

Church of Saint Monica Saint Elizabeth of Hungary Saint Stephen of Hungary

413 East 79th St. New York, NY 10075
Church Offices and Parish Center:
 406 East 80th St. New York, NY 10075
 (212) 288-6250 Fax: (212) 570 - 1562

The Epiphany of the Lord – January 6th, 2019

Office Hours

Our Offices are open:

Mo. 9am – 5pm
Tu.-Th. 9am – 7pm
Fri. Closed
Sat. 10am -2pm
Sun. Closed

Our offices close for lunch:
1pm – 2pm daily

Parish Staff

Pastor

Associates:

Deacon

Pastoral Associate:

Parish Manager:

Music Director

Cantor:

Wedding Coordinator:

Rev. Donald C. Baker

Rev. Msgr. Leslie J Ivers

Rev. Joslin K. Jose

Mr. Kevin Byrne

Ms. Maryann Tyrer

Mr. Michael Ward

Mr. John Zupan

Mr. Joseph Neal

Ms. Debbi Burdett

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DBweddingsnyc@gmail.com

Mass Schedule

Saturday: 12:00pm Saturday Vigil: 5:30pm

Sunday: 7:30am 9:00am 10:30am 12:00pm 5:00pm

Monday – Friday: 7:30 & 12:00pm

Confessions:

Saturday 5:00 – 5:30pm and by appointment

Our church is open: 7am – 4pm daily for private prayer



St. Stephen of Hungary School

Pre-K through 8th Grade Catholic Parochial School

408 East 82nd St., New York, NY 10028

(212) 288-1989 Fax: (212) 517 – 5788

Principal:

Ms. Kelly Burke

www.saintstephenschool.org

Interested in admissions to our parish school?

admissions@saintstephenschool.org

MISSION STATEMENT

The Roman Catholic Parish of St. Monica, St. Elizabeth of Hungary and St. Stephen of Hungary opens its doors to welcome and embrace all in our community. We strive through worship, hospitality and service to receive those seeking a spiritual home. In the midst of diversity of thought, life style, nationality, economic status and age, we endeavor to live as a community of faith and invite you to join our family - a family seeking to know and love Jesus Christ.

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading -- Rise up in splendor, Jerusalem! The Lord shines upon you (Isaiah 60:1-6).
Psalm -- Lord, every nation on earth will adore you (Psalm 72).
Second Reading -- The Gentiles are coheirs, copartners in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel (Ephesians 3:2-3a, 5-6).
Gospel -- Magi from the east arrived, looking for the newborn king of the Jews (Matthew 2:1-12).
The English translation of the Psalm Responses from Lectionary for Mass (c) 1969, 1981, 1997, International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: 1 Jn 3:22 -- 4:6; Ps 2:7bc-8, 10-12a; Mt 4:12-17, 23-25
Tuesday: 1 Jn 4:7-10; Ps 72:1-4, 7-8; Mk 6:34-44
Wednesday: 1 Jn 4:11-18; Ps 72: 1-2, 10, 12-13; Mk 6:45-52
Thursday: 1 Jn 4:19 -- 5:4; Ps 72:1-2, 14, 15bc, 17; Lk 4:14-22a
Friday: 1 Jn 5:5-13; Ps 147:12-15, 19-20; Lk 5:12-16
Saturday: 1 Jn 5:14-21; Ps 149:1-6a, 9b; Jn 3:22-30
Sunday: Is 42:1-4, 6-7 or Is 40:1-5, 9-11; Ps 29:1-4, 3, 9-10 or Ps 104:1b-4, 24-25, 27-30; Acts 10:34-38 or Ti 2: 11-14; 3:4-7; Lk 3:15-16, 21-22

Mass Schedule

SATURDAY 5:30PM	January 5th Vigil <i>Alice & Samuel Lopez</i>
SUNDAY 7:30AM 9:00AM	January 6th The Epiphany of the Lord <i>Mary Halton (Living)</i> <i>Megan, Matthew, Sarah & Ryan (Living)</i>
10:30AM 12NOON 5PM	Thanksgiving <i>All Parishioners</i> <i>Thomas A. Lyons, Jr.</i>
MONDAY 7:30AM 12NOON	January 7th Christmas Weekday <i>For the Priests of St. Monica's (Living & Dec.)</i> <i>Mary Plagoinois</i>
TUESDAY 7:30AM 12NOON	January 8th Christmas Weekday <i>Souls in Purgatory</i> <i>Amy Connallon</i>
WEDNESDAY 7:30 AM 12NOON	January 9th Christmas Weekday <i>Helen Bermingham (Living)</i> <i>Giselle Peña</i>
THURSDAY 7:30AM 12NOON	January 10th Christmas Weekday <i>Patsy McDonalds</i> <i>Judy Jolie</i>
FRIDAY 7:30AM 12NOON	January 11th Christmas Weekday <i>Joseph B. Williams, Sr</i> <i>Melinda Aumaitre</i>
SATURDAY 12NOON	January 12th Christmas Weekday <i>Chris Cummins</i>

*If you wish to add the name of a loved one to the prayer list, please notify the parish center:
(212) 288-6250*



K-8 Religious Education

- **We're back in session!** Religious Education sessions resume on Sunday, January 6, 10:15-11:45am in the Parish Center.

Adult Faith Formation – open to all adults!

- **Sunday Morning Scripture Discussions**, 10:15-11:45am in the Parish Center – join us for coffee and conversation every Sunday that Religious Education is in session! No charge, no registration needed. (Resuming on January 6)
- **Evening Prayer in the Parish Center Chapel each Friday at 5:10pm. All are welcome!** It is a simple prayer service, lasting 15-20 minutes, consisting of psalms, readings, and pauses for quiet prayer. It is a lovely way to end your work week. Please consider joining us!
- **Save the Date!** Fr. Baker will be leading a three-week book club in February on John Boyne's *A History of Loneliness*. Read this incredible novel and join us for this discussion. (The book is available wherever you buy or download your books.)

Adults who are thinking about becoming Catholic, or

Catholic adults who have missed First Communion and/or

Confirmation – It's never too late! - contact Maryann Tyrer, Pastoral Associate, to discuss our adult initiation process. You can begin the process any time throughout the year.

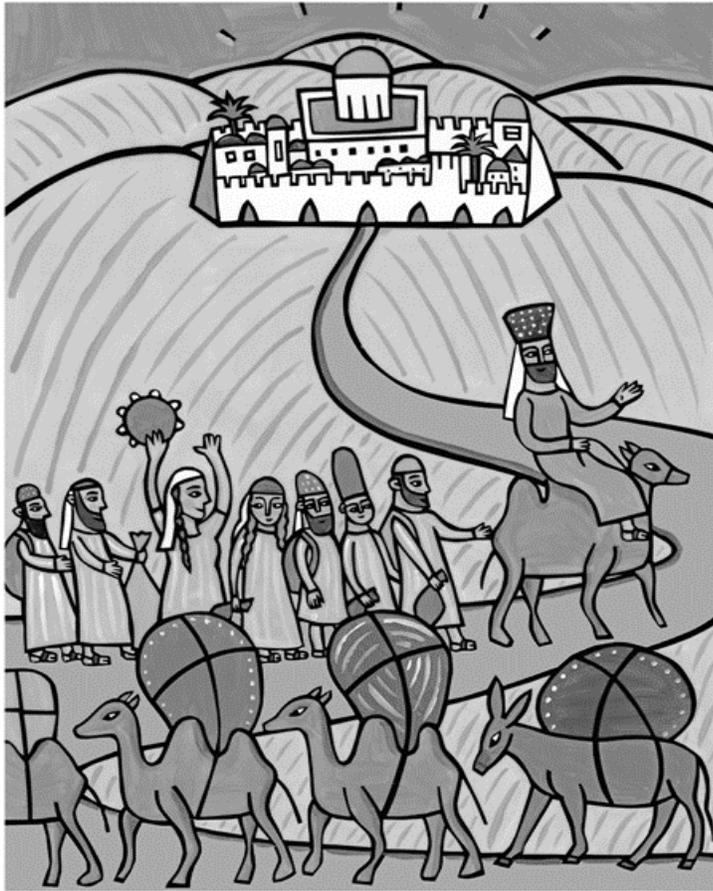
Want to volunteer? Yes, we need more volunteers, please! Many different opportunities are available, with various time commitments – Contact Maryann to discuss how your gifts might meet our needs.

Please remember: The Christmas Season (in the Church's liturgical calendar) runs from Christmas Eve until the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord (January 13 this year.) So leave those decorations up, and keep playing Christmas music throughout the season! On January 14, we go back to Ordinary Time. Wishing you and your loved ones a Christmas Season filled with joy and peace!

20 + C + M + B + 19
Christ Bless this House

(The Epiphany House Blessing may be found in the "Keeping the Christmas Season at Home" flyer found in the back of the church.)

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD



A Light for All Nations

God of light,
on the first day of creation
you filled the world with your light;
you created humans in your image
and likeness
and gave them this place of light for
their home.
But they chose darkness, so you
sent prophets
with the promise of a great Light.
You gave us your Son, the Light
of the World,
a Light so radiant that all nations
would be drawn to him for all ages,
bringing gifts and offering praise.
May we always walk by his light
and never lose sight of him.
May we bring him the best we have,
a total offering of ourselves,
as Jesus offered himself completely for us.
We pray through his Most Holy Name.
Amen.

Sunday, January 6, 2019
A Revelation to the Gentiles

Today's Readings: Isaiah 60:1-6; Psalm 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13; Ephesians 3:2-3a, 5-6; Matthew 2:1-12. The message of Christ's birth comes first to poor Jewish shepherds in the nearby countryside. They find Jesus just as the angel had said and return home praising and glorifying the Lord. Later, mysterious Magi from distant lands, following a star, come to see the newborn king to do him homage and give him precious gifts.

This pattern of revelation—first to the Jews and then to the Gentiles—is repeated during Jesus' lifetime and the early days of the Church. During his ministry, Jesus says, "I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel" (Matthew 15:24); but he heals others who have great faith. After his Resurrection, he tells the Apostles to "make dis-

ciples of all nations" (Matthew 28:19a); but at first much of their time is spent preaching the Gospel to Jews. When Paul, a persecutor of Christians, meets Jesus on the road to Damascus, he becomes a zealous Apostle. Jesus calms the fears of a disciple who is afraid of Paul by reassuring him that Paul "is a chosen instrument of mine to carry my name before Gentiles, kings, and Israelites" (Acts 9:15). With the tireless travels and preaching of Paul, and the eventual acceptance of the Gentiles by the other Apostles, the Church is established in communities far from Jerusalem.

The visit of the Magi foreshadows the spread of Christianity to the entire world. The birth of Jesus is indeed "good news of great joy that will be for all the people" (Luke 2:10).

SPECIAL DEVOTIONS

After all weekday masses

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

Every Friday after the Noon Mass to 3 PM, with Benediction following the Divine Mercy Chaplet

Devotions

Miraculous Medal on Mondays after each Mass

Divine Mercy

The Divine Mercy Chaplet is prayed each Friday afternoon at 3 PM

Sacrament of Reconciliation:

5:00 PM on Saturdays Anytime by appointment

BAPTISMS & MARRIAGES:

Please call the rectory office for more information.

COMMUNION FOR THE HOMEBOUND:

If you know of anyone who cannot attend church because of illness or age, and would like to have communion brought to them, please contact the parish office, so that we can arrange for a Eucharistic Minister to bring communion to them.

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK

Please remember in your prayers

MARYLYN ATKINSON

&

MICHAEL CURLEY

ALL VICTIMS OF MILITARY ACTIVITY

PRAYERS FOR THE DECEASED

Please pray for our deceased parishioners and family members

Blake Murphy

&

Christopher Cosby Farley

Bread & Wine



This Week's Bread & Wine
In Memory of
Pedro Ant. Litrenta, Sr.

Offered By Maria Litrenta

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

Monday of this week is Christmas Day in Russia and in much of the Orthodox world. This curious difference in schedule has a lot to do with how calendars have been developed and changed over the years. In the year 45 B.C. Julius Ceasar gave the empire his Julian Calendar, with the winter solstice on January 6. This put an end to a system in which officials called pontiffs were able to tweak the calendar by adding extra days in as needed. He invented two new months at that time, December and January; and in order to correct the mess the pontiffs had made, forced a year of 445 days on the empire in what he named The Last Year of Confusion. The new months varied in number of days according to a complex schedule, but the calendar was still off by nearly twelve minutes a year, and lost a full day every 130 years.

Pope Gregory XIII reformed the calendar in 1583, but not everyone appreciated his efforts. England held out for two hundred years. The year 1700 was a leap year in England, but not in France; they were eleven days apart! George Washington was really born on February 11; when the Gregorian calendar was finally adopted in the English colonies shortly before the Revolution, he had to move his birthday to February 22. Now the calendars are thirteen days apart, which accounts for Russia's Julian calendar Christmas. And Caesar thought he had brought confusion to an end!

--James Field, Copyright (c) J. S. Paluch C

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday: The Epiphany of the Lord;
Blessing of the Home;
National Migration Week
Monday: St. Raymond of Penyafort;
Julian Calendar Christmas

From Our Music Director

My how the year has truly flown by!

It is hard to believe that nearly a year ago, I wrote my introductory letter to you, the parishioners of St. Monica – St. Elizabeth of Hungary – St. Stephen of Hungary. In that letter I told you how excited I was to begin my pastoral music ministry at your beautiful church; this church that I now call my church. I spoke of journeying and how God has brought me here to share my love of pastoral music. As I reflect on this past year, I realize how blest and grateful I am.

I am blessed to have such a beautiful spiritual space to create music. From the high arched ceiling and the stained glass windows to the gorgeous altar, it is hard not to be inspired. I am blessed to have a working pipe organ. In many churches pipe organs have been so neglected that they are no longer repairable. How lucky we are.

I am grateful to have inherited an adult choir that is so dedicated to creating beautiful music liturgies. Week after week, they give of their time and talents. From our Lenten journey through the solemnity of Holy Week to the glorious sounds of Easter, they have been here to uplift and inspire us through their song. I can't thank them enough for their wonderful job in making our Advent/Christmas season so special. Kudos to our first Christmas Concert together. It was an inspirational night. If you were fortunate enough have attended, you know how beautiful and spiritual that night was. I can't wait to see how we grow over the next year. And if you know someone who loves to sing please send them my way because new members are always welcome.

I am grateful to the parents who have committed their child to our newly formed Children's Choir. It has been decades since the church has had a children's choir. We began this fall with two brave souls. By our Christmas concert we had eight. And what an amazing job they have done thus far. I look forward to the growth and expansion of the Children's Choir as we now prepare for Lent and Easter. And new members to our children's choir are always welcome.

I am grateful to have been able to start The Concert Series. We began this fall, with a soprano artist, followed by the City Winds Trio (amazing) and ended the year with our traditional Christmas Concert. We continue the series in April with an award-winning flutist, followed by A Broadway Review and ending with our Adult and Children's Choirs in their Spring Concert. It is my hope to develop this concert series and have it become a hub here in Yorkville. So please help spread the word.

I am grateful for our pastor, Fr. Baker, our pastoral team and staff. Fr. Baker, who values and supports the music program has made many things possible. We now have music weekly at our 12 noon Friday Mass. We just began singing Vespers (Evening Prayer) on Saturdays at 5pm during Advent and will continue it in Lent. We are planning more prayer services in the new year. We have a new hymnal – Ritual Song that has the updated texts. It is a beautiful book that will help us all pray together.

Lastly, I am blessed with a wonderful congregation. Over the year I have gotten to know so many people. And I thank you for all your support as the new guy on the block. You have made me feel welcomed and a part of this praying community. I have always said that wherever God sends me to create music it must feel like home – and this place feels like home. Here's to a healthy and spiritual 2019!

Sincerely,
John Zupan
Director of Music

Just a Word From your Pastor will return next week

On Saturday December 15th the parish held the annual Christmas Concert and the first under Music Director John Zupan. The evening was amazing, with incredible performances, through which, a true sense of the holiday spirit amongst parishioners and neighbors could be felt.

Congratulations to John and the members of the music ministry on such a successful night. There are three more concerts this parish year in the Concert Series; look out for announcements for these performances as we move toward Spring.

In conjunction with the concert, the parish hosted a Cocktail Party & Silent Auction. Approximately 40 parishioners and neighbors gathered in the Father Angelo Room in the Parish Center prior to the concert, shared in food and drink while bidding on some high-end goods and experiences. Thank you to all who donated to this event, including:

Mr. & Mrs. Leonard Santorelli, Mr. & Mrs. Edward Lauber, Mr. & Mrs. Michael Rodriguez, Mary Ellen Costello, Peter Duffy Furs, Michael Lomonaco, Alice K. Dormann, the New York Philharmonic, Exhale Spa, Miss Madeleine Bakery, the King's Carriage House and Eleanor Weininger

This event **does not** happen without the hard work and extremely generous donation of time and talent from Karen Olah. Karen begins to work on this event months in advance and we are very grateful for her dedication to the parish.

The evening served many purposes, but amongst them was fundraising; we raised funds for both the Music Ministry as well as our Air Conditioning project. The cocktail party and auction raised a net profit of \$15,695; of which \$2,250 was provided to the music ministry (leaving a balance of \$13,445 being applied toward air conditioning). The music ministry also received an additional \$827 (for a total fundraising figure of \$3,077) from donations at the door of the concert. A very successful night!

Parish Hall Construction

Just before Christmas, the 79th Street workshop (for those that do not know, this is an Alcoholics Anonymous group that holds meetings in a room in the Church Hall) relocated into our main Church Hall for temporary space as work is done to their room, and the second entrance to the hall from 79th Street.

The work to the AA room and the 2nd egress will continue until approximately early February. At that point the AA group will return into their space in the hall and the physical installation of the air conditioning will commence. There are other components of the Air Conditioning job such as filings and electrical upgrade occurring now so we remain on pace to have air conditioning in the Church for June 1. We are also working with Caedmon School in a joint effort to renovate the hall itself in the Summer/Fall of 2019. More information to follow on that aspect.

On behalf of Father Baker and the parish staff, we wish you all a healthy and happy new year and look forward to sharing in the continued growth and successes of the parish and school with all of you in 2019!

As always, any questions on these, or other topics, please feel free to contact me as needed.

Mike Ward
Parish Manager

