January 7, 2018

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 7, 2018
All kings shall pay him homage.
All nations shall serve him.  
Psalm 72:11

Epiphany of the Lord
Background on the Gospel Reading

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. We believe the meaning of the gifts to be Christological. 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.

The word Epiphany means “manifestation” or “showing forth.” Historically several moments in Christ’s early life and ministry have been celebrated as “epiphanies,” including his birth in Bethlehem, the visit of the Magi, his baptism by John, and his first miracle at Cana.

BAPTISMS & MARRIAGE: For these Sacraments please notify the church office as soon as possible so that we may advise you of the requirements. Thank you.

NEW PARISHIONERS: Please fill out registration card and return to ushers or the church office.

RCIA - Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults:
Tel. 482-6883 or 481-7172 AdultFaith@resurrectionch.org

RELIGIOUS ARTICLES STORE: Tel. 437-9876
The Gift Shop is located in the front of the church

RELIGIOUS ED OFFICE: Tel. 482-6883

YOUTH MINISTRY OFFICE: Tel. 481-5144

PARISH OFFICE: Tel. 481-7171 or 481-7172
Fax: 481-8007, www.resurrectionch.org
E-mail: parishoffice@resurrectionch.org
**WEEKLY OFFERING**

December 24, 2017  
$28,038.87  
Christmas Day  
$41,547.50  
Christmas Education  
$38,209.00  
Latin Mass: $698.00  
SVDP: $1,140.00

SVDP December Distributions:  
Electric: $1,323.23  
Legal Fees: $284.58  
Rent: $5,532.60  
Water: $200.35

Thank you!

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**Letter from Bishop Dewane:**

**Annual Seminary Collection**

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

United as one Church, we pray for vocations to the priesthood and religious life. As young men come forward to discern their call to the priesthood, the Diocese needs your assistance in their priestly formation. In the Diocese of Venice we are blessed by such young men who are on a journey to become dedicated priests.

The formation of our seminarians includes the costs of tuition, housing, education, health care, pastoral training, etc. Your spiritual and financial support is of great assistance to these young men. Programs to invite more men to consider the priesthood must also be organized and funded. By your generosity you ensure that the sacraments will continue to nourish the faithful for generations to come.

Parishes in the Diocese of Venice will conduct this **Annual Seminary Collection the weekend of January 6 and 7, 2018.** This Collection ensures that the Diocese continues to have priests to serve you, your family, and our future. Thank you for your generosity!

I take this opportunity to extend to each of you the assurances of my prayers for the New Year. Have a Blessed and Healthy New Year!

Gratefully yours in Christ,

+Frank J. Dewane  
Bishop of the Diocese of Venice in Florida

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**PLEASE NOTE THE ADDITION OF**  
SATURDAY 5:00 PM MASS  
BEGINNING JANUARY 13, 2017

Saturday Vigil Masses: 3:30 and 5:00 PM

Sunday Masses: 7:30, 9:00, 10:30 AM

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**Coffee & Donuts**

Please join us in the Parish Center after the 10:30 Mass for coffee, donuts, & fellowship.

All are welcome!
Magnificat Breakfast Event

Magnificat, a Ministry to Catholic Women, is offering a breakfast event featuring Amberose Courville as this month’s speaker. She is an inspiring artist who shares Jesus’ love and mercy through her art. A graduate of Florida Gulf Coast University, Amberose has won numerous art awards, has been published in various newspapers and magazines, and has had one painting displayed for a year in the U.S. Capitol.

Come join us and Fr. Hugh McGuigan, chaplain, for a faith-filled morning!

DATE: Saturday, January 13, 2018
TIME: 9:30am - 12:30pm (Doors open at 9am)
PLACE: Holiday Inn Airport, Gulf Coast Town Ctr.
9931 Interstate Commerce Dr. Ft. Myers
COST: $20.00 — Registration required.

For details, call Joanne Tarantino 631-6661, Or Barbara Tay 646-296-2335 TODAY!

MINISTRY OF THE SICK

IMPORTANT NOTE TO ALL PARISHIONERS AND VISITORS:

When admitted to the hospital please register as Catholic and notify the parish office immediately, 481-7171. Resurrection priests visit the hospitals daily.

To protect your privacy hospitals do not give out information on patients without their permission.

The following hospitals are attended to by the parish in which they are located:

* Gulf Coast Hospital - visited daily by St. John XXIII Parish, 561-2245
* Lee Memorial Hospital - visited daily by St. Francis Xavier Parish, 334-2161
* Lee Memorial and Hospice at Health Park - visited daily by St. Columbkille Parish, 489-3973

GIFT SHOP HOURS:

Thurs. 8:30 - 9:30 a.m.
Sat: 2:30 - 3:30 p.m.  Sun: 8:10 - 11:45 a.m.
Open between Sunday morning Masses.
CLOSED DURING MASSES

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!
in the Gift Shop for all shifts.
Please call 239-481-7171 to leave a message for Gaye for more details.

RESURRECTION FOR LIFE

PLEASE JOIN US AT THE ABORTION CLINIC AT 3900 BROADWAY, FORT MYERS EVERY 2ND SATURDAY (after the 8:00 Mass) FOR THE ROSARY.

RESURRECTION CALENDAR

All events take place in the Parish Center unless otherwise stated.

Adoration, First Fridays, 8:30 - 9:30 a.m.
Bereavement & Beyond Ministry, Mondays, 10:00 a.m. For more information call Alouise 481-8168
Craft Club, Tuesdays, 8:30 - 10:30 a.m.
Men's Club, 2nd Monday of month, 7:00 p.m., Sept. - May
Men's Gospel Forum, Fridays 8:30 a.m.
Our Lady of Miraculous Medal Novena, Saturdays after the 8:00a.m. Mass, church
Prayer for Priests, Thursdays after the 8:00a.m. Mass, chapel
RCIA, Sundays, after the 9:00a.m. Mass, for info, 482-6883
Rel. Ed., September - May
Resurrection for Life, for info, call Judy at 287-1237
Resurrection Prayerline Ministry, call Deanna Latell 481-1170.
Rosary, before daily Masses and Tues. & Thurs., 1:30 p.m., chapel
Rosary Makers, 3rd Thursdays Oct. thru May, 9-11 a.m.
St. Vincent DePaul Board Meeting, 1st Tues. every month, 7:00 pm. For SVDP assistance call 239-600-6749, or email, svdp@resurrectionch.org
Teams of Our Lady, call Joann for more information, 482-7982
Women’s Guild, 3rd Wednesday every month, 8:30a.m.
Sept. - May
Music Announcement!!

Come join the "Children's Choir" at the 10:30 Mass on the first Sunday every month!

The music will be chosen specifically with our younger parishioners in mind. We will meet in the choir room one-half hour before Mass to warm up and review. Anyone who would like to serve as the cantor should see Connie to sign up for a specific month.

Children's choir will take place on:
- Jan. 7
- Feb. 4
- Mar. 4
- Apr. 1
- May 6

In addition, we will also sing at the Children's Mass on Christmas Eve (4:00 pm, 12-24-17).

If you have any questions, please call Connie (239-464-3437) or the Parish Office.

Looking forward to seeing all singers this season ....

Let's make a joyful sound to the Lord!

BISHOP VEROT
CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

OPEN HOUSE
will take place on
Wednesday, January 24th at 6:30pm.
Find out what a small school with big opportunities is all about.
Register at www.bvhs.org/admissions in advance.
Campus tours will be available.
We are still accepting applications for the 2018-2019 school year.
We accept the Step Up for Students Scholarship.
Please contact Jill Rhone at 239-274-6760 or jill.rhone@bvhs.org with any questions.

5598 Sunrise Drive
Fort Myers, FL 33919
(239) 274-6700

SIX WEEKS WITH THE BIBLE

WEDNESDAY MORNINGS
JANUARY 10 - FEBRUARY 21
PARISH CENTER
10am - 11:30am

Begin 2018 as a “living bridge”
To valuable insights into God’s purposes.

Through our readings of Scripture we can hear God speaking to us, challenging us to join Him in the Fulfilling of His purposes!

Jan. 10 - Introductions - GETTING THE BIG PICTURE
Jan. 17 - HUMANS: A MARVELOUS GROUP
Jan. 24 - ISRAEL - GOD’S PILOT PROJECT
Jan. 31 - AHAB & JEZIBEL: POWER ABUSERS
Feb 7 - JESUS - CENTER OF GOD’S PLAN
Feb 14 - DISCIPLES - THOSE WHO SERVE
Feb 21 - THE CHURCH: YEAST IN THE DOUGH

ALL ARE WELCOME!
JOIN US ANY WEDNESDAY

BOOK GUIDES AVAILABLE $8.00
CALL TO RESERVE YOUR GUIDE
481-7172
AdultFaith@resurrectionch.org

Annual AFCAAM Charity Golf Classic
Friday, April 6
Forest Country Club,
Fort Myers

All proceeds will benefit the programs available at AFCAAM of Catholic Charities which include the After-School Reading Program, and the SKILLS Female Mentoring and Straight Talk Male Mentoring programs.
Registration is at 12pm and play begins at 1pm.
The golf tournament will include dinner & prizes.
For more information, please contact Roseann Albertario at 239-461-0233/ r.albertario@afcaam.com.
LIFE PLANNING SEMINAR

Making a will can be difficult, but dying without one can make it even more difficult for your loved ones left behind. If you do not have a will, your wishes can never be known, and your loved ones will face uncertainties, obstacles and added costs in resolving your estate.

Who will make my health care decisions, when I cannot speak for myself? You will need to appoint a Health Care Surrogate by way of a specific legal document. If you do not have a legal Health Care Surrogate, your health care may not be carried out according to your wishes.

To learn more, attend our complementary Life Planning Seminar being held in the

Resurrection Parish Hall
Monday, January 22, 2018 at 9:00 AM,
doors open at 8:30 AM.

Please RSVP at https://dioceseofvenice.regfox.com/012218 or by phone at 941-486-4722.
January 11 and January 25
9:30-11:30am

Church of the Resurrection Parish Hall
8121 Cypress Lake Drive
Fort Myers, Florida

Questions: Amanda Gavini 239-222-0452
www.swflcatholicmoms.com

Call us for lunch &
book club discussion

Join us in the Parish Center Conference Room
January 12 @ NOON for Lunch and Conversation
Reserve your lunch for $10.00
Call 481-7172 or email: AdultFaith@resurrectionch.org

by Susan K. Williams Smith

"It hasn't been extraordinary people who have changed the world; rather, it's been people who have been willing to act and live on faith," observes pastor and author Susan Smith. Drawing on biblical, historical, and contemporary stories of what she calls "crazy faith," this inspirational volume challenges readers to dare to step out and make a difference in the world. Faith is "vision fueled by action," Smith declares. Follow in the footsteps of those who have earned a place in the Hall of Faith, including Moses, Harriet Tubman, David, Nelson Mandela, Sarah and Abraham, Mother Teresa, Noah, and Mary McLeod Bethune.

February 9 and March 9: choices open from participants - Bring in your favorite suggestions

Calling All Men!

What would cause a successful young Jewish Harvard Business School professor, son of German Jewish Holocaust refugees, to suddenly leave that promising career to become a “fanatic” Catholic evangelist? It would sure have to be something!

All men are invited to join us on

Thursday, January 18th, 6pm,
at Our Lady of Light
to hear Roy Shoeman share the story of his amazing journey into the Catholic Church.
The program begins at 6 PM with pizza and refreshments ($10 donation) and concludes at 8 PM. Reservations are required and can be made online at www.faithandale.com
Resurrection Parishioners - You are invited to:
Tour of Epiphany Cathedral, Venice FL
Saturday, January 27 @ 10am
Opportunity to share lunch & window shopping in Venice
Group limited to 25 - RSVP 481-7172
Transportation on your own or car pool w/ others of your choice.
The Cathedral is the seat of the Bishop in the Diocese of Venice.

Discover what the beautiful stained glass windows of Epiphany Cathedral mean and represent!
See the Ornamental Artwork, the Main Altar Relics
The Chapel, the Memorial Garden, the Narthex
Have you wondered about the history of the Cathedral?
When did it become a Cathedral?

After our Tour: Consider browsing at the Miami Street Craft Festival.
Sharky’s Restaurant on the Gulf or the Crow’s Nest on the water are restaurant options.
Venice Main Street is also available for shopping and/or lunch.

Living out Christmas in the New Year

How do we live out the message of Christmas in the New Year, rather than pack it away with the ornaments?
Each year the Octave Day of Christmas falls on the first day of the New Year, on which we also celebrate the Solemnity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Mother of God.
Her open heart and courageous “yes” to God show us how to live year-round—with hearts open to the Lord, following where He leads. We are called to place our trust in Him, to enter compassionately into the suffering of others, and to love one another as Christ loves us. Like Our Blessed Mother welcomed Jesus, we are called to cherish and protect the gift of human life, at every stage and in every circumstance.

One way to live out the message of Christmas and follow Our Lady’s example is to join 9 Days for Life, a digital pilgrimage of prayer and charitable action.
The U.S. Catholic bishops invite you to join thousands of Catholics nationwide from Thursday, January 18 – Friday, January 26.
Join today at www.9daysforlife.com!

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Project Rachel - Trust in the mercy of God’s love. Do you know someone who is carrying the grief and sorrow of past abortions? Share with them the Good News of God’s merciful love. Call Project Rachel for a confidential referral to those who can help at 888-456-4673, 239-719-7210 or e-mail Fonda.rachel@gmail.com

Pope Francis Prayer Intention for January

That Christians and other religious minorities in Asian countries, may be able to practice their faith in full freedom.

What will separate us ...from the love of Christ? Will anguish, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or the sword?

“What then shall we say to this? If God is for us, who can be against us?”

Have you considered becoming Catholic? We are here to listen to your questions...

Inquiry Classes on Sundays Following 9:00am Mass
Please contact: Joanne MacPeek e-mail: AdultFaith@resurrectionch.org Phone: 239-481-7171

Jesus promises:
“I will be with you always...yes to the end of time!”

What you did not do for one of the least ones, you did not do for me. ~ Matthew 25: 45

Jesus the Healer of Souls and Bodies”
Presenter: Dr. Mary Healy
Thursday, January 11th, 2018 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm St. Columbkille
Tickets are $15.00 Available Online December 15th

All women are invited from all parishes to join us for a light dinner and a glass of wine. For more information and to register please visit: www.faithandwineleecounty.com

Or mail a check payable to Faith & Wine Lee County. Include attendee name(s), address, telephone number, email and parish.
Mail to: Julie Richards 6946 Pickadilly Ct, Fort Myers FL 33919

When ill - SVdP offers an assist to those at Salua Care. A beautiful young lady needed a prescription for an infection costing $207.00! We were blessed to assist.

When Hungry - SVdP has food available for all in need. No questions. Food is prepared for Hispanic families, the homeless or those living in hotels.

When thirsty - SVdP provides water, juice to the poor. Prayer quenches the thirst for God’s love.

When a stranger - SVdP seeks out and finds those in need regardless of creed, ethnic background, health, gender or political background.

When naked - Clothing and diapers are provided. SVdP Thrift Shop referrals clothe those in need.

PLEASE DON’T FORGET THE POOR BOXES; THEY ARE THE BREAD BOXES OF THE POOR!
Catholic Charities Venetian Ball
Saturday February 3, 2018, 6:00pm
at the Hyatt Regency Coconut Point Resort, Bonita Springs.
The evening will include a cocktail hour, auctions, a raffle for a car and other exciting items, dinner and dancing.
For information and tickets, visit www.catholiccharitiesdov.org

Couples Celebrating Marriage
All couples celebrating 25, 30, 35, 40, 45, 50, or more than 50 years of marriage are invited by Bishop Frank J. Dewane to an Anniversary Mass in their honor.
The Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in two locations:
11a.m. Saturday February 17, 2018
at Epiphany Cathedral in Venice and 10 a.m. Saturday March 10, 2018
at St. Leo the Great Parish in Bonita Springs.
Check in parish office in January for more information.

2018 Women's Conference
Women of all ages are invited to a day filled with the richness of our faith at the 2018 Diocese of Venice Women's Conference.
Saturday, February 3, 9-3pm
at Bishop Verot Catholic High School/Fort Myers.
Cost: $20 (pre-registration online), students $5 pre-registration.
Cost at the door is $30, and $10 for students.
Speakers: Kimberly Hahn, Sonja Corbitt, Rosario Rodriguez. To register go to dioceseofvenice.org/womens.

2018 Men's Conference
The Diocese of Venice extends an invitation to all men who desire to encounter the presence of God to attend the 2018 Men's Conference.
Saturday, February 24, 9-3pm
at Bishop Verot Catholic High School/Fort Myers.
Cost is $20 (pre-registration online), student preregistration $5.
Cost at the door is $30, and $10 for students.
Speakers: Dcn Harold Burke-Sivers, Patrick Coffin, Bob Rice. To register, go to dioceseofvenice.org/mens
The Epiphany of the Lord

Isaiah, probably the greatest of the prophets, prophesies extensively on the coming of the Savior, the Messiah. His prophecies are so specific it is hard not to believe that he is telling a contemporary story rather than proclaiming the future far in advance. "Rise up in splendor, Jerusalem! Your light has come, the glory of the Lord shines upon you." This proclamation about the coming of the Gentiles and all nations to worship the Lord is wonderful news indeed, for it presages our own worship of Jesus the Christ. Saint Paul says that "the Gentiles are coheirs, members of the same body, and copartners in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel." We who are Gentiles can rejoice in our loving acceptance by our God.

NATIONS SHALL WALK BY YOUR LIGHT

"Behold, 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.' " These words are joyous news for those through the ages who worship Christ, but bad news to those who, like Herod, selfishly guard their own prominence and kingship. "Herod called the Magi secretly . . ." Those who act in secret often have evil motives, and like Herod, are full of lies--". . . that I too may go and do him homage." Herod has no such intent, but plans to murder the Christ child and, he thinks, protect his own rule. Evil is always at work in the world, but God protects the innocent, in this case sending the Magi home by a different route rather than back to Herod.

YOUR HEART SHALL THROB AND OVERFLOW

The Magi "were overjoyed at seeing the star." So many of the words of Isaiah positively glow at the prophecy of the shining light of Israel, Jesus. "Nations shall walk by your light, and kings by your shining radiance . . . Then you shall be radiant at what you see, your heart shall throb and overflow." Christmas day, with all of its light and glory, has passed, and yet we forget that the Christmas season continues until tomorrow. The glory of the Lord continues to shine and manifest the glory to all nations. We who are members of these nations of the earth should continue to celebrate and rejoice at the coming of the Lord into our lives. We are indeed the Gentiles who have come to worship Christ, and to be saved by his glorious appearance. Blessed be the God who reaches out to us in mercy and love, and may the joy of his coming fill our hearts forever.

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CREATE YOUR CATHOLIC LEGACY TODAY!

• Establish an Endowment Fund to support your Parish, School or Diocese of Venice Outreach.
• Secure income during your life through Charitable Gift Annuities.
• Your legacy can enable the formation of seminarians, provide scholarships for Catholic education, support the needy, and much more.

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