

# St. James Major Catholic Church



**Rev. Michael Labre, Pastor**

**Mr. Glenn Wiltz, Deacon**

**Ms. Evangeline Richard, CRE**

**3736 Gentilly Boulevard Phone: (504) 304-6750**  
**New Orleans, LA 70122-6128 Fax: (504) 304-6807**

## **Mass Times**

Saturday: 4:00 pm (Anticipated)  
Sunday: 10:00 am  
Tuesday – Friday: 8:30 am (in Chapel)

Communion Service: Monday, 8:30 am

Holy Hour: First Friday following 8:30 am Mass.  
Perpetual Help Novena: Tuesdays after Mass

## **Confessions**

Saturday: 3:15 – 3:45 pm  
And by request

## **Church Office Hours**

Monday – Friday 8:00 am – 3:30 pm

**New Parishioners:** Welcome to the Parish!  
Please complete a registration form (found on the tables at the doors) and introduce yourself to the priest.

**Baptisms:** Please contact the Priest or Deacon to arrange for a seminar and time for the Baptism.

**Weddings:** Arrangements should be made at least six (6) months in advance of the date of the wedding. Please contact the priest before committing to any other arrangements.

**Funerals:** Please contact the church as soon as the need arises and before making any arrangements with the funeral parlor.



## History of the Feast of Epiphany

Like many of the most ancient Christian feasts, Epiphany was first celebrated in the East, where it has been held from the beginning almost universally on January 6. Today, among both Eastern Catholics and Eastern Orthodox, the feast is known as Theophany—the revelation of God to man.

**A Fourfold Feast:** Epiphany originally celebrated four different events, in the following order of importance: the *Baptism of the Lord*; *Christ's first miracle* (the changing of water into wine at the wedding in Cana); the *Nativity of Christ*, and the *Visitation of the Wise Men or Magi*. Each of these is a revelation of God to humankind: At Christ's Baptism, the Holy Spirit descends and the voice of God the Father is heard, declaring that Jesus is His Son; at the wedding in Cana, the miracle reveals Christ's divinity; at the Nativity, the angels bear witness to Christ, and the shepherds, representing the people of Israel, bow down before Him; and at the visitation of the Magi, Christ's divinity is revealed to the Gentiles—the other nations of the earth.

Eventually, the celebration of the Nativity was separated and Epiphany came to mark the end of Christmas—*the Twelve Days of Christmas* (celebrated in the song), which began with the Birth of Christ and ended with His revelation to the Gentiles at Epiphany. Over the centuries, the various celebrations were further separated in the West, and now the Baptism of the Lord is celebrated on the Sunday after January 6, and the wedding at Cana is commemorated on the Sunday after the Baptism of the Lord.

### Who Were the Wise Men?

Our Christmas season ends with the celebration of Epiphany, a word meaning “an illuminating discovery, realization, or disclosure” according to the Webster dictionary. The three camel-riding gentlemen who visited Jesus shortly after His birth came from somewhere east of the Holy Land (Palestine), perhaps Persia, Assyria or Babylonia. They were of the priestly caste and, as such, were wealthy, educated and familiar with astronomy (study of the stars and other objects, movements and cycles in the sky.) The star they followed was something extraordinary and very special. It had never been seen before and could not be explained except to announce an event of great magnitude.



The three wise men, whose names from Latin translations are Gaspar, Melchior and Balthasar, followed the star and eventually found the most magnificent King ever in the body of the baby Jesus. They presented Him with “king-worthy” gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh, the value of which would sustain His family through their flight to Egypt and return home.

The Wise Men represent us (the Gentiles, not members of the Israelite tribes or followers of the Jewish faith) seeing the Christ Child as Someone worthy of their respect, homage and gifts. They returned to their countries, not through Jerusalem as Herod had requested, but by another passage, not wanting to bring any harm to the newborn King or put Him in any danger.

### Mass Honoring Our Lady of Prompt Succor

All are invited by the Ursuline Sisters to the celebration of Mass on the Solemnity of Our Lady of Prompt Succor, 4 pm, January 8, at the National Shrine, 2701 State St., New Orleans.

While the Battle of New Orleans was raging in Chalmette January 8, 1815, the Ursuline nuns prayed unceasingly to Our Lady of Prompt Succor (timely assistance) for an American victory. The battle was won, and the British did not capture New Orleans.

**“Thank You”** to all who helped make our Christmas season so beautiful, meaningful and enjoyable. Each ministry’s participation helped the parish feel the true spirit of Christmas, bringing the joy and wonder of our Savior’s birth into our hearts and homes. “Thank you for a season well done.”



# Mass Intentions



Each Mass is offered for the intentions of all present and for the following:

**SATURDAY, JANUARY 5**

4:00 pm SJM Parishioners, living & deceased

**SUNDAY, JANUARY 6**

10:00 am Intentions of all our parishioners who are ill, and for all who have asked for prayer,

And for the repose of the souls of

- |                          |                  |
|--------------------------|------------------|
| +Gwendolyn Flateau       | +Arthur Collins  |
| +Thelma & Leon Woll, Sr. | +Rochelle Age    |
| +Andrade Family          | +Emmanuel Roch   |
| +Eugene Johnson, Sr.     | +Zelda Gueringer |

**MONDAY, JANUARY 7**

8:30 am Communion Service

**TUESDAY, JANUARY 8**

8:30 am +Josph Chevis  
+Jane Escudé  
+Warren Thompson, Jr.

**WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 9**

8:30 am +Poor Souls in Purgatory (P.L.)

**THURSDAY, JANUARY 10**

8:30 am Int. Mary Ward

**FRIDAY, JANUARY 11**

8:30 am +Louisa Rondeno

## Sanctuary Light

The Sanctuary Light is burning this week in memory of Gwendolyn Flateau.



**Please pray for them:** Valerie Smith, Mary Mitchell, Gloria Mitchell, Denise Thomas, Audrey Wilson, Gail Wright, Nadine Rochell, Gloria Harris, Gertrude Harris, William Mitchell, Maggie Haney, Dominic Carmouche, Loretta Parent, Walter Glapion, Yvonne Bechet, Gerald Mercadel, Sr., Susan Lauterbach, Thais Ardoin, Russell Jordan, Denise Rachal, Herbert Briant, Sr., Irene Ward, Marguerite Ragas, Irma Springer, Wilbert Clementin, Sr., Byron Williams, Jr., Kim Stovall, Michelle Irwin, Dennis LeBlanc, Betty Reynolds, Jill Courseault, Meredith LeBlanc and Clarence, Robert and Buster Mitchell.



Please pray for all of our parishioners, especially those who are homebound or in hospitals, nursing homes and hospice. Please notify the rectory of the change in status of you or your relatives on the prayer list.

## THIS WEEK'S READINGS

- 07 Monday **ST. RAYMOND OF PENYAFORT or CHRISTMAS WEEKDAY**  
1 John 3:22-4:6; Ps 2; Matthew 4:12-17, 23-25
- 08 Tuesday **CHRISTMAS WEEKDAY**  
1 John 4:7-10; Ps 72; Mark 6:34-44
- 09 Wednesday **CHRISTMAS WEEKDAY**  
1 John 4:11-18; Ps 72; Mark 6:45-52
- 10 Thursday **CHRISTMAS WEEKDAY**  
1 John 4:19-5:4; Ps 72; Luke 4:14-22a
- 11 Friday **CHRISTMAS WEEKDAY**  
1 John 5:5-13; Ps 147; Luke 5:12-16
- 12 Saturday **CHRISTMAS WEEKDAY**  
1 John 5:14-21; Ps 149; John 3:22-30
- 13 Sunday **BAPTISM OF THE LORD**  
Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11; Ps 104; Titus 2:11-14, 3:4-7; Luke 3:15-16, 21-22



### Lectors & Commentators

Jan 05 Greer Adams, D. J. Ferrier  
Jan 06 Adaline Patterson, Marlin Gusman



### Extraordinary Ministers of Communion

Jan 05 Gaynell Marchand, Roy LeBlanc  
Jan 06 Al Courseault, Tony Tabor



Please remember to pray for our men and women who are serving in the armed forces, especially:

- |                               |                         |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------|
| SSgt Bryan Stovall, Jr., USMC | PO2 Melissa Flot, USN   |
| PVT Robert Cook, USA          | SGT Robert Lambert, USA |
| SSgt. Anthony Montz, USAF     | Alvin Benjamin, USN     |
| SSgt. Davin Hornsby, USAF     | A1C Andrew Montz, USAF  |

## Thank You!

The students and staff of the Parish School of Religion would like to thank Father Labre, Deacon Wiltz and the Parishioners for their support and enthusiasm for the Christmas pageant.



## Church Support



### OFFERTORY COLLECTION (December 15-16)

First Collection .....	\$ 1994.00
Second Collection .....	568.00
	<u>\$ 2562.00</u>

### OFFERTORY COLLECTION (December 29-30)

### OFFERTORY COLLECTION (Dec. 31-Jan. 1))

Information not available at time of printing

Thank you for your support!