



Seeing the Child with Mary, His mother, they prostrated themselves and worshiped Him.

Matthew 2:11

The Epiphany of the Lord

January 7, 2018

January 7, 2018 – Epiphany: Called to pay Homage

The First Reading is a foretelling of the deliverance of Israel and the worship of *their* God by Gentile peoples, all nations. God will fulfill His promises to them (made in Second Isaiah). God's glory will so shine on His chosen people that foreigners from all over will come in pilgrimage to Jerusalem to pay homage to the Lord. This promise is fulfilled in the arrival of the Magi. The Responsorial, Psalm 72, describes the perfect king of Israel, someone as wise as Solomon, one who secures justice for all, especially the poor; a great warrior to enlarge Israel's boundaries. Realizing no king could fulfill these high expectations, the prophets spoke of a future king, unlike any other in Israel. The arrival of the Magi to pay homage to the Baby Jesus, the Messiah, is the fulfillment of this prophecy and the inauguration of God's reign. In the Magi, the *recognition* of the splendor and majesty of the newborn King of Kings and the *homage* paid Him by all nations on earth begins. In the Second Reading, we see *the bounty of God's love extends to all peoples*; this is the mystery of salvation. The New Covenant is one in which all peoples will participate in God's grace, for all are chosen by Him, without distinction; all are part of the mystical body of Christ. The Gospel continues the theme of this Sunday's Readings, the feast of Our Lord's Epiphany. Epiphany means *manifestation*, for we commemorate the day the glory of God's Messiah was made *manifest* to the pagans, (all peoples) in the personage of the Magi. Even though the murderous King Herod (*whose paranoia about rivals to his throne caused him to murder a wife, three sons and a high priest brother-in-law*) sought to destroy the Messiah, God's protection of His Son's mission prevailed. The Magi brought three gifts: *gold*, a gift one gives to a king, *frankincense*, what is burned to honor a god, and *myrrh*, an ointment used in burials. These gifts indicate not only the royalty and divinity of Jesus, but also how He would save us; our God and King dies for us on the cross.

Mass Intentions for the Week

Sunday 1/7/2018

8:00 AM (I) Stacey & Sandy Graham by Rosemary Easter
 10:00 AM (R) Bill Mullin by Kathy Leuschen
 4:30 PM (R) Tarci F. Dela Victoria
 by Adonis Dela Victoria

Monday 1/8/2018

8:30 AM (R) Mary Vaccaro by Ken & Kay Daack

Tuesday 1/9/2018 *MOTHER OF PERPETUAL HELP NOVENA

*8:30 AM (R) Bill Mullin
 by Raymond, Patricia & Colette Anderson

Wednesday 1/10/2018

8:30 AM (R) Betty Gerardin by Don & Suzanne Rossi

Thursday 1/11/2018

8:30 AM (I) Frank & Cyndy Mason by Pat Scott

Friday 1/12/2018

8:30 AM (R) Bill Mullin by Pat Scott

Saturday 1/13/2018

8:30 AM (R) Mary Vaccaro by Ken & Kay Daack
 4:30 PM (R) Bill Mullin by Marks Family

Sunday 1/14/2018

8:00 AM (R) Bill Mullin by Jim & Yolanda Carlson
 10:00 AM (I) Frank & Cyndy Mason
 by Rosemarie & Barry Luther
 4:30 PM (I) Christine Stein by David Stein

Remember the past with gratitude. Live the present with enthusiasm. Look forward to the future with confidence.

~ Saint John Paul II

ST. MEL YOUTH MINISTRY

All high school age youth are invited to the first Youth Ministry meeting of the year! Join us Sunday, January 7th at 5:30PM in the St. Mel Convent. It is going to be a great year! If you have any questions, please contact Gigi at ymstmel@gmail.com or 936-2793.

WEST COAST WALK FOR LIFE 2018

Mark your calendars for Saturday, January 27th, 2018 and join upwards of 50,000 pro-lifers for the 14th Annual Walk for Life in San Francisco as we peacefully proclaim our message that abortion hurts women. Join the Knights of Columbus and fellow St. Mel parishioners on two buses leaving from the St. Mel parking lot at 8:30 AM. Before the buses load, please join us for Mass at 7:45AM. Reserve your bus seat now for \$28 per person or \$110 max for large families. Please make your check payable to the Knights of Columbus 6066. For more information, please contact Doug Crumley Jr. or Pauline Cole, 638-4600.

CHRIST THE KING RETREAT

All are invited to a presentation by Dr. Hai Tran, "*LIFE as first envisioned*", on Thursday, February 8th, 2018, 8:30AM – 3:00PM, at Christ the King Passionist Retreat Center. Cost is \$30 if registered by January 25th. The brochure is available at the Church entrance or sacatholic.com.

BAPTISM PREPARTION CLASS

Attention Parents and Godparents. There will be a Baptism Preparation class on Tuesday, January 16th at 7:00PM in the Parish Center Conference Room. If you would like to attend the class, please call the Parish office to register. 967-1229.

ALTAR SERVER TRAINING

Altar Server Training is never out of season. Orientation and training for new servers is available as needed after school and on weekends. *Refresher and update sessions are also available.* Interested students and parents may contact Dave Murray, 716-5187 or e-mail dddrmmurray@comcast.net. Information forms for parents of servers are available in the church vestibule or upon request via e-mail.

CHRIST THE KING PARISH RETREAT

The theme of the 2018 Christ the King Parish Retreat is "*May the Passion of Jesus Christ be Always in our Hearts.*" All parishioners are invited to come and probe the depth of God's Love for us in Christ as we gather in prayer, study, meditation, sacraments, and rest. The **WOMEN'S retreat** will be **JANUARY 26th - 28th** and the **MEN'S retreat** will be **April 13th - 15th**. Reserve your spot today by calling your Parish Coordinator, Martha Styer, 962-3307; or Donna Greuel, 225-2456 or the retreat center, 725-472 Ext 301. Or register online, www.christthekingretreatcenter.org. If you're unable to attend our parish date, check the website for other retreat weekends. *Accept this invitation as a precious gift to yourself as you awaken and rejuvenate the spirit within you.* Please know, NO ONE is refused because of inability to pay full amount.

CATHOLIC FAITH FORMATION

Classes resume this Sunday, January 7th.

CHRISTIAN BROTHERS HIGH SCHOOL PLACEMENT EXAM

Eighth graders interested in attending Christian Brothers High School in the 2018-19 school year are required to take the placement exam on Saturday, January 20th from 8:45AM to 12:30PM. Online applications are due by January 19th. Please contact the Admissions Office for more information at 733-3690 or visit the CB website at www.cbhs-sacramento.org.

CLARA'S HOUSE

Clara's House is seeking volunteers for non-profit Primary Care Clinic. Needed are NP, RN, LVN, marketer, grant writer, case manager, chart clerk, receptionist, data processor and loyal contributors. Visit www.clarashouse.org or call 448-3976.

ALTAR SOCIETY

The Altar Society needs your help cleaning and preparing the Church for weekend Masses. Time commitment is only one to two hours after the 8:30AM Mass on Friday morning. Please call Linda, 213-2491, with questions or to volunteer.



CHARISMATIC PRAYER GROUP

You are invited to the St. Mel Charismatic Prayer Group. We meet Tuesdays in the baptismal room at 6:30PM for prayer, praise and worship, and healing prayer. Enter the church through the west door on the upper parking lot side. Contact Chris, 715-1162, or Karen Juten, 712-3706.

GRIEF SHARE

There is a new Ministry beginning at St. Mel and it is called Grief Share. The leaders of this ministry are Diocesan Certified. Grief is a natural process when we lose someone we love. The deeper the love, the deeper the grief. Talking and sharing our feelings and where we are at inside can help us grow and heal. It lets us know we are not alone. If you or anyone you know is grieving the loss of a loved one and could use some help dealing with the grieving process please call Rita, (408) 903-6344 or email ritaecdao@gmail.com.

CHAPEL OF THE HOLY EUCHARIST



Perpetual Adoration GREAT NEED FOR ADORERS:

Sunday: 10 - 11am, 10 - 11pm
 Tuesday: 10 - 11am
 Thursday: 8 - 9 am, 2 - 3pm
 Friday: 2 - 3am, 6 - 7pm
 Saturday: 3 - 4am, 9 - 10am 11 - 12noon,
 1 - 2pm, 2 - 3pm

If you would like to be in the Real Presence of Jesus and visit with Him for one or more of the above hours, or any Hour, or be a substitute, please call Marge, 967-0641 or Chris, 966-3266. God is "thirsting" for you to satiate "His thirst"

Talk given why Perpetual Adoration is so important to the world - Pope Benedict XVI, Feb.22, 2007. "In a world where there is so much noise, so much bewilderment, there is a need for *silent Adoration*, of Jesus concealed in the "Host".

Commentators & Altar Servers January 13th & 14th

Mass Times	Commentator	Altar Servers
SAT 4:30PM	Nagel / Sweeney	CJ, Matthew & Sarah
SUN 8:00AM	Morrison / Ward	Greta, Marcus & Matthew
SUN 10:00AM	Wagner J / Fisher	Aaron, Dylan & Victor
SUN 4:30 PM	Estipular / Styer	Michael, Abbie & David

PLEASE NOTE!

*** SCHEDULE FOR BULLETIN ARTICLES ***
 Please send your typed articles, in MS Word - Times New Roman, font 10, via email to stmeloffice@yahoo.com, no later than **NOON ON FRIDAY** to be included in the next bulletin. Thank you for your cooperation.

Bulletin Weekend Dates 2018	Articles DUE Prior To FRIDAY
January 13 - 14 January 20 - 21 January 27 - 28 February 3 - 4	January 5 January 12 January 19 January 26

**ST. MEL
MAINTENANCE & IMPROVEMENT FUND**

The second collection this weekend, January 6th & 7th, will be for the St. Mel Maintenance and Improvement Fund. These funds are used for taking care of our facilities. Thank you for your generous support.

RECOGNITION ANNOUNCEMENTS
Wedding anniversaries for the month of January will be recognized at all Masses this weekend, January 6th & 7th.


MASS CHANGE
Until further notice, the 12:00PM Mass will not be offered.

USHER MINISTRY NEEDS YOUR HELP!
Have you ever considered helping usher at Mass? The Parish Usher Ministry could use your help. We are calling men, women, and young adults to consider joining this weekly service. To learn more about this ministry, please contact Pat Wagner at patrick.wagner@ieec.org or 961-8652.

PRAYER INTENTIONS OF POPE FRANCIS
Please join the **Legion of Mary** in praying daily the intentions of Pope Francis for January. Please place special emphasis this month on...*Religious Minorities in Asia.*
That Christians, and other religious minorities in Asian countries, may be able to practice their faith in full freedom.

Please Pray for the Chronically Ill of Our Parish
(Names of those with long-term illnesses will appear on this list and be printed in the Church bulletin on the first Sunday of each month.)

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|-------------------|----------------------|-----------------|
| Albert Gonzales | Garrett Heisinger | Louis Patterson |
| Auroa Deese | George Snyder, Sr. | Lynn Warner |
| Betty Cerato | Gerrie & Paul Parker | Manuel Ybarra |
| Bill Jones | Howie Hoel | Maria Erickson |
| Bruce King | James English | Marie Lofgren |
| Cecelia Beviacqua | Jody Martinez | Mary Hoel |
| Charles J. Ortner | Kathy Houser | Ralph Virgen |
| Connie McKie | | Veronica Saenz |



Whoever does not take up his cross and follow Me cannot be My disciple. –Lk 14:27

Reflection: To stand up for what is right means we stand against what is wrong, and that means that those who love what is wrong will oppose us, just as they opposed Christ.

Taking up the cross means we continue standing for the right even when that opposition comes.

Prayer: Lord, thank You for the grace of being pro-life and of standing strong when others ridicule or oppose me. May Your peace fill my soul, and may I become more like Your crucified and risen Son.

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REMINDER
Please do not leave valuables in your cars when you are at Mass. There have been several break-ins in the parking lot.

CATHOLIC PUBLICATIONS
Did you know that a variety of Catholic publications are available in the vestibule? The National Catholic Register, Liguorian Press and St. Anthony Messenger are just some of the publications to choose from. For a small donation you are welcome to take a copy to read at home.

MORNING ROSARY PRAYER GROUP
Everyone is welcome to attend a Daily Rosary Group that meets in the Baptismal Room inside the church. One group meets at 7:30 AM and the other group meets at 9AM, Monday through Saturday.

Please Pray for the Sick of Our Parish
(Names will appear for 2 months unless a call is received by the Parish Office to extend the time or to remove the name.)

- | | | |
|-------------------|----------------------|------------------|
| Aiden Hulse | Emma Moss | Joe Hoffmann |
| Amanda Barron | Frank & Renee Weiss | John English |
| Bob Ahern, Sr. | Gene Fischer | Jude Hoffmann |
| Dawna Jones | Gerald A. Hoffarth | Martinez Family |
| Delores Bousliman | Helen S. Worthington | Rudy Worthington |
| Diana Fischer | Helen Chilcott | Victoria Hummer |
| Diane Castonguay | Jeannette Barron | Zaida Ackerson |
| Elaine Ervin | Jim Alexander | |

We welcome all new parishioners and ask that you complete this registration form and place it in the collection basket at Mass, or return it to the Parish Office.

Quick Registration St. Mel Catholic Church **Envelopes? Yes No**

Last Name _____ First Name(s) _____

Mailing Name (i.e. Mr. & Mrs. John Doe) _____

Address: _____

Street _____ City _____ Zip Code _____

Phone # _____

E-mail _____ CONTACT ME BY: PHONE EMAIL

Do you have any special request: _____

St. Mel Parish Ministries & Social Groups (REV. September 26, 2017)

PARISH COUNCILS		
Parish Pastoral Council	Bob Mayer	342-2139
Parish Finance Council	Jim Joyce	967-1229
PARISH SCHOOL		
St. Mel School:	Janet Nagel (Principal)	967-2814
St. Mel School Parents Club:	Contact the School Office	967-2814
St. Mel Youth Group	Giovanna Bellocchi	Call the Parish Office
St. Mel Young Adults (ages 18-39)	Giovanna Bellocchi	Call Parish Office
RELIGIOUS EDUCATION		
R.C.I.A. (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults):	Michael Faber	719-5565
CATHOLICS RETURN HOME		
Catholics Return Home:	Karen Fitts	966-0184
Catholic Faith Formation (CFF):	Sara Donnelly	966-4314
Scripture & Religious Study:	Cheryl Hoffmann / or Karen Fitts	966-1830 / 966-0184
Parish Library open after weekend Masses:	Joanne Wagner	967-0190
LITURGICAL SERVICES		
Altar Servers:	Dave Murray	338-5011
Music Ministry Director	Aaron Thompson	stmelmusic@outlook.com
Commentators:	Patrick Wagner	961-8652
Eucharistic Ministers:	Deacon Anthony Pescetti	704-0057
Ushers	Patrick Wagner	961-8652
PRAYER ADVOCACY		
Charismatic Prayer Group	Karen Juten / Chris Juten	712-3706 / 715-1162
Fiat Rosary Group	Peggy Grass	962-9244
Eucharistic Adoration Chapel:	Marge Della Villa / Chris Guzman	967-0641 / 966-3266
“D. J. M.” Disciples of Jesus and Mary	Joanne Hammett	765-4007
LEGION OF MARY (DAY)		
Legion of Mary (Day):	Joyce Savage	342-6179
Society of Our Lady of Guadalupe:	Dolores Leon	337-1800
Prayer Chain:	Dolores Moniz	962-0571
Fraternity of Fatherhood:	Mike Allison	834-6226
Men's Cursillo Group:	Chuck Friedrich	635-7791
SOCIAL CONCERNS		
Annettes (St. Mel's funeral luncheon providers):	Parish Office	967-1229
Loaves and Fishes Volunteers:	Kathy Yanez	967-1229
Knights of Columbus #6066:	Patrick Wagner	961-8652
St. Mel “Sip & Sup” Fellowship Dinner Program	Roelof & Claire Van Ark	802-1089
St. Vincent de Paul Society:	Bill Savage	967-1229
Sacramento Life Center: Pro-Life Pregnancy Support:	Joanne Hammett	451-4357
Bereavement	Rita Ecdao	408-903-6344
Fr. Richard Doheny Religious Education Fund:	Walt Schaff	961-4698
Bishop-Gallegos Maternity Home:	Mary Schaefer / or June Schott	988-3171 / 967-9158
PARISH ORGANIZATIONS		
Altar Society:	Parish Office	967-1229
Marriage Encounter:	John & Regina Ruport	987-5616
Boy Scouts #217:	Chris Herne / Bob Mayer	798-8493 / 342-2139
Cub Scouts	Chuck Brasfield	214-5730
Girl Scouts:	Jill Dutra	217-3990
KKIS:	Laura Lumenta	718-2718
OPUS DEI:	Deidra Chapman	944-1356 or 425-4904
Children's Liturgy	Sara Lebeck / Serena Carleton	967-1229
Clara's House	Martha Rusnak	448-3976
Religious Articles:	Brenda McCollum / Dorothy Wagner	967-1229
Vocations Ministry:	Jeanne Condon	349-6936
Wedding Coordinator:	Karen Fitts	966-0184
For Any Changes to Ministry List	Parish Office	967-1229