On entering the house they saw the child with Mary his mother. They prostrated themselves and did him homage.
The Epiphany of The Lord
January 6, 2019
Homily This Week: John D. Whitney, S.J.
Homily Next Week: Julian Climaco, S.J.

Weekend Mass Schedule
Saturday - 5 pm
Sunday - 9 am, 11 am & 5:30 pm

Readings for January 13, 2019
First reading: Isaiah 42:1-4, 6-7
Second reading: Titus 2:11-14; 3:4-7

Weekday Mass Schedule
Monday - Friday, 7 am, Parish Center
Reconciliation
Saturday - 3:30-4:15 pm in the Church
or by appointment
Parish Center
732 18th Ave E, Seattle, WA 98112
Monday - Friday - 7 am, Parish Center
Reconciliation
Saturday - 3:30-4:15 pm in the Church
or by appointment
Parish Center
732 18th Ave E, Seattle, WA 98112

Parish Receptionist (206) 324-2522

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Parochial Vicar
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St. Joseph School - Main Office x210
Patrick Fennessy, Head of School x218
Mary Helen Bever, Primary School Dir x215
Vince McGovern, Middle School Dir x219

The Magi and Me

The Child we seek / doesn’t need our gold.
On love, on love alone / he will build his kingdom.
His piercéd hand will hold no scepter, / his haloed head will wear
no crown;
his might will not be built / on your toil.
Swifter than lightning / he will soon walk among us.
He will bring us new life / and receive our death,
and the keys to his city / belong to the poor.

-Gian Carlo Menotti-

Magi—astrologers from Persia, known for their wisdom in reading
the night sky—travel into Roman occupied Israel, after witnessing
the rising of a new star. Believing that this star portends the birth of
a great king, they go first to the ancient seat of the Israelite kingdom:
to Jerusalem. There they meet with Herod the Great, who holds
the title of King through the power of the Roman army, and who knows
nothing of the signs spoken of by the magi. Calling the priests from
the temple of Solomon, he asks them to search in the treasury of
Scripture for some clue to understand the magi’s message, and
learns that ancient prophecies predict that one “who is to shepherd
my people Israel” will be born someday in Bethlehem, in the region
of Judah. Though he, like all those in power residing in Jerusalem,
is “greatly troubled” by the idea of a new-born king—who could
threaten the status-quo and stir up Roman reprisals—he tells the
magi of the prophecy, and promises to follow them, if they find
the child. So, they leave Jerusalem, and as they travel, the star re-
turns, leading them to a place where they find the child with Mary,
his mother. And there they kneel to honor him, opening gifts of
gold—a sign of kingship, and frankincense—an offering for a god,
and myrrh—the precious balm used to prepare the dead for burial.
And afterwards, having laid their cryptic gifts before the child, they
leave, returning not to Herod in Jerusalem, but to their own country
by another route, never to appear in Scripture again.

Later traditions added many details to this story—e.g., that there
are three magi (though Matthew never tells us this); that they are
actually kings; that their names are Balthasar of Arabia, Melchior
of Persia, and Gaspar of India—yet, as described in the Gospel of
Matthew, the magi are intentionally mysterious, like the priest of
Salem, Melchizedek, who greets Abram in the book of Genesis, car-
rying bread and wine, and proclaiming, “Blessed be Abram by God
Most High, the creator of heaven and earth” (Gen. 14:19). Similar
to Melchizedek, whom later writers see as prefiguring Christ, the
magi and their gifts foreshadow the life and death of Jesus, and sym-
bolize the way in which the gospel will be accepted by gentiles, even while being threatened by those to whom knowledge of God was originally entrusted. Thus, while we may wonder about the historical accuracy of the magi’s visitation (as with much in the infancy narratives), there is no doubt that the story itself has a symbolic dimension, intended to open our hearts and challenge our own sense as disciples and followers of Christ and of the Spirit who leads us to him.

As I have grown older, I have come to realize how much more important it is to be among the magi, the pilgrims, than it is to be among those in Jerusalem who are blessed with every gift and grace, yet troubled by the seekers and unwilling to seek themselves. For the magi, with little or no knowledge of the covenant of God or the promise of Christ, follow the star they encounter through observation and reflection. Like so many good people I know, both within the Church and beyond it, these magi are moved to become people of discernment, watchers who try to read the signs given to them without fear or ideology. Because they are willing to look, they see the star rising in the darkness of the world, in the deep places of their own hearts, and it draws them forward, into that darkness, as they try to follow its light, even without fully understanding where they are going. Through hardship and desert, among the homeless and the displaced, at the side of children and non-believers, they journey, sometimes in joy and sometimes in sorrow. And sometimes, in following their star, they end up in the wrong place for awhile, believing that the palaces of power and prestige, of tradition and knowledge will bring fulfillment to their quest and allow them to find the light they seek. Yet, often these places are the greatest disappointment. For though Herod and the chief priests have everything they need to find the Christ—have the books of Moses and the teaching of the prophets, the covenant given to Abraham and the power to complete the search—they are unwilling to go along the path of the magi, and are threatened by the light their own knowledge recalls. So they stay in Jerusalem, behind walls of money and power, racial privilege and intellectual superiority—walls that mark their slavery and betray the very gifts their ancestors received. Those who refuse to become pilgrims choose to lock themselves in ideologies and ideas of truth, even while failing to pursue the living truth that burns in their hearts, but which fear keeps them from accepting.

Yet, for the magi, those who seek not just knowledge but wisdom, the end of the pilgrimage comes only in leaving behind the centers of power and ideology. For these women and men, the star that guides them always draws them from theory and fear into encounter and hope. For the star always comes to rest where one may encounter the living Christ Jesus: among the poor and outcast, the despised and the desperate, among those whom the world rejects but who hold in their hearts the fullness of God and the light of the Spirit. Here we must lay down our gifts. Here we will find our fulfillment.

Many years ago, while I was in Rome for the 35th General Congregation of the Jesuits, I happened upon the church of Sant Agostino near the Piazza Navonna. There I found a painting by Michelangelo Caravaggio, Our Lady of the Pilgrims, which has moved me in ways I cannot easily describe. Highly controversial in its day, the painting shows two pilgrims—a man and a woman—at the door of Mary’s house. The doorway itself is chipped and the wall beside it has plaster missing, revealing the bricks beneath. Mary, with only the slightest line of a halo circling her head, stands at the door, barefoot and dressed in red, her leg bent and feet crossed as she supports the body of her naked child. She is a poor woman, who clearly loves her child, and who looks, kind but weary, upon the barefoot and kneeling pilgrims on her stoop. Though not, in fact, an image of the magi, this painting has replaced for me all the older images I once held—images of camels and caravans, chests of gold and wise men dressed in the elegance of the east. For in the craggy faces of these two pilgrims, in the worn staffs they hold and the patched clothing they wear, I see myself—and all the other pilgrims who have followed the star, seeking this epiphany of love.

The picture Fr. Whitney is referring to is on the cover of the bulletin.

WELCOME!

New? Visiting? Interested? Are you visiting for the first time? Interested in knowing more about the ministries and activities at St. Joseph Parish? Please join our weekly e-news blast at www.stjosephparish.org and click on the “Sign up for our eNewsletter” link in the upper right corner of the homepage. Thank you!

Register! Are you a Catholic attending Mass at St. Joseph Parish, yet haven’t officially registered? Join us!

Why register? St. Joseph Church is a vibrant parish offering many avenues for ministry, connecting with other parishioners and spiritual development. We’d love to get to know you, connect with you, and inform you of our various activities, groups and events going on at the church. Please pick up a registration form in the back of the church or go online to register at www.stjosephparish.org and click on the “Join Our Parish” link.
Welcome to St. Joseph. Please take a moment to silence your cell phones.

Prelude

(9) Epiphany Introit

We have seen his star in the East, and we have come to adore the Lord.
We have seen his star in the East.

Entrance Song

We Three Kings

1. We three kings of Orient are; Bearing gifts, we traverse afar.
2. Born a King on Bethlehem’s plain, Gold I bring to crown him again.
3. Frank incense to offer have I; Incense owns a Deity nigh.
4. Myrrh is mine: its bitter perfume Breathes a life of gathering gloom;

Moor and mountain, Following yonder star.
Ceasing never, Over us all to reign.
Gladly raising, Worshiping God on high.
Bleeding, dying, Sealed in the stone-cold tomb.

O star of wonder, star of night, Star with royal beauty bright, Westward leading, still proceeding, Guide us to the perfect Light.

Gloria

See Cards In Pews

First Reading

Rise up in splendor, Jerusalem! Your light has come, the glory of the Lord shines upon you.
See, darkness covers the earth, and thick clouds cover the peoples;
but upon you the LORD shines, and over you appears his glory.
Nations shall walk by your light, and kings by your shining radiance.
Raise your eyes and look about; they all gather and come to you:
your sons come from afar, and your daughters in the arms of their nurses.

Then you shall be radiant at what you see, your heart shall throb and overflow, for the riches of the sea shall be emptied out before you, the wealth of nations shall be brought to you.

Caravans of camels shall fill you, dromedaries from Midian and Ephah;
all from Sheba shall come bearing gold and frankincense, and proclaiming the praises of the LORD.

Isaiah 60:1-6
Responsorial Psalm
Psalm 96

Brothers and sisters: You have heard of the stewardship of God’s grace that was given to me for your benefit, namely, that the mystery was made known to me by revelation. It was not made known to people in other generations as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit: that the Gentiles are coheirs, members of the same body, and copartners in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel.

Second Reading
Ephesians 3:2-3a, 5-6

Gospel Acclamation
Christmastime Alleluia
Chepponis

Gospel
Matthew 2:1-12

And you, Bethlehem, land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; since from you shall come a ruler, who is to shepherd my people Israel.”

Then Herod called the magi secretly and ascertained from them the time of the star’s appearance. He sent them to Bethlehem and said, “Go and search diligently for the child. When you have found him, bring me word, that I too may go and do him homage.” After their audience with the king they set out. And behold, the star that they had seen at its rising preceded them, until it came and stopped over the place where the child was. They were overjoyed at seeing the star, and on entering the house they saw the child with Mary his mother. They prostrated themselves and did him homage. Then they opened their treasures and offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they departed for their country by another way.
Offertory

What Star Is This? PUER NOBIS/Coffin

1. What star is this, with beams so bright, More lovely than the noon-day light? 'Tis sent to announce a new-born king, Glad tidings of our God to bring.

2. 'Tis now fulfilled what God decreed: "From Jacob and Esau shall a star proceed." And lo! The eastern light the Lord conveys. It urges them, with sag-es stand To read in heav'n the Lord's command. force be-nign, To seek the Giver of the sign. hearts re-fuse The guidance of your light to use. na-tion raise An endless song of thankful praise!

Holy, Holy, Holy

Mass of Christ the Savior Schutte

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts. Heaven and earth are full, are full of your glory. Hosanna! Hosanna! Hosanna in the highest. Bless-ed is he who comes, who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna! Hosanna! Hosanna in the highest.

Mystery of Faith

When we eat this bread, and drink this cup, we proclaim your death O Lord, until you come again.

Great Amen

Lamb of God

Jesus, Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: have mercy on us. World: grant us peace.

Communion Song

The First Nowell

1. The first Noel the angel did say Was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay; In fields where they lay keeping their sheep, On a cold winter's night that was so deep.

2. They looked up and saw a star Shining in the east beyond them far; In fields where they lay gave great light, And so it continued both day and night.

3. And by the light of that same star Three wise men came from country far; To seek a king was their intent, And to follow the star where it went.

4. This star drew nigh to the north-west, O'er Bethlehem it took its rest; And there it did both stop and stay right over the place where Jesus lay.

5. Then entered into those wise men three, Full of reverent mind, up on their knee, And offered there in their presence their gold and myrrh and frankincense.

6. Then let us all with one accord Sing praise to God the Father, Sing praise to God the Father, Sing praise to God the Father, Sing praise to God the Father.

All Are Invited To Come Forward

During communion, we invite all to come forward. If you do not ordinarily receive Eucharist, or choose not to, come for a blessing, indicating your desire by putting your hand on your heart.

If you have a gluten allergy, & need a gluten free host, please come to the presider & indicate this.
Closing Song

**Epiphany Carol**

BEACH SPRING/O’Brien

1. Ev’ry nation sees the glory of a star that pierced the night.
   As we tell the wondrous story we are bathed in radiant light.
   Light of God’s design, shine upon the gift that’s given: Word made flesh now born in time.

2. Ev’ry tongue shall sing the praises of his birth in deepest night.
   He is Christ, our God’s delight.
   Hopes, our great desires, He shall die to rise, redeeming All who follow with their lives.

3. Once again may we discover the Word made flesh now born in time.
   In our neighbor, sister, brother, in the lonely and unloved.
   Eradicate him with care: As we learn to love each other, bringing hope from out despair.

4. Gather, God, the world together in the glory of your Son.
   Fill our hearts with joy forever.
   May your justice rule the nations; May all people live as one.
   Now we see our true salvation.

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St. Joseph Prison Ministry Visit

MONROE CORRECTIONAL FACILITY
Friday, February 8th and Friday, February 22nd
3:30 pm - 9:30 - Carpool from St. Joseph
Brown Bag Dinner

Join Deacon Steve for Catholic Communion Service plus a chance to hear stories from some of the men who are incarcerated. You must be willing to fill out a visitor application two weeks in advance. Space is limited. Contact Deacon Steve at 206-965-1646 or stevew@stjosephparish.org

Racial Justice Book Group

Please join other parishioners in our Racial Justice Book Group on Tuesday, January 8, 2019 at 7PM in the parish center to discuss White Fragility by Robin DiAngelo. Robin DiAngelo is a local renowned expert on racism and white privilege. Our group provides a safe and respectful place for us to address racism through the lens of the Gospel, and for discerning action steps in response. If you cannot join us please read along on your own. Everyone is welcome-men and high schoolers are especially invited to join us. Please email Mary de Rosas at mderosas@pnwimmigration.com with any questions or to RSVP.

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Catholic Hospital Ministry at Harborview Medical Center

Volunteers are needed to bring Holy Communion and provide a presence to patients and their families at Harborview Hospital. Volunteers must complete all necessary paperwork, background checks, personal interviews and Orientation/Training sessions. Time expectation is once a week - 3-4 hour shift, plus bimonthly check-in gatherings. There is lots of flexibility in regards to specific day/time. If you would like to participate call 206-965-1646 or email Deacon Steve Wodzanowski at stevew@stjosephparish.org

Sister Parish

St. Joseph’s Sister Parish Ministry with San Bartolome in Arcatao El Salvador is seeking parishioners to join in our Strategic Planning Process to strengthen this relationship and help in celebrating our 30th Anniversary! Please join us on Sunday, January 13th 3:30 pm – 5:00 in the Parish Center. For more information contact Andrew DeBerry adeberry@outlook.com or Deacon Steve at 206-965-1646.

Casa Latina

Are you having trouble finding workers who are hardworking and reliable? Casa Latina’s new Jobs Connect Team can help you find the long-term workers you are looking for! Call us today to access our pool of workers who are searching long-term employment in industries including but not limited to construction general labor, restaurants, housecleaning, hotel staffing, maintenance work, nannying, house sitting etc. We offer you comprehensive support that is flexible to your needs as an employer! Our friendly bilingual staff can connect you with eligible applicants; facilitate interviews and initial onboarding/training with candidates! We work with businesses, families, companies, contractors, apartment buildings, and more!

To learn more about our workers & how the program works, give us a call at 206.686.2616!

St. James Racial Justice Dialogue

Join us for the St. James Cathedral Racial Justice Dialogues, a five-week program for parishioners who desire to more deeply explore questions at the intersection of faith and racial justice. It starts on Monday, January 21, 2019. For information or to register go to: www.stjames-cathedral/immigrant
Soulful Soups
Soup season is here! Join the St. Joseph Young Adult community every other Monday for a chance to take a break from your busy week for fellowship and friends. We’ll take turns volunteering to make the soup, and others can bring a drink or side dish to share. The next Soulful Soups will be on: 1/7, 1/21 in the Parish Center Arrupe Room. For details, contact Callie at youngadultcommunity@stjosephparish.org

Bible Study
Join the Young Adult Bible Study as we study the Gospel of St. Luke for 9 weeks. Our first meeting will be January 3rd! We will wrap up before Lent on February 28th. Plan to meet for dinner at 6:30pm with discussion beginning at 7:00 and ending promptly at 8:30. Please email Sabrina at spopoff@spu.edu to RSVP and for more details!

Come Pray With Us!
Monday Night Prayer Groups
Join us in prayer on Monday, January 7th at 7 pm. There are two prayer groups meeting. Join our Sacred Silence prayer group in the Church or come pray the Rosary in the Parish Center Chapel.

The Sacred Silence prayer group will gather in the church for an hour of silent prayer. Please arrive before 7 pm as the doors are locked right at 7. For information, contact Jim Hoover at sacredsilence@stjosephparish.org or 206-286-0313.

Praying the Rosary can help us face the often harsh realities of life with hope and grace. We have volunteers ready to help guide those who are just learning.

St. Joseph Community extends its prayers and hopes for the following intentions: For a daughter’s upcoming diagnosis and possible surgery, may she have strength and comfort . . . For Paul’s decision about his future.

“The light of God surrounds me; The Love of God enfolds me; The power of God protects me; The presence of God watches over me. Wherever I am, God is.”
~James Dillet Freeman

How powerful prayer is! May we never lose the courage to say: Lord, give us your peace.
~Pope Francis
Parish Stewardship

Many, many thanks to all who have made gifts and pledges to our annual stewardship appeal. **To date, we have received 455 pledges which is 24% of our families, totaling $841,763 toward our goal of $1,700,000.** We are endlessly grateful for your commitment to St. Joseph Parish! If you haven’t yet affirmed your active membership in our parish, please do so, and prayerfully consider what, if any, gift you are able to give to support our work.


**Stewardship Gathering of Faithful Women & Men**

January 13th, 3 PM- 5
The Cassidy’s - 1620 E Prospect St, Seattle

**Question we will pose:**

How do we transform the sin of Clericalism in Our Church as specifically related to the role of women in leadership and the abuse of the vulnerable?

**Goal:**

Collaboratively set short and long-term actionable goals and form groups of lay people who will work with clergy and religious to achieve them.