RECONCILIATION:
Every Saturday: 4:00pm or by appointment
INFANT BAPTISM:
Parents should call the office to schedule a Baptism
MARRIAGE:
Couples should make appointment with a priest six months prior to the wedding

Saint Jerome Catholic Church
308 Carmel Ave
El Cerrito, CA 94530
510-525-0876
churchsaintjerome@gmail.com
www.stjeromeec.org

MASS SCHEDULE:
WEEKDAYS—8:00AM
SATURDAY VIGIL 5:00PM
SUNDAY –7:30, 9:00 AND 11:00AM
LIVESTREAM MASS-9:00AM
SEARCH YOUTUBE, ST. JEROME, EL CERRITO

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

National Migration Week
Monday: The Most Holy Name of Jesus
Tuesday: St. Elizabeth Ann Seton
Wednesday: St. John Neumann
Thursday: St. André Bessette
Friday: St. Raymond of Penyafort; First Friday Julian Calendar Christmas

All are Welcome this Friday, January 7 for anointing at the 8:30am Healing Mass.

Pastoral Team
Rev. Michael Pham, Parochial Administrator
Email: fr.michaelpham@gmail.com Ex. 102
Elizabeth Oishi, Director of Children’s Catechesis
Phone: 510-292-7354
Ms. Carol DuPont, Confirmation Coordinator

Barbara Cortese, Adult Faith Formation
Ms. Mary Davidson, Office Manager
Leadership Councils
Mr. Charles Cardall, Parish Finance Council
Rotating Chair-Parish Pastoral Council

January 2, 2022

The Epiphany of the Lord

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.”
Matthew 2:1-2

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

Gifts are everywhere at this time of year. Christmas gifts. Hostess gifts. Hidden gifts. Wrong-size gifts. Unexpected gifts. Unwanted gifts. Unreciprocated gifts. And in today’s readings we hear about even more gifts: gold, frankincense, and myrrh. But we know intuitively (or, one hopes, eventually!) that gifts are symbols of something much deeper and less tangible. The gift of God’s Son is, of course, at the heart of our Christmas festivities. We are not—and never—alone, because ‘God is with us.’ (Thus the name Emmanuel.) But wait, that’s not all! The liturgy reminds us over and over that this is a ‘holy exchange.’ As Christ came to share in our humanity, we come to share in his divinity. The full significance of that mystery is a gift we have yet to unwrap completely.

WHAT KIND OF GOD IS THIS?
Christmas is a season of abundance. Christmas cookies and carols. Parties and presents. Mangers and mistletoe. The same is true in our church. Within a period of nine days we celebrate Christmas, the Holy Family, Mary Mother of God, and today the Solemnity of the Epiphany. Truly an embarrassment of liturgical riches. (And we are not finished yet!)
However, for many people, Christmas is already over. Trees litter the curbside or make their way back to the attic. Presents are put away or returned. We prepare to go back to school or work. But as Christians we have barely dipped our toes into the profound mystery of a God who walks among us. What kind of a God is this whose kingdom is not limited by our borders, fears, expectations, or imaginations? Today’s psalm reminds us, ‘Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.’ Diversity and inclusion are not new to God’s agenda.

TRADITIONS UNCOVER MEANING
Two traditional rituals, one liturgical and one domestic, help underline the meaning of the Epiphany. The Proclamation of the Date of Easter is an option for inclusion at Mass today. This text which formally announces the dates of the upcoming major feast days reminds us that Christmas is best honored in the context of the whole story of salvation that culminates in Easter. Or as writer Nathan Mitchell reflects, the wood of the crib becomes the wood of the cross.
The second tradition connected to Epiphany is the blessing of the door of one’s home with chalk. It includes a prayer for protection for all who enter therein. One explanation of this tradition ties it to the Passover in the Book of Exodus: the marking of the doorposts with the blood of the lamb kept the Israelites safe. This tradition too offers a connection between Christmas and Easter. As we continue to mine the richness of this season we hum along with the angels, Gloria in excelsis Deo!

WALK FOR LIFE WEST COAST 2022
January 22 will mark the 18th Anniversary of the Walk for Life West Coast in San Francisco. The walk begins at the Civic Center Plaza at 12:30pm and after the Rally, will proceed down Market Street to Justin Herman Plaza’ Before the Walk, Archbishop Cordiloene invites you to Mass at 9:30am at St. Mary’s Cathedral. For more info please call 415-658-1793 or email to info@walkforlifewc.com
Welcome to Visitors and New Members

You are invited to join our parish community. We have many activities and ministries that you are welcome to explore. Please visit our website for current activities at http://stjeromeec.org/ To register, please fill out the information below. You may drop it in the collection basket or the parish office mail slot.

NAME______________________________________________________________________________________
ADDRESS:___________________________________________________________________________________
PHONE:____________________________________EMAIL:________________________________________

ON-LINE GIVING

Please visit www.stjeromeec.org
You may make payments for your Sunday donations, Mass Stipends, St. Vincent de Paul, Christmas Donations or a One-time gift.

CHRISTIAN GIVING

December 19, 2021 ———-$3738.00
Religious Retirement Fund ———- $95.00
Christmas ———- $2965.00

ATTENTION ALL MINISTRY LEADERS: Please be sure to come into the office to schedule all of your ministry’s upcoming events for 2022. Thank You!

MASS INTENTIONS: JANUARY 1 - JANUARY 9

Saturday, January 1
9:00am Joel Falcon †
5:00pm Int. of All People & All Souls

Sunday, January 2
7:30am Int. of All People & All Souls
9:00am Agnes Choa †
11:00am Henry Mendes †

Monday, January 3
8:30am Int. of All People & All Souls

Tuesday, January 4
8:30am Communion Service

Wednesday, January 5
10:30am SVDP Food Pantry Rohan Hall

Friday, January 7
8:30am Healing Mass

Saturday, January 8
3-5:00pm First Communion Class Rohan Hall

Sun. Jan 9
7:30am Mass in Church
9:00am Mass in Church Live Stream
10:00am Distribution of Communion Church
11:00am Mass in Church
4-6:00pm Confirmation - Rohan Hall

Mass Intentions:

The diocese, as well as the state of California, is requiring Masks at Mass regardless of vaccination status.

If you are not receiving a hard copy of the Catholic Voice at home and would like to, please contact the office and we will be sure to sign you up!

ON-LINE GIVING

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The Staff at the Parish Office wish you a Very Joyful and Peaceful Christmas and a Christ-Centered and Hopeful New Year!

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