



Helping families focus on what matters most

January 1 - Mary Mother of God

Theme: Mary's motherhood, peace.

January 3 - Epiphany of the Lord

Theme: Epiphany reveals Jesus as Savior of the World.

GOD

Livestream Mass: Our parish Masses are livestreamed. Check our parish website for the link; www.omgccc.org. Click on "Livestream Available" and you will be directed to our Vimeo link, <https://vimeo.com/omgc>, where you can view our weekend Masses.

Vigil Mass-Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God, Thursday, December 31st at 4pm
Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God Friday, January 1st at 8am; 1pm(Polish)

January 1 Readings - Mary Mother of God:

<https://bible.usccb.org/bible/readings/010121.cfm>

Videos:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aO2-qcRmukc>

January 3 Readings - Epiphany of the Lord:

<https://bible.usccb.org/bible/readings/010321.cfm>

Videos:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=h98IVMwyiSA>

FAMILY

Coloring Pages: <https://www.thecatholickid.com/mary-mother-of-god-coloring-page/>
<https://www.thecatholickid.com/epiphany-catholic-coloring-pages/>

Activities: <https://go.sadlier.com/religion/mary-mother-of-god-kit>
<https://www.catholicicing.com/celebrating-the-epiphany-with-catholic-kids/>

Bless Your Home on Epiphany: Do you know the traditional names of the Three Wise Men? It is a very old custom for families to bless their homes on Epiphany, using a piece of chalk to write across the top of a doorframe the initials of the names Casper, Melchior and Balthazar between the 4 digits of the New Year's date.

This year's door would read **20 + C + M + B + 21**. Find the prayer service for this ceremony here: <https://www.catholicculture.org/culture/liturgicalyear/prayers/view.cfm?id=49>

REFLECTION:

The family of Nazareth, Pope Francis said, did not live unlike most families: "with their problems and their simple joys, a life marked by serene patience amid adversity, respect for others, a humility which is freeing and which flowers in service, a life of fraternity rooted in the sense that we are all members of one body." (*Pope Francis, 2015*)

At Epiphany, three Wise Men from far away found Jesus and his family and it was revealed to them that Jesus had come to save everyone around the world. Our Christian families are all members of one body—the *Body of Christ*. We are not separated from the Holy Family, rather, we are connected to them in how we live out our lives in God's image. In our trials and in our rejoicing, we should humbly turn to God to thank him for the love he has shown us and for the support he has given us and those beyond our family in our hour of need.

Dinner Conversation:

1. How do we love like the Holy Family loved one another?
2. How did Joseph reflect his love for Mary?
3. How was Mary called to love Joseph?
4. Consider your own family: How does God call each of you to love one another and to reflect this love to the world?

The Holy Family Radiates True Love:

<https://www.catholicculture.org/culture/library/view.cfm?recnum=5610>

FRIENDS

There are many traditions and different ways of celebrating the coming of the Three Wise Men. In many families from Latin American cultures, Christmas presents are opened on Epiphany instead of Christmas. Explore and enjoy **Epiphany Traditions Around the World:**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jMi7FtgSorc>

