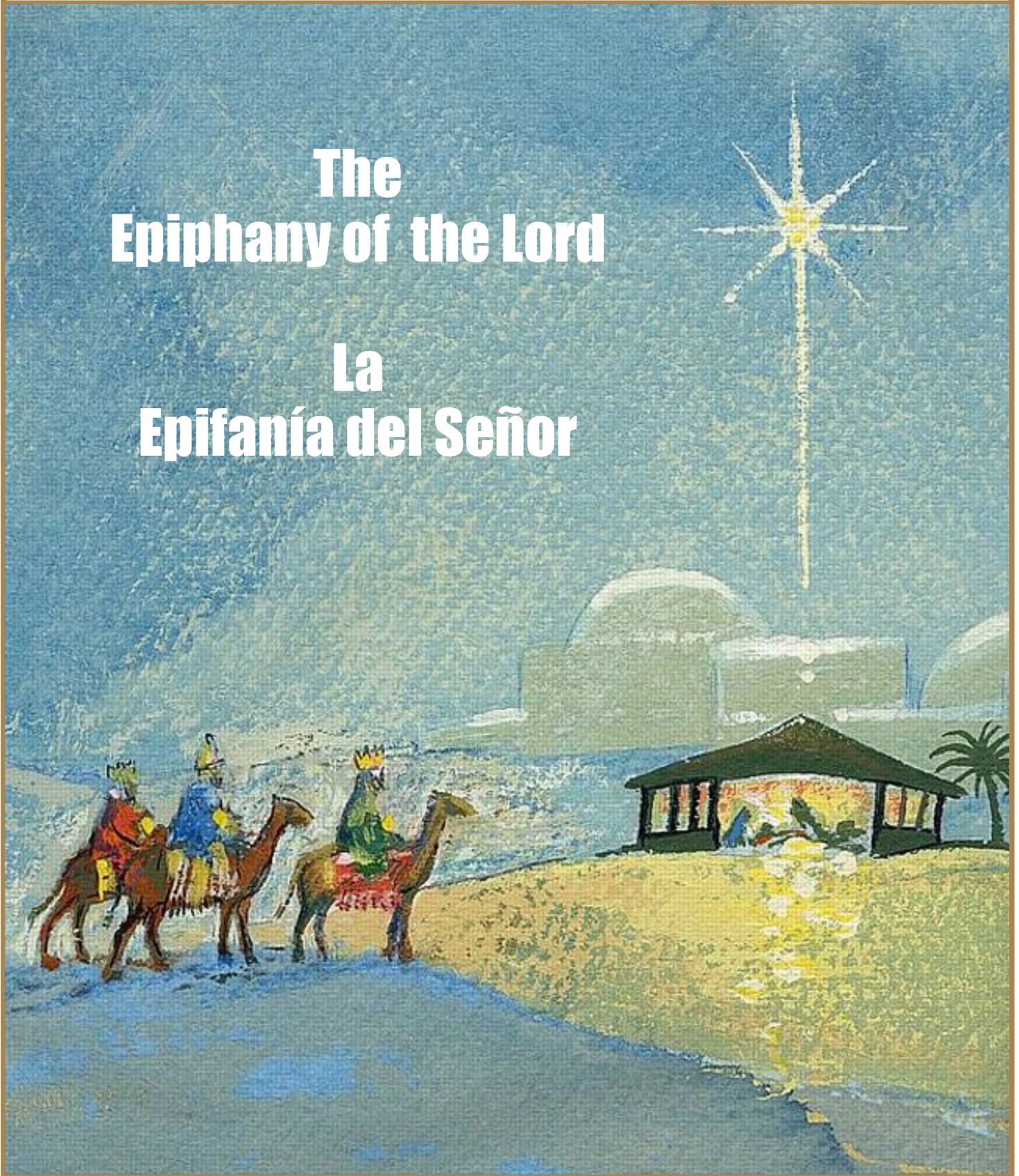


# *St. Didacus Catholic Community*

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Email us at: [mainoffice@stdidacuschurch.org](mailto:mainoffice@stdidacuschurch.org) or go to our Church website: [stdidacuschurch.org](http://stdidacuschurch.org)

## **The Epiphany of the Lord**

## **La Epifanía del Señor**







We may walk many roads when we search for God, and He leads us all the while. The men we honor today were not Jews. The Messiah wasn't coming for them, not in the minds of Jesus' contemporaries. These men were astrologers. They were adept at reading portents in the sky, a practice condemned in the Mosaic

covenant. Still, to the best of their knowledge and awareness, they were seeking the truth. This truth led them to journey from their own homeland to honor a king they'd never met, one they couldn't be sure truly existed. "We saw his star at its rising and have come to do him homage." Who do you know that seeks God so tenaciously?

"Magi from the east arrived in Jerusalem," the Gospel tells us. Who are the seekers in your own life? Maybe it's your cautiously curious co-worker, the neighbor who unexpectedly found peace on a yoga retreat, or your desperately angry child who has chosen, for now, to go their own way. Perhaps they're not overtly headed for Jesus now, not yet. But they may well be seekers of truth in ways we didn't expect. Our invitation is to listen, inquire, and give directions when appropriate.

The magi and modern-day seekers can inspire us as well. When is the last time you sought God's truth so tenaciously? As believers, it can perhaps be easy to become desensitized to the Christmas season and to the miraculous reality we recently celebrated. Mass may have been lovely, but so was the succulent roast beef, the crisp smell of evergreen, and the warm glow of family. Consider asking yourself, *"God, do I know you as well as I should? Would I journey as far as the magi to meet You, if I could? Do I journey to meet You daily in prayer? What do those answer say about me, and about our relationship?"* Perhaps we, like the magi, can once again be "overjoyed" at seeing the Light of the World.

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### **Religious Education News**

**Classes resume this week on Wednesday, January 8th at 5:30pm at the school.**

**Youth Night resumes on Tuesday, January 7th.**



This feast is also popularly known as the feast of the three kings. Accordingly, three wise men from the east brought gifts to the child Jesus. Every gift represented Christ's role in the plan of human Salvation; gold to represent Jesus as King, the gift of myrrh as priest, and Frankincense to represent his role as a prophet. The three men could also be interpreted as representatives from the three corners of the world coming to witness the fulfillment of God's promise by the birth of the baby Jesus. By the event of the Epiphany of the Lord we see also how people will reveal their inner disposition to God. The poor and the outsiders came to pay their respect while the powerful and the scholars search to destroy him. By revealing himself to the world (epiphany), Jesus has made it clear that anyone who comes to know him must make the choice between life and death, good and evil. There is no middle ground. One cannot be neutral or stay in middle. Making the right decision at the right time and the right choice is not easy. That is why we need constantly the gift of wisdom and right understanding. Like the three wise men, let us strive to always walk humbly searching and finding Jesus our Lord.

Fr. Rick

**Help us take down the Christmas decorations in the Church NEXT weekend on Sunday, January 12th at 12:30pm following the Spanish Mass.**



Our eyes naturally follow the light. When we move through a dark room, instinctively we seek out whatever moonlight or streetlight or LED markers we can trace across the space to guide our steps. Like those rows of floor lights the flight attendants always promise will come on in case of emergency, we need guiding lights, or we're sure to stumble in the dark. Revelation is another way to describe the light that's sometimes available in dark situations. We don't know what to do, scratching our heads and weighing the options. Then suddenly, the path before us clarifies and straightens, and we make a firm choice to walk it. Revelation, which literally means to lift a veil between seen and unseen, is something better and more far seeing than just another helping of useful information. It also gives us confidence that, even when walking in the dark valley or the shadow of death, all will be well. When St. Paul encounters the risen Lord on the Damascus Road, he didn't get answers to questions. He got direction for his life altogether.

—Exploring the Sunday Readings.

"Stars cross the sky, wise men journey from pagan lands, earth receives its savior in a cave. Let there be no one without a gift to offer, no one without gratitude as we celebrate the salvation of the world, the birthday of the human race. Now it is no longer, 'dust you are and to dust you shall return,' but, 'you are joined to heaven and into heaven you shall be taken up.'" - Saint Basil the Great (AD 330-379)

### An Epiphany Prayer

Lord Jesus,  
may your light shine our way,  
as once it guided the steps of the magi:  
that we too may be led into your  
Presence and worship you,  
the Child of Mary,  
the Word of the Father,  
the King of nations,  
the Savior of mankind;  
to whom be glory forever. Amen.



### Mass Intentions

**Saturday.....January 4**  
9:00AM.....†Bernard & Elizabeth Morzinski  
5:00PM.....†Odessa Watson  
**Sunday.....January 5**  
8:30AM.....Members of the Altar Society  
10:00AM.....†Sue Walker  
11:30AM.....People of St. Didacus  
**Monday.....January 6**  
7:30AM.....Helen Yturralde, Spec. Int.  
**Tuesday.....January 7**  
6:00PM.....†Tony Martinez  
**Wednesday.....January 8**  
8:30AM.....Mary Kathleen Lindgren, Spec. Int.  
**Thursday.....January 9**  
7:30AM.....†Genevieve Keyser  
**Friday.....January 10**  
7:30AM.....†Ed Sanclemente  
**Saturday.....January 11**  
5:00PM.....People of St. Didacus

### Welcome to St. Didacus Parish!

#### Sunday Masses

Saturday 5:00pm, Sunday 8:30am & 10:00am  
11:30am in Spanish

#### Daily Mass

Mon., Thurs., Fri. 7:30am / Tues. 6:00pm / Wed. 8:30am

#### Eucharistic Adoration

Wed. 7:30am—8:30am / Saturday 3:30pm—5:00pm  
First Fridays 8:00am—9:00am

**Confessions**—Saturdays 3:30pm or by appt.

**Baptisms: English:** 1st Saturday each month. **Spanish:** 4th Saturday each month. Arrangements must be made 3 months in advance. Contact the Parish Office for information.

**Weddings:** Arrangements must be made at least 9 months in advance. Please contact the Parish Office.

**Mental Health Ministry Direct Line:** For emergencies call 911. For non-emergencies please call 619-940-6193.

**Pastor, Rev. Enrique Fuentes**

**The Parish Office is open 8am-noon, 1-5pm M-F**  
**619-284-3472**

### Weekly Events at St. Didacus

<b>Sunday, January 5</b>		<b>Location</b>
<b>Monday, January 6</b>		<b>Location</b>
Spanish Men's Prayer Group	6:30pm	Hall
Encuentro Matrimonial	7:00pm	Hall
<b>Tuesday, January 7</b>		<b>Location</b>
High School Ministry	6:30pm-8:00pm	Hall
Creation Care Team	6:30pm	Office
<b>Wednesday, January 8</b>		<b>Location</b>
Altar Society	noon-2:00pm	Hall
Religious Education	5:30pm	School
Choir	7:00pm	Church
<b>Thursday, January 9</b>		<b>Location</b>
RCIA	7:00pm	Hall
Mental Health Ministry	7:00pm	Hall
<b>Friday, January 10</b>		<b>Location</b>
Encuentro Matrimonial	7:00pm	Hall
<b>Saturday, January 11</b>		<b>Location</b>
Scouts	3:00pm-7:00pm	Hall
Confessions	3:30pm	Church
Eucharistic Adoration	3:30pm-5:00pm	Church

*"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."*  
— Pope Francis

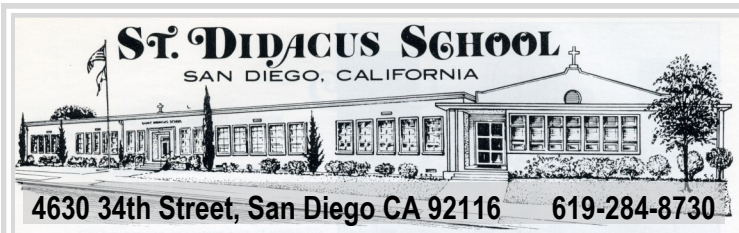
Tony Allen  
Tessa Anderson  
Diann Bauer  
Dan Bauer  
Martha Becerra  
Bob Bellesi  
Herminia Brignoni  
Gail Cedercrans  
Fred Cepeda  
Irene Davis  
MaryLou De Luca  
Bob Demers  
Josie Demers  
Mick Donahue  
Cecelia Dueber  
Carlita Durand  
Daniel Galvan  
Susan Guenzel  
Anthony Flores  
Stan Hammack

Dolores Hansel  
Joseph Hastings  
Jennifer Hughes & Family  
Al Hunt  
Joanne Hunt  
Ponciano Jimenez  
Emily Johnson  
Paul Kasha  
Meri Kerekanich  
Kerekanich Family  
Marilyn Kober  
Elizabeth La Costa  
Irene Lazo  
Juanita Lopez  
Paul Mansell  
Terrence McCabe  
Emma McPherson  
Dolores Mediano  
Peter Napolitano  
Lupita Plascencia

Judith Pratt  
Antonia Raya  
Betty Rios  
Dolores Robertson  
Victor M. Sanchez  
Shirley Scinocca  
Carol Schmidt  
Beverly Stemper  
Phillip Sturrock  
Maria Winters  
Jean Woody  
Helen Yturralde  
Joan Ververlo  
Anna Zarate

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*And the special intentions  
in our Book of Needs*



## Happy New Year!



**Catholic  
Schools  
Week**

Mark your calendars for Catholic Schools Week. We kick it off at the 10am Mass on Sunday, January 26th.



## Baptism Classes for January

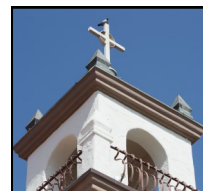
English: Thursday January 23rd @ 7pm in the hall

Spanish: Saturday, January 25th @ 10am in the hall

Contact the Parish Office to register.

## Second Collection

Today we're taking up a second collection for our Building Improvement Fund. Thank you for your generous donations!



## Announcement of Easter and the Moveable Feasts for the year 2020

Know, dear brethren (brothers and sisters), that, as we have rejoiced at the Nativity of our Lord Jesus Christ, so by leave of God's mercy we announce to you also the joy of his Resurrection, who is our Savior.

On the **twenty-sixth** day of **February** will fall Ash Wednesday, and the beginning of the fast of the most sacred Lenten season.

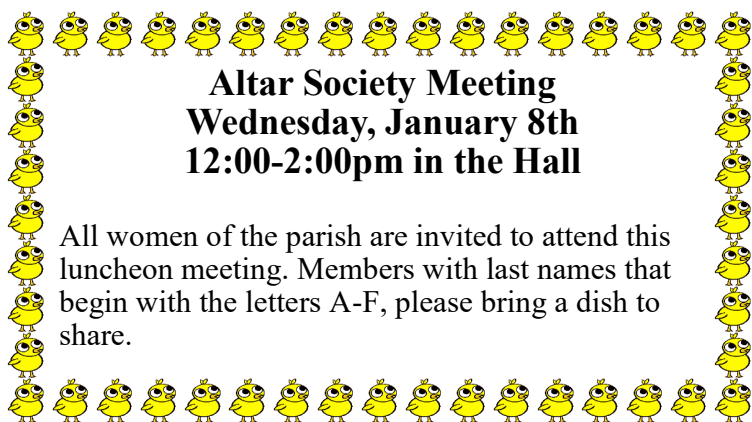
On the **twelfth** day of **April** you will celebrate with joy Easter Day, the Paschal feast of our Lord Jesus Christ.

On the **twenty-fourth** day of **May** will be the Ascension of our Lord Jesus Christ.

On the **thirty-first** day of **May**, the feast of Pentecost.

On the **fourteenth** day of **June**, the feast of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ.

On the **twenty-ninth** day of **November**, the First Sunday of the Advent of our Lord Jesus Christ, to whom is honor and glory for ever and ever. Amen.



## Altar Society Meeting Wednesday, January 8th 12:00-2:00pm in the Hall

All women of the parish are invited to attend this luncheon meeting. Members with last names that begin with the letters A-F, please bring a dish to share.

## Do your New Year's resolutions include saying the Rosary more?

Join us each Tuesday at 5:30pm to pray the Rosary before the 6pm Mass.

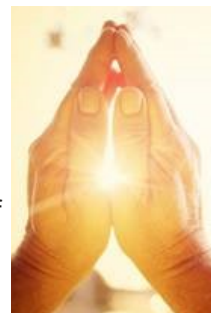


In saying the rosary, at each decade we focus briefly on an event in Jesus' life that speaks to us of his love for us. As we pray, we are moved to say through Mary: "I love you, Jesus!" The purpose of the rosary is to help us experience the love of Christ through Mary. Try adding the Rosary to your regular prayers—it's easy when you join us!

## Food for Thought... The Role Faith Plays in Your Health

Over 200 scientific studies found that attending church, prayer, and meditation of scripture leads to many benefits like less depression, colds, heart disease, cancer and addiction. The Journal of Aging and Health published a study looking at church attendance and mood relations among older adults (791) with a mean age of 75.62 over an eight-year period. They concluded that church attendance and faith kept them healthy—less depressed. Researchers at the Moffitt Cancer Center in Tampa showed that in 44,000 cancer patients, faith and spiritual beliefs impacted treatment positively. Patient's social interaction also improved. "These relationships were particularly strong in patients who experienced greater emotional aspects of religion and spirituality, including a sense of meaning and purpose in life as well as a connection to a source larger than oneself," said Heather Jim, PhD, lead author. Faith encourages healthy behavior—helping people avoid cigarettes, drugs and alcohol. It helps us eat better, and take care of our bodies more. Isolation can cause depression, and can weaken the immune system, as well as lead to anger. People who pray are less likely to get sick, and recover quicker from illnesses emotionally and physically. *"Don't worry about anything; instead, pray about everything. Tell God what you need, and thank him for all he has done. Then you will experience God's peace, which exceeds anything we can understand. His peace will guard your hearts and minds as you live in Christ Jesus,"* Philippians 4:6-7

—www.beliefnet.com

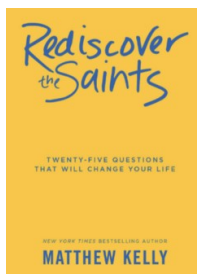




## Have you read Matthew Kelly's book that you picked up at Christmas?

In Chapter 12 of *Rediscover the Saints* we meet St. Harold, a martyred child. A question is posed in this chapter: "When was the last time you did something with your whole heart?" The three magi were certainly acting with their whole hearts when they went to worship a baby born in a manger.

There is more to discover about the saints and how they can inspire you and pray for you. Let us know what you think about the book!



## Have you ever experienced a time in your life when everything came together and became abundantly clear?

You may have been confused about something, in the dark, at a point of doubt, or unclear as to how to act.

You may have questioned someone's motivation and found

yourself coming to the wrong conclusion. Then out of nowhere, the insight came and reality dawned. You experienced an epiphany of sorts! Today, we celebrate Christ's manifestation to all of the nations of the world. Has it dawned on you yet that Jesus Christ is the answer humanity has been seeking? Jesus is truly the beginning and end of all things and the key to understanding God's presence in every human heart. Once this real Epiphany dawns on us, we can never see God, ourselves, or one another in any other way. The Divine Light illumines everything and connects the dots.

©LPi

## Magi, Three Kings, Three Wise Men... who were they?

We sing songs, give gifts, and move three mysterious men into our manger scenes.

There's a rich heritage in the Catholic Church of celebrating the magi, but their origins are steeped in mystery. The original Greek calls these men *magoi*. The word is translated elsewhere in Scripture to mean "magician," but a similar word was used in ancient history to describe an entirely different set of people altogether. In what is now modern-day Iran, the ruling empire had a wealthy priestly caste known as the Magi. At the time of Christ, the Magi formed one of the ruling councils of the Parthian Empire. These priests interpreted dreams and read the stars to anticipate major events that could affect the fortunes of the empire.

We're not exactly sure where the magi of the Gospels traveled from. Matthew simply says "the east." History tells us that the ancient regions of Persia, Assyria, and Babylon all had a magi priesthood at the time of Christ. Whichever region they hailed from, they likely traveled over one thousand miles over the course of several months to arrive at the Holy Family. Unfortunately for the classic song, there is no concrete evidence these men were themselves kings, though they did bear gifts "from afar" at the prompting of their astronomical calculations.



Thanks to Sister Alyce Waters for leading us through an Advent reflection on December 14th to help us prepare our hearts to celebrate the Christmas season!



## La Epifanía del Señor

Esta fiesta también se conoce popularmente como la fiesta de los tres reyes. En consecuencia, tres sabios del este trajeron regalos al niño Jesús. Cada don representaba el papel de Cristo en el plan de la salvación humana; oro para representar a Jesús como Rey, la mirra como sacerdote, y el incienso para representarlo como profeta. Los tres hombres también podrían interpretarse como representantes de los tres rincones del mundo que vienen a presenciar el cumplimiento de la promesa de Dios con el nacimiento del niño Jesús. Por el evento de la Epifanía del Señor, vemos también cómo las personas revelarán su disposición interior a Dios. Los pobres y los extraños vinieron a presentar su respeto, mientras que los poderosos y los eruditos buscan destruirlo. Al revelarse al mundo (epifanía), Jesús ha dejado en claro que cualquiera que llegue a conocerlo debe elegir entre la vida y la muerte, el bien y el mal. No hay término medio. Uno no puede ser neutral o permanecer en medio. Tomar la decisión correcta en el momento correcto y la elección correcta no es fácil. Es por eso que necesitamos constantemente el don de la sabiduría y la comprensión correcta. Al igual que los tres reyes magos, luchemos por caminar siempre humildemente buscando y encontrando a Jesús nuestro Señor.

*P. Rick*

## Grupo de Oración para hombres que hablan español

Los invitamos a rezar el Rosario todos los lunes a las 7 PM, en la iglesia o el salón parroquial.



## Regalo de Navidad

Hay copias gratuitas del libro más nuevo de Matthew Kelly, **Redescubrir a los santos**. Este libro abre nuestros ojos a las increíbles posibilidades que Dios tiene para nosotros, y nos anima a luchar por la santidad, con la ayuda de hombres y mujeres en la historia de la Iglesia que lo han hecho antes que nosotros: los santos.

La caminata por la vida de San Diego será el **sábado 18 de enero de 2020** y la Oficina para la Vida, la Paz y la Justicia está pidiendo voluntarios.



Si a quiere ser voluntario comuníquese con Maria Valencia para obtener más información: 858-490-8221

## Noticias del Catecismo

La noche de Jóvenes, se reanudan el **martes 7 de enero, en el salón parroquial a las 6:30 PM.**

Las clases se reanudan el **miércoles, 8 de enero a las 5:30 PM** en la escuela.



## Domingo 12 de enero, 2020

Los invitamos a que nos ayuden a quitar las decoraciones de Navidad en la Iglesia el domingo 12 de enero, después de la misa de español.

**Este domingo, no habrá Coronilla al Señor de la Misericordia.**



## El Señor de la Misericordia Peregrino quiere visitar tu casa

Si estas interesado de que el Señor de la Misericordia Peregrino visite tu casa, habla con Micaela Mozo, el domingo en la misa de español, es una buena manera de comenzar el año nuevo.



## Papa Francisco, la Epifanía

"Los magos pudieron adorar porque se animaron a caminar y postrándose ante el pequeño, postrándose ante el pobre, postrándose ante el indefenso, postrándose ante el extraño y desconocido Niño de Belén".



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- Dr. Karl Menninger ♥

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