

EPIPHANY

February 5, 2023

"You are salt,
you are light"



Fifth
Sunday of
Ordinary Time

WELCOME to Epiphany

SACRED SONG

“He who sings,” said St. Augustine, “prays twice.” The holy Bishop of Hippo meant that singing adds to our praise and worship of God—that our voices are gifts, with which we can make music to the Lord. Sung prayer expresses the joy of the heart, the happiness resulting from one who has encountered Jesus Christ and experienced his love. Sung prayer reminds us of the choirs of heaven, with whom we are called to praise God eternally in heaven.

The Second Vatican Council taught that, “liturgical worship is given a more noble form when the divine offices are celebrated solemnly in song, with the assistance of sacred ministers and the active participation of the people.” When the sacred liturgy is sung, it becomes more beautiful, and more reflective of the beauty of the Most Blessed Trinity.

Christians have sung in sacred liturgy since the Church’s earliest days. And the Jewish people have sung praise to God, in the context of holy worship, for thousands of years. The Psalms are the record of the liturgical song-prayers of the Jewish people. When we sing in the context of Mass, we join a tradition of sacred worship that goes back to at least the time of King David himself. “Let us come before him with a song of praise,” wrote King David, “joyfully sing out our psalms.”

“Whoever sings a praise, not only praises, but only praises with gladness. He that sings praise, not only sings, but also loves him of whom he sings. In praise, there is the speaking forth of one confessing; in singing, the affection of one loving.” Psalm 72





About God's Word THROUGH THE WEEK AT EPIPHANY

Sunday, Feb 05, 2023

Lord, hold the center together

Author and black Catholic educator Therese Wilson Favors wrote some rousing words for today's observance, the National Day of Prayer for the African American Family: "At times when the strain of life is heaviest within our families, 'holding-on power' is needed. Perseverance is the glue squeezed out from the soul and spoken in prayer at the midnight hour. Perseverance is the spiritual machine needed to break down the mountain and push through from weakness to strength. Lord, let me hold on just a little bit longer." Pray for black families and all families vulnerable to social forces that embattle them.

FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

TODAY'S READINGS: Isaiah 58:7-10; 1 Corinthians 2:1-5; Matthew 5:13-16 (73). "Your vindication shall go before you, and the glory of the LORD shall be your rear guard."

Monday, Feb 06, 2023

Be nourished by his rain

Almost 350 years before the second atomic bomb was dropped on the Japanese city of Nagasaki, it was the site of another tragedy—the place where 26 Christian martyrs were crucified on a hill, now known as Holy Mountain. The best known of the martyrs was Brother Paul Miki, a native Japanese member of the Jesuit order. While hanging on his cross, he continued to preach, expressing thanks to God that he was dying for teaching the doctrine of Christ and urging his listeners to "ask Christ to help you to become happy." He said he hoped his blood would fall as "fruitful rain." May his gentle words and brave witness nourish your prayer today.

MEMORIAL OF PAUL MIKI AND COMPANIONS, MARTYRS

TODAY'S READINGS: Genesis 1:1-19; Mark 6:53-56 (329). "They laid the sick in the marketplaces and begged him that they might touch only the tassel on his cloak."

Tuesday, Feb 07, 2023

How to help a good cause

Six individuals are in line to become the first African-American saint: Sister Thea Bowman, Julia Greeley, Mother Mary Lange, Mother Henriette Delille, Father Augustus Tolton, and Pierre Toussaint. The first three have the title "servant of God," indicating their canonization cause has been launched. The latter three have the title "venerable," meaning the pope recognizes their heroic virtue. Next would come beatification, allowing candidates to be called "blessed"; it includes the church's confirmation that they are in heaven—evidenced by at least two miracles from their intercession (unless they're martyred). Finally, comes canonization. Learn about these six and seek their intercession year-round.

TODAY'S READINGS: Genesis 1:20-2:4a; Mark 7:1-13 (330). "God created man in his image; in the divine image he created him; male and female he created them."

Wednesday, Feb 08, 2023

Saintly guidance to help end modern-day slavery

This day marks the International Day of Prayer and Awareness Against Human Trafficking—also the feast of the first and only black woman saint in modern times: the Sudanese nun Josephine Bakhita. Kidnapped into slavery as a child by Arab traffickers in the late 19th century, she was converted to Islam before eventually being left in the care of Canossian Sisters in Italy. Her freedom soon came, and she lived out her later life as a Catholic and

eventually a nun. Today, an estimated 50 million people live in modern-day slavery. Christians are among the greatest combatants of the trade, and Saint Josephine was named the patron of survivors when she was canonized in 2000. May her faith continue to inspire those working to end the scourge, and may we join their efforts.

MEMORIAL OF JOSEPHINE BAKHITA, RELIGIOUS

TODAY'S READINGS: Genesis 2:4b-9, 15-17; Mark 7:14-23 (331).

"When you send forth your spirit, they are created, and you renew the face of the earth."

Thursday, Feb 09, 2023

Seeing Adam's rib with fresh eyes

Traditionally, today's first reading has been used as a cudgel to keep women in divinely sanctioned inferiority. In the past century, scholars have looked differently at Genesis. Eve being created last doesn't imply inferiority, they say; human creation came after the rest of creation and traditionally was seen as implying superiority (which is actually another idea now under question). Also, many say a "partner" for Adam would imply equal status. Scripture interpretation depends heavily on the culture and on who is doing the interpreting. May the Holy Spirit inspire each one of us to advance human dignity.

TODAY'S READINGS: Genesis 2:18-25; Mark 7:24-30 (332). "This one, at last, is bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh."

Friday, Feb 10, 2023

Togetherness has its virtue

Saint Scholastica (480-543) is the patron of Benedictine nuns and sisters. Along with her brother Saint Benedict of Nursia, she helped establish a rule for monastic living that emphasized prayer, work, and peace. Contemporary Benedictine women continue to follow this ancient set of precepts. The vision of monastic life, as expressed in the 2022 Centennial Prayer of the Benedictine Federation of Saint Scholastica is to "see Christ at the heart of all creation and at the center of our common life" and "share the peace of Christ, show the love of Christ, and make Christ known in our world." In what ways does your own life within family and community give witness to the peace and love of Christ?

MEMORIAL OF SCHOLASTICA, RELIGIOUS

TODAY'S READINGS: Genesis 3:1-8; Mark 7:31-37 (333). "[Jesus] has done all things well."

Saturday, Feb 11, 2023

Our hands, God's hands

Today is World Day of the Sick, an observation introduced by Pope John Paul II as a way for believers to serve those suffering from illnesses. "Because Your hands, which touch the suffering flesh of Christ," said the sainted pope, "can be a sign of the merciful hands of the Father." Today and every day we pray for and care for the sick in our lives. On this day last year Pope Francis stated, "The ministry of consolation is a task for every baptized person, mindful of the word of Jesus: 'I was sick and you visited me.'"

TODAY'S READINGS: Genesis 3:9-24; Mark 8:1-10 (334). "My heart is moved with pity for the crowd."

The Problem

The Catholic Church is in crisis:

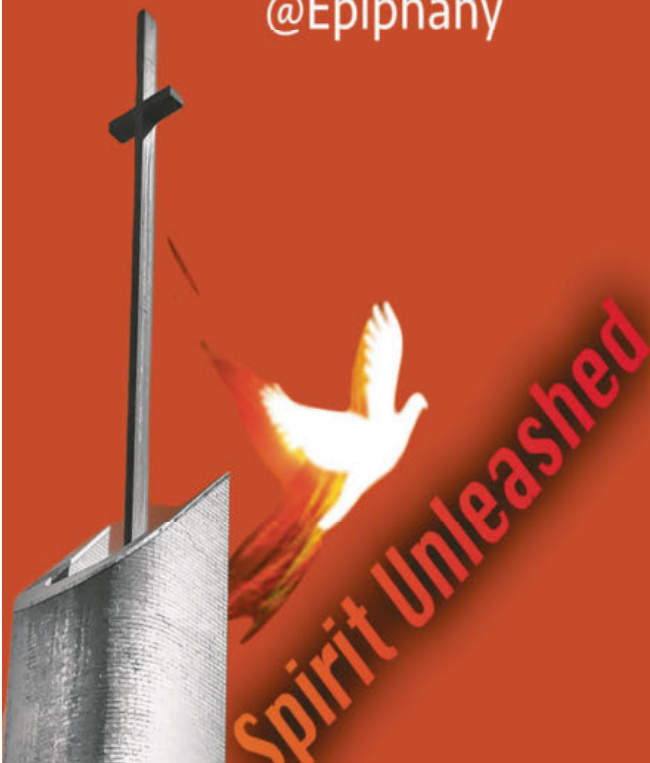
- parishes are aging
 - congregations are shrinking
 - priests are discouraged and disengaging
 - people are broken
 - belief is challenged
 - Mass is seen as lifeless, irrelevant and boring
 - churches are in maintenance mode,
- while spiritual leaders are managing the decline

Through the power of the **HOLY SPIRIT**,
we can bring
life back to parishes,
and people to **Jesus!**

The Answer



DIVINE
RENOVATION
@Epiphany



Imagine a faith community where...

- **Hurting people** are healed by a relationship with God
- **Young adults and young families** bring new energy and excitement to the parish
- **Everyone feels extraordinarily welcome** and loved
- **Vibrant worship** draws new people to Jesus
- **Every person shares their gifts** and talents on mission for the world

It requires conversion and openness to change

Discipleship

Disciples are students, who learn from a Master.
At Epiphany we are students of Jesus.

Evangelization

Evangelizing is simply sharing your enthusiasm for someone who matters. For us, it is Jesus.

Worship

At Epiphany we offer a 'wow' experience of hospitality, hymns and homilies.

Ministry

We minister with compassion to our sisters and brothers in the Lord.

Fellowship

Epiphany is a place where everyone is known and loved. We appreciate one another and have fun.

@EPIPHANY

FEB. 5 - FEB. 12

EVENTS



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



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



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



**12:10pm Mass
12:40pm OLPH (Church)
5:30pm Cub Scouts
7:00pm Breaking Open
The Word via Zoom**



**12:10pm Mass
6:30pm SOS Meeting
7:00pm YA Alpha**



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



**11:00am Bible Study
3:00pm Rosary
with Ladies of Charity
4pm Vigil Mass**



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

Church of the Epiphany

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Kate McHugh, Principal
Deborah J. Keogh, Director of Faith Formation
John D. Coen, Director of Music
Jonathan Ramirez, Communications Producer
Jose Ramos & Thomas Lewis, Parish Trustees

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2023 Cardinal's Appeal

The 2023 Cardinal's Appeal has begun! "Blessed are all who take refuge in Him!" (Psalm 2) In our Archdiocese, 2.8 million Catholics and countless of our non-Catholic brothers and sisters take refuge in the Lord through His Church and her ministries. The Cardinal's Annual Stewardship Appeal exists to fund the expansive efforts of our Archdiocese to provide every person with an encounter with Jesus and a confidence that He, present in every church in the most Holy Eucharist, is our refuge.

If your **2022 Tax Deductions** exceed \$12,950 (single) or \$25,900 (married), and they include church donations, you must obtain a report from Epiphany **before** filing your 2022 tax return.

To take either of these deductions, please call the parish office to request a statement of donations.

Be a Sign of Mercy! Donate to Peter's Pence Collection

Your contribution to the Peter's Pence Collection funds, the assist the Pope & the activities of the Roman Curia, and solidarity projects aiding those most in need. The second collection will take place

February 11th & 12th
To learn more about the collection, visit
www.peterspence.va/es.html

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

THIS WEEK'S ANNOUNCED MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, February 4
4:00pm Mary Walsh
Sunday, February 5
11:00am Robert Spadaro
7:30pm Msgr Patrick Brown
Monday, February 6 *Memorial of St. Paul*
12:10pm Robert Curley
Tuesday, February 7
12:10pm Francisca Lacza
Wednesday, February 8
12:10pm Maureen Ingram
Thursday, February 9
12:10pm King Phojanakong
Friday, February 10 *Memorial of St. Scholastica*
12:10pm Catalina & Enrique Melad Sr.
Saturday, February 11
4:00pm John Astorina
Sunday, February 12
11:00am Donna Edwards
7:30pm Ann Ahern
Monday, February 13
12:10pm intentions of Chrisanthi White
Tuesday, February 14 *Memorial of St. Cyril*
12:10pm Richard Warner

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

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