

# The Epiphany of the Lord

## January 7, 2018

*The Lord Jesus enters a human family to show us how to enter the divine family. Such is the mysterious care of the Trinity for us.*

### **Pope Francis's Prayer Intentions for January 2018**

Evangelization: Religious Minorities in Asia That Christians, and other religious minorities in Asian countries, may be able to practise their faith in full freedom

Welcome to **Father Callistus Ibe** who will be celebrating Monday morning masses beginning on January 8<sup>th</sup>.

**Parish Breakfast** – The Knights of Columbus will be hosting a Parish Breakfast on Sunday, January 21<sup>st</sup> after the 9:00 & 11:15 am masses. The cost is \$5.00 per person or \$15.00 for a family. Tickets can be purchased after the masses this weekend and next weekend. Tickets will also be available at the doors on the 21<sup>st</sup>.

**Homelands' Mass:** At Notre Dame Cathedral, **Sun., Jan. 14, 2:30 p.m.** Flags will be in the Cathedral balconies as a visible sign of your participation. Traditional dishes to share at the Reception in the Cathedral Hall following the Mass should be brought to the hall before 2:15 p.m. Those in national dress are to be in the hall before 2:00 p.m. Please confirm group attendance and the name of the person responsible to Deacon Gilles Ouellette ([gouellette@archottawa.ca](mailto:gouellette@archottawa.ca)) before Jan. 5. All welcome!

**Ottawa Catholic School Board Kindergarten Registration:** If your child will be 4 or 5 years old by December 31, 2018, then it's time to register for the kindergarten program. Kindergarten Registration Week is Jan. 15-19 at your local Catholic elementary school, or anytime throughout the year. We welcome all. All schools offer French programming within a caring, innovative and faith-filled environment. Visit <http://ocsb.ca/register/>.

### **Benefits for those caring for critically ill adults or children:**

New government benefit for those who need to take time from work to care for a critically ill adult, and improvements to existing benefits to care for critically ill children or family members at end of life. Info: [canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/campaigns/ei-improvements/adult-care.html](http://canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/campaigns/ei-improvements/adult-care.html)

The parish has acquired a 2016 film that is available for loan. HUSH - is a liberating conversation about abortion and women's health. Please contact Jennifer at 613-835-4201 if you wish to view this movie.

**Academia Stella Maris Workshops - Winter Semester:** Registrations now open for Academia Stella Maris Winter Semester Workshops starting Jan. 9: Theology, Latin II, Excellence in Writing, French II, Logical Fallacies, Greek I, Socratic Literary Analysis (White Fang), Bible Study and Intro to Moral Philosophy. Info & registration: [www.academiastellamaris.ca](http://www.academiastellamaris.ca); 343-883-6600.

**Offering for December 24 & Christmas**

Sunday Envelopes:	\$ 19867.00
PAC/Visa/MC	\$ 2660.00
Loose:	<u>\$ 4754.00</u>
Total Collection:	\$ 27281.00

**Offering for December 30 & January 1**

Sunday Envelopes:	\$ 5634.00
PAC/Visa/MC	\$ 2660.00
Loose:	<u>\$ 1131.00</u>
Total Collection:	\$ 9425.00

**Fr. Shroff's Corner**

The story of the Wise Men in the Gospel of St. Matthew is, in a certain sense, like a parable. The truths conveyed in it are much deeper than just the historical reality of three men coming from the Orient to Bethlehem through the Judean desert. Theirs is a story of searching. The Wise Men are those who searched for the truth. They searched for wisdom. They searched, to use modern language, for "ultimate reality." Their search brought them to a place that perhaps they never had imagined. It brought them to Christ.

From the beginning of time, man has sought out God. This innate thirst for God is written within the depths of the human soul, for our souls were created directly by God and for God. This longing, this deep desire to discover Ultimate Truth and Infinite Love can only be fulfilled in the Lord. It is revealed to man ultimately in the Person of Jesus Christ, the Incarnate Word.

Many people, even today, are searching for wisdom, and knowledge, and truth. Many are searching for someone to love and by whom to be loved. But because of the confusion in today's world, few realize that that "special Someone" has already come into the world 2000 years ago and was given to us directly by the Eternal Father.

Jesus fulfills the deepest desire of every human heart. Our desire for wisdom, truth, and knowledge; our desire for goodness, beauty, and passion; our desire for limitless mercy and unconditional love: all of these things find their fulfillment in that little Child lying in a manger.

Epiphany is a time to ask ourselves: "What is it that I truly desire? Who can fulfil that desire?" The Wise Men, guided by the Star of Bethlehem (representing the Wisdom and Light of God) found the fulfillment of all their desires in the Divine Infant. They recognized in Him a King (gold), God (frankincense), and a man who would suffer and die (myrrh). They laid before Him their humble treasures; but more importantly, they were laying at His feet their whole lives. That is why the Scriptures say that "they returned by another path." After their encounter with Jesus Christ, they would never be the same again.

Sacred Tradition teaches that the Wise Men embraced the Faith and became Saints. In the Epiphany house blessing during which the Priest writes the initials of the Wise Men over the main doorway of the house to be blessed, he prays a prayer that refers to the Wise Men as "Saints Casper, Melchior, and Balthazar."

The story of the Wise Men confirms the teachings of Our Lord that "he who seeks, shall find." And today, like 2000 years ago, wise men (and women) still seek Him.

## **INTENTIONS**

### **Saturday, January 6– Epiphany of the Lord**

9:00 am For Our Parishioners

5:00 pm †Marjorie Riopelle req by Sheila Knightley

### **Sunday, January 7 – Epiphany of the Lord**

9:00 am Intentions of Joseph & Barbara Ginter req by the El-Zarka family

Intention of Anne Dejong req by the El-Zarka family

†Marjorie Riopelle req by Ken & Dorothy Riopelle

†Diane Battaglia req by Nora, Pete & family

Intention of JP Carriere req by Bobbi Timko

11:15 am For Our Parishioners

### **Monday, January 8 – Feast, Baptism of the Lord**

10:30 am For Our Parishioners

Tuesday, January 9

9:00 am Intention of Robert & Angela Lavictorie and Jackie Sullivan req by Carmen D'Souza

Wednesday, January 10

8:00 am †Louis Decaire req by Richard & Janet Primeau

Thursday, January 11

9:00 am Deceased members of the Baillot & Absi families'

### **Friday, January 12 – Memorial, St. Marguerite Bourgeoys, Virgin**

9:00 am 2<sup>nd</sup> Anniversary of the passing of Annie Cardenas req by Marilou Storie & family

### **Saturday, January 13– Second Sunday in Ordinary Time**

5:00 pm †For Our Parishioners

### **Sunday, January 14 – Second Sunday in Ordinary Time**

11:15 am For Our Parishioners

5:00 pm †Marjorie Riopelle req by Germaine & Roland Boyer

†Vera Vychytil req by Philomena & Terrence Serrao

†Mary Fleming req by Anne Pehlman

*Please pray for our sick;* June Cheverie, Antoinette Tissaaratchy, Joe MacDonell, June Cheverie, Rose Dugandzic, Romina Andrews: Joyce Miller, Jean-Ella Lemire, Elsie & Steve Stadler, Lorretta Dillon-Robinette, and John MacDonald.

*Please pray for our deceased,* that they may be received into God's love.

#### **PRO LIFE CORNER**

Let us pray that Canadian law makers at all levels may walk in the Light of Christ by enacting policies and laws that protect human life. In Canada abortion is possible at all stages of pregnancy and fully funded by tax dollars. Let us, like the three wise men strive to do whatever it takes to combat the culture of death, and reverence the gift of life from conception to natural death.

If you or someone you know is pregnant and needs support, confidential help is available [www.stmaryshome.com](http://www.stmaryshome.com) [www.miriamottawa.org](http://www.miriamottawa.org) 613-830-8623 [www.birthright-ottawa.org](http://www.birthright-ottawa.org) or visit: [www.abortionincanada.ca](http://www.abortionincanada.ca) [www.adoptionincanada.ca](http://www.adoptionincanada.ca) or contact the parish office.

Post abortion healing is available at [www.rachelsvineyard.org](http://www.rachelsvineyard.org) or call Lynda or Terry Munroe 613-806-5522 [rvr\\_ottawa@yahoo.ca](mailto:rvr_ottawa@yahoo.ca)