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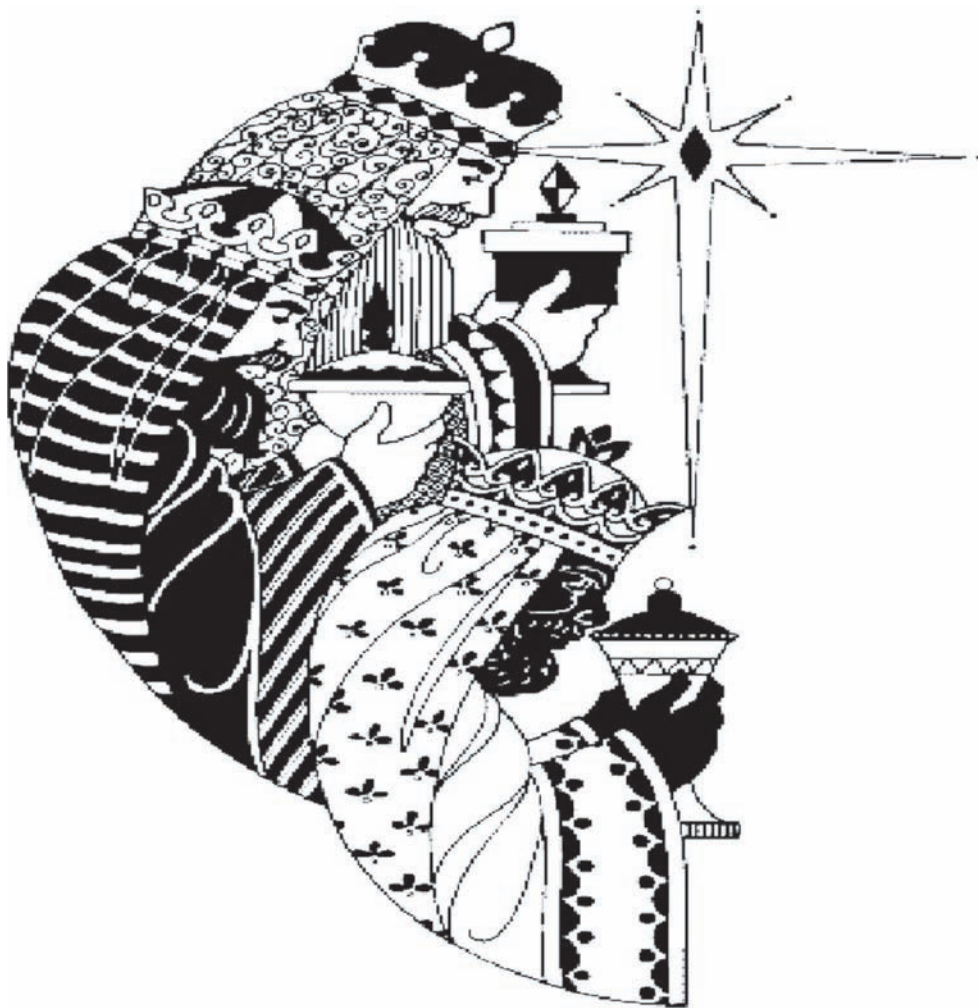
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Pastoral Staff

Rev. Bernard Vellozo, Pastor

Deacon Don Roberts, Deacon Richard Te

Emily Nail, Youth Coordinator Ann Overment Parish Secretary Joan Cabri, Parish Bookkeeper



*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.*

THE SOLEMNITY OF THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

January 03, 2016



"They fell down and worshipped Jesus"

If Jesus truly is who he claims to be, the eternal Son of God and Savior of the world, then why is he not recognized by everyone who hears his word and sees his works? John the Evangelist states that when Jesus came into the world *the world knew him not and his own people received him not* (John 1:10-11). Jesus was born in obscurity. Only the lowly shepherds recognized him at his birth. Some wise men also found their way to Bethlehem to pay homage to the newborn King of Israel. These men were not Israelites, but foreigners. They likely had read and discussed

the Messianic prophecies and were anxious to see when this Messianic King would appear. God led them by means of an extraordinary star across the desert to the little town of Bethlehem where Jesus was born.

In their thirst for knowledge of God, the wise men from the East willingly left everything, their home and country, in pursuit of that quest. In their diligent search they were led to the source of true knowledge - to Jesus Christ, the Light and Wisdom of God. When they found the newborn King they humbly worshiped him and gave him gifts fitting for a king.

The Lord of the universe who revealed the star of Bethlehem to the Gentiles of the East so they could come and worship Jesus, the Prince of Peace (Isaiah 9:6) and King of Kings (Revelations 19:16), gives each one of us the same light of revelation to recognize and accept Jesus as our Lord and Savior. Faith is an entirely free gift that God makes to us. It is through the help of the Holy Spirit, who moves the heart and opens the eyes of the mind, that we are able to understand, accept, and believe the truth which God has revealed to us through his Son, Jesus Christ. In faith, the human will and intellect cooperate with grace. *"Believing is an act of the intellect assenting to the divine truth by command of the will moved by God through grace"* (Thomas Aquinas).

To know and to encounter Jesus Christ is to know God personally. In the encounter of the wise men with Jesus we see the plan of God to give his only Son as King and Savior, not just for the Jewish people but for all the nations as well. The Lord Jesus came, that both Jew and Gentile, might find true and lasting peace with God. Let us pray today that Jew and Gentile alike will find the Lord and Savior on their journey of life. Do you bring the light of Jesus Christ to those you meet through the witness of your life and testimony?

"Lord Jesus Christ, we thank you for bringing salvation to all the nations. May the gospel of salvation be proclaimed to every nation today and to every person on the face of the earth. Help me to be a good witness of the joy of the gospel to all I meet."

Thank You

Our Parish Christmas and New Year celebrations were truly wonderful and I thank all parishioners and their families and friends who came to celebrate the birth of our Saviour, Jesus Christ, with us.

I am especially grateful to all our parish volunteers who helped make our celebrations beautiful acts of worship to God. The decorating group worked tirelessly to beautify the church, the ushers helped with parking and other duties, the eucharistic ministers and lectors served our various Masses and the altar servers assisted at the altar. I thank Jessica MacSween, Dany Doss and Alexandra Carey for organizing and supervising the Children's Christmas pageant.

As always, I could not serve this parish without the dedicated and tireless support of our parish secretary, Ann Overment. Thank you also to Fr. Ed, Fr. Roger, Fr. Milton & Fr. Lester for their assistance throughout the year. And last but certainly not least, thank you to our two wonderful deacons, Deacon Don and Deacon Richard.

May the Christ Child bring you peace and abundant blessings especially during this Jubilee Year of Mercy.

Fr. Bernard

Mass Intentions for the Week

MONDAY, JANUARY 4 AT 7:00 P.M.

+ Martina Hatch

S.I. Rocca & Gabriel Mansour

TUESDAY, JANUARY 5 AT 8:00 A.M.

INTENTION AVAILABLE

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 6 AT 7:00 P.M.

INTENTION AVAILABLE

THURSDAY, JANUARY 7 AT 8:00 A.M.

INTENTION AVAILABLE

FRIDAY, JANUARY 8 AT 7:00 P.M.

INTENTION AVAILABLE

SATURDAY, JANUARY 9

Vigil Mass for the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord

5:00 P.M. + Simeon Dumlao

+ Tom & Dean McMillen

SUNDAY, JANUARY 10 :

Feast of the Baptism of the Lord

8:00 a.m. + Natalie Lagoda

9:30 a.m. + Lloyd Leblanc

11:00 a.m. + Joyce & Edward Vellozo

12:30 p.m. + Nick Pizzitelli

Please call the parish office, 905-822-8132, Ext. 3, to arrange a Mass Intention.

TEMPORARY ACCOMMODATION NEEDED

The St. Francis of Assisi Refugee Committee has been working through Project Hope, run by the Office of Refugees for the Archdiocese of Toronto (ORAT), to sponsor a family affected by the Syrian crisis. We have been assigned a family of five, the parents and three children ranging in age from 11 to 20, set to arrive in the next few months. However, we have just received notification that the timetable has been moved up and we need to be prepared for their arrival at any time. The biggest challenge we face is finding temporary accommodation until we secure permanent accommodation once they are here. We are therefore asking parishioners to contact us if they are aware of any rental accommodation, in a house or building, with at least 3 bedrooms. Please contact Dolores Wielgus through the parish office if you can help us. (905-822-8132, Ext. 3)



JUBILEE YEAR OF MERCY



Corporal Works of Mercy

For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, a stranger and you welcomed me, naked and you clothed me, ill and you cared for me, in prison and you visited me. 'Matthew 25: 35-40.

3. Clothe the naked

The Bible encourages an attitude of compassion toward nakedness: "Give of your bread to the hungry, and of your clothing to the naked" (Tb 4:16) or "when you see the naked, cover him" (Is 58:7) and praises those who "cover the naked with a garment" (Ez 18:16). In contrast, clothing, particularly white clothing, is often used to mark beings associated with God.

Lived out in the Archdiocese of Toronto:

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Follow this series on the Corporal Works of Mercy in our subsequent bulletins.

For more information about the Jubilee Year of Mercy, please check the Archdiocese of Toronto website: www.archtoronto.org

Everyone Welcome



Life in the
Spirit Seminar



Good
Experience!

Mark your calendars:
Beginning Thursday,
January 28, 2016, our St.
Francis of Assisi Charismatic

Prayer Group will be holding a Life in the Spirit Seminar. The Seminar will run for 6 weeks. All are welcome. Watch the bulletin for more information.

ARCHDIOCESAN NEWS

"AN INTRODUCTION TO THE BOOK OF REVELATION"

(God's message of hope in a difficult time) with Msgr. Robert Nusca. Saturday, January 16, 2016 from 9:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. Register online at www.staugustines.on.ca.

"2016 WORLD DAY OF MIGRANTS & REFUGEES."

Sunday, January 17, 2106 AT 2:30 P.M. Special Eucharistic Celebration by His Eminence Thomas Cardinal Collins and clergy of Goan, Manalorean, East Indian and Anglo-Indian descent. St. Joseph's Church, Mississauga (please be in the church by 2:00 p.m.) Reception to follow.

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