

The Epiphany of the Lord

January 2, 2011

Magi from the East arrive in Jerusalem, saying, "Where is the new born king of the Jews? We saw his star at its rising and have come to do him homage." Matthew 2: 1-12

Nine Miles Off

The Epiphany story takes place in two very different locales: the great city of Jerusalem and the village of Bethlehem. The two cities are about nine miles apart - but light years away in opulence and prestige.

Matthew's story begins in Jerusalem, a city of wealth and power, of ambition and prosperity, of arrogance and pretension. Jerusalem proudly sees itself as the poet-prophet Isaiah's city of light, radiance and glory. These mysterious travelers from a place far away come to Jerusalem looking for the Messiah-King. They meet with King Herod, who is unnerved to learn that a potential rival may exist. Herod, as unstable and cruel a tyrant as has ever lived, consults his professional theologians: *What's all this about camels and gold and frankincense and myrrh?* They tell his majesty that his visitors are using the wrong text and point to another prophecy, from Micah, that says God will raise up a ruler for Israel from Bethlehem. So Herod sends the magi quietly to Bethlehem while planning his next move.

Bethlehem, nine miles to the south, is the hometown of the great King David. Bethlehem has no pretensions to greatness; it is poor, humble and unimportant. Yet in this most hidden of places the magi find the Messiah. In Bethlehem of all places is born God's Christ - the anointed one who will usher in a new reign of peace, the Savior who will bring well-being to His people not by ambition but by His humble and loving service to them, the Redeemer who will reconcile humanity at the cost of His own life. The reign of the Messiah-King begins in Bethlehem, nine miles and a world away from Jerusalem. To their everlasting credit, the magi travel nine miles beyond Jerusalem and find a very different way home.

Matthew's Epiphany story reminds us that we often look for our life's purpose and meaning in the wrong places. We seek fulfillment and satisfaction in the rich, proud Jerusalems we have built, but God calls us to travel those hard, demanding nine miles to the humble, generous, forgiving dwelling place of the Messiah. May we find our way to God by the route discovered by the Eastern travelers this Epiphany, the road of Bethlehem's humility, generosity, and kindness that might one day transform the soulless Jerusalems of our lives.

Youth Group News

On January 16th, the Youth Group will tour St. John the Evangelist Cathedral in Cleveland. We will meet at St. Clement at 3:15 pm, drive to the Cathedral and begin our tour at 4:00 pm. After the tour, we will stay to celebrate Mass together at 5:30 pm. We will arrive back to Lakewood by 7:00 pm. If you would like to join us, please call the rectory to complete the necessary paperwork. Parent drivers are welcome. Please call Colleen at the rectory at 226-5116.



Pray for the Deceased

Elizabeth Salajcik
Bernice Piasecki, sister of
Elaine Roch

Mass Intentions

Mon., January 3 - The Most Holy Name of Jesus

5:15 PM Marilyn Czechanski

Tuesday, January 4 - St. Elizabeth Ann Seton

8:00 AM Family & Friends of Joyce Nekl (Living)

Wednesday, January 5 - St. John Neumann

5:15 PM Albert & Edith Czechanski

Thursday, January 6 - Blessed Andre' Bessette

8:00 AM Gayle Craighead

Friday, January 7 - St. Raymond of Penafort

5:15 PM George & Magdalene Laque

Saturday, January 8 - Christmas Weekday

8:00 AM John Kerr

4:00 PM Carl McLucas

Sunday, January 9 - The Baptism of the Lord

9:00 AM James Simione

11:00 AM For the People of the Parish

38th Annual March for Life

On Monday, January 24th, St. Ladislav Church in Westlake is again sponsoring a bus trip to Washington, D.C., to bring prayers and witness to the March for Life, an annual event that is a peaceful protest against the 1973 Supreme Court decision legalizing abortion. Tens of thousands of pro-life Americans attend each year. The cost is \$60.00 per person (no overnight stay). For more information and reservations, call Bob Bernath at 440-250-0514.

Finance Corner:

Collection for weekend of December 19 - \$ 12,864.44

Envelopes used - 276

Children's envelopes - 17 \$ 14.50

Thank you for your continued support and generosity for the parish.

Record of 2010 Contributions

If you would like a statement of your total contributions to St. Clement Church for 2010, please complete the form and place it in the collection basket or drop it off at the Rectory. Kindly include a self-addressed stamped envelope if you would like your statement mailed, or it will be available in the Rectory office. Please allow a few weeks for your statement to be ready.

Name _____

Address _____

Telephone # _____

Envelope# _____

Scripture Readings for the Week

Monday: 1 Jn 3: 22-4: 26; Mt 4: 12-17, 23-25

Tuesday: 1 Jn 4: 7-10; Mk 6: 34-44

Wednesday: 1 Jn 4: 11-18; Mk 6: 45-52

Thursday: 1 Jn 4: 19-5: 4; Lk 4: 14-22

Friday: 1 Jn 5: 5-13; Lk 5: 12-16

Saturday: 1 Jn 5: 14-21; Jn 3: 22-30

Sunday: Is 42: 1-4, 6-7; Acts 10: 34-38
Mt 3: 13-17

Treasures of Heaven: Saints, Relics and Devotion in Medieval Europe

This exhibition offers visitors a unique glimpse of the Middle Ages, a time when art mediated between heaven and earth and wondrous objects filled churches and monastic treasuries. It will provide American audiences with an unparalleled opportunity to see nearly 100 extraordinary works of late antique, Byzantine, and Western medieval art, including precious metalwork drawn from public and private collections, as well as church treasuries across the U.S and Europe. Several of these spectacular works have never been seen outside their home countries. This exhibition will be on view at the Cleveland Museum of Art located at 11150 East Blvd. in Cleveland until January 17th. Call (216) 421-7340 for more information, or go to clevelandart.org.

Pot of Gold Winners

(\$25) Maura Jean Day, Chuck Battiato,

Jim Ramagli, Jack Curtis

(\$100) David Stark (\$25) Rita Cahill



Xavier University Concert

For the first time ever, the Xavier University Symphonic Winds and Concert Choir will travel and perform together on a Midwest tour in January. With a total touring party of around 100 members, the ensembles will be traveling to Cleveland. Repertoire will include George Gershwin's *Rhapsody in Blue*, Johannes Brahms' *Begrabnisgesang* for chorus and winds, and Vincent Persichetti's *Celebrations*, among many others.

The Xavier Music Department concert tour will perform at Magnificat High School on Thursday, January 6th at 7:30 pm, and sing for the 4:30 pm Vigil Mass at the Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist on January 8th. For further information go to www.xavier.edu/music or contact Dr. Thomas Merrill at merrillt@xavier.edu, or call 513-745-3135.

Divorce Recovery for Catholics

St. Christopher Church is sponsoring a 10-week series of support group meetings beginning Monday, February 7th and ending April 11, 2011, designed to assist Catholics who are recently separated or divorced. Divorce is never easy and leaves individuals feeling alone, hurt and confused. The "Divorce and Beyond" Program will help you to gain a perspective on your divorce, cope with the stresses and strains associated with divorce, understand some of your emotional responses, find ways of coping that will lead to growth and the restructuring of your life. Sessions are designed to provide a caring, confidential atmosphere to share with others who understand your experience and help you find support and encouragement. Pre-registration is necessary, as is attendance, at the first session. To obtain form and brochure, email Gayle Cilimburg at gcilimburg@yahoo.com, or call her at 440-331-4255.

Gentle Woman Fellowship

St. Clarence Parish, North Olmsted, presents "The Gentle Spirit of Love" - the Holy Spirit. Fr. Valley will be our January 7th speaker. Father will use the Book of Wisdom Chapter 9 to show his thoughts about the "Feminine" side of God. Come and hear his understanding from this Scripture in his lighthearted way of presentation. January is our Christmas "Salad Potluck" luncheon. Please bring a dish to share - salad, cheese, veggies and dip, etc. Dessert will be provided.

Academic Achievement

Listed below are students from St. Clement who have received Honor Roll status at their school:

Holy Name High School - Mary Grace Cleary

St. Edward High School - David Conroy, Joseph Flannery, Patrick Flannery, Luke Horning, Alexander Knapp, Samuel Kress, Kevin Murray, Matthew Rerko, Trenton Rivera, Dylan Setta, Louis Stergar, John Van Why, William Van Why

Congratulations on your achievement!

LCA - Academic Achievement

High Honors - 8th Grade

Jacob Bangert, Carmine Filice, Ellen Flannery, Kerry Jamieson, Michael Kay, Paige Lenehan, Alexander Lutterbaugh, Nicholas Mahoney, Emily Marek, Duncan Mellino, Charlotte Rouse, Allison Saracina, Laura Sharkin, Grant Volpe, Juliana Withers, Abigail Yarcusko

7th Grade

Kevin Arbezniak, Corinne Baker, Thomas Bodziony, Kathryn Johnson, Kayla McBride, Patrick McGuire, Gabriel Militello, Kira Rogozinski, Stephen Schrimpf, John Seeley, Nathaniel Smith, Molly Stofko

Honors - 8th Grade

Alexis Bloor, Jane Conroy, Jacob Dubusker, Michael Filice, Matthewson Geither, Peter Jones, Deirdre McNamara, Erick Mori-Quimper, Hannah Stroh

7th Grade

Emily Bundy, Colleen Fitzgerald, Daniel Gilman, Alex Grunder, Nicole Jamieson, Patrick Needham, Alexandria Olsen, Charles Pizak, Jake Sawicki, Robert Sessions, Aidan Spellacy, Kyle Warren

Merit - 8th Grade

Kelly Dezsi, Marie Haikal, Avery Pacella, Mary Grace Perotti

7th Grade

David Isabella, Isabella Senft, Skylar Vozary

Congratulations to our LCA students!

Coffee & Donuts

Join us for coffee & donuts and conversation after the 9am and 11am Sunday Masses.

Poor Clares' Prayer Line

Do you need prayer today? Are your loved ones, coworkers or neighbors in need of God's loving guidance? Call the Poor Clares' Prayer Line at 216-361-0783.

Saint Clement

CATHOLIC PARISH

As a Eucharistic Community we, the people of St. Clement Parish believe the Lord is present among us and calls us to grow in His life. We commit ourselves to share that life in our love and concern for others.

January 2011

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Coffee & Donuts 2	7pm Family PSR 3	7:30pm Finance Council 4	7pm RCIA 5	10:45am Scripture Treats 6	7pm Gratitude Group 7	9am - 1pm Peace Day for 1st Reconciliation Families 8
Coffee & Donuts 7pm Confirmation Candidate Session 9	6pm Family Life 7pm Liturgy 7pm Family PSR 10	6pm Evangelization 7pm Community Development 11	7pm RCIA 12	10:45am Scripture Treats 13	7pm Gratitude Group 14	12pm Fund Raising 1pm Communications 15
Coffee & Donuts 16	7pm Education 7pm Family PSR 17	7pm First Reconciliation 18	7:30pm St Vincent de Paul 7pm RCIA 19	10:45am Scripture Treats 20	7pm Gratitude Group 21	22
Coffee & Donuts 7pm Confirmation Candidate Session 23	7pm Family PSR 24	25	7pm RCIA 26	10:45am Scripture Treats 27	7pm Gratitude Group 28	29
Coffee & Donuts 30	7pm Family PSR 31					