



MASSES FOR THE WEEK
 January 7—January 13
 EACH MASS IS OFFERED FOR
 THE INTENTIONS OF EVERYONE
 PRESENT AND FOR THE FOLLOWING:

SATURDAY, JANUARY 7

4:00 p.m. Joan E. Leblanc; Marlene Morris
 5:30 p.m. Ben Bridgeman

SUNDAY, JANUARY 8

8:00 a.m. Members of St. Patrick's Church
 (Propopulo)

9:30 a.m. Anthony K. Bailey; Jane O'Brien
 Chatelain; Anthony Chimente; Bertha B.
 Cooper; Lucille Corpora; Lindsey Dale;
 Maria Ferra; Jean Hayes; Delores Nellie;
 Joe Perrier & Family; John H. Schroder,
 Jr.; William Shields; Dr. & Mrs. Marion G.
 Simpson; Eleanor Stevens; Alvin
 Treadway; Kaye Vath

11:00 a.m. Abboud Family; Vernon Joseph Babin;
 Rosalie Bonnacarrer; Velma K. Candebat;
 Harry Charbonnet

MONDAY, JANUARY 9

11:30 a.m. Purgatorial List
 12:00 p.m. Vernon Joseph Babin; Joseph I. Giarrusso;
 E.J. Ourso

TUESDAY, JANUARY 10

11:30 a.m. Mr. Russell Schoenekes, Sr.
 12:00 p.m. Vernon Joseph Babin; Joseph I. Giarrusso;
 E.J. Ourso

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 11

11:30 a.m. Purgatorial List
 12:00 p.m. Vernon Joseph Babin; Joseph I. Giarrusso;
 E.J. Ourso

THURSDAY, JANUARY 12

11:30 a.m. Mr. Russell Schoenekes, Sr.
 12:00 p.m. Vernon Joseph Babin; Joseph I. Giarrusso;
 E.J. Ourso

FRIDAY, JANUARY 13

11:30 a.m. Purgatorial List
 12:00 p.m. Vernon Joseph Babin.

TRIDENTINE LATIN MASS—Sunday at 9:30 a.m.
Sunday within Octave of Epiphany
Feast of The Holy Family
Solemn High Mass—First Sunday of the month.
Benediction—Third Sunday after the 9:30 a.m. Mass.

GRADUAL FOR THE 11:00 A.M. SUNDAY MASS
 Isaias 60: 6 & 1, "All they from Saba shall come,
 bringing gold and frankincense, and showing forth
 praise to the Lord. Arise, and be enlightened, O
 Jerusalem: for the glory of the Lord is risen

**ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT
 AND BENEDICTION**

Every Sunday 3:00 p.m.—5:00 p.m.

**THE MASS IS THE GREATEST FORM OF
 CHRISTIAN CHARITY**

Mass request envelopes can be found in the vestibule.

SUNDAY OFFERING—January 1, 2005

First Collection \$ 4,793

Second Collection* \$ 1,829

*Archdiocese Ministries and Clergy

*Restoration & Maintenance

THE ANNUAL PARISH BUFFET

The annual parish buffet will take place in the rectory
 this Sunday, January 8, 2006
 from 10:30 a.m.—1:30 p.m.
 Everyone is cordially invited to attend.

EPIPHANY CHALK

The blessing of Epiphany chalk, to be used in the blessing of our
 homes, will take place after all Masses this weekend. Everyone is
 invited to take a packet of blessed chalk, with instructions and
 special prayers, for the blessing of their homes.

HOME-SCHOOL FAMILIES

St. Patrick's Church extends a warm welcome to the home-schooling
 families from the diocese who are celebrating with us this weekend.

IN MEMORY OF LISTING

A "proof" of the names for the 2006 "In Memory Of" can be found in
 the vestibule of the church. Please take a listing and check for
 correct spelling, etc. of your request. If a correction is needed please
 contact the rectory office before Friday, January 13, 2006.

IN MEMORY OF—FINAL WEEK!

Names are still being accepted for the 2006 "In Memory Of" listing
 on the back of the Sunday Bulletin. Envelope forms, found in the
 vestibule of the church, should be completed and returned to the
 rectory office no later than Friday, January 13, 2006.

1. All requests **MUST** be made by completing the designated form envelopes. .
2. Because of Hurricane Katrina the United States Postal Service has
 been heavily burdened by the amount of mail. Please do not rely
 upon the USPS to deliver mailed envelopes before Friday,
January 13, 2006. Completed envelopes can be deposited in any
 Mass collection basket or hand delivered to the rectory office
 during this final week.

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

For the sick of our parish and those who have asked for our prayers
 especially: Ree Alario; D. J. Ales; Michael Brassat; Michelle
 Catalanatto; Jim Clynch; Jackie Dabdoub; Grace Daigle; Ralph
 deBlanc; Regina Dillon; Lawrence Dufour; Joseph Ebberman;
 Donald Faust, Jr.; Anette Folse; Joseph French; Catherine
 Gegenheimer; Marie Herty; Celeste Judell; Marilyn Kitto; Zivana
 Kovacevich; Albert Leonhard; Betty Leonard; Reverend Val A.
 McInnes, O.P.; Colin McInnis; Irene Mackenroth; James Martello;
 Joseph Martello; Lucille Ogden; Beverly Orillion; Reverend Tim
 Pieris; Robert Plaskas; Jerri Rachal; M.G. "Doc" Simpson; Irene
 Tarormina.

IN MEMORIUM

Amedee & Waguespack Families	The Gaudin Family
Mr. & Mrs. Francis J. Barry	Jennifer Constant Hebert
P. Albert Bienvenu, Sr.	Leson-Terrebonne Families
Nicholas Christopher Callia	Lombardo-Scurria Family
The deBen Family	Thomas Ponseti, Jr.
Mr. Nandor & Mrs. Irene Dittler	Mary Kieilty Sweeney
Everett-McDonald-Gretchen Families	Pablo Villalobos
The Finnorn & Murray Families	Patrick Stephen Villalobos
Gates, Lanphier, Reaney Families	Josephine Sweeney Watson
	Kevin J. Wilson & Son Bryant

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

JOURNEY OF THE MAGI AND THE SEARCH FOR TRUTH

Tradition tells us that the pilgrims from the East were Magi - a Persian word for astrologers. In the early sources it is nowhere said that they were three in number, or that they were Gentiles, although that is the probable implication of their coming from the East.

The Magi fell down and worshipped when they found the infant Jesus. There is an epiphany of the Saviour for every type of person: shepherds, magi, men, women, the righteous (Simeon and Anna). They were clearly on a spiritual quest. If they had been looking for an earthly king they would have been disappointed by the circumstances in the stable and would not have offered gifts.

DISCOVERY

There are many moments of discovery, some radically different. For some, discovery comes through tragedy or disappointment. St Ignatius of Loyola discovered the Lord while reading about the saints as he lay wounded from battle in hospital.

For others, discovery comes when the vanity of worldly success is recognized, especially by people who are successful, but empty and unsettled. Michel Tournier's novel *The Four Wise Men* is about a fourth king who failed to complete the pilgrimage. It focuses on the rich and powerful who are looking for something deeper, those who are prosperous, can afford to travel, and are game to follow a star.

Discovery can also come through the realization that we are imprisoned by bad habits. Sex, alcohol, drugs, money or power can all enslave us. St Augustine knew about discovering the Lord despite the fog of lust, asking the Lord, "make me pure, but not yet". As Augustine said, our hearts are always restless until they rest in God.

The intellectual search is another way of discovery. Edith Stein was Jewish, then atheist before becoming a Catholic, then a Carmelite and finally a martyr. She wrote beautifully on the role of women 75 years ago and was influential on John Paul II. She said "whoever is searching for the truth is searching for God even if he does not know it".

Cardinal Newman is another example, an English convert, originally an Evangelical Anglican, who then joined the Oxford Movement. He became a Catholic through the study of Church history.

Pilate asked Jesus: "What is truth?" This is the question today

behind our searching. The search might be conducted through philosophy for a set of abstract principles, like the search in physics for the principle of everything (Hawking). Or the search can be for a person and teacher whom we can follow, on whose teaching we can base our life.

We are obliged to search, and this applies to the youngest adult and to the oldest Cardinal. Whether in darkness or light we cannot stand still. We can only go forward or backwards.

The most important search is to find God and know Him better. A church architect once said a church building is for those searching for God. This is not so. A Catholic church is for those who have found God in Jesus Christ.

We seek a God, who hears our prayers, who forgives our sins, is lovable, predictable, just and merciful. God is not the blind forces of nature, which are unforgiving. God always forgives, humans sometimes forgive, nature never forgives.

God and the Son of God are the ends of our most important searching. This is the pearl of great price, the treasure in the field. Good men and philosophers have longed for centuries to know this truth and never knew it before Christ was born in Bethlehem. To know the one true God who loves us and that Jesus Christ is the son of God is the most precious gift.

DEAD ENDS

In our searching there are certain dead ends or false routes. One is to believe that all religions are much the same and as good as one another. But religions are very different and bad religion, corrupt religion, produces very bad fruits indeed.

Another dead end or false start is to accept that each person defines for himself what is true. In religion this often means the primacy of conscience. Truth then becomes simply a question of feeling, choice or preference. But this ignores the fact that there are important moral and religious truths, which remain true whether we accept or reject or ignore them.

Some claim that religion can be bought at a cut price - or no price at all. In fact if nothing is required from us in a religion we can be sure the offering is spurious, counterfeit, and probably dangerous. There is no substitute for the person of Jesus. He makes God accessible to us, and to the extent we understand Jesus we understand God.

Cardinal George Pell

This article is from a talk given by Cardinal George Pell at a World Youth Day, Cologne, Germany; 17 August 2005

THE EPIPHANY OF OUR LORD

A star often appears in the heaven of our souls; it is an inspiration from God, clear and intimate, urging us to greater generosity and calling us to a life of closer union with Him. Like the Magi, we too must always follow our star with faith, promptness, and selfless generosity. If we allow it to guide us, it will certainly lead us to God; it will bring us to the One whom we are seeking.

The Magi did not give up their quest, although the star—at one point—disappeared from their sight. We should follow their example and their perseverance, even when we are in interior darkness. This is a trial of faith which is overcome only by the exercise of pure, naked faith. I know that he wills it, I know that God is calling, and that suffices for me... I know whom I have believed. No matter what happens, I shall trust Him.

Father Gabriel of St. Mary Magdalen, O.C.D.

CHRISTMAS STORIES

The custom in Germany is that of the children's festival between January 1-6 (Three Kings Day). After a service at the churches the children go from house to house to gather offerings for poor children in poor countries. They are dressed as the three kings and carry sticks with stars on the top. At the homes they sing songs and recite messages of Christmas. At each house they paint the letters "20+C+M+B+06" which are for the Latin *Christus Mansionem Benedicat* (Christ bless this house). At the same time the letters are the first letters of the names of the wise men: Caspar, Melchior and Balthasar. —

The shrine of the Three Kings is in the Cologne Cathedral in Germany.