

# Immaculate Conception Catholic Church

522 Main Street • P.O. Box 399 • Marydel, Maryland 21649-0399

Phone: 410-482-7687 • Fax: 410-482-7253

[www.iccmarydel.org](http://www.iccmarydel.org)

**Office Hours:** Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, 9:30 a.m.-5:00 p.m., 9:30-12noon Fridays, Closed Wednesdays

*Because of the limited size of our staff, hours are subject to change. It's best to call first.*

## January 8, 2017 – The Epiphany of the Lord (Solemnity)

### Eucharist of the Lord's Day

**Sunday:** 8:30 a.m. 11:00 a.m.  
7:00 p.m. (in Spanish)

#### Weekday Eucharist

Thursday 7:00 p.m. (in Spanish)

#### Holydays of Obligation

As announced in the bulletin

#### Reconciliation

After the Sunday morning Masses,  
Thursday evening 6:30pm

And by appointment at any reasonable time

#### Pastoral Care and Liturgy

Very Rev. James S. Lentini, V.F., Pastor  
Rev. Michael Angeloni, Associate Pastor

Deacon James M. Tormey, Sr.  
Deacon Sherman Mitchell, III

#### Christian Formation

Mrs. Alicia Poppiti, D.R.E.

#### Hispanic Ministry

Mrs. Arline Dosman

If you or someone you know is in need of  
financial assistance, please call

**St Vincent DePaul (302) 670-6702**

### The Sacraments

**The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA)** is the process in which adults and children of catechetical age join the Catholic Church. Please contact Deacon Sherman Mitchell III, our R.C.I.A. Coordinator, for details at 302-492-0753.

Parents wishing to present their children for **Infant Baptism** must participate in an orientation session. Please call the parish office at 410-482-8939 for details.

Please contact Alicia Poppiti at 410-482-8939 about the preparation of young people for **Confirmation**, or about children's first reception of the Sacraments of **Reconciliation** and the **Eucharist**.

Couples planning **Matrimony** meet with the Pastor or one of the Deacons at least one year in advance of the wedding date they are considering. Please call the parish office to arrange for this meeting.

Pastoral Care of the Sick: The **Anointing of the Sick** is appropriate for anyone faced with hospitalization or a serious challenge to health. When a hospital admission is planned, please arrange to receive the Anointing here beforehand, if at all possible. Our lay ministers to the sick bring **Holy Communion** to those unable to come to Mass for any length of time. Please call the parish office to arrange for these services.

Your Pastor, Deacons and parish staff members are always happy to speak in confidence with anyone who senses a call to **ordained ministry** or **religious life**.

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## Pastor's Desk

Dear Parishioners,

In these days where countries are run by Presidents and Prime Ministers, we sometimes lose the significance of the meaning of Kings. A quick background on Kingship may make our **celebration** of the Solemnity of the Epiphany clearer in its significance.

Looks Like Reign. In countries where a King (not the Elvis type) is the sovereign leader, he reigns and people are subjects to his rule. England, would be an example of that: England has a monarch (Queen Elizabeth) – and the residents of Great Britain are not commonly called citizens; they are rather identified as subjects of the Monarch. As it was in Christ's time, so it is still with monarchies today: When the Monarch has a child, a proclamation goes out declaring the birth of the child and declaring his given name. Then the child is presented to the King (his father)

and then to the other members of the royal family and the Lords, and then finally – last on the list – to the people of the Kingdom.

**It's a Boy.** The Epiphany of Christ our Lord is a reflection of that monarchical tradition but with one drastic change. You see, when Christ was born in Bethlehem, a proclamation did indeed go out about His birth, as it would with any royal birth. But the first people to be invited to see this newborn child – the first to whom He would be revealed – were not the royalty or the Lords or the Ladies of the day; nor the landowners or the kings – no, the shepherds, that is, the common folk, were the first to see this royal child. A complete reversal of royal traditions.

After the common folk of the world gazed upon the face of their savior, their Lord, then and only then, did the royalty of the world get a glimpse of this Prince of Peace. The

Kings are among the last to come to that stable and see the child in the manger – and they did so on the 12<sup>th</sup> day of Christmas, which we call Epiphany.

Though they were the last to visit, the visitation by the three Kings is nonetheless of great significance. Their visit represents Christ being made known to the several corners of the world. The word Epiphany itself means “manifestation” – that is, a making known. Once the Kings knew of Him, then it was deemed that all the nations knew of Him. Once the Kings knelt before Him (something unheard of), then the world knew that Jesus was not just some other child; He was God incarnate and was to be light to all nations. This visit represents all the world being made subject to a new king. A king to whom other kings will bow down: yet a king not born in the trappings of royalty, but in the abject poverty of a stable barely fit for animals.

**These Three Kings.** Getting the right gift for someone is sometimes difficult. I remember the story of a husband who gave his wife an amazingly beautiful extravagant diamond necklace for Christmas. His friend saw this expensive looking gift and said “That’s a beautiful necklace, I can’t imagine how you could afford it. But didn’t your wife want a new car for Christmas?” And the husband replied, “Yes, but where am I going to find a fake car?” Unlike the husband in the joke, the three kings get exactly the right (and real) gifts. What do these three kings –known as Melchior, Casper and Balthazaar – bring the new born King? They don’t bring Him a gift card, or candy, or 76ers tickets (though the last would be a fairly cheap gift these days). No. They brought Him, the same things that we should bring Him.

**Gold Plated.** King Melchior is said to have brought gold. This is to symbolize the recognition of Christ’s royalty, His kingship. Walls of the ancient temples were often lined with gold, as were the palaces of the kings who were often thought of as connected to God somehow. And at Mass, the body and blood Christ is placed on a paten (plate) and in a chalice made not of clay, not of glass but of very often made of gold – a noble metal fit for a king. And we should

be bring Him gold also. That is to say, we should bring Him our recognition of His status as our Lord, our Savior, our King and our God.

**A Scents-ible Gift.** King Caspar is said to have given frankincense. Frankincense is a type of incense that comes from the sap of trees found in Persia. It was used for centuries before Christ as a fragrance offered to God in worship. And so, this fragrance usually offered to God alone, is offered today to this child, recognizing that He is no ordinary child, but rather He is a child worthy of worship and adoration – He is God among us. He is one whose sweetness will pale, the sweetness of the frankincense. And we too, like the Kings, should offer to God that which is proper to God, our heavenly King – like faith, trust, adoration, and love. The incense of our sweet prayers should always rise up to our sweet Lord.

**An Arrivaderci Aroma.** King Balthazar is said to have brought myrrh in a jeweled cup. Myrrh was a type of an embalming scent used to prepare the dead. This would be an odd gift to give a new born; but this gift was a foreshadowing of the coming death of this child, a death prepared for by this gift at the time of His birth – a redemptive death that would give new life to us. And we too, like the Kings, should bring to Christ the myrrh of our recognition of His value and the redeeming power of His death and resurrection. We should be prepared to die with Christ, die to ourselves – take on that aroma of myrrh – and therein rise with Him.

**A Gift for Us.** Even today these gifts given to Christ should be remembered for their significance in Christ’s Epiphany – His being made known to the world. These gifts given by Kings to a King recognized the royal nature of our Savior. Let us be like these three wise men, these three kings, lets follow the star –the light of Christ – and be willing to offer our recognition of who this child is. He is Jesus Christ, the one and the only Savior of mankind, and God’s gift to us. There is no other. Happy Epiphany to all of you.

Yours in Christ, Fr. James Lentini, Pastor

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### MASS INTENTIONS:

**Sun., Jan. 8 8:30am : Gloria Lentini**  
**11:00: Hinebaugh & Fueller Family**  
Misa en Español **7pm For the People**  
**Thu., Jan. 12 7pm For the People**  
**Sun., Jan. 15 8:30am: Anna Adam**  
**11:00: Lionel Faust**  
Misa en Español **7pm For the People**

### COLLECTION TOTALS:

**Regular Offertory:** \$ 3398.00  
**Supplementary Offertory** \$ 371.00

**Second Collection Today: St. Vincent DePaul**

*Your continued support of the work of your Church is much needed, and appreciated.*



**Knights of Columbus:**

**JOIN US for BREAKFAST TODAY!**

## STEWARDSHIP OF TIME & TALENT

### Collection Counters

**Jan 8** Frank & Joyce Cristiano

**Jan 15** Robin & Paul Engstenberg

**Jan 22** Tom & Mary McGowan

### Church Cleaning Crew

**January 14, 2017 Grupo #8**

**Hortencia Bamaca**, Luz Morales, Rosemary Bamaca, Froilán Berduo, Sheila Berduo

**January 21, 2017 Grupo #9**

Natalia Domingo, Victoriano Pérez, Américo García, María García, Julio Hernández, **Hayde Fuentes**

### Altar Servers

**Jan 15**

**8:30am Mass** – Mike Dixon & Hannah Nagyiski

**11:00am Mass** – Vince Haass & Sherlin Santizo

**Spanish Misa 7pm** – Jeffrey Gabriel & Sofia Ramirez

*If you are interested in being an altar server, please let us know.*

*You may talk to the Deacons or another Altar server for instructions for training.*

### Lectors

**Jan 15**

**8:30am Mass** – Marilyn Dixon

**11:00am Mass** – Donna King

**Spanish Misa 7pm** – Clara Bamaca, Román Cuin

### Eucharistic Ministers

**Jan 15**

**8:30am Mass** – Deacon Tormey, Chris & Joyce Ford

**11:00am Mass** – Deacon Mitchell, Frank & Joyce

Cristiano

**Spanish Misa 7pm** – Antonio Pérez, Adelaida Velásquez,

Epifanio Morales, Guadalupe Morales, Simón De Jesús

Quevedo

**Post Cana is an organization for widows and widowers**

Please  
JOIN US

to help alleviate their loneliness and isolation. Post Cana holds monthly dances at Talleyville Memorial Hall in North Wilmington. Monthly lunches are held at Michael's Restaurant in Christiana. Please consider joining this friendly and inviting group of people. Please call Nancy at 302-479-5109 with questions.

## SCHEDULED EVENTS

**Sun, Jan 8 9am Knights BREAKFAST**

**Sun, Jan 8 9:40am SRE Classes**

**Sun, Jan 8 1pm RICA**

**Mon, Jan 9 & Wed Jan 11 7pm ESL**

**Tues, Jan 10 7pm RCIA office meeting room**

**Tue, Jan 10 7pm Juan XXIII**

**Wed, Jan 11 6:30pm 6Weeks with the Bible**

**Sat, Jan 14 2pm Miguel Boda**

## **Knights of Columbus**



We meet the 2nd & 4th Tuesday each month at 6:30pm. **Come join us!** For more info, contact Grand Knight, Harry Brown 302-233-8336 or daddyofone12307@gmail.com

**Follow us on Facebook @**

**Knights of Columbus Council 12509**



## Save The Date

**Annual Penny Party**  
**Sat., Feb 11<sup>th</sup>, 2017**

**Do you have a New Year's Resolution to Clean out the Garage? PLEASE consider donating your "unwanted treasures" and yard-sale type items to our Penny Party FUNd-Raiser this year. The date is February 11<sup>th</sup> and we are accepting donations now through Feb 10<sup>th</sup>. Please drop off at the Office Garage or contact Alan Smith (302) 379-3878.**

## Marriage & Family Life Corner

### Marriage Moment –

**Trip Down Memory Lane. It is the middle of winter cold in the northern hemisphere. What was your first winter living together like? Pull out old photographs and enjoy. Maybe even organize those photos.**

### Parenting Pointer –

**Consider starting a new family prayer tradition this year. Try this ancient prayer: "May God bless you and keep you! May God's face shine upon you and be gracious to you! May God look upon you kindly and give you peace!" (Numbers 6:22-27)**

## **FROM THE DRE'S DESK**

### **School of Religious Education**

Religious Education Classes  
9:40am-10:50am on Sundays

#### **SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION:**

**First Communion Preparation** – Session #1, Tuesday, January 17, 6:30-7:30pm in the hall.

**Confirmation Preparation**- Session # 4, Sunday, January 15 12:30-3:30pm in the hall.

#### **ADULT FORMATION:**

- **Psalms II: “Praying with Jesus”** Will start up on Wednesday, January 11, 2017 at 6:30pm in the office meeting room. This Session will run for 6 weeks.



This Sunday we celebrate the Epiphany of the Lord, the ways in which Christ made himself known to the world. The gospel reading this week comes from Matthew where we hear about the journey of the Magi coming from the east to bow down before Christ and present him with gifts for a king. These Magi took a great risk traveling from the east with such precious and valuable gifts, but did it to worship and glorify the Lord. This week ask yourself, what are you willing to go through to bow down and worship Christ? Do you make excuses and avoid going to Mass and if you do attend what gifts are you bringing to the Altar? We should all strive to be as dedicated as the Magi.

#### **January is Poverty Awareness Month!**



During Poverty Awareness Month, join the U.S. Bishops, the **Catholic Campaign for Human Development** and the Catholic Community in the United States in taking up Pope Francis' challenge to live in solidarity with the poor!

In addition to a **Daily Reminder Calendar**, longer daily reflections are also available. All of these are also in Español. You can download the calendar and sign up to have the daily reflections emailed to you during Poverty Awareness Month!

Visit the Website: <http://www.usccb.org/about/catholic-campaign-for-human-development/poverty-education/poverty-awareness-month.cfm>

## **QUESTION OF THE WEEK**

### **Solemnity of the Epiphany**

**Theme:** The mystery of the incarnation - Jesus is a gift to all humanity.

**Question for Children:** In your life, who helps you to see Jesus in other people such as a classmate or a friend?

**Question for Youth:** Life can sometimes be rough: losing your home, moving, feeling fear or danger. How do you experience God being and staying with you in such times?

**Question for Adults:** How this past week did you demonstrate God's love at home and at work?

### **Solemnidad de la Epifanía**

**Tema:** El misterio de la encarnación, Jesús es un regalo para la humanidad.

**Pregunta para los niños:** En tu vida, ¿quién te ayuda a ver a Jesús en otras personas como un compañero de clase o un amigo?

**Pregunta para los jóvenes:** La vida en ocasiones puede ser difícil: perder tu casa, cambiarse, sentir temor o estar en peligro. ¿Cómo experimentas a Dios que está y permanece contigo en dichas ocasiones?

**Pregunta para los adultos:** En esta semana que pasó ¿cómo demostró el amor de Dios en casa y en el trabajo?

## **Are you being called to the priesthood or religious life?**

### **8 January 2017 - The Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord**

An epiphany is a manifestation. In every age God calls some people to manifest his love for humanity by serving the Body of Christ as priests, deacons, religious men and religious women. If you think God might be calling you, please call or write Father Norm Carroll, Diocesan Director of Priestly and Religious Vocations (302-573-3113, [vocations@cdow.org](mailto:vocations@cdow.org)). And be sure to visit our website: [www.cdow.org/vocations!](http://www.cdow.org/vocations!)



- Find out more about the priesthood: [diocesanpriest.com](http://diocesanpriest.com)
- Find out more about the religious life: [religiouslife.com](http://religiouslife.com)
- **Let us help you to discover God's plan for your life.**

## COLUMNA DEL PÁRROCO PADRE JAMES LENTINI 8 DE ENERO, 2016.

Estimados feligreses,  
En estos días, donde los países están gobernados por Presidentes y Primeros Ministros, a veces perdemos la importancia del significado de los Reyes. Una breve reseña histórica del antecedente de la realeza puede hacer que nuestra celebración de la Solemnidad de la Epifanía sea más clara en su significado.

**Parece un Reinado.** En los países donde reina un Rey (no el tipo de Elvis) es el líder soberano, y las personas están sujetas a su gobierno. Inglaterra, sería un buen ejemplo de eso: Inglaterra tiene un monarca (La Reina Isabel) - y los residentes de Gran Bretaña no son comúnmente llamados ciudadanos; son identificados como sujetos del Monarca. Como sucedió en el tiempo de Cristo, lo mismo sucede con las monarquías de hoy: cuando el monarca tiene un hijo, se hace una proclamación anunciando el nacimiento del niño y declarando su nombre y su título; entonces el niño es presentado al Rey (su padre) y luego a los otros miembros de la familia real y a los Barones, y finalmente - último en la lista - al pueblo del Reino.

**Es un Varón.** La Epifanía de Cristo nuestro Señor es un reflejo de esa tradición monárquica pero con un cambio drástico. Ves, cuando Cristo nació en Belén, una proclamación realmente salió sobre Su nacimiento, como lo haría con cualquier nacimiento dentro de la realeza. Pero las primeras personas que fueron invitadas a ver a este recién nacido -los primeros a quienes se revelaría- no eran de la realeza, ni los Condes, ni las Duquesas de la época; ni los terratenientes, ni los reyes; no, a los pastores, es decir, la gente común y corriente, fueron los primeros en ver a este Niño Rey. Una inversión total de las tradiciones reales.

Después de que el pueblo, la gente común del mundo vio la cara de su Salvador, su Señor, entonces y sólo entonces, la realeza del mundo obtiene una vistazo de este Príncipe de Paz. Los reyes están entre los últimos en llegar a ese establo y ver al niño en el pesebre - y lo hicieron en el día décimo segundo de Navidad, que llamamos Epifanía o día de Reyes.

Aunque fueron los últimos en visitar, la visita de los tres Reyes es sin embargo, de gran importancia. Su visita representa que Cristo será conocido en varios rincones del mundo. La palabra Epifanía en sí significa "manifestación" - es decir, hacerse conocer. Una vez que los reyes sabían de él, entonces se propusieron que todas las naciones lo conocieran. Una vez que los Reyes

se arrodillaron ante Él (algo inaudito), entonces el mundo sabía que Jesús no era cualquier otro niño; Él era Dios encarnado y sería la luz para todas las naciones. Esta visita representa que todo el mundo estará sometido a un nuevo Rey. Un rey a quien otros reyes se postrarán ante Él, pero no un Rey nacido en los ornamentos de la realeza, sino en la pobreza abyecta de un establo apenas apto para los animales.

**Estos Tres Reyes Magos.** Conseguir el regalo adecuado para alguien es a veces difícil. Recuerdo la historia de un esposo que le regaló a su esposa un extravagante collar de diamantes para Navidad. Su amigo vio este regalo de aspecto caro y dijo: "Eso es un hermoso collar, no puedo imaginar cómo puedes comprar algo así. ¿Pero tu esposa no quería un carro nuevo para Navidad?" Y el esposo respondió: "Sí, pero ¿dónde voy a encontrar un carro de fantasía?" A diferencia del marido en la broma, los tres reyes encontraron el regalo perfecto para el Rey recién nacido. ¿Qué traen estos tres reyes -conocidos como Melchor, Caspar y Baltazar- al Rey recién nacido? Ellos no le trajeron una tarjeta de regalo, o dulces, o boletos para el juego de los 76ers (aunque el último sería un regalo bastante barato en estos días). No. Ellos le trajeron, las mismas cosas que debemos traerle.

**Chapado en Oro.** Se dice que el Rey Melchor trajo oro. Esto simboliza el reconocimiento de la realeza de Cristo, Su reinado. Las paredes de los antiguos templos estaban a menudo revestidas con oro, al igual que los palacios de los reyes que con frecuencia se pensaba que de alguna manera estaban conectados con Dios. Y en la Misa, el cuerpo y la sangre de Cristo se coloca en una patena y en un cáliz no hecho de barro, ni de vidrio, pero muy a menudo de oro, un metal noble apto para un rey. Y debemos traerle oro también. Es decir, debemos traerle nuestro reconocimiento de su condición de nuestro Señor, nuestro Salvador, nuestro Rey y nuestro Dios.

**Un Regalo Aromático.** Se dice que el rey Caspar dio incienso. Incienso proviene de la savia de árboles que se encuentran en Persia. Fue utilizado por siglos antes de Cristo como una fragancia ofrecida a Dios en la adoración. Por lo tanto, esta fragancia usualmente ofrecida solamente a Dios, se ofrece hoy a este niño, reconociendo que Él no es un niño común, sino que es un niño digno de culto y adoración. Él es Dios entre nosotros. Él es aquel cuya dulzura palidecerá, la dulce fragancia del incienso. Y nosotros también, como Reyes,

debemos ofrecer a Dios lo que es propio de Dios, nuestro Rey celestial - como la fe, la confianza, la adoración y el amor. El incienso de nuestras dulces oraciones siempre deben elevarse a nuestro dulce Señor.

**Un Aroma Arrivaderci.** Se dice que el Rey Baltazar trajo mirra en una copa de joyas. La mirra era una fragancia de embalsamamiento utilizado para preparar a los muertos. Este sería un extraño regalo para dar a un recién nacido; pero este regalo fue un presagio de la muerte venidera de este niño, una muerte preparada por este regalo en el momento de su nacimiento - una muerte redentora que nos daría nueva vida. Y nosotros también, como Reyes, debemos de traerle a Cristo la mirra de nuestro reconocimiento de Su valor y el poder redentor de Su muerte y Resurrección. Debemos estar preparados para morir con Cristo, morir a nosotros

mismos - tomar ese aroma de mirra - y así resucitar con Él.

Un Regalo para Nosotros. Aún hoy, estos regalos presentados a Cristo deben ser recordados por su significado en la Epifanía de Cristo-Su ser dado a conocer al mundo entero. Estos obsequios para Reyes a un Rey reconocieron la naturaleza real de nuestro Salvador. Seamos como estos tres hombres sabios, estos tres reyes, sigamos la estrella -la luz de Cristo- y estar dispuestos a reconocer quién es este niño. Él es Jesucristo, el único y único Salvador de la humanidad, y el regalo de Dios para nosotros. No hay otro. Feliz Epifanía a todos ustedes.

Suyo en Cristo,  
Fr. James Lentini  
Párroco