

PARISH NEWS

R.C. CHURCH of the RESURRECTION

Nr. 1 (3106) January 3, 2015

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD - C



The visit of the Magi occurs directly before the story of the Holy Family's flight into Egypt. Matthew's Gospel tells a version of Jesus' birth that is different than the one in Luke. Of the actual birth of Jesus, Matthew tells us little more than, "When Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, in the days of King Herod . . ." The story of the census is found only in Luke's Gospel, but we hear about the visit of the Magi only in Matthew's Gospel.

We know little about the Magi. They come from the East and journey to Bethlehem, following an astrological sign, so we believe them to be astrologers. We assume that there were three Magi based upon the naming of their three gifts. The Gospel does not say how many Magi paid homage to Jesus.

In Matthew's Gospel, they represent the Gentiles' search for a savior. Because the Magi represent the entire world, they also represent our search for Jesus. We have come to consider the gifts they bring as a foreshadowing of Jesus' role in salvation. Gold is presented as representative of Jesus' kingship. Frankincense is a symbol of his divinity because priests burned the substance in the Temple. Myrrh, which was used to prepare the dead for burial, is offered in anticipation of Jesus' death. (loyolapress.com)

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." (dailyscripture.net)

R.R.

Sunday Missal 159 pg.;

LORD, EVERY NATION ON EARTH WILL ADORE YOU.

(CBW 37 pg.)

SUNDAY'S MASS INTENTIONS ARE FOR :

9 a.m. †Jonas and Konstancija Poskus (family);

11 a.m. for living and deceased parishioners;

†Ona Eidvidaite (J.Duda);

†Adele Abromaitis (A.A.Vaiciunas);

†Inocentas Jurcevicius (family);

†Sofija Styra (S.Gircys);

special intention (G.J);

†Anicetas and Elena Prialgauskas (by bequest).

CHOIR SCHEDULE IN JANUARY

3 d. - Congregation
10 d.- Congregation
17 d. - Occasional
25 d. - Children
31 d. - Congregation

THE WEEK'S HOLY MASS

MONDAY (January 4): 7 p.m. †Maryte Sepikaite (D.Danaitis);

TUESDAY (January 5): 7 p.m. for living and deceased benefactors; †Mindaugas Gabrys (J.G.Neimanas); †Anele Kandrotas (6th anniv.) (L.Dirmeikis);

WEDNESDAY (January 6): 10 a.m. "Labdara" †Bronius Marijosius (S.Marijosius); 7 p.m. †Kotryna Taujanis (A.Ledas); special intention (J.E.Cuplinskas);

THURSDAY (January 7): 7 p.m. †Stanislovas and Vaclovas Bartusevicius (O.Stoncius);

FRIDAY (January 8): 7 p.m. in thanksgiving (K.Zabas);

SATURDAY (January 9): 9 a.m. †Anne Young (A.K.Ratavicius); 5 p.m. "Vilnius Manor" †Roze and Bronius Sliauzys (G.Bacevicius);

SUNDAY (January 10): 9 a.m. †Juzele (15th anniv.) and Pranas (20th anniv.) Dovidaitis (daughters Vida and Aida); 11 a.m. for living and deceased parishioners; †Sofija and Anthony Dziengo; Marija and Michael Wogtowicz; †Jurgis Navickas (V.M.Navickas); †Sheila Stephen (D.Danaitis); †Egle and Ceslovas Gudaitis (son and family); †Anicetas and Elena Prialgauskas (by bequest).

Collections:

December 27 - \$ 5,507.10

Christmas - \$ 12,344.50

Parish renovations - \$ 19,760.00

Soup kitchen in Lithuania - \$1,450.00

**Donations during Advent
for the poor in Lithuania - \$6,022.00**

**May God reward you abundantly
for your generosity.**

**"A GOOD PERSON'S HEART IS GOD'S SANCTUARY
ON EARTH". / MAD.NECKAR/**

**WE WHOLEHEARTEDLY APPRECIATE YOUR GENEROUS
GIFTS, DONATIONS AND PRAYERS DURING THE PAST
2015 YEAR AND ESPECIALLY ON CHRISTMAS EVE AND
ON HOLY CHRISTMAS DAY...**

**FR.JONAS ŠILEIKA, OFM, PASTOR
AND THE FRANCISCAN FATHERS**

Pope Francis: Christ-child teaches us of God's humility

The figure of the Christ-child was the focus of Pope Francis' catechesis on Wednesday at the weekly General Audience.

The humility of Our Divine Lord in the manger, and its stark contrast with our own often grandiose self-appraisal was a particular motif of the catechetical reflection the Holy Father offered to the pilgrims and visitors gathered in St. Peter's Square for the event.

"This is a great mystery," said Pope Francis, departing from his prepared text in Italian, "God is humble." He went on to say, "We, who are proud, full of vanity, and who think ourselves great stuff – we are nothing. He is the great one: He is humble, and He makes Himself a child."

"This," repeated Pope Francis, "is a true mystery: God is humble – and it is a beautiful thing."

Below, please find the official English-language summary of the Holy Father's catechesis, which was read following the main reflection at the audience on Wednesday

Dear Brothers and Sisters: During this holy season it is customary in many places for each home to set up a Christmas crib, following a tradition begun by Saint Francis of Assisi. The crib scene invites us to adore the Child Jesus and to contemplate the mystery of the Incarnation as a revelation of God's saving love. Devotion to the Child Jesus can teach us much about our faith. Although the Gospels tell us little about our Lord's childhood, we know from experience the message which all newborn babies bring. By contemplating the Infant Jesus, we come to understand more fully the meaning of his coming among us. Like every baby, the Infant Jesus cries out for our attention; he asks us to care for and protect him. Like every baby, he wants us to smile at him, as a sign of our delight in him and our sharing in the mystery of his love. Finally, he wants us to play with him, to enter into his world and to become like a child ourselves, in order to please him. In these days of Christmas, let us not only gaze upon the Child Jesus, but also take him into our arms and allow him to give us the joy and freedom born of the Father's merciful love.

After the summary, Pope Francis greeted Anglophone pilgrims and visitors with the following words, through his interpreter

I greet the English-speaking pilgrims and visitors taking part in today's Audience, including the pilgrimage groups from Norway, the Philippines and the United States of America. I thank the choirs for their praise of God in song. With prayerful good wishes that the the Church's celebration of the Jubilee of Mercy will be a moment of grace and spiritual renewal for all, I invoke upon you and your families an abundance of joy and peace in the Lord.

Happy New Year!

(Vatican radio)

