

January 3, 2021
The Epiphany of the Lord

Reflection for the Week

GENTLENESS

Feelings are everywhere—be gentle.

J.Masai

Today's Readings

First Reading — Rise up in splendor, Jerusalem! The Lord shines upon you and the glory of the Lord appears over 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 the *Lectionary for Mass* © 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 55:1-11; Ps 29:1-4, 3, 9-10
or Is 12:2-3, 4bcd-6; Acts 10:34-38 or
1 Jn 5:1-9; Mk 1:7-11

Please pray for our parishioners & extended family: Rest in Peace:

Judy Laxen, Dorle & Paul Gross, Josephine Small, Martha Araj Ayoub, David Desch, Ethel Friedrichs, Charlie & Dodie Vaszko, Father Kirk, Bill Lum, Father Ken Westray of St. Vincent De Paul –SF, & Father P. Gerard O'Rourke

For Healing: Edith Bucoy, Pat Hoffman, Tom Johnson, Maureen Francis, Joe Humphreys, Mike Marty, Patrick Lee, Teresa Hyatt, Estela Becerra, Shirley Dela Cuz, Lynette Castiglione. & all our parishioners that are sick...and a special reminder to pray for those we know now living in care facilities.

Mass Intentions

January 1 thru January 7, 2020 (Fri. thru Thur.)

Fri.	(RIP+)	12:10 p.m.
Sat.	(RIP+)	4:15 p.m.
Sun.	(RIP+)	9:30 a. m.
Sun.	(RIP+)	11:30 a. m.
Mon.	(RIP+)	12:10 p. m.
Tues.	(RIP+)	12:10 p. m.
Weds.	(RIP+)	12:10 p. m.
Thurs.	(RIP+)	12:10 p. m.

Give the gift of a Mass Intention.
Intention for Birthdays, Memorials, RIP,
Blessings, Marriage, and Get Well.

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

- Sunday: The Epiphany of the Lord;
National Migration Week
- Monday: St. Elizabeth Ann Seton
- Tuesday: St. John Neumann
- Wednesday: St. André Bessette
- Thursday: St. Raymond of Penyafort;
Julian Calendar Christmas

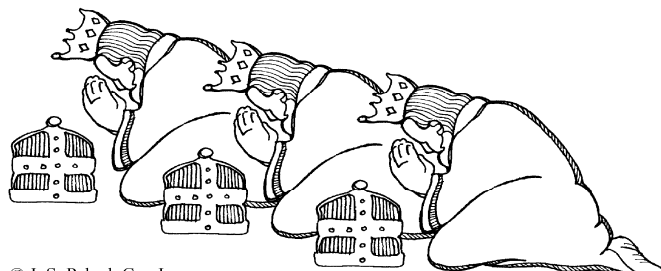
The Liturgy of Emmanuel

The assembly has gathered from near and far, on foot, by bus, by car, by subway, singly and by twos and threes: single people, couples, families. Now that movement is ritualized and made visible in the liturgy's entrance procession.

We are not alone on this journey; Christ is with us. The procession is led by the cross, with the image of Christ upon it. Candles, signs of a living presence, are carried around the cross. Candles also accompany the Book of the Gospels, another sign of Emmanuel, God-with-us. The priest presider is likewise a sign of Christ's presence in our assembly; he will act *in persona Christi*, in the person of Christ, who presides at every Eucharist.

As the procession begins, we stand and sing together in our first act as a community. The joining of our voices begins to turn many into one. The songs we sing range from ancient chants to contemporary hymns, but they have the same purpose, to foster our unity and turn our thoughts to the mysteries we gather to celebrate. We may feel that we can't sing well, but "Christ always invites us to enter into song, to rise above our own preoccupations, and to give our entire selves to the hymn of his Paschal Sacrifice" (USCCB, *Sing to the Lord*, 14).

—Corinna Laughlin, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.



Earlier this year, the Pastoral Council of St. John of God published our goals for the year. Among those goals: the creation of an out reach ministry to use telephone calls to reach out to the sick and/or those who are experiencing a long term absence from the liturgy at St. John of God. As we enter a new year, we would like to put words into action. Please contact Pat Hoffman at astropah@aol.com, or other parish members: Cindy Conway, Lynette Castiglione, Gilda Weatherall, Chuck Withereil or any other member of the Pastoral Council. Your requests will remain confidential.. We are also looking for a name for this outreach group. Anyone who comes up with a clever name for the ministry will be awarded a \$50 Amazon Gift Card. The winning name will be judged by the Pastoral Council. All entries must be submitted to any member of the Council by January 17, 2021. Good Luck!!

Livestreams of Liturgies

Those who are unable to attend Mass in person during the pandemic are encouraged to maintain their spiritual life in other ways. In particular the Cathedral and many other parishes are livestreaming Masses. Information concerning livestreams from the cathedral and other Bay Area parishes can be found at <https://sfarch.org/livestreams>

WEDNESDAY EVENING ZOOM BIBLE STUDY ON ISAIAH

Our Adult Faith Formation Team invites you to participate in an interactive Bible Study on the Book of Isaiah, to be held on Wednesday evenings from 5:30 to 7:00 PM on Zoom, starting January 6th, 2021, led by Pat Hoffman and Paul Riofski. We will be using the New Collegeville Bible Commentary (the volume on Isaiah contains commentary by Leslie J. Hoppe, OFM, Adjunct Professor at Catholic Theological Union). Our meetings will be interactive, with participants reading the Scripture along with the commentary, to discuss the meaning of the texts. Please contact Paul Riofski (sjogmusic@aol.com, 415-517-4647) to participate and arrange to receive the book (\$12.95 suggested donation). Please provide your name and e-mail address (or telephone number if you will access the sessions via phone). Zoom instructions will be sent prior to each session.

THE HOLY STAR
O Father, may that holy star
Grow every year more bright
And send its glorious beams afar
To fill the world with light.
—William Cullen Bryant

COVID-19 symptoms including fever, chills, cough, congestion, sore throat, difficulty breathing, headache, fatigue, vomiting, diarrhea, or new loss of taste or smell.

The Saint John of God Prayer

Dear God, through the intercession of St. John of God, patron of the poor and the sick, grant me the grace this day to greet every person that I meet with understanding and compassion. Reveal to me their needs and give me the means to inspire in my heart the humility and generosity of St. John so that I might be to them a revelation of God's Love. Amen.
- Rev. Fr. Thomas L. Seagrave

Pastoral Council

The Pastoral Council would like you to know what we've been doing this past year. If you are interested in planning for the coming year and in assisting Fr. Kabipi to help decide what issues are facing the parish, please join us on a Zoom Conference. In the past, we have worked on bringing the parish into compliance with the Archdiocese safety guidelines. We have brought in an epidemiology expert from UCSF to speak to us so that we can safely open the church. We invited parishioners to speak before the council to address issues that were important to them. The Department of Religious Education spoke to us regarding future catechetical programs in preparation for the holy sacraments. We also have a meeting with the finance committee to discuss the impact of COVID on revenues and future needs of St. John of God. We published a list of Pastoral Council members so that other parishioners can seek them out for topics of concern. We have established a policy of responding to inquiries and comments within 24 hours. We have a correspondence file available which can be found in the parish office. We also keep minutes to our meetings that can be easily accessed on the google news group. They are also kept in a binder in the Parish Secretary Office for viewing. We would like our mission statement to align with the goals of SJOG. Please feel free to contact Pat Hoffman at astropah@aol.com.

Masses resume outdoors again!!

I want to reach out to you as we continue to deal with Covid-19. Please know that you have been in my daily prayers & Masses even as we have been unable to be together in person. I am here for you and I am available to bring Communion to you at your home at your request. Please call the Parish Office and leave your name and phone number so we can schedule a time for me to bring you Communion. You are a valued member of our St. John of God Community and I thank God for you! Masses will return to the outside courtyard pending further direction from the City and County. This includes Saturday 4:15 p.m., Sunday 9:30 a.m. and 11:30 a.m. Weekday Mass has been suspended. For individual prayer, the Chapel will maintain the Christmas environment until January 10th. Please follow the (now) normal requirements listed below:

- *A face mask covering your nose and mouth is required.
- *Physical Distancing will be observed.
- *Please place your Offertory gift at the end of Mass in the basket as you leave the courtyard.
- *Hand sanitizer is available for your use. Those of you who are elderly or who have pre-existing conditions that make you more vulnerable to infection, PLEASE STAY HOME. The same applies if you are exhibiting symptoms of illness.

I look forward to celebrating Mass with you. May the Peace of Christ be with you! Fr. Kabipi

CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

NEW YEARS DAY MASS, JANUARY 1, 2021: 12:10 P.M.

Dear St. John of God Parishioners,

Here's another round of messages from members of the SJOG community sharing what they miss about St. John of God during the pandemic.

From 9:30 choir member **Seema Nagpal**:

I miss everyone, too. I especially miss my kids feeling they are a part of a big, broad, diverse community and that just being there teaches so much. Sona has just been starting to explore the ideas behind "black lives matter" and she asks why anyone would do anything bad to Father Kabipi. :(



In the note that accompanied her donation, Seema added: I miss you all!!!

Andrew Taggart shares that he misses "the image of our Lady of Guadalupe."

And **Mary Kate Alexander** who is frequently our 9:30 am pianist says: "I miss the music and the fellowship."

We all hope to be together in the pews at 1290 5th Avenue as soon as health and safety precautions allow. And we WILL be! – with your help.

If you haven't read the year-end appeal we are conducting this year in lieu of the annual raffle, take a look here: http://www.sjog.net/2020_appeal.pdf. If you haven't made a gift yet and you are able to do so, you can follow the instructions in the letter. If you're not able to contribute this year, please know that we understand and the community is still eager to welcome you back to Mass as soon as health and safety allows.

With love and prayers for health and strength,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Susan Fox". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Susan Fox, Fundraising Committee
415-516-1170 susanfoxcfre@outlook.com

PS If you can't send a financial contribution, **can you say a prayer for the success of this effort?** And we'd still love to hear what YOU miss most not being able to attend Mass.

Parish Contact Information

Name _____

Address _____

Email Address _____

Home Phone _____

Cell Phone _____

Mass (or Masses) you usually attend _____

Check this box to be added to the St. John of God email list (SJoG-News).

This information will only be used for parish communications so we may better serve you.

Peace in Christ,

Fr Kabipi

Fill out, print, and mail this form to St. John of God Parish, 1290 5th Ave, S.F. 94122 or you can submit the information by email or online at sjog.net/contactinfo.php