



EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

Today, we are celebrating an important feast, Epiphany, and in Greek it means "manifestation." A

manifestation of Jesus Christ Himself to all people and manifestation of God to all the people through Jesus Christ. In our gospel reading today, God uses a special and unusual rising star which twinkles across the sky, drawing the wise men from the east all the way to Jerusalem. They left their homes and material security behind and experienced hardships on the road as the star momentarily disappeared. Their only hope is that at the end of this hard search, they would come upon the star, the Light of the world, which is Jesus Christ Himself. Throughout the centuries, there have been millions who have found their way to Christ by following the lights that God has sent them. Often the lights that lead us to Christ shine through our loving parents who introduce us to Jesus at an early age. For me, I met and encountered the Trinitarian God through my parents because they taught me how to make the sign of the cross. Others have stars like teachers who inspire them by their knowledge of Scriptures, their love of the church and their heroic virtues. These shining people bring us towards the King of light, Jesus Himself. We don't bring gold, frankincense and myrrh to God. Rather, we bring our hearts, minds, souls and bodies to Him. The gold, frankincense and myrrh were the best material things that wise travelers could bring to the Lord of life. But their effort, their risking of their lives, their willingness to leave security and comfort behind was the gift that proved their true virtue and wisdom. Guided by the light of those around us, we ourselves become lights to others. We give our minds to God when we affirm the value of life, proclaim the worth of humanity and distinguish correctly right from wrong. We give our hearts to God when we love with patience, depth and consistency. We give our souls to God when we pray with intensity, act with charity, stand up for justice, rejoice in good times and in bad. We give our bodies to God when we respect the bodies of others, bind up the wounds of hurting, feed the hungry, clothe the naked, give shelter to the homeless and lay down our lives for the sake of others. There's a true story about a young man who worked in a leather factory. His fellow workers were not Catholics and on Fridays he brought egg, fish and sandwiches to lunch. They called him a fish-eater and taunted him by displaying their meat sandwiches. Of course, it was all good-natured joking, but there was one man whose bitter remarks were serious. Years later, the leather worker met the old acquaintance leaving a Catholic church and dressed as a catholic priest. The two recognized each other and began to talk over old times. Finally, the priest said: "It was your good example that aroused my interest in Catholicism. I thought if a man can take the taunts of a crowd and still remain proud of his faith, there must be something wonderful about that faith. That led me to inquire about the church. Today, I celebrate my first Mass." That's the challenge for us all. Epiphany means that we have to manifest Christ to people, to evangelize by our own good example and live the Christian values even in a hostile environment.

(Fr. Saju Oreethaparambil, C.Ss.R.)

Mass for the Intentions Week

Monday, January 6, 2025 6:30 p.m.

*******NO MORNING MASS*******

In Thanksgiving req Suja and Lukose Mathew

Tuesday, January 7 9:00 a.m.

Thanksgiving req Suja and Lukose Mathew

Wednesday, January 8 9:00 a.m.

All Souls in purgatory req Benilda Fajardo

Thursday, January 9 9:00 a.m.

In memory of Jeanie Dent req Parish Family

Friday, January 10 9:00 a.m.

For all souls in purgatory req Maria Laguisma

Saturday, January 11 5:00 p.m.

Theresa Williams req Williams family
Michael and Rose McSorley, Patsy and Danny McSorley
req Helen McSorley
Legion of Mary Sisters Jean, Mary and Remy
req Irene Kapolka

Sunday, January 12, 2025 10:00 a.m.

For St. Charles Garnier Parish Community

Sanctuary Lamp Intentions



Our Sanctuary Lamp burns continually in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament in our Church. This week our Lamp burns:

**For Blessings and a peaceful New Year 2025
Req Maria Laguisma**

"The light shines in the darkness and the darkness does not overcome it."

John 1:5



PARISH SUPPORT

**the Weekend of
Dec.21/22, 2024**

**Sunday Offering \$2,034.00
Loose collection 259.00**



**Thank you for your generosity
and continued support to St.
Charles Garnier Parish.**

2025 CATHOLIC FAITH CALENDAR



Beautiful calendars for 2025 are available at cost of \$5.00. Please get these Blessed Calendars for you and gift someone you love at Christmas time.

ST. CHARLES JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS

There will be a number of programs throughout the coming year to celebrate the Jubilee Year. One program will begin in January. Each day, except Sundays, the Mass will be offered for one family from the parish. By the end of the year, each family will have been included. You may choose the day you would like the Mass intention for your family. There will be sign-up sheets available at the back of the church. Please sign the sheet by **January 15th, 2025**. We are blessed to receive this gift of a Mass intention for our family and to receive these prayers. We hope each family will attend the Mass that is offered for them.

JUBILEE OF HOPE, 2025 The Diocese of Hamilton joins the celebration of the Global Church in this Ordinary Jubilee Year, 2025, as "Pilgrims of Hope!" All are invited to journey through this year drawing closer to God through prayer, service and experiences of renewal. Six churches have been designated as pilgrimage sites across the Diocese, welcoming you as a visitor over the course of the Jubilee to come and pray. Resources, information and locations of the pilgrimage sites are all available on the Diocesan Website: www.hamiltondiocese.com.

PARISH MOVIE & DINNER NIGHT



"THE BELLS OF ST. MARY'S"

Saturday, January 11, 2025

following the 5:00 pm Holy Mass

Lasagna dinner & movie

Cost: \$15.00 per person

St. Charles Parish Hall

(Tickets are available after every Holy Mass)

IS GOD CALLING YOU?

"On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh." God asks us to give our lives. What treasures have been given to you to share with others in Christ's name? If God is calling you to be a priest, religious or deacon contact Fr. Mark Morley, Director of Vocations, Diocese of Hamilton at 905-528-7988.

Email vocations@hamiltondiocese.com
hamiltondiocese.com/vocations/

RENEWAL OF RELIGIOUS VOWS

On Monday January 6th three of the sisters of Poor of Jesus Christ will be renewing their religious vows during the Holy Mass at 6:30 p.m. celebrated by His excellency Bishop Lobsinger. Everyone is invited to join this special concelebrated mass and pray for an increase of vocation. There is NO MORNING MASS on Monday, 6th of January

A DONATION TO ST. CHARLES FROM OUR DIOCESE

Thanks to the profound generosity of a donor, our Parish has received a gift in the amount of \$25,000.00. This gift is part of a significant bequest left to the Diocese of Hamilton by a parishioner whose intent was to support Parishes and charities within the greater Hamilton area. This transformational gift will provide much-needed funds over the next ten years – a profound testament to what is possible through the generosity of legacy giving. Have you ever considered an estate gift to the Church in your Will? For more information, please call 905-528-7988 ext. 2251 or email give@hamiltondiocese.com

We, the parishioners of St. Charles Garnier parish, express our sincere thanks and gratitude to our Bishop Most Reverend Douglas Crosby and Francis Doyle, Vice- Chancellor of Temporal affairs, for their continued support and generosity towards our parish. Many Blessings!