

EPIPHANY



July 30, 2023

"Heaven is like a pearl of
great price"

Seventeenth
Sunday of
Ordinary Time

WELCOME to Epiphany

"And I saw the Holy City, new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband; and I heard a great voice from the throne saying . . . 'Behold, I make all things new'"

The *new* Jerusalem. That seems to be the secret of heaven. The new New York, Hiroshima, Baghdad. The new bus driver, hot-dog man, seamstress, hairdresser. The new you, me, everybody.

It was always buried there like treasure in all of us — the best we had it in us to become — and there were times you could almost see it. Even the least likely face, asleep, bore traces of it. Even the bombed-out city after nightfall with the public squares in a shambles and moonlight silvering the broken pavement. To speak of heavenly music or a heavenly day isn't always to gush but sometimes to catch a glimpse of something. You can catch a glimpse of that too in almost anybody's eyes if you choose the right moment to look, even in animals' eyes.

If the new is to be born, though, the old has to die. It is the law of the place. For the best to happen, the worst must stop happening — the worst we are, the worst we do. But maybe it isn't as difficult as it sounds. It was a hardened criminal within minutes of death, after all, who said only, "Jesus, remember me," and that turned out to be enough. "This day you will be with me in paradise" was the answer he just managed to hear.



About God's Word

THROUGH THE WEEK AT EPIPHANY

Sunday, Jul 30, 2023

String your own pearls

Jewelry is a matter of taste. Some folks like gold; others prefer silver. But in Jewish tradition, the pearl is a metaphor for valuable teaching. Our "pearl of great price," then, is the teaching upon which we build everything else, the motivation that governs our decision-making. What's yours? For some, it's that all life is sacred. For others, the common good must be served. Still others take the preferential option for the poor, or champion stewardship of creation. Remember: You don't have to choose just one.

SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

TODAY'S READINGS: 1 Kings 3:5, 7-12; Romans 8:28-30; Matthew 13:44-52 (109). *"The kingdom of heaven is like a merchant searching for fine pearls."*

Monday, Jul 31, 2023

Speak his name without shame

Spanish priest Ignatius of Loyola founded the Society of Jesus (along with Saints Peter Faber and Francis Xavier) in Paris in 1541. Members of this religious order are known as Jesuits. Today, the Jesuits are the largest male religious order in the church, and Pope Francis is the first Jesuit pope. The term Jesuit was originally meant as an insult, meaning "someone who too frequently used the name of Jesus." Ignatius never used the term, but members later embraced it with positive meaning. After all, how could anyone use the name of Jesus too much? Take a cue from the Jesuits and don't hold back!

MEMORIAL OF IGNATIUS OF LOYOLA, PRIEST

TODAY'S READINGS: Exodus 32:15-24, 30-34; Matthew 13:31-35 (401). *"The Kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that a person took and sowed in a field."*

Tuesday, Aug 01, 2023

Our saving grace

Alphonsus gave us much, but perhaps the greatest gift was his fight against the Jansenist heresy, encapsulated in his 1748 volume *Moral Theology*. Thanks to Alphonsus, Catholicism has been able to steer a middle path between a darkly pessimistic view of human worth on the one hand and moral laxity on the other. Jansenists held an extreme view of original sin, believing only some are pre-ordained for salvation, saying grace had little chance of saving the rest—even through the sacrament of Reconciliation. Alphonsus encourages us to trust and use the sacrament, but also to "acquire the habit of speaking to God as if you were alone with Him, familiarly and with confidence and love, as to the dearest and most loving of friends."

MEMORIAL OF ALPHONSUS LIGUORI, BISHOP, DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH

TODAY'S READINGS: Exodus 33:7-11; 34:5b-9, 28; Matthew 13:36-43 (402). *"Pardon our wickedness and sins, and receive us as your own."*

Wednesday, Aug 02, 2023

Meet your maker

As we honor Saints Eusebius and Peter Julian Eymard, two staunch defenders of the faith during their times, we would do well to remember that "faith is born of an encounter with the living God who calls us and reveals his love," writes Pope Francis in *Lumen*

Fidei. How do we encounter God? Any embrace of love is a start, but Peter Eymard is more specific: "Happy the soul that knows how to find Jesus in the Holy Eucharist, and in the Eucharist all things!"

MEMORIALS OF EUSEBIUS OF VERCELLI, BISHOP; PETER JULIAN EYMARD, PRIEST

TODAY'S READINGS: Exodus 34:29-35; Matthew 13:44-46 (403). *"The skin of his face had become radiant while he conversed with the LORD."*

Thursday, Aug 03, 2023

God's dwelling place

Biblical faith is unique in its image of a universal God who nevertheless chooses to dwell among his people. We have an intimate portrait of this in the Exodus story where Moses is instructed to build a tent that the people of Israel are to carry with them as they sojourn through the desert toward the Promised Land. We can take heart in the notion that God is with us as well, along for the ride so to speak. He will not leave us orphaned. Call on God today, he's right there with you.

TODAY'S READINGS: Exodus 40:16-21, 34-38; Matthew 13:47-53 (404). *"He spread the tent over the Dwelling and put the covering on top of the tent, as the LORD had commanded him."*

Friday, Aug 04, 2023

The garden of the soul

John Vianney was dedicated to helping people understand and live the Catholic faith. On the street, in the confessional, and in his writings, John offered wisdom and counsel to encourage people. He wrote many small catechetical teachings collected within his "Little Catechism." In one, John writes, "The Holy Spirit is like a gardener cultivating our souls." The soul as a garden is a beautiful image to meditate on. What does your garden look like? How are you growing in your relationship with God? With John, let us pray his words: "O God, send me Your Spirit to teach me what I am and what You are."

MEMORIAL OF JOHN VIANNEY, PRIEST

TODAY'S READINGS: Leviticus 23:1, 4-11, 15-16, 27, 34b-37; Matthew 13:54-58 (405). *"Where did this man get such wisdom and mighty deeds?"*

Saturday, Aug 05, 2023

Take a holy walk

The 16th-century Italian priest Saint Philip Neri liked to organize a walk through Rome with a few of his friends and acquaintances, visiting churches along the journey. It was a nice way to combine friendly conversation and a shared religious activity. The churches they visited—St. Peter's Basilica, St. Paul Outside-the-Walls, St. Sebastian's, St. John Lateran, Holy Cross-in-Jerusalem, St. Lawrence-Outside-the Walls, and the Basilica of St. Mary Major—became known as the Seven Pilgrim Churches of Rome and the walk is now repeated annually on Wednesday of Holy Week. Seek out holy places wherever you live—they can be a refuge in difficult times.

MEMORIAL OF THE DEDICATION OF THE BASILICA OF ST. MARY MAJOR

TODAY'S READINGS: Leviticus 25:1, 8-17; Matthew 14:1-12 (406). *"This fiftieth year you shall make sacred by proclaiming liberty in the land for all its inhabitants."*

**We're going to World Youth Day,
the awesome world-wide gathering of young Catholics
in Lisbon August 2023**

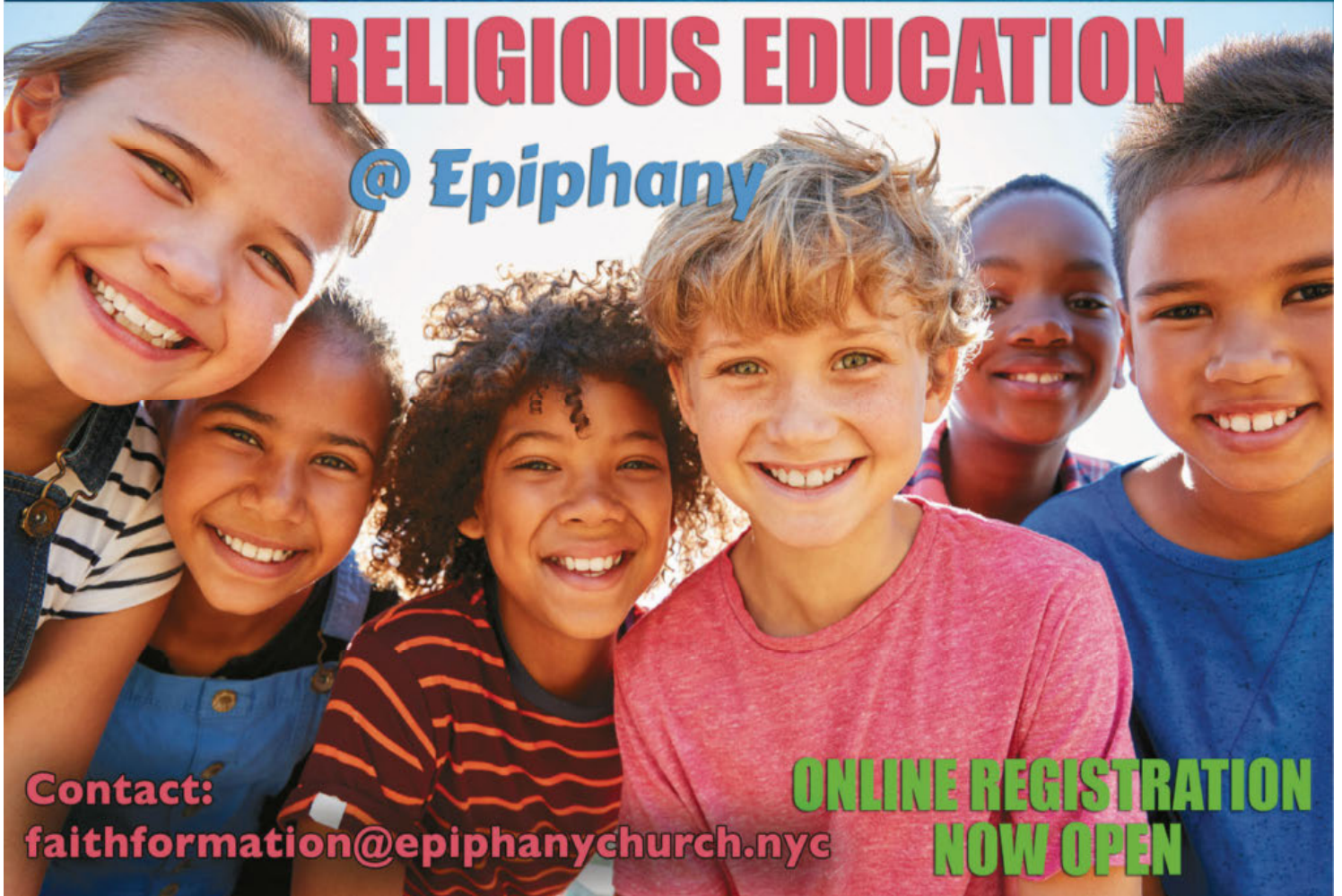


**Our Epiphany Young Adults
will be praying for you there!**



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JUL 30 - AUG 6

EVENTS



11:00am Family Mass
12:00pm Hunger Sunday
7:30 Young Adult Mass



12:10pm Mass
12:30pm Miraculous Medal novena



2:30pm Prayer Corps
7:00pm Connect



12:10pm Mass
12:40pm OLPH (Church)
7:00pm Breaking Open The Word via Zoom



12:10pm Mass
7:00pm Legion of Mary
7:00pm YA Alpha



12:10pm Mass
6:30pm Sant' Egidio Fridays



3:00pm Rosary
4:00pm Vigil Mass



11:00am Family Mass
7:30 Young Adult Mass

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2nd Collection - Aug 6 - for the Church in Africa

Africa faces the economic and social hurdles of severe poverty, epidemic and political unrest. Our donations can provide grants for schools, evangelization, & education of clergy & lay ministers.

The Solidarity Fund is essential to the "salt of the earth" Church in Africa as it strives to realize its potential as a "light of the world." Your support makes a real difference for Catholics in Africa. Please continue to pray for our African sisters and brothers. As always, we are extremely grateful for the generosity of our parishioners.

Rosary Aug 5 at 3pm

Join us to pray the Rosary in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament!

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

THIS WEEK'S ANNOUNCED MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, August 5

4:00pm Ann Ahern

Sunday, August 6 *Feast of the Transfiguration of the Lord*

11:00am Amado Sr. & Brigida Wycoco

7:30pm Ann Ahern

Monday, August 7

12:10pm Alyssa Almogela

Tuesday, August 8 *Memorial of Saint Dominic*

12:10pm Mary & Joseph Walsh

Wednesday, August 9

12:10pm James A. Verlin

Thursday, August 10 *Feast of Saint Lawrence*

12:10pm Vincent Malaban

Friday, August 11 *Memorial of Saint Clare*

12:10pm Mary & Edward Mallon

Saturday, August 12

4:00pm Lillian Conard

Sunday, August 13

11:00am Paul Sum

7:30pm Paul Sum

Monday, August 14 *Memorial of Saint Maximilian Kolbe*

12:10pm Mary Walsh

Tuesday, August 15 *Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary*

12:10pm Ethel Barrett Dillon

5:30pm Ray E. Stout, Jr.

Sanctuary Lamp
Altar Bread & Wine
Aug 6 - 12
Amado Sr. & Brigida Wycoco

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

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