**January 5th, 2025 - Issue #249 - The Epiphany of the Lord**

* **DDF SUNDAY - FIRST COLLECTION IS JANUARY 26TH.**

**January Special Events:**

* **January 1st – Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God. Not a Holy Day of Obligation.**
* **January 9th - FIND Food distribution/Community Supplemental Food Distribution Program at 9:30**
* **January 8th – Bingo at Sacred Heart. 6:00 – 9:00PM in the Salta Center.**
* **January 8th – Ladies Guild Luncheon at 11:30 at Catholic Charities.**
* **January 11th - K of C drive-through CRV recycle program from 7:30AM to 11:30AM: Parking lot behind Salta Center.**

     **January 26th is the first DDF Sunday collection!!**

   **February 23rd is the second DDF Sunday collection!!**

**March 30th is the last DDF Sunday collection!!**

**MESSAGE FROM FATHER MARLIN:**

**I want to thank you each one for your very generous Christmas gifts.  I would love to write to each one of you, but the arthritis in my fingers makes that too difficult, so please know that I am so grateful.  As a diocesan priest I am responsible for everything when it comes to maintaining myself. Usually, I use the Christmas donation as a way to add to my back backup account.  As a homeowner, I had a large unexpected expense come up, and due to your generous gifts, I have been able to make the repairs that were needed.  I am so grateful.  I love our Chapel community and would be there every Sunday if I could.  Know that I treasure and love the times we celebrate the Eucharist together.  You all bring energy, love, and spirit.  We are still THE best worshipping community.   It is my GREAT joy to preside at the Eucharist with all of you.  Thank you, thank you again! Fr. Marlin**

**Here is the Christian version of “Santa Claus is coming to town” that I used at the Christmas Eucharists:**

**There's no need to watch out.**

**It's okay if you cry.**

**You can sing or you can pout.**

**I'm telling you why, Jesus Christ is coming to you.**

**He's forgotten his list.**

**He forgives more than twice.**

**He's the Lord of us all, both naughty and nice.**

**The Prince of Peace is coming to you.**

**He sees you when you're sleeping.**

**He knows when you're awake.**

**He saves you if you're bad or good with a power no sin can break.**

**SOOO - put sadness aside.**

**Let loose with a cry.**

**There's no reason to hide.**

**I'm telling you why.**

**Jesus Christ has come to us!**

**Message from Sharon, Tiara, and Noah McCoy**

**We wish to thank everyone for their prayers, remembrance cards, and masses for my daughter, Jennifer’s untimely death. We are so grateful for all of the love shown to us at this difficult time. We know she is at peace and in the arms of Jesus. Also grateful to the Christ of the Desert community.**

**What is the Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord?**

**The Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord commemorates the visit of the magi to worship the baby Jesus as told in the Gospel of Matthew: “Behold, magi from the east arrived in Jerusalem, saying, ‘Where is the newborn king of the Jews? We saw his star at its rising and have come to do him homage.’”**

**The word “epiphany” comes from the Greek *epiphainen*, which means "to manifest," “appear,” or “make known.” The Feast of the Epiphany celebrates the revelation of Jesus, the Son of God, to the world. The magi, or kings, or astrologers, or seekers from the East, stand in for all the peoples of the earth, for Jesus comes not just for one group of people but for all.**

**“The *Epiphany*is the manifestation of Jesus as Messiah of Israel, Son of God and Savior of the world. The great feast of Epiphany celebrates the adoration of Jesus by the wise men (*magi*) from the East, together with his baptism in the Jordan and the wedding feast at Cana in Galilee. In the magi, representatives of the neighboring pagan religions, the Gospel sees the first-fruits of the nations, who welcome the good news of salvation through the Incarnation.”**

**Origins of the Church's Celebration**

**The celebration of the Epiphany dates back to the early centuries of the Church. Originally, it included the celebration of Christ’s birth. It wasn’t until 336, under the reign of Emperor Constantine, that the Church began celebrating Christmas separately, on December 25, creating the 12 Days of Christmas which continued through the Feast of the Epiphany. While the actual date of the Feast of the Epiphany is January 6, in the United States, the celebration of the feast is transferred to the weekend closest to that date. This Christmas season, it will be on January 5, 2025.**

**GOSPEL MEDITATION - ENCOURAGE DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE**

**January 5th, 2025 – The Epiphany of the Lord**

**Matthew 2:1-12**

**Have you ever wondered *why*the magi had gold, frankincense, and myrrh? Matthew’s Gospel tells us, “Then they opened their treasures and offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh” (Matt. 2:11). Why are these things their “treasures”? One possible answer is they were magicians and astrologers, and these three items were the tools of their questionable trade. In offering them to Christ, they demonstrate that they will cease using such items to predict or control life. They place this baby-king, the God of Israel, at the center of their lives, and not their own devices of control, manipulation and prediction.**

**Isn’t that what we need to do, too? Consider, for example, the magical power of money, symbolized by the magi’s gold. Seemingly whatever we ask of money, it does. It wields a god-like power over the world. It can predict the future by guaranteeing better outcomes for us — which is why it is such a tempting alternative to trusting in God. The problem is such absolute trust in money enslaves us to the economic forces that make money so powerful. In paying homage to Jesus with “gold” (i.e., tithing), we participate in his authority over (and therefore freedom from) the magical sway of money.**

**What things in your life do you use to predict or control your future? What in your life seems to give you power over the world? Those are your treasures. Are you tired of feeling enslaved to them? Find a way to open them and give them to Christ, and you will be freer.**

*— Father John Muir*

**January 5th – The Epiphany of the Lord**

 **Mass Readings for the Epiphany of the Lord.**

* **First Reading –**[**Isaiah 60:1-6**](https://young-catholics.com/read-types/jerusalems-radiant-glory/)**: Jerusalem, arise! Your light and the Lord’s glory shine upon you, attracting nations and kings. Joyfully, your sons and daughters return, bringing wealth and praise to the Lord.**
* **Responsorial Psalm –**[**Psalm 72**](https://young-catholics.com/read-types/global-worship-of-the-just-king/)**: God’s wisdom and justice in the king will usher in an era of fairness, peace, and expansive dominion, earning tributes from afar and devotion from all nations.**
* **Second Reading –**[**Ephesians 3:2-3A, 5-6**](https://young-catholics.com/read-types/shared-inheritance-in-christ/)**: God’s grace entrusted to me reveals a mystery: Gentiles are fellow heirs with Jews, part of one body, sharing the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel.**
* **Gospel –**[**Matthew 2:1-12**](https://young-catholics.com/read-types/magi-visit-jesus/)**: Magi from the east, guided by a star, sought the newborn King of the Jews in Jerusalem, unsettling King Herod and the city. Informed by religious leaders about the prophesied birth in Bethlehem, Herod deceitfully instructed the magi to report back after finding the child. Following the star, the magi reached Jesus, worshiping Him and offering gifts. They returned home by another way, divinely warned to avoid Herod.**

**Themes are gleaned from**[**www.young-catholics.com**](http://www.young-catholics.com/)

## **JUBLIEE YEAR 2025 IS COMING:**

 **Pope Francis has started the 2025 Jubilee Year with the theme of “Pilgrims of Hope”.**

**Bishop Rojas has designated Sacred Heart Church, in Palm Desert, be named as one of the special sites of Pilgrimage in the Jubilee year in our Diocese.**

**More details to follow.**

**MASS FOR DEACON CHARLIE:**

**Deacon Charlie Alfred Stanton, who served at Sacred Heart until his passing on Sunday, September 22, 2024 at age 82 in Chandler, Arizona. He was a beloved member of the Sacred Heart Church/Community. Some of you might have known him and would like to attend his funeral. He played an important role in the lives of so many of our parishioners and children. It will be at Sacred Heart on January 25th, 2025 at 11:00 AM.**

**ATTENTION: Ladies Guild Members:**

**We will be having our next Ladies Guild Luncheon on Wednesday, January 8th 2025 at 11:30 AM.**

**Our menu is TBD. Please email Cindy at****chayward@sacredheartpalmdesert.com****or call 760-346-0089 to sign up or Cindy will be available after Mass, starting December 22nd, to sign up and pay $5 per person. We do plan ahead for the amount of food so please make sure to pay when you signed up.**

**February meeting date is on Wednesday the 12th.**

**REMEMBRANCE WALK – PAVER ORDER INFORMATION FOR NEW PARISHIONERS:**

**The “REMEMBRANCE WALK” IS LOCATED IS LOCATED TO THE RIGHT OF THE MAIN ENTRANCE TO THE CHAPEL. (behind the planter)**

**Forms are available from the Parish Office or back of the church. Installation will be within 30 days of your order. If you are not sure what you want to say on the paver, let me assist you!!.**

**In 2025 the following will be observed as Holy Days of Obligation:**

* **January 1st - Wednesday - Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God. Not a Holy Day of Obligation in 2025.**
* **May 29th - Thursday of the Sixth Week of Easter - Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord**
* **August 15th  - Friday - Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary**
* **November 1st  - Solemnity of All Saints (Saturday)**
* **December 8th – Monday- Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception**
* **December 25th – Thursday- Solemnity of the Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ**

**Whenever January 1, the solemnity of Mary, Mother of God, or August 15, the solemnity of the Assumption, or November 1, the solemnity of All Saints, falls on a Saturday or on a Monday, the precept to attend Mass is abrogated. Also, when December 8th falls on a Sunday, the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception is transferred to Monday. While the day remains a solemnity, the faithful are not obligated to attend Mass.**

**FINANCIAL SECTION:**

**JANUARY HAS 4 SUNDAYS FOR THOSE THAT GIVE MONTHLY.**

**Please make all checks payable to “Christ of the Desert” not Sacred Heart.**

**Total monies collected to date: $87,804\* or 58.5% of annual budget.**

**\*Monies collected each week reflect the Friday & Sunday Mass plus rental income from offices in the Courtyard, Weddings & Funerals.**

**This information is important for our community in order to understand where are financially throughout the year.**

        **Our Monthly expenses are budgeted at $12,500 per month or $37,500 per quarter. $150,000 annually.**

**Thanks for your continued generosity.**

**See instructions at end of Bulletin for ways to continue giving via your bank on-line service, there is likely a “setting” that will say “Autopay” or some other “Bill Pay” service.**

**THE POPE’S INTENTION FOR JANUARY: For the right to an education:
Let us pray for migrants, refugees, and those affected by war, that their right to an education, which is necessary to build a better world, might always be respected.**

**The Christ of the Desert “Bulletin” now appears on**[**www.sacredheartpalmdesert.com**](http://www.sacredheartpalmdesert.com/)**website. Open up the site and click on “church”, look down on the bottom left for Christ of the Desert. Open up this site for the “bulletin” and other information about our community.**

 **CELEBRATION SECTION:**

**There will be an information providing sheet on the table near the Chapel exit/entrance area.**

**You can always email the information to me as well.**

**You can sign up for any month NOW. I will keep a record of your special month and enter it when that month arrives.**

**WHO HAS A DATE IN JANUARY & YOU WANT ME TO ADD TO THE NOTICES BELOW????**

**DISCLAIMER: If information below is incorrect, please let me know and I will correct the error.**

**2025**

**JANUARY BITHDAY SECTION:**

**Judy Penny has a birthday on January 2nd.**

**John Maldonado has a birthday on January 5th.**

**John Schumaker has a birthday on January 6th.**

**Mary Ellen Kavanagh has a birthday on January 12th.**

**Linda Olsen has a birthday on January 19th.**

**Carmen Carlo has a birthday on January 19th.**

**Marjorie Sole has a birthday on January 22nd.**

**Carmen Migliaccio has a birthday on January 27th.**

**Lou Latranga has a birthday on January 31st.**

**JANUARY BIRTHDAYS IN HEAVEN:**

**Frances Dorniak – January 4th , Maryanne Dorniak’s Mother.**

**Steve Kent – January 6th, husband of Dolores Kent.**

**Jim Carlo - January 11th, husband of Carmen Carlo**

**Paul Aragon has a birthday in heaven on January 12th.**

**Mary Mueller – January 16th , Jay Mueller’s Mother.**

**Juan Baca – January 17th, Borther of Jesses Schumaker.**

**Nathaniel Joseph Palomino – January 18th, Nephew of Jesse Schumaker.**

**Max Sosebee – January 20th. Husband of Joyce Sosebee.**

**William MacKenzie – January 25th, Margaret MacKenzie’s husband.**

**Arnold Capitanelli – January 26th , Jackie Capitanelli’s Husband.**

**Dan Ryan – January 30th, Kathy Ryan’s husband.**

**JANUARY HAPPY WEDDING ANNIVERSARY SECTION:**

**Linda & John Olsen have an anniversary on January 28th.**

**Please provide Month, Date & Year**

**JANUARY REMEMBRANCE SECTION: “May their souls rest in peace”, Amen**

**Father Jack McGinnis passed away on January 1, 2022. Beloved friend of the entire Christ of the Desert Community.**

**Dennis DeWeese, who passed away at 50 years old on January 12,2001. Paulette Quaid’s brother.**

**Elsie Junga passed away on January 16, 1991. Family member of Lee Junga.**

**Stephen Dorniak passed away on January 20, 2016. Father of Maryanne Dorniak**

**Max Gregory Sosebee passed away on January 22,2022. Son of Joyce Sosebee**

**Mary Walbridge passed away on January 27th. Daughter of Betty ❤**

**Max Eugene Sosebee passed away on January 30, 2005. Husband of Joyce Sosebee.**

**Dan Ryan passed away on January 30th. Husband of Kathy Ryan.**

**Please provide Month, Date & Year & Relationship to family member being remembered.**

**“Who would you like to pray” for section:**

**Please send me your new updated petitions which will appear in green.**

**Many of you pray for special intentions at Sunday Mass. Please send me those intentions so the entire Parish can pray to the LORD with you.**

**Joe has lung cancer and will start three months of radiation and chemo on December 12th. We ask for healing prayers, and that the will of Our Lord be done.  Judy Farnum**

**Please pray for my friend Craig Richard who was recently diagnosed with thyroid cancer. Daria Smith.**

**Please pray for Carrie Clay who had an “accident” and broke her leg. Christ of the Desert Community**

**Please pray for Doug and Val. Roxanne Reed**

**Please pray for my daughter, Lisa Gruebel, who has been diagnosed with lung cancer, Suzanne Cummings.**

**THIS WE PRAY TO THE LORD!!!**

 **Christ of the Desert office hours: 760-346-0089**

**Office hours are from 9:30 to 1:30 Monday- Friday. Please call first to be sure Cindy is available. When Cindy is in the office, the office door is locked. Please ring the doorbell “to get her attention”.**

 **SUPPORT OUR PARISHIONERS WHO HAVE SMALL BUSINESSES SECTION:**

 **If anyone else wants to advertise their business in the Bulletin, send me your information.**

 **Thinking about selling your house or condo? Call Crys Mueller at 760 989 8732. I have been with BD Homes for the past 15 years.**

**John Maldonado is a Mortgage Loan Originator with First West Financial, Corp & a member of Christ of the Desert congregation.**

**"Your Home Loan Made Simple" We help you buy your dream home by simplifying the mortgage financing process with personalized loan options that save you time and money. If you need assistance with any type of loan, I am here to help.**

**For every loan that closes, I will make a donation to Christ of the Desert.**

**Contact: John A. Maldonado at** **jam@firstwestfinancial.com** **or call 760 636-8266. Mortgage Loan Originator,**

**NMLS #1995783,**[**WWW.firstwestfinancial.com**](http://www.firstwestfinancial.com/)

 **Enedina Sutton, a Distributor of Nature Sunshine Products and a long time parishioner. Has Herbal Supplements, all kinds of Vitamins, ointments, essential Oils, disinfectant products and much more. I do the business from home. I can be reached at****760-345-3754****. I live in Sun City Palm Desert community.**

 **Invented by NASA engineers, used on astronauts returning from space to rebuild muscle, bone and heal wounds “red light therapy” is now available. I am a new parishioner. Please call or email me: Rom Partyka 805-673-9235 or email at****rom1942@msn.com****for more information or to set up an appointment.**

**Need a good Catholic housekeeper? Call Elvia Pantoja at 760 698 6050. 20 years’ experience in the Indian Wells & Palm Desert area. References provided upon request.**

**ON GOING MESSAGE SECTION:**

**Please continue to consider supporting our community with the following options:**

**Mail your weekly or monthly offering to Christ of the Desert. All our regular mail goes to Sacred Heart so you would need to use that address. Make checks payable to Christ of the Desert.**

**CHRIST OF THE DESERT c/o.**

**SACRED HEART CHURCH**[**43-775 DEEP CANYON ROAD, PALM DESERT, CA 92260**](https://www.google.com/maps/search/43-775%2BDEEP%2BCANYON%2BROAD%2C%2BPALM%2BDESERT%2C%2BCA%2B92260?entry=gmail&source=g)**.**

**OR**

**Go to your bank on-line service, there is likely a “setting” that will say “Autopay” or some other “Bill Pay” service. You can set up an automatic payment directly from there. If you have any trouble doing this or don’t have a computer, just call your bank and they can help you.**

**Please make sure that you tell the bank to make the check payable to Christ of the Desert but send the check to Sacred Heart’s address:**

[**43775 Deep Canyon Rd.**](https://www.google.com/maps/search/43775%2BDeep%2BCanyon%2BRd.%2BPalm%2BDesert%2C%2BCA%2B92260?entry=gmail&source=g)[**Palm Desert, CA**](https://www.google.com/maps/search/43775%2BDeep%2BCanyon%2BRd.%2BPalm%2BDesert%2C%2BCA%2B92260?entry=gmail&source=g)[**92260**](https://www.google.com/maps/search/43775%2BDeep%2BCanyon%2BRd.%2BPalm%2BDesert%2C%2BCA%2B92260?entry=gmail&source=g)

**Stay Healthy! Do good work! Keep in touch!!!**

Jay Mueller

SHC & COD Finance Council Member SHC East Valley Outreach Program Coordinator

SHC & COD Parish Council Member SHC Remembrance Square Coordinator

COD Remembrance Walk Coordinator CELL NUMBER 760-777-3745