The Feast of the Epiphany celebrates the arrival of the Magi, the wise men from the East, who gave our Lord valuable gifts befitting God Himself. After they finished their adoration of the Christ Child, they returned to their homes without further interaction with the local authorities who wanted to harm the Infant.
Reflecting on the Gospel

Dear Parishioners and Guests,

How cool is that! Not a GPS, but a star guided “magi from the east” to “the newborn king of the Jews.” Awesome! Not a gift card to satisfy wants, but gold, frankincense, and myrrh were offered as gifts to this infant portending who this infant would be and what awaited him. That’s epic! Not to be outfoxed, the magi “warned in a dream” to give Herod the slip, “departed for their country by another way.” This gospel has all the elements of a great story. Setting: the light of a star, big and little cities, house where a birth takes place. Characters: protagonists (the enigmatic magi) and antagonists (Herod, chief priests, and scribes). Plot: long, arduous journey from the east; duplicitous secrecy; warning in a dream. Conflict: good and evil, truth and deceit, honest seeking and treacherous beguilement. Theme: Nothing can stop the “newborn king of the Jews” from being manifested to all nations. This is not just the greatest story every told; it is the only story that needs to be told.

Who is the newborn Child for whom the magi are searching being led by a star? He is “the newborn king of the Jews.” But in reality the One they seek is more: he is ruler, shepherd—the Christ. Do we ever ask, as did the magi, “Where is the newborn king of the Jews?” How diligently do we search? What star leads us? Whom do we find? How do we fit into this astounding story? How do we encounter the Light of the world?

The Light is a welcoming, peaceful warmth to which we surrender and are overjoyed. The Light entering the darkness makes the contrast between goodness and evil that much more magnified. Those who choose to recognize the Light are drawn to give homage and open the gifts of their hearts. Those who choose darkness enter a path of trouble and destruction. What does this Light reveal in our hearts? What part of the story do we embrace?

This feast of the Epiphany celebrates that Light being manifested to all nations. This feast invites each of us to be among the seekers of the Light who do Christ homage. Our joy is found in the real surprise of the gospel message: we are “members of the same body” (second reading) who are now the light that shines in the darkness. The story of the “newborn king of the Jews” being manifested to all nations is our own personal story. Our own shining forth hastens God’s reign. With such grace given us, no wonder all we can do is set our hearts rightly, offer homage and gifts, and follow the Light wherever it leads.

LIVING THE PASCHAL MYSTERY

Just as Christ’s birth sharpened the contrast between light and darkness, so will our faithful discipleship magnify this contrast, too. The disturbing message of this gospel is that we cannot follow Christ and expect that we won’t experience troubling challenges. There is a price to pay for being the light. There is a price to pay for living this story.

Each fresh look at the Christmas story reminds us that all Christian living is paschal mystery living; that is, the rising (the Light) happens only when dying to self (darkness) is embraced. It ought not to surprise us, then, how much darkness accompanies these beautiful Christmas season gospels; not should it surprise us that there is a cost in our own lives for living the gospel. We continue to choose self-giving, nevertheless, because God’s star always guides us and fills us with joy as we surrender to God’s will and follow the Light that has come into our midst.

Later in the month our parish will be offering Online Giving, a web-based electronic contribution application. We are providing this convenient service so that you have the option to manage your contributions online or with your offering envelopes. This service is safe and secure and has been vetted by our Archdiocese. Of course the regular offertory envelopes will still be available for those wishing to use them. Stay tuned for actual launch date during January, 2017!
MASSES FOR THE WEEK
January 8, 2017

01/07 Saturday  
Saint Raymond of Peñafort  
8:00 a.m. † Harrison Chen (Spl. Int.)  
(by: Mary Tom)  
5:00 p.m. Mary Schroer. (Spl. Int.)  
(by: Mary Schroer)

01/08 Sunday  
The Epiphany of the Lord  
8:00 a.m. † Prudencio Cagalingan  
(by: The Cagalingans of San Francisco)  
10:30 a.m. For the People of the Parish

01/09 Monday  
The Baptism of the Lord  
8:00 a.m. Cristal Yee (Spl. Intention)  
(by: Mary Tom)

01/10 Tuesday  
Saint Gregory of Nyssa, Bishop  
8:00 a.m. † Patrick & Grace Maughan  
(by: Maughan Family Trust)

01/11 Wednesday  
8:00 a.m. † Noel O’Hanlon  
(by: The Ring Family)

01/12 Thursday  
Saint Marguerite Bourgeoys  
8:00 a.m. Ding Cagalingan (B-day)  
(by: Carol & Kids)

01/13 Friday  
Saint Hilary of Poitiers, Bishop & Doctor of the Church  
8:00 a.m. Michelle Schneider(Spl Int.)  
(by: Mila Schneider)

01/14 Saturday  
8:00 a.m. † Regina DiSerio  
(Tom DiSerio)  
5:00 p.m. Dena Walsh. (B-day)  
(by: The Anderson Family)

01/15 Sunday  
2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time  
8:00 a.m. † Roy Lippi  
(by: Pura Lippi)  
10:30 a.m. For the People of the Parish

We are sincerely grateful for your supporting Saint Philip and its ministries

Christmas Collection  
Sunday, December 25  
$10,453.00  
Sunday, January 1, 2017  
$  2,118.00  
Sunday, January 8, 2017  
$  2,170.00

PRIESTHOOD DISCERNMENT RETREAT

OUTLINE:  
WHEN:  
Friday through Sunday, January 27-29  
WHERE:  
St. Patrick’s Seminary, 320 Middlefield Road,  
Menlo Park

St. Patrick’s Seminary is hosting its annual discernment retreat for men who are interested in exploring the vocation to the priesthood. The retreat includes time to meet men already studying to be priests, listen to the experience of this call to the priesthood, and see what life is like at the seminary.

The retreat is open to young men over 18 years of age, and is free. For more information or to register, please contact the Directory of Vocations, Fr. David Schunk at 415-614-5684 or email vocations@sfarch.org

Remember in your Prayers…
Let us remember the sick, homebound and elderly of our Parish that they may find comfort and healing in Christ.

Isabel Juarez  
Mow, Kain Chiu  
Mary Crowley

Patricia Crowley  
Mary Dekle  
David Dickey

Laura Garcia  
Douglas Martin  
Dolores Martin

Agnes Piva  
Bill Matthews  
Mary Leung

John Bamber  
Leo Juarez  
Gina Wood

Fred Jungmann  
Archbishop Emeritus John R. Quinn

Those Who Have Entered Their Eternal Rest.
May the Perpetual Light Shine upon them.

For those preparing for the Sacrament of Marriage

Tuesday’s Choir Practice
Adults  
Tuesdays, 7:30PM in the Church  
Children’s Choir - Tuesdays 4PM in the Parish Hall

01/08  
School Second Collection

01/08  
Mass of the Epiphany Family Mass, 7th Grade hosting & hospitality follows the 10:30 a.m. Mass

01/09  
Liturgy Committee Mtg, 6PM, Rectory

01/12  
Parish Council

01/16  
Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday Observed

01/19  
Rosary Ministry, 11:30, Parish Hall #3

01/22  
Seminary Collection

The Annual Walk for Life West Coast, which draws 50,000 participants each year, takes place on January 21, 2017. Archbishop Salvatore Cordileone begins the day with a special Mass at St. Mary’s Cathedral at 9:30 am.

The Walk for Life Rally begins at 10:45 am at the starting point of the Walk, at Civic Center Plaza. There the archbishop will announce the recipient of this years Saint Gianna Molla Award for ProLife Heroism. The walk from Civic Center Plaza to Justin Herman Plaza at the foot of Market Street begins at 1:30 p.m.

Fellow parishioner Daniel Roddick is hoping to get a St. Philip’s group to walk, as other parishes do. Please contact him at danielroddick@hotmail.com if you’re interested in meeting there and walking as a group. Either way we hope you will attend. See the Walk For Life website for details, speakers, and event schedule.

www.walkforlifewc.com
We offer our thanks to the many volunteers who participated in the various seasonal outreach events and helped in preparing our parish for the celebrations during this holy Season.

Annual Winter Coat Drive: Thank you Fiona Clayton, one of our Saint Philip Students, for once again spearheading this worthy cause. No doubt our contributions made a difference to those in need.

Food Bank Packing Night: Thanks to the nearly 50 volunteers who helped in packing, weighing and boxing food uniting to give hope to hungry families in our community. Our next shift at the Food Bank will be Saturday March 25 at 12:30 p.m.

Food, Giving Tree, and Toy Drives: We did it again! This year we surpassed previous donations with our drives that we were able to extend goods to a couple new non-profits that were in need of items. Thank you Marie McLaughlin and Nicole O’Connor for sorting the items for distribution. Over 800 pounds of food was donated to the SF-Marin Food Bank as well.

Advent Family Craft Sunday: Thanks to those who participated in our first Advent Craft Sunday in preparation for the Christmas Season. It was delightful to see families taking a little extra quality time during this event. We also thank our Hospitality Ministry for having goodies available for people to enjoy.

Advent & Christmas Church Preparation: We offer our thanks to the volunteers who took time out on two Saturday mornings to prepare our Church for the Advent and Christmas Seasons. Your help is very much appreciated as it takes many hands to get the job done. Special thanks to Pura Lippi who sets up our Nativity yearly for us to reflect upon and enjoy.

Christmas Music: We also thank Carlton White, our Music Director, and choir members for leading us in song during this Season and on Christmas Eve. And, of course, we thank Mary McKeever, our faculty and students for another memorable Christmas Program.!

Altar Servers, Readers & Eucharistic Ministers: Thank you for your service to the parish through these ministries. By assisting our clergy through altar serving, proclaiming the scripture (the Word) through our Readers and bringing Christ to the faithful, including the homebound, you help us become more united in Christ.

Angels & Shepherds: And of course our Christmas Eve family Mass was complete with our Angels and Shepherds. We thank Rhona O’Leary and Margaret Miller for organizing our participants this year.

Behind the Scenes: Thanks to Gilberto Mancia, Brendan Scharetg and Mercedes Alvarez for making sure that our church and parish facilities were kept tidy during all these events and Masses. Please know how much we appreciate your undercover dedication!

REFLECTIONS ON THE UNKNOWABLE:
TALK AT OLD ST. MARY’S
SATURDAY, JANUARY 28, 9:30 A.M. TO 12:00 NOON;
SUNDAY, JANUARY 29, AFTER THE 9:00 A.M. MASS
OLD ST. MARY’S PAULIST CENTER, 614 GRANT, S.F.

“Reflections On The Unknowable: The Spiritual Journey” is the title of Fr. Terry Ryan, CSP’s talks, on the mornings of January 28 and 29. Fr. Ryan has lived for the past thirteen summers at Snowmass Trappist Monastery in Colorado, the abbey of 94-year-old spiritual writer Fr. Thomas Keating, OSCO. One of Fr. Keating’s latest books, Reflections on the Unknowable, will be part of Fr. Ryan’s presentation. The spiritual journey is an evolving relationship that never ends. The talk is intended for all who struggle with meditation, with a prayer of silence and listening, or who want to advance along the road to a deeper prayer life. There is no charge, but freewill offerings are welcome. Refreshments will be available.
It is with great joy that we welcome **Luella Moreno Sweet** into our Catholic Community as she received the Sacrament of Baptism during December, 2016

**Luella Moreno Sweet**
(Parents: Nathan Robert Sweet & Maria Rosario Moreno)

"...for all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ." ~ Galatians 3:27

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**Anniversary Mass at Cathedral for National Marriage Week**

Saturday, February 4, 10:00 am
St Mary’s Cathedral, 1111 Gough St., San Francisco
Ed Hopfner HopfnerE@SFArch.org
415-614-5680anniversarymass.info

The Archdiocese of San Francisco will offer its annual Wedding Anniversary Mass on February 4, at the Cathedral of Saint Mary of the Assumption, at 10:00 am. We will honor wedding anniversaries for those celebrating sacramental marriages reaching “5-year” milestones (5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35, 40, 45, or more) in 2017.

The principal celebrant will be the Most Reverend Carlos Sevilla, Bishop Emeritus of Yakima, Washington, and formerly a Bishop of San Francisco. **Registration is required by January 27 at anniversarymass.info**, and a donation of $20 is requested. For more information, use the email or phone above.

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**A New Beginning, with a New Relationship with Jesus continued from last Sunday**

Last Sunday we shared a reflection on “Making and Keeping New Year’s Resolutions” and suggesting perhaps deepening or awakening ones relationship with Jesus as one. So how can one fall in love with Jesus? How does one get to know about another? By asking questions, having conversation, being engaging with each other, in other words it takes action on our part.

Here at Saint Philip we offer various ministries by which that relationship can begin to take root and/or develop. Being involved in your church community believe it or not, offers you opportunities to bring your life closer to God. You can’t help but listen to the “Word” differently if you are a proclaim of that “Word” as a Reader. As a Eucharistic Minister you offer the body of Christ to the faithful and you are passing on the Light. As a Catechist to adults in R.C.I.A or in Children’s Liturgy, you pass on the lessons Christ left for us in the scriptures and soon you find yourself patterning your life around those lessons.

If you are interested in becoming more involved in your church community, please contact the parish office and we will help you identify where your gifts can best be used as you develop your relationship with Christ.
**CELEBRATING OUR SAINTS**

**January 10—Saint Gregory of Nyssa (335-395)**

The son of two saints, Basil and Emmilia, young Gregory was raised by his older brother, Saint Basil the Great, and his sister, Macrina, in modern-day Turkey. Gregory’s success in his studies suggested great things were ahead for him. After becoming a professor of rhetoric, he was persuaded to devote his learning and efforts to the Church. By then married, Gregory went on to study for the priesthood and became ordained (this at a time when celibacy was not a matter of law for priests).

He was elected Bishop of Nyssa in 372, a period of great tension over the Arian heresy, which denied the divinity of Christ. Briefly arrested after being falsely accused of embezzling Church funds, Gregory was restored to his see in 378, an act met with great joy by his people.

It was after the death of his beloved brother, Basil, that Gregory really came into his own. He wrote with great effectiveness against Arianism and other questionable doctrines, gaining a reputation as a defender of orthodoxy. He was sent on missions to counter other heresies and held a position of prominence at the Council of Constantinople. His fine reputation stayed with him for the remainder of his life, but over the centuries it gradually declined as the authorship of his writings became less and less certain. But, thanks to the work of scholars in the 20th century, his stature is once again appreciated. Indeed, Saint Gregory of Nyssa is seen not simply as a pillar of orthodoxy but as one of the great contributors to the mystical tradition in Christian spirituality and to monasticism itself.

**January 12—Saint Marguerite Bourgeoys, (1620-1700)**

“God closes a door and then opens a window,” people sometimes say when dealing with their own disappointment or someone else’s. That was certainly true in Marguerite’s case. Children from European as well as Native American backgrounds in seventeenth-century Canada benefited from her great zeal and unshakable trust in God’s providence.

Born the sixth of 12 children in Troyes, France, Marguerite at the age of 20 believed that she was called to religious life. Children from European as well as Native American backgrounds in seventeenth-century Canada benefited from her great zeal and unshakable trust in God’s providence. Born the sixth of 12 children in Troyes, France, Marguerite at the age of 20 believed that she was called to religious life. Born the sixth of 12 children in Troyes, France, Marguerite at the age of 20 believed that she was called to religious life. Born the sixth of 12 children in Troyes, France, Marguerite at the age of 20 believed that she was called to religious life. Born the sixth of 12 children in Troyes, France, Marguerite at the age of 20 believed that she was called to religious life.

Marguerite was canonized in 1982.
PARISH RESOURCES

PARISH OFFICE
Rio Stefanus, Financial/Business Manager
Email: rio.stefanus@saintphilipparish.org
Carol Cagalingan, Parish Administrative Assistant
Email: carol.cagalingan@saintphilipparish.org
Sandy Kearney, Parish Pastoral/School Administrative Assistant
Email: sandy.kearney@saintphilipparish.org

MUSIC MINISTRY
Carlton White, Music Director

DEVOTIONS
Rosary - Monday - Saturday • After 8:00 a.m. Mass
Our Lady of Perpetual Help • Tuesday after 8:00 a.m. Mass

SCHOOL GRADES K-8
665 Elizabeth Street, San Francisco, CA 94114
Phone: (415) - 824-8467 • Fax: (415) 282-0121
Tony LesCallet, Principal
Email: info@saintphilipschool.org
www.saintphilipschool.org

PRE-SCHOOL AND CHILDCARE
(415) 282-0143 www.saintphilippreschool.org
Ms. Rachel Williams, Director
Email: Rachel.williams@saintphilipparish.org

PARISH OUTREACH
Baptismal Classes First Tuesday 7:00 p.m.
(Rectory)
Belfry Society Tuesday 7:00 p.m. (Church)
Adult Choir Tuesday 4:00 p.m. (Hall 1)
Children Choir First Communion Instruction
Confirmation Instruction
Liturgy Committee
Men's Club
Parish Council
Parent Teacher Association (PTA)
RCIA (Adult Faith Instruction) Sunday 9:15 (Resource Center)
Rosary Makers Second & Third Thursday,
11:30 a.m., (Hall 3)
School Board
St. Vincent de Paul Jr.
Young at Heart (Senior Club) Second & Third Thursday,
11:30 a.m., (Hall 3)

COMMUNITY OUTREACH
Please contact the rectory at (415) 282-0141
As a service to the community, we sponsor the following:
Monday A.A. Meeting (Men's) 7:00 p.m. Hall 3
Tuesday A.A. Kitchen 6:00 p.m. Hall 3
Wednesday Alanon 7:30 p.m. Hall 1
Saturday A.A. Meeting (Mixed) 8:30 p.m. Hall

PARISH REGISTRATION
Our parish is blessed and enriched by the presence of new parishioners.

We welcome all new families and individuals. If you are interested in joining the Saint Philip’s parish community, feel free to call our office at 415-282-0141 for a registration form, or go online at www.saintphilipparish.org

Our hope is that you will find our parish a supportive and healing place, a nurturing spiritual environment and a place to celebrate the sacraments as you and your families grow in your journey of faith.

Who is an Active Parishioner?

♦ Regular attendance at Mass on Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation.
♦ Registered in the Parish, receiving and using weekly envelopes, supporting the Parish according to the best of one’s ability.
♦ Volunteers and participates in Parish activities with time, talent, and resources as means permit.
♦ Trying to live the Catholic Faith as best they can with God’s help and the support of family and friends at home and in the Parish.

Interested in our Parish School?
If you would like to arrange a school tour, please call our office at 415-824-8467.
Tours are conducted on Tuesdays and Wednesdays at 9:00 a.m.

www.saintphilipschool.org

ARCHDIOCESAN SOCIAL MEDIA
The archdiocese Facebook page has grown to over 5,000 likes. Thank you to all who have connected with us. The page is a source of timely information, photos, announcements, prayer requests, and great Catholic resources. We are also on Twitter. Find us by going to sfarch.org.

Catholic San Francisco posts breaking news stories and more photos than they are able to print in the newspaper. Find links to those at Catholic-SF.org.

Irish Immigration Pastoral Center Seeks Volunteers
Looking to make a difference? Become a volunteer with the Irish Immigration Pastoral Center (IIPC) in San Francisco. Through its range of programs and services, the IIPC is often the first port of call for advice for those who have just arrived from Ireland, as well as those who have been here for years but are seeking help in times of stress or difficulty. Being an IIPC volunteer is a rewarding experience. In particular, people are needed during business hours to help with office support on a regular or semi-regular basis. Please call or e-mail the office, 415-752-6006 or info@sfiipc.org