

The Epiphany of the Lord

January 8, 2017

The magi from the east recognized a helpless infant as king of all the nations. Come, let us adore him.

To all CWL members, please join us on **Tuesday Jan 10, 7:30 pm** for our first meeting of 2017 and meet your new executive. We look forward to seeing you there.

Knights of Columbus – Christmas Hampers

Thanks to the parishioners and friends of Good Shepherd Parish, our annual November Christmas Charity Auction raised enough money to provide food hampers for 32 families in our community to make their Christmas a little brighter. Included with the hampers this year were presents for the children provided through the Good Shepherd Conference of St. Vincent de Paul. The hampers were delivered Dec 22nd by a large contingent of Knights from our Council, Fr. Shroff, Ottawa Councillor Jody Mitic & Tammy Lynch, and Laura Dudas (President-Blackburn Community Association).

Spiritual Adoption Program:

I am your spiritually adopted baby. Thank you for your continuous prayer for me as I begin my life as a human being. I am very, very tiny, because at the moment of my conception my body has only one cell. As tiny as I am, my one-celled body contains a molecule, called DNA which forms all of my 46 human chromosomes. If you could see my chromosomes you could tell if I am a boy or a girl, the colour of my eyes and my hair, the shape of my ears, and my nose and much more. I am incredible and I am just one day old. Please see my picture in the Vestibule, thanks for keeping me in your prayers.

LETTER TO ALL MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT RE Bill C-277 – An act providing for the development of a framework on palliative care in Canada.

As an organization committed to the development of a culture of life and a civilization of love, the Catholic Organization for Life and Family (COLF) is firmly convinced that Canadians approaching the end of life will be assured of receiving the kind of life-affirming care and the respect they deserve only through the establishment of a national palliative care strategy. [Read More...](#)

MARYVALE ACADEMY OF OTTAWA ANNUAL

FUNDRAISING DINNER GALA: “For Love of You” on Sat., Feb.

4 at St. Elias Centre, 750 Ridgewood Ave. Live & silent auctions, 50/50 draw, musical performances, speeches and dancing. Cocktails & silent auction at 6:00 p.m., dinner at 6:30 p.m. Cost: \$85/person (\$40 tax receipt). Info/tickets: Maryvale Academy (613-321-2186); (www.maryvaleacademy.ca); (www.facebook.com/MaryvaleAcademyOttawa).

Offering for December 25/16 & January 1, 2017

Sunday Envelopes:	\$16494.00
PAC/Visa/MC	\$ 5560.00
Loose:	<u>\$ 5651.00</u>
Total Collection:	\$27705.00

Associate Pastor's Corner

The wise men we hear of in today's gospel, on this feast of the Epiphany, came from the east, we're either/and learned men, perhaps astronomers, kings, or men of some standing in their unknown countries. Not much to go on, is it? And having seen the king they sought, led by a star, they paid him homage, gave him gifts, and then returned from whence they came, never to be heard from again. They seem to be fairly irrelevant to the Jesus story, except as a bit of eastern colour added to give interest to the Christmas narrative. They play only a cameo role in the drama of the Incarnation, and yet they are very important; they tell us some important things about this child born in manger and his meaning for the world.

The wise men symbolize two important aspects of the life of faith: one is the journey of the human heart on the road to God, and the other is the acceptance of the Gentile peoples into communion with God, alongside the chosen people of Israel. We've heard many times of the salvation of the Gentiles - we're part of that story- how the Messiah unites us to the Jews as one people, one chosen race in himself. The wise men, as well as the shepherds watching their fields by night, represent the acceptance of all people in the sight of God. both Jew and Gentile, rich and poor, wise and simple. All are loved and cared for by God.

But as to the journey: these men are described as wise and were probably proficient in the learning of the time, which would have included the study of the stars. They see a star and set off to follow it, for a new star in the heavens represented for them a momentous earthly event. this is the beginning of the road of faith; the intuition or revelation of a reality which we sense will have a direct impact on our lives and the way we live them. We have a feeling, but we don't really know where it will lead us, we really don't know where we're going at this stage. But we trust and believe that it will lead us to something good, something that will give meaning and purpose to our lives. So we set off.

God gives us the grace to continue, but we travel in the half-light; the full light described in the reading from Isaiah is ours only in heaven, on our earthly journey we can't see completely, but rather we walk by the half-light of faith. On the journey of faith we may have to deal with hardships, persecutions, and other sufferings we don't take into account when we start off. In fact, we can be assured that we will. We may be tempted to give up, to stop following the star. But for some reason we keep going, because we want to see where the star leads, to what glorious mystery. God continues to beckon us.

And then there is Herod. Herod the deceiver. This king represents the exact opposite of the wise men: fear of change, fear of losing control of what is his, the refusal to strike out on the road of faith. Herod is perhaps the greatest roadblock in our search for God, because he is us, the human tendency to self-satisfaction and control, and the fear of giving ourselves completely to our calling.

The journey of faith is not an easy one; it demands perseverance, that we keep our eyes on the prize, what we will find at the end of the road. But, as Isaiah says: "Then you shall see and be radiant; your heart shall thrill and rejoice." There are many obstacles and detours along the way, temptations to give up the search;. But God continues to beckon us; God allows our journey to be hard because it is through difficulties and challenges the we are being remade, that our hearts are being made ready for eternal life with God. where all problems and sorrows will be no more, and where we will exist in the radiance of our Lord. Amen.

INTENTIONS

Saturday, January 7 – The Epiphany of the Lord

9:00 am For Our Parishioners

5:00 pm †Leonidas & Carmelina Ropero req by the family
†Cecilia Tadiello req by the Andrews family
†Leonardo Proce req by Pasquina & Carlo Caputo
†Dalisay Sy req by Marion & Ernie Sy

Sunday, January 8 – The Epiphany of the Lord

9:00 am †Lucie Tillart req by Mariane & Don Louis-Seize
†Philomena & George Timko req by Bobbi Timko
†Barry O`Neill req by JP & Patricia Clement
Intention of Anne DeJong req by the El-Zarka family
Intention of Joseph & Barbara Ginter req by the El-Zarka family
Mass of Thanksgiving req by Ogechi

11:15 am For Our Parishioners

Monday, January 9 – The Baptism of the Lord

9:00 am Private Intention

Tuesday, January 10

9:00 am Intention of Daphne D`Souza req by Carmen D; Souza

Thursday, January 12 – St. Marguerite Bourgeoys, Virgin

9:00 am †Annie Cardenas on the First Anniversary of her passing
and †Narciso Cardenas Jr. req by Marilou Storie and family

Friday, January 13

9:00 am †Les Hynes req by Joe & Margaret McGlade

Saturday, January 14 – Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

5:00 pm Deceased members of the Pereira family

Sunday, January 15 - Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

9:00 am †Samuel & Esther Turner req by Bobbi Timko
†Valerie Brady req by Jim & Pam Aung Thin
†Sarah Dhar req by Jim & Pam Aung Thin

11:15 am For Our Parishioners

Please pray for our sick; Michael Nortey, Lorna Kennedy, Ann Delage, Dominique Duma, Ester Ropero, Adrian Ropero, Lorretta Dillon-Robinette, Louise Clarke, Nadia Clement, and John MacDonald.

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

PRO LIFE CORNER

Just as the Three Wise Men protected the child Jesus let us do our part to protect children from elective abortion. We can start by daily recitation of the Spiritual Adoption Prayer of Archbishop Fulton Sheen "Jesus, Mary and Joseph, I beg you to spare the life of the unborn baby that I have spiritually adopted who is in danger of abortion."

Let us pray for all elected officials that they will courageously advance the cause of life and that health care practitioners, especially doctors and nurses will be permitted to practice their profession in accordance with their conscience.