



THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

JANUARY 3, 2016

ST. ELIZABETH OF HUNGARY CATHOLIC CHURCH



Thanks to everyone for your joyous Christmas wishes, cards, gifts and kindnesses this Advent Season! I am blessed to have spent the past 15 years with you. May God richly bless us all this New Year and always.

Fr. Jim

HOMELESS SHELTER (Formerly "Simple Supper") AND FOOD BASKET COLLECTIONS TODAY: Your generosity as we add a third shelter to St. Elizabeth's transition projects is appreciated!

TRANSITION PROJECTS: We have plenty of opportunities for those of you seeking a service project in 2016! St. Elizabeth's is committed to helping three homeless shelters, and we need your help providing meals, preparing sack lunches, collecting items needed by the shelters and making monetary donations. A flyer detailing the Transition Projects is posted on the bulletin board. Your help makes a huge difference in the lives of our homeless population. To get involved, please contact Jean Horton (jhorton150@comcast.net) or Maura O'Scannlain (maurapdx@comcast.net).

UMBRELLA COLLECTION FOR THE TRANSITION PROJECTS – St. Elizabeth's Transition Projects team is collecting umbrellas needed by guests staying at the homeless shelter. Donated umbrellas need not be new, but they must be in good working order. A clearly marked donation box is located in the back of the church. Thank you!

SPECIAL CONCERT OF CATHOLIC AND ORTHODOX MUSIC: EPIPHANY– Ancient Byzantine and Old Roman Chant. A program of mystical chants in Latin and Greek from Rome and Constantinople. Sunday, January 3rd at 2:30 pm at St. Mary's Cathedral. Tickets and info at cappellaromana.org or call 503-236-2802.

THE FRANCISCAN SPIRITUAL CENTER in Milwaukie is offering a wide variety of Spirituality Programs beginning in mid-January and running through June 2016. Their catalogue is posted on the bulletin board or visit their website at www.FrancisSpCtr.com.

ST. JOHN FISHER SCHOOL REGISTRATION BEGINS JANUARY 4TH – Come visit the school and meet the administration and faculty. Kindergarten Round Up: January 31st at 10 AM; K-8 Open House: February 1st at 6:30 PM. For more information contact mholub@sjfschool.org or www.sjfschool.org.

OFFERTORY ENVELOPES STILL AVAILABLE - Please pick yours up in the back of the church.

HOSPITALITY FOR NEXT WEEKEND – January 10, 2016

9:00 AM: Maureen & Don Binzer 11:00 AM: Vicky Grorud

Please come early. If you can't fulfill your assignment, please find a substitute.

The Christmas Season continues with yet another view of God in our history. In his very flesh, Jesus is the revelation of God. This is a season to celebrate a baby, but even more the manifestation – Epiphany – of God to the whole world.

The gospel warms many hearts with the story of the three visitors to Bethlehem. Following the star, they come to offer gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. Aided by the first two readings, we can open up the meaning of this vignette. God is present in our history. This is a gift for all. Whether arriving on dromedaries from Midian and Ephah or bearing gold and frankincense from Sheba, whole nations shall walk by this light. In the early Church, this meant that Gentiles would have to be seen as co-heirs with the Jews, members of the same body.

Enjoying the memories and mystery of this day should thus be more than thinking about the three kings. It is also far more important than any technical debate about the translation of “magi” (Greek). They have been called kings, wise men or astrologers. In any event, they signal a day to celebrate God’s manifestation of Christ Jesus. When we celebrate Epiphany we face the mystery of Christ’s identity and our response in faith. Because this revelation is universal, we are presented with a further challenge. Do we treat some as “outsiders” as if we were not co-heirs? Do we act as if epiphany were for a few?

LITURGICAL READINGS

- Today: *The Epiphany of the Lord.* Isaiah 60:1-6/ Psalm 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-13/
Ephesians 3:2-3a, 5-6/ Matthew 2:1-12.
- Monday: *St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, Religious.* 1 John 3:22-4:6/ Psalm 2/ Matthew 4:12-17, 23-25.
- Tuesday: 1 John 4:7-10/ Psalm 72:1-4, 7-8/ Mark 6:34-44.
- Wednesday: 1 John 4:11-18/ Psalm 72:1-2, 10, 12-13/ Mark 6:45-52.
- Thursday: 1 John 4:19-5:4/ Psalm 72:1-2, 14-15, 17/ Luke 4:14-22a.
- Friday: 1 John 5:5-13/ Psalm 147/ Luke 5:12-16.
- Saturday: 1 John 5:14-21/ Psalm 149/ John 3:22-30.
- Next Sunday: *The Baptism of the Lord.* Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11/ Psalm 104/ Titus 2:11-14, 3:4-7/ Luke 3:15-16, 21-22.

COLLECTION FOR LAST SUNDAY: \$4,864.00 CHRISTMAS SERVICES: \$7,704.55

Thank you for your generosity throughout 2015.

Happy New Year!



St. Elizabeth of Hungary Church

4112 SW 6th Avenue Drive

Portland, OR 97239

(503)222-2168 * FAX (503)274-2438 * www.stelizabethportland.net

SCHEDULE OF MASSES

Saturday Vigil Mass: 4:00 p.m.

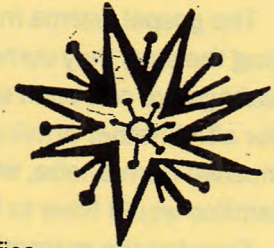
Sunday: 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday: 8:30 a.m.

Reconciliation: Saturday at 3:00 p.m.

Baptism and Anointing of the Sick: Please call the parish office.

Marriage: Six months' notice required.

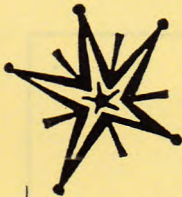


PARISH STAFF

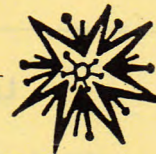
Rev. James M. Kolb, C.S.P., Pastor

Joan Enright, Parish Assistant - 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m., Monday-Friday

Interested in joining St. Elizabeth Parish? Give us a call. 503-222-2168



Reflection



Stars can fill us with wonder and dreams that change us. The magi saw a new star, took the risk of following it, and were led to Jesus. Gentiles, "nonbelievers," offered gifts and honored the Shepherd of Israel. Our God loves us all. Threatened by the presence of a new ruler, Herod sought to destroy Jesus. God had other plans, warning the magi to take another route. Their lives took another route on many levels because they met Christ. When we let ourselves be guided by the perfect Light of Christ, our lives take new routes as well. How does worshipping Christ change you this year? Will you be the star that guides others to this perfect light?

