

**Church 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.

**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)

7:30 pm (Contemporary Choir)

**Sacrament of Baptism:**

Baptisms are celebrated on the First and Third Sunday of the month at 1:15 p.m. Baptism class is *required* for all new parents. We ask parents to contact the Parish Office to make the necessary arrangements.

**Sacrament of Reconciliation:**

Confessions are heard in the church on Saturdays from 3:00 – 3:45 p.m. and during the week at the Parish House or by appointment with a priest

**Sacrament of Marriage:**

We ask couples planning to get married 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)

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Rev. Arthur Golino  
*Parochial Vicar*

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

Mrs. Kate McHugh  
*Principal, The Epiphany School*

Mrs. Kathleen Crimmins  
*Director of Religious Education*

Mrs. Bogna McGarrigle  
*Director of Music Ministries and Organist*

**December 25, 2016**

**Solemnity of**  
**The Nativity of the Lord**

*Epiphany Church is Handicapped Accessible*

**Announced Mass Intentions**

**Saturday, December 24, 2016**

**Vigil of the Nativity of the Lord**

8:00 am **NO MORNING MASS**  
4:00 pm the children of Epiphany Parish  
10:00 pm Thanksgiving

**Sunday, December 25, 2016**

**Nativity of the Lord**

8:00 am Frank & Elizabeth Matthews  
10:00 am Intentions of Lily & Epifanio Calpo  
12:00 pm Omar Bernaldez  
7:30 pm **NO EVENING MASS**

**Monday, December 26, 2016**

**St. Stephen, the First Martyr**

8:00 am **NO MORNING MASS**  
12:10 pm Florence Lissmann

**Tuesday, December 27, 2016**

**St. John, Apostle & Evangelist**

8:00 am Christmas Novena  
12:10 pm Elizabeth Y.Y. Chow

**Wednesday, December 28, 2016**

**The Holy Innocents**

8:00 am Intentions of Javier Gomez & family  
12:10 pm Intentions of Rev. Jay Harrington, OP

**Thursday, December 29, 2016**

**St. Thomas Becket, Bishop & Martyr**

8:00 am Paulina Simpao  
12:10 pm Dorothy R. Walsh

**Friday, December 30, 2016**

**The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph**

8:00 am George Memoly Sr.  
12:10 pm Ernesto Pappalardo

**Saturday, December 31, 2016**

**New Year's Eve - St. Sylvester 1, Pope**

8:00 am Thanksgiving  
4:00 pm Thanksgiving from the Escueta family

**Sunday, January 1, 2017**

**Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God**

8:00 am Our Parishioners  
10:00 am Henry Morgan  
12:00 pm Sr. Doris Sayonne, RDC  
7:30 pm **NO EVENING MASS**

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

**BUSINESS OFFICE CLOSED**

Friday, December 30  
thru  
Monday, January 9

In an emergency, please call 631-807-8618

**SCHEDULE CHANGES**

**Saturday, December 24 - No 8:00 AM Mass**  
**No Confessions -- No Eucharistic Adoration**

**Sunday, December 25 - no 7:30 PM Mass**

**Monday, December 26 - no 8:00 AM Mass**

**Sunday, January 1 - no 7:30 PM Mass**

**Monday, January 2 - No 12:10 PM Mass**

**Our Sanctuary Lamp**

from Dec 25 - 31  
will burn for  
Gerard, Connail, Kevin & Peggy Moran  
& Monica Moran Coughlin



**The Bread and Wine**

from Dec 25 - 31  
will be offered in memory of  
Lillian & George Conard  
Jack Warmbrand & James Lee



**2017 Mass Book**

Reservations for 2017 announced Masses  
may be arranged at the rectory office.



**COLLECTION FOR  
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*weekend of January 1*

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**Solemnity of  
Mary, the Holy Mother  
of God  
Sunday, January 1**



**Eucharistic Ministers**

*Schedules for Jan 7 - Apr 29 are now available*

**Ministers are invited  
to pick up their copies in the ushers' room.**

**Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick**

*Any parishioner seeking anointing  
is invited to call the rectory to make arrangements.*

## 150 YEARS OLD!!



In 2018, Epiphany Parish will be 150 years old. This is a tremendous milestone! Just think of all the good things that have come about because of the Parish's presence in this community!

We want to celebrate this milestone, our "Sesquicentennial", throughout 2018, but it will take much planning, which will begin soon. Cardinal Dolan will celebrate with us at Mass. Additionally, there will be a parish dinner, a commemorative journal, etc.

We invite all parishioners to contribute their talents & hard work to this year-long celebration.

Our first meeting will be Tuesday, January 10, at 7:00 PM in the parish hall. If you wish to volunteer, please call the rectory office (Mon - Fri - 9AM - 5 PM - 212-475-1966).

## Home

A very special welcome to all who come back home from university or elsewhere for Christmas. There is no place like home!



## Father Austin's Christmas Message



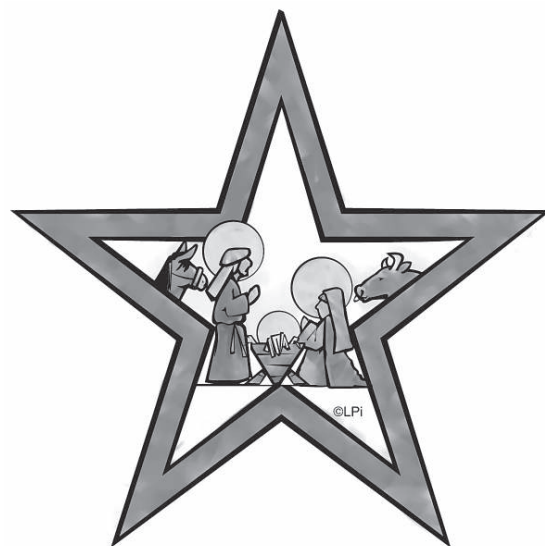
We give our loved ones generous gifts at Christmas. But we are celebrating the birth of Christ. Shouldn't He receive the best gift?

Your gifts assist us greatly in our ministry of service to our parishioners. Because of you, Epiphany is a vibrant parish, able to serve the spiritual needs of our people.

Please be as generous as your means allow in your gift to His Body, the Church, at Christmas.

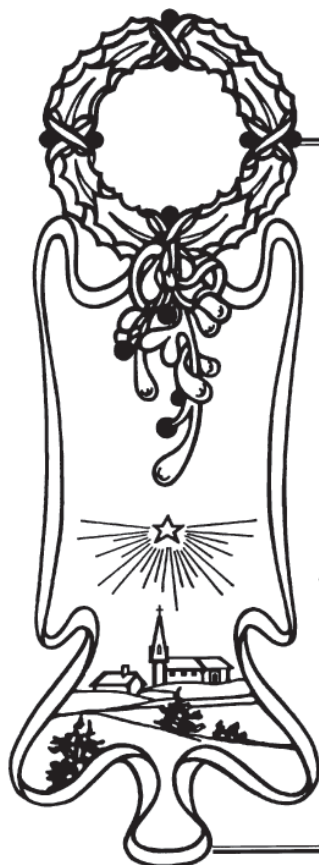
We are so very grateful to our parishioners for your constant generosity. We know that you make personal sacrifices in order to provide financial support for our parish and we will always work to provide the spiritual home that our parishioners deserve.

A Blessed Christmas to all ~  
Fr. Austin and the Pastoral Staff



## 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.



Thanks for the electric guitar you gave me for Christmas," little Chris told his uncle. "It's the best present I ever got."

"That's great," said his uncle. "Do you know how to play it?"

"Oh, I don't play it," the Chris said. "My mom gives me a dollar a day not to play it during the day and my dad gives me five dollars a week not to play it at night."



While a man had gone out driving to do some Christmas shopping, his wife had been watching TV when she heard the announcer say, "be very careful driving on I5 today, there is a motorist driving the wrong way!" His wife called him on his cell phone to warn him, and his reply was, "You're not kidding! There are hundreds of them out here".

## CHRISTMAS





## UNDERSTANDING TODAY'S READINGS

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

### *Today's Psalm: 97*

*Today is born our Savior, Christ the Lord!*

#### **Isaiah 52:7-10**

***"...announcing salvation, and saying to Zion, 'Your God is King!'"***

These few verses from Second Isaiah described the joyful conversation between two watchmen who guarded the ruins of Jerusalem just before the return of the faithful from the Babylonian exile. The painful wait was over. The Lord had freed his people from their bondage. They were returning home to rebuild the City of David and its precious Temple. An advance man preceded the returning throngs with a message of salvation: "Your God is King!"

The conversation was a shout of joy. The Lord himself led his people. He restored the holy places. He revealed his power on behalf of his people. All nations could see the salvation bestowed by God upon his chosen people.

Christians see the joyful witness in these verses focused on a small babe born 2000 years ago. With the birth of Jesus, God began to rebuild the relationship between humanity and the creator. Salvation had come. And it is still with us!

#### **Titus 3:4-7**

***"...so that we might be justified by his grace and become heirs in hope of eternal life."***

Paul's words to Titus are very humbling. There is nothing in mankind that earns the gift of salvation, God's promise of eternal life. We have performed no righteous deeds nor acts which deserve reward. It is only God's divine love, which knew our misery and suffering, our separation from him, which moved God to take pity on us. His love lifted us out the depths of life without hope, and granted our salvation.

Paul emphasized that we receive our salvation through renewal by the Holy Spirit, as it is poured out on us in the Sacrament of Baptism. Our Baptism gives us grace and hope and makes us heirs of eternal life. And, as Paul often tells us, all of this comes to us through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

#### **Luke 2:1-14**

***"Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests."***

Luke, the most lyrical of the evangelists painted a picture of the power of the house of Caesar. With ultimate authority, they caused people to travel great distances to deposit their taxes in the coffers of the Roman empire.

Luke contrasted this secular power with a very different kind of power. Mary and Joseph were under the rule of the Roman Empire, a pagan power. They lived in the land of promise, but were not free.

Why would the Messiah choose to be born in such pitiable conditions and in total obscurity? God's ways are not our ways. Christ, the Most Exalted One, condescended for the sake of the lowly and the oppressed. The Lord descended not in pomp and majesty befitting a King, but in meekness and lowliness to show us the way of perfect love. Despite the commonness of his birth, those who were witness to it recognized it as a change in the world. From shepherds to angels, they came to bow down before the newborn savior. The birth in Bethlehem meant that the world was awakening to salvation.

In Jesus' lowly birth we see the foreshadowing of the greatest sacrifice God would make for our sake when his only begotten Son willingly embraced the crown of thorns and death on the cross for our salvation. From his first moments among us to his last on the cross, Christ showed us the way we are to live - meekly, humbly, bowing down before God, the only true power.



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