

# Dear Padre,

## What do we know about the Three Kings?

**Y**our question reminds us how much human tradition has embellished some of the events described in sacred Scripture. Historically, the name Magi designates members of an ancient Near Eastern priestly caste. In Matthew's Gospel, they are presented as noble wise men and astrologers.

The number three has long been associated with the Magi. However, the Gospel narratives never mention their number (though they did offer three gifts—gold, frankincense, and myrrh). Saint Matthew is also silent about their names. However, in the eighth century, Western traditions began calling them Caspar, Melchior, and Balthasar. Other Christian traditions use different names.

Though their gifts indicate they were from South Arabia, it's doubtful that they

represented particular nations or the major racial families. At the very least, the Magi represent the Gentile peoples coming from afar to find the true God in Jesus Christ. This contrasts with King Herod and Israel. Both neglected this manifestation of God's presence in their midst.

Astrology permeated ancient cultures, so it isn't strange that astrologers appear in the Bible. The Church responded by "Christianizing" aspects of astrology. For example, the Church deliberately called Christ the "Sun of Justice," thus replacing the pagan god Sol with one true God. In the fourth century, the Church placed the celebration of Christ's Nativity on December 25, the birthday of the sun. We emphasize Jesus as the Light of the World and celebrate his feast every week on Sunday.

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Sundaybulletin@Liguori.org



VASANTY / SHUTTERSTOCK

## Calendar

### Monday

JANUARY 6

Christmas Weekday

1 Jn 3:22—4:6

Mt 4:12—17, 23—25

### Tuesday

JANUARY 7

Christmas Weekday

1 Jn 4:7—10

Mk 6:34—44

### Wednesday

JANUARY 8

Christmas Weekday

1 Jn 4:11—18

Mk 6:45—52

### Thursday

JANUARY 9

Christmas Weekday

1 Jn 4:19—5:4

Lk 4:14—22

### Friday

JANUARY 10

Christmas Weekday

1 Jn 5:5—13

Lk 5:12—16

### Saturday

JANUARY 11

Christmas Weekday

1 Jn 5:14—21

Jn 3:22—30

### Sunday

JANUARY 12

Baptism of the Lord

Is 42:1—4, 6—7

Acts 10:34—38

Mt 3:13—17



## A WORD FROM *Pope Francis*

*Do we know how to dream, to long for God, ...or do we let ourselves be swept along by life, like dry branches before the wind? The Magi were not content with just getting by, with keeping afloat. They understood that to truly live, we need a lofty goal and we need to keep looking up.*

—EPIPHANY HOMILY, JANUARY 6, 2018

## Know Someone Overly Anxious About Sin?

For more than fifty years, Redemptorists have ministered compassionately to those struggling with scrupulosity.

For more information and to sign up for our free monthly newsletter, visit: [ScrupulousAnonymous.org](http://ScrupulousAnonymous.org)



# The Epiphany Of the Lord

*January 5, 2020*



*St. Ann Catholic Church & Our Lady of Chartres Mission*

*Pastor: Reverend Khoa P. Vo*

Office: 228-832-2560, Fax: 228-832-3140

Hours: Monday-Friday 9am-4pm.

Web: [www.stannparishlizana.org](http://www.stannparishlizana.org) — Email: [stanncatholic@bellsouth.net](mailto:stanncatholic@bellsouth.net)



## EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Every Friday Adoration from 8:30 a.m.  
to 9:30 a.m

## SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Both Before Mass and by Appointment.

## *Mass Schedule for this Week*

### Our Lady of Chartres Mass Schedule

Sun 7:30 am Spec Int

### St. Ann Mass Schedule & Intentions

Sat 4:00 pm Spec Int

Sun 9:00am Our Parish Family

Sun 6:00pm Spec Int

Mon 8:00 Spec Int

Tues 8 am Spec Int

Wed 6pm Spec Int

Thu 8:00 am Spec Int

Fri 8:00 am Spec Int

## **From Father Khoa's Desk...**

***Dear Parishioners and Friends, Jesus likes you. Jesus loves you. Jesus longs for you!***

My Dear Parishioners, Today the Holy Church celebrates the Solemnity of the Epiphany. The Holy Father reminds us that the Epiphany is a feast of light. Christ himself is the true light, and by whom we too are made to be light, has indeed come into the world. He gives us the power to become children of God. Like the Magi's journey from the East, humanity's pilgrimage to Jesus Christ begins to the God who was born in a stable, who died on the Cross and who, having risen from the dead, remains with us always, until the consummation of the world. From the Holy Scripture, we learn that in order to find the Savior, the wise men must follow the star. Thus, they discovered the God of history.

The Holy Father recaps that only in God's word, which we encounter in sacred Scripture, was able to mark out their path definitively. Creation and Scripture, reason and faith, must come together, so as to lead us forward to the living God. Christ is the explosion of God's love, which causes the great white light of his heart to shine upon the world. And we may add: the wise men from the East, who feature in today's Gospel, like all the saints, have themselves gradually become constellations of God that mark out the path. The saints are stars of God, by whom we let ourselves be led to him. So let us pray to all the saints, specially to our Mother Mary, Our Star, asking them that we may always live up to this mission we have received at Baptism, to show God's light to mankind.

As we begin our New Year, I would like to thank you for your encouragement and

support of me since I arrived to St Ann and OL of Chartres Church. Without your support I could never have accomplished it this far. Your great support gives me confidence that we will continue to journey in faith and grow in our understanding of what it means to be a disciple of Christ, the True Light of the world. Happy New Year to all.

*May God bless all of us! Enjoy your praying!*

**...Fr. Khoa**

### **ST. ANN STEWARDSHIP:\*\***

**55**Identifiable: **\$1,035.00**; Loose: **\$924.00**;  
**ACH: \$55.00. Total: \$1,984.00**; Children:  
**\$18.00**; Christmas: **\$55.00**, New Year:  
**1,140.00**, New Year children: **\$5.00**. In  
Memory of Paul Irby: **1,200.00**.

### **OL OF CHARTRES STEWARDSHIP:**

Identifiable: **\$60.00**; Loose: **\$365.00**; Total:  
**\$425.00**. Christmas: **\$20.00**. New Year:  
**\$100.00**

**\*\*Amount needed weekly \$2,908.84.**

**Thank you for your generosity.**

**Altar Society:** will host a farewell reception for Father Vo after 9am Mass on Sunday Jan 5. Come join us for cake, coffee, and punch, and to say your goodbyes and wish him well. For more info, contact Lennell.

**Altar Society:** meet **next Sunday** Jan 12.

### **We need Volunteers!**

Sign-up sheet is on the Bulletin Board  
Please sign up to clean your church! Only 2 days out of the entire year!

Duties include: 1. Vacuuming (We have three vacuum cleaners) 2. Dusting (windowsills, pews, chairs, etc.) 3. Sweeping front walkway/rugs 4. Cleaning Holy Water bowls and adding new Holy water.

<b>MASS</b>	<b>LECTOR</b>	<b>EUCCHARISTIC MIN.</b>	<b>SERVERS</b>	<b>USHERS</b>	<b>GIFT B.</b>
Sat Jan 4 4pm	Lanny Acosta	Rita Acosta, WC & Lennell King	Austin S.	Mike Shorty	Jack & Enla
Sun 7:30am	Sandra Ammons	Douglas Ladner	(OLC)	Terry Mitchell	(OLC)
Sun Jan 5 9am	John Davis	Lester Palmer, Will Burke, Robin Peterson	Will Ken	Pat Garland	Jason Necaize Family
Sun 6pm	TBA	Jan E., Derek & Jodi T.	Blake Smith	TBA	TBA
Sat Jan 4 4pm	Judith Martinez	Kay Van Pelt, Diane & Kermit Northrop	Austin S.	August Dale	August and Ruth
Sun 7:30am	Sandra Ammons	Douglas Ladner	(OLC)	Terry Mitchell	(OLC)
Sun Jan 5 9am	Lisa Cuevas	Kim Wood, Susan Peleaz, James Quintini	Jaseigh Nick	Robert Will	Rose Show, George, Beau
Sun 6pm	TBA	Jan E., Derek & Jodi T.	Blake Smith	TBA	TBA

### **Farewell Message:**

To the Parishioners of St. Ann and Our Lady of Chartres,

My friends, I am amazed at how time flies. It is hard to believe that Six years have passed. When I consider my previous assignments, I realize that I had some very unique experiences, but my time at St. Ann has given me a very special and rich experience. The nursing homes, Lizana Light and the various parish ministries have certainly given me an abundance of opportunities to get to know many of you and have the joy of seeing God work in and through you in a variety of ways.

I cannot thank you enough for the overwhelming affection, love, care, support, and encouragement you have shown to me, especially this past weekend, and for your appreciation of my work at St. Ann over the past six years. My heart is full of gratitude to each and every one of you. First and foremost, I would like to thank our high Priest, Jesus Christ, who has allowed me to share in His Priesthood, and to minister to you at St. Ann. It was a great pleasure working with the Church office staff. Special thanks to every member of the parish family: the senior

members, those who are homebound, adults, youth, and children.

This weekend has been an emotional experience for me. I thank each of you for being at the Masses as I offered the Eucharist and prayed for every one of you. Today, I go strengthened as I assume my new assignment at Sacred Heart Church, as I feel assured of your continuing support, love, and care. My heartfelt thanks go to all those who organized, baked and served for the reception, especially the Altar Society.

Thank you very much for the cards, notes and gifts that you gave me. Thank you so much for making me part of your families. I will miss you all. It is difficult to say good-bye to yesterday's memories. As you know, you will be in my prayers, especially as I celebrate the Holy Eucharist. Please remember me in your prayers. God bless you!

Your brother & friend in Christ,  
Fr Khoa P Vo

**PRAYER REQUESTS Those who are ill:**  
Meghan and Daughter Colbi Pittman Necaize, Bill & Brenda Peterson, Christine Constantine, Anthony Moran, Jill Ladner, Brandon Miller, Stephany Bass, and Brandi Moran, Verda Crabtree, Lynn & Linda Bangs, Liz Weiss, John O'Neal, Terri, Loretta Ladner.