DESCUBREN EL SIGNIFICADO

Dos rituales tradicionales, uno litúrgico y otro doméstico, ayudan a subrayar el significado de la Epifanía. La Proclamación de la fecha de la Pascua es una opción para incluir en la Misa de hoy. Este texto que anuncia formalmente las fechas de las próximas fiestas mayores nos recuerda que la Navidad se honra mejor en el contexto de toda la historia de la salvación que culmina en la Pascua. O como reflexiona el escritor Nathan Mitchell, la madera del pesebre se convierte en la madera de la cruz.

La segunda tradición relacionada con la Epifanía es la bendición de la puerta de la casa con tiza o gis. Incluye una oración de protección para todos los que entran en ella. Una de las explicaciones de esta tradición la relaciona con la Pascua en el libro del Éxodo: marcar los postes de la puerta con la sangre del cordero mantenía a salvo a los israelitas. Esta tradición también ofrece una conexión entre la Navidad y la Pascua.

Mientras continuamos extrayendo la riqueza de esta temporada, tarareamos junto con los ángeles: ¡*Gloria in excelsis Deo!*

Lecturas de hoy: Is 60:1-6; Sal 72 (71):1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13; Ef 3:2-3a, 5-6; Mt 2:1-12

St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church

500 East Travis Street

Luling, Texas 78648

Rev. Howard Goertz, Pastor

Deacon Paul Easterling

Patricia Gonzales, Administration

Marilyn Williams, Religious Education - Team Leader

Haurora Ordonez, Youth Ministry

Gloria Riojas, Custodian

SUNDAY MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday: 5:30 pm (English)

Sunday: 8:00 am (Spanish) & 10:00 am (English)

Reconciliation (Confession): Saturday 4:45 pm-5:15 pm & Wednesday after 8 am Mass

DAILY MASS SCHEDULE

Tuesday: 6:30 pm

Wednesday, Thursday, Friday: 8:00 am

Thursday Adoration: begins with 8:00 am Daily Mass - concludes 12-midnight

PARISH OFFICE: 830-875-5354 FAX: 830-875-3533

Office Hours: Mon. 9 am - 1 pm * Tues. Wed. & Thurs. 8 am - 5 pm

PARISH HALL: 830-875-9052 PARISH RECTORY: 830-351-5043

PARISH EMAIL ADDRESS: stjoh_n_luling@att.net



ESTABLISHED IN 1879

REFLECTIONS

JOURNEY TOWARD GOD

In our celebration of the Epiphany, two interwoven themes are present in the readings today. God is beginning something new, and God gathers all of humanity to participate. For Isaiah, God’s bright light, manifested in the people of Israel, attracts and summons people from many nations to Jerusalem. In the letter to the Ephesians, God’s grace makes the Gentiles co-heirs and co-partners in the gospel. Matthew tells the story of the fulfillment of God’s promises to Israel through the birth of Jesus, and simultaneously leading foreigners to share in these same promises. With the birth of Jesus, God chose a particular people, in a particular time and place, to enter most directly into the human story. Today’s readings teach that God did this in order to gather all people, all cultures, into unity with God. Like the magi, we are drawn into a journey toward God, becoming co-partners in God’s work.

* * * * *

REFLEJOS

CAMINO HACIA DIOS

En nuestra celebración de la Epifanía, dos temas entrelazados están presentes en las lecturas de hoy. Dios está comenzando algo nuevo, y Dios reúne a toda la humanidad a participar. Para Isaías, la luz brillante de Dios, manifestada en el pueblo de Israel, atrae y convoca a personas de muchas naciones a Jerusalén. En la carta a los efesios, la gracia de Dios hace a los gentiles coherederos y en el Evangelio de Mateo los hace coparticipes. Mateo cuenta la historia del cumplimiento de las promesas de Dios a Israel por medio del nacimiento de Jesús, y simultáneamente guiando a los extranjeros a compartir esas mismas promesas. Con el nacimiento de Jesús, Dios eligió a un pueblo determinado, en un tiempo y lugares específicos, para entrar directamente en la historia de la humanidad. Las lecturas de hoy enseñan que Dios lo hizo para reunir a todos los pueblos, a todas las culturas, en la unidad con Dios. Al igual que los magos, estamos siendo llevados a un viaje hacia Dios, convirtiéndonos en coparticipes de la obra de Dios.

2022 OFFERTORY ENVELOPES & CALENDARS

Please make Time to pick up your 2022 Calendar and box of Offertory Envelopes located in the main entrance of Church. If you would like to register to receive envelopes please contact the Church Office at 830-875-5354, during business hours.

Please Note: Only (1) Calendar per Family



*Wishing You A
Safe & Blessed
Happy New Year!*

*On behalf of:
Rev. Howard Goertz, Deacon Paul Easterling
& St. John’s Staff and Volunteers*

ST. JOHN PARISH COMMUNITY EVENTS

**COME PRAY THE ROSARY EVERY MONDAY
@ 5:30 PM IN CHURCH**

* * * * *

**RCIA CLASS
MEETS TWICE MONTHLY
If Interested Call the Church Office**

* * * * *

**ADULT CATHOLIC EDUCATION DISCUSSION GROUP
(ACED GROUP) * EVERY WEDNESDAY
6:30 PM IN PARISH HALL * OPEN TO EVERYONE!**

2021 MARRIAGE RECOGNITION CERTIFICATE

5th

Chris & Lisa Jabsen

30th

Carlos & Patricia Gonzales Robert & Suzanne Hochstein

40th

David & Cora Pawelek

52nd

William & Connie Lopez

54th

Julian & Gloria Lopez

56th

Dan & Linda Nolte

Sotero & Rebecca Ramirez Florentino & Delfina Rodriguez

59th

Anthony & Gloria Weser

60th

Arnulfo & Janie Barrientes

70th

Jose & Jesusita Mendez



First Saturday, January 1 “Vigil of the Epiphany” (New Year’s Day)
 Readings: Nm 6:22-27; Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8; Gal 4:4-7; Lk 2:16-21
Mass: 5:30 pm Special Intention (Jane Goertz)

Sunday, January 2 “The Epiphany of the Lord”
 Readings: Is 60:1-6; Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-13; Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6; Mt 2:1-12
Mass: 8:00 am Maria Antonia Guevara (Isidra Rodriguez)
10:00 am For the Parish

Monday, January 3 “The Most Holy Name of Jesus”
 Readings: 1 Jn 3:22 — 4:6; Ps 2:7bc-8, 10-12a; Mt 4:12-17, 23-25
No Mass

Tuesday, January 4 “St. Elizabeth Ann Seton”
 Readings: 1 Jn 4:7-10; Ps 72:1-4, 7-8; Mk 6:34-44
No Mass

Wednesday, January 5 “St. John Neumann”
 Readings: 1 Jn 4:11-18; Ps 72:1-2, 10, 12-13; Mk 6:45-52
Mass: 8:00 am Sergio Leyva† (Ana Leyva)
 Blake & Lily Layne & Family (SI) (Lupe Smith)

Thursday, January 6 “St. André Bessette”
 Readings: 1 Jn 4:19 — 5:4; Ps 72:1-2, 14, 15bc, 17; Lk 4:14-22a
Mass: 8:00 am Walter & Lupe Smith (SI) (Family)

First Friday, January 7 “St. Raymond of Penyafort”
 Readings: 1 Jn 5:5-13; Ps 147:12-15, 19-20; Lk 5:12-16
Mass: 8:00 am Eric Guerra (SI) (Lupe Smith)

Saturday, January 8
 Readings: 1 Jn 5:14-21; Ps 149:1-6a, 9b; Jn 3:22-30
Mass: 5:30 pm For the Parish

Sunday, January 9
 Rdgs: Is 42:1-4, 6-7 or Is 40:1-5, 9-11; Ps 29:1-4, 3, 9-10 or Ps 104:1b-4, 24-25, 27-30; Acts 10:34-38 or Ti 2:11-14; 3:4-7; Lk 3:15-16, 21-22
Mass: 8:00 am Jaime, Sr.†, Teresa† & Gabriella Calderon† (Family)
10:00 am Gloria Lopez (BD) (Family)
 Emilia Estrada† (Family)

(Masses are subject to change to a later date.)

WEEKLY OFFERINGS REPORT
Week of December 14 - 20

Collections

1st Collection \$4,130.00

Other Income

Candles..... \$164.00
 Christmas Flowers..... \$515.00
 Church Donation (Funeral) \$500.00

With God All Things Are Possible

DUE TO PUBLISHER HOLIDAY DEADLINE OFFERINGS REPORT FOR DECEMBER 24 - 26 WILL BE JAN. 9, 2022 BULLETIN

January 8 & 9

	<u>Lectors</u>	<u>Eucharistic Ministers</u>
Sat. 5:30 pm	Robert Hochstein	Jay Crowell
Sun. 8:00 am	Lucy Chapman	Willie Lopez
Sun. 10:00 am	Sam Chapa	Michael Ramirez



	<u>Acolyte</u>
Sat. 5:30 pm	Jay Crowell
Sun. 8:00 am	Willie Lopez
Sun. 10:00 am	Michael Ramirez



	<u>Hospitality Ministers</u>
Sat. 5:30 pm	DJ Frausto
Sun. 8:00 am	Manuel Tello Maria Tello
Sun. 10:00 am	Eric Lugo

****FOR YOUR INFORMATION****

Baptisms / Bautizos:

One class is required for parents and sponsors! The next English Baptismal Class will be Sunday, December 12 at 11:30 am in the Parish Hall. Limited seating, no children and must wear mask.
¡Se requiere una clase para los padres y patrocinadores! La próxima Clase De Bautismo Española será Domingo, el 5 de diciembre at 11:30 am en el Salón. Asientos limitados, sin niños y deben usar máscara.

Marriage/Bodas

A six-months to one-year notice is required, please call the Church office to meet with the Pastor.
De 6-meses a un año de antemano. Llama a la Oficina.

Quinceañera Celebration / Celebrando Tus XV Años

A six months to one-year notice is required, for a Quinceañera the family must be registered in the parish and the 14 year old must be already enrolled and attending CRE Classes the year before and the year of, to be eligible to celebrate in the church. Please call the Church Office to meet with the Pastor.

Se requiere un aviso de seis meses a un año, para una quinceañera la familia debe registrarse en la parroquia y los 14 años de edad deben estar ya inscritos y asistir a las clases de CRE el año anterior y el año de, para ser elegibles para celebrar en la iglesia. Por favor llame a la oficina de la iglesia para reunirse con el pastor.

St. John’s Website & Facebook

Please visit our website: www.stjohnluling.com & **Facebook, Church:** StJohn TheEvangelist **CRE:** St. John’s Catholic Religious Education-Luling



Kirby Adams & Family, Connie Avant, Luke Branyon, Nicole Bujnoch, Joe Cardenas, Belinda Castilleja, Robert Cavanagh, Kase Conley, George Conley, Lincoln Contreras, Richard Dittrich, Dario & Reina Flores, Gilbert “Beto” Garcia, Juanita Gonzales, Dcn. Dub & Priscilla Hargraves, Patrick Hebert, Don, John Houeye, Cathy Knox, Alex Lopez, Mario Lopez, III, Paul Lopez, Mary Helen Magallanez, Fr. Adan Martinez, Janie Meraz, Valerie Moore, Daniel Morales, Gabriel Mujica, Cris & Lucy Oliva, Janice Page, Jason Rios, Alex Rodriguez, Antonia Rodriguez, Elijah Rodriguez, Della Salazar, Otilia Santos, Mary Schuh, Virginia Suarez, BriAnne VanBalen Helen Vara, Margaret Yarborough, Byron Zamora.

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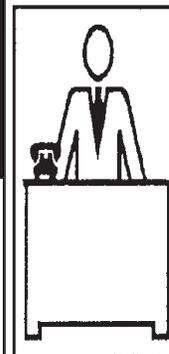


The Knights of Columbus

Meeting 3rd Tuesday of Every Month

@ St. John's Parish Hall - Fellowship Beginning

at 7 PM -- Meeting at 7:30 PM



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