

January 4, 2009

The Epiphany of the Lord



Familiarity can make us overlook the details in a Scripture passage. We bring familiar imagery to our reading of the Bible, imagery that hooks into our childhood, our celebration of favorite seasons. The Christmas season, for example. In our Christmas cards and art, pictures and pageants and hymns, we bring Christ and his humble revelation into our cultures, homes, and hearts.

Along with our songs about wise men, however, we have Matthew's Gospel account to wake us into a serious realization: King Herod attempted to manipulate the Magi into telling him where the child was. With our Christmas-season eyes, these three ride into Bethlehem led by the star. A crisp, blue sky frames the star, their gaze, and the awe we too find in the stable. But their story has more than a calm, clear night and a sense of peace. They did bring their treasures, but their biggest gift was leaving Herod behind.

We are invited to link Christ to another passage. Watch carefully the *timing* in Isaiah's greeting (60:1-2). First, he calls: *Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you.* Next, he warns: *Darkness shall cover the earth.* Then, right away again: *The Lord will arise upon you, and his glory will appear over you.*

The darkness part we know all too well. Yet the first word of the prophet is to remind us of Light. We are told to rise out of it. How could that happen? It is because the Lord will rise. And so we will rise too.

Traditionally, the twelve days of Christmas are over on Epiphany. Something is new now. *Everything* is new now. The men Herod tried to use in his twisted plan took a different way back.

Their passage by another road was anything but familiar. Yet still they followed the Light.

DAN FINUCANE

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Today's Readings

Is 60:1-6
Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6
Mt 2:1-12

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WOMEN OF ST. TIMOTHY PARISH, please keep the date of Saturday, March 14 open for the Women's Club Breakfast. Watch the bulletin for more details.

YOUTH MINISTRY:

From our Youth Minister:
I hope that each of you had a joyous and blessed holiday with family and friends. Many of us will once again make New Year's resolutions. I ask that *each* of our *young people* put Church on their list. Maybe you can give of your time by helping at Mass? Going to Confession? Spending some quiet time with our Lord in Eucharistic Adoration or even coming to a Youth Group gathering? Our Church and St. Timothy are here for you.



Upcoming Youth Group dates: Sunday, January 18 and Sunday, February 15, we will gather from **6:30-8:00 p.m.** in the **Multipurpose Room**. All High School youth are invited and encouraged to come. Any questions about Youth Ministry? Please contact Chris Valentine in the Parish Office or by e-mail at youthstim@rohio.com.



Men's Club
Join us **Monday, January 5th**, in the cafeteria at **7:00 p.m.** for a **Chili Cook** during the OSU Fiesta Bowl game. The regular Men's Club monthly meeting will be **Monday, January 12th**, at **8:00 p.m.**

SCHOOL NEWS

Science and History Fair Judges Needed!
Do you have an interest in Science or History?
You may be the perfect person to help judge our school Science and History Fairs! Date – Wednesday, January 28, starting at 4:00 p.m. There is a brief meeting for judges before judging starts. Judging is usually over by about 6:30 p.m. Snacks are provided! If you are interested, contact Erin Reinhart for History Fair (ewhitake@cducation.org) or Sue Gardiner for Science Fair (sgardine@cducation.org). You can also contact Erin or Sue at 451-0739.

PRAYER AND SPIRITUAL LIFE



Eucharistic Adoration

Wednesdays, from 9:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.



Prayer Line

If you have a prayer request, call Kitty Hoessly (451-2146) or Lea Guarasci (451-1281).



Bible Study

Tuesday mornings at 9:30 a.m. in the Multipurpose Room.

Divine Mercy Chaplet

Please join us for Divine Mercy Chaplet after the 9:00 a.m. Mass every Tuesday.



Birthright Crisis Hotline is 1-800-550-4900.



**ST. TIMOTHY CHURCH
COLUMBUS, OH**

E-mail address: sttimothy@rrohio.com

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MASS INTENTIONS

Monday, January 5

9:00 a.m. Roseanne Bracaloni

Tuesday, January 6

9:00 a.m. Robert and Mary Oess

Wednesday, January 7

9:00 a.m. Albert Carnevale

Thursday, January 8

9:00 a.m. Arthur Thompson

Friday, January 9

9:00 a.m. Rino Della Flora

Saturday, January 10

5:00 p.m. St. Timothy Parishioners

Sunday, January 11

8:00 a.m. Virginia Sosnowski

10:00 a.m. Emery B. Busch, III

12:00 p.m. Joe Mikos

VOLUNTEERS FOR JANUARY

Linens	Pat Sagester
Collection Counters	
Altar Care	Fran Doyle and Jeannine Davis

LITURGICAL MINISTERS FOR THE WEEKEND OF JANUARY 11

MASS	EXTRA ORDINARY MINISTERS	ALTAR SERVERS
5:00 p.m. Saturday	Peg Lind, Mary K Rainey, Carl Connor	Katie Cattell, Christina Bertolini, Nate Cattell
8:00 a.m. Sunday	Ken & Kathy Lutter, Joe Briski	Sam Maglicic, Mike Lutter
10:00 a.m. Sunday	John Rinto, Phil & Donna Diaz, Diane Hobson, Pam Grady	Ben Lampe, Kate Lampe, Joe Hamlett
12:00 p.m. Sunday	Rick & Colleen Ziemba, George Cleary	George Cleary, Molly Cleary, Dustin Obergfell

SCHEDULE FOR THE WEEK

Monday, January 5 Men's Club Chili Cook St. Vincent de Paul Meeting	Cafeteria MPR	7:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m.
Tuesday, January 6 Bible Study	MPR	9:30 a.m.
Wednesday, January 7 Folk Group/ Rehearsal	Teacher's Lounge Teacher's Lounge	6:45 p.m. 7:00 p.m.
Adult Choir Bible Study (Jeff Cavins) Girl Scout Leaders Meeting	MPR Library	7:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m.
Thursday, January 8 RCIA	MPR	7:00 p.m.
Sunday, January 11 Scout Pack Meeting	Cafeteria	6:30 p.m.

CAFETERIA WORKERS

Monday, January 5	Melillo, Romaker, Staley
Tuesday, January 6	Colasurd, Lutter, Stock
Wednesday, January 7	Cattell, Cooper, Freeman, Thomas
Thursday, January 8	Kirkpatrick, Lacey, Six, Lacey
Friday, January 9	Benjamin, Brembeck, Gelhaus



A Word from Your Pastor

Dear Parishioners:

A Blessed New Year to you! As we observe the Solemnity of the Epiphany, I want to encourage you to keep alive the spirit of Christmas for yet another week. The Catholic Church, the Church that first "discovered" Christmas, has always held onto it much longer than anyone else. This is even more true nowadays. The common culture of our day starts Christmas just after Halloween, almost bypassing All Saints and All Souls Day, and barely giving a nod to its own invention of Thanksgiving. (Why is Thanksgiving important in the current culture? Because it is the day that the newspaper announces all the sales of the day after Thanksgiving!) Advent is not noticed at all by the secular world around us. No waiting!

Christmas in the Catholic Church lasts *one day* (December 25), *two days* (Christmas Eve and Christmas Day), *eight days* (the Octave, from December 25 to the Solemnity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of God), *12 days* (as in the traditional carol, from Christmas day to Epiphany, formerly January 6, now the nearest Sunday to that date), *and more*. Christmas is held onto all the way to the Baptism of the Lord, which serves as a fitting launch into Ordinary Time, which celebrates the Presence of Christ through all time – Christmas every day! In some religious communities, the Season is held onto for forty days until the feast of the Presentation, February 2nd. The Church Universal has chosen (wisely!) not to impose this lingering on the whole community, since so often Lent begins soon after that date. But it is nice to know that Christmas remains in some places long after the last tree has been removed.

I have often suggested that Catholics have an excuse not to begin sending Christmas cards until December 25, since it is only then that the Christmas Season truly starts. If you haven't sent them out yet, you have a week from today!

I am sure that 2009 will bring many wonderful experiences to us as a Parish and School Family. Let's do our best to continue to make room for Jesus Christ in every part of our lives. Jesus is Emmanuel, God-with-us.



The Eighth Graders of St. Timothy School have begun a new tradition – decorating the Christmas Tree for Fr. Tim and the Rectory Staff. They had a great time and enjoyed some hot chocolate as a reward for their hard labor.



St. Timothy Men are seeking to support one another in the Faith. A Workshop held on December 6 had a great turnout and gave them a wonderful start.

Plan to take part in the Men's Conference March 7, 2009, and watch the bulletin for further developments in men's groups at St. Timothy Parish.

THANKS TO ALL who participated in the preparations and celebrations for the Christmas Masses and for all the extra events of the past couple of weeks! Everyone working together as a family is a wonderful sign of God's Love. We have heard many compliments on the beauty of the church and of the Music that has been part of the liturgy.