



THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

**First Reading: Isaiah 60:1-6**

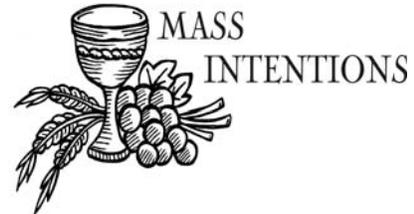
Isaiah rejoices over the light and glory that will shine upon Jerusalem. He describes how the wealth of nations will be brought to Jerusalem, and travelers will arrive bearing gifts and praising God.

**Second Reading: Ephesians 3:2-3a, 5-6**

Paul explains to the Ephesians that the Gentiles are now co-heirs with the Jews. Through Jesus, they became members of the same body. Therefore, they would receive everything God had promised the Jewish converts if they followed Christ's teachings.

**Gospel: Matthew 2:1-12**

Astrologers from the east came looking for the newborn king of the Jews, which greatly disturbed King Herod. Herod wanted to kill Jesus, and asked the astrologers to return and tell him where Jesus was. The astrologers found Jesus and brought him gifts, but received a message in a dream telling them not to return to Herod.



<b>Sunday,</b> January 6	8:00 am	<b>People of the Parish</b>
	10:30 am	<b>Special Intention</b> Req. by Mr. & Mrs. William Long
<b>Monday,</b> January 7	8:00 am	<b>Special Intention</b>
<b>Tuesday,</b> January 8	8:00 am	<b>Special Intention</b>
<b>Wednesday,</b> January 9	8:00 am	<b>Special Intention</b>
<b>Thursday,</b> January 10	8:00 am	<b>Special Intention</b>
<b>Friday,</b> January 11	8:00 am	<b>Special Intention</b>
<b>Saturday,</b> January 12	8:00 am	<b>Special Intention</b>
	5:30 pm	<b>In Memory of Angele Edes</b> Req. by Mrs. Richard D'Arcy



**READINGS FOR THE WEEK**

**Sunday**

Is 60:1-6; Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6; Mt 2:1-12

**Monday**

1 Jn 3:22—4:6; Mk 4:12-17, 23-35

**Tuesday**

1 Jn 4:7-10; Mk 6:34-44

**Wednesday**

1 Jn 4:11-18; Mk 6:45-52

**Thursday**

1 Jn 4:19—5:4; Lk 4:14-22

**Friday**

1 Jn 5:5-13; Lk 5:12-16

**Saturday**

1 Jn 5:14-21; Jn 3:22-30

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**Upcoming Second Collections**

**Today:** *Building Fund*  
**January 27:** *Latin America*  
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**Epiphany of the Lord**

This feast with its star and the arrival of the Magi reminds us that God has a plan that is worked out in time, whether it is the Biblical time, as read in the Scripture readings today, or this time in our own lives.



Rev. Jude Winkler, OFM

**\*\*\* Parish Schedule \*\*\***

Thursday, January 10

Choir Practice, 7 pm

Knights of Columbus: Rosary 7pm, Meeting 7:30pm  
Church Basement

**Next Week's Parish Schedule**

Thursday, January 17

Choir Practice, 7 pm

Saturday, January 19

Knights of Columbus Rosary before 5:30pm Mass

**\*\*\* Religious Education News \*\*\***

Welcome Back -- Classes resume **Today, January 6<sup>th</sup>**.  
Regular classes Sunday, January 13<sup>th</sup>.  
No classes Sunday, January 20<sup>th</sup>.  
Regular classes Sunday, January 27<sup>th</sup>.

Parents Meeting for 2<sup>nd</sup> Graders preparing for the Sacrament of Penance will be held on Sunday, January 13<sup>th</sup>, 11:45am in the Church.

- Thank you to all the children and youth who helped make the Christmas Vigil liturgy so special through their presentation of the Living Nativity with beautiful music and voices! Thanks especially to Mary Dash and Pam Della Santina for preparing the children so well. Many thanks to the parents and volunteers!
- Parishioners – Thank you for your very generous support of this year's Advent Giving Tree! Your donations were delivered before Christmas to Mary's Shelter in Fredericksburg. Mary's Shelter provides an expectant mother, and any additional children she may have, with housing for up to three years to further her education and/or secure employment

[Deaconmike@stclareclifton.org](mailto:Deaconmike@stclareclifton.org)  
703-266-1310

**Knights of Columbus Rosary**  
**January 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup>**

The Knights of Columbus will be praying the rosary at all Masses on January 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup>. Please come to Mass early and pray the rosary to our Blessed Virgin Mary for our intentions and for peace throughout the world.



**ATTENTION**

**New Parishioners at St. Clare of Assisi**

St. Clare invites you and your family to become members of St. Clare of Assisi. There are blue registration forms in the vestibule. Ask an usher if you need assistance or call the parish office: 703-266-1310



**St. Clare Snow Policy**



I will make a more than reasonable effort to hold all Masses – weekend, daily and special- that are scheduled here regardless of the weather. Other activities will be held or cancelled based upon the weather forecasts available to us several hours before the event. In general, activities involving children are more likely to be cancelled or re-scheduled than are those involving adults. The CCD classes on Sunday follow their own procedures about making the decisions and about informing teachers and parents.

In cases of doubt, to get details about changes that snow forces, you can call the rectory at 703-266-1310.

Fr. Lehning

**2018 Contribution Statements**



Later this month, we will be sending out statements for 2018 contributions. If you have any questions or concerns when you receive yours, please contact the office at 703-266-1310.

We would like to thank you for your dedication and support to St. Clare.

Fr. Lehning

**\*\*\* AROUND THE DIOCESE \*\*\***

**HUMAN TRAFFICKING SEMINAR**

Friday February 8; 10:00 am - 1:00 pm at St Mark Catholic Church 9970 Vale Road, Vienna, VA 22181.

Bill Woolf will discuss how to end human trafficking in the Northern Virginia area, the U.S. and around the world, through education, prevention, and intervention. Mr. Woolf had over 15 years in law enforcement with Fairfax County before becoming the full-time executive director of Just Ask Prevention Project. His work at Just Ask is to develop a systematic approach and analytic tools for bringing awareness training to communities. Just Ask's approach is that well-informed citizens will decrease sex traffickers ability to operate and ensure that victims and survivors feel safe to come forward for help. **RSVP at [volunteer@ccda.net](mailto:volunteer@ccda.net)**

**Catholic Charities Presents - Answer Your Call**

Nativity Parish, 6400 Nativity Ln, Burke, VA 22015  
School Cafeteria on Thursday January 17th, 7:00-8:30pm  
Director of Volunteers, Sally O'Dwyer, and Margot Chavez, Program Coordinator for Volunteers, will discuss what exactly "a call" is, explain Church teaching on our call, speak practically about what a call might feel or look like in our daily lives, and to respond. We will talk about how to serve in an effective way that meets your current ability to give of your time and talent, without fear of being ineffective or becoming overwhelmed. Understanding our call to serve gives us the courage and fortitude to persevere even when times are tough, when we are not thanked and when cannot see the fruits of our work.

**Local Musicians Lead Praise & Worship to Pray for Conversion and Healing**

Join us for prayer, praise and worship on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of each month at St. Leo Catholic Church in Fairfax from 7:30-8:30 p.m. The holy hours will feature popular musical artists: Valerie. Our special intention will be for the conversion and healing in families. The Sacrament of Reconciliation will be available. All are welcome so please bring a friend.

## THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

**Then you shall be radiant at what you see, your heart will throb and overflow, for the riches of the sea shall be emptied out before you, the wealth of nations shall be brought to you...all from Sheba shall come, bringing gold and frankincense, and proclaiming the praises of the Lord...Then they spread their treasures and offered him gifts of gold frankincense and myrrh.”**

The season of holiday visiting is drawing to a close. Lights still shine, the manger scene is special today, and unwrapped gifts are still to be seen. The memories of visits, carols and delicious traditional foods are still fresh and happy. But what happens now?

Like the magi we have waited, searched and found the Christ. It's our turn to bring gifts, not the three mentioned in Isaiah and Matthew, but a more precious gift, a more valued gift, the one that the Lord Jesus is waiting to receive from us. It is the gift of ourselves.

We bring joy, hope and happiness. Joy - because we have a Savior, hope - because our world can become better, happiness - because He has chosen me to bring Him to others. We bring an awareness that this Jesus comes again and wishes to accompany us in this new year. He can't wait for us to get started. We can choose this route, or just simply take the decorations and put them away to gather dust for another year. The choice is quite clear. "They departed for their own country by another way."



*They came bearing gifts of frankincense and myrrh*

**HIS WORD TODAY**  
BY REV. WILLIAM J. REILLY

A FRESH PERSPECTIVE ON  
THE SUNDAY READINGS