



St Joseph Catholic Church

2020 St Joseph Drive, Largo Maryland, 20774
301-773-4838 Fax 301-773-6832 Website: www.stjoseph-largo.org

Sunday January 5, 2025 ~ The Epiphany of the Lord

From the Bishop's Pen...

Now it has been revealed that the Gentiles are coheirs of the promise."

Some scientists think that an exploding star, some tens of thousands of light years from earth, caused the bright star light that the Magi followed to the baby Jesus. Another group of scientists think it was the alignment of the largest planets in our solar system that formed that brightest star over Bethlehem. Whatever it was, God in His infinite wisdom and power used this event to announce Jesus' birth to the Magi, and to the whole world!

The Magi, probably court astrologers of kings, studied the stars, and knew of the Hebrew prophesy of the birth of a King, from the Old Testament. God used natural events at His will to direct the Magi to His Incarnate Son. Jesus' Epiphany, His manifestation to the Magi, celebrates the manifestation of our Lord to the whole world, the shining forth of the Light of the World, to the entire world, not just the Jewish world. The Magi symbolize the coming of God to the Gentiles, the entrance of God into the entire world. God reveals Himself to us; we do not find Him. God makes His divinity known to us in our humanity.

The Star over Bethlehem recalls the light, the fire, and the warmth of God's love. The star points backward through history to the God who revealed Himself to Moses in a burning bush, the God who manifested Himself in the fire and lightning that surrounded Mount Sinai, and the pillar of fire that led the Jews through the desert to the Promised Land. That Star points ahead to the tongues of fire that will come on Pentecost to rest on Mary and the Apostles.

Epiphany tells us that God has come to us where we are, as we are. His Light has come into our world and the darkness will not overcome it. God continues to reveal Himself to us today. God's Light comes to us in many ways, many times through the insights of other people, allowing us to see things in truly new ways. Let us be like the Magi who followed Bethlehem's star to the birthplace of the Son of David. Let us renew our commitment to see God's Light in our lives. Let us see God's light in His beloved Son, born as one of us, to become one with us, so that we can become one in Him.

"For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him might not perish but might have eternal life." God has revealed Himself to us in His Son, and calls us, through His Son, to live in His eternal life. All we must do is to have faith and trust in Jesus, the Light of the World. Have a Holy and Blessed Epiphany!

– Bishop Roy Campbell

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Monday thru Friday

10:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

The office is closed for business on:

ALL Weekends

Federal Gov't Closings

Holidays and Holy Days

Phone: (301)773-4838

Fax: (301) 773-6832

Website: www.stjoseph-largo.org

Facebook: www.facebook.com/StJosephLargo

Email: parishoffice@stjosephlargo.org

PASTORAL STAFF

Pastor

Most Rev. Roy E. Campbell, Jr.
rcampbell@stjosephlargo.org

Parochial Vicar

Rev. Vincent Tinh Vu
vincentvu@stjosephlargo.org

Deacons

Deacon Steven Nash
snash@stjosephlargo.org

Deacon Kyle Simon
ksimon@stjosephlargo.org

(Please make appointments for private meetings)

MASS / ADORATION SCHEDULE

Saturday - 5:00 pm

Sunday - 8:00 am, 10:00 am, 12:00 pm

Daily Mass 8:30 am

Every Tuesday
Exposition / Adoration 6:00 pm
Benediction 6:45 pm
Evening Mass 7:00 pm

Every Friday
Exposition / Adoration
after 8:30 am Mass
Benediction 10:00 am

PARISH STAFF

Cherry Neal

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Parish Secretary
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Dr. Michael Clark

Director of Music
drmclark@stjosephlargo.org

Religious Education

religioused@stjosephlargo.org - ext 15



To The St Joseph Catholic Church Community

Our desire is that every member of our parish family encounters Jesus Christ in a very personal and life-changing way as they journey through life within our community. That now includes you and we welcome you to this very personal, communal journey of faith as part of our parish family. As you begin the next part of your faith journey with us, we encourage you to check in at the Welcome Table and complete the parish registration form. You may also get the form from a Hospitality minister. Stay connected with the St Joseph Community through our Website and Facebook God has given you gifts to share in helping the Church build the kingdom and accomplish her mission. Seek the guidance of the Holy Spirit to help you discern where you are meant to serve. Please check out our Ministries and Organizations at the Welcome Table or our Website. Pray, discern, then take that leap of faith and get engaged in the life of the parish.

LET US KNOW YOU ARE HERE

SO WE CAN PROPERLY WELCOME YOU!

SUPPORT MINISTRIES

Audiovisual Support:

Chuck Clay chuck.clay@comcast.net

Altar Servers:

Deacon Kyle Simon ksmon@stjosephlargo.org

Bereavement Support:

Contact Parish Office

Eucharistic Ministry:

Bernard Brodus bbroadus53@gmail.com

Food Pantry/

St. Vincent DePaul Society:

Rhonda Burriss or Pam White 301-773-0102 ext 13

Good Samaritans Ministry:

Kelly Hamilton / Arleen Jeter
sjgoodsamaritans@gmail.com

OCIA Coordinator:

Deacon Steven Nash snash@stjosephlargo.org

Parish Council

Patricia Baker-Simon, President
sjccparishcouncil@stjosephlargo.org

Wedding Coordinator:

Thelma Lucas tlucas844@gmail.com

Youth Ministry:

Beverly Dandridge fnptraveler6@gmail.com

PARISH TITHING AND CONTRIBUTIONS

Please use your offertory envelopes, and fill them out completely. Enclose your check or cash in your offertory envelope and write the amount on the envelope. As a reminder money/checks do not stay together with the envelopes so if there is no information or amount on the envelope you may not receive proper acknowledgment for your offering. If you choose to send in your Church envelopes by mail or drop them off at the Church, please do so. Your tax deductible offerings are based on the information on your envelopes. We have also set-up **Online Giving** through **Faith Direct**, which is an easy, simple, and secure way to continue supporting the ministry and mission of our parish. We had to make a number of decisions regarding our current Church staff because we are unable to collect our regular offertory. Please go to the link: <https://www.stjoseph-largo.org/online-giving> to sign-up for **Faith Direct**, make a contribution, and to view a video about enrollment and have your questions answered about online giving.

MASS SPECIAL INTENTIONS

Mass Intentions are made in the Parish Office during regular business hours or may be given to Hospitality Minister after the Sunday Masses. You will be contacted if the date requested is not available. Bookings for one name for several days in succession will not be accepted. An offering is **\$10.00 CASH** per date / per envelope. Mass intentions are acknowledged at the Sunday and daily Masses.

Mass intentions must be received in the office by Monday 9:00 am to be included in the bulletin for the next week.

BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS

ANNOUNCEMENTS for the NEXT

bulletin are due in the Church Office NLT 12:00 noon on Monday. The bulletin is sent to the printer on Tuesday morning.

Late submissions will go into the next bulletin.

COMMUNION CALLS / HOME VISITS

The Eucharistic Ministry is available for communion calls and home visits. If you or someone you know is homebound but would like to receive communion on a regular basis, contact the parish office on 301-773-4838 to schedule a visit. The office is open Monday through Friday 10:00 am - 6:00 pm

Our Parish Family's Weekly Offering

\$ N/A December 29, 2024

Our average weekly parish expenses for November 2024 \$

Our offertory last week was N/A % of expenses

Faith Direct: November 2024 - \$N/A

Last Week's Attendance Total: N/A

OFFERTORY/ATTENDANCE NOT AVAILABLE
DUE TO EARLY BULLETIN SUBMISSION TO PRINTER

St Joseph Catholic Church ~ Calendar for this Week

MASSES / OBSERVANCES AND CHURCH ACTIVITIES

Sunday January 5, 2025
THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

Masses:
8:00 am, 10:00 am & 12:00 pm

Monday January 6, 2025
St. ANDRÉ BESSETTE, RELIGIOUS
Mass - 8:30 am

Tuesday January 7, 2025
St. RAYMOND OF PENYAFORT, PRIEST
Mass - 8:30 am
Exposition/Adoration 6:00 pm
Benediction 6:45 pm
Evening Mass - 7:00 pm

Wednesday January 8, 2025
Mass - 8:30 am

Thursday January 9, 2025
Daily Mass - 8:30 am

Friday January 10, 2025
Daily Mass - 8:30 am
Exposition/Adoration
IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING
MORNING MASS
Benediction 10:00 am

Saturday January 11, 2025
Confession / Reconciliation
3:00 pm - 4:00 pm
Vigil Mass - 5:00 pm

Next Sunday
THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

Prayer of Rejoicing

Fill our hearts, Lord, with rejoicing
as we seek and discover You.
Your ways are full of wonder,
glory, surprise, and joy.

Amen.

THIS WEEK AT THE PARISH

SUNDAY JANUARY 5

- **Dr. Clarke** (CLR 2) 9:00 am
- **OCIA - Order of Christian Initiation of Adults** (CLR1) 12:00 pm
- **Youth Ministry Meeting** (RR-A / CLR1)

MONDAY JANUARY 6

- **OCIA - Order of Christian Initiation of Adults** (Virtual) 7:00 pm
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89944235053?pwd=bFYHqh48x0moVo76CexBSsZg2T31A6.1>

TUESDAY JANUARY 7

- **Dr Clarke** - (CLR2) 5:00 pm

WEDNESDAY JANUARY 8

- **Line Dancing** (RR) 10:00 am
- **Dr Clarke** - (CLR2) 5:00 pm
- **Social Justice & Concerns Meeting** (Virtual)

THURSDAY JANUARY 9

- **Beginners Line Dance Class** (RR) 12:30 pm
- **Dr. Clark** (CLR2) 5:00 pm
- **Cantor Rehearsal with Denese Clay** (CH) 5:30 pm
- **SJCAF - Charismatic Prayer Group** (CLR1) 7:00 pm

SATURDAY JANUARY 11

- **Faith Formation /Religious Ed** (All Classrooms) 10:00 am
- **Dr. Clarke Grow Your Own Musicians** (CLR2) 11:30 am
- **Youth Choir Rehearsal** (CLR2) 12:00 pm
- **Denese Clay - Grow Your Own Musicians** - (CLR2) 2:00 pm
- **Dr. Clarke - Cantor Rehearsal for Vigil Mass** (CLR 2) 3:30 pm

Daily Readings for the Week of January 5, 2025

Sunday: Is 60:1-6/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13 (see 11)/Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6/Mt 2:1-12

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

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

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

Thursday: 1 Jn 4:19—5:4/Ps 72:1-2, 14 and 15bc, 17/Lk 4:14-22a

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

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

Next Sunday: Is 40:1-5, 9-11/Ps 104:1b-2, 3-4, 24-25, 27-28, 29-30 (1)/Ti 2:11-14; 3:4-7/Lk 3:15-16, 21-2

Please Pray for the Sick and Shut-in...

Cathrine Abrams, Gerry Anderson, Carla Amorim, Theresa Agorel, Melody & Carl Atkinson, Randy Belt, Agnes Bell, Veronica Blakeney, Maxine Brown, Renee Burroughs, Paula Butler, Tanesha Butler, Angela & Wick Cartwright, Alberta Christian, Angela Clark, Connie Clark, Chuck Clay, Angella Coker, Herman Davis, James Doe, James Dudley, Martin Ekeh, Verna Etheredge, Tammy Flarisee, Larry & Evelyn Frelow, Adrienne, Fraser-Darling, Rita Gant, Regina Gary, Gina Geron, Maureen Gramby, Agnes Grayson, Catherine & Jennifer Gresham, Juanita Grillo, Kimberly Grimes, Lawrence Hill, Sheila Hinton, Doris Hite, Luis Howell, Mark Humphrey, Cathy Jackson, Gwen Jarman, Demetrius Jackson, Katie Jackson, Melvin James, Wendell John, Donald Johnson, Latashia Johnson, Lyell Johnson, Roland Joyner, Duke Kelly, Fr. Mike King, Mark Sr/ Mark Jr & Gabrielle Landry, Alton Ernest Lewis, Henrietta Long, Gennie Huntley-Lopez, Edwina Love, Karee Lucas, Sadie Malveaux, Ebony Marble, Barbara Marshall, Marilyn Marshall, Leondre Massey, Anthony Mc Donald, Carlos Menefee, Solomon T. Miles, Jr. Thomasine M. Miles, Kathleen Mitchell, Nancy & William Mooney, Fr. Ray Moore, Loraine Moses, Madga Nelson, Nolan McWilliams, Kameron Neal, Paul Newman, Ronald Nickens, Gail Norris, Cynthia Obedike, Earline Parks, James & Stephen Parks, LaTanya Pelt, Larry Peters, Barbara Reece-Jones, Danielle Rhodes, Irene Richmond, Miriam Ross, Teresa Ross, Clifton Rush, Sheryl Sanders, Marcia Savoy, Johnnie Scott, Thomas W. Scott, Carolyn & William Scriber, Tyrone Sellers, Dorothy Seth, Dana Chapman-Sewell, Lucille Shaw, Eunice Sparkman, Madeline Stillwell, Gwen Sutton, Lucille Swann, Candice Taylor, Kenneth Taylor, Carolyn Thrash, Erma Torney, Frances Tyler, Cecilia Whittaker, Darryll Wilcots, Leon Williams, Paula Wynn

And the Recently Deceased:

ETERNAL REST GRANT TO THEM, O LORD, AND LET PERPETUAL LIGHT SHINE UPON THEM. MAY THEY REST IN PEACE. AMEN.



Mass Intentions

Sunday

8:00 AM MARY AGNES HARLEY †
10:00 AM ERASMUS FRANK NDUKA †
12:00 PM THE ST JOSEPH COMMUNITY

MONDAY

8:30 AM THE ST JOSEPH COMMUNITY

Tuesday

8:30 AM THE ST JOSEPH COMMUNITY
7:00 PM THE ST JOSEPH COMMUNITY

Wednesday

10:00 AM THE ST JOSEPH COMMUNITY

THURSDAY

8:30 AM THE ST JOSEPH COMMUNITY

FRIDAY

8:30 AM THE ST JOSEPH COMMUNITY

SATURDAY

5:00 PM FOR ALL BARREN AND PREGNANT WOMEN

LIVE THE LITURGY:

INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK

The news of the Messiah unsettled Herod. We see his anxiety clearly in today's Gospel. This is what Christ has come to do, after all. *He has come to shake things up. Are we ready to be unsettled*

Questions of the Week - for Your Reflection

FIRST READING:

Isaiah foresees a time when the people of Jerusalem will be overwhelmed with happiness and prosperity. **What gift could you receive that would bring you great joy?**

SECOND READING:

Paul informs the Ephesians that he received a revelation of God's plan to save all people through Christ Jesus. **What do you think makes your friends or relatives open to this idea?**

GOSPEL:

The visit of the magi teaches us about God's desire for the whole world to know about his Son, Jesus. **When do you first recall hearing about Jesus?**

CATHOLIC TRIVIA - DID YOU KNOW?

Question: What is Christ often depicted pointing to when portrayed in Christian artwork

Answer:

(a) The Blessed Mother (b) The Sacred Heart of Jesus.
(c) The Apostles

SEE ANSWER ON PAGE 5

WHY DO WE DO THAT?

CATHOLIC LIFE EXPLAINED

Epiphany

Question:

Besides the Wise Men, what is significant about the Epiphany?

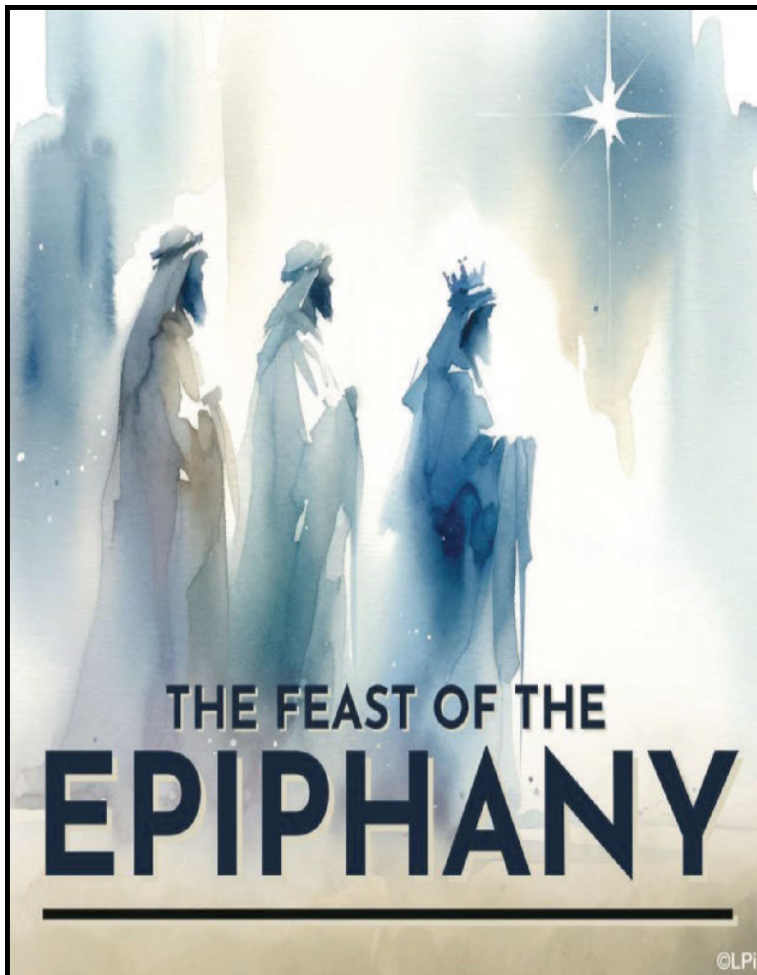
Answer:

Epiphany means "manifestation," or public display. The feast is usually celebrated January 6. In the US, it is celebrated on the Sunday nearest to January 6. It originates from a story unique to Matthew (2:1-12). Magi from the East come to offer homage to the newborn King, presenting him with gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

This part of Matthew's infancy narrative differs from Luke's account of the birth of Jesus. In Luke there are no Magi, star, nor gifts. Luke has Jesus being born in a stable after Mary and Joseph's long travel from Nazareth to Bethlehem. Matthew seems to have the family living in a house in Bethlehem, where the Magi find them.

Why these differences? They stem from the needs and concerns of the audience the authors were addressing, as well as the theological stance of each author. Knowing the original intention helps get at the correct interpretation of the text.

Since Matthew was writing primarily to a Jewish community, his concern was to show that Jesus did not come just for Jews, but for Gentiles as well. From his very birth, Jesus not only manifests himself to Jews, but also to Gentiles, who are prominently included in the manifestation, symbolized by the Magi and their journey. This is the most significant aspect of the feast of Epiphany. How do you manifest Jesus to all with whom you come into contact?



AS WE ENTER A NEW YEAR...

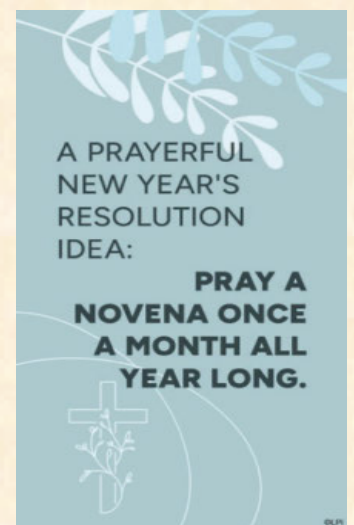
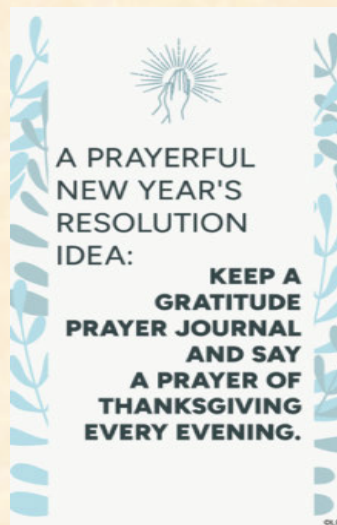
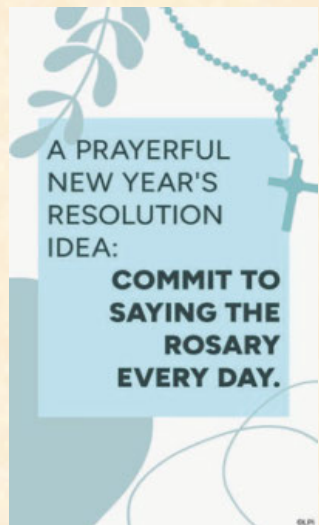
PLEASE REMEMBER...

AN ACTIVE MEMBER OF THIS PARISH IS ONE WHO...

- **Is properly registered** and on the parish rolls with names, children, addresses, and phone numbers up-to-date
- **Faithfully attends Mass** on weekends and Holy Days of Obligation.
- **Participates** in the activities and ministries of the parish.
- **Uses** the parish printed envelope, a filled out pew envelope or the online giving (Faith Direct) system.
- **Remember** you are **anonymous** if you just drop money in the basket or use a blank envelope. Being anonymous will not count towards active participation or attendance.

A Prayerful New Year's Resolution...

JUST A THOUGHT ...



WHAT IS YOUR PRAYERFUL NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTION IDEA?



Invite
a Friend
to join you for Mass this year

CATHOLIC TRIVIA – DID YOU KNOW?
You are correct if you answered:

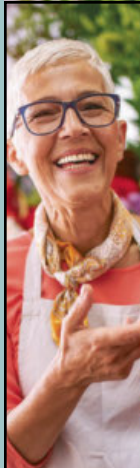
(b) The Sacred Heart of Jesus

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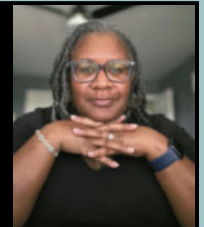
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