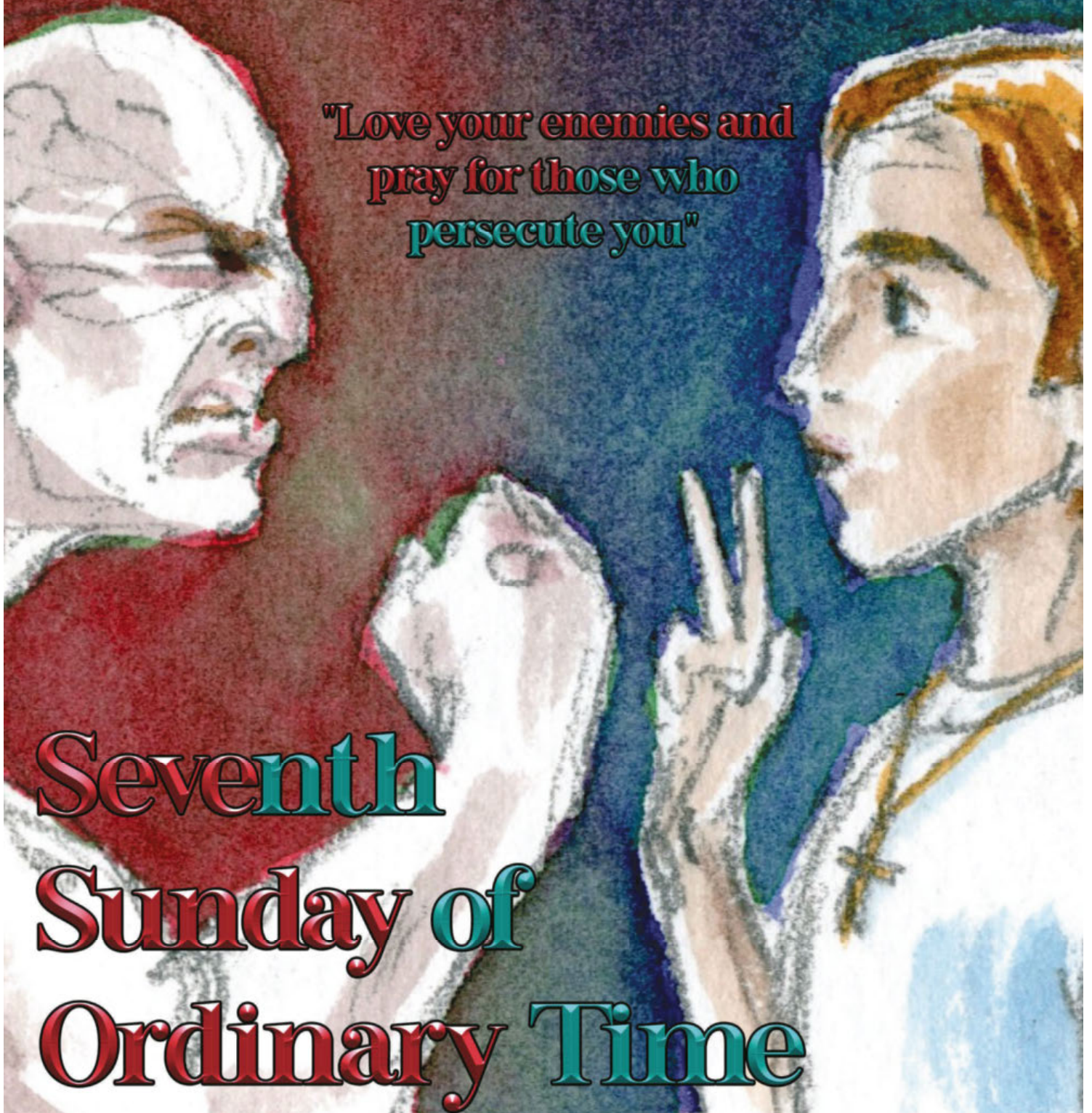


EPIPHANY

February 19, 2023

"Love your enemies and
pray for those who
persecute you"

Seventh
Sunday of
Ordinary Time



WELCOME to Epiphany



WE ARE ALL MINISTERS

The Second Vatican Council in its doctrinal centerpiece (*Lumen Gentium*), described the Church as the communion of the people of God, each of whom has a role to play as missionary disciples of the Lord. The word "ministry" refers to active service to the church itself, and to the world--and ministry is the work of every member of the Church. Therefore anyone who does "ministry" is a minister. This includes all members of the church: lay people, priests, deacons, and religiously professed.

The main goal for every organized ministry with the church must be to work together to proclaim the gospel to the world around us with our actions as well as words, so that, through the church, the "...manifold wisdom of God might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places" (Ephesians 3:10). Each one of us is called to a ministry that utilizes our particular gifts and talents.

At Epiphany, there are many types of ministries in service of the Church itself: **liturgical ministries for Mass and Sacraments** (Lectors, Altar Servers, Eucharistic Ministers, Hospitality Ministers, Liturgical Committee Members, Ministers of the Environment, Adoration and Worship Leaders, Choir Members and Music Ministers); **church leadership** (Pastoral Council, Senior Leadership Team, Stewardship Team, Finance Team, Priests, Deacons); **faith formation** (Catechists, Alpha and Connect Group Leaders, Prayer Corps Ministry, Breaking Open the Word Ministry, Family Faith Formation Leaders, RCIA Leaders, Young Adult Ministry, Gardening Ministry, Parents Ministry, Begotten By God For LGBTQ community, Men's Ministry, Women's Ministry).

Ministers also serve our community, city and the world. We have the **Ministry of Compassion** for those dealing with losses in their lives; **Interfaith Ministry** which reaches out to sisters and brothers of other faiths; the **Legion of Mary**, which evangelizes non-Christians, and serves the home-bound; the **22 Club**, which offers fellowship to seniors in our neighborhood; **Social Justice Ministry**, which serves food to our homeless and advocates for the poor and marginalized; **Youth Ministry and Servants of Salvation (SOS)**, which engages youth in faith and service; and many others .



Transforming Our Parish From
Maintenance to Mission



About God's Word THROUGH THE WEEK AT EPIPHANY

Sunday, Feb 19, 2023

Kindness and care, from beginning to end

Sometimes you have to do things for yourself. Mathilda Beasley (1833-1903), of Creole and Native American parents, founded a Franciscan community of color in Savannah with little help from normal church channels. Her sisters cared for orphaned black children, continuing the work until things ran out: money, housing, and the health of Mother Beasley. Though the community was suppressed, Mother Beasley was the third founder of an order of black sisters in the United States, after Elizabeth Lange and Henriette Delille. God measures our efforts, not our success.

SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

TODAY'S READINGS: Leviticus 19:1-2, 17-18; 1 Corinthians 3:16-23; Matthew 5:38-48 (79). *"For the wisdom of this world is foolishness in the eyes of God."*

Monday, Feb 20, 2023

Either part of the problem, or . . .

Imagine being a lifelong Catholic—yet being refused admittance to a Catholic school. Or being asked to move to the back of the church at Mass because of your race. Professor Thomas Wyatt Turner (1877-1978) experienced plenty of discrimination, which is why he helped found the NAACP in 1909 as well as the Federated Colored Catholics in 1924. The latter group pledged their services to the church "for whatever good they were able to effect in the solution of the problems facing the group in church and country." On this World Day of Social Justice, be part of the solution.

TODAY'S READINGS: Sirach 1:1-10; Mark 9:14-29 (341). *"Why could we not drive the spirit out?" [Jesus] said to them, "This kind can only come out through prayer."*

Tuesday, Feb 21, 2023

Climb to holiness

Dante Alighieri, writing *The Divine Comedy*, paid Peter Damian the great honor of placing him in one of the highest circles of Paradise. In fact, Peter is the first of two important monastic figures to greet Dante in "seventh heaven," the other being Saint Benedict of Nursia. Both represent this heavenly level: spiritual contemplatives who've lived a life of temperance and prayer. Dante has Peter and Benedict climbing up and down a golden ladder, reminiscent of the "Ladder of Humility" (12 steps) described in the Benedictine Rule and the "Ladder of Divine Ascent" (30 steps) written by monastic Saint John Climacus. If you need to build a Lenten practice, step up to the task tomorrow.

MEMORIAL OF PETER DAMIAN, BISHOP, DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH

TODAY'S READINGS: Sirach 2:1-11; Mark 9:30-37 (342). *"If anyone wishes to be first, he shall be the last of all and the servant of all."*

Wednesday, Feb 22, 2023

Out of the ashes

Happy Ash Wednesday! Yes, it can be a cause for celebration. Best known as the first day of Lent, this day remains sacred to Catholic communities in the West as a day of solemnity following the Carnival season, capped off yesterday with Mardi Gras ("Fat Tuesday"). Though most often associated with revelry and excess, the season just completed is also a holy one. Carnival is full of Catholic symbolism and festive acknowledgement of God and creation, in keeping with the church year and its marking of spiritual times and seasons. Now, as we enter a period of fasting and abstinence, let's remember to continue seeking God's

goodness in the rich traditions of the faith. Don't forget to stop by church for ashes today!

ASH WEDNESDAY; DAY OF FASTING AND ABSTINENCE

TODAY'S READINGS: Joel 2:12-18; 2 Corinthians 5:20—6:2; Matthew 6:1-6, 16-18 (219). *"For our sake he made him to be sin who did not know sin, so that we might become the righteousness of God in him."*

Thursday, Feb 23, 2023

Emulate those who stood firm

Polycarp was a bishop, and his death the church's first recorded martyrdom. He was born in 69, just a few years after Peter and Paul were executed, and Roman authorities burned him to death after what one account calls a "witty conversation" between Polycarp and Statius Quadratus, Roman proconsul. Polycarp became one of what would turn out to be a flood of Christians who have been put to death, and continue to be so, for not renouncing their faith. Sometimes "not renouncing" means publicly living Christian ethics against pressure; sometimes it means stating one's belief in words. Strive to be a courageous witness for faith, as those who came before us have been.

MEMORIAL OF POLYCARP, BISHOP, MARTYR

TODAY'S READINGS: Deuteronomy 30:15-20; Luke 9:22-25 (220).

"What profit is there for one to gain the whole world yet lose or forfeit himself?"

Friday, Feb 24, 2023

Fast approaching

The practice of fasting during Lent finds its genesis in our Lord's journey into the desert where he fasted and prayed for 40 days and nights in preparation to begin his public ministry (Matthew 4:1-2; Luke 4:1-3). We observe the 40 days of Lent in imitation of Christ's time in the desert. We walk into the desert with Christ and fast so as to have the strength to do good and avoid evil, with the help of God's grace. We strive to atone for our sins and purify our lives in preparation for the celebration of Christ's glorious rising from the tomb.

FRIDAY AFTER ASH WEDNESDAY; DAY OF ABSTINENCE

TODAY'S READINGS: Isaiah 58:1-9a; Matthew 9:14-15 (221). *"This, rather, is the fasting that I wish: . . . Clothing the naked when you see them, and not turning your back on your own."*

Saturday, Feb 25, 2023

What's on your bookshelf?

It is often said that Lent is a time to take spiritual inventory and do a "spring cleanup" as we renew our baptismal promises. The conjunction of Lent with Black History Month and Catholic Press Month affords us an unprecedented opportunity to take spiritual inventory of our bookshelves, too! What books do we have from the black Catholic community that can enrich us, expand our spiritual horizons, and even challenge us? This Lent, consider picking up *Uncommon Faithfulness: The Black Catholic Experience* (2009) or *Black Catholic Studies Reader: History and Theology* (2021). Make one of these books or a similar one part of your Lenten renewal.

SATURDAY AFTER ASH WEDNESDAY

TODAY'S READINGS: Isaiah 58:9b-14; Luke 5:27-32 (222). *"Then the LORD will guide you always and give you plenty even on the parched land."*



Mardi **GRAS**

Tuesday 21 February

Tickets are \$38
Mass at 6:00pm
Doors open at 7:00pm

Lenten Events @ Epiphany

- | | |
|----------------------|--|
| February 17th | Stations of the Cross every Friday After 12:10 Mass |
| February 22nd | Ash Wednesday
12:10pm, 3:30pm & 5:30pm |
| February 27th | The Chosen Season 3 every Monday 7:00pm |
| March 11th | Friends & Family Mass |
| March 12th | St.Patrick's Concert |
| April 5th | Day of Spiritual Reflection |
- 

@EPIPHANY

FEB. 19 - FEB. 26

EVENTS



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



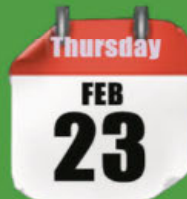
**No Mass
Presidents Day
Rectory Closed**



**12:10pm Mass
2:30pm Prayer Corps
6:00pm Mardi Gras Mass
7:00pm Mardi Gras Party**



**12:10pm Mass & Ashes
3:30pm Ashes Prayer Service
5:30pm Ashes Prayer Service
7:00pm Breaking Open
The Word via Zoom**



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



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



**11:00am Bible Study
4pm Vigil Mass**



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

Church of the Epiphany

Rev Austin Titus, Pastor
Rev James Mayzik SJ, Parochial Vicar
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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Telephone: 212 475-1966
EMAIL: epiphanychurch239@gmail.com

WEBSITE: epiphanychurch.nyc

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.

Feb. 19th Earthquake in Turkey & Syria Collection

Cardinal Dolan has asked all parishes to hold an emergency collection for the people affected by the devastating earthquake in Turkey & Syria, in which over 35,000 have lost their lives and many more have been injured and have no home to which they can return.

We invite all our parishioners to donate in a second collection this weekend, February 18 & 19, for the relief of the suffering people and to assist in recovery from this heartbreaking disaster.

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

THIS WEEK'S ANNOUNCED MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, February 18

4:00pm Robert & John Rafferty

Sunday, February 19

11:00am King Phojanakong

7:30pm Jack & Susan Cashman

Monday, February 20

12:10pm NO MASSES – PRESIDENTS' DAY

Tuesday, February 21

12:10pm Rita & Walter Lampmann

Wednesday, February 22

12:10pm our parishioners as they begin their Lenten journey

Thursday, February 23

12:10pm Michael P. Fitzgerald

Friday, February 24

12:10pm Conchita Garcia Mallari

Saturday, February 25

4:00pm James DiMarco

Sunday, February 26

11:00am Giuseppe Astorina

7:30pm Erika Maria Escueta

Monday, February 27

12:10pm Neresito Creus

Tuesday, February 28

12:10pm JoAnn & Antoinette Iacono

Sanctuary Lamp

Feb 19 - 25

John Caradonna

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



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