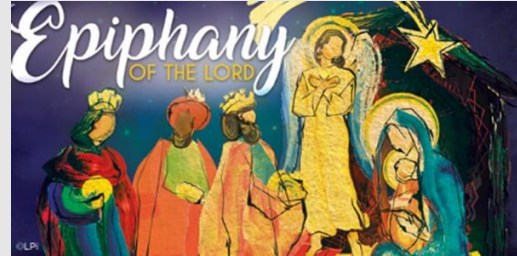




From the Desk of Father Peter

Epiphany

In western Christian tradition, January is celebrated as Epiphany month. It goes by other names in various church traditions. In Hispanic and Latin culture, as well as some places in Europe, it is known as the Three Kings' Day.



Christmas celebrates a family that could not get a home to stay in; a family that was homeless, with no place in the inn. Mary had to give birth in a stable. The angels came and glorified God. Then the people of the East came and found the Wonder Child that King Herod had sought to eliminate because he felt Jesus was a threat to his parochial sense of kingdom.

Epiphany celebrates the manifestation of Christ to the world. As Christians, how can we manifest our faith to others who are less fortunate in our lives? I am very happy and thrilled with the immense response and support we had as a parish to the many charitable organizations that were displayed on our Giving Trees. The many gifts of your generous donations were a welcomed gift indeed in support of our less fortunate brothers and sisters.

As your Pastor, I realize we have so many good things within our faith community here at St. John's, that we do not talk about or share to let others know of our parish's immense outreach. We each have a hidden talent which we may consider ordinary in itself, but which turns out to be the basis for a new hope, a new lease of life for others. Thanks to all who gave generously to the Giving Tree

Project as well as the outreach done in the parish throughout the year, even amidst these challenging times and not to mention the huge success of our parish CMA!! May you all receive tenfold what you have given in God's name to assist the needy of our community.

True joy, the protection of God and a deepening knowledge that God wants to provide us with every good thing, are among the gifts we also can become more aware of at this time of year. To open our awareness, we may need to pause, to be silent, and quietly contemplate our gracious loving God, and feel deeply that the Emmanuel is with us, in whose name we too, have shared ourselves with others.

As we enter into the new year, may we remember our responsibility to carry on with the mantle of discipleship to which each one of us is called.



Happy New Year and God Bless All!

Fr. Peter Enyan-Boadu