

AN EPIPHANY SONNET (Malcolm Guite)

"Three mysteries mark this holy day: today the star leads the Magi to the infant Christ; today water is changed into wine for the wedding feast; today Christ wills to be baptized by John in the river Jordan to bring us salvation."

The Feast of the Epiphany, which celebrates the arrival of the Magi at the manger in Bethlehem, has a special mystery and joy to it. Until now the story of the coming Messiah has been confined to Israel, the covenant people, but here suddenly, mysteriously, are three Gentiles who have intuited that his birth is good news for them too. Here is an Epiphany, a revelation, that the birth of Christ is not one small step for a local religion, but a great leap for all mankind. I love the way that traditionally the three wise men (or kings) are shown as representing the different races and cultures and languages of the world. I love the combination in their character of diligence and joy. They 'seek diligently', but they 'rejoice with exceeding great joy'! I love the way they loved and followed a star, but didn't stop at the star, but rather let the star lead them to something beyond itself. Surely that is a pattern for all wise contemplation of nature whether in art or science.

One can return constantly to the mystery of the Epiphany and always find more. Here is a little sonnet which particularly focuses on the way the Magi's sudden arrival on the scene includes all of us into what has been, up to this point, an exclusively Jewish story.

***It might have been just someone else's story,
Some chosen people get their special king.
We leave them to their own peculiar glory,
We don't belong, it doesn't mean a thing.
But when these three arrive they bring us with them,
Gentiles like us, their wisdom might be ours;
A steady step that finds an inner rhythm,
A pilgrim's eye that sees beyond the stars.
They did not know his name, but still they sought him,
They came from elsewhere, but still they found;
In temples they found those who sold and bought him,
But in the filthy stable, hallowed ground.
Their courage gives our questing hearts a voice
To seek, to find, to worship, to rejoice.***

**MESSAGE FROM ST. MONICA'S FOOD PANTRY**

The Food Pantry would like to thank all who collected egg cartons for us last year in 2016. We will now stop the collection until further notice. Starting with January 2017, every 2nd month thereof, there will be one or more suggestions for items needed at the food pantry. If the suggestions are not convenient for you at the time, you are still more than welcome to donate items of your choice. Our first suggestions for the New Year are for: Tuna, Peanut Butter, and Instant Coffee. **Thank you for your continued support & Happy New Year to all!**

SACRED HEART'S BLUE & WHITE GALA

The Sacred Heart School of Montreal is hosting a fundraiser "**The Blue & White Gala**" at Montreal's Ritz-Carlton Hotel on Friday, February 3, 2017. Emceed by Maya Johnson, CTV News Quebec City Bureau Chief. Enjoy a gourmet dinner and dancing in the famed Oval Room. Cocktails with musicians start at 6:00 p.m., followed by a live auction and great raffle prizes are available all night. Proceeds benefit **The Future at Heart** Capital Campaign and the building of an auditorium. Tickets are available online at www.sacredheart.qc.ca. More info: [514-937-2845](tel:514-937-2845).

MASS INTENTIONS JANUARY 7 TO 15, 2017

Saturday, January 7: St. Andre Bessette

4:00 In Loving Memory: Angelo Caucci, Leonard & Terry Winslade, Isa Mazzella, John Portelance.

Sunday, January 8: EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

8:30 Agnesa, Martino & Antonio Gagliardi By the Family
11:00 Siseha Chine Norman Lebert By Senait Chine Faith Sharing Group St. Monica's

Monday, January 9: Baptism of the Lord

8:00 Special Intention for Maria Laarhoven By Ursulene Mora-Farmer

Tuesday, January 10: Weekday Mass

8:00 Giacomo La Posta By Mary & Gemma La Posta

Wednesday, January 11: Weekday Mass

8:00 Stella Smith By Glen & Mary Smith

Thursday, January 12: St. Marguerite Bourgeoys

8:00 Wedding Anniversary By Gilda Pinto
Anna & Lorenzo Forlini By Louise Forlini
Antonio & Rosa Paoli By Pietrini Turini

Friday, January 13: St. Hilary

8:00 Felipe Marasigan By Wife & Family

Saturday, January 14: Our Lady's Saturday

4:00 Italo & Anna Mariani and Italo Falcone By Luisa & Angelo Falcone
Sandy Rassenti By his wife Reggie
Ermando Guiseppie Nudo By his wife Elvira Nudo

Sunday, January 15: Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:30 In Loving Memory: Leona Clarke, Alba & Luigi Paliotti, and Emma & Colombo Salvati.
11:00 William Gilmore By Elena Bertoldi
Beata Ricci By Ricci Family
Ana Chambers Parkin By the Nolin Family

Your Generosity...

Thank you for your on-going support of our parish... Collection for the weekend of December 24/25, 2016 totalled \$5,523.65 and Dec.31/Jan1. 2017 totalled \$3,843.65. Christmas Offering totalled \$4,508.00.

THE WINNING RAFFLE TICKET

On Tuesday, January 24, 2017 the Montreal Canadians and the Calgary Flames will be playing at the Bell Centre.

Do you have the first winning raffle ticket number **#168158** for 2 free tickets to this hockey game? If you are the winner, **please claim your prize as soon as possible!** The second number drawn was **#168162**—Do you have this number? You might be the lucky winner if the holder of the first winning number does not claim. (Note: you must present your half of the raffle ticket to claim the prize.)



ADULT FAITH ENRICHMENT UPCOMING EVENTS

Video Divina

This year, Fr. Raymond's film series looks at movies and life through the lens of the Holy Spirit. Join him next **Friday, January 13 at 7 p.m.** in the parish rectory to view the movie **The Jewish Cardinal**. Free admission and popcorn, and stimulating discussion to follow!

Coffee and Conversation

Join us next **Sunday, January 15 from 9:45 to 10:45 am**, in the rectory dining room to view THE WILD GOOSE video, **The Spirit of Adoption**. Free babysitting is available if you make arrangements with Anna no later than Wednesday, January 11. All are welcome!

Finding God in Family Life: Pope Francis on "The Joy of Love"

As Christians, we are called to help all families to know that they are loved by God, and that they can help others experience that love. In "*Amoris Laetitia*", Pope Francis offers the vision of a pastoral and merciful church that encourages all people to experience the "*joy of love*". Join **Fr. Raymond and an ecumenical panel of invited guests on Saturday, Jan. 21 from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. in the parish hall** for a fruitful & stimulating discussion of how we, as church, are summoned by this important text to create a culture of welcome, faithfulness, and loving, life-giving acceptance for all families! Free babysitting is available upon request at registration. Please register by **January 16**.

Please refer to our website and the posters at the Church entrances for additional info. If registration is required, kindly use the appropriate sign-up sheets at the main church entrance or call Anna at the office.