



OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL HELP PARISH

January 6, 2019

Epiphany of the Lord

MASSES & SERVICES

Saturday: 5pm
 (Anticipated Mass)
 Sunday: 9am, 11am & 5pm
 Monday – Wednesday 8am
 Thursday Mass/Novena:
 8am & 7pm
 Friday, Saturday, Holidays:
 9am
 (Fridays in July & August:
 8am)
 Reconciliation
 Saturday: 4-4:45pm
 Adoration
 Saturday 9:30-10am
 Library Hours
 Sunday: 10-10:45am, 4:30-5pm

OFFICE HOURS

Monday-Friday: 9am-4pm

STAFF

Pastor

Babu Mathew, C.Ss.R.

Associate Pastor

Joseph Horo, C.Ss.R.

Office Manager

Virginia Fong

Pastoral Coordinator

Bertilla Watanabe

Bookkeeper

Corinna Siy

Youth Ministry Coordinator

Theresa Barao

OLPH School Principal

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IN RESIDENCE

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The History of the Feast of Epiphany

Like many of the most ancient Christian feasts, Epiphany was first celebrated in the East, where it has been held from the beginning almost universally on January 6. Today, among both Eastern Catholics and Eastern Orthodox, the feast is known as Theophany—the revelation of God to man.

Epiphany: A Fourfold Feast

Epiphany originally celebrated four different events, in the following order of importance: the Baptism of the Lord; Christ's first miracle, the changing of water into wine at the wedding in Cana; the Nativity of Christ; and the visitation of the Wise Men or Magi. Each of these is a revelation of God to man: At Christ's Baptism, the Holy Spirit descends and the voice of God the Father is heard, declaring that Jesus is His Son; at the wedding in Cana, the miracle reveals Christ's divinity; at the Nativity, the angels bear witness to Christ, and the shepherds, representing the people of Israel, bow down before Him; and at the visitation of the Magi, Christ's divinity is revealed to the Gentiles—the other nations of the earth.

The End of Christmastide

Eventually, the celebration of the Nativity was separated out, in the West, into Christmas; and shortly thereafter, Western Christians adopted the Eastern feast of the Epiphany, still celebrating the Baptism, the first miracle, and the visit from the Wise Men. Thus, Epiphany came to mark the end of Christmastide—the Twelve Days of Christmas (celebrated in the song), which began with the revelation of Christ to Israel in His Birth and ended with the revelation of Christ to the Gentiles at Epiphany.

Over the centuries, the various celebrations were further separated in the West, and now the Baptism of the Lord is celebrated on the Sunday after January 6, and the wedding at Cana is commemorated on the Sunday after the Baptism of the Lord.

Epiphany Customs

In many parts of Europe, the celebration of Epiphany is at least as important as the celebration of Christmas. While in England and her historical colonies, the custom has long been to give gifts on Christmas Day itself, in Italy and other Mediterranean countries, Christians exchange gifts on Epiphany—the day on which the Wise Men brought their gifts to the Christ Child.

In Northern Europe, the two traditions have often been combined, with gift-giving on both Christmas and Epiphany often with smaller gifts on each of the twelve days of Christmas in between. In the past, though, the main gift-giving day in both Northern and Eastern Europe was usually the feast of Saint Nicholas. And in the United States in recent years, some Catholics have tried to revive the fullness of Christmastide.



Thank You from Kits CC Showers Program

Last week, the parish received a very appreciative message from the volunteers of the Kits Showers Program for the Homeless.

The message from Penny Rogers said, "Sustaining this vital Saturday morning program is greatly assisted by your very generous financial donation. As we celebrate our Christmas turkey dinner this Saturday morning, Dec 22 we will remember your kindness and compassion for the many people who enjoy our wonderful celebration."

Lord, every nation on earth will adore you. - Psalm 72

NEWS & NOTICES

With Gratitude from The Redeptorists: Thank you dear friends and parishioners for your gifts and warm wishes over Christmas and New Year these past few weeks. I urge you to please continue your prayers and support of our faith community. – **Fr. Babu Mathew**

Weekly Collection: Sunday Mass Offering Dec 29 & 30: \$4,472.52. Offering for the Needy: \$105. Christmas Offering \$165. Thank you for your faith-filled generosity.

2019 Sunday Offering Envelope Boxes: The 2019 Sunday Offering boxes are ready for pickup. Please do not use them before January 1 after which 2018 envelope boxes (or any past year) should not be used. If your box of envelopes is not in the foyer, please email reception.olph@rcav.org and let us know. Please consider giving your donation by Pre-Authorized Giving. The PAG form has been inserted into your Sunday Offering box.

OLPH School Closure: School will be closed on Jan 7 for Pro-D Day. Please note the Parish Hall is being used by After School Care all day.

Christmas Tree Chipping Fundraiser: Take part in the Thunderbird Elementary School Fundraiser for vulnerable students who have no opportunities to learn about gardening. Drop off your trees at UBC Botanical Garden 10am - 4:30pm any day Dec 26 to Jan 8. The suggested minimum donation for this service is \$5. Location 6804 SW Marine Drive.

Retrouaille Vancouver Spring Program: Is Your Marriage in Crisis? – Repair your marriage, rediscover romance and gain the tools you need for healthy, loving communication! Retrouaille is a Catholic peer ministry which offers a three-phase program for married couples with difficulties of all kinds, including years of misery, infidelity, separation, or even divorce. It is not too late! For confidential information or to register for the program beginning the weekend of April 5 - 7, 2019, call Marc and Candice at 604-530-6710 and leave a message or email us at vancouverbc@retrouaille.org. More information also available on our websites www.retrouaille.org and www.retrouaill Vancouver.com

March For Life, Washington, D.C.: Fr. Larry Lynn is going to Washington, D.C., to march for joy, for love, for peace...to march for life on Jan. 18, 2019. Anyone interested in joining him? Come to Washington and help Fr. Larry bring back some of that beautiful energy that is generated by 500,000 people, mostly young people, all celebrating the simple fact that life is precious. If interested, please contact Fr. Larry Lynn at 604-926-6881 or visit <https://rcav.org/event/march-for-life-3> for more info.

Quo Vadis – Men’s Discernment Events: Join us for a Discernment Evening with Fr. Nick Meisl - Hearing God’s Call in the Bible on Wednesday, Jan. 23 at 7 p.m. at St. Patrick’s Parish, Vancouver. Open to single Catholic men ages 18+ who want to answer the question: What is God calling me to do with my life? Please register at least one week in advance by contacting the Vocations Office at vocations@rcav.org or call 604-443-3254.

Festival of St. Thomas Aquinas: Join the Dominican Family as we celebrate our brother St. Thomas Aquinas on Saturday, Jan. 26, 9:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. at St. Mary’s Parish, Vancouver. Day includes Mass celebrated by Archbishop Miller, talks based on the life and work of St. Thomas Aquinas, dramatic presentations, a music competition, and concludes with adoration of the Blessed Sacrament.

Winter Institute: Archdiocesan Institutes are dedicated to the Church’s mission of lifelong faith formation. Our one-day courses equip Catholics with the knowledge, skills, and spiritual foundation necessary for active participation in the life of the Church. With Winter Institute approaching, take this opportunity to



Sign Up for A Couple of Hours of Adoration Next Week

Come and spend a few hours in complete love and adoration before the Blessed Sacrament next week. Our parish is hosting 40 Hours Adoration Mon-Wed Jan 14-16. Exposition will begin at the end of morning Mass and continue till 7pm. We will need at least two people to be present every hour on these three days. We would very much appreciate your commitment to make some time for the Lord. Sign-up sheets are in the foyer.

Stewardship Reflection

“... the Gentiles are co-heirs, members of the same body, and co-partners in the promise in Christ Jesus through the Gospel.” (Ephesians 3:6)

Today we celebrate that Christ came to all of us, not just the Hebrews. He has given each of us unique gifts. We all have different yet equally valuable roles to play in the Body of Christ. Pray daily and ask God how He wants you to use your gifts so that we may all “be one”.

Stewardship Office, Archdiocese of St. Louis

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