



# CHURCH OF THE EPIPHANY

**March 17, 2019**  
Second Sunday of Lent

## **MASSES**

Monday-Friday 6:30 & 8:00 AM  
Saturday 8:00 AM  
Saturday Vigil 5:30 PM  
Sunday 8:00, 9:30, & 11:00 AM  
12:30\* & 6:00 PM (\*Spanish)

## **EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT**

Monday-Friday 7:00-8:00 AM &  
8:30-9:30 AM  
Thursdays 10:00 AM - 6:00 PM

## **ROSARY**

Daily 7:40 AM

## **SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION**

Saturdays at 4:30 PM

## **SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM**

Call the Parish Office two months in advance.

## **SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY**

Call the Parish Office one year in advance.

**Monsignor Jude O'Doherty, Pastor**

**Father Alex Rivera, Associate Pastor**

**Deacon Don Livingstone**

**Deacon Norman Ruíz-Castañeda**

**Deacon Thomas V. Eagan**

**Deacon Marcos Pérez**

**Deacon Eduardo Smith**

## **CHURCH ADDRESS**

8235 S.W. 57 Avenue  
Miami, Florida 33143

## **RECTORY/MAILING ADDRESS**

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## **MINISTRY OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION & PASTORAL SERVICES**

Mrs. Isabel Prellezo, Director  
Telephone: 305.665.0037

## **MINISTRY OF MUSIC**

Mr. Thomas Schuster, Organist  
Mr. Georgi Danchev, Choirmaster  
Mr. Eddie Valdés, Cantor  
Telephone: 305.667.4911

## **SCHOOL**

Ms. Ana Oliva, Principal  
Mrs. Dolores Alea, Vice Principal  
5557 S.W. 84 Street  
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## **CONVENT**

Sister Carmen Teresa, IHM, Superior  
Telephone: 305.667.2144

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## PASTOR'S PEN

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Our Gospel reading for today tells the familiar story of The Transfiguration of Christ. It was, both literally and figuratively, a mountain-top experience. Only three of the disciples were privileged to witness what happened. Significantly, it all started while Jesus was praying. First, His face changed in appearance. Then, His clothing became brilliantly white. Next, Moses and Elijah appeared and talked with Him. And finally, God spoke from a cloud saying, "This is my Son, My Chosen One. Listen to Him."

That, in essence, is what took place on the Mountain of Transfiguration. I want to skip ahead to the next day and include it in our thinking also. It was then that Jesus and the disciples came down from the mountain and were met by a desperate man with a sick son. The other disciples had tried to help the boy, but their efforts had been in vain. So, Jesus filled the gap and did what they had been unable to do.

Each of these back-to-back days represents a vital dimension in the life of the Church. One is the mountain of worship; the other is the valley of work. One is the power to live from; the other is the purpose to live for. We must have both. If we major on either to the exclusion of the other, our lives will become tragically lopsided; and we will find ourselves spiritually deficient and deformed.

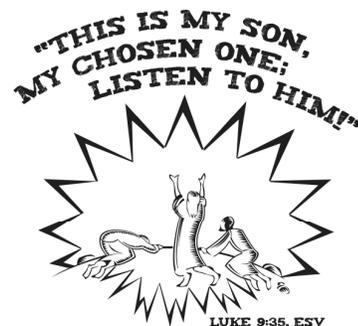
Each of us as Christians needs to learn how to move back and forth between these two poles. Just as physical life depends upon an alternating rhythm, we inhale and exhale, we work and rest, so our spiritual lives can stay vibrant only when we alternate between taking in and giving out. But this is a very difficult balance to maintain. The tendency is to major on one and neglect the other, or perhaps leave it out altogether.

This was the inclination of Peter up there on the mountain, to stay on the mountaintop. He had never seen or heard or felt anything like that before. Jesus was there in all of His radiant beauty. Moses and Elijah were there, heroes from the past, so real and vivid. For one brief shining moment, everything made sense. The law, the prophets, and the message of Jesus had all come

together in one place. The cares of this world were left behind; they were living above it all. Small wonder that Peter said, "Master, how good it is for us to be here." What Peter wanted was to freeze that moment and hold on to it forever. Who could blame him? Surely, we have all had those mountain-top experiences that we wish would never end. Life was working; God was real. Trouble seemed so far away; and victory seemed so inevitable. That is where Peter was, and he wanted to stay there.

But Peter's desire to escape was not the only religious stance in evidence that day. We mentioned briefly the other disciples who remained in the valley. Perhaps, they were so aware of the work to be done, of the needs to be met that there was no time for mountain-top retreats. Thus, we have the two extremes, those who would love to stay on the mountain of worship and not be bothered with the problems of the valley, and those who are so involved with the problems of the valley that they have no time for the mountain.

It is worth noting that Jesus did not endorse or reject either position. He went to the mountain, but would not stay there. He returned the next day, refreshed, renewed, ready to meet the needs and challenges of the valley. Those first disciples had to learn what we need to learn. Christian faith is more than work and more than worship. It is both. Those who would use their faith as an avenue of escape from the world and its problems have totally missed the meaning of Christ and His mission. We will never be through with the mountain of worship or the valley of service. All of our lives we will need power to live from and purpose to live for.



### **Sacrificial giving is a prayer of thanksgiving**

*"Our gifts are most appropriately presented at the Offertory of the Mass. The celebration of Christ's sacrifice is a fitting context of our own sacrificial offering which is a grateful response to the unfathomable love God has shown for us."* Too often we want to separate the issue of giving, particularly the giving of money, from those more "spiritual" aspects of our faith life. Yet the commitment to sacrificial giving is one of the most important expressions of what our faith means to us. Offering our gifts at Mass places them in an appropriate context of prayer and response to God.

In the offering, we can express our joy in having received and in being able to give. We are able to say, "Thanks be to God!" We can give back some portion of the tremendous gifts that have been given to us, the most important of which we celebrate at the Eucharist. There is no better time, then, to fulfill our commitment to sacrificial giving than in this atmosphere of prayer and thanksgiving.

We remember, too, that commitment is one of personal as well as corporate prayer and part of a lifelong process of turning towards God. Just as our giving forms an integral part of the ritualized expression of our faith, the Mass, so it is woven into the struggles and joys we experience on our personal faith journey.

One who has achieved a sense of Christian Stewardship doesn't ever feel that life is meaningless and absurd. He rather believes that he has a job to do, that by God's grace he has the means to do it, and therefore he must ever be busy at the task of rebuilding this world in accord with God's plan to *"reestablish all things in Christ"* (Pius X). Your Offertory Trust is such a call to glorify God through loving service to all people.

What to give as your weekly offering? It is a decision that lies between you and your conscience and should be influenced not by ease of convenience, but by prayerful consideration of God's endless gifts to you. Your weekly offering should reflect your love of God, your interest in His works, and your appreciation of His many blessings to you.

### **The Cross**

In ancient times the cross was an instrument of execution. It was used to punish slaves and non-Romans who had committed heinous crimes, such as murder or rebellion. The cross was a sign of infamy and treason.

With Jesus' death on the cross, it has become a sign of contradiction. For Christians it is no longer a sign of infamy, but a sign of the vulnerability of love.

### **Being loved**

Being loved is always a surprise. The love of another thrills and excites us. It supports us in all that we do. It enables us to value ourselves; and even when we recognize our own self-worth, being loved is still a startling experience. Are we worthy of this devotion? We wonder, even as we are continually recreated by the experience.

The realization that we are really loved by God is difficult to grasp. Yet the signs of God's love are all around us. The Incarnation, the becoming human of the Son, is the Father's fullest sign of his love for us. It is a startling sign. If we believe it, this sign should support, thrill, excite, and recreate us.

### **Come out of the shadows**

Jesus came to save us, not to judge us. When Jesus came, it was as if a great light were turned on in our dark, confused world. The world has been illuminated, we feel its warmth, now we can see to find our way.

Step into Christ's light. See yourself as you really are -- without pretending, without hiding -- because God forgives you and accepts you. God loves you in your strength and your weakness, when you flourish and when you falter.



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## MASS INTENTIONS

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<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Mass Intentions</u>	<u>Requested by</u>
Saturday <b>March 16</b>	5:30 PM	+ Deceased Gomez Family + George & Carmina Aguilera	Gomez Family Family
Sunday <b>March 17</b>	8:00 AM	+ Almerinda Lucente	Lucente Family
	9:30 AM	+ Amelia Coury	Anne Eskra
		+ Lucia Sabi Salas	Raul Moas Family
		+ Nereida Rubio	Moas Family
	11:00 AM	PEOPLE OF EPIPHANY	
	12:30 PM	+ Janine Chevrel	Family
		In Thanksgiving	Jilma & Ignacio Felix
	6:00 PM	+ Teresa Azrack	Family
		+ William Raul Ramirez	Marcos & Ana Maria Perez
		+ Victor Plater-Zyberk	Rose Kruszewski
Monday <b>March 18</b>	6:30 AM	Fr. Ernest Biriruka	Pistorino Family
		+ Maria de la Torre Vilorio	Natalie Osorio
	8:00 AM	+ Hanorah O'Brien	Maria Drulard
		In Thanksgiving	Jilma & Ignacio Felix
Tuesday <b>March 19</b>	6:30 AM	+ Holy Souls in Purgatory	Ely Fleites
		In Thanksgiving	Jilma & Ignacio Felix
	8:00 AM	+ Daniel Hernandez Ortiz	Monique Farach
		+ Maria Josefina Marquez	Alcibel Lairet
Wednesday <b>March 20</b>	6:30 AM	+ Silvia de Sosa de Jorge	Family
		+ Amelia Coury	Anne Eskra
	8:00 AM	Ana Moas	Family
		+ Jose Rodriguez Dinis	Dinis Family
Thursday <b>March 21</b>	6:30 AM	Special Inention	Pistorino Family
	8:00 AM	In Thanksgiving	Jilma & Ignacio Felix
Friday <b>March 22</b>	6:30 AM	+ Nicolas Gutierrez	Aleida Gutierrez
		In Thanksgiving	Jilma & Ignacio Felix
	8:00 AM	+ Hugo, Sr. & Eduardo Rams	Rams Family
		+ Danny Woodside	Mom
Saturday <b>March 23</b>	8:00 AM	+ Guillermina Valls	Gallinal Family
		In Thanksgiving	Jilma & Ignacio Felix
Saturday <b>March 23</b> <i>(Sunday Vigil)</i>	5:30 PM	+ Filemon Ortega	Ortega Family
		+ Mary Fernandez & Gilberto Lopez	Pastoriza Family
Sunday <b>March 24</b>	8:00 AM	+ Helen O'Brien	Maria Drulard
		+ Fifi Morales	Rita Morales
	9:30 AM	+ Vicente German Gallinal	Gallinal Family
		+ Lorenzo Vieito	Family
	11:00 AM	PEOPLE OF EPIPHANY	
	12:30 PM	+ Generosa & Flora Martinez	Beba Rams
		+ George Azar	Family
	6:00 PM	+ Gabriela Yidi	Family
		+ Ophelia Radley	Villanueva Family

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## MASS SCHEDULES

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**March 23/24**

**Lectors**

**Altar Servers**

**Extraordinary Ministers  
Of Holy Communion**

**Sat 5:30 PM**  
*Msgr. O'Doherty*

Bob Dickinson  
Carolina Tamayo-Ragolta

G McCormick  
T Miller  
P Ortega  
A Palacio  
C Rivera  
I Salvat  
R Sampedro  
G Vega

**C Kathy Moorman**  
1 Kathy Moorman  
2 John Moorman  
3 Jose Garcia  
4 Gloria Garity  
5 Maria Iglesias  
6 Carl Lowell  
7 Beatriz Lowell

**Sun 8:00 AM**  
*Msgr. O'Doherty*

Henry Pujol, III  
Steve Smith

A Illa  
J Illa

**C Maria Eisenhart**  
1 Maria Eisenhart  
2 Paul Eisenhart  
3 Mikki Smith  
4 Susana Yllanes  
5 Tom Beier

**Sun 9:30 AM**  
*Fr. Rivera*

Jason Johnson  
Debra Menegay

T Leibkuchler  
E Molina  
A Pargas  
A Sanchez

**C Tony Nuñez**  
1 Monica Perez  
2 Alfie Perez  
3 Tony Nuñez  
4 Rick Gonzalez  
5 Charbel Heshema  
6 Pedro Toro  
7 Ron Quintero

**Sun 11:00 AM**  
*Msgr. O'Doherty*  
*Fr. Rivera*

Manuel Lasaga  
Vivian Lasaga

L Silveira  
A Silveira  
M Fuertes  
J Gomez  
V Gudjonsson  
M Guerra  
G Gurdian  
I Gurdian

**C Ray Casas**  
1 Tere Larrieu  
2 Manolo Larrieu  
3 Ana Maria Hernandez  
4 Dolly Medina  
5 Mark Medina  
6 John Porro  
7 Tania Porro  
8 Ray Casas

**Sun 12:30 PM**  
*Fr. Rivera*

Jorge I. Torres  
Marcela Torres

C Buevas  
A Hernandez

**C Gloria Acevedo**  
1 Gloria Acevedo  
2 Plinio Gonzalez  
3 Gabriel Gurdian  
4 Pedro Marrero  
5 Bernuil Marrero  
6 Jose Martinez Elejalde  
7 Aleida Gutierrez

**Sun 6:00 PM**  
*Fr. Rivera*

Guillermo López  
Gromy Latour

C Milian  
J Roca  
A Rodriguez  
V Ros  
C Schlipman  
G Verde  
V Borell  
S Caram

**C Georgina Angones**  
1 Georgina Angones  
2 Frank Angones  
3 Gladys Patiño  
4 Caro Packert  
5 Thomas Packert  
6 Julie Parlade  
7 Jaime Parlade

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

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### A HAPPY BUMP

Our Lord invites you to walk side by side with him during Lent to reflect on your life so that one day when your earth life ends, your new life in heaven will begin and will never end.

This week as you are walking with the Lord, you will be greeted with three joyous feasts of the Church which will brighten your week.... The Feast of St. Patrick, St. Joseph, and believe it or not, the Seventeenth Anniversary of the Dedication of our new beautiful church ... Epiphany.

March 17 is celebrated throughout the world as St. Patrick's Day in honor of the missionary who helped spread Christianity throughout Ireland. He was known to have baptized thousands, started many monasteries, and brought a deep Catholic faith to the people of Ireland.

On March 19, we celebrate the Feast of St. Joseph. He was a humble man since he had to live with the most important people in the history of Salvation, namely Jesus and the Blessed Mother. He is a model of obedience and humility and is close to Jesus as a powerful intercessor for all of us. St. Joseph is also the Patron of the Church.

Sunday, March 17, the Feast of St. Patrick, is also the day we first dedicated our new Church in 2002. As we celebrate the Seventeenth Anniversary, our Church is the spiritual home for all our parishioners and friends. Epiphany Church stands tall in South Miami and can be seen from miles around. When the tower bells toll, we all know that God is present.

As you are walking with the Lord, thank him for your faith and may you always remember that Epiphany's Anniversary is your anniversary, because you are the Church – the people of God.

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY, and please enjoy your walk with the Lord and also enjoy this .....  
"Happy Bump during Lent."

## Today's Scripture Readings



On Mount Tabor Peter, James and John got a glimpse of the Glory that was hidden in Jesus. Through faith we too glimpse the glory of the risen Jesus who lives in the Church and in each of us. Let us reflect for a moment on this.

**First reading (Genesis 15:5-12.17-18).** We learn of the solemn covenant God made with Abraham which was the foundation of God's relationship with the people of Israel. Through Christ we are the heirs of this covenant.

**Second reading (Philippians 3:17-4:1).** Paul urges his converts to remain faithful to Christ, and promises them that one day they will share in His glory.

**Gospel (Luke 9:28-36).** We hear Luke's version of the Transfiguration of Jesus on Mount Tabor.



### Lenten Devotions

- We have **Mass** every day at 6:30 and 8:00 AM. There is no better way of turning towards God than attending daily Mass.
- The **Blessed Sacrament** will be exposed in the church, following this weekly schedule:
  - Monday through Friday, from 7:00 to 8:00 AM and again from 8:30 to 9:30 AM.
  - Thursday from 8:30 AM to 6:00 PM.
- The **Sacrament of Reconciliation** is available:
  - Every Saturday from 4:30 to 5:30 PM.
- Making the **Stations of the Cross** is a spectacular way of meditating on this part of Christ's life in preparation for Easter. Come and join us for the Stations of the Cross:
  - Every Friday during Lent, immediately after the 8:00 AM Mass.

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

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### A PRAYER OF BLESSING FOR ST PATRICK'S DAY

*"As I arise today,  
may the strength of God pilot me,  
the power of God uphold me,  
the wisdom of God guide me.  
May the eye of God look before me,  
the ear of God hear me,  
the word of God speak for me.  
May the hand of God protect me,  
the way of God lie before me,  
the shield of God defend me,  
the host of God save me.  
May Christ shield me today.  
Christ with me, Christ before me,  
Christ behind me,  
Christ in me, Christ beneath me,  
Christ above me,  
Christ on my right, Christ on my left,  
Christ when I lie down, Christ when I sit,  
Christ when I stand,  
Christ in the heart of everyone who thinks of me,  
Christ in the mouth of everyone who speaks of me,  
Christ in every eye that sees me,  
Christ in every ear that hears me. Amen."*



### THE SUNDAY PRESCHOOL & THE HOLY FAMILY CENTER

Open during the **9:30** and **11:00 AM** Masses.

The **Holy Family Center** offers tender, loving care for young children from birth to 3 years of age.

**The Sunday Pre-school** is a formal religion program based on the Sunday readings.

Avail yourselves of this service to families. Children enjoy our program and you have the opportunity to worship without distractions.



### **Concert Series:** **1844: Sarasate, Widor & Rimsky Korsakov**

*Misha Vitenson, violin*

**Monday, March 25  
at 7:30 PM in the Church**

**Please join us for this special performance  
of the Epiphany Choir and Orchestra.**

### **The Servants of the Pierced Hearts of Jesus and Mary**

Invite you to join us for an  
Eucharistic Cenacle at Epiphany.

**Friday, March 29**

Rosary at 7:30 PM and Mass at 8:00 PM.

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### **Walk Through the Mass**

Have you ever wanted to appreciate  
more deeply the beauty of the Mass?

Join us in a "Walk Through the Mass"  
on **Tuesday, April 2, at 7:30 PM.**

Led by Fr. Alex, we will explore the meaning and symbolism behind the actions, objects, prayers, and music of the sacred liturgy. This is the perfect way to prepare for a richer celebration of Holy Week and Easter Sunday!

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### **Parish Pilgrim Virgin Ministry**

During the week of **March 17**  
the Parish Pilgrim Virgin will be in the home of:

**Luis Villanueva**                      **305.733.0795**  
**Cesar & Janet Armstrong**      **305.496.2722**

To schedule your visit, please call  
**Luis & Patricia Siman at 305.498.5936**



### **PRAY FOR THOSE WHO ARE ILL:**

Michael Bier; Dean Carr Calleja;  
Francesco Torres; Jeannette Conner;  
Ana Alicia Fernandez; Robert Garcia Esquerro;  
Stephen Hohaus; Cesar Izique; Paige Klekner;  
Daniel Manichello; Fedora Rice;  
Christopher Sanchez; Esther Suarez;  
Paulina Tawil; Virginia Walden.

### **PRAY FOR THOSE WHO HAVE DIED:**

Jose Luis Casas; Roberto Espin;  
Maria del Carmen Garcia;  
John Luzzi; Maria C. Negrin.

# MESSAGE OF THE HOLY FATHER FRANCIS FOR LENT



## ***What are we to do this Season of Lent?***

Once again, the Pasch of the Lord draws near! In our preparation for Easter, God in His providence offers us each year the season of Lent as a “sacramental sign of our conversion”. Lent summons us, and enables us, to come back to the Lord wholeheartedly and in every aspect of our life. The Church, our Mother and Teacher, along with the often-bitter medicine of the truth, offers us in the Lenten season the soothing remedy of prayer, almsgiving and fasting.

By devoting more time to **prayer**, we enable our hearts to root out our secret lies and forms of self-deception, and then to find the consolation God offers. He is our Father and he wants us to live life well.

**Almsgiving** sets us free from greed and helps us to regard our neighbor as a brother or sister. What I possess is never mine alone. How I would like almsgiving to become a genuine style of life for each of us! How I would like us, as Christians, to follow the example of the Apostles and see in the sharing of our possessions a tangible witness of the communion that is ours in the Church! For this reason, I echo Saint Paul’s exhortation to the Corinthians to take up a collection for the community of Jerusalem as something from which they themselves would benefit (cf. *2 Cor* 8:10). This is all the more fitting during the Lenten season, when many groups take up collections to assist churches and people in need. Yet I would also hope that, even in our daily encounters with those who beg for our assistance, we would see such requests as coming from God Himself. When we give alms, we share in God’s providential care for each of His children. If through me God helps someone today, will He not tomorrow provide for my own needs? For no one is more generous than God.

**Fasting** weakens our tendency to violence; it disarms us and becomes an important opportunity for growth. On the one hand, it allows us to experience what the destitute and the starving have to endure. On the other hand, it expresses our own spiritual hunger and thirst for life in God. Fasting wakes us up. It makes us more attentive to God and our neighbor. It revives our desire to obey God, who alone is capable of satisfying our hunger.

I would also like my invitation to extend beyond the bounds of the Catholic Church, and to reach all of you, men and women of good will, who are open to hearing God’s voice. Perhaps, like ourselves, you are disturbed by the spread of iniquity in the world, you are concerned about the chill that paralyzes hearts and actions, and you see a weakening in our sense of being members of the one human family. Join us, then, in raising our plea to God, in fasting, and in offering whatever you can to our brothers and sisters in need!

Above all, I urge the members of the Church to take up the Lenten journey with enthusiasm, sustained by almsgiving, fasting and prayer. If, at times, the flame of charity seems to die in our own hearts, know that this is never the case in the heart of God! He constantly gives us a chance to begin loving anew.