

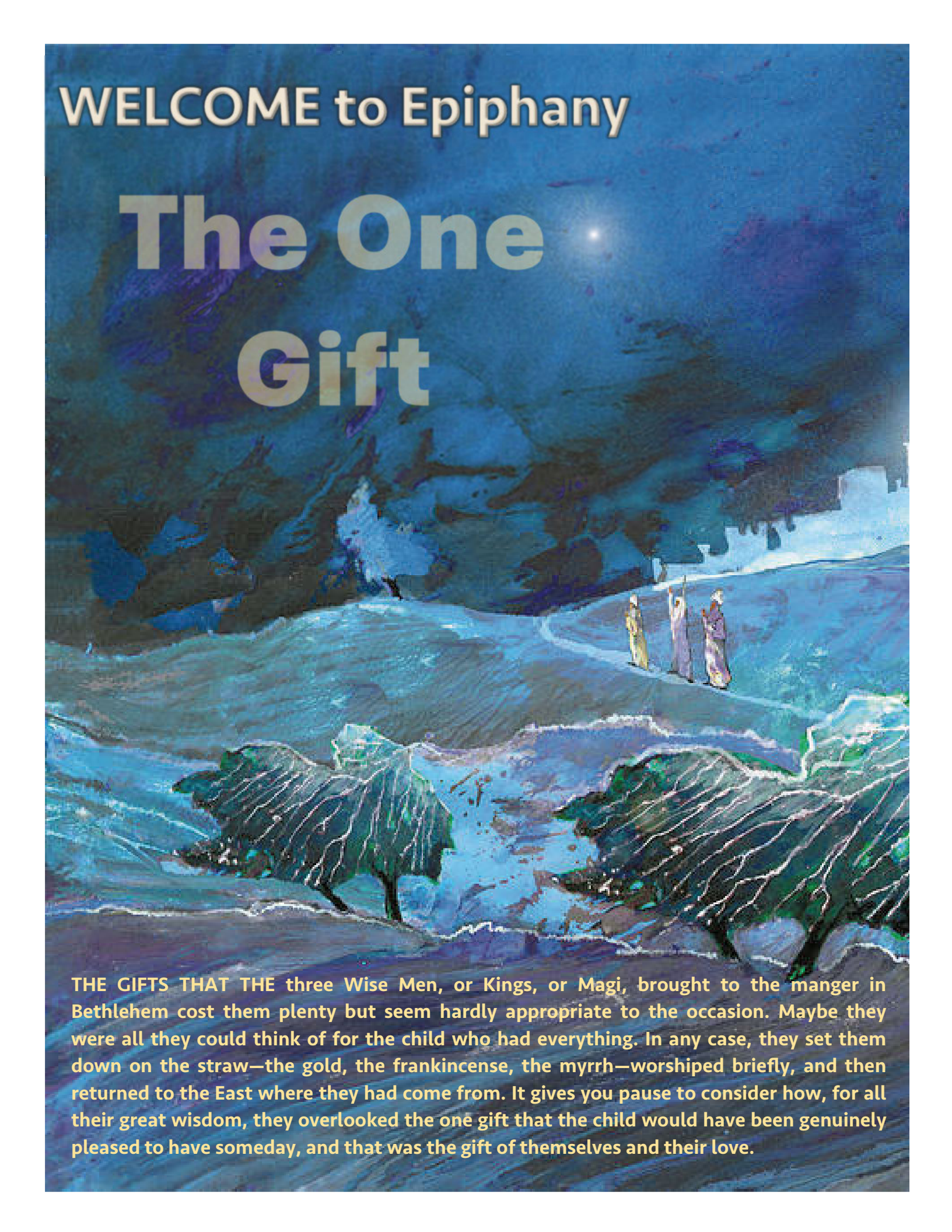
EPIPHANY



December 31, 2023

"My eyes have seen
your salvation"

Feast of
The Holy Family

A painting depicting the journey of the Three Kings. The scene is set at night under a dark, starry sky. A bright star is visible in the upper right. In the foreground, two large, gnarled trees with dense foliage stand on a hillside. In the middle ground, three figures in long, colorful robes (gold, purple, and blue) are walking along a path that leads towards a distant town or village. The overall color palette is dominated by dark blues, purples, and greens, with highlights from the star and the figures' robes.

WELCOME to Epiphany

The One Gift

THE GIFTS THAT THE three Wise Men, or Kings, or Magi, brought to the manger in Bethlehem cost them plenty but seem hardly appropriate to the occasion. Maybe they were all they could think of for the child who had everything. In any case, they set them down on the straw—the gold, the frankincense, the myrrh—worshiped briefly, and then returned to the East where they had come from. It gives you pause to consider how, for all their great wisdom, they overlooked the one gift that the child would have been genuinely pleased to have someday, and that was the gift of themselves and their love.

HAPPY NEW YEAR



“We send our love and blessings to you all through the upcoming year”



About God's Word

THROUGH THE WEEK AT EPIPHANY



Invest time each week to expand your vocabulary and deepen your faith.

31 December 2023

WORD OF THE WEEK

Vocation (vō-ˈkā-shən)

A summons or strong drive to a particular course of action, career, or occupation; a divine call to consecrated life or diocesan holy orders.

Pronunciation: <https://tinyurl.com/Take5-vocation>

CONTEXT

Many people mistake our work for our **vocation**. Our **vocation** is the love of Jesus.

—*Mother Teresa*

No **vocation** is born of itself or lives for itself. A **vocation** flows from the heart of God and blossoms in the good soil of faithful people.

—*Pope Francis*

Everybody, no matter what **vocation** they're looking at, should add music as an essential to their curriculum. Music can be a very important part of your soul and your growth as a human being. It's so powerful.

—*Quincy Jones*

WHY IT MATTERS

Each of us, through our Baptism, is called by God to follow the path of love. Our unique and particular response is our **vocation**. The church generally refers to four types of **vocations**: marriage, single life, holy orders, and religious life. It is up to each of us to discern the **vocation** that will give us the greatest sense of fulfillment and joy and lead us to holiness.

From the Catechism of the Catholic Church: The Beatitudes express the **vocation** of the faithful and shed light on the actions and attitudes characteristic of the Christian life (1717).

From *Vita Consecrata*: In the unity of the Christian life, the various **vocations** are like so many rays of the one light of Christ, whose radiance brightens the countenance of the Church.

RELATED WORDS

Discipleship | Charism | Consecrated Life

QUESTION OF THE WEEK

Vocation: Does everyone have one?

Vocation is one of those words that tends to elicit a host of questions. What does it mean that God "calls" us? Does God plan our lives? Is free will a polite fiction, when God has our destiny all worked out in advance? The short answers are: Our freedom is real, human history has no blueprint, and God is prepared to greet any choice we might make with a constellation of grace and possibility. So feel—really and seriously—free.

Yet we say God calls us. To what, if not to particular things? God calls us to fullness of life. God wants you to be everything you can be, to the height and breadth and depth of your being. God wants you to be fully alive, which means loving, giving, expressing, and radiant—just as God is. We're made in the image and likeness of God. So answer that call, and you have stepped into your vocation for sure.

—*Alice Camille, from Questions Catholics Ask* <https://tinyurl.com/QCA-vocation>

REFLECTION OF THE WEEK

SOLEMNITY OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY, THE MOTHER OF GOD (JANUARY 1)

Bring Christ to bear

We begin the new year in the glow of the Christmas season of new life. Our focus today, however, is not so much on the child Jesus in the manger but on his mother, Mary. We bring to mind and heart the woman who said yes: Yes to being the Mother of God. Yes to becoming a vehicle for God to become incarnate in the world. It is fitting to honor Mary and walk with her as we enter resolutely into the new year.

READINGS: Numbers 6:22-27; Galatians 4:4-7; Luke 2:16-21 (18 <https://bible.usccb.org/bible/readings/010124.cfm>). "The Lord let his face shine upon you, and be gracious to you!"

FAITH IN ACTION

How does God call us to be bearers of Christ? We can start with offering Christ and all others the fullness of our love.

@EPIPHANY

DEC 31 - JAN 7

EVENTS



Hunger Sunday
**11:00am Family Mass &
Sunday Scripture**
11:59pm Midnight Mass



**New Year's Day
(Rectory Closed)**
12:10pm Mass



11:00am 22 Club
12:10pm Mass



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



12:10pm Mass



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



**3:00pm Rosary w/
Ladies of Charity**
4:00pm Vigil Mass



Feast of The Epiphany
**11:00am Family Mass
& Sunday Scripture**
7:30 Young Adult Mass

Church of the Epiphany

Rev Austin Titus, Pastor
Rev James Mayzik SJ, Parochial Vicar
Kate McHugh, Principal
Tadhg Malone, Director of Faith Formation & Mission
John D. Coen, Director of Music
Jonathan Ramirez, Communications Producer
Jose Ramos & Thomas Lewis, Parish Trustees

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EM Email: office@epiphanychurch.nyc

WEBSITE: epiphanychurch.nyc

What Should I Give To God This 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.

Fr. 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.

Are you retired and in possession of an IRA?

You can satisfy the dreaded RMD and avoid its related income tax by making a Qualified Charitable Distribution (hopefully to Epiphany!). Bottom line: you paid no tax on the income that went into the IRA, and you pay no tax on that income and its earnings coming out of the IRA, at the same time satisfying the RMD requirement. Consult your tax advisor about this extraordinary tax advantage, known by its acronym QCD. Why not save yourself a lot of money?

MASSES

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

THIS WEEK'S ANNOUNCED MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, December 30

4:00pm George Memoly Sr.

Sunday, December 31

11:00am Sr. Doris Sahyonne

NO 7:30 pm MASS

12:00am Midnight Mass

Monday, January 1 *Solemnity of the Blessed Virgin Mary,*

12:10pm Sr. Doris Sahyonne

Tuesday, January 2 *Memorial of Saint Basil the Great*

12:10pm the people of Epiphany parish

Wednesday, January 3

12:10pm Philip Portacio

Thursday, January 4 *Memorial of Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton*

12:10pm Gloria Siegel & Joseph Gordon

Friday, January 5 *Memorial of Saint John Neumann*

12:10pm Teresa Martire

Saturday, January 6

4:00pm Richard Connor

Sunday, January 7 *The Epiphany of the Lord*

11:00am Gloria Gannon

7:30pm Anne Gavin

Monday, January 8 *The Baptism of the Lord*

12:10pm Josephine Brown

Tuesday, January 9

12:10pm Paul Sum

Sanctuary Lamp
Dec. 31 - Jan 6
Lillian Conard

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

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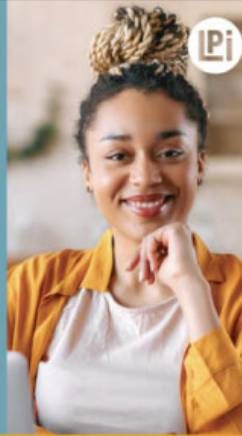
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