



**Epiphany of the Lord**  
**January 2-3, 2010**

Isaiah 60:1-6 Ephesians 3:2-3, 5-6; Matthew 2:1-12

When I was a child one of my favorite stories of the Christmas

period was the Coming of the Magi. The statues, when they arrived at the crib, were large and quite exotic. There was something mysterious, too, about the way they spent such a short time at the crib before disappearing for another year.

The second chapter of Matthew is filled with movement. It starts in Bethlehem and ends in Nazareth by way of Egypt. These stories are unique to Matthew, who focuses on the fulfillment of Scripture. The writer draws parallels with the story of Moses.

At the beginning of the book of Exodus we read about the birth and boyhood of Moses. Pharaoh, the king of Egypt, orders the killing of male infants. Moses is saved through the intervention of wise women. In fear for his life Moses runs to the desert. Later, when the threat is over, the Lord bids him return to save his people. Matthew tells us that from his birth Jesus bears the likeness of the ancient saving figure. Jesus will exceed the work of his ancestor and bring about liberation in a new and unique manner. The evangelist ends his Gospel with the great commission. "Go make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit and teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you.

Epiphany, or the showing forth of the presence of God in Jesus, is not the commemoration of a past event but an ever new call to continue the showing forth in our time, in our place, among our people.

Paul in Ephesians 3 continues the Epiphany message. "Through the gift, God in his goodness bestowed on me by the exercise of his power, I became a minister of the Gospel. To me, the least of all believers was given the grace to preach to the Gentiles the unfathomable riches of Christ." And so in us the showing forth continues.

**Married 25 years or more?** Any couple planning to attend the Mass who are married 25 years or more may register to receive a Certificate of Congratulations from World Wide Marriage Encounter by **registering on the website at [www.wwme.net/registration\\_wmd.html](http://www.wwme.net/registration_wmd.html) or call 410-987-8407 by February 3. YOU make the call or go online.**

**St. Peter at the Lake Fund Update:**

Total needed for construction:	\$1,400,000.
Previous amount collected:	976,960.
<u>12/13/09collected:</u>	<u>1841.</u>
<u>Total to date:</u>	<u>978,801.</u>
Needed:	\$423,040.

**This week in our parish...Jan. 2 thru Jan. 10, 2010**

**(Mass Intentions and other activities)**

Sat.	Patrick Murphy (D)	4:00pm
	Parishioners	5:45pm
Sun.	Margaret Marucci (D)	9:00am
	SUNDAY SCHOOL RESUMES-after Mass	
	TEACHERS' LUNCHEON MTG.	
Mon.	Ronnie Walsh (D)	8:15am
	NO CHOIR PRACTICE	
Tues.	Bernadette DeCeasare (L)	6:30pm
	K OF C MEETING	6:30PM
Wed.	Shirley Stem (D)	12:00pm
	BINGO-doors open at 5:30pm	
Thurs.	Communion Service	8:15am
Fri.	Genevieve Kovalic (D)	8:15am
Sat.	Luis Alvarez (D)	4:00pm
	Parishioners	5:45pm
Sun.	Harold Black (D)	9:00am
	COOKIES, COCOA & SLEDDING	
	after Sunday School	

**CALCULATORS SCHEDULE:**

**Jan. 3, 2010**

Church: Team #3-Nutter, Rickmans

Center: Team #7-Wards, Mitchell

**Jan. 10, 2010**

Church: Team #4-Thorne, Stem, Gregory, Matthews

Center: Team #8-Schriders, Shaw

**PRAYER LIST FOR January**...we pray for: The Bowling Family, Christina Arthur, Ann Martin, Richard Wengert, Mary Helen Spear, Jacob Anderson, Richann and Alexis Annarelli, Diane Sereno and Kadan Sharpless. **Names are changed at the beginning of each month.** Call the church office if you wish to add a name.



**Parish Gift Shop!** Shop AFTER Mass in the church basement and at the Lake Center. Many beautiful items!

**Homebound Prayer Intention for January:**

That the poor and downtrodden may have enough heat and food through this winter season.

**Holy Father's Prayer Intention for January:**

That every believer in Christ may be conscious that unity among all Christians is a condition for more effective proclamation of the Gospel.

**Annulment Myth # 5: It takes three to five years to get an annulment...NOT EXACTLY TRUE.**

Some processes take longer than others. Few cases take more than 18 months from start to finish. Some cases can be completed in a month or even less.

**EPIPHANY:** a Christian festival marking the visit of the Magi to celebrate the Savior's birth



**Weekday Mass**  
**Bad Weather Policy**

If school is delayed or closed, **no** Mass at 8:15am.

If school is closed or dismissed early, **no** Mass at 6:30pm.

If school is closed or dismissed before lunch, **no** Mass at 12 noon.

**MINISTERS of the MASS: 1/9/10**

4:00pm-Saturday, Jan. 9

Read: Lander

Euch. Ministers: Wards, Gillespie

5:45pm-Saturday, Jan. 9

Read: Reams

Euch. Ministers: Rathgebbs, Mott

9:00 am-Sunday, Jan. 10

Read: Youth

Euch. Ministers: Hines, Matthews, Nolan, Donahue

**Funeral Rites Led by Lay Ministers**—"The Hope That Lies Before Us"—the report that deals with the shortage of priests in the Archdiocese of Baltimore, says that lay persons "...are to be prepared to preside over funeral rites." In case the pastor is ill, away or otherwise not available to preside at funeral rites, lay persons have been prepared and trained to lead these rites which include the Vigil Service, the Funeral Liturgy and the Committal Service.

**RCIA Classes are in Full Swing...Our RCIA classes will meet from 5:30 to 7 PM on Monday evenings.**

This day and time worked best for everyone attending. If you are interested in learning more about the Catholic Church, it's not too late to pick up materials. **The next class will be January 11, 2010 from 5:30 PM to 7 PM** in the lower parish hall by the church office. All are welcome! For more information, please call Patti Battista at 301-387-7975.



**Lenten BIG Fish Dinner Information**

For our faithful workers at the BIG Fish Dinners and anyone interested in being a part of this parish Lenten activity, please mark your calendars! **Our BIG Fish Dinner Organization meeting will be on Thursday, January 14th at 5 PM in the upper parish hall.** (Believe it or not, our first BIG Fish Dinner will be on Friday, February 19<sup>th</sup>). A meal will be provided for all those attending the organizational meeting as we set the schedule and make decisions. We have also set a snow date of Thursday, January 21<sup>st</sup> at 5 PM in case of inclement weather. Stay tuned for more information!

**Communion Cloth Ministry:**

Jan. 3...Rose Hughes

Jan. 10...Patti Battista



**WORLD MARRIAGE DAY MASS with**

**Archbishop O'Brien:** All married couples are invited to a special Mass with Archbishop O'Brien on **Sunday, February 14<sup>th</sup>, at 3:00 PM. at the Cathedral of Mary Our Queen, N. Charles Street.** A reception will follow the Mass in the Parish Center. No tickets are required. **The Longest Married Couples** from each parish will be honored. Couple nominees will receive a certificate from Marriage Encounter and a letter of congratulations from the Archbishop.

**If you think you are the longest married couple in our parish, please contact the church office at 301-334-2202 by January 5, 2010.**



**Blessing of the Home on Epiphany**

*At the door*

**Leader, Priest or parent, :** Peace be to this house.

**All:** And to all who dwell herein.

**All:** From the east came the Magi to Bethlehem to adore the Lord; and opening their treasures they offered precious gifts: gold for the great King, incense for the true God, and myrrh in symbol of His burial.

**All Pray:** The Magnificat.(Luke 1:46-55)

**All:** From the east came the Magi to Bethlehem to adore the Lord; and opening their treasures they offered precious gifts: gold for the great King, incense for the true God, and myrrh in symbol of His burial.

**Leader:** Our Father. . . And lead us not into temptation

**All:** But deliver us from evil.

**Leader:** All they from Saba shall come

**All:** Bringing gold and frankincense.

**Leader:** O Lord, hear my prayer.

**All:** And let my cry come to You.

**Leader:** Let us pray. O God, who by the guidance of a star didst on this day manifest Thine only-begotten Son to the Gentiles, mercifully grant that we who know Thee by faith may also attain the vision of Thy glorious majesty. Through Christ our Lord.

**All:** Amen.

**Leader:** Be enlightened, be enlightened, O Jerusalem, for thy light is come, and the glory of the Lord is risen upon thee—Jesus Christ born of the Virgin Mary.

**All:** And the Gentiles shall walk in thy light and kings in the splendor of thy rising, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon thee.

**Leader:** Bless, O Lord, this home, that in it there may be health, purity, humility, goodness, mercy, the fulfillment of Thy law, and thanksgiving to God the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. May this blessing remain upon this home and upon us all. Through Christ, our Lord.

**All:** Amen.

*The initials of the Magi (Caspar, Melchior, Balthasar) are inscribed upon the doors with the blessed chalk. (The initials, C, M, B, can also be interpreted as the Latin phrase "Christus mansionem benedicat" which means "Christ bless this house".)*