

Pulpit Announcements for the Feast of the Epiphany of the Lord January 7, 2024

**Welcome to all who are here today on this
Feast of the Epiphany of the Lord.**

**Whoever you are, or wherever you find yourself on the
journey. Know that here at St. Matthias, ALL ARE WELCOME!**

- The Christmas season concludes today with the Feast of the Epiphany of the Lord. Our tradition is to have a bilingual 12 noon Mass, with three Kings in the entrance procession.
- **Tomorrow/Today** immediately following the noon Mass, the Franklin High School Madrigals will perform a 1/2-hour program of Christmas music in the church. Please come and enjoy.
- Our Spread the Light Campaign has been a wonderful success- thanks to all of our generous parishioners. As all good things must come to an end, we will need many volunteers to take down the trees on Saturday, January 13th at 9 AM. Last year the 40 volunteers were finished in less than three hours, so please consider helping! Bring scissors. All decoration on the trees must be taken off by this Monday, January 8th. Thank you in advance.
- The second collection today is to benefit the Catholic Charities' Parish Emergency Assistance Fund.
- More people are attending the Monday evening adoration. Have you tried? Come this Monday anytime between 6-8 pm and see the good effect for yourself

The three wise men approached Baby Jesus on bended knee, acknowledging the divinity in that tiny baby. Do we have their openness, humility and trust to see divinity, the real presence, in the consecrated host? May we welcome the Eucharistic Lord into our hearts with the Magi's attitude of trustful surrender ...

Music for Our Assembly

January 7, 2024

Feast of the Epiphany of the Lord

*Behold the Lord, the mighty one, has come; and kingship is in his grasp,
and power and dominion... Malachi 3:1*

Gathering Hymn – We Three Kings

1. We three kings of Orient are;
Bearing gifts we traverse afar
Field and fountain, Moor and mountain,
Following yonder star.

**O star of wonder, star of night,
Star with royal beauty bright;
Westward leading, still proceeding,
Guide us to thy perfect light.**

2. Born a King on Bethlehem's plain,
Gold I bring to crown him again,
King forever, Ceasing never
Over us all to reign.

3. Frankincense to offer have I:
Incense owns a Deity nigh;
Prayer and praising Gladly raising,
Worship him, God on high.

4. Myrrh is mine; its bitter perfume
Breathes a life of gathering gloom;
Sorrowing, sighing, Bleeding, dying,
Sealed in the stone-cold tomb.

5. Glorious now behold him arise,
King and God and Sacrifice;
"Alleluia, Alleluia!"
Sounds through the earth and skies.

Text: 88 44 6 with refrain; based on Matthew 2:1–11.

Text and music: Carols, Hymns and Songs, 1863; John H. Hopkins, Jr., 1820–1891, alt..

Prayer of the Faithful

Feast of the Epiphany of the Lord

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Our response is: “Lord of Enlightenment, hear our prayer.”

1. For Pope Francis and all church leaders, that all who follow the way of Jesus will continue to lead others to the splendid light of the kingdom of God, we pray. . .
2. For world, national, and local leaders, Inspire them to build peace on earth, so that justice and peace will become a reality for all nations, we pray...
3. For this faith community of St. Matthias, that it will be a shining light, built on our diversity, our love, and our powerful witness to the presence of God, we pray. . .
4. For those who are sick, lonely, or sad. Give them the strength and courage to carry on and have hope for the future, we pray . . .
5. For those who have died especially **Pat Leposa**. Welcome them into your eternal banquet ... we pray. . .
6. For the prayers we hold in our hearts (LONG PAUSE) . . . we pray

The presider announces the Mass intention and concludes.

Preparation Hymn – What Child Is This

For you, O Lord, my soul in stillness waits, truly my hope is in you.

1. What child is this, who, laid to rest,
On Mary's lap is sleeping?
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet,
While shepherds watch are keeping?

**This, this is Christ the King,
Whom shepherds guard and angels sing;
Haste, haste to bring him laud,
the babe, the son of Mary.**

2. Why lies he in such mean estate
Where ox and ass are feeding?
Good Christian, fear: for sinners here
The silent Word is pleading.

3. So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh,
Come peasant, king, to own him;
The King of kings salvation brings,
Let loving hearts enthrone him.

*Text: 87 87 with refrain; Bramley and Stainer's Christmas Carols New and Old, 1871;
William C. Dix, 1837–1898. Music: Trad. English melody, 16th cent.; Bramley and Stainer's
Christmas Carols New and Old, 1871.*

Communion Hymn – The First Noel

1. The first Nowell, 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.

**Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell,
Born is the King of Israel.**

2. They looked up and saw a star
Shining in the east, beyond them far;
And to the earth it 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 for a king was their intent,
And to follow the star wherever it went.

4. This star drew nigh to the northwest,
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 in those wise men three,
Full rev'rently upon the knee,
And offered there, in his presence,
Their gold and myrrh and frankincense.

6. Then let us all with one accord
Sing praises to our heav'nly Lord;
Who with the Father we adore
And Spirit blest for evermore.

Closing Hymn – Hark the Herald Angels Sing

1. Hark! the herald angels sing:
“Glory to the newborn King;
Peace on earth, and mercy mild,
God and sinners reconciled!”
Joyful, all ye nations, rise,
Join the triumph of the skies;
With angelic hosts proclaim:
“Christ is born in Bethlehem!”
Hark! the herald angels sing,
“Glory to the newborn King.”

2. Christ, by highest heav’n adored,
Christ, the everlasting Lord;
Late in time, behold him come,
Offspring of a virgin’s womb.
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see!
Hail th’incarnate Deity!
Pleased as man with us to dwell;
Jesus, our Emmanuel!
Hark! the herald angels sing,
“Glory to the newborn King.”

3. Hail the heav’n-born Prince of Peace!
Hail the Sun of Righteousness!
Light and life to all he brings,
Ris’n with healing in his wings.
Mild he lays his glory by,
Born that we no more may die,
Born to raise each child of earth
Born to give us second birth.
Hark! the herald angels sing,
“Glory to the newborn King.”

Text: 77 77 D with refrain; Charles Wesley, 1707–1788, alt.

Music: Felix Mendelssohn, 1809–1847; adapt. by William H. Cummings, 1831–1

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Responsorial Psalm – Psalm 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13

Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.

O God, with your judgment endow the king,
and with your justice, the king's son;
He shall govern your people with justice
and your afflicted ones with judgment.

Justice shall flower in his days,
and profound peace, till the moon be no more.
May he rule from sea to sea,
and from the River to the ends of the earth.

The kings of Tarshish and the Isles shall offer gifts;
the kings of Arabia and Seba shall bring tribute.
All kings shall pay him homage,
all nations shall serve him.

For he shall rescue the poor when he cries out,
and the afflicted when he has no one to help him.
He shall have pity for the lowly and the poor;
the lives of the poor he shall save.

Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.