

ST. BRIDE



THE ROMAN CATHOLIC ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

WWW.ST-BRIDE.ORG

Founded 1893

7811 SOUTH COLES AVENUE – CHICAGO, IL 60649

Parish Office: 773-731-8822

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Our Parish Staff

Reverend Robert J. Roll, Pastor
Ms. Laura L. Zbella,
Administrative Manager
Mr. Terry Rose, Youth Minister
Mr. Tommy Slay, Facilities Manager

Liturgy Schedule

Sunday at 10 AM

Monday thru Friday as scheduled

8 AM in the House Chapel

The Sacrament of Reconciliation

Before Mass and anytime by appointment!

The Sacrament of the Sick

Please make arrangements with the Parish House to have the Sacraments brought to the sick and homebound.

The Anointing of the Sick should take place early in any illness and as often as necessary.

Please note: Hospitals are not allowed, by law, to contact the parish.

Please have someone contact the Parish House for a hospital visit.

New Parishioners

Please consider registering after Mass at the Activity Table in the Church or call the Parish House at your convenience!

Welcome Visitors to St. Bride

We are honored to have you with us! Please be sure to sign our guest book.



*Die heiligen drei Könige (The Three Kings)
by Karl Schmidt-Rottluff - 1917*

**The Epiphany of the Lord
January 3, 2016**



MASSES THIS WEEK

Daily Mass is celebrated at 8 AM

In the Parish House Chapel as scheduled

The Epiphany of the Lord Jesus:

For the Intention of Carolyn Anzalone

For the Intention of Fred and Willa Neal

For the Intention of Sr. Dulciosa Czerwiec, CSFN

For the Intention of Chester and Jean Zurek

Monday: St. Elizabeth Ann Seton

Tuesday: St. John Neumann

Wednesday: St. André Bessette

Thursday: St. Raymond of Penyafort

Friday: Christmas Weekday

Saturday: Christmas Weekday

For the Intention of Andrew Koval

The Baptism of the Lord:

For the Intention of

Fritz and Laverne Baumgartner

For the Intention of Kelly Kohlstruck

For the Intention of Sister Leona Metra

For the Intention of Jean Stemper

For the Intention of Fr. Bob Roll

On his 65th Birthday

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 40:1-5, 9-11; Ps 29:1-4, 3, 9-10 Acts 10:34-38

LITTLE MINUTES

Little drops of water,
little grains of sand,
make the mighty ocean
and the pleasant land;
so the little minutes,
humble though they be,
make the mighty ages of eternity.

— Julia A. Fletcher Carney



PRAY FOR PEACE!

In the World and in our City

Support Our Food Pantry

The St. Bride Food Pantry is open again. We will welcome your donations of *NON-PERISHABLE* food items to stock our shelves and prepare bags for those who utilize our outreach program when you bring them to Church each week, September to June! Food can be brought on Sundays to the Church! Gift cards for groceries are also welcome!



Upcoming Dates and Events 2015/2016

February 7th - Mardi Gras Party:

After Mass in the Church Hall

February 9th – St. Bride Revival Night:

Dinner at 5:30 PM; Mass and Revival Talk at 7 PM. Rev. Robert Cary of Old St. Mary's will be our preacher for the evening!

February 10th – Ash Wednesday:

Mass at 8 AM and Noon

March 13th – St. Patrick and St. Joseph

Dinner following Mass

March 20th – Palm Sunday:

Mass and Procession at 10 AM

March 27th – Easter Sunday

May 15th – Annual Spring Luncheon

All tickets and ads must be completed and paid for by May 9, 2016. Add \$10 per ticket, if available, after May 9, 2016

Mass Intentions Available

If you have a special anniversary or family member or celebration that you want to remember at Mass, now is the time to arrange to reserve that date. Please be sure to include your intention as well as your phone number when submitting the request. The traditional stipend per Mass is ten dollars. You can schedule Masses by email or on Give Central; see left column of our web page at www.st-bride.org.

Electronic Giving for Weekly Offerings

Since we have started *Give Central*, more than \$7550.00 has been contributed through this electronic means of giving! It is an excellent way of scheduling your offerings to St. Bride, as well as a way of marking special events. Click on the "Donate Now" button on our web site at WWW.ST-BRIDE.ORG



LOOKING IN THE RIGHT PLACES

“Appearances can be deceiving,” as the saying goes. As we celebrate the *epiphania*, the “appearing” of the eternal Word of God on earth, this is still true.

What rapturous foresight must have filled Isaiah as he wrote the words we hear today. How, for four hundred years, they must have filled the hearts of the people of Israel with hope for the day when God’s glory would shine on them. How deceived some must have felt when the glory of God came to them in the lowliest and humblest of human lives.

We have many expectations about how the divine presence will appear among us. But we can also set ourselves up, through these expectations, to miss the divine glory when it truly appears. We get caught up in looking for the star, forgetting that the star is not the divine sign, the babe is. It may take a persistent journey for us to come upon the true appearance of God’s glory in our lives: Jesus Christ.

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION



Over the next few weeks, if you were to stroll around Prague or Budapest or Kraków, you might see curious graffiti scratched in chalk over some doorways:

“20 + C + M + B + 16.” The families dwelling behind those doors have celebrated the Epiphany door blessing. They have gathered before the feast-day meal, probably after Mass, and the head of the family has traced the sign of the cross on the piece of chalk.

Standing on a ladder, the leader traces the numbers for the new year, and the letters C M B for *Christus Mansionem Benedicat*, Latin for “May Christ bless this house.” The letters also point to the names that tradition has assigned to the mysterious magi, Caspar, Melchior, and Balthasar—although scripture tells us nothing of their number, their country, or their names.

The blessing speaks of journeys ended and journeys begun at the doorway, and prays that all journeys be as satisfying as was the magi’s. It prays that the house beyond the door have the quality of love and peace that the magi marveled at when they at last arrived in Bethlehem. In some countries where the Soviet Union tried to impose a harsh atheism, the vigor of this household custom survived all efforts to erase Christian customs. In the years of struggle, the chalked blessings were a pervasive sign of defiance, and now in the light of new freedoms, they are a sign of the resilience of our tradition and the fulfillment of the magi’s quest for meaning and peace.

The Epiphany of the Lord - A Gift for the Wise Men

A rather liberal priest was teasing one of the women of the parish, asking, “How do we know the Wise Men weren’t Wise Women?” She answered, “If they were, they’d have brought bottles, diapers, and a bassinet, instead of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.” Maybe they were wise enough to know that Mary could have bought a lot of diapers with the gold.

The gifts, of course, are symbols of who Jesus is: a king who is both God and human. And I wonder what our gifts to the Lord say about our faith in him. Remember the song about the little drummer boy, who had no gift to bring but his ability to play the drum? Or the parable of the woman who brought two small coins to donate at the temple (Mark 12:42)? They both remind us that a person who gives all they have, no matter how little it seems, is the most generous.

So what do we bring to the newborn king? I can give my time by coming to church for the feast of Epiphany and actually paying attention. How often do I sit in the pews, answer the prayers by heart, and suddenly realize that I can’t remember what the first reading was, or what the homily was about? Just making the effort to listen to the words of scripture, to hear what God may be trying to tell me, could be a great gift. Or I could bring someone in our family, or a friend, who doesn’t go to church very much.

Now let’s not forget the meaning of “epiphany.” In ancient times it meant the appearance or manifestation of a divine being. In the early church the feast included the baptism of Christ (with the voice of the Father and the Spirit as a dove) and the miracle at Cana, as well as the visit of the magi. So what we celebrate is not so much our gifts or those of the Wise Men, as it is a gift from God, manifest in Jesus. Maybe a way to celebrate the Epiphany is to reflect on how God has been made known to me. Simple things, like a hug from a friend or an answered prayer, or major events like a wedding, the birth of a child, or a funeral, can all be ways to experience the Lord. The Wise Men received the gift of an epiphany by following a star. May the light of Christ lead you to him also.