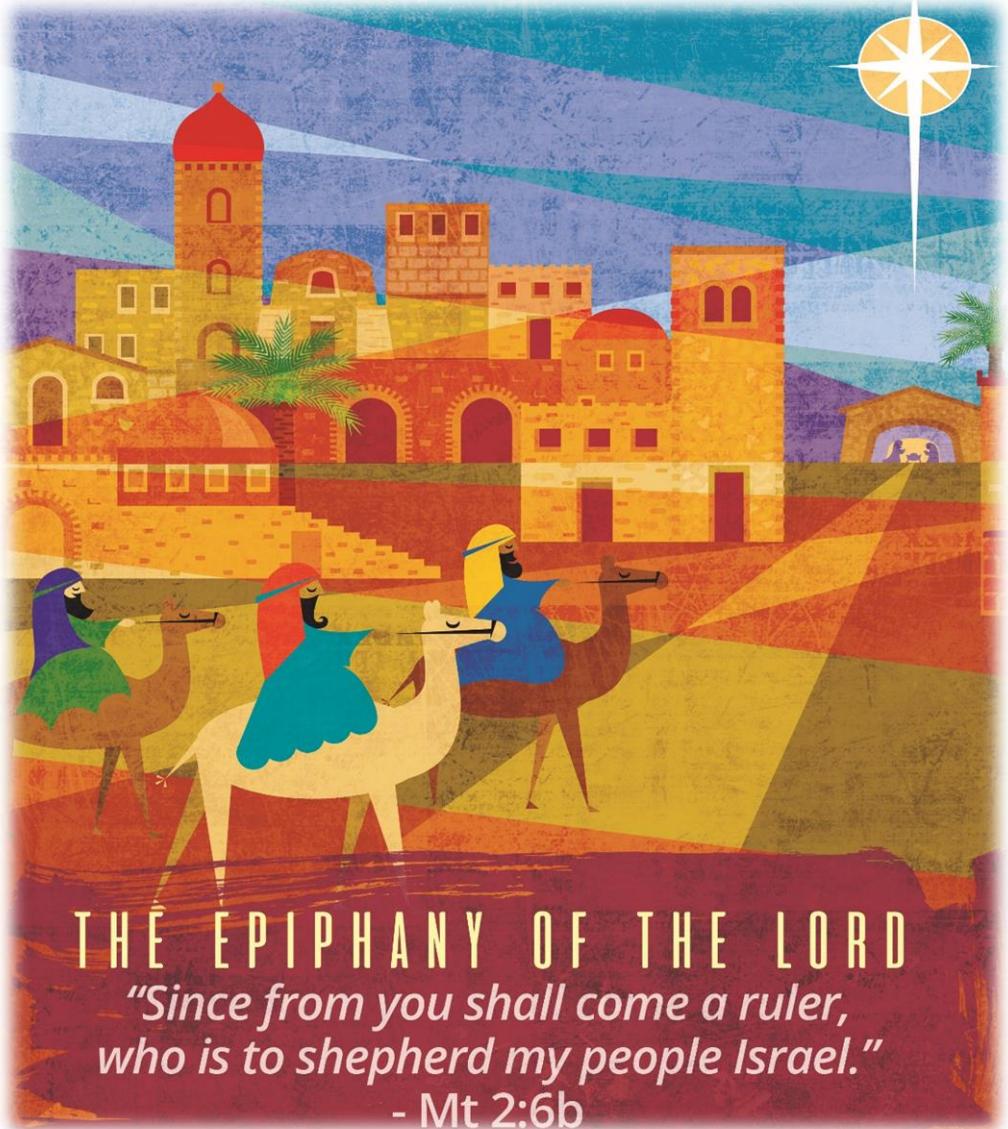


# Church of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary



## THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

*"Since from you shall come a ruler,  
who is to shepherd my people Israel."*

- Mt 2:6b

**3411 Martin Luther King Jr. Avenue, S.E.  
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# January

## *Rev. Gregory Shaffer, Pastor*

**Saturday Vigil Mass:** 4:30 pm  
**Sunday Mass:** 10:00 am  
**Daily Mass:** Monday thru Saturday 12:10 pm  
**Eucharistic Adoration:** Monday, Wednesday, Friday 11:00 - 12:00 noon  
**Confessions:** Saturday 3:30 - 4:15 pm  
or anytime by appointment

**Address:** 3401 Martin Luther King, Jr. Avenue, S.E.  
Washington, DC 20032

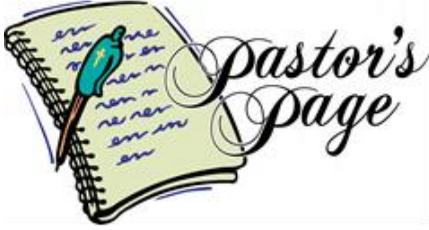
**Office Hours:** Monday, Wednesday, Friday  
9:00 am to 5:00 pm  
Tuesday 1:00 pm to 5:00 pm

**Pastor:** Father Greg Shaffer  
202-561-4178 Cell 240-463-9960

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**Secretary:** Mrs. Cheryl Hamlin-Williams  
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**Email:** [info@assumptiondc.org](mailto:info@assumptiondc.org)

**Pope Francis  
Outreach Center :** Food Pantry and Clothing Room  
**Director:** Ms. Mildred Brown  
**Assistant Director** Ms. Brenda Hare  
**Hours of Operation:** Monday, Wednesday, Friday  
9:00 am - 12:00 noon  
**Phone:** 202-561-5941 Fax 202-561-4024  
**Email** [outreach@assumptiondc.org](mailto:outreach@assumptiondc.org)



## The Epiphany of the Lord January 6, 2019

We hear the word “epiphany” mentioned occasionally in the secular world. Recently, I heard the hosts on a sports talk radio show say that the Redskins owner needs to have an epiphany about the state of the football team. No arguments here! We also hear words similar to epiphany such as “Aha moment” and “light bulb went on”. We understand these to mean that it is an awareness or realization of something for the first time, and usually is very powerful. In today’s feast of the Epiphany, we refer to the visit of Christ by the Magi with words like manifestation and revelation. It’s the same concept as awareness and realization, and it means that Christ has been revealed and the three kings realize who he is.

Last year, I gave you the following epiphany formula for the Magi (and for us):

- God will show you a star – something or someone that will lead you to where He is.
- God will reveal Himself to you in a personal and profound way.
- Do Him homage.
- You will be overjoyed in your encounter with Him.
- Offer Him gifts (e.g., your life as gold)
- Go home a different way (i.e., change your life)

Allow me to focus on the first one – God showing a star (a sign). I’m friends with a young woman and her family. She was raised strongly Catholic but has faced a few road bumps in college with her faith. God sent her a star: a young religious sister who has actually been a long-time friend of her family’s. This nun called her out of the blue weeks ago to invite her to a conference with thousands of other Catholic college students in January. She accepted and

is currently at the FOCUS (Fellowship of Catholic University Students) conference in Indianapolis with 17,000 other college students. Yes, 17,000!

This young woman is looking for a sign like the Magi were. If she wasn't, she would have politely declined the Sister. She has made a pretty serious commitment over her Christmas break. First, she is traveling to and from Indy on a bus with students from another university. That's bold socially and spiritually! Second, she will be spending a few days with thousands of others doing Catholic stuff continuously – Mass, Adoration, Confession, talks, workshops, etc. It will be uber Catholic. She won't be the only one there struggling with her faith, of course. But, the vast majority will be strong believers as well as many youth leaders of faith.

For what is she looking? In other words, what is her star? My guess is that her star will be a reason(s) to believe. Another way to say it is she is looking for evidence. She is very smart, and is looking for evidence that this whole thing about Jesus Christ and the Catholic Church is for real. She needs to see it for herself. Her parents or priests or even that nun can tell her there was a star, but she needs to see the evidence for herself. She needs to make it her own. And believe me, that conference is custom-made for very intelligent college students like her who need to see in order to believe. I have great confidence that when we speak next, she will tell me about the star she saw that led her (back) to Christ. Her initial star in all of this, of course, was the Sister who invited her to the conference. See what happens when we simply invite people!

God is calling each of us to be a star to someone else. If that isn't clear to you now, it will be soon. He will use you to be that sign for someone else to have an epiphany about His Son. He has done this for the past 2,000 years. Go back up to the formula of the Epiphany and remember how this happened for you. He used someone else to be a sign for you, and you have done Him homage and been happily changed ever since. He wants you to be the main player in someone else's Epiphany. He wants you to be a star!

Christ is born!

Fr Greg

**Healing Prayers for:** Antainette Johnson, Wanda Harris, Sidney Martin Sr., Willie Poston, Kathleen Holly, Edward Briscoe, Dolores Abrams, Barbara Williams, Juanita Watkins, Brenda Ross, Mary James, Dorothy Barlow, Corrina Murray, George Thomas, Yvonne Lesesne, Burdell Thomas, Frederick McNiel, James Anthony Murphy, Earnest Ingram Jr., John Howard, Iris Best, Dorothy Hollis, Calvin Best Gisele Best, Lezeal Rorie, Lillian Taylor, Veronica Brown, Deacon McBurnett Smith, Marsha Carlson-Meyers, Dr. Dee Jones Adams, Barry Robella, Father Dan Vitz, Eleonora Best, Jane Rhyne, Faye Lyon, Abby Fargo, Mildred Selmar, Heather Wooten-Rollins, Brenda Newman, Courtney Barlow, , Benjamin Davis, Ronald Horton, Veronica Harris, Teresa Wilkinson, Pauline Haggins, Dorothy Sylvester, Darlene Jones, Paul Higgins, Audrey Saunders, Pauline Johnson, June Murphy **Our Homebound Parishioners:** Corinne Bachiller, Sybil Depeazer, Louvenia Gray, Fr. Charles Green, Pauline Johnson, Barbara Thompson, Yvonne

**LIVE THE LITURGY - INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK- January 6, 2019**

We all have had the experience of walking into a dark room and searching for the light switch. If we are really unfamiliar with the space, anxiety, uncertainty, disorientation, and even fear can easily arise. Once we find the light, all is illuminated, and we are at peace. Our light has come into the world! The glory of God has been revealed! Today's feast of the Epiphany teaches us to look to our Savior, Jesus Christ, for the way to truly be the human beings we were created to be. He shows us how to prioritize our lives, order our relationships, care for creation, and live as daughters and sons of God. God's love and creative power is universal, transcending all races and nations. Jesus brings the light of peace to a broken world that still struggles to understand itself and to you and I who also struggle to understand who we are. May we find ourselves overjoyed that we have found our truth and allow Jesus to bring light to the darkness of our lives!.



**READINGS FOR THE WEEK**

Monday: 1 Jn 3:22-4:6 Mt 4:12-17, 23-25  
Tuesday: 1 Jn 4:7-10 Mk 6:34-44  
Wednesday: 1 Jn 4:11-18 Mk 6:45-52  
Thursday: 1 Jn 4:19-5:4 Lk 4:14-22  
Friday: 1 Jn 5:5-13 Lk 5:12-16  
Saturday: 1 Jn 5:14-21 Jn 3:22-30  
**Next Sunday: Is 42:1-4, 6-7 Acts 10:34-38  
Lk 3:15-**

**MASS INTENTIONS**

*+ = Deceased AD = Anniversary of Death BD = Birthday OMM = One Month Memorial*



# The Epiphany of the Lord

They were overjoyed at seeing the star, and on entering the house they saw the child with Mary his mother. They prostrated themselves and did him homage. Then they opened their treasures and offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. *Mt 2:10-11*



# Announcements

**Wednesday Eucharistic Adoration** “Come Let Us Adore Him”. Could you commit to one hour per week? Transform your spiritual life and your relationship with Our Lord by committing to spend more time with Him. We have Wednesday Adoration of the Blessed from 11:00 am to 12:00 noon.

**To All Our Visitors Welcome** to Assumption Catholic Church. We are glad that you are here! To become registered parishioners, please obtain a registration form, from one of our ushers.

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## ***Community Sunday's Schedule for 2019***

January -Bereavement

February – Choir

March – Knights of St. Jerome

April – Lectors

May – No Community Sunday

June – Sodality

July – Ushers

August – Young Senior's

September – Fr. John

October – Men's Group

November – Young Adults

December - Eucharistic Ministers

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## **Martin Luther King, Jr. Annual Celebration**

All are invited to the annual archdiocesan Celebration of the Legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. on Saturday, January 19 at 4:30pm at St. Luke Catholic Church in Washington, DC (4925 East Capitol St.). This celebration of Dr. King's life provides a special occasion of renewed inspiration for courageous conversations that help us build respect and solidarity within our communities, bearing witness to God's boundless love for all the human family

## **Collection for Church Missions within the United States**

On the weekend of January 12-13, the Archdiocese of Washington will take up a second collection for Church Missions within the United States. This collection supports mission dioceses in this country that are unable to offer their people the basic pastoral ministries of word, worship, and service without outside help. It may also give grants to other dioceses in the U.S. for particular projects, and to organizations and religious communities engaged in missionary work. Second, it provides vulnerable Black and Native American communities with funds for supporting and strengthening evangelization programs that would otherwise be in danger of disappearing among these communities. Thank you for your generosity.



**The Epiphany of the Lord - January 6**

This week we celebrate the final day of the Christmas season with the Feast of the Epiphany. The story of the three Magi who bring Jesus gifts ends with the phrase, “they returned home another way.” This is a reminder to us that when we encounter Jesus we are always called to conversion, to change our lives and share the good news of Jesus who changed us. What gifts do you have? How might you share them with Jesus, His Church, and the world? Visit our parish website to learn more about opportunities for weekly prayer and how to get more involved in our community.

**Let Us Pray**

As we celebrate the Feast of the Epiphany, we pray that each person in our parish community may have a greater awareness of their gifts and may find new opportunities to share those gifts with Christ, His Church, and all people let us pray to the Lord.

NEW YEAR



January 6, 2019