

# EPIPHANY



September 24, 2023

"The last will be first, and the first will be last."

Twenty Fifth  
Sunday of  
Ordinary Time

# WELCOME to Epiphany

**In the parable of the prodigal son,** the elder son is jealous that his younger brother gets such a royal welcome even though he and his loose women swallowed up his father's property

**And in the parable of the laborers in the vineyard,** the workers who worked the whole day are jealous that those who came at the eleventh hour receive the same pay as they did. But the Father says to the older son: "You are with me always and all I have is yours" And the landowner says: "Why should you be envious because I am generous?"

# JEALOUSY

**When we truly enjoy God's unlimited generosity, we will be grateful for what our brothers and sisters receive. Jealousy will simply have no place in our hearts.**



# About God's Word

## THROUGH THE WEEK AT EPIPHANY

**Sunday, Sep 24, 2023**

### At home in the world

Free to leave, free to stay. Liberty of movement is a right most of us take for granted. Have you resided in more than one place? On this 109th World Day of Migrants and Refugees, Pope Francis asks us to imagine a world in which everyone has the option to stay or go as they please. It necessitates a world in which staying is safe: free from discrimination, violence, and dire poverty. All would have the protection of equal rights and respect, and could reach their potential in their present circumstances. Until that day, welcoming the stranger is our sacred obligation.

TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

TODAY'S READINGS: Isaiah 55:6-9; Philippians 1:20c-24, 27a; Matthew 20:1-16a (133). *"For my thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways my ways, says the Lord."*

**Monday, Sep 25, 2023**

### Be creative for the sake of creation

The Season of Creation, an annual ecumenical celebration of prayer and action for our common home, began on September 1 (World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation) and ends on October 4 (the feast of Saint Francis of Assisi). There is still more than a week left for you, your family, your cohort of friends, your school, and your parish to renew your relationship with the Creator and with creation, through celebration, conversion, and commitment together. How? Pray. Read Pope Francis' encyclical *Laudato si'*. Coordinate a cleanup project or other sustainability effort. Use your voice and advocate for climate justice. Best idea yet? Come up with one no one has thought of!

TODAY'S READINGS: Ezra 1:1-6; Luke 8:16-18 (449). *"No one who lights a lamp conceals it ... rather, he places it on a lampstand so that those who enter may see the light."*

**Tuesday, Sep 26, 2023**

### Freely share the gifts you've been given

Cosmas and Damian were legendary. Many churches have been built in their honor, and their names make the short list of saints enshrined in Eucharistic Prayer I, used during the Mass. During the final years of Rome's brutal persecution of Christians, the twin physicians lived in Syria—then an eastern province of the Roman Empire. Not only were they gifted healers, but they refused to charge for their services. As they explained, "We treat the infirm by the power of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ and take no payment for rendering aid to the sick, because our Lord commanded His disciples, 'Freely have you received, freely give.'" How have you been blessed by God, and how can you share that with others?

MEMORIAL OF COSMAS AND DAMIAN, MARTYRS

TODAY'S READINGS: Ezra 6:7-8, 12b, 14-20; Luke 8:19-21 (450). *"My mother and my brothers are those who hear the word of God and act on it."*

**Wednesday, Sep 27, 2023**

### Now on tour

Today is World Tourism Day. According to the United Nations, the tourism sector employs one in every 10 people on Earth, and millions more benefit economically from tourism, though the wealth generated isn't always shared equitably. For tourists, exploring new places and enjoying favorite ones can be exhilarating—but bad behavior can ruin a trip. Keeping an attitude of openness and gratitude, as well as respect for local people and customs while on

vacation or a tour can transform the experience. Archbishop Rino Fisichella of the Vatican's Dicastery for Evangelization wrote in anticipation of today's observance, "A tourism that respects the person and the environment opens the way to perceiving the goodness of the Father who reaches out to everyone with his love." It's hard to imagine a better souvenir than that.

MEMORIAL OF VINCENT DE PAUL, PRIEST

TODAY'S READINGS: Ezra 9:5-9; Luke 9:1-6 (451). *"Then they set out and went from village to village proclaiming the good news and curing diseases everywhere."*

**Thursday, Sep 28, 2023**

### Lighten the load

You may have heard the old English Christmas song about a Bohemian king who became Saint Wenceslaus, in part because of his great charity. The most famous tale from the charitable king's life was recorded in the carol "Good King Wenceslaus." The king helps a poor man keep from freezing by trodding a path in the snow for him, easing the man's journey to shelter. It ends with an admonishment to do likewise for anyone who suffers and "[you] shall yourselves find blessing." Do a favor for someone in need today, and like Wenceslaus, you will find blessing.

MEMORIAL OF WENCESLAUS, MARTYR

TODAY'S READINGS: Haggai 1:1-8; Luke 9:7-9 (452). *"Who then is this about whom I hear such things?"*

**Friday, Sep 29, 2023**

### Entertaining angels

Care for strangers has always been a strong imperative in Christianity. Yet in today's highly politicized environment, it is challenging to reach out to strangers who some have deemed to be threats—people like refugees and other marginalized communities. Scripture is clear: "Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it." Angels? It's far easier to see angels from the safety of a holy card or a statue. But think for a moment and see if you have at some point encountered an angel through the presence of a stranger.

FEAST OF MICHAEL, GABRIEL, AND RAPHAEL, ARCHANGELS

TODAY'S READINGS: Daniel 7:9-10, 13-14 or Revelation 12:7-12ab; John 1:47-51 (647). *"How do you know me?"*

**Saturday, Sep 30, 2023**

### Christianity, by the book

As early Christianity distanced itself from Judaism, Christians began to lose touch with their faith's deep Jewish roots. Saint Jerome (born around 340) helped to reestablish the link. He learned Hebrew from a Christian monk who had converted from Judaism. More unusual for the time, he studied with Jewish rabbis to gain a better understanding of Hebrew scripture. He then spent 15 years producing the foundational Latin translation of the Hebrew Bible, which we know as the Old Testament. He later said, "For if, as Paul says, Christ is the power of God and the wisdom of God, and if the man who does not know Scripture does not know the power and wisdom of God, then ignorance of Scriptures is ignorance of Christ." Crack open the Good Book today, in honor of a key figure who helped shape it.

MEMORIAL OF JEROME, PRIEST, DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH

TODAY'S READINGS: Zechariah 2:5-9, 14-15a; Luke 9:43b-45 (454). *"Jesus said to his disciples, 'Pay attention to what I am telling you.'"*

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Sep. 24- Oct. 1

EVENTS



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



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



11:00am 22Club  
12:10pm Mass  
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



4:00pm Vigil Mass



11:00am Family Mass &  
Sunday Scripture  
12:00pm Hunger Sunday  
12:30pm Parish Alpha  
7:30 Young Adult Mass

# Church of the Epiphany

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## 2nd Collection on September 23-24 for St. Joseph Seminary

The priesthood is a life of sacrifice and service.  
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will assist the seminarians in our archdiocese  
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As always, we are grateful for your generosity.

## The 2023 Cardinal's Appeal

Our journey continues toward our goal in the  
Cardinal's Annual Stewardship Appeal.

**2023 current pledges - 69% of goal**  
Our Goal: \$167,200 Pledged: \$115,962 Gifts: 139

**Last Year at this time - 96% of goal**  
Our Goal: \$164,500 Pledged: \$158,679 Gifts: 182

The Cardinal's Appeal supports Catholics in so many ways.

## Please help us reach our goal!

As always, we are grateful for the generosity of our parishioners.



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## MASSES

**Monday-Friday 12:10pm**

**Saturday Vigil: 4pm**

**Sunday 11am & 7:30pm**

## THIS WEEK'S

## ANNOUNCED MASS INTENTIONS

**Saturday, September 23** *Memorial of Saint Pius of Pietrelcina*

4:00pm Michael R. Gargiulo

**Sunday, September 24**

11:00am Loretta & Frank Kunkel

7:30pm Danuta Guzek

**Monday, September 25**

12:10pm Richard Coralde

**Tuesday, September 26**

12:10pm Joe Harrington

**Wednesday, September 27** *Memorial of Saint Vincent de Paul*

12:10pm Stuart J. Kaufman

**Thursday, September 28**

12:10pm Dennis Shea

**Friday, September 29** *Feast of Saints Michael, Gabriel, and Raphael*

12:10pm Michael Mallari

**Saturday, September 30** *Memorial of Saint Jerome*

4:00pm Michele Reilly & Rita Rotiroti

**Sunday, October 1**

11:00am Gloria Joan Heubel

7:30pm Ann Ahern

**Monday, October 2** *Memorial of the Guardian Angels*

12:10pm intentions of Diane Bianco

**Tuesday, October 3**

12:10pm Pat Sheils

**Sanctuary Lamp**

**Sept. 24 - 30**

**John Caradonna**

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

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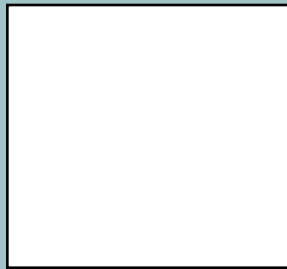
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