

## FAMILY IN CRISIS

Today's Gospel gives us the only real glimpse we have into the life of the Holy Family during the childhood of Jesus. Here we see a family in crisis. A son is lost and frantic parents search and search until they finally find him. We hear these words from the mother of Jesus: "Son, why have you done this to us? Your father and I have been looking for you with great anxiety" (Luke 2:48). We can only imagine the distress felt by Mary and Joseph. Their love for their son brought them to their wits' end. Let us take the opportunity this day to ask the Blessed Virgin Mary and Saint Joseph to intercede for us in times when our families experience anxiety and fear.

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## TODAY'S READINGS

**First Reading** — Hannah gives her son Samuel back to the LORD, leaving him in the temple at Shiloh: "As long as he lives, he shall be dedicated to the LORD" (1 Samuel 1:20-22, 24-28) *or Sirach 3:2-7, 12-14.*

**Psalm** — Blessed are they who dwell in your house, O Lord (Psalm 84) *or Psalm 128.*

**Second Reading** — We are children of God when we believe in the name of God's Son, Jesus Christ, and love one another just as he commanded us (1 Jn 3:1-2, 21-24) *or Colossians 3:12-21 [12-17].*

**Gospel** — Joseph and Mary find the lost Jesus in the temple in the midst of the teachers, listening to them and asking questions (Luke 2:41-52).

### ST. EDWARD CATHOLIC CHURCH The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph December 27, 2009

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**Pastor:** Rev. Msgr. Michael J. Eivers  
**Assistant Pastor:** Rev. Fr. Christian E. Plancher  
Rev. Fr. Walter Mitchell  
**Deacon:** Rev. Mr. Arnold De Luca  
**Deacon:** Rev. Mr. Carl Cramer  
**Deacon:** Rev. Mr. Mario Ganuza

**Saturday Vigil Mass:** 5 p.m.  
**Sunday Masses:** 7:30, 9 and 11:30 a.m.  
**Mass in Spanish:** 1:30 p.m.  
**Monday through Saturday Masses:** 8 a.m.  
**Confessions:** 11 to 11:30 a.m. on Saturdays

### St. Edward Gifts and Books

**Monday, Tuesday & Thursday:**  
8:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.  
**Saturday:** 9 a.m. to 12 noon  
**Sunday:** 8 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

## DECEMBER/JANUARY RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>27</b> NO Liturgy of the Word	<b>28</b> NO Religious Education	<b>29</b> NO Religious Education	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b> NO Liturgy of the Word
<b>3</b> NO Liturgy of the Word	<b>4</b> Religious Education	<b>5</b> Religious Education	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b> Liturgy of the Word
<b>10</b> Liturgy of the Word	<b>11</b> Religious Education	<b>12</b> Religious Education	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b> NO Liturgy of the Word
<b>17</b> NO Liturgy of the Word	<b>18</b> NO Religious Education	<b>19</b> NO Religious Education	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b> Liturgy of the Word
<b>24</b> Liturgy of the Word	<b>25</b> NO Religious Education	<b>26</b> NO Religious Education	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b> NO Liturgy of the Word
<b>31</b> NO Liturgy of the Word						

### CCD Reminders

CCD begins again for the New Year on Monday, January 4th and 5th

### *A New Year's Prayer*

God our Father,  
 on this Feast of Mary, the Mother of God ,  
 give us an appreciation of the many gifts  
 you have given us during the past year.  
 Help us bless You in return during the coming year  
 by sharing our gifts with others who have far  
 less than we do, and who are most in need of our gifts.

Amen.





### Family affairs during ADVENT

Festival of Choirs  
Sunday, December 13 at 6 p.m.

\*

Bagging of the Toys  
Wednesday, December 16 at 6 p. m.

\*

Community Penance Service  
Friday, December 18 at 6 p.m.

\*

Caravan to the Migrant Camp  
Saturday, December 19 at 8 a.m.

### CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE

#### Christmas Eve Dec. 24

- ◆ 4 p.m. Children's Mass
- ◆ 6 p.m. Family Mass
- ◆ 8 p.m. Spanish Mass
- ◆ 11 p.m. Solemn Christmas Mass

#### Christmas Day Dec. 25

- ◆ 10 a.m. Christmas Day Mass
- ◆ 12 noon Spanish Mass

#### Saturday, December 26 and Sunday, December 27

Masses as usual

French/Creole Mass Dec. 27 at 5 p.m.

#### New Year's Eve Dec. 31

- ◆ 8 a.m. Mass as usual
- ◆ 5 p.m. Vigil Mass
- ◆ 10 p.m. Vigil Mass-French/Creole & Spanish

#### New Year's Day Jan. 1

- ◆ 10 a.m. Mass- Blessed Virgin Mary
- ◆ 12 noon Spanish Mass- Blessed Virgin Mary

**SMILE — GOD LOVES YOU!**



St. Edward's Jester says, "Laughter is free!!"

**Attainable New Year's Resolutions**

This year, I resolve to...

- Gain weight. At least 30 pounds.
- Stop exercising. Waste of time.
- Read less. Makes you think.
- Watch more TV. I've been missing some good stuff.
- Procrastinate more. Starting tomorrow.
- Take a vacation to someplace important: like, to see the largest ball of twine.
- Stop bringing lunch from home: I should eat out more.
- Get in a whole NEW rut!
- Personal goal: bring back disco.
- Buy an '83 Eldorado and invest in a really loud stereo system.
- Get the windows tinted. Buy some fur for the dash.
- Speak in a monotone voice and only use monosyllabic words.
- Spend my summer vacation in Cyberspace.
- Not eat cloned meat.
- Create loose ends.
- Not believe politicians.
- Avoid transmission of inter-species diseases.
- Avoid airplanes that spontaneously drop 1000 feet.
- Stay off the International Space Station.
- Not swim with pirhanas or sharks.
- Spread out priorities beyond my ability to keep track of them.
- Wait around for opportunity.
- Focus on the faults of others.
- Mope about my faults.
- Never make New Year's resolutions again.



**CATHOLIC CONVERSATIONS ON THE SCRIPTURES**  
Archdiocese of Miami - Ministry of Christian Formation



**January 3, 2010**      **Epiphany of the Lord (Cycle C)**  
**Gospel reading:**    **A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew 2:1-12**  
[To be read aloud]

When Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, in the days of King Herod\*, behold, magi from the east\*\* arrived in Jerusalem, saying, “Where is the newborn king of the Jews? We saw his star at its rising and have come to do him homage.” When King Herod heard this, he was greatly troubled, and all Jerusalem with him. Assembling all the chief priests and the scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Christ was to be born. They said to him, “In Bethlehem of Judea, for thus it has been written through the prophet: ‘And you Bethlehem, land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; since from you shall come a ruler, who is to shepherd my people Israel.’” Then Herod called the magi secretly and ascertained from them the time of the star’s appearance. He sent them to Bethlehem and said, “Go and search diligently for the child. When you have found him, bring me word, that I too may go and do him homage.” After their audience with the king they set out. And behold, the star that they had seen at its rising preceded them, until it came and stopped over the place where the child was. 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. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they departed for their country by another way.

**\* Herod reigned from 37 to 4 B.C. \*\*The tradition of identifying three Magi was based on the three gifts and started in the 5th Century.**

**Brief commentary:**

The Magi of today’s text are not the fortune teller magicians of Acts 8:9-25. Matthew portrays them as wise men from the East who probably had knowledge of Astrology and Astronomy. It was a common ancient belief that a new star appeared at the time of a ruler’s birth. The Magi saw the star and followed it. The fascination with the astral phenomenon and its origins should not deviate us from the true meaning of the passage: these pagan men (Gentiles) saw the Jewish star and that was enough for their faith; they allowed the light to guide them and they chose the right path. On the other hand, King Herod feared the coming of a Messiah who could threaten his power and decided to get rid of him. The Gentiles accepted the baby, and his poverty did not bother them; instead it filled them with joy and moved them to adoration and surrender.

Today’s reading offers three significant messages:

- While the powerful reject Jesus, the gentiles acknowledge Him as King.
- We should learn from the Magi: 1) to identify the signs, 2) to set out on the journey with determination, and 3) not to allow anyone or anything to become an obstacle in the way.
- The Church is a house with room for all peoples, races, and cultures.

**For our shared or personal reflection:**

After a brief pause for silent reflection share your answers, ideas or feelings.

1. Am I open to welcome the strangers that come into my neighborhood or parish?
2. Is my life like a “star” which guides others to Jesus?

Suggested readings: Catechism of the Catholic Church paragraphs 439; 486; 528; 724.

**REFLEXIONES CATÓLICAS SOBRE LA BIBLIA**  
**Arquidiócesis de Miami - Ministerio de formación cristiana**



3 de enero de 2010

Epifanía del Señor (Ciclo C)

Lectura del Evangelio según san Mateo 2:1-12 [Léase en voz alta]

Habiendo nacido Jesús en Belén de Judá, durante el reinado de Herodes\*, vinieron unos Magos de Oriente\*\* a Jerusalén, preguntando: “¿Dónde está el rey de los judíos que ha nacido?, porque hemos visto su estrella en Oriente y venimos a adorarlo”. Herodes y todo Jerusalén quedaron muy intranquilos con la noticia. Reunió el rey a todos los sacerdotes principales y a los maestros de la Ley para preguntarles dónde debía nacer el Cristo. Ellos le contestaron que en Belén de Judá, ya que así lo anunció el profeta que escribió: “Belén en la tierra de Judá, tu no eres el más pequeño entre los principales pueblos de Judá, porque de ti saldrá un jefe, el pastor de mi pueblo de Israel”. Herodes, entonces, llamó privadamente a los Magos para saber la fecha exacta en que se les había aparecido la estrella. Encaminándose a Belén les dijo: “Vayan y averigüen bien lo que se refiere a este niño. Cuando lo hayan encontrado avisenme para ir yo también a adorarlo”. Después de esta entrevista, los Magos prosiguieron su camino. La estrella que habían visto en Oriente iba adelante de ellos, hasta que se paró sobre el lugar en que estaba el niño. Al ver la estrella, se alegraron mucho, y habiendo entrado en la casa, hallaron al niño que estaba con María, su madre. Se postraron para adorarlo y, abriendo sus cofres, le ofrecieron regalos: oro, incienso y mirra. Luego regresaron a su país por otro camino, porque se les avisó en sueños que no volvieran a Herodes.

\* Herodes reinó desde el 37 hasta el 4 a.C. \*\*La tradición de tres magos, basada en los tres regalos, comenzó en el siglo V y los nombres de Melchor, Gaspar y Baltasar se les dieron en el siglo VIII.

**Comentario breve:**

Los magos de este episodio son muy diferentes a Simón el Mago de quien nos habla Hechos 8:9-25. Los Magos de Oriente eran personas sabias y cultas que poseían conocimientos de astrología y astronomía. La estrella que siguieron pudo haber sido resultado de la conjunción de los planetas Júpiter y Saturno. Sin embargo, los esfuerzos por identificar qué estrella vieron no nos debe alejar de la importancia de este relato. Lo increíble es que estos hombres gentiles (paganos) vieron la estrella del rey de los judíos y esto fue suficiente para su fe; se dejaron guiar por su luz y ella los guió hacia el pesebre. Por el contrario, el rey Herodes temió la posible venida de un Mesías que le robara su poder. Los Gentiles aceptaron al niño, y su pobreza no los desconcertó sino que los movió a la adoración y a la entrega. Estos eran dos temas fundamentales de la iglesia primitiva: la conversión de los gentiles y su incorporación al cuerpo de Cristo, y el rechazo de Israel, prefigurado en la actitud hostil de Herodes.

La lectura de hoy nos presenta tres ideas importantes:

- ◆ La Epifanía es la manifestación a toda la humanidad del misterio de Dios hecho hombre.
- Debemos aprender de los Magos: 1) a descubrir los signos, 2) a caminar con determinación, y 3) a no permitir que nada ni nadie sea obstáculo que nos desvíe del camino hacia él.
- La Iglesia es una casa abierta donde caben todos los pueblos, razas, y culturas.

Para la reflexión personal o comunitaria:

Después de una pausa breve para reflexionar en silencio, comparte con otros sus ideas o sentimientos.

1. ¿Estoy dispuesto a recibir a los extranjeros que llegan a mi barrio y a mi parroquia?
2. ¿Es mi vida como una estrella que guía a otros a Jesús?

Lecturas recomendadas: Catecismo de la Iglesia Católica, párrafos 439; 486; 528; 724.



**Saturday, December 26th**

8:00 a.m. In memory of Mercedes & Galera Nelson and Jose Ramon Puento  
5:00 p.m. In memory of Al Benson and Josias Valero

**Sunday, December 27th**

7:00 a.m. For the People  
9:00 a.m. In memory of Brian Mallon and Geronimo Nituda  
11:30 a.m. In memory of Dolores & Vincente Castillo and Dionisio Sentic, Sr.  
1:30 p.m. In memory of Sarah Bernal and Federico Bernal  
5:00 p.m. Elaine Astwood

**Monday, December 28th**

8:00 a.m. Intentions of Sydelle & Granger Ruben and Julie Alicea

**Tuesday, December 29th**

8:00 a.m. In memory of Olga Pasmore and Graciela Sanclemente

**Wednesday, December 30th**

8:00 a.m. In memory of John Sheen and Victor T. Marrero, Sr.

**Thursday, December 31st**

8:00 a.m. Intentions of Eustelle France and Simone Pasmore

**Friday, January 1st**

10:00 a.m. In memory of Cyril Barretto, Encarnacion & Guillermo Adrineda  
Intentions of Madol Sobrevinas

**Saturday, January 2nd**

8:00 a.m. In memory of Carol Perella and Casper Rubeo  
5:00 p.m. In memory of Jack Greaner and Marie Tianero

**READINGS FOR THE WEEK**

Monday: 1 Jn 1:5 — 2:2; Mt 2:13-18  
Tuesday: 1 Jn 2:3-11; Lk 2:22-35  
Wednesday: 1 Jn 2:12-17; Lk 2:36-40  
Thursday: 1 Jn 2:18-21; Jn 1:1-18  
Friday: Nm 6:22-27; Ps 67; Gal 4:4-7; Lk 2:16-21  
Saturday: 1 Jn 2:22-28; Jn 1:19-28  
Sunday: Is 60:1-6; Ps 72; Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6; Mt 2:1-12

**The Rosary will be prayed Monday through Saturday at 7:35 a.m. before all 8:00 a.m. Masses.**

*This Week in Our Parish*

**Sunday, December 27th**

No Liturgy of the Word  
French/Creole Mass: 5 p.m.

**Monday, December 28th**

No Religious Education

**Tuesday, December 29th**

No Religious Education  
Hosanna Choir: 6 p.m.

**Wednesday, December 30th**

Christlight Dancers: 5 p.m.  
No Agnus Dei Choir  
Consolation Group: 7 p.m.

**Thursday, December 31st**

No RCIA  
(See New Year's Eve schedule)

**Friday, January 1st**

( See New Year's Day schedule)

**Saturday, January 2nd**

No Liturgy of the Word

**SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES**

Sunday: The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph  
Monday: The Holy Innocents  
Tuesday: St. Thomas Becket  
Thursday: St. Sylvester I; New Year's Eve  
Friday: Octave of Christmas; New Year's Day; The Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of God; World Day of Prayer for Peace; First Friday  
Saturday: Ss. Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzen; First Saturday

**Hours for Eucharistic Adoration**

Mornings Monday through Friday in the Chapel: 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.  
Evenings Monday through Friday in the Chapel: 5 p.m. to 9 p.m.  
Benediction on Wednesdays at 8:30 p.m. in the Church