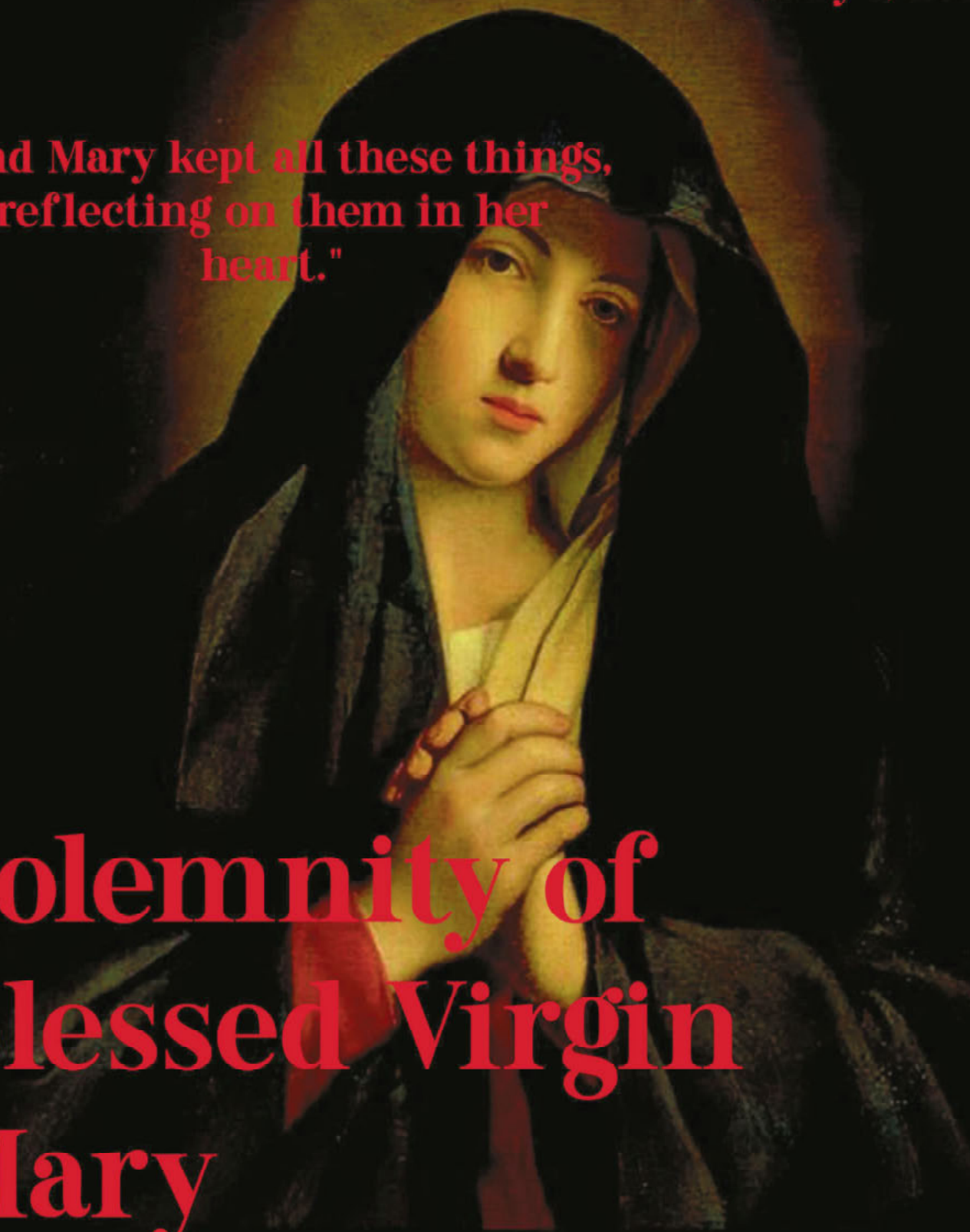


EPIPHANY

January 1, 2023

"And Mary kept all these things,
reflecting on them in her
heart."

Solemnity of
Blessed Virgin
Mary



WELCOME to Epiphany

Annunciation
(Denise Levertov)

We know the scene: the room, variously furnished,
almost always a lectern, a book; always
the tall lily.

Arrived on solemn grandeur of great wings,
the angelic ambassador, standing or hovering,
whom she acknowledges, a guest.

But we are told of meek obedience. No one mentions
courage.

The engendering Spirit
did not enter her without consent.
God waited.

She was free
to accept or to refuse, choice
integral to humanness.

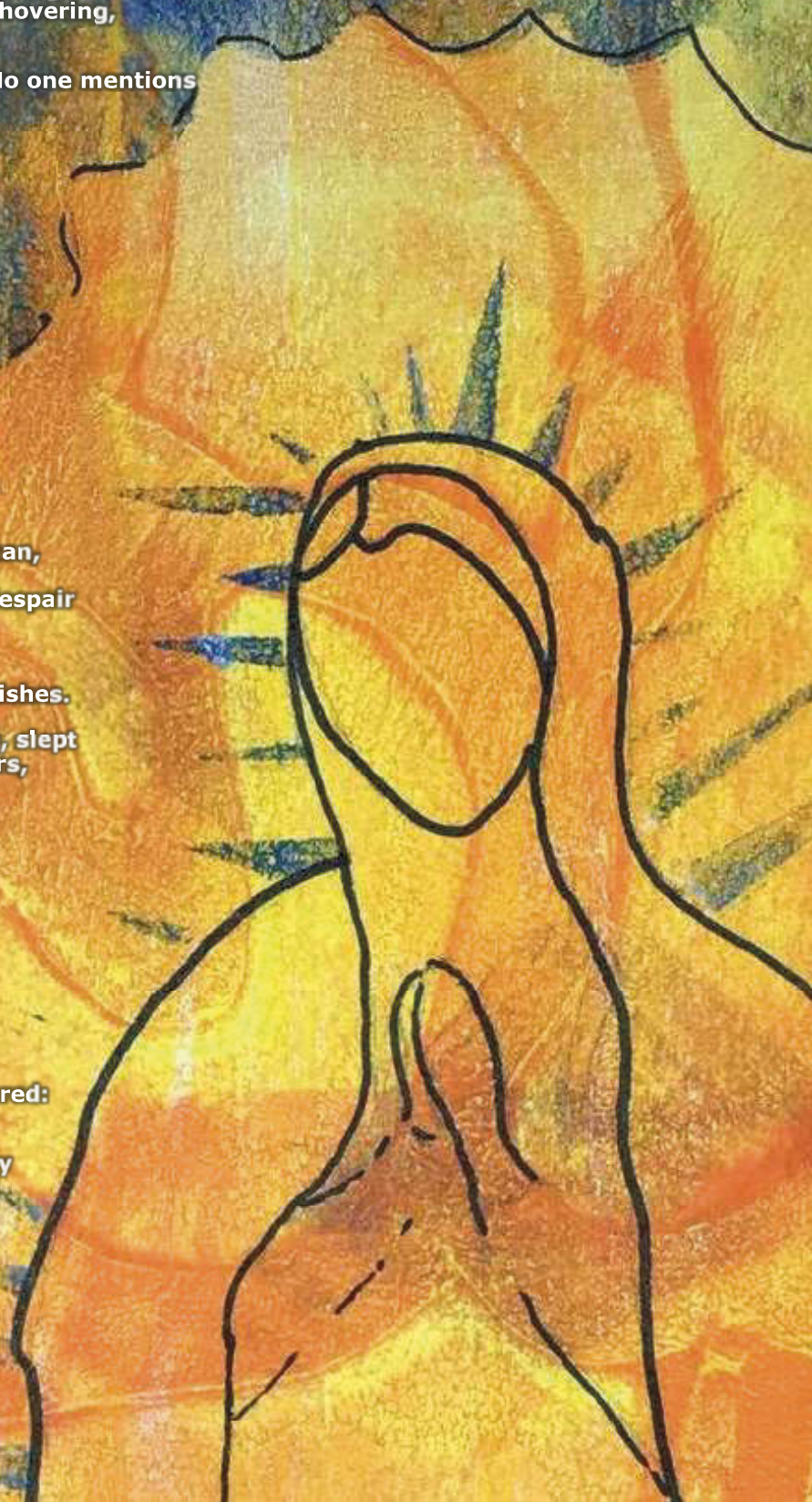
Aren't there annunciations
of one sort or another
in most lives?
Some unwillingly
undertake great destinies,
enact them in sullen pride,
uncomprehending.
More often
those moments
when roads of light and storm
open from darkness in a man or woman,
are turned away from
in dread, in a wave of weakness, in despair
and with relief.
Ordinary lives continue.
God does not smite them.
But the gates close, the pathway vanishes.

She had been a child who played, ate, slept
like any other child – but unlike others,
wept only for pity, laughed
in joy not triumph.
Compassion and intelligence
fused in her, indivisible.

Called to a destiny more momentous
than any in all of Time,
she did not quail,
only asked
a simple, 'How can this be?'
and gravely, courteously,
took to heart the angel's reply,
perceiving instantly
the astounding ministry she was offered:

to bear in her womb
Infinite weight and lightness; to carry
in hidden, finite inwardness,
nine months of Eternity; to contain
in slender vase of being,
the sun of power –
in narrow flesh,
the sum of light.
Then bring to birth,
push out into air, a Man-child
needing, like any other,
milk and love –

but who was God.





About God's Word

THROUGH THE WEEK AT EPIPHANY

Sunday, Jan 01, 2023

And let it begin with me

"The world must be educated to love Peace, to build it up and defend it." With these words, Pope Paul VI in 1968 called us each to personal responsibility for keeping the peace. Since then, successive popes have related the quest for peace to fighting poverty, protecting creation, defeating racism, caring for migrants, supporting education, ensuring opportunities to work, and overcoming indifference. As the pandemic bloomed, Pope Francis described peace as cultivating a "culture of care." Building peace includes encountering people outside our typical social cocoons. It necessarily involves creating good politics and living with hope. Make peace your personal priority.

OCTAVE DAY OF THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD; SOLEMNITY OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY, THE MOTHER OF GOD

TODAY'S READINGS: Numbers 6:22-27; Galatians 4:4-7; Luke 2:16-21 (18). *"The LORD look upon you kindly and give you peace!"*

Monday, Jan 02, 2023

Spirituality is a friendly endeavor

Is there anyone you regard as a "spiritual friend"? Someone with whom you share your Christian journey and who helps you grow in faith? Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzen were two such friends who were monks together for a while and later both became bishops. They lived in a time—the fourth century—when there was great conflict and heresy, and the pair worked to keep the church united on the right path. Gregory wrote of their friendship: "We seemed to be two bodies with a single spirit ... Our single object and ambition was virtue, and a life of hope in the blessings that are to come ..." If it's true that you are the company you keep, choose wisely!

MEMORIAL OF BASIL THE GREAT AND GREGORY NAZIANZEN, BISHOPS, DOCTORS OF THE CHURCH

TODAY'S READINGS: 1 John 2:22-28; John 1:19-28 (205). *"Who are you, so we can give an answer to those who sent us?"*

Tuesday, Jan 03, 2023

The name above all others

The Most Holy Name of Jesus occurs in early January to signify the eight days since Jesus' birth—when, as a Jew, he was presented in the Temple and given a name. As the Bible reminds us, an angel told Joseph: "You shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." Today is also the main feast day of the Jesuit religious order, as their name derives from Jesus' name. Celebrate as suggested by today's most famous Jesuit, Pope Francis: "It means thinking like him, loving like him, seeing like him, walking like him. It means doing what he did and with his same sentiments."

MEMORIAL OF THE MOST HOLY NAME OF JESUS

TODAY'S READINGS: 1 John 2:29—3:6; John 1:29-34 (206). *"Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world."*

Wednesday, Jan 04, 2023

Stand firm for justice

Today, the church celebrates the feast of Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton, the first person born in the future United States to be canonized, and the de facto founder of America's Catholic school system. Seton was also a voice of reason in a time of rampant contradiction in the realm of human rights. Though her family owned slaves, Seton apparently rejected the practice and spoke lovingly of African Americans. Though her order did not protest the

practice, and in some cases benefitted from the labor of enslaved individuals themselves, recent studies have found no evidence that Seton herself ever engaged in the practice—a rarity for her time and social class. Let's pray that a spirit of holy resistance will fill us all in the fight against injustice—in a world where up to 50 million people live in modern slavery.

MEMORIAL OF ELIZABETH ANN SETON, RELIGIOUS

TODAY'S READINGS: 1 John 3:7-10; John 1:35-42 (207). *"The person who acts in righteousness is righteous, just as he is righteous."*

Thursday, Jan 05, 2023

Live and learn—and pass it on

Education was of supreme importance to both Saint John Neumann (1811-60), who is memorialized today, and to scientist and devout Christian George Washington Carver, who died on Jan. 5, 1943. Both men obtained an education long before it was seen as a birthright. Both made enormous social contributions as a result: Neumann to faith development of the masses; Carver to applied agricultural science impacting the country in numerous ways. For them, cleverness was never an end in itself; they both believed their talents were given by God to serve others. How does *your* education serve others?

MEMORIAL OF JOHN NEUMANN, BISHOP

TODAY'S READINGS: 1 John 3:11-21; John 1:43-51 (208). *"Rabbi, you are the Son of God; you are the King of Israel."*

Friday, Jan 06, 2023

The door will be opened

Born frail and weak in 1845 near Montreal and orphaned at 12 when both parents died, André Bessette tried a number of trades as a young man, none with much success. He was initially turned away when applying to the Congregation of Holy Cross but was finally accepted and given the humble task of doorkeeper, messenger, and laundry worker at Notre Dame College in Montreal. There he faithfully served for decades. His life of devotion and healing presence eventually attracted legions of visitors and 80,000 prayer requests mailed in each year. "When I joined this community, the superiors showed me the door, and I remained 40 years," he quipped near the end of his long life. Make yours a life of simple service and devotion—and a sense of humor won't hurt either!

MEMORIAL OF ANDRÉ BESSETTE, RELIGIOUS

TODAY'S READINGS: 1 John 5:5-13; Mark 1:7-11 or Luke 3:23-28 or 3:23, 31-34, 36, 38 (209). *"I am not worthy to stoop and loosen the thongs of his sandals."*

Saturday, Jan 07, 2023

Signs of life

All that water at the wedding feast of Cana was used, the story tells us, for "Jewish ceremonial washings." Such washings were prescribed by the Jewish *Halakha*, or body of laws derived from the Torah. The fact that Jesus turned pure water for cleansing into wine for drinking would have sent a powerful message of the true nature of "living water" to the wedding guests. That same message is transmitted to us as simple table wine becomes the blood of Christ at every Eucharist. Like the wedding guests at Cana, don't hesitate to drink deeply from the cup of life Jesus offers.

CHRISTMAS WEEKDAY

TODAY'S READINGS: 1 John 5:14-21; John 2:1-11 (210). *"Jesus did this as the beginning of his signs at Cana in Galilee and so revealed his glory."*

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about life?

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January 5th
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JAN. 1- JAN. 8

EVENTS



**11:00am Family Mass &
Sunday Scripture Program
7:30 Young Adult Mass**



**12:10pm Mass
12:30pm Miraculous
Medal Novena**



**11:00am 22 Club
12:10pm Mass
2:30pm Prayer Corps
7:00pm Connect**



**12:10pm Mass
12:40pm OLPH (Church)
6:30pm Cub Scouts
7:00pm Breaking Open
The Word via Zoom**



**12:10pm Mass
7:00pm YA Alpha**



**12:10pm Mass
2:15pm Legion of Mary
6:30pm Sant' Egidio Prayer
Service**



**3pm Rosary w/
Ladies of Charity
4pm Vigil Mass**



**11:00am Family Mass &
Sunday Scripture Program
7:30 Young Adult Mass**

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Rev James Mayzik SJ, Parochial Vicar
Kate McHugh, Principal
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What Should I Give To God for Christmas?

The Christmas giving season doesn't end on Christmas Day. Our collections during the Christmas season are our most important collections. Please support Christ's bride, the Church, with a generous donation in proportion to your means. We are grateful for your heartfelt generosity.

Father Austin Titus

2nd Collection - January 7 - 8 Catholic University Fund & the Campaign for Catholic Communication

The Catholic University Fund supports scholarships, faculty, academic & athletic programs, and campus ministry to enhance the lives of the students toward a meaningful future.

The Catholic Communication Fund helps the Church spread the Gospel message through media both locally & nationally. It also supports communications projects worldwide & helps connect people at home & abroad with the message of Christ.

MASSES
Monday-Friday 12:10pm
Saturday Vigil: 4pm
Sunday 11am & 7:30pm

THIS WEEK'S ANNOUNCED MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, December 31

4:00pm Sister Doris Sayonne

Sunday, January 1 *Octave Day of the Blessed Virgin Mary*

11:00am Sister Doris Sayonne

7:30pm Ann Ahern

Monday, January 2 *Memorial of St. Basil and Gregory*

12:10pm Mark Wong

Tuesday, January 3

12:10pm Cipriano Diomampo

Wednesday, January 4 *Memorial of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton*

12:10pm Presentacion Valencia

Thursday, January 5 *Memorial of St. John Neumann*

12:10pm Teresa Martire

Friday, January 6

12:10pm Frank & Caroline McLaughlin

Saturday, January 7

4:00pm Cipriano Diomampo

Sunday, January 8 *The Epiphany of the Lord*

11:00am Margaret Paine

7:30pm Luz Gaetan

Monday, January 9 *The Baptism of The Lord*

12:10pm Sally Boyer

Tuesday, January 10

12:10pm John Burke O'Hara

Sanctuary Lamp
Jan 1 - 7
Lillian Conard

May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed, rest in peace.

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