

CHURCH OF THE EPIPHANY | 2nd Avenue S, 22nd Street | epiphanychurch239@gmail.com | (212) 475-1966 | Mail: 239 E 21st Street New York, NY 10010

Third Sunday of Easter

April 18, 2021

He stood in their midst and said to them, "Peace be with you."

- » Look inside for
- » New Young Adult Alpha
- » Call for Volunteers.



WELCOME to Epiphany

Is it possible to back away from something because it's so wonderful you find it hard to believe that it can be real? But even when we should believe, sometimes we don't. 'Is it really this good?' we ask ourselves.

For an hour or two they have all been very excited. Probably the room is a buzz of conversation, everyone wanting to hear from those who had seen Jesus. Then one or two realize there is another figure in the room, then others see him, and the conversation begins to quieten. Others turn round, and they hush their voices as well. *He* is there. No one saw him enter and no one heard him enter. But he's there. And he says, "Peace be with you."

It would be hard to overstate how overwhelming that moment was for the believers in that room..

Despite the good news a few among them had brought, and being caught up in the excitement and emotion of that news, the majority were not mentally or spiritually ready for Jesus to be there. So the word went round, "This isn't real. It's not actually Jesus. It's a ghost." Not really *him*, just an apparition, a phantom, a bodiless spirit.

A ghost could pass through walls. A ghost could be seen. A ghost could talk. But there was one thing a ghost could *not* do: eat! So Jesus asked them: "Do you have anything here to eat?" They gave him a

I doubt if Jesus was hungry. But he ate. A ghost would not and could not do that. He did it openly. They all saw. There was no trickery.

He ate some broiled fish.

GHOST

Enrique Ortiz

Epiphany Parishioner since March 2020

So is it true that you arrived in New York to start your new job just before the pandemic? Yes, I moved into my apartment on Thursday March 12th, and two days later the Archdiocese canceled all Masses and the city went into lockdown.

That must have been a bummer. That Sunday I ran out to the store to at least get some water purifier for my apartment, and by Monday everything was in lockdown.

Where did you grow up? I was born in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, then we moved to New Orleans, and when I was five we moved to Florida. I've lived there for almost 31 years—Daytona Beach, and then Orlando. My mother and father were born in Puerto Rico. I have a brother and a sister, I'm the oldest.

You were a very bossy older brother? Yeah, probably. But if you think about it, my brother is 10 years younger than me, and my sister, I'm almost like the older uncle, I'm 16 years older.

What were you into when you were growing up? In middle school it was basketball and choir, and then in high school I got into really involved in the youth group in my church, and that took a lot of my time. I went to public school. When I was in high school my physics teacher got me into an apprentice program at NASA.

When did you get into guitar? I've always been into Hispanic music—that was the music I heard all my life—but later I was into praise music. I used to listen to Christian music. I would put into into my cassette player and I would listen to it and jump up and down on my bed. (laughs) When I was 10, my parents got me a children-sized guitar. My father made a deal with me—for every minute I played guitar, I could play video games. Sometimes I would only practice so

I could play video games. But later I really got into the guitar.

Which video games? The Mario Brothers, and Donkey Kong Country. Basically it was Donkey Kong and Diddy Kong. And Star Fox.

What did you study in college? Computer engineering at University of Central Florida—the Knights. And I did my PhD in that same field, and I was on the robotics team and I worked in a lot of labs around campus.

So you were a real nerd? Yes, but I was super social at the time, and I had an outlet for that through youth group. In my third year of college I was trying to find a new spiritual home, and I went on a retreat. I had a big encounter with Jesus on that retreat through the Eucharist. It was a pivotal retreat.

Any interesting jobs? I always liked helping people. I always told my mother that I'd be a good shoe salesman. (laughs) But I always got jobs in research labs, working with professors at the university.

Why did you come to New York? My first job after my PhD was at a start up in Florida, working in AI (artificial intelligence) on face recognition. I worked there six years. But then I felt it was time to start the next chapter. And part of that chapter was to set sail and go on an adventure. Leaving Florida was necessary for that next chapter. New York was never a dream of mine, because I thought it was going to be overwhelming. But I thought if I was gonna be somewhere cold, I wanted to it to be somewhere fun. I got an AI job with Samsung here in New York.

When did you find Epiphany? When the churches opened up in the summer, I started exploring nearby churches. Epiphany had all the things I was looking for.

What was biggest thing you did during pandemic? Exodus 90. It's a 90 day program where you pray every day, curtail TV and social media, not eating sweets, take cold showers, and meet with others to support you.

Favorite food? Thai food. Not from the Thai restaurant around here, though.

Sports Team? I grew up being an Orlando Magic fan. You are vested because all the years you put into the team, but at the same time, you don't want to be a fan.

*Interview and photo by Jim Mayzik, SJ.
Design by Kevin Jackson Have a parishioner in mind for our spotlight section?
Let us know!*

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Our Epiphany family is returning, the pews are beginning to fill up, and we are so happy to be returning to normal!

But now we need **more help** in all of our ministries!

PLEASE PLEASE PLEASE consider joining, or rejoining

Hospitality Ministry

Ministry of Compassion

Lectors, Eucharistic Ministers

Altar Servers

Young Adult Ministry

Outreach Ministers



PARISH INFORMATION

Parish House (Rectory): MAILING ADDRESS

239 East 21st Street, New York, NY 10010

Telephone: 212-475-1966

Website: epiphanychurch.nyc

e-mail: epiphanychurch239@gmail.com

MASSSES: Mon-Fri 12:10pm

Saturday Vigil 4pm; Sun 11am & 7:30pm

Rev. Austin Titus, *Pastor*

Rev. James Mayzik, S.J., *Parochial Vicar*

Rev. Msgr. Thomas A. Modugno *In Residence*

Kate McHugh, *Principal, The Epiphany School*

Deborah J. Keogh, *Director of Faith Formation & CCD*

John D. Coen, *Director of Music*

Kevin Jackson, *Director of Communications*

José Ramos & Thomas Lewis, *Parish Trustees*

Announced Mass Intentions

Saturday, April 17

4:00 pm Mary & Carmine Esposito

Sunday, April 18

11:00 am intentions of Dominick Bianco

7:30 pm Enrique Melad Sr.

Monday, April 19

12:10 pm Dorothy R. Walsh

Tuesday, April 20

12:10 pm Maureen J. McCarthy

Wednesday, April 21

12:10 pm Paul Guglielmo

Thursday, April 22

12:10 pm Helen Tierney

Friday, April 23

12:10 pm Michael G. Suscavage

Saturday, April 24

4:00 pm intentions of Georgia Xuereb

Sunday, April 25

11:00 am Kevin, Mary & Juliette McNulty

7:30 pm Francis Xavier Maloney

Monday, April 26

12:10 pm Mary Marco

Tuesday, April 27

12:10 pm Mary Spadaro

*May their souls and the souls of the faithful departed,
through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen*

For weekend Masses only, we ask our parishioners to reserve a seat by responding to the FlockNote e-mails that will be sent to all parishioners who have provided their e-mail addresses. If we do not have your e-mail address, please call the rectory or e-mail the office at epiphanychurch239@gmail.com to be added to our FlockNote contacts.

At all Masses, seating will be assigned at the direction of our hospitality ministers. Seating has been arranged to maintain optimal sanitary conditions and social distancing.

Masks are required
for all persons entering Epiphany church at any time.



BASKET COLLECTION

2021
Apr 10 - 11: \$3,671
◆◆◆
2019
Apr 13 - 14: \$7,675

We offer our heart to God
with our weekly donations



REMEMBRANCE & SPECIAL INTENTIONS

A wonderful way to remember our loved ones who have passed on and to pray for special intentions, while giving back to God

Announced Mass for 2020 (\$15)

Altar Bread & Wine (\$50 / week)

Sanctuary Lamp (\$20 / week)

Our ANNOUNCED MASSES FOR 2021 ARE NOW OPEN

Mass reservations for 2021 are limited :

one 4 pm Mass per parishioner

11 am Sunday Masses may be limited at our discretion.



April 18- 24

our
Sanctuary Lamp

will burn
in memory of
John Caradonna



April 18-24

our
Bread & Wine
will be offered
for

Spencer Grynwajc
as he celebrates his
Sacraments of Initiation

ANNOUNCEMENTS



What Should I Give to God this Easter season?

Truly, all we have, we owe to Christ, who spared nothing of himself on Calvary.

During the Easter season, we build our commitment to God by placing our treasure where our hearts need to be.

Give Him your heart, by supporting Christ's bride, the Church, with a generous donation.

Our Easter & Christmas collection is our most important collection.

Thank you for your heartfelt generosity.

The 2021 Cardinal's Appeal Stewardship Appeal

Assigned Goal: \$161,000 **Pledged:** \$135,660 **Gifts:** 138

We've reached 84% of our goal! If even 50% of our parish families pledge a gift to the Appeal, we would easily meet this year's goal set for us by the Archdiocese.

We pray that the Easter season will inspire our parishioners to give.

We are so very grateful to our parishioners who are prayerfully considering a pledge to the Cardinal's Appeal.

WHERE YOUR 2021 GIFT GOES



Join our parish in supporting the work of the Church in New York



the CARDINAL'S
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TAX DEDUCTIONS FOR YOUR DONATION TO EPIPHANY

If your **2020 Tax Deductions** exceed \$12,200 (single) or \$24,400 (married), and they include church donations, you must obtain a report from Epiphany before filing your 2020 tax return.

Even if you do not itemize, you may deduct up to \$300. To take either of these deductions, please call the parish office to request a statement of donations.



READINGS: Third Sunday of Easter

Acts of the Apostles 3:13-15, 17-19

Peter said to the people: "The God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, the God of our fathers, has glorified his servant Jesus, whom you handed over and denied in Pilate's presence when he had decided to release him. You denied the Holy and Righteous One and asked that a murderer be released to you. The author of life you put to death, but God raised him from the dead; of this we are witnesses. Now I know, brothers, that you acted out of ignorance, just as your leaders did; but God has thus brought to fulfillment what he had announced beforehand through the mouth of all the prophets, that his Christ would suffer.

Repent, therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be wiped away."

Responsorial Psalm: PS 4:2, 4, 7-8, 9 R. Lord, let your face shine on us. (or: Alleluia)

When I call, answer me, O my just God,
you who relieve me when I am in distress;
have pity on me, and hear my prayer! R.

Know that the LORD does wonders for his faithful one;
the LORD will hear me when I call upon him. R.

O LORD, let the light of your countenance shine upon us!
You put gladness into my heart. R.

As soon as I lie down, I fall peacefully asleep,
for you alone, O LORD, bring security to my dwelling. R.

1 John 2:1-5a

My children, I am writing this to you so that you may not commit sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous one. He is expiation for our sins, and not for our sins only but for those of the whole world. The way we may be sure that we know him is to keep his commandments.

Those who say, "I know him," but do not keep his commandments are liars, and the truth is not in them.

But whoever keeps his word, the love of God is truly perfected in him.

Verse before the Gospel - Luke 24:32

Lord Jesus, open the Scriptures to us;
make our hearts burn while you speak to us. R. Alleluia, alleluia.

Gospel: Luke 24:35-48

The two disciples recounted what had taken place on the way, and how Jesus was made known to them in the breaking of bread.

While they were still speaking about this, he stood in their midst and said to them,

"Peace be with you."

But they were startled and terrified and thought that they were seeing a ghost.

Then he said to them, "Why are you troubled? And why do questions arise in your hearts? Look at my hands and my feet, that it is I myself.

Touch me and see, because a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you can see I have."

And as he said this, he showed them his hands and his feet.

While they were still incredulous for joy and were amazed, he asked them, "Have you anything here to eat?" They gave him a piece of baked fish; he took it and ate it in front of them.

He said to them, "These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you, that everything written about me in the law of Moses and in the prophets and psalms must be fulfilled."

Then he opened their minds to understand the Scriptures.

And he said to them, "Thus it is written that the Christ would suffer and rise from the dead on the third day and that repentance, for the forgiveness of sins, would be preached in his name to all the nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things."

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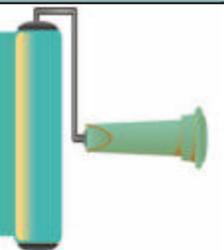
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