

**St. Joachim**  
*Catholic Church*



**Iglesia Católica**  
*de San Joaquín*

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**January**  
**7, 2018**

# Epiphany of the Lord



## MASS SCHEDULES

### Sunday Mass in English

Saturday 4:30 PM

Sunday 7:30, 9:00, 10:30 AM & 12:15 PM

### Daily Mass

7 & 8:30 AM (Saturday 8:30 AM)

### Reconciliation

Saturday 3-4:00 PM

### Misas Dominicales en Español

Sábado 6 PM, Domingo 2 & 6 PM

### Misas en Español

Miércoles 7 PM

### Reconciliación

Miércoles 6-7 PM, Sábado 3-4:00 PM

United in faith and guided by the Holy Spirit



### From the Pastor's Desk:

The

*Magi* were not Kings, but a caste of Persian priests who served Kings using their skills in interpreting dreams and watching movements of stars. The sixth century Italian tradition that there were three Magi,

Casper, Balthazar, and Melchior, is based on the fact that three gifts are mentioned in Matthew's Gospel: gold, frankincense and myrrh. The Magi may actually have been Persian priests or Babylonian astronomers or Nabataean spice-traders. Eventually, however, they were pictured as representatives of different peoples and races. The Orthodox Church holds that the Magi consisted of twelve Kings, corresponding in number to the twelve tribes of Israel. Commentary on the Torah by Jewish rabbis suggested that a star appeared in the sky at the births of Abraham, Isaac and Moses. Likewise, in the Book of Numbers, the prophet Balaam speaks of "a star that shall come out of Jacob." Stars were believed to be signs from God, announcing important events. Thus, the brightness of the Light to which kings were drawn was made visible in the star they followed.

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Mother Teresa once visited a poor man in Melbourne, Australia. He was living in a basement room which was in a terrible state of neglect. There was no light in the room. He did not seem to have a friend in the world. She started to clean and tidy the room. At first he protested, "Leave it alone. It is alright as it is." But she went ahead anyway. As she cleaned, she chatted with him. Under a pile of rubbish she found an oil lamp covered with dust. She cleaned it and discovered that it was beautiful. And she said to him, "You have got a beautiful lamp here. How she said to him, "You have got a beautiful lamp here. How come you never lighted it?" "Why should I light it?" "No one ever comes to see me." Will you promise to light it if one of my sisters comes to see you?" "Yes," he replied. "If I hear a human voice, I will light the lamp." Two of Mother Teresa's sisters began to visit him regularly. Things gradually improved for him. Every time the sisters came to visit him, he had the lamp lighted. Then one day he said to them: "Sisters, I will be able to manage myself from now on. Do me a favour. Tell the first sister who came to see me that the light she lit in my life is still burning." The light that God lit to announce the coming of His son is still burning. The Magi followed the path of the great light and reached the cradle of Jesus. For the last twenty centuries many have followed the footprints of the Magi. Today, Jesus stands before us declaring, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life." (Jn 8:12). (MK Paul) Fr. Bobby.

### Nota de nuestro pastor:

Los Reyes Magos no eran reyes, sino una

casta de sacerdotes Persas que servían a Reyes utilizando sus habilidades para interpretar sueños y observando los movimientos de las estrellas. La tradición Italiana del siglo sexto que dice que habían tres Reyes Magos, Casper, Baltasar, y Melchor, está basada en el hecho de los tres regalos que se mencionan en el Evangelio de Mateo: oro, incienso y mirra. Los Reyes Magos en realidad pueden haber sido sacerdotes Persas o astrónomos Babilónicos o comerciantes de especias Nabateos. Sin embargo, eventualmente ellos fueron considerados como representantes de diferentes pueblos y razas. La Iglesia Ortodoxa sostiene que los Reyes Magos consistieron en doce Reyes, correspondientes en número a las doce tribus de Israel. Comentario sobre el Torá por Rabinos Judíos sugirieron que una estrella apareció en el cielo en los nacimientos de Abraham, Isaac y Moisés. Asimismo, en el Libro de Números, el Profeta Balaam habla de "una estrella que vendrá de Jacob". Estrellas se creían que eran signos de Dios, anunciando eventos importantes. Así, el brillo de la Luz a la que fueron atraídos los reyes fue hecho visible en la estrella que siguieron.

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La Madre Teresa visitó una vez a un hombre pobre en Melbourne, Australia. Vivía en una habitación de sótano que estaba en un terrible estado de abandono. No había ninguna luz en la habitación. Él no parecía tener un amigo en el mundo. Comenzó a limpiar y a ordenar la habitación. Al principio protestó, "déjalo así. Está bien como está." Pero ella continuó de todos modos. Mientras ella limpiaba, ella conversaba con él. Debajo de una pila de basura encontró una lámpara de aceite, cubierta de polvo. Ella la limpió y descubrió que era hermosa. Y ella dijo, "tienes una preciosa lámpara aquí. ¿Cómo es que usted nunca la ha encendido?" "¿Por qué debo de encenderla yo?" "Nunca viene nadie a verme." Prometes encender la luz si una de mis hermanas viene a verte?" "Sí," contestó. "Si oigo una voz humana, encenderé la lámpara." Dos de las hermanas de la Madre Teresa comenzaron a visitarlo regularmente. Poco a poco, las cosas mejoraron para él. Cada vez que las hermanas iban a visitarlo, él tenía la lámpara encendida. Entonces un día les dijo: "hermanas, yo podré manejarme a mí mismo de ahora en adelante. Me haces un favor. Dígale a la primera hermana que vino a verme, que la luz que encendió en mi vida todavía está ardiendo". La luz que Dios encendió para anunciar la venida de Su Hijo todavía está ardiendo. Los Magos siguieron la ruta de la gran luz y llegaron a la cuna de Jesús. Durante los últimos veinte siglos, muchos han seguido las huellas de los Magos. Hoy, Jesús está parado ante nosotros declarando, "Yo soy la luz del mundo; el que me sigue, no andará en tinieblas, sino que tendrá la luz de la vida". (Jn 8:12). (MK Paul) Padre Bobby.



## WEEKLY READINGS

Readings for the Week  
of January 7, 2018

### Sun/Dom:

Is 60:1-6/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13 [cf. 11]/Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6/Mt 2:1-12

### Mon/Lunes:

Is 42:1-4, 6-7 or Is 55:1-11 or Acts 10:34-38 or 1 Jn 5:1-9/Is 12:2-3, 4bcd, 5-6 [3]/Mk 1:7-11

### Tues/Martes:

1 Sm 1:9-20/1 Sm 2:1, 4-5, 6-7, 8abcd [cf. 1]/Mk 1:21-28 or 1 Sm 1:1-8 and 1:9-20/1 Sm 2:1, 4-5, 6-7, 8abcd [cf. 1]/Mk 1:14-20 and 1:21-28

### Wed/Mier:

1 Sm 3:1-10, 19-20/Ps 40:2 and 5, 7-8a, 8b-9, 10 [8a and 9a]/Mk 1:29-39

### Thurs/Juev:

1 Sm 4:1-11/Ps 44:10-11, 14-15, 24-25 [27b]/Mk 1:40-45

### Fri/Vier:

1 Sm 8:4-7, 10-22a/Ps 89:16-17, 18-19 [2]/Mk 2:1-12

### Sat/Sab:

1 Sm 9:1-4, 17-19; 10:1a/Ps 21:2-3, 4-5, 6-7 [2a]/Mk 2:13-17

### Next Sun/Dom:

1 Sm 3:3b-10, 19/Ps 40:2, 4, 7-8, 8-9, 10 [8a, 9a]/1 Cor 6:13c-15a, 17-20/Jn 1:35-42

## THE WEEK AHEAD

### Saturday January 13th

Altar Server Meeting ~ attend 8:30 Mass —meeting afterwards — all altar servers and parents are encouraged to attend .

### Friday, Saturday, Sunday

January, 12th, & 13th, 14th

Pan de Vida Retreat ~ Retreat for the youth in our Church — keep them in your prayers this weekend that they have a touching and meaningful blessed retreat

## OFFICE INFORMATION

### Parish Office

783-2766

### Parish Fax

783-2760

### Parish Email

office@saintjoachim.net

### Parish Office Hours

Monday-Friday 10 AM-7:30 PM

Bilingual available T,W,F 4-7:30 PM

Saturday 10 AM-4 PM

Bilingual available 10 AM-4 PM

Sunday 10 AM-4 PM

Bilingual available 12 PM-4 PM

### Rev. Joseph Antony Sebastian, SVD

Pastor

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, & Friday

10 AM to 12 PM

5 PM to 8 PM (with appointment)

lunes, martes, miércoles, y Viernes

10 AM a 12 PM

5 PM a 8 PM (con cita)

### Rev. Stephen Ayisu, SVD

Parochial Vicar

Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, & Friday

10:00 AM to 12:00 PM

5 PM to 8 PM (with appointment)

lunes, miércoles, jueves y viernes

10:00 AM a 12:00 PM

5 PM a 8 PM (con cita)

### Ariel Mayormita

Musc Director/Director de Música

Phone Ext. #223

stjoachimmusic1@gmail.com

### Flor Herce

Bookkeeper

### Pat Ludwig

Administrative Assistant

### St. Vincent de Paul

783-0344

### Office hours

1:00-2:30 PM ONLY

Monday-Friday

### San Vicente de Paul

Gary Enos, President

## Faith Formation Office

Oficina de Formación de Fe

785-1818

### Glenda Aragón

Director of Faith Formation

glendaaragon@comcast.net

### Braulio Gomez

Faith Formation Coordinator/

Youth Minister

550-6878 / stjochimym@gmail.com

### Bertha Cruz

Administrative Assistant

### St. Joachim School

Escuela de San Joaquín

783-3177

### Armond Seishas

Principal

### Sandra Garzon

School Secretary

### St. Joachim Pre-School

783-0604

### Marisa Melgarejo

Director





# ALTAR SERVERS

## ATTENTION ALL ALTAR SERVERS!!

Happy New Year!

Our first altar server meeting for the 2018 year will be on:

Saturday, January 13, 2018.

We will start by attending mass at 8:30am and meeting will follow.



### Agenda

2018 schedules ; Ash Wednesday - February 14th;

Tridumn Schedule (Holy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter Vigil)

All altar servers and parents are encouraged to attend. Please bring something small to share with our ministry group. Hope to see everyone there.

~~~ Fides, Selena and Gabby



### PRAY FOR

Bill & Ana Spreitzer  
 Thelma West  
 Jim Smith  
 Minda Bermudez  
 Francis Roque  
 Carollynn Cosico- Ramirez  
 Mary Grace Dela Cruz  
 Russnell Dela Cruz  
 Eduardo S. Reyes  
 Nenita Ordonez-Reblando  
 Melane Fabio-Inducil  
 Fides Castaneda  
 Amelia Mamaril  
 Bernadino Orquiz  
 Ruth Suratos  
 Pete Suratos

### DONATIONS

**St Vincent de Paul**

offering for next week:

**Canned Vegetables or  
Pork & Beans**

**Vegetales, Carne de  
Puerco o frijol enlatado**

Donations are very much appreciated—but please no expired food. ~ Thank You

### CONTRIBUTIONS CONTRIBUCIONES

COLLECTION FOR WEEK

**December 24th**

The Plate Collection/Christmas Day

**\$ 8,523.50 / \$ 9,192.00**

EFT Collection

**\$ 815.00**

On Line Giving

**\$ 215.00**

**TOTAL for the WEEK**

**\$ 18,745.50**

Dec 31st Collection amount was not available at press time - will be reported in a later bulletin.



This year the Nativity scene in St. Peter's Square is not getting rave reviews from some people. It is criticized for not being the peaceful scene of a silent night, all cozy calm and bright. Ever since Pope Saint John Paul II moved the Nativity to the piazza in St. Peter's Square, there has been a secondary theme to be used. This year the Corporal Works of Mercy theme has brought along some figures that tend to drown out the traditional image of the baby Jesus, Mary and Joseph. Of the 20 or so clay/ceramic-based figures, some as tall as 6 feet, there is a naked man being "clothed", a dead man being buried, a prisoner being visited, a thirsty man getting water, a sick man being comforted and a shelter the homeless guy. Because of the large number of figures, it becomes somewhat difficult to spot the three main characters. The naked man is very muscular and sprawled out on an itchy-looking hay bale with just a white cloth loosely covering his genitals and with his mouth agape. He is the first thing that



catches your eye, and instead he probably should have been posed huddled down and trying to stay warm. Some people have been creeped out by the ghostly white dead man, saying it looks like a scene from a horror film. But people tend to forget about the partial nudity or gruesome scenes in many of Catholic artworks. People were not pleased at all with the naked bodies in Michelangelo's Sistine Chapel paintings. The pictures of David holding the severed head of Goliath, or Jael nailing Sisera's head to the ground with a tent stake, are gruesome scenes too, but they are



important depictions of stories from our faith. And what about the central image of our faith, a naked man tortured, exposed and nailed to a cross? Anyway, Pope Francis says the current representation of the night of Jesus' birth is a reminder "that Jesus told us: 'Do to others what you would have them do to you.'" The scene just might make it a little difficult to explain the birth of our Lord to the kids this year.



Pope Francis has made a tradition of inviting Vatican bureaucrats each Christmas for a Jesuit-style examination of conscience. On December 21, 2017 he told cardinals, bishops and priests who work for him, "Reforming Rome is like cleaning the Egyptian sphinxes with a toothbrush. You need patience, dedication and delicacy." He acknowledged that there were plenty of competent, loyal and even saintly people who work in the Holy See, but there were others who were chosen to help him reform the Vatican's inefficient and outdated bureaucracy that were clearly not up to the task. He said when these people are then "delicately" removed, they falsely declare themselves martyrs of the system, of an 'uninformed pope' or the 'old guard', when in fact they should have done a mea culpa." Pope Francis during his late evening Mass on Christmas Eve at St. Peter's Basilica compared the journey of Mary and Joseph to those of millions of modern-day migrants forced to leave their homeland for survival or a better life. He expressed hope that no one will feel that "there is no room for them on this Earth." He said "Christmas is a time "for turning the power of fear into the power of charity." Sources: veritas-vincit-international.org, thedailybeast.com, thecatholictraveler.com, catholicregister.org, usatoday.com

## "Giving From the Heart"



We recently received a donation from a gentleman, who grew up in this parish, and later moved away but his parents remained in our parish till they both passed. In settling his parents estate, he chose to make a donation to St Joachim, St Vincent de Paul. When we thanked him for this donation he said:

*"The way I look at this money is that it first belongs to God who trusted it to my parents. They placed their trust in me to properly direct it and now I have asked the St. Joachim community to help me return it appropriately to His people in need".*

What a beautiful way to honor his parents, and something for all of us to think about.

## MASS INTENTIONS

January 6-13, 2018

### Saturday 4:30 PM

Filomena Faria †

### Saturday 6:00 PM

Jesus Haro † (12th aniversario)

Ramiro Haro † (2nd aniversario)

Pantaleon Perez † (4th aniversario)

Salvador Haro † (22 month aniversario)

Mariano Preciado †

Soledad Fernandes †

Asela Rodriguez †

### Sunday 7:30 AM

Joseph Gutierrez Sr. †

### Sunday 9:00 AM

The Community of St. Joachim

### Sunday 10:30 AM

Maria Luisa Loza (birthday)

Jocelyn A. Alcantara †

Remedios Yap Doria †

### Sunday 12:15 PM

The Community of St. Joachim

### Sunday 2:00 PM

The Community of St. Joachim

### Sunday 6:00 PM

The Community of St. Joachim

### Monday 7:00 AM

The Community of St. Joachim

### Monday 8:30 AM

Salvador Romero † (11 month anniversary)

### Tuesday 7:00 AM

The Community of St. Joachim

### Tuesday 8:30 AM

The Community of St. Joachim

### Wednesday 7:00 AM

The Community of St. Joachim

### Wednesday 8:30 AM

Felix A. Miranda †

### Wednesday 7:00 PM

The Community of St. Joachim

### Thursday 7:00 AM

The Community of St. Joachim

### Thursday 8:30 AM

The Community of St. Joachim

### Friday 7:00 AM

The Community of St. Joachim

### Friday 8:30 AM

Joe S. Arellano † (anniversary)

### Saturday 8:30 AM

The Community of St. Joachim

## Los Reyes Magos

While most children in the United States are accustomed to receiving gifts on Christmas Day, in many Hispanic cultures, it is Epiphany, or the Day of the Three Kings, when gifts celebrating the birth of Christ usually appear. On the night of January 5, hay and a bucket of water are left outside the house for the camels who carry the Magi. A box or old shoes are put under the bed in which the Wise Men will leave gifts for the children. On the evening of January 6 families gather for dinner, and cut into the rosca de reyes, a ring-shaped sweet bread decorated with candied fruit. Baked inside is a small figure of baby Jesus. Whoever finds the figure in his or her piece will host the final feast of the Christmas season, el día de la Candelaria on February 2. On that day new clothes are presented to enrobe the figure of baby Jesus in the Nativity scene of the family or the church.



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Thanks to Everyone that helped make our Church Beautiful for Christmas!!



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