



OUR LADY OF MOUNT CARMEL CATHOLIC CHURCH

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THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD. JAN. 7TH 2024

"WE SAW HIS STAR AT ITS RISING AND HAVE COME TO DO HIM HOMAGE"



The visit of the Magi occurs directly before the story of the Holy Family's flight into Egypt only in Matthew's Gospel.

We know little about the Magi. They come from the East and journey to Bethlehem, following an astrological sign, so we believe them to be astrologers. We assume that there were three Magi based upon the naming of their three gifts. The Gospel does not say how many Magi paid homage to Jesus. In Matthew's Gospel, they represent the Gentiles' search for a savior. Because the Magi represent the entire world, they also represent our search for Jesus.

We have come to consider the gifts they bring as a foreshadowing of Jesus' role in salvation. We believe the meaning of the gifts to be Christological. Gold is presented as representative of Jesus' kingship. Frankincense is a symbol of his divinity because priests burned the substance in the Temple. Myrrh, which was used to prepare the dead for burial, is offered in anticipation of Jesus' death.

The word Epiphany means "manifestation" or "showing forth." Historically several moments in Christ's early life and ministry have been celebrated as "epiphanies," including his birth in Bethlehem, the visit of the Magi, his baptism by John, and his first miracle at Cana.

Loyola Press

SOLEMNIDAD DE LA EPIFANÍA DEL SEÑOR

HEMOS VISTO SU ESTRELLA EN EL ORIENTE Y HEMOS VENIDO A ADORAR AL SEÑOR.

La visita de los Magos ocurre inmediatamente antes de la historia de la huida de la Sagrada Familia a Egipto sólo en el Evangelio de Mateo.

Sabemos poco sobre los Reyes Magos. Vienen de Oriente y viajan a Belén, siguiendo un signo astrológico, por lo que creemos que son astrólogos. Suponemos que hubo tres Reyes Magos según el nombre de sus tres dones. El Evangelio no dice cuántos Reyes Magos rindieron homenaje a Jesús. En el Evangelio de Mateo, representan la búsqueda de un salvador por parte de los gentiles. Como los Reyes Magos representan al mundo entero, también representan nuestra búsqueda de Jesús.

Hemos llegado a considerar los regalos que traen como un presagio del papel de Jesús en la salvación. Creemos que el significado de los dones es cristológico. El oro se presenta como representante de la realeza de Jesús. El incienso es un símbolo de su divinidad porque los sacerdotes quemaban la sustancia en el Templo. La mirra, que se utilizaba para preparar a los muertos para el entierro, se ofrece en anticipación de la muerte de Jesús.

La palabra Epifanía significa "manifestación" o "mostrar". Históricamente, varios momentos de los primeros años de vida y ministerio de Cristo se han celebrado como "epifanías", incluido su nacimiento en Belén, la visita de los Magos, su bautismo por Juan y su primer milagro en Caná. Prensa Loyola

VATICAN RESPONDS TO WIDESPREAD BACKLASH ON SAME-SEX BLESSING DIRECTIVE

The Vatican's doctrine office issued a response on Thursday to "clarify the reception of *Fiducia Supplicans*" amid widespread international backlash to the Vatican's recent declaration on same-sex blessings.

Cardinal Victor Manuel Fernández, prefect of the Vatican's Dicastery for the Doctrine of the Faith (DDF), published a five-page press release on Jan. 4 that refers to *Fiducia Supplicans* as "perennial doctrine" and underlines that pastoral blessings of couples in irregular situations should not be "an endorsement of the life led by those who request them. Fernández said that the responses he has received from bishops' conferences around the world to the declaration highlight "the need for a more extended period of pastoral reflection" and that what is expressed in these bishops' statements "cannot be interpreted as doctrinal opposition because the document is clear and definitive about marriage and sexuality."

"There is no room to distance ourselves doctrinally from this declaration or to consider it heretical, contrary to the Tradition of the Church, or blasphemous," the cardinal said, pointing to a few paragraphs in the text of the original declaration that affirms the Church's doctrine on marriage.

The clarification was published two and a half weeks after the Dec. 18 publication of *Fiducia Supplicans*, which prompted strong backlash from bishops in several African and Eastern European countries as well as confusion and division from other parts of the world. Some bishops have welcomed the declaration, some are approaching it with caution, and others are refusing to implement it.

In the press release, published in six languages, Fernández provides one "concrete example" of what the spontaneous "pastoral blessings" might look like in practice, explaining that they should only last "about 10 or 15 seconds."

"Since some have raised the question of what these blessings might look like, let us look at a concrete example: Let us imagine that among a large number making a pilgrimage a couple of divorced people, now in a new union, say to the priest: 'Please give us a blessing, we cannot find work, he is very ill, we do not have a home and life is becoming very difficult: May God help us!' he said.

"In this case, the priest can recite a simple prayer like this: 'Lord, look at these children of yours, grant them health, work, peace, and mutual help. Free them from everything that contradicts your Gospel and allow them to live according to your will. Amen.' Then it concludes with the sign of the cross on each of the two persons."

Fernández said that priests giving these types of blessings should "not impose conditions" or "enquire about the intimate lives of these people."



SCHEDULE

Weekday Mass

Wednesday — Friday, 12 noon

Weekend Mass

Saturday Vigil at 4:30 PM

Sunday at 9:00 and 11:15 AM in English,
Spanish Mass: 2nd Sunday of the Month at
5:00 pm in the Church. 4th Saturday of the
month at 7:00pm in Cachagua.

Reconciliation

Saturday at 3:30 PM and by appointment

Office Hours

Wednesday — Friday:
10 AM - 12 PM; 2 - 4 PM

The church is open Wednesday — Sunday
from 10 AM to 4 PM for personal prayer.

MASS INTENTIONS

Mass Intentions January 6th—14th 2024

Saturday Vigil Jan 6th 4:30: + People of the Parish
Sunday Jan 7th 9:00: + Evelyn & + Charles Morrill
11:15: + Jose Resendiz (3rd Anniv)

Wed. Jan 10th 12:00: + Jim Brannen
Thurs. Jan 11th 12:00: + Rev. Donald Higgins
Fri. Jan 12th 12:00: + David Shelly

Saturday Vigil Jan 13th 4:30: Kathy McDonald
Sunday Jan 14th 9:00: + Gerry McKenna
11:15: + Brenda Shakal
5:00pm: Misa en Espanol: + Blanca Estela Lopez.

*MAY THE SOULS OF ALL THE FAITHFUL
DEPARTED, THROUGH THE MERCY OF GOD,
REST IN PEACE. AMEN.*

WEEKLY COLLECTION

December 30 & 31:
\$ 10,381.83

*THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY
TO OUR PARISH COMMUNITY*

PARISH STAFF

Fr. Jhonnatan Flórez Carmona

Parish Priest:
frjcarmona@ourladycarmelvalley.org

Gail Quinnan

Assistant to the Pastor (Volunteer)
olmc@ourladycarmelvalley.org

Rebecca Bayless

Bookkeeper
accounting@ourladycarmelvalley.org

Music Ministry

4:30 pm Sat. Mass: Kim Hartford—Kathy Nathan
9:00 am Sun. Mass: Stefania Ortiz
11:15 am Sun. Mass Parish Choir

Angelica Lozano

Custodian

PARISH VOLUNTEER MINISTRIES

Pastoral Council

- Dede Woodhead (chair), Alondra Klemek (vice chair),
Jeff Hawkins (secretary), Daryl Lyon, Sean Devine,
Trini Resendiz

Finance Council

- Alex Gray (chair), Jim Rice (secretary), A.B. Introcaso,
Jack McAleer, Ed Quinnan

Faith Formation

- First Communion:** Susan Franks (1st year)
Jennifer Bodner (2nd year). Supply teacher: Brisa
Cabrera (1st year)
- Confirmation:** Tess Arthur (2nd year). Supply teacher:
Alondra Klemek.
- RCIA / Adult Faith Formation:** John Condon—
Derwin Borling

Bereavement Ministry:

Trudy Dowd

Manna Ministry:

Janice Hawkins

Human Trafficking

Brendan Cook

Parish Hall & Kitchen Rental:

A.B. Introcaso

Social Media:

Lorraine Yglesias

Website:

John Finn

Lectors:

Dede Woodhead

Ministers of the Eucharist:

Lorraine Ring

Coffee Hospitality Ministry:

Rosemary Ellis

Sacristans:


Richard Ring

Ushers:

John & Sherie
Dodsworth.-Vicky Young

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PRANZO DEI "Tre Re" 2024
The Three King Dinner
FRIDAY ~ JANUARY 19



Social Gathering
Aperitifs ~ 5:30 pm Dinner ~ 6:30 pm

Dinner


Maltagliarti Ciabatta Rolls
 Miscuglio Di Piovre - Octopus/Squid Mixture
 Insalata Spring Mix with Assorted Veggies, tossed with
 Italian/Ranch Dressing

PRIMO PIATTO(First Plate)
 Pasta Rigatoni Bolognese
 SECONDO PIATTO(Second Plate)
 Braciole; Italian Sausage, Eggplant Parmesan
 and Sauteed Prawns

BEVANDE ~ (Beverages ~ Included)
 Red 8 White Wine, Water, Coffee/Tea
 DOLCE~ Dessert
 Ray's Cannoli

Dinner Donation : < \$45.00 (Adults only)

**SAINT OF THE WEEK: JAN. 13TH
 SAINT HILARY OF POITIERS**



Hilary was born to pagan parents of Poitiers, France, in 315. After training in the classics and philosophy, Hilary married. He and his wife had one daughter, Afra. All who knew Hilary said he was a friendly, charitable, gentle man. Hilary's studies led him to read Scripture. He became convinced that there was only one God, whose Son became man and died and rose to save all people. This led him to be baptized along with his wife and daughter.

The people of Poitiers chose Hilary to be their bishop in 353. He spoke out against Arianism, a heresy that denied the divinity of Christ. When Emperor Constantius II wanted him to sign a paper condemning Saint Athanasius, the great defender of the faith, he refused. The emperor was furious and exiled Hilary to Phrygia. In exile, he preached, wrote, and suffered, and even asked to debate the Arian bishops. Fearing Hilary's arguments, Arian's followers begged the emperor to send Hilary home. The emperor, believing Hilary was also undermining his authority, recalled him. Hilary's writings show that he could be fierce in defending the faith, but in dealing with the bishops who had given in to the Arian heresy, he was charitable. He showed them their errors and helped them to defend their faith. Though the emperor called Hilary "disturber of the peace," Saints Jerome and Augustine praised him as "teacher of the churches."

-Breviary