

Epiphany 2019 Homily Outline

We continue today our celebration of the Christmas mystery with the feast of the Epiphany, in fact despite the way that the world moves on past Christmas by the afternoon of December 25th, the Church continues its Christmas Season until the Baptism of the Lord next Sunday.

The word “Epiphany” means a “manifestation”, and we commemorate today, the fact of Christ’s manifesting himself to even the pagan world symbolized in the three *magi*, or wise men, the three kings.

“Totalitarians are fond of saying that Christianity is the enemy of the State – a euphemistic way of saying an enemy of themselves. Herod was the first totalitarian to sense this; he found Christ to be his enemy before he was two years old.” - Fulton Sheen, *Life of Christ*.

So, history tells us that he was a monster – but for our purposes today we can focus on this one flaw — *“he would try to snuff out the sun itself if that would allow him to go on existing as before—the undisturbed master of his fortunes.”* Leiva-Merikakis, *Fire of Mercy*

- Herod was comfortable, and he didn’t want anything to disturb or upset that comfort, even God Himself.

“Herod was fearful that He Who came to bring a heavenly crown would steal away his own tinsel one.” - Fulton Sheen, *Life of Christ*.

Exodus 90 – Program for men <https://exodus90.com>

The goal of Exodus 90 is to achieve the freedom necessary to fully engage the love of God and the love of neighbor.

90 Days - That’s the period it takes to re-learn the joy and satisfaction of self-mastery and freedom.

Prayer – Commit to 20 mins of prayer each day

Fraternity - Meeting once a week – there is a given format for the meeting, prayer and conversation.

Fasting – There is an ascetical component to this – practicing self-denial.

“Man was created for greatness—for God himself; he was created to be filled by God. But his heart is too small for the greatness to which it is destined. It must be stretched...” – Pope Benedict XVI

The Wise Men

If we look at our own lives – sometimes there's some comfort, some routine, a way of living we've built that works – but that doesn't mean you can just be comfortable and complacent. Doing so leaves opening for the evil one to come in and do his work. Any peace that is given to us should be a real inspiration to search, to seek, to adore the Lord with our whole life.

New Wednesday Night Program:

Apologetics 101 "Tradition" – what do Catholics mean by Tradition?

Announcements:

- ❖ **Today**— Teen Confirmation/Faith Works @ 9:30am in School. Sparks @ 9:30am in JPPII Center. Ignite @ 6:15pm in JPPII Center. "Roots" Young Adults program @ 6:15pm in Camerman Hall.
- ❖ **Monday**—YLI mtg @ 12:30pm in upper JPPII Center.
- ❖ **Tuesday**—Bible Study @ 9am in JPPII Center. **Roots Young Adult Epiphany Party @ 7pm** in lower JPPII Center.
- ❖ **Wednesday**— Rosary Makers @ 9:30am in upper JPPII Center. Confession @ 5pm. Fraternus/Fidelis @ 6pm in JPPII Center. Adult Faith Formation @ 6pm in Camerman Hall.
- ❖ **Thursday**— Adult Gospel Study @ 6pm in upper JPPII. RCIA @ 6:30pm in Camerman Hall. Youth Holy Hour @ 6:30pm in Church - *All are welcome!*
- ❖ **Friday**—Mom's Group @ 10am in JPPII Center. Youth Bible Study @ 3:30pm in lower JPPII Center.
- ❖ **Saturday**—San Lorenzo mtg. @ 10am in upper JPPII Center. **Star's Holy Spouses @ 6:30pm** in Camerman Hall – see bulletin flyer.
- ❖ **Tuesday (Jan. 22)**—**March for Life at State Capitol** – see bulletin flyer for bus information. Respect Life representatives in Vestibule after weekend Masses Jan 5/6 and 12/13 - Donations gratefully accepted to help defer cost of buses. Sign up at: prolifebus@aol.com or call 360-782-9989.
- ❖ **After Morning Masses in Camerman Hall**—Join your Parish Family for Hospitality, hosted by Respect Life Committee.