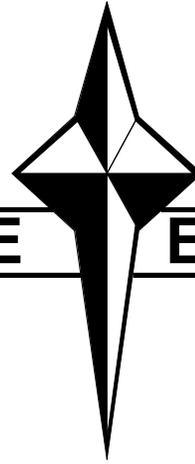


CHURCH OF THE EPIPHANY



January 31, 2016

Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Church Address

8235 S.W. 57 Avenue, Miami, Florida 33143
Email: info@epiphanycatholicchurch.com

Rectory/Mailing Address

8081 S.W. 54 Court, Miami, Florida 33143
Telephone: 305-667-4911 Fax: 305-667-8067
Website: epiphanycatholicchurch.com

Ministry of Religious Education & Pastoral Services

Mrs. Isabel Prellezo, Directress
Telephone: 305-665-0037

Ministry of Music

Mr. Thomas Schuster, Organist
Mr. Gerry Brenes, Cantor
Mr. Georgi Danchev, Choirmaster
Telephone: 305-667-4911

School

Sister Margaret Fagan, IHM, Principal
Ms. Ana Oliva, Vice Principal
5557 S.W. 84 Street, Miami, Florida 33143
Telephone: 305-667-5251 Fax: 305-667-6828
Website: epiphanycatholicsschool.com

Convent

Sister Carmen Teresa, IHM, Superior
Telephone: 305-667-2144

Masses

Monday-Friday 6:30 & 8:00 a.m.

Saturday 8:00 a.m.

Saturday Vigil 5:30 p.m.

Sunday 8:00, 9:30, & 11:00 a.m.
12:30* & 6:00 p.m. (*Spanish)

Rosary Daily 7:40 a.m.
Novena Mondays 8:30 a.m.

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament in the Church

Monday-Friday 7:00-8:00 a.m. &
8:30-9:30 a.m.

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament in the Adoration Chapel

Thursdays 10:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturdays at 4:30 p.m.

Sacrament of Baptism

Call the Parish Office two months in advance.

Sacrament of Matrimony

Call the Parish Office ten months in advance.



Monsignor Jude O'Doherty, Pastor
Father Luis Largaespada, Associate Pastor
Father Ireneusz Ekiert, in Residence
Deacon Don Livingstone
Deacon Norman Ruíz-Castañeda
Deacon José Luis Carrión, Jr.
Deacon Thomas V. Eagan
Deacon Marcos Pérez

THE WISE STILL SEEK HIM



Paul says there are three things that last. They remain; they are always there. Wherever you find people you will find these three: faith, hope and love. It is not because God decreed, "*These three things shall abide forever.*" These things last because of human necessity. We need them; we must have them. They are three things we can't do without.

The first thing we can't do without is faith. It is something that people simply must have. We can't live without it. We are sometimes inclined to think of faith as religious abstraction. Faith is fundamental. It is imperative; it is inevitable; it is inescapable. Faith must be, for without it life becomes unworkable. It is just impossible to do anything in life without faith...build a business, get an education or anything else. What the New Testament does is take this indispensable part of life and apply it at the highest level. It simply says put your faith in God. You exercise faith every day of your life. Now invest your faith in the one who above all others is most to be trusted.

Another thing we can't do without is hope. This is the way it has to be because an orderly, workable life is impossible without it. In his Letter to the Romans, Paul wrote, "*In hope we were saved.*" This is true in an eternal and heavenly sense. It is equally true in an earthly and temporal sense.

Who among us is satisfied with our world as it is? We look around us and see problems that are not solved, suffering that is not alleviated, injustices that are not rectified. For that matter, who among us is satisfied with our own life? We are not what we ought to be, and we know it. Not one of us would be willing for the full story of his or her life to be publicly known. There are flaws in the fabric and skeletons in the closet. Every life has its secrets, those things of which we are not proud and with which we are not satisfied.

What sustains and motivates us in the face of these things--problems without and failures within? The answer is hope. Somehow we are

convinced that problems will be solved, that suffering will be alleviated, that injustices will be rectified, that failures will be corrected. We are saved by hope.

You don't have to look far to see the saving grace of hope at work. Research scientists keep grappling with catastrophic diseases...heart disease, cancer, arthritis; no one knows the answers. Still they keep working; still they keep searching. What keeps them at the task? It is the hope that somewhere out there is an answer. Take away that hope, and all laboratories will be closed and converted to monuments of human failure and despair.

The third thing we can't do without is love. Love abides because love is necessary. Life becomes empty and meaningless without it. The continuation of society is virtually impossible without it. Paul mentions these three abiding principles and then says, "*The greatest of these is love.*" The New Testament declares that all ethical and moral responsibility can be summarized in one sentence, "*You shall love your neighbor as yourself.*"

Love is not just a silly emotion. Love is more than just a vague religious ideal. Love is a human essential. To love and be loved is the deepest and most desperate need of all our lives. This is why Jesus came, to let us know that we are not forgotten. To let us know that whoever we are and however we have failed, still we are loved. Every one of us needs that.



How Historical are the Gospels



If someone were to be at your house when you woke up and took a picture of you with a digital camera, would that be an accurate portrayal of who you are?

What if a great artist came and posed you and captured your soul? Would that be a less or more accurate representation of you than the digital photograph?

Which would you prefer to show to relatives and friends?

That is the distinction we must keep in mind when we read the Gospels. Yes, they contain deeds and sayings from the life of Jesus. No, they are not a *New York Times* or CNN version of events -- assuming that is the 21st century "gold standard" for accuracy.

Still, scholars in recent years have come to recognize that there is a lot more history in the Gospels than was suspected years ago. Archeologists have found Peter's house and have seen that it would be feasible, if the door were blocked, to go up on the roof, take off some shingles and lower a paralytic man (Mk 2:1-5).

A fishing boat dating back to Jesus' time also has been found in the Sea of Galilee. It shows how Jesus could have been asleep on the stern, resting his head on some sort of pillow (Mk 4:38).

Many of the places named in the Gospels still exist today or their remains have been discovered. So the Gospels, indeed, are historical documents, but their intent is not to write history as we know it.

They are the proclamation of a mystery: that Jesus Christ, the Son of God, came to live among us, died for our salvation and was raised on the third day.

It is hard to proclaim such a spiritual reality in historical or newspaper language. To understand what the Gospel writers were doing, we must adopt the Oriental way of thinking, the more artistic, intuitive mode of describing reality and portraying a person.

The Gospel writers used symbolic language and even poetry to try to convey that reality to their readers.

They were less concerned with literal truth -- a digital photograph, if you will -- than with revealing the mystery of Jesus Christ: painting a portrait that captures the essence of the God-man who came to live among us and died for our sins.

That is why we must interpret the Gospels in the context in which they were written. While they do contain literal facts, each of the Gospels was written for a distinct early Christian community whose members understood the symbolism and references made by each author.

That tradition is what the church strives to preserve. That is why the church views itself as the guardian of the Scriptures; not because the pope or the bishops are trying to keep something secret, but because we have to preserve the masterful portraits of Jesus painted by the Gospel writers.



Bible Study with Father Ireneusz

**Father Ireneusz is conducting a
Bible Study Session
every Thursday at 7:30 p.m.
in the Parish Hall.**

**Those who have been attending
are loving it and consider it a big help
in understanding the Scriptures
and applying them to everyday life.**

**You might do well to
consider joining the group.**



Mass Intentions

Date	Time	Intention	Requested By	Readings
Saturday Jan. 30	5:30 p.m.	+ Alvaro Luis Castillo + Perkins-Gomez Family Members	Family Family	
Sunday Jan. 31	8:00 a.m.	+ Francisco Torres de Navarra In Thanksgiving Jeanne Higgins	Rosa Maria Torres de Navarra Redlinger Family Van Hoff Family	I Jer 1:4-5,17-19 Ps 71:1-6,15,17 1 Cor 12:31--13:13
	9:30 a.m.	+ Julio Jaramillo + Tito Aceituno	Wife & Children Anita Torres de Navarra	Lk 4:21-30
	11:00 a.m.	People of Epiphany		
	12:30 p.m.	+ Richard Mercado + Tonita Fuentes de Martinez	Zayas & Mercado Families Zayas & Mercado Families	
	6:00 p.m.	Michael John Pistorino + Beatriz Escagedo	Pistorino Family Gomez-Perkins Family	
Monday Feb. 1	6:30 a.m.	+ Anne Elden Enrique Gutierrez	Katherine Bezold Juan Carlos & Kitty Castro	2 Sm 15:13-14,30; 16:5-13
	8:00 a.m.	+ Roberto Vargas Guillen + Maruja Olavarria Carrion	Conde Family Conde Family	Ps 3:2-7 Mk 5:1-20
Tuesday Feb. 2	6:30 a.m.	Special Intention + Natalie Phillips	Alicia Aixala Family	Mal 3:1-4 Ps 24:7-10
	8:00 a.m.	+ Arturo Arroyave + George Shahin, Sr.	Arroyave Family George & Maria Shahin	Heb 2:14-18 Lk 2:22-40
Wednesday Feb. 3	6:30 a.m.	+ Humberto Gonzalez, Jr. + David Rivero Setien	Family Gallinal Family	2 Sm 24:2,9-17 Ps 32:1-2,5-7
	8:00 a.m.	+ Charles & Mary O'Doherty + Alex Carrion	Family Family	Mk 6:1-6
Thursday Feb. 4	6:30 a.m.	+ Anne Elden + Eileen Horan	Katherine Bezold Gerda Salas	1 Kgs 2:1-4,10-12 (Ps)1 Chr 29:10-11b, 11d-12
	8:00 a.m.	+ Alex Carrion + Paul Francoeur	Maria Gomez & Family Family	Mk 6:7-13
Friday Feb. 5	6:30 a.m.	Gaby Salas + Silvia Jorge	Norman Salas Family Family	Sir 47:2-11 Ps 18:31,47,50-51
	8:00 a.m.	+ Epiphany Parishioners + Jonathon Perez	Family	Mk 6:14-29
Saturday Feb. 6	8:00 a.m.	Soldiers in Harms Way + Caruca Perez-Teran + Raimundo Almeida	George & Maria Shahin Conde Family Pistorino Family	1 Kgs 3:4-13 Ps 119:9-14 Mk 6:30-34
(Sunday Vigil)	5:30 p.m.	+ Claudy Kubicki + Guillermo R. Gonzalez	Family Myriam Grad	
Sunday Feb. 7	8:00 a.m.	+ Alirio Abreu Burelli + Enrique Sanchez Risso	Andreina Zambrano Andreina Zambrano	Is 6:1-2a,3-8 Ps 138:1-5,7-8
	9:30 a.m.	+ Sante De Leo + Betty Marlane	Gina De Leo Friend	1 Cor 15:1-11 Lk 5:1-11
	11:00 a.m.	People of Epiphany		
	12:30 p.m.	+ Mari Gutierrez + Pedro Sicilia	Family Adela Siman & Family	
	6:00 p.m.	Vivian Eijaiek + Esther de Fernadez	Yidi Family Fernandez Family	



Mass Schedules

February 6/7	Celebrants	Lectors	Altar Servers	Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion
Saturday 5:30 p.m.	Msgr. Jude O'Doherty	Eddy De Arcos Debra Menegay	K. Perez J. Reis W. Reis E. Salado K. Sanchez G. Sanchez N. Tsaoussis S. Tsaoussis	Coordinator: (Kathy Moorman) Kathy Moorman John Moorman Natalia Cacicedo Carl Lowell Beatriz Lowell Rosi Maza-Saez Ray Cacicedo
Sunday 8:00 a.m.	Fr. Ireneusz Ekiert	Montserrat Morrison Calene Candela	C. Pujol M. T. Bared	Coordinator: (Tony Friguls) Cynthia Risavy Tony Friguls Chuck Broyard Tom Risavy Andres Aguirre
Sunday 9:30 a.m.	Fr. Luis Largaespada	Jason Johnson Pat Parker	P. Silva M. Alfano M. Atrio L. Aun	Coordinator: (Maria Juncadella) Maria Juncadella Ron Quintero Eileen Fernandez-Silva Raphael Bastian Rick Gonzalez Pedro Toro Jorge Fernandez-Silva
Sunday 11:00 a.m.	Msgr. Jude O'Doherty	Guillermo Castillo Vivian Lasaga	M. A. Bared S. Barnola M. Briones S. Briones N. Cerra A. Cooper J. De la Osa C. D. Delgado	Coordinator: (Ray Casas) Katerina Velikopoljski Roberto De Leo Gonzalo Santana Seida Wood Gerry Wood Maria Cristina Sousa Leticia Santana Ray Casas
Sunday 12:30 p.m.	Fr. Carlos Massieu	Gisela Cacciamani Adriana Giuffredi	E. Torres M. Torres	Coordinator: (Tere Molins) Gloria Acevedo Liliana Balepogi Tere Molins Pedro Marrero Bernuil Marrero Frank Varona Plinio Gonzalez
Sunday 6:00 p.m.	Fr. Ireneusz Ekiert	Sarita Baigorri Emily Loos	I. Tundidor N. Vizcaino A. Yaniz J. Yaniz C. Zurfluh L. Alvarez A. Arteaga G. Duque	Coordinator: (Esther Sousa) Esther Sousa Nuri Gaston Amanda Patino Jeannette Iglesias Rene Iglesias Jose Gaston Jorge Echenique



Stewardship Corner

A SANDAL...AN ABCD GIFT...A SMILE

One day as Gandhi was boarding a train, his right sandal slipped from his foot and fell under the train. He tried to retrieve it, but he was unable to reach it. As the train pulled away, Gandhi took off his other sandal, and tossed it on the track where his other sandal laid. A companion asked, "Why did you do that?"... "Well," Gandhi said, "now some poor homeless person walking along the tracks will have a pair of sandals to wear." Gandhi and his companion just smiled at one another.

Last Sunday, Archbishop Thomas Wenski asked us to help the poor, the unfortunate, the needy, and the most abandoned. Like Gandhi, we tossed our sandals of gifts and pledges so that those in need could be comforted and cared for. Perhaps, they could even smile.

Think about this. Through your gift, you were there for those who want a better life. You were there for those whose lives would have ended in the streets, rather than a caring home. You were there for the unwed mother who gives birth rather than abort. You were there for those who are needy, abused, molested, as well as the poor and the homeless. You were also there for those who will need your help in the future. Thank you for being there.

The Archbishop truly wants "to thank" the parishioners of Epiphany for their generosity, support and love for their neighbor. Our pledges to date amount to approximately **\$300,000**. Your gift will bring a smile.

For those of you out of town or who are contemplating your gift, there is still time to make a pledge...Either mail it directly to the Rectory or simply drop it in the Sunday collection basket.

As Gandhi tossed his other sandal, so that a poor person could have a pair of sandals to wear, you have tossed your sandal of gifts so that the needy could live a decent life and smile.

A SANDAL...AN ABCD GIFT...A SMILE.
THANK YOU

The Prophets: Messengers of God's Mercy

**Beginning Tuesday, February 2
from 9:30 to 11:30 p.m.
in the Parish Center**

God is calling you to
a deeper relationship with Him.

If we consider that God is the Divine Bridegroom and the Church is His Bride, then the prophets can be seen as "spiritual marriage counselors." They afflict the comfortable and comfort the afflicted, calling us to return to our covenant relationship with God. They urge us to repentance, warn us of the dangers of sin, and announce the blessings of faithfulness. Their prophetic words speak to us even today, as they draw us closer to our heavenly Bridegroom.

For more information or to sign up, please call Mirta Robelo at 786-925-0970 or Rosalie Charur at 305-495-5657.

St. Blase Wednesday, February 3

**Throats will be blessed after the
6:30 and 8:00 a.m. Masses.**

This blessing, begun in the 16th century, came from a legend that St. Blase once saved a small boy from choking to death on a bone caught in his throat. At St. Blase's command, the child coughed up the bone and was able to breathe once again. In practice today, the priest holds two crossed candles at the throat of each person and gives this blessing:

*"Through the intercession
of St. Blase, bishop and martyr,
may the Lord preserve you
from every disease of the throat
and every other illness.
In the name of the Father,
and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit."*



Terry Barber, countertenor

Friday, February 5 at 7:30 p.m.

Stunning! Distinctive!... performances of great vitality and verve!

In collaboration with pianist Brandon Glick,
Mr. Barber presents a spectacular gala of favorite music
for all voice types: soprano, alto, tenor and bass!

Concerts are about one hour in duration.

Admittance is by free-will donation.



Contemplative Cenacle of the Divine Mercy

**Monday, February 1 at 7:30 p.m.
in the church**

We meet as a community in adoration and recollection to contemplate and venerate the image of the Divine Mercy. With songs of praise, prayers, the reading of the Gospel of the day, reciting the Chaplet and meditating on the Diary of the Divine Mercy in our souls under the spirituality of St. Maria Faustina Kowalska, we allow ourselves to deepen our faith drawing closer with trust to the Fount of Mercy of Our Lord Jesus Christ. Join us!

Parish Pilgrim Virgin Ministry

During the week of **January 31**,
the Parish Pilgrim Virgin will be in the home of:

Miriam Benard 305-790-5981
Rudy & Ivonne Nunez 305-753-7577

To schedule your visit, please call
Patricia & Luis Siman at 305-238-4555.

Thanks to God

Often times we fail to see
The blessings in our lives...
For in the midst of our own pain,
We fail to realize
That God has never left our side;
He's just a prayer away...
And when we trust Him with our needs,
Our troubles will soon fade.
Let's not forget to look above
With thanks and gratitude...
No matter what the future holds,
The Lord is there for you.



PRAY FOR THOSE WHO ARE ILL:

Alicia Aixala; Michael Beier; Vivian Blain;
Cassandra Blanco-Francisco; Martha E. Castano;
Pat Clarke; Rafael Diaz-Gamba; Ana Alicia
Fernandez; Mathias Gewers; Sonia Gewers; Felipe
Gutierrez; Ellen Middleton; Maribel Robayna;
Richard Roth; Ron Rudolph; Rafael Schettini; John
Smith; Kevin Smith; Esther Suarez; Paulina Tawil;
Martin Wiberg; Teodula Wong.

PRAY FOR THOSE WHO HAVE DIED:

Carmina Aguilera; Felix Alberto Blanco; Marta E.
Castano; Beatriz Escagedo; Jose Manuel
Marrero; Vida Elyse Mora; Georgina Ossorio.

Statement of the Catholic Bishops of Florida on the 43rd Anniversary of Roe v. Wade

January 22, 2016

"...protect and defend human life at every stage of its development."

Pope Francis, in his address to a joint session of the United States Congress, September 24, 2015

We are saddened by yet another anniversary of the tragic U.S. Supreme Court decision legalizing the abortion of unborn children as we profoundly mourn over 57 million lives that have consequently been lost.

During this last year, courageous lawmakers sought to reduce the evil of abortion so every woman may more fully consider the decision to abort an unborn child. We were deeply moved by the post-abortive women who came forward in every legislative committee hearing to reveal years of regret and deep wounds they have lived with as a result of terminating a pregnancy. Their courage and willingness to shed light on the evil of abortion is commendable and reminds us of the unassuming, yet life-changing, work of our post-abortive ministries who invite the many men and women harmed by abortion to a process of healing and spiritual restoration. The judicial challenge to this law, however, reaffirms the considerable work that remains ahead as a "privacy clause" in our state's constitution has been interpreted by the courts as uniquely granting greater abortion rights than the U.S. Constitution.

Recent attention to the allegations of illegal selling of fetal tissue has confirmed what we have said for many years: abortion is evil. We call for the government subsidies that fund our nation's abortion providers to be reallocated to community health centers and other federally qualified health centers that do not promote or perform abortions.

Pope Francis has frequently admonished us against a "throwaway culture." The Holy Father has reminded us in his latest encyclical, *Laudato Si*, that all life is interrelated. To call ourselves unequivocally pro-life requires that we always choose life, even when it most challenges us: whether encountering an unplanned pregnancy, ill and dying loved ones, the execution of a convicted criminal, or the stranger seeking refuge in our communities. Recognizing we often fall short of this great task, we are jubilant that this Year of Mercy, called for by Pope Francis, invites us to seek forgiveness and find peace through the miracle of God's infinite and inexplicable mercy.

While we lament the 43rd anniversary of the U.S. Supreme Court decision in *Roe v. Wade*, we are also encouraged by the commemoration of a different anniversary. On the 450th anniversary of the founding of St. Augustine, Catholic Floridians proudly celebrated the establishment of our nation's earliest Catholic parish which first sowed the seeds of our faith on this land with a special devotion to our Blessed Mother, still echoed at the shrine of Our Lady of La Leche y Buen Parto. In these last four and a half centuries, our faith has served as witness to the Good News of Jesus Christ through the greatest of adversities. We invite the Catholic faithful to renew their commitment of proclaiming the Gospel throughout our land and consecrate our continued work of protecting the unborn to the motherly heart of Our Lady.

Most Reverend Thomas G. Wenski
Archdiocese of Miami

Most Reverend Robert N. Lynch
Diocese of St. Petersburg

Most Reverend John G. Noonan
Diocese of Orlando

Most Reverend Gregory L. Parkes
Diocese of Pensacola-Tallahassee

Most Reverend Gerald M. Barbarito
Diocese of Palm Beach

Most Reverend Frank J. Dewane
Diocese of Venice

Most Reverend Felipe J. Esteves
Diocese of St. Augustine

Most Reverend Peter Baldacchino
Archdiocese of Miami