

# Mass Intentions

## A Reflection about Mass Intentions

Giving a “Mass Card” to the family of someone who has died is a traditional, practical, and consoling custom among Catholic people. Arranging to have a Mass offered for the repose of someone’s soul respects the mystery of death and pays attention to the truth that we will all be judged by God, mercifully but justly, for what we have done and for what we have failed to do.

When we die, life is changed, not ended. Do you think that everyone is ready for immediate welcome into the kingdom of heaven? Perhaps some are, perhaps very few. Upon his death, who had more prayers and Masses offered for him than Pope John Paul II? We all have need for divine mercy, and we can benefit from the prayers of our friends. When we die, we will be fortunate and blessed if we have a Mass of Christian Burial and if we have people pray for us at other Masses in the months and years to come

--<https://seton-parish.org/news/a-reflection-about-mass-intentions-1>

Saturday, January 5th, 2019, 5:00PM

†Mary Lea Jordan by her boy Jack

Sunday, January 6th, 2019, 10:30AM

For Healing and Speedy Recovery of Janis Carlin  
Birthday blessings for Bernice Burcena from the family

Tuesday, January 8th, 2019, 10:30AM

Pro Populo

Wednesday, January 9th, 2019, 7:00PM

Thanksgiving Blessings for Shiela By Jorge Reginales and family..

Thursday, January 10th, 2019, 9:00AM

\_Thank you blessings for Mary Ann Florendo and Junie Baldos by Melina Pasal and family..

Friday, January 11th, 2019, 9:00AM

† Nemia Alegria Comodero by Wenceslao Comodero and family..

Saturday, January 12th, 2019, 5:00PM

† Souls in Purgatory by Adeline Doyle

† Margaret and Alphonse Luyten

by Virginia Luyten-Feledick and Betty Luyten-Friedman

Sunday, January 13th, 2019, 10:30AM

For the healing of Darwin Cornelio by Shiela Cornelio..

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Facebook: Find us under “Willibrord Parish”



## January 6, 2019 — Feast of Epiphany

### "They fell down and worshiped Jesus"

**Meditation:** If Jesus truly is who he claims to be, the eternal Son of God and Savior of the world, then why is he not recognized by everyone who hears his word and sees his works? John the Evangelist states that when Jesus came into the world *the world knew him not and his own people received him not* (John 1:10-11). Jesus was born in obscurity. Only the lowly shepherds recognized him at his birth. Some wise men also found their way to Bethlehem to pay homage to the newborn King of Israel. These men were not Israelites, but foreigners. They likely had read and discussed the Messianic prophecies and were anxious to see when this Messianic King would appear. God led them by means of an extraordinary star across the desert to the little town of Bethlehem where Jesus was born.

John Chrysostom (347-407 AD), in his homily on this passage from Matthew 2, explains the significance of the star of Bethlehem:

"Note how fitting was the order of events: the wise men saw the star, were received by the Jews and their king; they heard prophecy to explain what had appeared; the angel instructed them; and then they journeyed from Jerusalem to Bethlehem by the guidance of the star. From all this we learn that this was not an ordinary star, for no other star has this capacity to guide, not merely to move but to beckon, to “go before them,” drawing and guiding them along their way. The star remained after bringing them to the place, in order that the child might also be seen. For there is nothing conspicuous about the place. The inn was ordinary. The mother was not celebrated or notable. The star was needed to manifest and illumine the lowly place, until they had reached their destination at the manger." [*The Gospel of Matthew, Homily 7:3*]

In their thirst for knowledge of God, the wise men from the East willingly left everything, their home and country, in pursuit of that quest. In their diligent search they were led to the source of true knowledge - to Jesus Christ, the Light and Wisdom of God. When they found the newborn King they humbly worshiped him and gave him gifts fitting for a king.

The Lord of the universe who revealed the star of Bethlehem to the Gentiles of the East so they could come and worship Jesus, the Prince of Peace (Isaiah 9:6) and King of Kings (Revelations 19:16), gives each one of us the same light of revelation to recognize and accept Jesus as our Lord and Savior. Faith is an entirely free gift that God makes to us. It is through the help of the Holy Spirit, who moves the heart and opens the eyes of the mind, that we are able to understand, accept, and believe the truth which God has revealed to us through his Son, Jesus Christ. In faith, the human will and intellect cooperate with grace. "*Believing is an act of the intellect assenting to the divine truth by command of the will moved by God through grace*" (Thomas Aquinas).

To know and to encounter Jesus Christ is to know God personally. In the encounter of the wise men with Jesus we see the plan of God to give his only Son as King and Savior, not just for the Jewish people but for all the nations as well. The Lord Jesus came that both Jew and Gentile might find true and lasting peace with God. Let us pray today that Jew and Gentile alike will find the Lord and Savior on their journey of life. Do you bring the light of Jesus Christ to those you meet through the witness of your life and testimony?

"Lord Jesus Christ, we thank you for bringing salvation to all the nations. May the gospel of salvation be proclaimed to every nation today and to every person on the face of the earth. Help me to be a good witness of the joy of the gospel to all I meet." —<http://daily scripture.servantsoftheword.org/readings/2019/jan6.htm>

**Pastor**  
Fr. Gregory Nunez

**Office Staff**  
Anastasia Wargachuk  
*Administration*

Dec 8-9, 2018—\$1,124.40  
Dec 15-16, 2018—\$1,465.15  
Dec 22-23, 2018—\$792.90  
Dec 24-25, 2018 —  
\$4,243.05  
Dec 29-30, 2018 —\$910.80  
Dec 31, 2018/ Jan 1, 2019—  
\$833.70

**Mass Schedule**  
Saturday @ 5:00 pm  
Sunday @ 10:30 am  
(incl. Children's Liturgy)  
**Tues @ 7:00 pm (Rectory)**  
Wed @ 7:00 pm  
**Thursday & Friday (Rectory)**  
@ 9:00 am  
Adoration Fridays  
9:30am to 11:30am (Rectory)  
**Please note the Mass, on Tuesday, Thursday and Friday will be held in the Rectory**

**Anniversary and Birthday Blessings to**  
◊All who are celebrating this week.

Happy Birthday to  
Angela Choi,  
Bernice Burcena  
and Dylan Corpuz

**Thank you to**  
◊Mike, Ruth, Merly, Beng, Jackie, and all the volunteers who work at the Church, in the Rectory, in the Soup Kitchen and at the Flea Market

**Pope Francis: Like the Magi on Epiphany, don't be afraid to take risks**  
**Claire Giangravè (Jan 6, 2018) FAITH AND CULTURE CORRESPONDENT**

ROME - During a Mass celebrating the feast of the Epiphany at the Vatican Jan. 6, Pope Francis called faithful to be like the Magi, who, he said, continued to look upward at the sky, took risks and set out bearing gifts for Christ.

"If we want to find Jesus, we have to overcome our fear of taking risks, our self-satisfaction and our indolent refusal to ask anything more of life," Francis said. "We need to take risks simply to meet a Child."

"Those risks are immensely worth the effort," the pope said, "since in finding that Child, in discovering his tenderness and love, we rediscover ourselves."

The Three Wise Men, also traditionally called the Magi, were the only ones who saw the star leading the way to the manger, the pope said, because they were among the few people who raised their eyes to the heavens.

"We often make do with looking at the ground: it's enough to have our health, a little money and a bit of entertainment," Francis added. "I wonder if we still know how to look up at the sky. Do we know how to dream, to long for God, to expect the newness he brings, or do we let ourselves be swept along by life, like dry branches before the wind?"

The Magi, he continued, were not satisfied with "just getting by, with keeping afloat" and continued instead to look up and follow the path. Many others who instead raised their eyes toward the heavens chose not to follow the star to Bethlehem, maybe, the pope explained, because it wasn't as bright as others. "Jesus' star does not dazzle or overwhelm, but gently invites," he said, calling faithful to beware of the "meteors" and "shooting stars" that promise success, wealth and fortune only to quickly fade away and "mislead rather than lead."

The Lord's star, he said, while not shining as bright as others, is a reliable and constant light that "takes you by the hand in life and accompanies you" to peace and joy as it did with the Magi.

Another quality the pope encouraged massgoers to borrow from the Three Wise Men is to "set out" in order to find Jesus. In order to do this, faithful must also free themselves from unnecessary burdens and push through life's obstacles. "Jesus allows himself to be found by those who seek him, but to find him we need to get up and go, not sit around but take risks, not stand still, but set out," Francis said.

"Jesus makes demands: he tells those who seek him to leave behind the armchair of worldly comforts and the reassuring warmth of hearth and home. Following Jesus is not a polite etiquette to be observed, but a journey to be undertaken."

The pope admitted that setting out is not easy. Herod stayed locked in his palace, sending others to gather information in his stead, and all of Jerusalem was afraid of the changes that would be brought in by the Son of God. Worse still, the pope continued, were the scribes and priests, who knew about the ancient prophecy and told Herod, but did not set out to go to Bethlehem. <https://www.catholicnewsagency.com/news/pope-like-the-magi-we-must-leave-our-comfort-zone-to-find-jesus-81079>

**ST. WILLIBRORD ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH**

*Thank you*  
to all who helped to decorate the Church for Christmas and all who donated plants

**Holy Days of Obligation**  
The Canadian **Conference** of Catholic Bishops has decreed that the Holy Days of obligation to be observed in Canada are: all Sundays of the year, **Christmas Day** and the **Feast of Mary, Mother of God**.

**Collection Envelopes for 2019**  
Collection Envelopes are available at the back of the Church. If you are interested in receiving envelopes, please contact the rectory, or place your name, address and telephone number in the collection basket.

*"If in your heart you make a manger for his birth, then God will once again become a child on earth"— Angelus Sibelius*

**Zumba**  
Every Sunday, from 1:30PM to 2:30PM, we will be gathering downstairs to exercise. If you are interested in participating, please contact the rectory or speak with Stasi or Carole.

**DATES FOR FAITH FORMATION AND FORMATION FOR LAY PEOPLE**  
**Thursday Bible Study:**  
Will be held on Thursday, at 6:30PM, in Rectory  
**Meeting for Lectors, Lay Ministers and Choir Members:**  
will be held on Sunday, January 13, 2019, following the 10:30AM Mass  
**Choir Practice**  
will be held on Sunday, January 13, 2019, following the 10:30AM Mass  
**Acolytes:**  
Meeting will be held in the rectory, on January 12, 2019, 2018, at 9:00AM.  
**Faith in the family:**  
The next faith in the family will be on January 13, 2019  
**DATE(S) TO REMEMBER**  
**Flea Market:**  
Saturday, January 5, 2019, 9:00AM to 3:00PM  
**Mass in Cameron Hall**  
Saturday, January 12, 2019, 5:00PM, followed by a light meal

**CONFESSIONS** will be heard 15 minutes before each Mass weekdays and on weekends.  
**BAPTISM** Parents wishing to have their child baptized are asked to contact the Parish Office at 514-769-9678. A meeting with Parents and Godparents is a pre-requisite. Godparents must be baptized and confirmed in the Catholic Church.  
**MARRIAGE** Please contact the Parish Office or Father Gregory well in advance, as it is important to reserve the church before the Hall.