NEW! Church Building Hours:

Monday through Friday hours:

7:30 a.m. - 9:00 a.m. and 11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Saturday hours:

7:30 a.m. - 9:00 a.m. and 2:45 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.

Sunday hours:

7:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

The Celebration of the Eucharist:

Monday through Friday: 8:00 a.m. and 12:10 p.m. Saturday: 8:00 a.m.; Vigil Mass at 4:00 p.m.

Sunday: 8:00 am, 10:00 a.m. (Family Mass),12:00 pm (Adult Choir) and 7:30 pm (Contemporary Choir)

Sacrament of Baptism:

Baptisms are celebrated on the First and Third Sunday of the month at 2:00 p.m. Parents are asked to contact the Parish Office to make the necessary arrangements.

Beginning January 2016, Baptisms will be at 1:15.

Sacrament of Reconciliation:

Confessions are heard in the church on Saturdays from 3:00-4:00 p.m. and during the week at the Parish House or by appointment with a priest

Sacrament of Marriage:

Couples planning to get married are asked to contact the Parish Office at least one year prior to their wedding date to begin their marriage preparation.

Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick:

Parishioners, especially those who are entering the hospital, who wish to receive the Anointing of the Sick are asked to contact the Parish Office.

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament:

Saturday from 3:00 - 3:45 p.m.

Novenas:

Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal: Monday after the 8:00 am and 12:10 pm Masses.

Our Lady of Perpetual Help: Wednesday after the 12:10 p.m. Mass

Parish House (Rectory):

239 East 21st Street, New York, NY 10010-6463

(between Second and Third Avenues)

Office Hours: Monday-Friday 9:00 am - 1:00 pm

and 2:00 pm - 5:00 pm

The Parish Office is closed on Saturday, Sunday, and Holidays

Telephone: 212-475-1966 Fax: 212-504-8363

Website: www.epiphanychurch.nyc E-mail: epiphanychurch239@gmail.com

The Epiphany School:

234 East 22nd Street; New York, NY 10010-5601 141 East 28th Street; New York, NY 10016 Telephone: 212-473-4128 Fax: 212-473-4392

Website: www.theepiphanyschool.org



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Rev. Austin Titus Pastor

Rev. Arthur Golino *Parochial Vicar*

Rev. Msgr. Thomas A. Modugno *In Residence*

Rev. Livinus Obianisi Hospital Chaplain in Residence

Mr. James L. Hayes *Principal, The Epiphany School*

Mrs. Carmen DeSimone
Director of Religious Education

Mrs. Bogna McGarrigle
Director of Music Ministries and Organist

November 29, 2015 First Sunday of Advent

Epiphany Church is Handicapped Accessible

November 29, 2015

WELCOME!

Welcome to all new parishioners and visitors at Epiphany parish.

We are happy that you are here with us in the presence of God.

Remember to send your photos to the rectory or e-mail a photo to epiphanytitus@gmail.com. It helps Fr. Austin in a big way!

Announced Mass Intentions

Saturday, November 28, 2015

4:00 pm (vigil) Anne Thornett (living)

Sunday, November 29, 2015

8:00 am Our parishioners

Monday, November 30, 2015

St. Andrew, Apostle 8:00 am Sr. Agnes Connolly

12.10 pm Rosa & Dominick Martire

Tuesday, December 1, 2015 8:00 am Frank Schmidt

12:10 pm Brother John M. Kocika, S.C.

Wednesday, December 2, 2015

8:00 am Thomas Meagher 12:10 pm Dorothy R. Walsh

Thursday, December 3, 2015 St. Francis Xavier, Priest

8:00 am Elizabeth Huben 12:10 pm Robert Bart

Friday, December 4, 2015 8:00 am Ruth Cahill

12:10 pm Cenon R. Flor Cruz

Saturday, December 5, 2015

8:00 am Jerry Dwyer

May the Souls of the Faithful Departed Through the Mercy of God, Rest in Peace.

Amen.

Advent Wreath Dedications

Wreath Stand & Trimming in remembrance of members of the Wycoco & Stametelaky families. living and deceased.

Candles

Week 1 ~ in memory of Lillian & George Conard, Jack Warmbrand and James Lee Week 2 ~ in memory of

Pilar R. Franzuela and Leticia M. Asuzano Week 3 ~ members of the Ramos family,

José, Luella, Joseph, Amanda, Benjamin, Sydney & Lucas Week 4 ~ in memory of

deceased members of the McElroy family

REMEMBRANCE & SPECIAL INTENTIONS

A wonderful way to remember our loved ones who have passed on and to pray for special intentions. while giving back to God

Mass Intentions

Altar Bread & Wine (\$50 /week)

Sanctuary Lamp (\$20 / week)

Memorialize a Weekday Mass Book (\$25 / copy)

Please make these arrangements at the rectory.

Remembrance

Our Sanctuary lamp during the month of November will burn in remembrance of departed members of the Tabije and Ramos families, all the souls in purgatory, and for the sick, the dying & the needy.

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Our Sanctuary lamp during the month of December will burn in remembrance of members of the Wycoco & Stametelaky families living & deceased





The Gifts of Bread and Wine during the month of December are offered in memory of Natalie, Joseph & Patrick Torre

CHRISTMAS NOVENA MASS ENVELOPES

Christmas Novena Mass envelopes are available at the back of the church.

Please return the envelopes before Christmas Eve. They will remain on the altar during all the novena Masses.



PLEASE BE GENEROUS TO GOD'S CHURCH

COLLECTIONS October 1 - 31 2014 2015 \$50,165 \$47,194

You, our parishioners, are the Church's only means of support. If you are able to assist us to make up for the decline in our collections since last year, your help would be very much appreciated. Thank you!



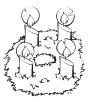
God's gifts to you and express thanks to Him in praise.

Our average weekly collection is \$12,742, which is less than our average weekly expenses of \$20,482.

We appreciate your generosity.

The Finance Committee has published our Annual Financial Report which is available in the church vestibule.

> We encourage parishioners to make their Sunday contribution through ParishPay which is available on our parish website www.epiphanychurch.nyc





Christmas Music at Epiphany

Join us now and share the gift of music

We welcome volunteer Singers, Trumpet players & Violinists to join us now as we prepare for Christmas

> Sing and play with us at Lessons & Carols at Epiphany Saturday, December 12, 5:00 - 6:00 PM and throughout the Christmas Season



SOUNDS Join St. Peter's University of Jersey City on Tuesday, December 15 for their Christmas with the

National Catholic Choir & Orchestra SEASON Immerse yourself in the sounds of Christmas!

Purchase tickets at www.jcfinearts.org Enter code: EPIPHANY to receive a special discount



Offerings for Christmas Flowers & Decorations

Envelopes are available at the back of the church. Please return your offering by December 15. Once again, your generosity is greatly appreciated.



The **Epiphany Giving Tree**

benefits pregnant women and their families served by the Sisters of Life.

Please take an envelope from the back of the church on which there is a tag with a suggested gift.

Please purchase the gift and return it to Epiphany on December 12 - 13.

Thank you so much for your generosity!

Merry Christmas!



ADOPT A FAMILY AT CHRISTMAS

Our parish Social Action Committee is once again sponsoring our Adopt a Family (or just one or two people) to provide needy families with gifts to place under the tree on Christmas morning. For information about a family you can assist, please contact:

Virginia Urban at virginiaurban@yahoo.com or 212-217-3044. Drop-off date: Wed, December 16th from 3:00 to 7:00 pm at the Epiphany School at 234 East 22nd. Helpers & Drivers are also needed on Dec 16th!



Cub Scout Pack 422

will collect new toys for children 6-11 years old at the New York Foundling Hospital board games - craft kits - toys educational games - gift cards

Please bring your unwrapped gift to Epiphany on December 13, after the 8am, 10 am & 12pm Masses.

If you cannot bring the gift on Sunday, please deliver it to the rectory no later than Tues, Dec 15. Help us deliver smiles to the children for Christmas!

A Gift of Beauty & Honor

Epiphany School's graduating class is raising funds for their graduation trip in May 2016.

Honor your loved one by purchasing a poinsettia plant which will decorate

Epiphany Church throughout the Christmas season.

The name of your loved one will be handwritten on a specially designed tag with a matching ornament as a Christmas keepsake.

Plants are available in pot sizes: 6" (\$25), 8" (\$35), 10" (\$50) & 14" (\$100) Also available is a 24" boxwood tree (\$200)

You may purchase your plant in the church narthex on November 28-29 & December 5-6 before and after all Masses (except 7:30 PM)

We wish you a Merry & Blessed Christmas!



JOIN THE LEGION OF MARY

The Legion of Mary is part of the worldwide association of Catholic laity who serve the Church in prayer and the performance of apostolic works.

Today, there are over 3 million members, making it the largest apostolic organization of Catholic lay people.

Meetings are at 6:00 PM every Wednesday in the Rectory. For information, please call Mary at 212-686-7913.



Mass Book for 2016

Reservations for 2016 announced weekday & Saturday AM

Until Dec 7, we will accept only reservations submitted using the forms available in church & on our website.

Completed forms may be submitted by mail or in person at the parish office. After Dec 7, reservations may be made in person at the parish office. The stipend set by the Archdiocese of New York for an announced Mass is \$15.

DEMELLO-STROUD SPIRITUALITY CONFERENCE

Saturday, December 19 - 8:00 AM - 4:45 PM

WAKE UP TO THE JOYS OF ADVENT!

Reflections in the Spirit of Anthony Demello, S.J.

8:00 - 9:00 Bagels & Coffee 9:00 - 10:00 Waking Up 10:15 - 11:30 Finding Peace through Body/Thought Awareness

Silent Awareness 1:00 - 2:00

11:45 - 1:00

2:15 - 3:15

Happiness means Efortless Change Love: Living in Prayerful Awareness 3:30 - 4:45

Presented by Desmond Towey & Josephine Dixon Hall of the Demello-Stroud Spirituality Center

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Modest gratitude donations will enable the Center to continue its work.



UNDERSTANDING TODAY'S READINGS

(In order to understand God's love, we need to understand what He says)

Jeremiah 33:14-16

"The days are coming, says the Lord, when I will fulfill the promise."

As a political prisoner, Jeremiah wrote these verses of hope. Yes, the kingdom would fall. Jerusalem would be left desolate. But these events would not stop God's plan to restore the nation and the royal line. In fact, the righteous king, would be the source of revival for God's chosen people.

True to his vision, Jeremiah witnessed the destruction of Jerusalem. But Jeremiah would not live to see God's people return to their homeland. Nonetheless, his words gave the people hope. God would fulfill his promise, a new king would rule justly, and the nation would be safe.

All this, "in those days, in that time", which means it would happen in God's time and in God's way.

Our hope remains in God, who will bring justice in his own time, his own way.



1 Thessalonians 3:12-4:2

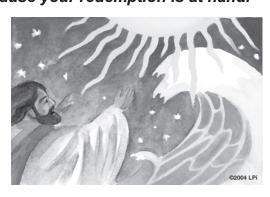
"...be blameless in holiness before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus..."

This letter revealed that despite a strong opposition from the Jewish synagogue, Paul had a strong affection for the Jewish community because they were steadfast in their faith. Nevertheless, after Paul explained his efforts to see them in Christ's Church, he exhorted them to live chaste lives.

How should the Christian live? Paul's answer was as simple: love the way you have been shown to love. What Paul wrote was essentially a prayer that the community grow in the love that Paul and his fellow missionaries showed the community. He reminded the community to grow in the Christian life and in their devotion to God. This life and devotion were again founded in love. Indeed, in these verses, Paul could reduce the tradition he claimed to receive from Christ himself in one simple word: love. Christian love is the basis for missionary work and for a moral life.

May we grow in love for each other and in the Christian life, just as Paul wrote in prayer and encouragement.

Luke 21:25-28, 34-36 "...stand erect and raise your heads because your redemption is at hand."



In these short verses, Jesus described the beginning of God's final initiative. He would give signs of warning across the sky, cause anxiety on earth with violent sea storms, and shake up the heavens. What we would explain scientifically as eclipses, meteor showers, and the result of storm systems on earth, the ancients attributed to God's intervention in the order of the cosmos. God would shake things up.

People would grow anxious because their faith systems and rituals failed. They could no longer control malevolent spirits that drove the sun, the moon, the stars, or the seas. Without the security their idols gave them, they would faint at the coming events. For these events would be unknown, chaotic, and devastating.

But for Christians it is to be a time of rejoicing. Their Savior is at hand! Now, their world view and lifestyle will be vindicated. Luke made the point that Christians saw the world differently and were, therefore, required to live in the world differently from non-believers. Further, Christians had something to be delivered from: persecution. Finally, Luke presented a time of hope. Through great power and glory, the Son of Man would come and free his followers. Unlike the anxious people of the world, the Christians would anticipate the end in hope.



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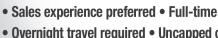


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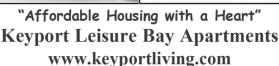
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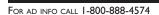
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