



# SAINT THOMAS MORE CATHOLIC CHURCH

51 MARKETPLACE IRVINE, CA 92602 · 949-551-8601 · WWW.STMIRVINE.ORG



Saint Thomas More Welcomes All

*Welcoming all, we, the Spirit-filled parish of St. Thomas More, value our Roman Catholic faith by celebrating the sacraments, breaking open the Scriptures, and joyfully offering ourselves in service to others. Under the inspiration of our patron saint, we seek to build a caring community that embraces the values he modeled of friendship, integrity and courageous love of God.*

**Pastor**

Parochial Vicar  
Pastor Emeritus  
Parochial Vicar Emeritus  
Weekend Assistants

Deacons

**Rev. Eugene J. Lee**

Rev. Kiet Ta  
Rev. John E. Janze  
Rev. William Krekelberg  
Rev. Joseph Horn, O Praem  
Rev. Joseph Justice  
Deacon Tony & Mrs. Mary Patronite  
Deacon Tin & Mrs. UyenLan Nguyen  
Deacon Leonard & Mrs. Nancy Sun  
Deacon Bernie & Mrs. Pam Ocampo

**Office Information:**

Office: 949-551-8601  
After hours emergency: 949-228-2127  
Fax: 949-551-5879  
Religious Education: 949-551-8029  
Youth Ministry: 949-551-8602

**Office Hours:**

Monday-Friday: 8:30am-5:00pm  
Saturday: 9:00am-2:00pm

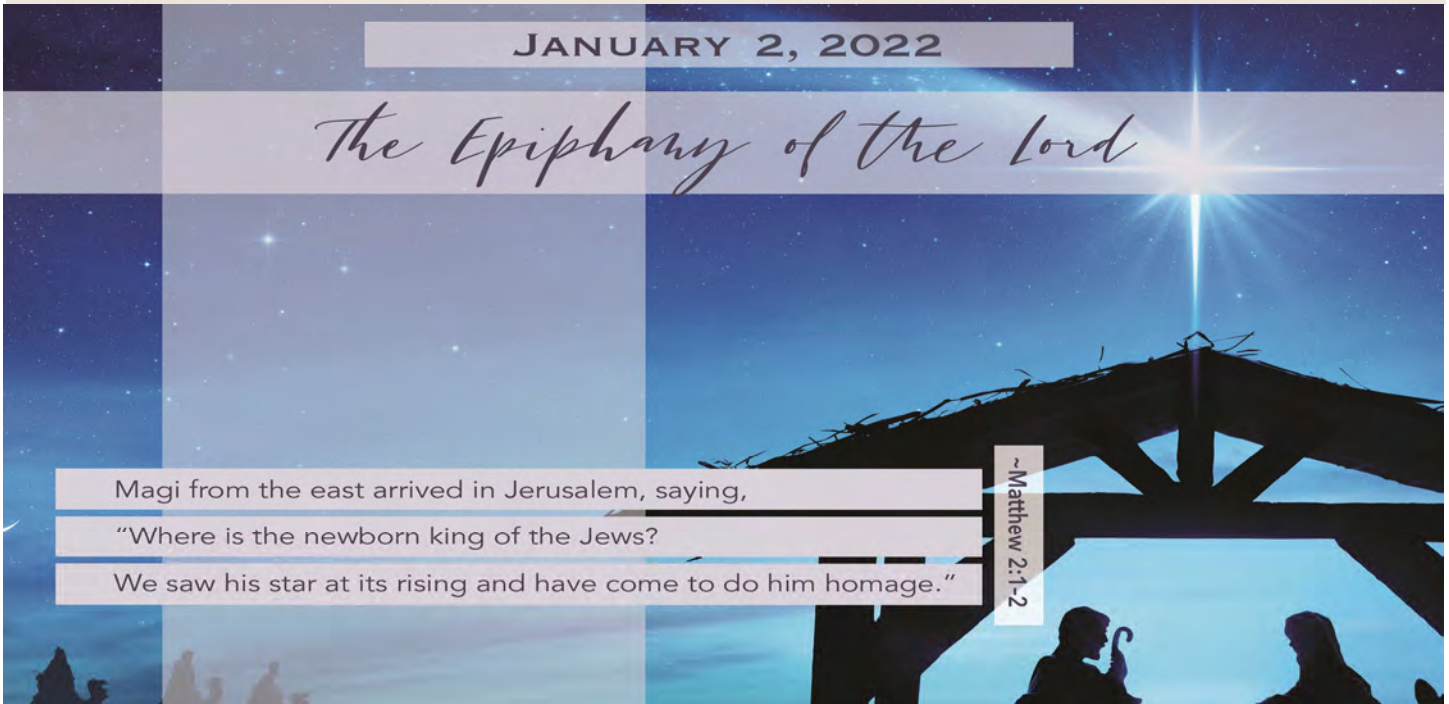


JANUARY 2, 2022

*The Epiphany of the Lord*

Magi from the east arrived in Jerusalem, saying,  
"Where is the newborn king of the Jews?  
We saw his star at its rising and have come to do him homage."

~Matthew 2:1-2



# THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

JANUARY 2, 2022



*They opened their treasures  
and offered him gifts of  
gold, frankincense, and myrrh.*

Matthew 2:11

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## Revised Mass Times (effective Jan 16)

**Daily** Monday – Saturday: 8:00 am

### Saturday Vigil Mass

4:00 pm Vietnamese/English

6:00 pm English

### Sunday Mass

8:00 am English

9:30 am English

11:30 am English

1:00 pm Spanish/English

3:00 pm Chinese/English

5:00 pm English

**Morning Prayer:** Wed & Fri 7:30am to 7:50am

**Adoration:** Every Friday 6:00pm to 7:00pm

**Saturday Confessions:** 1:00pm to 3:00pm

Mass will be available online for the sick and homebound on Sundays at 9:30am & Monday-Saturday at 8:00am.

For spiritual advisement, please contact the priest to schedule an appointment.

## MASS INTENTIONS

Monday 1/3	8:00am	†Clella Lewis
Tuesday 1/4	8:00am	†Linda Hoskins
Wednesday 1/5	8:00am	†Dominico & Maria Chuong Vu
Thursday 1/6	8:00am	†Benny Paredes
Friday 1/7	8:00am	†Daniel Cabral
Saturday 1/8	8:00am	†Quirino Villanueva Jimmy San Juan †Wilfredo Trinidad Marietta Natividad
Sunday 1/9	5:00pm	†Avelino Paz



## TODAY'S READINGS

**First Reading** — Rise up in splendor, Jerusalem! The LORD shines upon you and the glory of the Lord appears over you (Isaiah 60:1-6).

**Psalms** — Lord, every nation on earth will adore you (Psalm 72).

**Second Reading** — The mystery has been made known that the Gentiles are coheirs, copartners in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel (Ephesians 3:2-3a, 5-6).

**Gospel** — Magi from the east arrived, saying, “Where is the newborn king of the Jews?” (Matthew 2:1-12).

The English translation of the Psalm Responses from the Lectionary for Mass © 1969, 1981, 1997, International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved.

## READINGS FOR THE WEEK

**Monday:** 1 Jn 3:22 — 4:6; Ps 2:7bc-8, 10-12a; Mt 4:12-17, 23-25

**Tuesday:** 1 Jn 4:7-10; Ps 72:1-4, 7-8; Mk 6:34-44

**Wednesday:** 1 Jn 4:11-18; Ps 72:1-2, 10, 12-13; Mk 6:45-52

**Thursday:** 1 Jn 4:19 — 5:4; Ps 72:1-2, 14, 15bc, 17; Lk 4:14-22a

**Friday:** 1 Jn 5:5-13; Ps 147:12-15, 19-20; Lk 5:12-16

**Saturday:** 1 Jn 5:14-21; Ps 149:1-6a, 9b; Jn 3:22-30

**Sunday:** Is 42:1-4, 6-7 or Is 40:1-5, 9-11; Ps 29:1-4, 3, 9-10 or Ps 104:1b-4, 24-25, 27-30;

Acts 10:34-38 or Ti 2:11-14; 3:4-7;

Lk 3:15-16, 21-22

## Reflection question:

*What can I do this week to come to know God better?*



**Today's theme on the readings: JOURNEY TOWARD GOD**

In our celebration of the Epiphany, two interwoven themes are present in the readings today. God is beginning something new, and God gathers all of humanity to participate. For Isaiah, God's bright light, manifested in the people of Israel, attracts and summons people from many nations to Jerusalem. In the letter to the Ephesians, God's grace makes the Gentiles co-heirs and co-partners in the gospel. Matthew tells the story of the fulfillment of God's promises to Israel through the birth of Jesus, and simultaneously leading foreigners to share in these same promises. With the birth of Jesus, God chose a particular people, in a particular time and place, to enter most directly into the human story. Today's readings teach that God did this in order to gather all people, all cultures, into unity with God. Like the magi, we are drawn into a journey toward God, becoming co-partners in God's work.  
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**Collections and Expenses**

12-13-2021 to 12-19-21

	Collection	E-Giving	Total
Sunday Collection	\$17,667	\$15,704	\$33,371
Maintenance Fund	\$469	\$1,132	\$1,601
Other income	\$7,782	\$2,435	\$10,217
<b>Total income</b>	<b>\$25,918</b>	<b>\$19,272</b>	<b>\$45,190</b>

<b>Regular Expenses</b>	<b>\$44,603</b>
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Believe & Grow Capital Campaign	\$11,450	\$6,253	\$17,703
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We appreciate your continued financial support of the parish during these challenging times. If you would like to give, please click on the e-giving link in the top corner of the STM website to set up or update your e-giving. If you have questions, please call the office. All donations to the *Believe & Grow Together Campaign* will be used exclusively to pay for the construction costs to build the new Parish church. Moreover, Maintenance Fund donations can be used to pay for the construction costs to build the new Parish church and for the maintenance and repairs of the existing Parish buildings and property.

***Thank you for your generosity!***

***Rest in the Love of Christ***

Sherry Barash  
Benny Paredes

***SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES***

**Sunday:** Epiphany of the Lord;  
National Migration Week  
**Monday:** The Most Holy Name of Jesus  
**Tuesday:** St. Elizabeth Ann Seton  
**Wednesday:** St. John Neumann  
**Thursday:** St. André Bessette  
**Friday:** St. Raymond of Penyafort; First Friday  
Julian Calendar Christmas



**Welcome to God's Family**  
Romina Balderas



***PLEASE PRAY FOR HEALING***

- |                          |                     |                           |
|--------------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|
| Sally Acosta             | Alice Green         | Mary Nelson               |
| Stacey Allen             | Tina Halberg        | Exy Ner                   |
| Richy Altuna             | Baby Johanna Harris | Benjamin Nicanor          |
| Mike Anderson            | Mike Harvey         | Karen Norton              |
| Renee Andrade            | Shirley Hecker      | Nam Van Nguyen            |
| Judy Anselmo             | John Heffernan      | Thuy-Lieu Nguyen          |
| Alicia Arrellano         | Robert Henry        | Quy Nguyen                |
| Sam Baniqued             | Annette Hills       | Kyle Osbourne             |
| Zicky Baniqued           | Margaret Hills      | Agnes Pamintuan           |
| Jesus Barragan           | Clara Honea         | Regina Park               |
| Gary Belz                | Dominador Hontucan  | Norma Jeanne Parrish      |
| Blanca Bermudez          | Sue House           | Gabby Paz                 |
| Susan Bertoglio          | Linda Hughes        | Charlie Perrea            |
| April Beingessner        | Angela Jack         | Ngocle Phung              |
| Maria Botello            | Elsa Jatwani        | Jerry and Evie Pilkington |
| Michele Bradley          | Theresa Johnston    | Zachary Quick             |
| Bill Burk                | Sharon Jones        | Norma Quyang              |
| Mary & Joe Bush          | Doris Jordan        | Fr. Jim Reis              |
| Baby Zane Cabazon        | Quinn Kelly         | Paula Reno                |
| Ron Carr                 | Jim Kendall         | Lorraine Reyes            |
| Linda Carter             | Houman Khaghani     | Ponciano Reyes            |
| Sandy Catiller           | Jett Knight         | Eileen Rossi              |
| Ellen Chang              | Ty Vivian Knisely   | Robert Arnold Rull        |
| Cyrus Charna             | Elizabeth Kulas     | Sheila Russo              |
| Marietta Charbonneau     | Richard Kulas       | Terry Rute                |
| Hui-Mei Chen             | Deborah Kurilchyk   | Anita Ruwaldt             |
| Clara Connor             | Larry Lathrum       | Debashish Sarkar          |
| Alexandra Conti          | Diane Leckie        | Jackson & Gerri Scharff   |
| Petra Cordova            | Kevin Lee           | Stuart Schnieder          |
| Francisco Cortez         | Patrick Lee         | Michelle Suh              |
| Jim Danaher              | Todd Leeds          | Tara Summers              |
| Rick Denham              | Jack Light          | Charlotte Tagge           |
| Diana & Liberato DeVeyra | Jean Yi Jinn Liu    | Liz Thomas                |
| Larry Doan               | Minerva Lopez       | Gail Tierney              |
| Beata Durdovic           | Aida Lopez-Tan      | Xuan Tran                 |
| Chela Echenique          | Alicia Lowe         | Denise Trujillo           |
| Kathy Ellis              | Gloria MacCormack   | Jack Troung               |
| Linda Emanuel            | Humberto Mackay     | Kimberly Truong           |
| Thomas Erhard            | Myrna Malazarte     | Baby Catherine Tseng      |
| Richard Erhard           | Kristin Mann        | David Valentine           |
| Teresita Escala          | Mercedes Mantilla   | Daniel Villareal          |
| Jacob Espinoza           | Cherry Marinas      | Jim Vessey                |
| Guadalupe Figueroa       | Cavan McGaffney     | Hanh Vu                   |
| Lena Fisher              | Kathleen McKinley   | Alicia Walters            |
| Cynthia Fox              | Connie Mellott      | Shayne Walters            |
| Howard Frankel, MD       | Dr. Vivian Mendoza  | John Weber                |
| Ken Freund               | Durvalina Menezes   | Donna Westlund            |
| John Frisch              | Alexia Michaels     | Michele Wills             |
| Claudia Fuentez          | Stephanie Mispagel  | Marcie Willson            |
| Mike Garibay             | Elena Monico        | Mike Winchester           |
| Lillian Gibson           | Linda Moore         | Jim Wood                  |
| Jose Gonzales, Jr.       | Agnes Motley        | Linda Yipp                |
| Marisela Gonzalez        | Marie Moya          | Emily Young               |
| Lois Gorman              | Susan Navarrete     | Andy Zelinko              |
| Marnie Gray              | Ramon Navarro, Jr.  |                           |

***Please call the office when it is time to remove a name.***

STM YTH

Now

### YOU Theology Of The Body Small Groups

Theology of the Body small groups will be taking December off. Small groups will resume January 10th at 7pm.

STM YTH

Thu 7:00 PM

### YTH NIGHT - JANUARY 9TH

All High School students are invited to our Youth Night after the 5pm Mass. Bring a friend, enjoy some food, and spend your New Year with us!

CONFIRMATION

WED 6:00 PM

### Confirmation Class Schedule

C1 Dates: Dec 8, Jan 5, Jan 19, Feb 2.

C2 Dates: Dec 15, Jan 12, Jan 26, Feb. 9.

# R.E.P. CORNER



## WELCOME BACK!!

Our REP Kindergarten—5<sup>th</sup> grade Classes will be back in full swing THIS week.

Please note our 6th-8th grade students will return to classes on Tuesday, January 11th.

Welcome back to all of our students and teachers! The REP Staff hopes that everyone had a good break and is ready to return for a fun and exciting New Year!



### First Communion Families:



Please remember to practice all of the basic prayers (especially the Act of Contrition) & steps to Reconciliation over our Christmas break.

Remember, First Reconciliation is scheduled for January 29<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 PM.



For any questions, call the REP office at (949) 551-8029 or email [rep@stmirvine.org](mailto:rep@stmirvine.org).



### The Library Corner

The Epiphany of the Lord

The St Thomas More Parish Library staff would like to wish all our parishioners a Happy Epiphany of the Lord Sunday. The Parish Library will be open today.

Today the Catholic Church celebrates the Solemnity of the Epiphany. Our Church defines the Epiphany as the manifestation of God becoming visible to the Gentile world.

Three mysteries are encompassed in this solemnity; the adoration of the Christ Child by the Magi (Caspar, Melchior & Balthasar), the Baptism of Christ and the wedding feast at Cana. Our tradition reveals to us that the Magi were the first fruit of the Gentiles to witness that Christ is the light and hope of all nations, therefore the Epiphany is an affirmation of universal salvation to the world. This adoration of the Magi, is the beginning of the entire Christian faith in our Lord Jesus, the Christ Child. 'And the word was made flesh'.  
May Christ Bless your Home.



# Advent Angel Tree Thank you!

*"He said to them in reply, 'Whoever has two coats should share with the person who has none.'" Luke 3:11.*

Sincere thanks to all who contributed to St. Thomas More's 2021 Advent Angel Tree appeal. Your response has provided a more blessed and joyful Christmas to untold hundreds of our brothers and sisters in Christ both locally and afar. The total 'value' of your gifts exceeded \$48,500! Organizations that you assisted included Catholic Charities of Orange County, U.S. Naval Hospital and U.S.M. C. 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion at Camp Pendleton, STM St. Vincent de Paul, STM Homeless Ministries, Obria (pro-life women's clinics), and the moms and babies being cared for at Holy Family Hospital of Bethlehem neo-natal unit.

May God bless you and yours abundantly for your generosity and acts of kindness!

-Fr. Eugene Lee & STM Staff





Thank you to Fr. Eugene and STM YTH for a night of prayer, worship and Adoration!



## PRAYER OF THE WEEK

*The Epiphany of the Lord*

*At the Mass during the Day O God, who on this day revealed your Only Begotten Son to the nations by the guidance of a star, grant in your mercy that we, who know you already by faith, may be brought to behold the beauty of your sublime glory.*

*Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever.*



### Ways to Give to STM:

- Secure e-giving on our website: [www.stmirvine.org](http://www.stmirvine.org)
- In basket at Mass 
- Mail your check or drop it off in our parish lobby
- Use your smartphone via GivePlus app (Vanco)
- Donate stock, life insurance or retirement plans
- Employer Matching Gifts
- Amazon Smile will donate 0.5% of the eligible purchases to STM!



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You shop. Amazon gives.

Thank you for your continued support!



### Looking for People with Kind, Generous Hearts ...

The Homebound Ministry is seeking Eucharistic Ministers to bring the Eucharist to our sick or injured parishioners who cannot attend Sunday Mass. The commitment for this ministry is one Sunday a month for approximately two to three hours. Words cannot describe the beautiful experience you'll receive when you bring the Eucharist to people who are in need.

A training meeting for those interested in the Homebound for the Sick Ministry will be held at STM Parish Hall on **Saturday, January 15<sup>th</sup> at 10:30 am.**

If you have questions, please contact Fran Necikowski at 714-505-4816 or [stanfran2@cox.net](mailto:stanfran2@cox.net).



# Simbang Gabi

*The Filipino Ministry would like to thank everyone who attended the Mass, Adoration and festivities on December 17th. A great time was had by all!*



## SUGGESTED PLENARY INDULGENCE OF THE MONTH JANUARY 2022

### READING OF SACRED SCRIPTURE

A partial indulgence is granted to the faithful, who with the veneration due the divine word make a spiritual reading from Sacred Scripture.

A plenary indulgence is granted, if this reading is continued for at least one half an hour.

### SUGGESTION

This year, Sunday, January 23 is the Sunday of the Word of God. Pope Francis in 2020 decreed that the Third Sunday of Ordinary Time will henceforth be considered as the Sunday of the Word of God. Although this indulgence can be obtained at anytime throughout the year, this is a good day for you to dedicate 30 minutes to reading of the Sacred Scriptures. You can read any part of the Bible. Fr. Eugene Lee suggests that all parishioners of St. Thomas More read the Book of Acts from the beginning for a minimum of 30 minutes. The beginning of Acts describes the beginning of the Church after the Ascension of Jesus. It speaks about the HOLY SPIRIT'S action at the beginning. We too here at STM pray for the fire of the HOLY SPIRIT to continue raging in our hearts.

### CONDITIONS FOR RECEIVING A PLENARY INDULGENCE

1. Do the prescribed work.
2. Receive Holy Communion within several days (before or after) of the indulgenced act.
3. Go to confession within several days (before or after) the indulgenced act
4. Pray for the Pope. An Our Father, Hail Mary, and Glory Be can suffice.
5. Be free from attachment to all sin, even venial sin.

# St. Thomas More Ministries



## Liturgy Support

Altar Servers	Tina Le	(7) 356-7607
Eucharist to the Homebound	Fran Necikowski	(7) 505-4816
Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion	Jerry Donaldson	(9) 552-5485
Lectors	Tara Reynaud	(7) 925-9992
Music Director, Including Wedding Music	Keith Rattay	(9) 551-8601
Sacristans	Pam Ocampo	(9) 468.6704
Ushers	Frank Ornelas (9) 857-9044	Joe Martin (9) 385-3741

## Sacraments

Baptism Coordinator	Windy Lozano	(9) 551-8601
Confirmation	Abraham Villela	(9) 551-8602
First Communion	Barbara Catiller	(9) 551-8029
First Reconciliation	Barbara Catiller	(9) 551-8029
Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA)	Michael Michalek	(9) 551-2304
Marriage Case Support	Michael Michalek	(9) 551-2304
	Mary Patronite	(9) 551-8601
Marriage Encounter	Jim & Cheryl Skudlarski	(9) 551-9156
Marriage In The Lord	Meredith & Keith Rattay	(9) 559-6464
Wedding Coordinator		

## Service

Bereavement	Rosie Muñoz	(9) 551-8601
Children's Homeless Lunch Ministry	Kim Lee	(7) 293-8987
Chinese Community	Deacon Leonard Sun	(7) 932-1689
Corazon	Norma Jean Womack	(9) 903-1472
Filipino Community	Charlie Torres	(9) 551-8601
Grief Share Ministry	K.C. Riley	(7) 875-8126
Hispanic Ministry	Frank Ornelas (9) 857-9044	Patty Trujillo (7) 270-5073
Homeless Lunch Ministry	Jessica Silva	(9) 294-2875
Knights of Columbus Council #13111	Ed Francis	(858) 229-2490
Respect Life	Chris Gonzales	(9) 551-8601
STM Veterans	Sgt. Bob Kohler	(9) 552-1895
St. Vincent de Paul	Bill Chacon	(9) 331-1020
Vietnamese Ministry	Huan Le	(7) 261-9893
Young Ladies Institute	Mary O'Leary	(9) 305-6810

## Parish

Believe and Grow Together Campaign	Lisa VanDorpe	(7) 357-3080
Bulletin Editor	Lisa Bergler	(9) 551-8601
Building Committee	Keith Rattay	(9) 551-8601
Deacons	Tony Patronite, Tin Nguyen, Leonard Sun & Bernie Ocampo	(9) 551-8601
Hospitality/Donut Ministry	Deacon Tony Patronite	(9) 307-6215
Parish Business Manager	Stephanie Miller	(9) 551-8601
Parish Office Manager	Lisa Bergler	(9) 551-8601
Welcoming Committee	Vince Salico	(7) 389-7726

## Spiritual Development

Adult Faith Formation / Bible Study	Barbara Catiller	(9) 551-8029
Life Teen – High School & Young Adults	Abraham Villela	(9) 551-8602
Religious Education	Barbara Catiller	(9) 551-8029
Christ Renews His Parish	Tony Patronite	(9) 307-6215
Cursillo and When Women Pray	Susan Navarrete	(9) 345-9130
Legion of Mary	Trisha Smith	(7) 473-3714
Library	Sam & Diana Adams	(7) 321-2405
Spanish Bible Study	Teresa LeMire	(7) 832-1770

If you are feeling called to serve in one or more of our ministries,  
Please email: [serve@stmirvine.org](mailto:serve@stmirvine.org)

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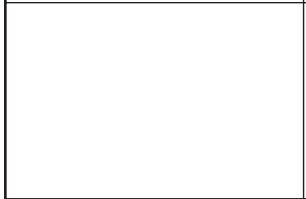
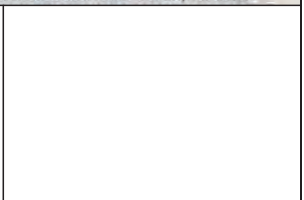
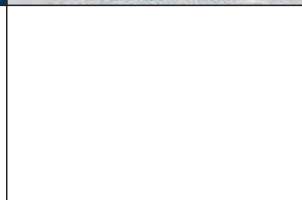
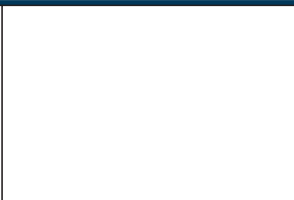
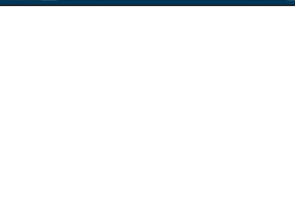
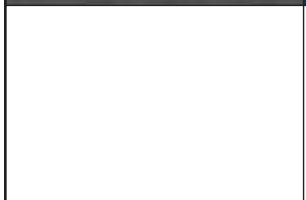
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DIANA ANOC AT DANOC@STCECILIAK8.ORG OR CALL (714) 544-1533



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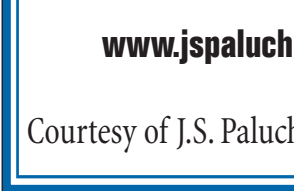


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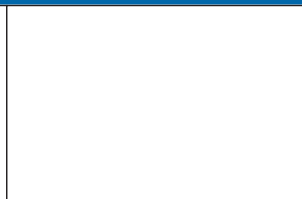
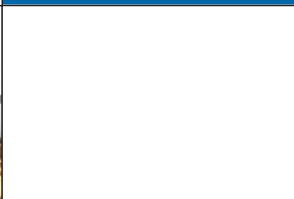
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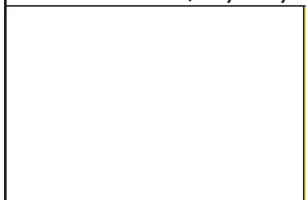
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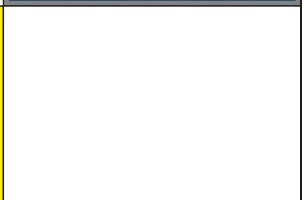
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**WHY IS IT?**



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AND MYRRH.

MATTHEW 2:11

# THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

JANUARY 2, 2022



Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

As we begin 2022, I only have one heart-felt desire: that each and every person here renews his or her commitment to Jesus Christ. I pray that all peoples will have the courage and humility to surrender their lives to the authority, power, and mercy of Jesus Christ. There is no other task in our lives that can be more vital and more noble than our pursuit to commit our lives to the King of kings.

Jesus became incarnate (a human person) in part to establish the Catholic Church to be his primary herald of the Gospel – the Good News that truly gives eternal life. In practical terms, this means that your local Catholic parish should become the primary means of encountering the living Jesus Christ. As your pastor, I am acutely aware of the ongoing need to provide the leadership necessary that will help establish sustained and quality ways in which people may encounter Jesus Christ. In the years ahead, let us earnestly seek ways to develop quality programs, ministries, events, and activities that will help as many people as we can deepen their relationship with Jesus Christ. It will still take me a long time to learn the many talents and strengths of the many people we will need to lead the way to make our dreams and goals a reality. This is my sincere hope that we unleash the fire of the HOLY SPIRIT, experience a new Pentecost here at STM, and increase initiative, ownership, and investment as a united people. So, please keep your heart open to ways in which you can help out. Please let me know how you may be able to help. Your investment in this parish family is also an investment for you and your family and your salvation. So more developments, plans, and details to emerge over the months! Stay connected! Get involved!

In order to help deepen our relationship with Jesus, I foremost urge all to increase your devotion to the EUCHARIST. If we do not learn the way of prayer, especially prayer offered in prolonged silence, then we will not be able to transcend into the deeper depths of the profound mystery of the Eucharist. So, practice silence on a regular and sustained basis. Come to our times for Eucharistic adoration. Regularly visit Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel. Also, to deepen our relationship with the Eucharist, let us remember the acronym DEEPEN whenever we come to Mass:

**DRESS** to meet the King of Kings.

**EARLY** to Mass (not late!)

**ENGAGE** in Mass with your heart.

**PARTICIPATE** actively.

**END:** Stay to the end of the final hymn.

**NEIGHBOR-MINDED:** Help make Mass a more sacred and warm experience for all your brothers and sisters.

ALL FOR JESUS!

In the Paraclete,

Fr. Eugene Lee.