

From the Heart of Fr. Jim
January 5, 2020
Solemnity of the Epiphany

- Happy New Year! Many thanks to all the gifts and cards I received from you over Christmas and New Year's. I am so grateful for your thoughtfulness!
- After Mass today, the Poinsettias in Church are available to be taken home.
- We will resume our regular schedule of Daily Mass at 8 am in the Chapel at 8 am on Tuesday, Thursday and Friday, with a 12 Noon Mass on Wednesday.
- Scripture Study will resume at Immaculate Conception on Thursday, January 9th beginning at 6 PM. It is on the Book of Revelation. All are welcome.
- Religious Education and Confirmation Classes will resume on Sunday, January 12th at 10:30 and 2 PM for the Spring semester.
- Please continue to pray for all our homebound members and all who are sick and suffering.
- Catholic Charities needs Jelly, tuna fish and personal hygiene products. Plastic bags are also needed.
- Remember that Baptisms, Presentations, Weddings and Quincineras need a minimum of 6 months before they can happen. Please contact Fr. Jim for more information before you schedule your date.
 - The Sacrament of Reconciliation is always available ½ hour before Mass and from 3:30 – 4:30 in Church on Saturday's and by appointment.

May 2020 be filled with many blessings of peace and joy and may God continue to watch over you and keep you in his care and love. God Bless Each of you!

Fr. Jim

Reflections: **Virtue for January: Perfection**

Be ye perfect as your Heavenly Father is Perfect.

Matthew 5:48

From January 2nd:

We must begin with a strong and constant resolution to give ourselves wholly to God, professing to Him, in a tender, loving manner, from the bottom of our hearts, that we intend to be His without any reserve, and then we must often go back and renew the same resolution.

St. Francis De Sales

One of the means for the acquisition of perfection which was chiefly inculcated and much practiced by St. Philip Neri was a frequent renewal of good resolutions.

St Francis De Sales made from time to time a spiritual renovation, and always conceived in it new desires to serve God better.

St. John Berchmans, at his very entrance into religion, planted in his heart a strong resolution to become a saint, and then he not only remained constant in all the practices and resolutions which he took up for this end, but he went on daily gaining new vigor to his spiritual advantage.

When a holy religious was giving the Exercises at Torre di Speechi in Rome, a nun called St. Marie Bonaventura, who was living a very relaxed life, did not wish to be present. By many entreaties she was finally introduced to attend. The meditation, on the end of man enkindled such fervor in her heart that the Father had scarcely finished when she called him to her, and said: "Father, I mean to be a saint, and quickly." She then withdrew to her cell and, writing the same words on a scrap of papers, fastened them to the foot of her crucifix. From this moment, she applied herself with so much earnestness to the practice of perfection, that a memoir of her was written at her

death, which occurred eleven months later.

Jesus Always: Embracing joy in His Presence: January 5th:

Let My Consolation—My Comfort—bring joy to your soul. When anxiety is welling up within you, come to Me and pour out your heart. Then sit quietly in My Presence while I comfort you, helping you see things from My perspective. I remind you of your heavenly destination, for you are indeed on your way to Glory! I infuse My Joy and Peace into your heart, mind and soul.

When you are joyful, this changes the way you view the world around you. Even though you see much darkness, you can also see the light of My Presence continuing to shine. Moreover, the Joy in your soul gives you buoyancy, enabling you to rise above the countless problems in your life. Once you have gained this perspective, you will discover that you can comfort others in the midst of their troubles. They will find in you the consolation that you have found in Me. Thus your Joy becomes contagious, “infecting” those around you with Joy in their souls.

(helpful Scripture passages: Psalm 94:19; Psalm 62:8; Second Corinthians 1:3-4)

JANUARY 2020 CALENDAR

Jan 4th: 3:30 PM Confessions
 5 PM Mass

Jan 5th: 8:30 Confessions
 9 AM Mass at I C
 12 Noon Mass at St. Elizabeth
 1 Pm Scripture Study
 5 PM Mass at St. Joseph
 6 pm Scripture Study

Jan 7 th :	8 am Mass in Chapel
Jan 8 th :	12 Noon Mass in Chapel
Jan 9 th :	8 am Mass in Chapel 6 pm Scripture Study in Hall at I C
Jan 10 th :	8 am Mass in Chapel
Jan 11 th :	3:30 PM Confessions 5 PM Mass
Jan 12 th :	8:30 Confessions 9 AM Mass at I C 10:30 Religious Education 12 Noon Mass at St. Elizabeth 1 Pm Pot Luck at St. Elizabeth No Scripture Study 5 PM Mass at St. Joseph 6 pm Pot Luck Dinner No Scripture Study
Jan 14 th :	No 8 am Mass in Chapel
Jan 15 th :	12 Noon Mass in Chapel
Jan 16 th :	8 am Mass in Chapel 6 pm Scripture Study in Hall at I C
Jan 17 th :	8 am Mass in Chapel 8:30 AM until 5 PM Adoration in Chapel