



# Epiphany of the Lord

January 7<sup>th</sup> 2018 Vol. 39, No.1

## AN INTRODUCTION TO THE THEOLOGY OF THE BODY

What is the purpose of my life? What is the meaning of marriage and family? Are sexual desires sinful? Does God care about the quality of my sexual relationship? What does it mean to be man or woman in today's world? Come and discover Theology of the Body, given to us by Saint Pope John Paul II. It will forever change the way you look at your relationships, body, marriage, sexuality and the teachings of Catholic Church.



*An Introduction to the Theology of the Body* is a DVD-based study for adults and will be held in English on Wednesdays at 8:00pm. There will be separate group for men and women, each group will meet every second Wednesday.

Couples can share the same book; cost is \$25.00 per book. Orientation/Information session and registration will be held on Wednesday, January 17<sup>th</sup> 2018 at in St. Maximilian Kolbe Room (downstairs new catechetical center). The cost is payable in cash at the end of Introductory meeting if you decide to sign up. For couples, if only one of you can attend the introductory meeting, it is fine; you can still sign up both of you. Contact: [kolbetobstudygroup@gmail.com](mailto:kolbetobstudygroup@gmail.com)

## Mass Intentions

- MONDAY, January 8<sup>th</sup> Baptism of the Lord**
- 8:00 ✚ Franciszek Rabiarski – wife & family  
✚ Czeslawa & Jan Wasowski  
✚ all deceased suffering in purgatory
- 19:00 ✚ Halina Trzcinska-Kowalczyk (1<sup>st</sup> anniv.)
- TUESDAY, January 9<sup>th</sup>**
- 8:00 ✚ Jan & Helena Sztorc & all deceased from Sztorc family – Barbara & family
- 10:00 In intention of Senior Kolbe Club members
- 19:00 ✚ Ryszard Leszczewski (1<sup>st</sup> anniv.) – wife Elzbieta & children & grandchildren
- WEDNESDAY, January 10<sup>th</sup>**
- 8:00 ✚ Michalina & Ryszard & Jan & Franciszek – Ciesla family
- 19:00 ✚ Halina Strazewicz – Katarzyna Buczkowska
- THURSDAY, January 11<sup>th</sup>**
- 8:00 ✚ George Caliman Sr. – son & wife
- 19:00 ✚ Marek Krol & Olga & Kazimierz Borek & Bozena Kosiorek (1<sup>st</sup> anniv.) – family  
✚ Stanislaw Bazylewicz (2<sup>nd</sup> anniv.) & all deceased from Bazylewicz family – son & family  
Special intention for God's blessings and for healing for Klara
- FRIDAY, January 12<sup>th</sup> Saint Marguerite Bourgeoys**
- 8:00 ✚ Anna Ozga – daughters & their families  
✚ Anna Milkowska (15<sup>th</sup> anniv.) – sister & family
- 19:00 ✚ Helena & Jozef & Czeslaw & Zbigniew Szymczuk & Stefania Mazur – Helena Rebizak  
Special intention for God's blessings for daughter
- SATURDAY, January 13<sup>th</sup>**
- 8:00 ✚ Elzbieta Gierasimczuk & Krystyna Bartyzel – friend Eugenia
- 17:00 ✚ Florence Motyka – Bozena & family & Czeslawa Kulik
- 19:00 ✚ Janina Dobosz
- SUNDAY, January 14<sup>th</sup>**
- 8:00 ✚ Zenon & Sabina Mikolajczak – children
- 9:30 ✚ Teresa Rosinska (2<sup>nd</sup> anniv.)
- 11:00 FOR PARISHIONERS AND BENEFACTORS
- 13:00 ✚ Aniela & Jozef Podczerwinski & all deceased from Antolak family
- 14:30 In intention of Radio Maryja & TV Trwam
- 19:00 Special intention for God's blessings for son Henryk – Helena Rebizak

## Baptisms

The following children will receive the Sacrament of Baptism:  
*John Ted Dzik son of Jolanta & Slawomir  
Helena Ferreira Naranowicz daughter of Ligia & Eric  
Marcel Jurzysta-Patrzalek son of Agnieszka & Marcin*

We welcome those children and congratulate their parents and godparents.



## Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord Sunday, January 7<sup>th</sup>

The term "epiphany" means to 'show' or 'to make known' or even 'to reveal.' In Western churches, it remembers the coming of the wise men bringing gifts to visit the Christ child, who by so doing "reveal" Jesus to the world as Lord and King. In some Central and South American countries influenced by Catholic tradition, Three Kings' Day, or the night before, is the time for opening Christmas presents. In some eastern churches, Epiphany or the Theophany commemorates Jesus' baptism, with the visit of the Magi linked to Christmas. In some churches the day is celebrated as Christmas, with Epiphany occurring on January 19<sup>th</sup>.

As with most aspects of the Christian liturgical calendar, Epiphany has theological significance as a teaching tool in the church. The Wise Men or Magi who brought gifts to the infant Jesus were the first Gentiles to acknowledge Jesus as "King" and so were the first to "show" or "reveal" Jesus to a wider world as the incarnate Christ.

This act of worship by the Magi, which corresponded to Simeon's blessing that this child Jesus would be "a light for revelation to the Gentiles" (Luke 2:32), was one of the first indications that Jesus came for all people, of all nations, of all races, and that the work of God in the world would not be limited to only a few. The day is now observed as a time of focusing on the mission of the church in reaching others by "showing" Jesus as the Savior of all people. It is also a time of focusing on Christian brotherhood and fellowship, especially in healing the divisions of prejudice and bigotry that we all too often create between God's children.

## Feast of the Baptism of the Lord Monday, Jan. 8<sup>th</sup>

This brings to an end the season of Christmas. The Church recalls Our Lord's second manifestation or epiphany which occurred on the occasion of His baptism in Jordan. Jesus descended into the River to sanctify its waters and to give them the power to beget sons of God. The event takes on the importance of a second creation in which the entire Trinity intervenes.

*Baptism of the Lord is encouraging us to renew our baptismal vows, which our parents took in our name on our baptism day.*

Almighty ever-living God, who, when Christ had been baptized in the River Jordan and as the Holy Spirit descended upon him, solemnly declared him your beloved Son, grant that your children by adoption, reborn of water and the Holy Spirit, may always be well pleasing to you. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

**OFFERATORY ENVELOPES FOR CURRENT & NEW USERS FOR 2018** – are displayed in the parish hall corridor (downstairs) in alphabetical order according to the family name. All users of the envelopes are asked to write their name, last name and address on the first "beginning offertory" envelope in order to match the envelope number with the family name signed for it. Parishioners who did not pick up their envelopes for 2018 are asked to do as soon as possible. Envelopes that were not collected will be passed onto other parishioners. We also ask not to use envelopes from previous years.

**INCOME TAX RECEIPTS** - We are in the process of preparing the income tax receipts for the previous year. We ask all parishioners who recently changed their address to inform us of the change. You may do so by calling the parish office, or by filling out the green forms found in the narthex of the church and placing the filled out forms in the Sunday collection. Receipts will be mailed in February to all parishioners who gave offerings over \$50.00.

**TWO CROWNS** - Parish Council would like to invite to a new film "Two Crowns" revealing life of St. Maximilian Kolbe. Show in Polish will take place at JPPI Polish Culture Centre on Friday, Feb. 16 at 7:30pm Tickets \$15.00 can be purchased on Sunday, January 14<sup>th</sup> in the parish hall. "Two Crowns" tells the so far unknown facts from the life of Saint Maximilian Kolbe, a martyr who was known for his work of faith in Auschwitz. However, this film goes further and shows to the world his work in Poland, Japan and Italy, his stage as a missionary and how he founded the movement of the "Militia of the Immaculata". Michal Kondrat directs this project where fiction and documentary bring us closer to the Saint. Following the movie there will be an opportunity to meet Michal Kondrat at Polish Culture Centre.

## TRADITIONAL DOOR INSCRIPTION CEREMONY OF THE SOLEMNITY OF EPIPHANY

Gold and frankincense was blessed on the Feast of the Epiphany in the 15<sup>th</sup>/16<sup>th</sup> centuries. Blessing of chalk was first introduced in the 18<sup>th</sup> century. This beautiful tradition is carried out in many countries, as well as Poland. The Blessed Chalk is used to inscribe the first letters of the names of the Magi and the current year (K+M+B 2018) on the front door of Catholic homes.

Following Mass, a small piece of blessed chalk may be taken home and the following is said with family and friends gathered at the front door:

### K+M+B 2018

*Leader: And the Word was made Flesh. All: And dwelt among us.  
Leader: May Christ dwell in our midst. All: Amen.  
Christmas carols may be sung to conclude the ceremony.*

"Arise, shine, for your light has come," Isaiah says. He calls us to know God's presence, God's light on us, around us, and commands us to spread that light. Isaiah tells the people of Israel that the light of God's blessing shines on them and beyond them. He sees nations streaming to them, attracted by God's light. Some Israelites thought God's favour was exclusively theirs. But God's light can be shared without diminishing it. Every year at Easter the paschal candle, the Light of Christ, comes into a dark church and light is shared so the whole church glows. We proclaim light divided but never dimmed. Epiphany celebrates God's light being revealed to all nations. The gospel, Paul says, has spread to the Gentiles. They have seen and received the light of Christ. Matthew tells of even earlier Gentile observers of that light, the Magi: "We observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage." The light that shone on the Magi shines on us. Jesus shares his light with us and asks us to spread it. The light of our faith may seem fragile, but a small light can set the world on fire. Sharing the light of God's love, God's blessing does not diminish it – it grows in strength as it is shared. Let's keep it burning brightly!

Dinah Simmons, Halifax, NS

**First reading:** Isaiah 60.1-6  
**Responsorial Psalm:** Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.  
**Second Reading:** Ephesians 3.2-3a,5-6  
**Gospel:** Matthew 2.1-12

Rose # 19 will lead the rosary this week.

**COFFEE AND DONUTS** will be served today by the Knights of Columbus.

**FIRST SUNDAY OF THE MONTH & EXCHANGE OF MYSTERIES** for the English Groups will take place today – on Sunday, January 7<sup>th</sup> following the Mass at 9:30am, after which the Rosary Group shares the Christmas Wafer (OPLATEK), in the parish hall at 10:30am. All are welcome!

**OBLATE RETREAT - From January 15<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup>** The Oblates will be away on their annual Retreat. We sincerely ask the faithful for their prayers on behalf of our Oblates so that God may bless them during this time of retreat and renewal. May they be renewed in Spirit so they may renew us the people of God. There will be no morning or evening Masses for the entire week including Wednesday evening Group Intention Mass due to the absence of priest in our parish. At 6:30pm, Rose # 20 will lead the rosary that week.