

St. John the Evangelist Church

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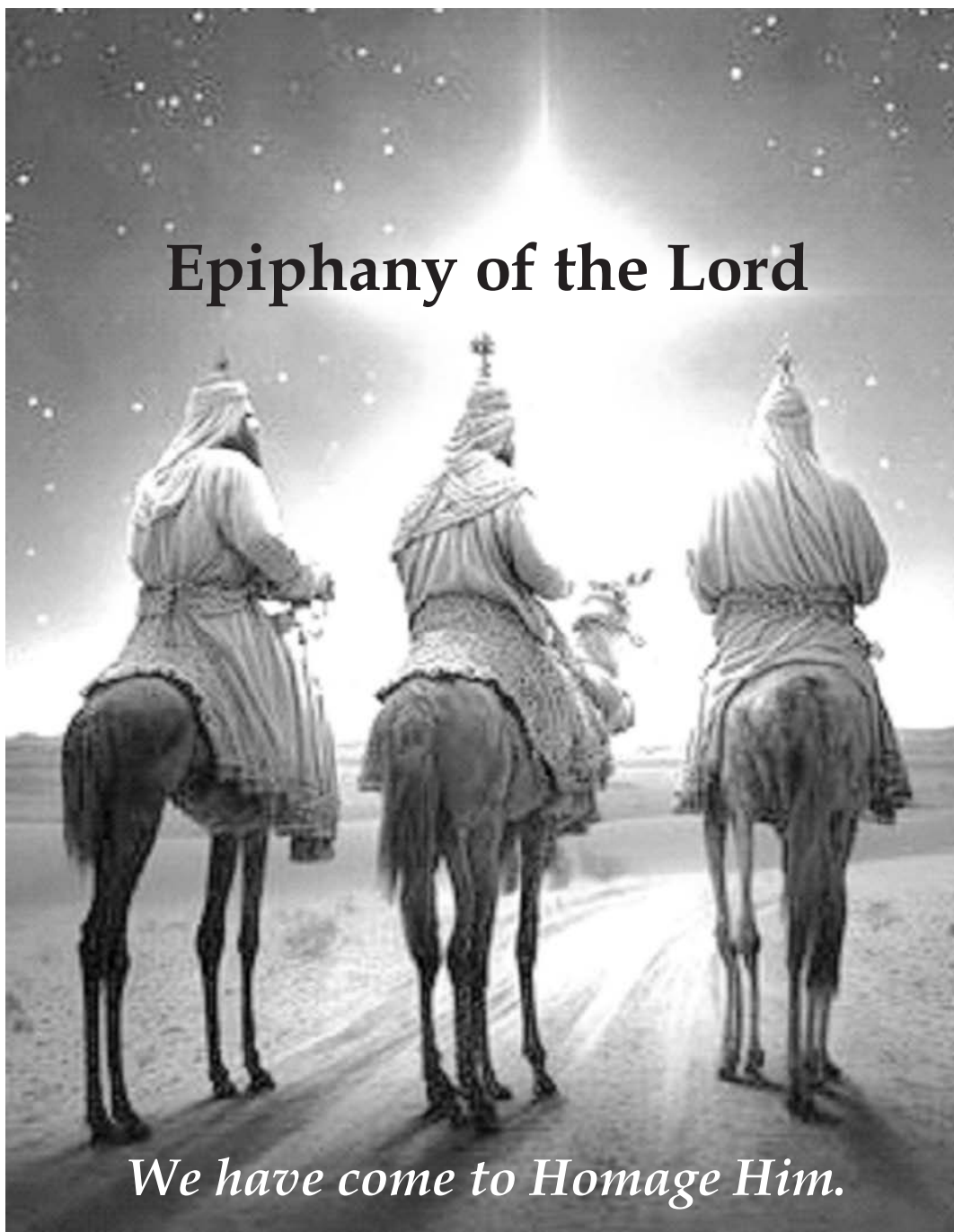
Pastoral Team

Rev. Francisco Fernandez Siles	Pastor
Deacon Dan Humphries	Permanent Deacon
Mrs. Kristine Blyth	Lay Pastoral Asst.
Mrs. Vicki Morgan	Secretary
Mrs. Sarah Rodrigues	Youth Ministry
Eileen McGowan	Music Director

Support Staff

Mr. Francisco Perez	Caretaker
Mrs. Sue McGee	Bookkeeper
Mrs. Gail Stewart	Cook/Housekeeper

Epiphany of the Lord



We have come to Homage Him.

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

Message from the Pastor

Peace to all of you!

I want to wish you a Happy New Year to all of you! May the Lord give you a year filled with peace and of the mercy of the Lord! Today we are celebrating the Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord. The First Reading, from the prophet Isaiah, presents to us a beautiful image of how the Lord will come to dwell and to fill with life the city of Jerusalem. We are called to receive in our hearts the Lord who comes to fill us with hope, peace, and consolation. The Second Reading, from the Letter to the Ephesians, gives us the assurance that God's love has been revealed to all nations and peoples. It is very comforting to realize that God's plan is that everybody experiences his mercy and love. God always wants to share his life with us to fulfill our deepest desires. In the Gospel, from St. Matthew, we are presented with the manifestation of the Lord to the Magi. They come from the Far East to pay homage to the newborn king of the Jews. However, they are astonished to realize that the King of Kings is born in a stable, humble, and weak, born to give his life for our sins. They recognize Him as the Savior of the World, and they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. Gold symbolizes that He is a King who has come to serve us and to share His life for us. Frankincense means that He is God, He is the One who fills us with Eternal Life. Myrrh means that He is going to die in the Cross to save us. Let us acknowledge in our lives the Savior who has come to share with us His divine life so that our lives will be fulfilled!

Fr. Francisco Fernandez, Your servant and your Pastor

Pope Benedict XVI's Angelus on the Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord (January 6, 2010)

Today we are celebrating the great feast of the Epiphany, the mystery of the Lord's Manifestation to all the peoples, represented by the Magi who came from the East to worship the King of the Jews (cf. Mt 2: 1-2). St Matthew, who recounts the event, stresses that they arrived in Jerusalem following a star that they had seen rising and interpreted as a sign of the birth of the King proclaimed by the Prophets, in other words the Messiah. However, having arrived in Jerusalem, the Magi needed the priests and scribes to direct them in order to know exactly where to go, namely, Bethlehem, the city of David (cf. Mt 2: 5-6; Mic 5: 1). On their journey, the star and the Sacred Scriptures were the two lights that guided the Magi, who appear to us as models of authentic seekers of the truth.

They were Wise Men who scrutinized the stars and knew the history of the peoples. They were men of science in the broad sense, who observed the cosmos, considering it almost as a great open book full of divine signs and messages for human beings. Their knowledge, therefore, far from claiming to be self-sufficient, was open to further divine revelations and calls. In fact, they were not ashamed to ask

the religious leaders of the Jews for directions. They could have said: "we will do it on our own, we do not need anyone", thereby avoiding, according to our mentality today, all "contamination" between science and the word of God. Instead, the Magi listened to the prophecies and accepted them; and, no sooner had they continued on their way towards Bethlehem than they

saw the star again, as if to confirm the perfect harmony between human seeking and the divine Truth, a harmony that filled the hearts of these genuine Wise Men with joy (cf. Mt 2: 10). The culmination of their quest was the moment when they found themselves before "the Child with Mary his Mother" (Mt 2: 11). The Gospel says that they "fell down and worshipped him". They might have been disappointed, or even shocked. Instead, as the true Wise Men that they were, they were open to the mystery that had manifested itself in a surprising manner and, with their symbolic gifts, they showed that they recognized Jesus as the King and Son of God. Precisely in that gesture were fulfilled the messianic oracles that proclaimed the homage of nations to the God of Israel.

A final detail confirms the unity in the Magi of intelligence and faith: it is the fact that "being warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they departed to their own country by another way" (Mt 2: 12). It would have been natural to return to Jerusalem, to Herod's Palace and to the Temple to spread the news of their discovery. Instead, the Magi, who had chosen the Child as their Sovereign, kept this hidden, in accordance with Mary's, or rather with God's own style. And thus just as they had appeared they disappeared in silence, content but also transformed by their meeting with the Truth. They had discovered a new Face of God, a new kingship: that of love. May the Virgin Mary, model of true wisdom, help us to be authentic seekers of God's truth, ever capable of living the profound harmony that exists between reason and faith, science and revelation.



Social Sunday Sunday January 11th. Join us after the 9am & 11am masses for Coffee and sweets in the Parish Centre

Prayer Group resume on Wednesday, January 7, 2026 at 1pm in the Parish Centre.
All are welcome.

EDGE – Thursday, January 8, 2026,
St. Joseph's Room
LifeTeen – Thursday, January 15, 2026,
St. Joseph's Room

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PARENT MEETING

Tuesday February 3rd, 2026 at 7pm
Rite of Enrolment Cards will be distributed at this time.

CONFIRMATION PREPARATION Session #2

January 2026 Please see your Sacrament schedule for your child's date.



Masses For The Week

Sat Jan 3 – 5:00pm

+Ted Kapuscinski

req. by Doreen Kapuscinski

Mon Jan 5 – 8:20am

+Humberto Schenflede

req. by His Wife & Family

Tues Jan 6 – 8:20am

+Medardo Robles & +Robert Costa

req. by Kenneth & Brinna Makalintal

Wed Jan 7 – 7pm

+Edward Debosky

req. by The McMahon Family

+Deceased Members of the McGuirk & McCloskey Families

req. by Rosalie McCloskey

+Lloyd Kameka

req. by Mary Louise LaBarre & Ken Reilly & Family

Int. for Salvador Peralta on his 60th Birthday

req. by Maria & Pablo Enrique

+Patrick Noronha

req. by His Family

+Lacey Potter

req. by America Vasconez

Thur Jan 8 – 8:20am

+Deceased Members of the Graham Family

req. by Gail Stewart

Fri Jan 9 – 8:20am

+Maria Costa

req. by Mario Costa

+Fr. Sriram

req. By His Loving Mom

+Mary Fitzpatrick

req. By Maire Fitzpatrick & Family

ATTENTION ENGAGED COUPLES! MARRIAGE PREPARATION CLASSES

Our next Marriage Preparation Course at St. John the Evangelist will begin on Monday nights, April 6, 2026 to May 11, 2026 from 7pm to 9pm. Call 668-3676 to register. Cost is \$300 per couple.

Knights of Columbus, St John the Evangelist Council, meetings are the 1st Wednesday of each month from Sept to June. Next Meeting is Wednesday Jan 7th, 2026 at 8PM at the Knights Hall at 133 Brock St North. For further information call or email Bryan Childerhouse

bryan.childerhouse@rogers.com or call 416-508-9877

CWL 2025 MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

Calling all CWL members and ladies of the parish to renew or join the Catholic Women's League at St. John the Evangelist after masses on Saturday, January 18th and Sunday, January 19th. This one-stop women's organization focuses on faith, service and social justice. Become active and involved in your area of interest. Your place is among us. If you have any questions, please contact Lynne Childerhouse at 905-431-6582 or lchilderhouse@hotmail.com.



Society of St Vincent de Paul

Thank you for your generous donations at Christmas time. We will update the parish in a future bulletin on the numbers of families we served this Christmas.

At this time, we are in need of peanut butter to restock our pantry.

Thank you kindly!

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