

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



THE CHURCH OF THE EPIPHANY

The Church of the Epiphany
375 Second Avenue and 22nd Street
New York, NY 10010

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. Kathleen Crimmins
Director of Religious Education

Mrs. Bogna McGarrigle
Director of Music Ministries and Organist

December 20, 2015
Fourth 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 19, 2015

4:00 pm (vigil) Mary Quinn Brody

Sunday, December 20, 2015

Second Sunday of Advent

8:00 am Our parishioners
10:00 am Rev. Patrick J. Carroll
12:00 pm Lorraine Oussani
7:30 pm Annmary Hoare



Monday, December 21, 2015

8:00 am Giovannina & Salvatore Mummiani
12:10 pm Helen & James Turner

Tuesday, December 22, 2015

8:00 am Dr. Dolores Danilowicz
12:10 pm Ernesto B. Cruz

Wednesday, December 23, 2015

8:00 am Dorothy Walsh
12:10 pm Florence Lissmann

Thursday, December 24, 2015

8:00 am George Vella
12:10 pm The McGroarty family
4:00 pm Mary and Frank Sheehan
10:00 pm Our parishioners

Friday, December 25, 2015

8:00 am Holy Souls
10:00 am Intentions of Rev. Austin Titus (living)
12:00 pm Elizabeth Jung

Saturday, December 26, 2015

8:00 am Christmas Novena

*May the Souls of the Faithful Departed
Through the Mercy of God, Rest in peace. Amen.*

MASS ATTENDANCE - December 5 - 6

4:00 PM	8:00 AM	10:00 AM	12:00 PM	7:30 PM
313	169	393	239	162

Advent Wreath Dedications

Wreath Stand & Trimming in remembrance of members of the Wycoco & Stamatelaky 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 & Stamatelaky 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.

Octave of Christmas



Christmas Mass Schedule

Christmas Eve

4:00 PM Family Mass with Youth Choir and Children's Christmas Pageant
10:00 PM Solemn Vigil Mass of Christmas with Adult Choir and Trumpet

Christmas Day

8:00 AM & 10:00 AM - Organist & Cantor
12:00 PM with Adult Choir and Trumpet
There will be no 7:30 Mass on Christmas Day



The Advent Candle of Love

The fourth candle of Advent is the Candle of Love. Its light is meant to remind us of the love that God has for us. Jesus shows us God's perfect love. He is God's love in human form. The Bible says that "God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that whoever believes in him should not perish, but have eternal life."



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 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
during the Christmas Season at Epiphany
and join in the music of our parish all year long.

Music is an expression of joy. Come and be joyful with us!

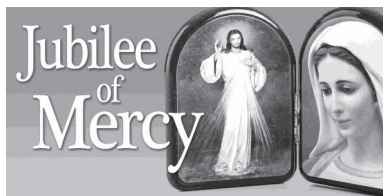


JOIN THE LEGION OF MARY

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.



Extraordinary Jubilee Year of Mercy

December 8, 2015 - November 20, 2016

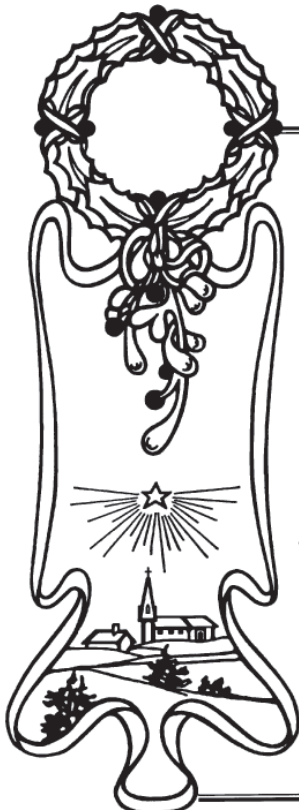
Pope Francis encourages us in this Year of Mercy

"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.

Show mercy to others through the
Spiritual and Corporal Works of Mercy.



We Wish You All

A glad and peaceful
Christmastide
With all its memories sweet;
May hope and love and
joy be yours
With kindly friends to greet;
The echo of the angel's song,
The star's clear guiding light,
The **Christ** child in your
heart and home,
To make this
Christmas bright.

OUR GIFTS TO THE CHRIST CHILD AT CHRISTMAS



We give our loved ones generous gifts at Christmas. But we are celebrating the birth of Christ. Shouldn't He get the best gift?

Please be as generous as your means allow in your gift to His body, the Church, at Christmas. You are our only hope for eliminating our operating deficit.

Thank you!

Fr Austin

CHRISTMAS



Our People

January 23 - 24, 2016

We will welcome a visitor from UNBOUND

Father David E. Noone
will celebrate Masses and bring us information
about the work of Unbound,
a lay Catholic sponsorship ministry that assists
children and elderly in 20 developing countries.

To learn more, call 800-875-6564
or visit Unbound at www.unbound.org.



SAVE THE DATE!

MARDI GRAS FUN - FUND RAISER

Tuesday, February 9 at 7:00 PM

Join us for
Great Food
&
Wonderful Company
before we begin our Lenten fast.

UNDERSTANDING TODAY'S READINGS

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

Micah 5:1-4a

"He shall stand firm and shepherd his flock..."

Today's reading is about Bethlehem in the midst of foreign invasion. As a prophet, Micah condemned the city for its sins, but promised a time of renewed glory. The restoration would begin in most insignificant of places, just as David, Israel's greatest king, came from the shepherding fields around a small village.

Such would be the case for the coming Messiah, Israel's leader at the end of time. He would seem to come from nowhere, yet his lineage would be from ancient times. His arrival would be humble, yet his pedigree would be impeccable.

Until his time, Israel would be scattered among the nations. But his birth would be the sign of Israel's return to its homeland.

The coming Messiah would rule like a shepherd, in God's name, with strength from the Father. So great would his reign be, that it will extend to the ends of the earth. His rule will be peaceful as he watches over his flock the way a shepherd guards his sheep.

Jesus was born in the smallest of places, did not travel more than 50 miles from his home in his life, left no personal writing, and his death was as humbling as his birth. Yet the vision of God's kingdom was fulfilled in his coming. His life and death changed the world.

Hebrews 10:5-10

"Behold, I come to do your will, O God."

As the feast of Christmas approaches, the most important question is, "Why did Jesus come?"

Paul's letter to the Hebrews answers the question with the words Christ spoke, "I come to do your will, O God."

When Paul's words were written, the Romans had destroyed the holy temple of the Jews and had reduced Jerusalem to rubble. Both Jews and Jewish Christians mourned the loss and felt they had failed in their attempt to build temples to God and to create ceremonies in his praise.

Paul recalls to the Hebrews the words of Jesus as a reminder to them that sacrifices and temples are less important than doing the will of God. Their offering should be themselves in service of God's will.

Temples were built and destroyed. The priesthood of Aaron was a failure, because it was repetitive and ineffective. But Christ, the eternal High Priest, came to offer his body as a way to do God's will...the ultimate and perfect sacrifice.

Why did Christ come? To say "Yes" to God and to offer himself to the Father. During this season of Advent and in celebrating the birth of our Savior, we are inspired to do the same. By his death, Christ gave us life. We can use that life to serve others, not only during the Christmas season, but all our time on earth.

Luke 1:39-45

"Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb."

Luke used an insignificant meeting between two pregnant women in order to connect two of the most important movements in first century Judaism: the followers of John the Baptist and the disciples of Jesus.

Elizabeth, the mother of John the Baptist, represented the open, trusting tradition of the female in Judaism. Just as the elderly Sarah became the mother of Isaac and the old Hannah became the mother of Samuel, Elizabeth could rejoice in the birth of a son, even at an old age.

The Blessed Virgin Mary represented a new revelation. God was entering the human stage not only with a new message, but in a completely new way! Through Mary, God sent his son into the world.



When Elizabeth greeted Mary and recognized the Messiah in Mary's womb they were filled with the Holy Spirit and with joyful anticipation of the fulfillment of God's promise to send a Savior. What a marvelous wonder for God to fill not only Elizabeth's heart with his Holy Spirit but the child in her womb as well! John the Baptist, even before the birth of the Messiah, anticipated his coming and leapt for joy in the womb of his mother as the Holy Spirit revealed to him the presence of the King to be born. The Holy Spirit is God's gift to us to enable us to know and experience the indwelling presence of God and the power of his kingdom. The Holy Spirit is the way in which God reigns within each of us.

Lord, fill me with your Holy Spirit and give me joy in seeking you more closely. Increase my faith in all your promises, my hope in the joys of heaven.

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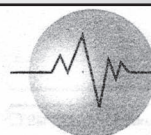


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