

Christ Child Catholic Church
*Dedicated to Growth in Christ and to the
Challenges of Loving Service*

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THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD
January 7, 2018

**“Where is the newborn king of the Jews?
We saw his star at its rising and have come
to do him homage.”
Matthew 2: 1-12**

The light of God’s eye

Once upon a time there was a young woman who longed to see God. Her name was Stella. All her young life Stella had prayed, worked hard, helped others and gave to the poor and needy generously and compassionately. But still, she longed to see God – to look God in the pupil of his eye. She told a wise old man of her desire to see God. The old man listened and understood. He told Stella, “Beginning tonight, go out and count the stars. Start with the middle star in the Orion belt and count to the east. Do not count any star twice. When you have counted the ten thousandth star, you will be looking into the very light of God’s eye.” And so, that night, Stella went out and began to count the stars. After several hours, she had counted hundreds of stars. She returned the next night and the next night. What she

didn’t realize was that as she counted far into the eastern sky, the stars were revolving and turning through the heavens. One night, twelve months later, Stella was counting aloud, “Nine thousand, nine hundred and ninety-eight. Nine thousand, nine hundred and ninety-nine.” As she concluded her count, she realized that the ten thousandth star was the middle star of Orion’s belt, the very star she had started with a year before. She found her heart filled with the greatest joy and wonder as she gazed at the star, for the star seemed to be gazing back at her. That very night she ran to the house of the wise old man and told him what she had seen. “My daughter,” he explained, “you were looking for the light of God’s eye. But God was there all along. You just didn’t realize it. The whole sky had to move through one complete revolution just so you could recognize what was right in front of you to start with. God moved heaven and earth to bring you to this moment. That’s how much God loves you! The eye with which you look at God is the very same eye with which God is looking at you.”

(Adapted from Keepers of the Story: Oral traditions in Religion by Megan McKenna.)

“When your life is filled with the desire to see holiness in everyday life,” Rabbi Harold S. Kushner writes, “something magical happens: Ordinary life becomes extraordinary, and the very process of life begins to nourish your soul.” The star of Epiphany challenges us to see our own lives in the light of God in our midst. As the magi undertook the long and arduous journey in search of the newborn king by the light of the mysterious star, Stella discovers, guided by the wise elder, God in her midst, in every moment of time, in every place along her

journey, Epiphany challenges us to slow down and check our own bearings on our life’s journey, to focus on the “star” we should follow to make our lives all that God has created them to be, to fix our lives on the constant, eternal values of peace, compassion, mercy, justice, and forgiveness that are Emmanuel – God-with-us.

Sacrament of Reconciliation

By appointment

Sacrament of Baptism and Marriage

Call the office for an appointment.

For Pregnancy Support

Birthright 241-8444 or 800-550-4900

Anointing of the Sick

Celebrated biannually at Mass or individually by appointment

Prayer Group in the Parish

Every Tuesday at 8:15 a.m. all Women
And all Men

MASS INTENTIONS January 6 – 12, 2018

Saturday 5:00 pm. The Boisvert Family
Sunday 10:00 am. + Sylvia Muzzio
Tuesday 9:00 am. The Boisvert Family
Thursday 9:00 am. Parishioners
Friday 8:00 am. Communion Services

Stewardship of Treasury

Report Sunday December 30 & 31, 2017

Total Plate \$ 1,810.00
EFT \$ 629.00
TOTAL \$ 2,439.00

Thank you and May God bless you!

Men’s Club Meeting

Our next meeting and dinner will be at 6:30 PM. on **Wednesday January 10, 2018**

“Together, supporting each other, we can do great things!”

Women’s Club/Prayer Group
**We meet the 4th Wednesday of each month,
January 24th 2018 from 1 to 2:30 PM.**
Our focus is social and spiritual at their same time. **Please contact Ruth McCormick**
ruthmcc@flash.net

**What better way to begin the New Year than
by spending time discerning God’s call?**

We are hosting a “Come And See” Day on
**Saturday, January 20th 2018 for single,
Catholic women age 18-38 years.**

As you know, these are perfect opportunities for young women to get a glimpse of cloistered life and Dominican cloistered life in particular, and to help them listen more closely to God’s voice in their hearts, whatever their calling. Will you once again help us reach out and invite young women to this opportunity?

**Contact Sister Joseph Marie, O.P. vocation
directress, at vocations@nunsmenlo.org or
visit our website at**

<http://nunsmenlo.org/discernment-days/>

To learn more and to register for one of our upcoming Come and See Days! Space is limited and fills fast!

The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

begins Thursday, 18th of January. Almighty ever-living God, who gather what is scattered and keep together what you have gathered, look kindly on the flock of your Son, that those whom one Baptism has consecrated may be joined together by integrity of faith and united in the bond of charity.

We must turn this contemplative gaze to the cities where we live, “a gaze of faith which sees God dwelling in their houses, in the streets and squares, fostering solidarity, fraternity, and the desire for goodness, truth and justice” – in their words, fulfilling the promise of peace. Francis.

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