

*“Where is the newborn King of the Jews?
We saw his star at its rising
and have come to do him homage” (Matt 2.2)*

The visit of the Magi occurs directly before the story of the Holy Family’s flight into Egypt. 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 they were three Magi based upon the naming of their three gifts: Gold, Frankincense and Myrrh.

The word Epiphany means to “show forth” or “manifestation.” Today as we celebrate the Feast of the Epiphany of the Lord, we are reminded of the light of a wondrous star which led the three magi to Jesus, the light for All Nations. It is the final event in the cycle of the Incarnation, which is comprised of three events: the Annunciation, the Nativity and concludes with the Epiphany. 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.

Epiphany signifies that the newborn Child-God Jesus, has been manifested or revealed as the Messiah of Israel, the Son of God and the Saviour of the world. All three of these important titles pertain to Christ and indicate his special mission and identity as the Promised One of the Lord, who came from God and is himself God incarnate, and that the purpose of his coming into this world, is to complete God’s plan of salvation.

While recalling this great event of Epiphany, we are invited to renew our faith in Jesus. May Christ the Lord give us the faith we need to follow his guiding light all the days of our lives. If we do not feel threatened by his entering into our lives and are not indifferent to him, we can then search for him without fear as the Magi from the East did and the Lord shall make himself known to us. Let us resolve to spend the New Year seeking Jesus and His wonderful light through daily prayer, spiritual reading, and good works.

Father, you revealed your Son to the nations by the guidance of a star. Lead us to your glory in heaven by the light of faith. We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Reflection: Was 2016 A Good Year For You?

- 1) Did you make time to learn?
- 2) Did you take care of loved one?
- 3) Did you deal honestly with others?
- 4) Did you maintain hope?
- 5) Did you partake of all the legitimate pleasures that came your way?
- 6) Were you true to yourself?

If you live so as to answer “yes” to these questions in this life, you need not fret about the next. Let us make 2017 a better year!

“On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid Him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered Him gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh.”

God asks us to give our lives. What treasures have been given to you to share with others in Christ’s name?

If you think God is calling you to ministerial service, contact Fr. Chris Lemieux, Vocations Director, Archdiocese of Toronto. 416-968-0997 vocations@vocations.ca www.vocationstoronto.ca

Readings ~ Isaiah 60.1-6 ~ Ephesians 3.2-3a, 5-6 ~ Matthew 2.1-12

PARISH

Mass Intentions This Week — January 9 — January 15

Please join us as we pray for the following announced intentions...

	Intention(s):	Offered by:
Monday, 9am	✠ Tom Adams	Winnie & Jimmy Magee
Tuesday, 9am	✠ Mary Biason	family
Wednesday, 9am	✠ Rene & Bertha Lefebvre	family
Thursday, 9am	✠ Helen Conrath	family
Friday, 9am	✠ Ida Giacomini	Cathy Sbrolla
Saturday, 9am	✠ Herbert Formanek	Deidre Mungovan
5:15pm	... of Lou Anne Haier	Angela Olkovich
Sunday, 8am	✠ Mary Lucey	John & Ursula Matthews
9:30am	... of Jennifer Lewis	Eugene & Peggy Werhun
11am	✠ Bob Sheppard	John & Lenore Sheppard
12:30pm	✠ For the needs of our parish and faithful parishioners ✠	

Reminders for Sacramental Preparation

CONFIRMATION SESSION 2B meets on Sunday, January 22, 2017, 4-5:30pm or Wednesday, January 25, 2017, 7-8:30pm, Parish Hall.

FIRST COMMUNION CATECHISM FOR PARENTS meets on Sunday, January 22, 2017, 2-3pm or Thursday, January 26, 2017, 7-8pm, Parish Hall.

PARISH ADMINISTRATION

2017 Offertory Envelopes — We’ve mailed out the 2017 Offertory Envelopes. If you haven’t received them, please place your donation in any envelope labelled with your name and address. Please write the amount of your donation onto your envelope. This small step saves a great deal of time for the volunteer teams who process our weekly collections. If you do not have assigned envelopes but wish to begin using them, please visit the parish office.

Pre-Authorized Giving — The PAG program allows parishioners to request that a monthly total be transferred from their bank account to OLS Parish on the 20th of each month, for their regular Sunday offerings. If you would like to participate in this program, go to www.sorrows.ca to download the form.

Parish Registration — If you attend OLS parish regularly, please ensure that you are registered with the parish office. (Young adults who have completed their education should be registered as individuals.) Please also inform your previous parish that you have moved so they can remove you from their active records.

SHARELIFE 2017 — The new Mission Statement for ShareLife for 2017 is: *To Live the Gospel by providing for those in need.* One of the five core directions of our archdiocesan Pastoral Plan is Catholic Outreach in Justice and Love, and we fulfill this direction through the work carried out by our agencies. The new mission statement speaks to the values that we hold dearly as Catholics — helping our brothers and sisters in Christ, and putting our Gospel values into action.

We are excited about the year ahead, and the impact that we will be making through our campaign. We look forward to raising funds through our ShareLife campaign in 2017 to support the marginalized in our communities, and around the world. We thank you for your continued support. Visit www.sharelife.org

Children’s Liturgy of the Word — This program is adapted for our young parishioners and takes place on Sunday during the 9:30am Mass. **Please note that this is for children 4-10 years of age.**

COMMUNITY

Rosary — prayed daily at 8:30am prior to the 9am Mass. The **Rosary Group** meets every Friday at 2pm in the Parish Hall and prays fifteen decades followed by the Chaplet of Divine Mercy. All are welcome to join in prayer.

Our Lady of Sorrows Catholic School — Kindergarten Registration for September 2017 Imagine the Possibilities: Junior Kindergarten in the Toronto Catholic District School Board provides children with a variety of learning experiences in a caring, faith based environment. Students develop a positive attitude about themselves and others, become more independent and responsible, develop self-regulation and social skills, and learn to solve problems. The Toronto Catholic District School Board invites families with children born in 2013 to register for Kindergarten beginning Wednesday, January 18, 2017 at 10 a.m. Registration options:

- Online: Parents will be able to complete their application online at, (click ctrl + left mouse button to access): <https://soar.tcdsb.org/Login.aspx>
- At the end of the on-line application, kindly select “Appointment” in order to book a convenient date/time with the secretary to present the required documents. Only those with a scheduled appointment will be processed.

For more information please call the Board office at: 416-222-8282 ext. 5320 or 5314, or click on the following link www.tcdsb.org/KindergartenRegistration

Lectio Devina Tonight - January 8, 2017, St. Michael’s Cathedral. The Reluctant Prophet of Repentance (Jonah 3:1-4:11) We begin with vespers (evening prayer) at 7:00pm followed by Lectio Divina from 7:30pm-8:15pm. All are welcome. www.archtoronto.org

Christmas Concert: God is Born — Tonight, January 8, 2017, 5:00pm, Our Lady of Sorrows Church. European Christmas music including English and Polish Carols for voices, bells and instruments. Tickets: \$20 in advance, \$25 at the door, children under 12 free. Call 647-447-6581 or Email: novisingerstoronto@gmail.com

Keeping the Faithful Connected — The goal of the National Catholic Broadcasting Council (NCBC) is to ensure that Catholics are able to experience the Mass each day when they are unable to attend their local parish. The primary way we enable this across Canada is through our Broadcast Partners at Salt + Light Television, VisionTV and yesTV. [The Daily TV Mass is now available Monday-Saturday **anytime** from **anyplace**.] Visit www.dailytvmass.com to find out more about how to stay connected with our faith. Call NCBC at 1-888-383-6277 for more information.

Friars’ Student Writing Award 2017 — The deadline to submit essays for the Friars’ Student Writing Award is on January 13, 2017. Students aged 14 to 18 are invited to write a 500-word essay on the theme for the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, celebrated January 18-25, 2017. The Theme is “Reconciliation — The love of Christ compels us” (cf. 2 Corinthians 5:14-20). Students should read the above Scripture passage and respond to the following statement in the essay:

As the Christian world reflects on the 500th anniversary of the Protestant Reformation (1517) and after reading 2 Corinthians 5.4-20, discuss the main obstacles to Christian reconciliation and ways to overcome them based on your own experiences.

Essays will be edited and published in The Catholic Register. Email your essay to editor@catholicregister.org or fax it to 416-934-3409 (please include your full name, email address, phone number, and the name of your school on the front page of the essay). For further information, call 416-934-3400, ext. 344 or 416-934-3410, ext. 403 or 1-855-441-4077.