

**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](http://www.epiphanychurch.nyc)

E-mail: [epiphanychurch239@gmail.com](mailto:epiphanychurch239@gmail.com)

**The Epiphany School:**

234 East 22nd Street; New York, NY 10010-5601

141 East 28th Street; New York, NY 10016

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Website: [www.theepiphanyschool.org](http://www.theepiphanyschool.org)



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*Parochial Vicar*

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*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*

**December 6, 2015**  
**Second Sunday of Advent**

*Epiphany Church is Handicapped Accessible*

## 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, December 5, 2015**

4:00 pm (vigil) Kelly Anne Warren

**Sunday, December 6, 2015**

**Second Sunday of Advent**

8:00 am Our parishioners  
12:00 pm William Cronin



**Monday, December 7, 2015**

**St. Ambrose, Bishop and Doctor of the Church**

8:00 am Rev. Msgr Lamont Hamilton  
12:10 pm Elizabetha Rossini

**Tuesday, December 8, 2015**

**The Immaculate Conception**

**of the Blessed Virgin Mary**

8:00 am Our parishioners  
12:10 pm Rocco Battaglia  
7:30 pm Caterina Scorscone



**Wednesday, December 9, 2015**

8:00 am Edith Mayrhuber & Carl  
Walter (living)  
12:10 pm Joan C. Woods

**Thursday, December 10, 2015**

8:00 am Mary T. Walsh  
12:10 pm Carole Finamore



**Friday, December 11, 2015**

8:00 am Brigid Hume O'Brien  
12:10 pm Charles Rios

**Saturday, December 12, 2015**

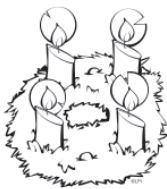
**Our Lady of Guadalupe**

8:00 am Pilgrims of the Camino de  
Santiago

*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 (2016 - all Masses now available)**

**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 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  
Christmas novena Masses.



## Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception

Tuesday, December 8th, is the  
Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception.  
Under this title, Mary is the patroness of the United States.  
Mass will be celebrated at 8 AM, 12:10 PM and 7:30 PM.

## PASTOR'S THANK YOU

Many heartfelt thanks to the 116 parishioners who have  
already contributed \$26,506 to this year's Annual Pastor's  
Appeal. We will need every penny of it to reduce our annual  
deficit. Last year, the appeal raised \$46,475. If you have not  
yet contributed, please do so. We need your help. Appeal  
donation envelopes are available in the church vestibule.  
Again, thank you!

## 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.



**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](http://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



Join St. Peter's University of Jersey City on  
Tuesday, December 15 for their  
**Christmas with the  
National Catholic Choir & Orchestra**  
Immerse yourself in the sounds of Christmas!

Purchase tickets at [www.jcfinearts.org](http://www.jcfinearts.org)  
Enter code: **EPIPHANY** to receive a special discount



A special thank you to one of Epiphany's  
most faithful friends  
Andrett Funeral Home  
for providing our parishioners with calendars for the new year.  
Calendars are available in the narthex of the church.



### 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.

### Advent Reconciliation Monday at Epiphany December 14 - 4:00 PM - 8:00 PM

The sacrament of reconciliation is a great gift from God.  
Cardinal Dolan has designated Monday, December 14,  
as a day for all Catholics to accept God's gift of forgiveness  
during these extended hours.



### 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](mailto: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 during the Christmas season.

The name of your loved one will be written on a specially  
designed tag with an 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!**

### Extraordinary Jubilee Year of Mercy -

December 8, 2015 - November 20, 2016

Pope Francis encourages us in this Year of Mercy

"Let us remember the Golden Rule:

Do unto others as you would have them do unto you."

It is a favorable time to heal wounds, a time to offer everyone  
the way of Forgiveness and Reconciliation. - Pope Francis

Show mercy to others through the  
Spiritual and Corporal Works of Mercy we learned as children.

#### Corporal Works of Mercy

Feed the Hungry  
Give Drink to the Thirsty  
Clothe the Naked  
Shelter the Homeless  
Care for the Sick  
Visit the Imprisoned  
Bury the Dead

#### Spiritual Works of Mercy

Convert Sinners  
Instruct the Ignorant  
Advise the Doubtful  
Comfort the Sorrowful  
Bear Wrongs Patiently  
Forgive Injuries  
Pray for the Living and Dead



### St. Frances Cabrini Shrine

Rite of Opening the Door of Mercy  
in the Jubilee Year of Mercy

Multicultural Mass on Sunday, December 13 at 2:00 PM

Celebrants: Bishop Gerald Walsh  
and Father Ambiorix Rodriguez

710 Fort Washington Avenue, NYC 10033 - [cabrinishrinenyc.org](http://cabrinishrinenyc.org)

### DEMELLO-STROUD SPIRITUALITY CONFERENCE

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

Epiphany Church Hall (2nd Av - 21/22 Sts - Manhattan)

#### WAKE UP TO THE JOYS OF ADVENT!

"Listen to the song the angels sang when you were born"

-- the joyful mysteries of your life  
-- the revelations that silence brings  
-- the gift of "distractions" while praying

8:00 - 9:00 Bagels & Coffee

9:00 - 4:45 Interactive discussion, talks, video -

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## UNDERSTANDING TODAY'S READINGS

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

### Baruch 5:1-9

**"...see your children...rejoicing that they are remembered by God."**

Today's reading speaks of hope in God's mercy and justice.

Baruch foretells that Jerusalem will return from exile to a new intimacy with God.

How will Jerusalem remain close to God? By acting in justice so as to give true worship, free of corruption and full of compassion. As long as Jerusalem holds close to God, the Lord will return the favor and increase the "splendor" of Jerusalem. If Jerusalem was just, its Temple would spread knowledge of God. The Temple would be a beacon for God's glory and a viewing point for coming worshipers, Jewish and non-Jewish alike. God's word would be heard and Jerusalem's children would gather, rejoicing that they are remembered by God.

Even today, Christians give God glory primarily through acts of justice and mercy. In the season of waiting, let us not forget the less fortunate. Let us act with justice and mercy.

### Philippians 1:4-6, 8-11

**"And this is my prayer: that your love may increase ever more...so that you may be pure and blameless for the day of Christ..."**

The blessing from Paul's letter to the Philippians was a poignant display of affection. While Paul was in prison at Ephesus, he wrote to the community he established and nurtured. His language was remarkable. The relationship he had with the community at Philippi was based on a sense of shared mission. They had a partnership with Paul in spreading the Gospel both in God's grace and in suffering. Many scholars hold this partnership was based upon the continued generosity of the Philippians to Paul. When Paul remembered the community, especially in prayer, it was a joy-filled memory. And he yearned to rejoin them at the earliest moment, if only he could.

I AM CONFIDENT OF THIS,  
THAT THE ONE WHO BEGAN  
A GOOD WORK IN YOU  
WILL CONTINUE TO COMPLETE IT  
UNTIL THE DAY OF  
CHRIST JESUS.

PHILIPPIANS 1:6

EXCERPTS FROM THE LECTIONARY FOR MASS ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

CLPI

### Luke 3:1-6

**"Prepare the way of the Lord. Make straight his paths...all flesh shall see the salvation of God"**

John the Baptist was God's advertisement. Rooted in the nation's past, his appearance in the desert caught the popular imagination. His message prepared the populace for the coming of One Greater. "Get ready!"

John brought together historical significance and prophetic tradition. Like Elijah, he ministered in the desert. Like Isaiah, he foretold coming events.

Through John, we learned that God was about to do something new, unique, different. John stood in the shadows of the past, but pointed to future events.

As the year ends, we look back to the past for comfort and reflection. But we look forward to the coming of One Greater. Let us use this time to "Get ready."



## SURVEY RESULTS



The Parish Council and I are meeting regularly. One of the many items on the agenda for our most recent meeting was the results of the parish survey regarding consolidation of Sunday Masses. I am grateful to all those who took the time to indicate which Mass they prefer to attend.

The results were fairly spread out among the Masses. There was no clear consensus on which Mass could be eliminated.

What **WAS** clear was that a majority of the respondents were **NOT** registered at Epiphany. A registered parishioner is one whose donations are given through ParishPay or the envelope system.

Parish registration is important for many reasons. I urge those who are not registered to stand up and be counted as one who identifies with this parish and our community. Registering is all about your sense of belonging and connectedness to this Church.

How can we survive as a parish church if we do not even know who half our members are? I hope that everyone at Epiphany will register through ParishPay.com or the envelope system. Please?

Also, if you give through ParishPay as I do, you can pick up a card each time you enter church and place it into the basket at collection time. This eliminates the awkwardness you may feel when the basket passes you by.

Pray for your council and me as we deliberate what is best for our parish and what we need to do to make it stronger.

Fr. Austin Titus

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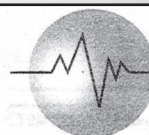
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