

# THE MESSENGER

2569 W Victoria Drive Alpine, CA 91901

Office: 619.445.2145 Fax: 619.445.9682

Website www.queenofangels.org

Holy Sacrifice of The Mass Saturday 5:30 pm Sunday 8:00 am & 10:30 am

> <u>Daily Mass</u> 8:00 am: M, W, Th, F

Holy Days Please see The Messenger



Mary, Queen of Angels, Pray for Us!

First Saturday to Honor the Immaculate Heart of Mary Mass 9:00 am

#### First Friday to Adore the Sacred Heart of Jesus

Exposition/Adoration 10:30 am-11:15 am (Benediction follows) Confessions 10:35 am-11:15 am Mass 11:30 am

Confession

Sat. 4:00 to 5:00 pm or by appointment

<u>Baptism</u> 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the Month Contact Fr. Timothy

<u>Clergy</u> Rev. Timothy Deutsch, **Pastor**: Fr.Timothy@queenofangels.org

Parish Office Staff Dorie Arietta, Office Manager: dorie@queenofangels.org Sandy Dioli, Office Assistant: sandy@queenofangels.org Katrina Thornton, Catechetical Ministry: katrina@queenofangels.org Darlene Ames, The Messenger. bulletin@queenofangels.org

Email: parish@queenofangels.org

<u>The Mission of Queen of Angels Church is to:</u> Grow in our relationship with God through Jesus Christ.

Strengthen our faith by living and teaching the Gospel. Serve God's People in our parish, our community, and our world.

Church is Handicapped Accessible

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If you're worried about an unplanned pregnancy, you may be experiencing a personal crisis full of concerns about your future. Pregnancy Care Clinic can assist you. www.unplannedparenthood.org, 619.442.4357



# STEWARDSHIP OF TIME & TALENT

#### December 22, 2019

| Envelopes Used       | 109         |
|----------------------|-------------|
| Envelope Collections | \$ 5,906.00 |
| Plate Collections    | \$ 661.04   |
| TOTAL                | \$ 6,567.04 |



# GOSPEL READINGS & MASS INTENTIONS JANUARY 4-12, 2020



Continue to Keep in Your Prayers and Hearts those on our Healing and Deployed Military Lists. Amen, I say to you, if two of you agree on earth about anything for which they are to pray, It shall be granted to them by my heavenly father. Matthew 18:19

BRIGHTNESS COME

GATHER

GLORY INSTEAD LIGHT MAKE NATION RIGHTEOUS WALLS

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 Religious Ed Christmas Schedule
 Following is the schedule for classes during the Christmas Season:

 Pre-K - Journey (9th Grade):
 January 5: No class

 January 5: No class
 January 12: Regular class resumes

 Formation:
 January 5: Regular class resumes



<u>Monthly Collection Tecate & ECPCC</u> Please leave your donations after all the Masses next weekend, January 4-5 in the "TECATE TREASURE CHEST" directly behind the church, near the back

door of the multi-purpose room. Drive your car around to the back and it will be just a few steps away. You will be able to access the chest any day of the week. Just remember to close the lid when you are finished. PLEASE do not leave any clothing other than maternity and baby clothing for the ECPCC. Thanks for your support!





### Marriage Help! January 10-12,2020

Not willing to let go of your marriage? Many couples continue to struggle in a marriage, but are not willing to give up on each other. There is hope.

Retrouvaille is a program designed to help struggling marriages regain their health. It helps a husband and a wife rediscover or re-awaken the love, trust and commitment that originally brought them together.

For more information about an upcoming Retrouvaille Weekend program for couples, call **951-259-9474** or visit the website: **HelpOurMarriage.com** 

"It is my hope that all will feel called to love and cherish family life" -Pope Francis-

#### TURNING TOGETHER TOWARDS THE LORD (Part | of IV)

by Father Jay Scott Newman

The custom of priest and people standing together on the same side of the altar is called praying towards the East (or *ad orientem*).

From Christian antiquity, priests and people celebrated the Holy Eucharist by facing together towards the Lord, which meant standing together on the same side of the altar. This ancient and universal practice was lost sight of in the last two generations by the new practice of the priest standing across the altar from the people during the Eucharistic Prayer, a custom almost never before found in the sacred liturgy except for rare instances of architectural necessity, and in the last few years, theologians and pastors have begun to review this innovation in light of the best scholarship and the experience of the Church since the late 1960's.

Before he became Pope Benedict XVI, Joseph Cardinal Ratzinger was one of most thoughtful and respected critics of the unintended consequences which flow from the priest and people facing each other across the altar during the Eucharistic Prayer. Ratzinger argued that this arrangement, in addition to being a novelty in Christian practice, has the effect of *creating a circle of congregation and celebrant closed in upon itself* rather than allowing the congregation and celebrant to be a pilgrim people together turned towards the Lord. And *this closed circle, in turn, too easily renders the Eucharist more of a horizontal celebration of the congregation gathered than a vertical offering of the sacrifice of Christ to the Father.* This flattening of divine worship into a self-referential celebration is, in part, why too many Catholics experience Mass as much less than the source and summit of the Church's life, and the remedy for this malady is to open the closed circle and experience the power of turning together towards the Lord.

This can be done primarily in two ways: 1) return to the ancient and universal practice of the priest standing with the people on the same side of the altar as together they face the East of the sacred liturgy, the place from which the glory of the Lord shines upon us, or 2) even when the priest and people remain separated on opposite sides of the altar, place a cross at the center of the altar to allow both celebrant and congregation to face the Lord. Pope Benedict, through his writing and by his example, encouraged priests everywhere to work towards these goals to enrich the experience of divine worship and free us from the danger of solipsism *[extreme egocentrism]* which is contained in self-referential ways of praying, a danger against which we have been repeatedly warned by Pope Francis.

possible.

# PASTOR'S PAGE

Today, the Second Sunday of Christmas, we celebrate the Feast of The Epiphany of Our Lord. The word 'epiphany' comes from the Greek word meaning "to show forth" [*epi*-, forth + *phainein*, to manifest], it means specifically for us: the showing forth of Christ's divinity. As the divinity of Christ is something not manifest to bodily eyes, The Father chose to employ signs to show forth this divinity which was otherwise veiled in the flesh of Christ [Heb 10:20]. There are many different forms of this epiphany of Christ (e.g. The Baptism of the Lord, The wedding feast of Cana, The Transfiguration), but on this feast during the Christmas season we celebrate those that take place at the time of His birth, those to the: Magi [Mt 2:1]; Shepherds [Lk 2:8]; and Simeon & Anna [Lk 2:25ff]. Because Christ is the "Light of the *Whole* World" The Father chose to manifest the divinity of The Son to some people other than Israelites. What is of importance is that *God reveals to each according to their ability to receive the sign given*, hence God uses different signs for different classes of people. This is because, as St. Thomas teaches "...to man knowledge is imparted logically through a syllogism from something which we know better; so *knowledge given by signs must be conveyed through things which are familiar to those to whom the knowledge is imparted.*" E.g. Signs at an airport, traffic signs, etc. are as simple, yet universal as

Thus to the Magi God revealed via the guiding star [Mt 2:2]. Now as pagans look at the unusual in nature (anomalies), so the wise men saw the rising star and astrological events as a sign of divinity. God reveals through a star for it is fitting for them. God reveals, not to all pagans, but to those who show faith, so that as Christ said, He "...came to call not the righteous, but the sinners... [Mt 9:13].

To the shepherds, however, God uses not a star but an angelic herald. This is because as Israelites they were accustomed to angelic interventions. Just as the entirety of the Old Law was conveyed through the ministry of angels [Heb 2:2], so too the divinity of Christ is manifested to the shepherds through angels [Lk 2:13]. This is to show, as St. Paul writes, "He chose the foolish things that He might confound the wise." [I Cor1:25].

To Simeon & Anna moreover, God uses not an angelic herald but the interior inspirations of the Holy Spirit [Lk 2:26]. This is because as intimate friends of God who were in the Temple constantly praising God in prayers, offerings, and fasting, their "Gifts of The Holy Spirit" were most perceptive and receptive, thus enabling them to be accustomed to the inspirations of God, The Holy Spirit.

Finally, lest we be deceived into thinking that astrology is a true form of knowing God, we should reflect upon the fact the guiding star was no ordinary star. For, 1) it appeared not only at night but also at midday – not even the moon does this. 2) It appeared visible at one time and invisible at other times. 3) The movement of the star was not continuous, but as the pillar of cloud/fire in the desert of the Israelites fleeing Egypt. 4) The movement was specific to the place of the virginal birth of the Messiah.

Thus in Our Father's Divine Providence we find that He cares for the well-being and spiritual good of all. He directs all things in accordance with our abilities and does not send us something that we are unable to carry in life, however difficult. The means of salvation will never be wanting to those who turn to God in humble submission for the forgiveness of their sins. Indeed, this is why God comes to us, to visit us, to save us from our sins and our selves.

Therefore we, as Christians, must be receptive to God's manifestations accordingly, as we are disposed – and that is as Baptized in The Holy Spirit! For, as St. Paul preached, "...we walk by faith, not by sight" [II Cor 5:7]. As Christians we should not look to the heavens for celestial events in the stars. Neither should we wait upon apparitions of angels and saints. Rather, we should wait for God as Simeon and Anna did in the Temple, in prayer and in fasting, and thus be solicitous toward the inspirations of God The Holy Spirit in the simplicity of Christian meditation and contemplation. As the psalmist records the Lord's word:

"Be still... and know that I Am God." Psalm 46:10



Christmas Blessings,

Father Tim



SUNDAY, JANUARY 19,2020; AFTER BOTH MASSES

Purchase your Tickets after all Masses (All proceeds will benefit the Knights of Columbus Family/Widows Assistance Fund.)

Adults: \$8.00, Children, Under 10 years old: \$6.00

<u>Menu</u>

Waffles w/Fruit Toppings & Whipped Cream, Scrambled Eggs, Sausage Links, Coffee & Juice







#### **CATHOLIC HOMILIES SHORTEST OF ALL DENOMINATIONS**

Washington D.C., Dec 16, 2019 (CNA) By Christine Rousselle

A new analysis from the *Pew Research Center* . . . of nearly 50,000 sermons, given across a variety of Christian denominations during the months of April and May this year, found that . . .

The median length of a sermon was 37 minutes. Historically black Protestant sermons had the longest median length of 54 minutes, Evangelical churches falling in between at 39 minute per sermon. Mainline Protestant sermons were an average of 25 minutes long, Catholic priests, however, the average length was just 14 minutes!

The analysis was published on Dec. 16, and was titled "The Digital Pulpit: A Nationwide Analysis of Online Sermons."

While the terms "homily" and "sermon" are often used interchangeably, they are actually different in nature. A "homily" refers to an explanation or further commentary of scripture during a Mass. A sermon is usually defined as a talk on a religious or moral subject, especially one given by a religious leader during a liturgy. For the purposes of this study, Catholic homilies were counted as "sermons."

*Pew* took data from 6,431 different church websites to create the analysis. The churches all posted all or part of their religious services online. For this research, "online sermon" was defined as "a portion of a religious service posted to a church website that contains a commentary from the pulpit but sometimes may include other parts of the service as well."

The analysis found that while sermons at historically-black and evangelical churches typically contained roughly the same number of words, the sermons at the black churches were longer in length. The study's authors suggested that this was due to the inclusion of "musical interludes, pauses between sentences or call and response with people in the pews." In analyzing the content of the sermons, Pew found that 98% of Catholic homilies included the terms "God" and "Jesus."

Read Full Story at: catholicnewsagency.com/news/catholic-homilies-shortest-of-all-denominations