

God With Us EMMANUEL 2024

More than just a church.
WE ARE A Family.

15700 S. MILITARY TRAIL, DELRAY BEACH, FL 33484

JANUARY 7, 2024 ISSUE

P561.496.2480 F561.496.5755

2024
Welcome

EPIPHANY SUNDAY

VIGIL OF THE FEAST OF THE EPIPHANY

JAN 06, 2024 (Saturday)

4:00P, 530P

JAN 07, 2024 (Sunday)

7:30A, 9:00A, 10:30A, 12:00N, 6:00P

REGULAR MASS SCHEDULE

Weekday Mass:

Mon - Thurs 7:30A; 8:30A

Fri - 7:30A, 8:30A, 6:00P

Weekend Mass:

Sat 8:30A, Vigil 4:00P, 5:30P

Sun 7:30A; 9:00A, 10:00A (CM*)

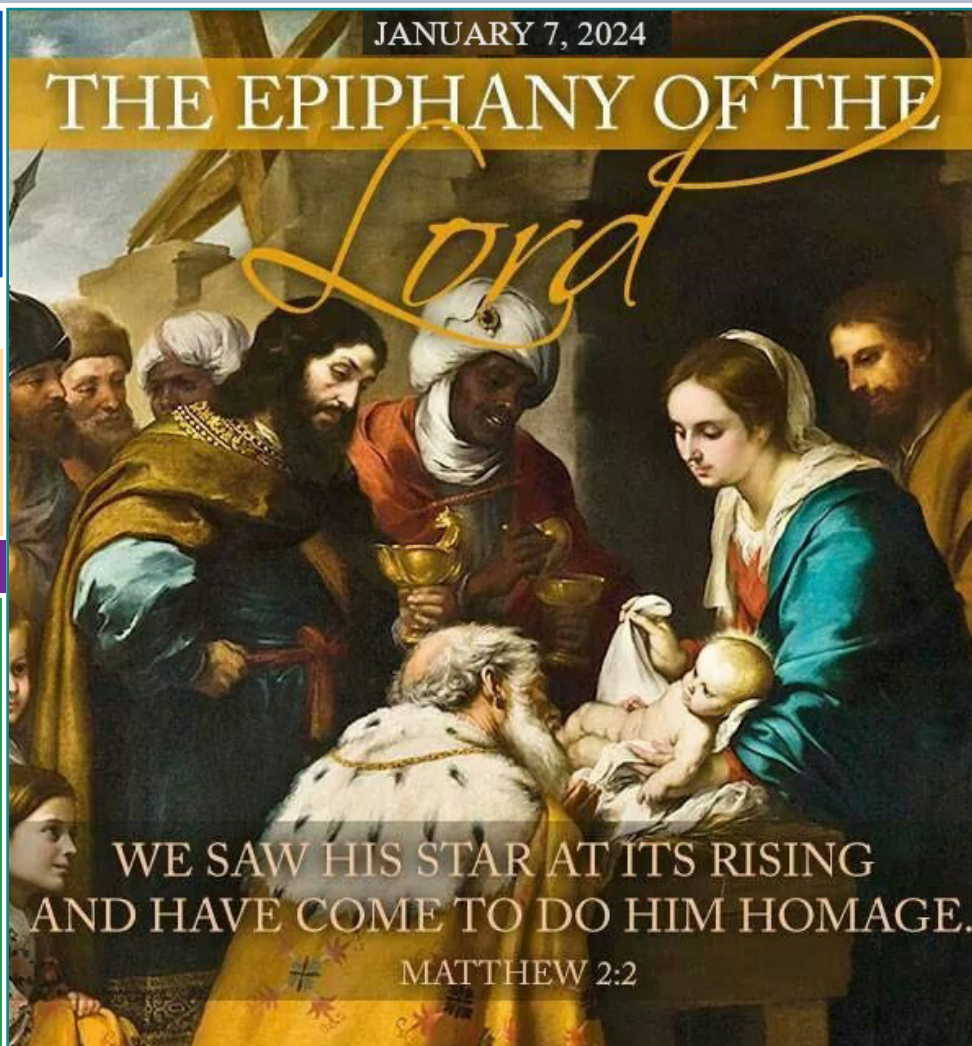
10:30A; 12:00N; 6:00P

(*Children's Mass)

Confession:

Saturday 9:00A

Other - By appointment



CONFIRMANTS

Mark your calendars for **March 10th, 2024**. On that day, you will receive the **Sacrament of Confirmation** during the mass that will be celebrated by **Bishop Gerald M. Barbarito**.

BEING JOHN THE BAPTIST

Looking for a word, a phrase, a quote, or just an insight that your spirit might resonate to keep you focused on your journey? Check out **PAGE 14** how you might pick up the pace today. It's said that the bad news is that time flies; the good news is you're the pilot. Fly on, fly high!

SAVE THE DATE.FEBRUARY 9-10, 2024

is the Emmanuel Annual Festival.

Our church family will need volunteers to smooth things out for everyone. If you feel like pitching in, feel free to ask any of the men in blue or any member of the Ladies Guild, or call the church office for the person who fills out the list. **Check your mailboxes for raffle tickets for the biggest prize at festival time!**

LIVE THE LITURGY

Inspiration of the Week

Though the magi did not know where the star of Bethlehem would lead, they trusted that God would be with them along the way. Let us all embrace that same faith as we go about the journey God has planned for us this year.

2024

"Lord, every nation on earth will adore You!"

PARISH INFORMATION

02 PARISH FAMILY | GOD IS WITH US



OUR MISSION

Emmanuel Catholic Church which means, **God is with us**, is a faithful community of believers dedicated to proclaiming the gospel of Jesus Christ as taught by the Roman Catholic Church through word, sacrament, and service. As a parish family of God, we live by faith, truth, and love as we value the sanctity of

life in all its stages and make the Holy Eucharist the center of our lives. Through the guidance of the Holy Spirit, the consultation with our parish ministries, we desire to be witnesses of God's presence as we share our gifts of time, talent, and treasure with God's Family.

BISHOP OF PALM BEACH

MOST REVEREND GERALD M. BARBARITO

CLERGY

Rev. Fr. Gaudioso Zamora
Pastor

Rev. Fr. Theodore Ihedoro
Parish Vicar

Rev. Fr. Joseph Papes
In Residence

Rev. Fr. Timothy Canaan
Weekday/Weekend Associate

Rev. Fr. David Carr
Weekday/Weekend Associate

Deacon Anthony Cuseo

PARISH STAFF

Director of Finance
Tanya Kuppamala Ext. 1001 tkuppamala@emmanuelcatholic.church

Secretary
Stella Sadolfo Ext. 1007 secretary@emmanuelcatholic.church

Parish Pastoral Program Coordinator
Joella Anastasi Ext. 1002 janastasi@emmanuelcatholic.church

Property Manager
Edward Shannon Ext. 1006 maintenance@emmanuelcatholic.church

Receptionist
Rose Marie Baldonado & Christine Wilkens Ext. 1000 receptionist@emmanuelcatholic.church

PARISH MINISTRIES

OCIA & Sacramental Preparation
Deacon Anthony Cuseo

Religious Education
Jean Krokus Ext. 1005
religiouseducation@emmanuelcatholic.church

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion
Fr. Theo Ihedoro Ext. 1004

Lectors
Fr. Theo Ihedoro Ext. 1004

Hospitality / Ushers
Bob Bonney & Chuck Dolce

Music
Linda Coz, Ree Joy Baldonado, Clanaven Baldonado & Men's Choir

Altar Flowers
Bella Simbajon & Filipino Community

Altar & Clergy Vestments
Maryann DiBiase, Carol Chapman, Nancy McDonald,

Homebound / Hospital Ministry
Fr. Theo Ihedoro Ext. 1004

Gift Shop
Josephine Joan Ext. 1009

Blood Drive:
Patti Gomez 561-293-9761

PARISH ORGANIZATIONS

Ladies Guild
President Carol Chapman

Knights of Columbus
Grand Knight Luke VanHove

PARISH REGULAR SCHEDULE

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Every first Friday from 9:00am - 5:55pm
Followed by the 6:00pm Mass
Morning Adoration 6:30am - 7:30am (Monday - Friday)

TAIZÉ PRAYER

Every Friday at 6:30pm-7:30pm
(after 6:00pm Mass) except for First Fridays.

SACRAMENT OF THE SICK

Every Thursday after the 8:30am mass
or call the parish office

BAPTISMS

Sundays at 1:00pm. Schedule one month in
Advance. Contact Parish Office.

WEDDINGS

Contact Deacon Tony at least 6 months in advance

HOLY DAYS OF OBLIGATION

5:00pm Vigil Mass
7:30am, 9:00am, 10:30am, 12:00pm

GIFT SHOP

Monday & Wednesday 8am-1:00pm
Tuesday Closed
Thursday & Friday 8am-1pm
Saturday Closed
Last Sunday of the Month 10:00AM- 1:30PM

NOTE: Gift shop will be closed when the parish office
is closed

ROSARY GROUP

Monday-Friday after the 7:30am Daily Mass

RECONCILIATION

Saturday after the 8:30am Mass

PARISH CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK

08 Monday

6:30 am Adoration
1:00 pm Movie Mondays

09 Tuesday

6:30 am Adoration
10:00 am Faith Sharing
7:00 pm KoC Officers Meeting

10 Wednesday

6:30 am Adoration
2:00 pm School of Christian Formation
4:00 pm SoulCore

11 Thursday

6:30am Adoration
9:00 am Anointing of the Sick
3:00 pm Holy Hour for Priests, Religious,
Missionaries, & Vocations
6:30 pm AA Meeting

12 Friday

6:30 am Adoration
6:30 pm Taize Holy Hour

13 Saturday

9:00 am Confession
Lay Cistercians Meeting
4:00 pm Soulcore Info Table after all masses

14 Sunday

7:30 am SoulCore Info Table after all masses
9:00 am Ladies Guild Mass
1:00 pm OCIA Class
1:00 pm Baptism Class



Do you want to make sure there have been no sudden time changes to any event or activity you want to join this week? Call the parish office on business hours.
561.496.2480

PASTOR'S DESK

04

THE FEAST OF THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

Astronomers estimate that there are billions of stars in the universe and there are millions of galaxies. It is a wonder that these billions of stars do not collide with one another.

There must be a Divine Architect that is responsible for their being, for the process that resulted in this universe of stars and planets. In our gospel reading today, God used a special and unusual star which twinkled across the heavens, drawing the wise men from the east, all the way to Jerusalem. The perseverance of the magi inspires us on our long journey from this life to the kingdom.

We can easily see God's presence in our good fortune and successes, but we feel abandoned by him in our times of trials and failures. On this feast of epiphany, we are reminded that, even in the trying moments of our existence, God's love is beaming. Like a star, though seemingly absent during storms and cloudy nights, it

remains firm and shining. Like a star, though invisible during the day, it becomes visibly bright in the dark times of our life.

The word **magi** is derived from the original Greek text **magoi**. Most likely they were from Persia or Babylon and were priests of the Zoroastrian religion. Known for their wisdom and their ability to interpret dreams and astrological phenomena. The magi reacted with joy and adoration when the star finally led them to the presence of the child Jesus. These people of knowledge and stature were filled with reverent worship as they prostrated themselves before the king of kings. They were people who sought faithfully the light of truth and, once they found it, they humbly submitted themselves to it.

We are the modern-day **magi** following the light of the gospel that will eventually bring us to the fullness of Jesus. We look with the eyes of faith, sustained with hope, that on our pilgrimage in this life, God's love endures until the end. Let us also pray that we too may become stars to other people, that through our word and example, we can animate them to follow Jesus.

Fr. Zamora

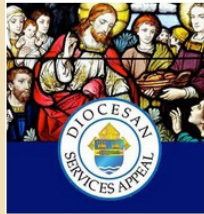
4th Sunday of Advent - Dec. 24, 2023

First Collection	\$	20,887.00
Second Collection	\$	2,879.00
SUB TOTAL	\$	23,766.00
Online (12/18-12/22, 2023)	\$	937.96

Christmas Day-Dec. 25, 2023

First & Only Collection	\$	21,755.00
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December 2023



Goal	\$ 173,000.00
Amount Collected	\$ 143,252.99
Remaining	\$ 29,747.01

CLERGY SCHEDULE FOR THE WEEK OF JANUARY 7, 2023

07 SUNDAY

7:30a Fr. Theo
9:00a Fr. Leone
10:30a Fr. Carr
12:00p Fr. Carr
6:00p Fr. Zamora

08 MONDAY

7:30a Fr. Zamora
8:30a Fr. Carr

09 TUESDAY

7:30a Fr. Theo
8:30a Fr. Timothy

10 WEDNESDAY

7:30a Fr. Carr
8:30a Fr. Leone

11 THURSDAY

7:30a Fr. Zamora
8:30a Fr. Timothy

12 FRIDAY

7:30a Fr. Theo
8:30a Fr. Carr
6:00p Fr. Zamora

13 SATURDAY

8:30a Fr. Carr
4:00p Fr. Timothy
5:30p Fr. Timothy

14 SUNDAY

7:30a Fr. Zamora
9:00a Fr. Carr
10:00a Fr. Zamora
10:30n Fr. Leone
12:00n Fr. Theo
6:00p Fr. Theo



"If we really understood the Mass, we would die of joy." - Saint John Vianney

JANUARY 8- 14, 2024 - WEEKLY MASS SCHEDULE

05

SCHEDULED INTENTIONS

Jan 08 MONDAY

7:30A † Bertha Yda Gutierre Munante by Anastasi Family * Elkanah & Monique Diman by Family
8:30A † Levy Compas by Wife, Cecile Saieh † Bobby Altomaro by Leute Family

Jan 09 TUESDAY

7:30A † Ronald Schlupp by Anastasi Family † John McGarth by Anastasi Family
8:30A † Christopher Basso by Phyllis Hochstein † Pat Wardlow by Tom Land

Jan 10 WEDNESDAY

7:30A † Franca Calobrisi by Anastasi Family † Stephane Hubert by Mom, Lucia
8:30A † Dorothy Matsko by Donna & Family † Carlo Nastasi by Dorothy Deedy

Jan 11 THURSDAY

7:30A * George & Leena Pullorkunnel by daughters † Agnes Verlander by Donna & Jimmy
8:30A † Darlene Harris by Christine & John * Louise Diman by Family

Jan 12 FRIDAY

7:30A † Holy Souls in Purgatory by Martina DeBoise † Patricia Pero by Roberta Pecoraro
8:30A † Johanna & Herbert Foley by Kevin Foley † Agnes & Gary Foley by Kevin Foley
6:00P FOR PRIESTS FOR PRIESTS

Jan 13 SATURDAY

8:30A † Victor & Angelina Pacienza by Christine & John † Agnes Verlander by Donna & Jimmy
4:00P BOOK OF THE DEAD BOOK OF THE DEAD
5:30P † Beverly Nash by Sylvia & Jerry Galanti † Vincent, Stephen & Angelo Messina by Family

Jan 14 SUNDAY

7:30A † Jason Dorfman by Cookie Anastasi † Domingo & Anna Louisa Lagos by Gladys
9:00A † Henry Martini Jr. by Pauline * Baldonado Family/Thanksgiving
10:30A PARISHIONERS & BENEFACTORS PARISHIONERS & BENEFACTORS
12:00N † Marie Broughton by Mary & Ed Hochman † Eleanore & Stephen Schneider by Marianne Hoover
6:00P † Frank Cottone Jr. by Nayda Cottone † Solomon Albert Ovadia by Wife Nayda Ovadia

UNSCHEDULED

* Marge Dombroski by Lori Davanzo † Louise Larson by Lori Davanzo
† Anthony Davanzo by Lori Davanzo * Hermoine D'Cruz by Lori Davanzo
* Pat Liquori by Lori Davanzo

What do you think about the statement below? Do you agree?

The Wise Men's Response to Baby Jesus Foreshadows Our Response at Christ's Return

Philippians 2:9-11 says, "For this reason God highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee will bow— in heaven and on earth and under the earth—and every tongue will confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father."

HIS MARVELOUS PRESENCE IN ME, IN YOU - Joseph Christopher Steger

Recently I was praying with the passage of the three kings coming to the child Jesus and I had a profound experience around this scripture passage. The exact passage was Matthew 2:1-12. Often when I pray with scripture I use imagination prayer, an approach to praying with scripture in which you place yourself in the gospel passage as a participant in the scene. As I began to enter into the prayer, I realized that, rather than seeing things from one of the three kings' perspectives or the perspective of Mary or Joseph, I was being invited into experiencing the scene as the child Jesus.

I am sure that many of you are aware that the magi did not show up on Christmas. Rather the star with they followed appeared on Christmas and they then took a 1½ - 2 years to reach Bethlehem from somewhere in modern day Iraq or Iran possibly even further east. So, when they saw the child Jesus, he was no longer a baby. He was a toddler between 1½ - 2 years old.

When I found myself present in prayer to this scripture scene, I began experiencing the invitation to experience a closeness and nearness to the child Jesus. The nearness was so close that it felt as though I was the one being given the gold, frankincense and myrrh. It was so close that I felt as though I was being worshiped by the magi.

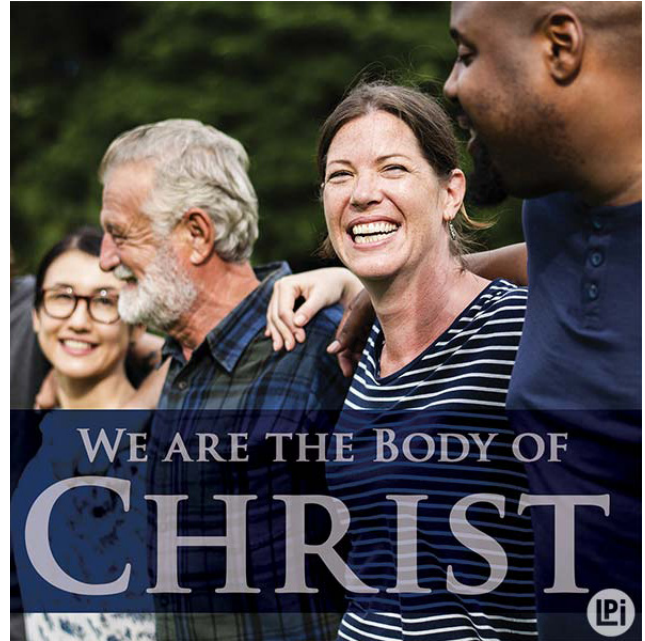
What I realized, though, was that Jesus and my "prayer self" seemed to occupy the same intrinsic space, that my spiritual essence seemed so entwined with his presence that the worship, which scripture proclaims completely belongs to Jesus alone, with which each one of us is called to give him - he doesn't keep to himself. He actually lets us partake of being worshiped in a mystical way.

The treasures which were being offered to the child, and it was incredible wealth that was being offered, the wealth of kings, was also mine.

It was an experience of knowing in a deeper way how close Jesus and I are. How everything that I have and everything that he has belong to each other. As St. Paul says, the riches of Christ are ours because we are part of his body.

I share this with all of you to invite you to experience the nearness of Jesus to you. That everything you have is his and that everything he has is yours. There is such unity to the point of there being no separation between you and him. While there is a distinction, in the way that there is a distinction between the different parts of the body, there is no separation.

What wonderful, marvelous joy flowing into our hearts to finally know that we belong so completely to Jesus and, He, truly belongs to us.



RECOGNIZE GOD IN ORDINARY MOMENTS

Step Into the Light

How strange it is to think that if not for Herod's directions, the magi would not have known where to find Jesus. They were not Jews, they knew nothing of the old prophecies. It was Herod who convened the scholars. It was Herod who pointed the way — for ulterior motives, certainly, but nonetheless, this is the part he played. It was Herod who made the Epiphany possible.

"Nations shall walk by your light, and kings by your shining radiance," writes the prophet (Isaiah 60:3). A king may keep to the shadows, suspicious of the light — he may foolishly imagine he can snatch it from the sky to keep as his own possession, and, upon finding the light cannot be governed, grow to loathe it, and even seek to extinguish it once and for all.

But all his grand designs will come to nothing because there is no king so powerful that he can see in the dark. And even a man like Herod — a man so jealous that he sought to kill God — cannot prevent the breaking of day.

The Epiphany marks the manifestation of Christ to the Gentiles. It is a celebration of truth reaching places it was not expected to reach, of brightness illuminating corners of the world long ago consigned to shadow. It is a reminder that the battle has already been won, the night is over. All that remains is for us to decide: will we step into the light?

"See, darkness covers the earth, and thick clouds cover the peoples; but upon you the LORD shines, and over you appears his glory." — Isaiah 60:2

By Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

PRAYER LIST

Please take some time this week to remember the following in your prayers:

For all in our parish family who are suffering serious or terminal illness:

For men and women in the Armed Forces:
AND FOR:

David & John	Sr. Frances Vass OSC
Helen Cruz	Marguerite Dawson
Lenore Curatolo	Mary Loveland
Marilyn Boyle	Sam Falcone
Andrea Anastasi	Patricia Golstein
Shelly Fiorini	Taylor Dosh
Fran Abrami	Marilyn Martino
Ed Bush	Gulshan Modena
Margarito D Berciles	Maggie Dolan
Arthur Chiusano	Amelita Coz-Zarraga
Maureen Oberholzer	Heather Martin
Bob Oberholzer	Tailor McGee
John Wilkens	Ronald Griffiths
Scott Ellison	Margie Giaquinto
Evangeline Ezeilo	Maria Fernandez
Michael Gehres	Raphael Roman
Karen Sullivan	James Ezeilo
Eric Albertson	Brenda Ezeilo
Salvatore Pagano	Michael DiBartolome
Sean Zahul	Brian Sullivan
Darren Guzman	Joan Albertson
Mary Lou	Cynthia Martin
Connie Panepinto	Francis Martin
Amalia Mazzolin	Hermoine D'Cruz
Leon Martin	Brigitte Knops
Joe Delagami	Toni Creamer
Dennis Audette	Ann Cavaseno
Rose Marie Regner	Gerry Gerhard
Michael Manuele	Ricardo Gonez
Carla Ruiz	Euclides Cerutti
Benjamin Robelo	Grace Cassagnol
Karen McCarty	
T.J. Genzale	
Dave Ruiz	
Victoria Robelo	
Ms. S.	
Dennis Gilbride	
Jane McGinley	
Barry Cohen	
Rose Borsella	



PRAYER BEFORE HOLY COMMUNION

O Lord, I believe and profess that You are truly Christ, Son of the Living God, who came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am the first.

Accept me this day as I partake of your mystical supper, O Son of God.

May the partaking of your holy mysteries, O Lord be not for judgment or condemnation, but for the healing of body and soul.

I also believe and profess that this, which I am about to receive, is truly your most precious Body and Blood, which, I pray, make me worthy to receive for the remission of all my sins and life everlasting. Amen.

EUCCHARISTIC REVIVAL PRAYER

Heavenly Father, we thank you for the gift of your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, who promised to stay with us always, until the end of the age. Reawaken our wonder at His presence in the Most Holy Eucharist. May our hearts burn within us as He opens the Scriptures and breaks the bread. Give us the eyes of faith to recognize His presence in our brothers and sisters, especially in the face of the poor and the suffering. Nourished by the Eucharist, send us forth to walk faithfully as missionary disciples, proclaiming the Gospel to every heart and extending Your kingdom to every land. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS

Lord Jesus, as You once called the first disciples to make them fishers of men, let your sweet invitation continue to resound:

Come follow Me! Give young men and women the grace of responding quickly to your voice. Support our bishops, priests and consecrated people in their apostolic labor. Grant perseverance to our seminarians and to all those who are carrying out the ideal of a life totally consecrated to your service. Awaken in our community a missionary eagerness.

Lord, send your workers to your harvest and do not allow humanity to be lost for the lack of pastors, missionaries and people dedicated to the cause of the Gospel.

Mary, Mother of the Church, the model of every vocation, help us to say "yes" to the Lord who calls us to cooperate in the divine plan of salvation. Amen.

PRAYER TO SAINT MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL

St. Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle. Be our defense against the wickedness and snares of the Devil. May God rebuke him we humbly pray, and do thou, O Prince of the heavenly hosts, by the power of God, cast into hell Satan, and all the evil spirits, who prowl about the world seeking the ruin of souls. Amen.

PRAYER TO THE HOLY SPIRIT

Breathe in me, O Holy Spirit, that my thoughts may all be holy.

Act in me, O Holy Spirit, That my work, too, may be holy.

Draw my heart, O Holy Spirit, That I love but what is holy.

Strengthen me, O Holy Spirit, To defend all that is holy.

Guard me, then, O Holy Spirit, That I always may be holy.

- St Augustine

SAINT OF THE DAY

08 EMMANUEL CATHOLIC CHURCH

Saint Gregory Nazianzen

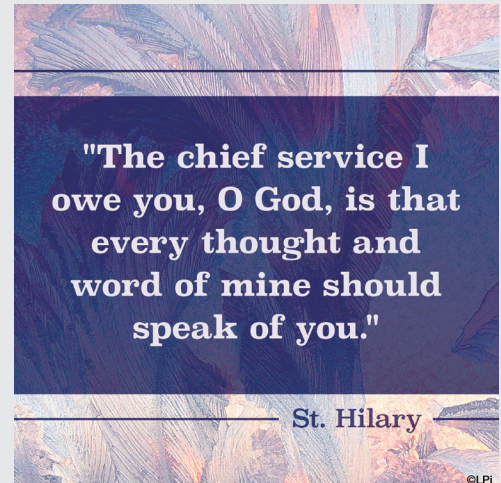
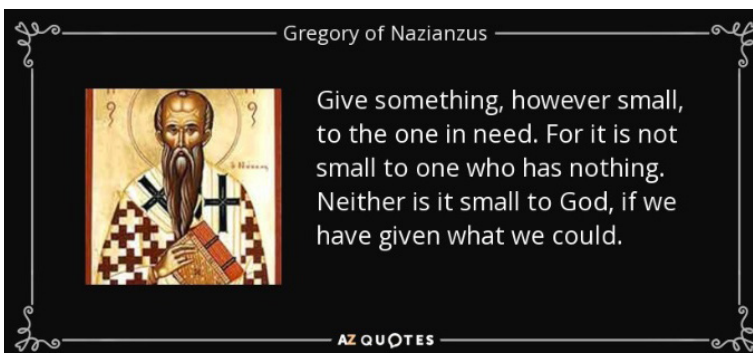
After his baptism at 30, Gregory gladly accepted his friend Saint Basil's invitation to join him in a newly founded monastery. The solitude was broken when Gregory's father, a bishop, needed help in his diocese and estate. It seems that Gregory was ordained a priest practically by force, and only reluctantly accepted the responsibility. He skillfully avoided a schism that threatened when his own father made compromises with Arianism. At 41, Gregory was chosen suffragan bishop of Caesarea and at once came into conflict with Valens, the emperor, who supported the Arians. An unfortunate by-product of the battle was the cooling of the friendship of two saints. Basil, his archbishop, sent him to a miserable and unhealthy town on the border of unjustly created divisions in his diocese. Basil reproached Gregory for not going to his See.

When protection for Arianism ended with the death of Valens, Gregory was called to rebuild the faith in the great see of Constantinople, which had been under Arian teachers for three decades. Retiring and sensitive, he dreaded being drawn into the whirlpool of corruption and violence. He first stayed at a friend's home, which became the only orthodox church in the city. In such surroundings, he began giving the great sermons on the Trinity for which he is famous. In time, Gregory did rebuild the faith in the city, but at the cost of great suffering, slander, insults, and even personal violence. An interloper even tried to take over his bishopric.

His last days were spent in solitude and austerity. He wrote religious poetry, some of it autobiographical, of great depth and beauty. He was acclaimed simply as "the Theologian." St. Gregory Nazianzen shares the celebration of his liturgical feast with St. Basil the Great on January 2.

Reflection

It may be small comfort, but post-Vatican II turmoil in the Church is a mild storm compared to the devastation caused by the Arian heresy, a trauma the Church has never forgotten. Christ did not promise the kind of peace we would love to have—no problems, no opposition, no pain. In one way or another, holiness is always the way of the cross.



Wise Men See God in the Simple Things

If you're on social media, you have probably seen a meme going around that features this quote: "God has a plan for your life. The enemy has a plan for your life. Be ready for both. Just be wise enough to know which one to battle and which one to embrace."

There were certainly two competing plans for the Magi: God's and Herod's. And, wise as they supposedly were, it wasn't entirely easy for the Magi to discern which was which.

After all, Herod posed as a friend. He offered the Magi hospitality and kindness. Though the Gospel doesn't say so, he probably flattered them and appealed to every moral weakness he could observe in them. In his palace, they must have felt great physical comfort — rest and tables of plenty on what was an otherwise long and treacherous journey.

But if the Magi were honest with themselves, I'll bet they would have admitted that, regardless of Herod's charm, they felt a gnawing sense of doubt while in his presence. When they looked upon the Christ Child, born in a stable without any of the comforts of the world or protections of wealth, they probably felt the opposite. They probably felt safe.

The Magi were lucky enough to have the right plan spelled out for them in a dream, but for the rest of us, it's enough to remember this: God's plan is often the one that leads us to places of great simplicity, great humility and great love. Let's have the wisdom to view power with suspicion, and innocence with admiration.

- Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

ARE WE TAKING TIME TO REFLECT AND RESPOND TO SCRIPTURE? Are the random acts of kindness, our passion to serve – are these founded on the profound moments of spiritual insight borne of our response to the Word, or do the things we do arise from the what we have simply, for better or worse, lived through?

Sunday's Readings

First Reading:

Your light has come,
the glory of the Lord shines upon you. (Is 60:1)

Psalm:

Lord, every nation on earth will adore you. (Ps 72)

Second Reading:

It was not made known to people in other generations
as it has now been revealed
to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit:
that the Gentiles are coheirs, members of the
same body,
and copartners in the promise in Christ Jesus
through the gospel. (Eph 3:5-6)

Gospel:

"Where is the newborn king of the Jews?
We saw his star at its rising
and have come to do him homage." (Mt 2:2)

When Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, in the days of King Herod, behold, magi from the east arrived in Jerusalem, saying, "Where is the newborn king of the Jews? We saw his star at its rising and have come to do him homage."
- Mt 2:1-2

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

Questions of the Week

First Reading

Isaiah foresaw a future when the Lord would use Israel as His instrument to shine His glory into the world. What could you do this week to show God's glory to others?

Second Reading

Paul met a lot of resistance when he spoke of God's "revelation" that Gentiles are "coheirs" and "copartners" with Jews in the divine promise fulfilled in Christ Jesus. How welcoming are you to outsiders?

Gospel Reading

In the story of the magi's visit, we see the prophecies of Isaiah (our first reading) fulfilled with the treasures of gold, frankincense, and myrrh given to the Holy Family. What gift do you give to the Lord?

Everyday Stewardship

My mother-in-law was the best gift-giver I ever knew. One could say my parents spoiled me growing up, but there was something about her gifts to me that made me feel overwhelmed. I guess it was that after several years I still was surprised that she would think enough of me to get me something no one else would. She was able to make me feel special every time. Of course, I believe she honored me in this way because I accepted her greatest gift to me, her daughter.

Sadly, my mother-in-law did not live long in this world. She passed away over a decade ago due to an aggressive cancer. Some of her material gifts to me remain, while others are long gone. But the memories and the effect of those gifts remain because it was never all about the gifts themselves. It was about relationship. It was about her and me. It was about love.

What we offer Jesus is never about the gift itself. It is about the motivation behind the action and the effect that action has on the body of Christ. Many of the gifts we give today to God and his people will fade away like the mist of the early morning, but the effects of those actions will last forever. It is about relationship. It is about God and us. It is about love.

- Tracy Earl Welliver



Observances for the week of January 7, 2024

- Sunday:** The Epiphany of the Lord
Monday: The Baptism of the Lord
Saturday: St. Hilary, Bishop and Doctor of the Church; BVM
Next Sunday: 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Song search suggestion for youtube: "End of the Beginning" (David Phelps)

Readings for the week of January 7, 2024

Sunday:

Is 60:1-6/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13
see 11)/Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6/Mt 2:1-12

Monday:

Is 55:1-11/Is 12:2-3, 4bcd, 5-6 (3)/1
Jn 5:1-9/Mk 1:7-11

Tuesday:

1 Sm 1:9-20/1 Sm 2:1, 4-5, 6-7, 8abcd/
Mk 1:21-28

Wednesday:

1 Sm 3:1-10, 19-20/Ps 40:2 and 5, 7-8a,
8b-9, 10/Mk 1:29-39

Thursday:

1 Sm 4:1-11/Ps 44:10-11, 14-15, 24-25/
Mk 1:40-45

Friday:

1 Sm 8:4-7, 10-22a/Ps 89:16-17, 18-19/
Mk 2:1-12

Saturday:

1 Sm 9:1-4, 17-19; 10:1a/Ps 21:2-3, 4-5, 6-7/
Mk 2:13-17

Next Sunday:

1 Sm 3:3b-10, 19/Ps 40:2, 4 7-8, 8-9, 10
(8a, 9a)/1 Cor 6:13c-15a, 17-20/Jn 1:35-42



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Gospel Meditation

A stranger in a foreign land, I was exhausted and homesick as my summer Spanish immersion ended in Guatemala. The rusty minivan arriving outside my small residence filled me with joyful hope. I was flying home to the U.S. and would be, at long last, completely happy. Or so I thought. After about half an hour of being home, I thought to myself, "This place is boring. I want to go somewhere." So, I hopped in my car and left to see my friends. As I drove, I wistfully wondered, "Where am I truly at home?"

The feast of Epiphany has a lot to do with our notion of home. Where is our origin? Where are we going? When is our wandering done? Saint Matthew tells us of the Magi, "**They were overjoyed at seeing the star.**" This star will bring them home, to a place where their questing will end, and they will be satisfied. Their real home is neither in the East nor in the earthly Jerusalem. Somehow, their home is wherever this boy and his parents are.

If you're a teenager or older, you probably know by now that every physical home we have is temporary. So, we look up at the countless stars in our proverbial skies: things which bedazzle and beckon us to follow toward peace. The Gospel invites us to behold that — at long last — God has sent us a star to follow home, one that whispers, "Follow me! I will take you home!" Perhaps that star is your spouse. A friend. An opportunity. A cause. An intuition about a new direction. A prayer group. What is it for you? How will you know? It will lead you to Mary and Joseph and their son, and you will be home.

— Father John Muir

Welcome to the FSCL Agriculture Tour for Wednesday, January 17th, 2024



Cost \$20: either by check payable to Emmanuel Ladies Guild, or \$20 in cash. Drop off at the church office with a note indicating "Sugar Tour".

Deadline to enroll and make payment is January 12, 2024.

Along the way, you'll get to see Lake Okeechobee, a sugar mill, miles of varied agricultural fields, a short stop at the Clewiston Historical Exhibit, and ask all the questions you want of our local guide about the history of agriculture in south Florida.

A buffet lunch will be provided, and we will be eating at Sonny's BBQ.

You must wear closed-toed footwear, and there will be a little walking on uneven ground that could be difficult for anyone who has trouble with gravel. We will be out in the sun for short parts of the day. For those needing assistance, walkers are welcome, but unfortunately, the bus cannot accommodate motorized wheelchairs.

We will leave on the bus from: Emmanuel Church, 15700 South Military Trail, Delray Beach, FL 33484 at 7:30 AM. Please arrive by 7:15 AM.

We look forward to seeing you!

TOUR REGISTRATION FORM

Type the website link below on your online browser

<https://forms.gle/KqEd1cEkfTfuiiVi9>

or Use your phone camera to scan the **QR CODE** (posted twice on this article:: on the phone image up top and the truck on the right side)



Each person (even couples!) must fill out a separate form. (We are limited to a maximum of 50 guests!)

Great News!

December 10th Blood Drive Results:

OneBlood.Org registered 25 people who came out. Six were deferred for low iron, traveling out of country, etc. NINETEEN units were collected! This means fifty-seven patients will benefit with these life-saving efforts from Emmanuel Catholic Church!

Donors are true heroes making a huge impact on the lives of others; literally giving someone a second chance at life, which is, the Greatest Gift.

Questions or to book appointments # 561-293-9761.

Grateful Thanks!

Patti Carroll Gomez

The next Blood Drive is scheduled for

February 11, 2024.

Call Patti (above) to set an appointment in advance.

EPIPHANY



SAVE THE DATE: Mark your calendars for **March 10th, 2024** for the **SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION**; with the Most Reverend Bishop G. Barbarito celebrating the mass.

Kids Corner

Prayer

God, thank you for all the people who helped me find Jesus.

Mission for the Week

Solve a puzzle together with your family. Work together like the wise men did.

Sharing the Gospel

Jigsaw puzzles are fun. Solve a puzzle with your whole family, and it comes together even faster. God helped the wise men solve a puzzle. They wanted to find the newborn king. Together the wise men read God’s promises, did their homework, and followed the star. When all of their answers fit, they found baby Jesus.

Now color the picture!



Find and circle these words from today’s Gospel:

WISE MEN
STAR
HEROD

MESSIAH
WORSHIP
EXCITED

GIFTS
WARNED
DREAM

U	W	A	R	N	E	D	E	K	O	E
J	I	N	E	G	A	J	W	I	N	G
A	S	U	T	O	F	I	O	S	A	I
N	E	X	C	I	T	E	D	U	D	F
O	M	I	Y	U	B	A	U	W	E	T
H	E	R	O	D	E	N	Y	O	G	S
W	N	A	H	R	T	Y	H	R	S	F
S	O	Y	I	E	O	M	A	S	T	U
T	I	B	V	A	H	U	D	H	Y	M
A	S	U	L	M	E	S	S	I	A	H
R	E	W	A	Y	I	L	E	P	O	Y



FLORIDIANS SHOULD DECLINE TO SIGN PETITION FOR DANGEROUS PRO-ABORTION AMENDMENT

An extremely grave initiative is underway in Florida that seeks to erase pro-life protections by inserting language into the Florida Constitution banning regulation of abortion. Abortion activists are working to gather petition signatures to place a pro-abortion constitutional amendment, titled *Amendment to Limit Government Interference with Abortion*, on the November 2024 ballot. This amendment would allow abortion up until birth, including when the baby is capable of feeling pain, and would eliminate laws requiring parental consent and safety protocols for women.

Floridians should not sign the petition.

Please spread the word to your spheres of influence and continue to pray for the protection of the unborn.



FLORIDA CONFERENCE OF CATHOLIC BISHOPS
The nonpartisan public policy voice of the Catholic Church in Florida

FLORIDANOS NO DEBEN FIRMAR PETICIÓN PARA PELIGROSA ENMIENDA PRO ABORTO

Una iniciativa extremadamente peligrosa está en marcha en la Florida, que busca eliminar las protecciones provida al introducir un pasaje en la Constitución del estado que prohibiría la regulación del aborto. Los activistas proaborto buscan reunir firmas para incluir una enmienda constitucional a favor del aborto, titulado *Enmienda para Limitar la Interferencia del Gobierno en el Aborto*, en la papeleta electoral de noviembre de 2024. Esta enmienda permitiría el aborto hasta el nacimiento, incluso cuando el bebé sea capaz de sentir dolor, y eliminaría las leyes que exigen el consentimiento de los padres y los protocolos de seguridad para las mujeres.

Los floridianos no deben firmar la petición.

Por favor, difundan la noticia en sus círculos de influencia y continúen orando por la protección de los niños por nacer.



CONFERENCIA DE OBISPOS CATÓLICOS DE LA FLORIDA
La voz no partidista de la política pública de la Iglesia Católica en Florida

SAVE THE DATE!

DIOCESE OF PALM BEACH

Annual Anniversary Mass

Bishop Gerald Barbarito will celebrate the 40th Annual Anniversary Masses for Married Couples who will be celebrating 25, 40, 50 or more years of marriage during the year 2024.

Watch your bulletin for details on how to register with your parish for this special celebration!

**Saturday
February 10, 2024
10:30 AM**

St. Lucie Catholic Church
280 SW Prima Vista Boulevard
Port St. Lucie, FL 34983

**Saturday
February 17, 2024
10:30 AM**

St. Jude Catholic Church
21689 Toledo Road
Boca Raton, FL 33433



Happy Anniversary!

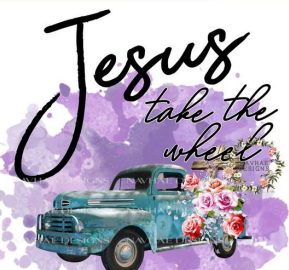
Sponsored by the Office of Marriage, Family Life, Faith Formation and Youth Ministry.
For information and registration please contact the Parish office.



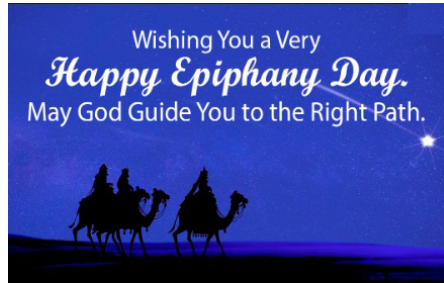
PROMISE TO
PROTECT



PLEDGE TO
HEAL



WORDS TO LIVE BY THIS YEAR



May these 50 Epiphany wishes guide you to be the best John the Baptist you can be to lives you may touch with your own this year, in the same way as the brand new star in the night sky guided the Magi toward Bethlehem.

1. God reveals himself in many ways. May He show himself to you this Epiphany.
2. May God speak through you this Epiphany.
3. May God reveal Himself through your actions this Epiphany.
4. Be attentive to your spirit this Epiphany.
5. Wishing you spiritual epiphanies of your own.
6. May the Lord guide you on your own journeys this Epiphany and always.
7. Let signs from God navigate your life.
8. Let the will of God inspire you to act this Epiphany
9. The gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh remind us to give Christ our most precious gifts.
10. This Epiphany, let the precious gifts of the three kings remind us to give Jesus the best of us.
11. Let the star of the Epiphany shine on what's best in you.
12. The Epiphany reminds us to give our own unique gifts to Jesus Christ.
13. Let the light from the Epiphany star shine on us and show us the unique gifts that we have to offer Christ and to the world.
14. The Epiphany teaches us that no one who comes to see Christ leaves the same way that they came.
15. The Epiphany reminds us of the transformation of the three kings and our own spirits.
16. Follow the path of God this Epiphany and always.
17. Search for God's presence in everything this Epiphany.
18. Break open the best of yourself to give to Christ.
19. The Epiphany star marks a cosmic change in the world in the birth of Christ.
20. The wise men knew that the world would change forever with the birth of Jesus. May their knowledge guide you.
21. May the king of kings guide your light this Epiphany.
22. May the three kings of the nativity guide you to share your gifts for Christ.
23. The Epiphany and Christmas help us breathe a great sigh of belief.
24. The Epiphany reminds us to take all of our journeys in good faith.
25. May the journey of the Magi remind us that faith will always navigate us where we need to be.
26. The Epiphany is a reminder that faith will always steer you in the right direction.
27. God's light and love will always guide you home.
28. May you rediscover the wonders of your faith this Epiphany.
29. May the Epiphany bring you the wisdom of the wise men, the inner child of baby Jesus, and the light of God to lead your way.
30. Let the feast of the Epiphany bring you abundance, joy, and peace.
31. May the Lord shower you with his gifts this Epiphany.
32. May the light of God's love guide your way this Epiphany and forever.
33. Let the Epiphany help us remember that walking in faith will never lead you down the wrong path.
34. May the three kings serve as a reminder that we should always recognize that Jesus truly rules over us all.
35. Let the Epiphany bless you with wisdom, light, and joy.
36. May the light of Jesus' everlasting life illuminate your path through life.
37. Let the Epiphany feast remind us to be thankful for all the gifts we receive from God.
38. May we follow the Magi in their following God's light.
39. May the gifts of the Magi inspire us to live generously and faithfully all year.
40. Like baby Jesus, may you grow strong in spirit, wisdom, and God's grace.
41. May the king of kings bless you this Epiphany and forever.
42. May you remember that Jesus adores you always as the Magi adored him on the Epiphany.
43. May the gifts bestowed on Jesus remind us of all the gifts He bestows upon us every day.
44. May grace guide you this Epiphany.
45. May this Epiphany bring you joy and peace through your faith.
46. Let the Epiphany bring us all closer to peace.
47. May the Epiphany remind us all that the divine light will unite us all.
48. This Epiphany, may you be graced with wisdom, light, love, joy, and peace.
49. May the gifts of the Epiphany remind you that the greatest gifts in life are ones found by faith.
50. Let your faith guide you this Epiphany and throughout your life.



