



GRACE CHURCH
IN NEWARK

THE FIRST SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY
THE BAPTISM OF OUR LORD

JANUARY 10, 2021

SUNG MASS AT 10:30 AM

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Introit—Dilexisti

Mode 8

You love righteousness and hate iniquity; therefore God, your God, has anointed you with the oil of gladness above your fellows. Ps. My heart is stirring with a noble song; Let me recite what I have fashioned for the King

Gloria

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth.

Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us; you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer.

For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. *Amen.*

Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Let us pray.

Father in heaven, who at the baptism of Jesus in the River Jordan proclaimed him your beloved Son and anointed him with the Holy Spirit: Grant that all who are baptized into his Name may keep the covenant they have made, and boldly confess him as Lord and Savior; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, in glory everlasting. *Amen.*

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

First Reading—Isaiah 42: 1-9

Here is my servant, whom I uphold, my chosen, in whom my soul delights; I have put my spirit upon him; he will bring forth justice to the nations. He will not cry or lift up his voice, or make it heard in the street; a bruised reed he will not break, and a dimly burning wick he will not quench; he will faithfully bring forth justice. He will not grow faint or be crushed until he has established justice in the earth; and the coastlands wait for his teaching. Thus says God, the LORD, who created the

heavens and stretched them out, who spread out the earth and what comes from it, who gives breath to the people upon it and spirit to those who walk in it: I am the LORD, I have called you in righteousness, I have taken you by the hand and kept you; I have given you as a covenant to the people, a light to the nations, to open the eyes that are blind, to bring out the prisoners from the dungeon, from the prison those who sit in darkness. I am the LORD, that is my name; my glory I give to no other, nor my praise to idols. See, the former things have come to pass, and new things I now declare; before they spring forth, I tell you of them.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

A brief period of silence is observed.

Gradual—Psalm 89: 20-29

Refrain—I have found David my servant; with my holy oil have I anointed him.

I have found David my servant; with my holy oil have I anointed him. My hand will hold him fast and my arm will make him strong. No enemy shall deceive him, nor any wicked man bring him down. *All repeat the Refrain.*

I will crush his foes before him and strike down those who hate him. My faithfulness and love shall be with him, and he shall be victorious through my Name. I shall make his dominion extend from the Great Sea to the River. *All repeat the Refrain.*

He will say to me, 'You are my Father, my God, and the rock of my salvation.' I will make him my firstborn and higher than the kings of the earth. *All repeat the Refrain.*

I will keep my love for him for ever, and my covenant will stand firm for him. I will establish his line for ever and his throne as the days of heaven." *All repeat the Refrain.*

Second Reading—Acts 10: 34-38

Peter began to speak to Cornelius and his relatives and close friends: "I truly understand that God shows no partiality, but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ-- he is Lord of all. That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

A brief period of silence is observed.

Alleluia

℣. Blessed is he who comes in the Name of the Lord; God is the Lord; he has shined upon us.

℟. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Holy Gospel—Mark 1:7-11

℣. The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.

℟. Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Preaching in the wilderness, John proclaimed, “The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.” In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. And a voice came from heaven, “You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.”

℣. The Gospel of the Lord.

℟. Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Homily

Father Bates

The Renewal of the Baptismal Covenant

Dear Friends, today we celebrate Jesus’ baptism by John at the very outset of his mission. We, as the Church, are called to continue Christ’s mission today. We are buried with Christ by Baptism into his death, and raised with him to newness of life. I call upon you to renew the solemn promises and vows of Holy Baptism, by which we once renounced Satan and all his works, and promised to serve God faithfully in his holy Catholic Church.

The Baptismal Covenant

Do you reaffirm your renunciation of evil and renew your commitment to Jesus Christ? *I do.*

Do you believe in God the Father?

I believe in God, the Father almighty creator of heaven and earth.

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary, He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.

Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers?

I will, with God's help.

Will you persevere in resisting evil, and whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord? *I will, with God's help.*

Will you proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ?

I will, with God's help.

Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as yourself?

I will, with God's help.

Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being? *I will, with God's help.*

May the Almighty God, the Father of our Lord, Jesus Christ, who has given us a new birth by water and the Holy Spirit, and bestowed upon us the forgiveness of sins, keep us in eternal life by his grace, in Christ Jesus our Lord. *Amen.*

Prayers of the People—Form V

The Celebrant makes special prayer biddings.

For the unity of the one, holy, catholic, and apostolic Church, I ask your prayers especially for Justin, Michael, Carlye, Bartholomew, and Francis. For the wellbeing of our nation and the world, I ask your prayers especially for the President, Donald, Members of Congress, Justices of the Supreme Court, Governor Phil, and Mayor Ras, and President and Vice President Elect, Joseph and Kamala. I ask your prayers of thanksgiving for those who have birthdays this week, especially for **Sydney Ross Cummings** and **Olamide Tokosi** (1/10), **Taris Davies** and **Adora Moneme** (1/14), **Ottie Blamah-Sah** and **Jeff Ulrich** (1/15), and last week, **James Blamah-Sah** (1/2) and **Chad Wixson-Dover** (1/6). I ask your prayers for all those on our parish prayer list and for those in urgent need of prayer, especially **Dietrich Harris** and **Ryan Foster**. Pray for the departed, especially **Emmanuel Aboderin, Father of Abosede "Ladun" Aboderin-Tokosi** who departed January 12, 1981.

The cantor begins

Let us pray for the holy Catholic Church throughout the world: that the Lord God would deign to keep it in unity, peace, and safety.

Here and after each petition is said

℣. Lord, in your mercy,

℟. Hear our prayer.

Let us pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons, and for all who minister in Christ's holy Church: that in their various callings they may serve God faithfully and devoutly.

Let us pray for all who do not know God as he is revealed in Jesus Christ: that the light of the Gospel may shine in their hearts.

Let us pray for all the nations and peoples of the world, and for those who bear authority among them: that in all their doings they may seek both peace and justice.

Let us pray for the sick and the sorrowful, the hungry and the homeless, the desolate and the oppressed: that the Father of mercies would strengthen, support, and relieve them.

Let us pray for the faithful departed: that the Lord our God would grant them refreshment, light, and peace.

Celebrant

Eternal God, in whose perfect kingdom no sword is drawn but the sword of righteousness, no strength known but the strength of love: So mightily spread abroad your Spirit, that all peoples may be gathered under the banner of the Prince of Peace, as children of one Father; to whom be dominion and glory, now and for ever. *Amen.*

Confession of Sin

Celebrant Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. *Amen.*

The Celebrant says

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. *Amen.*

The Peace

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you.

THE LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

Offertory Antiphon—Benedictus qui venit

Blessed is he who comes in the Name of the Lord; we bless you from the house of the Lord. God is the Lord; he has shined upon us, alleluia, alleluia.

Eucharistic Prayer B

∇ The Lord be with you.

℞ And also with you.

℣ Lift up your hearts.

℟ We lift them to the Lord.

℣ Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

℟ It is right to give him thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. Because in the mystery of the Word made flesh, you have caused a new light to shine in our hearts, to give the knowledge of your glory in the face of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the Name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life. On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me." After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me." Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

We remember his death, We proclaim his resurrection, We await his coming in glory;

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine. We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with the ever-blessed Virgin Mary and all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation. By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. AMEN.

Lord's Prayer

The Celebrant begins

And now as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

All continue

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name,
thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.

And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

Breaking of the Bread

℣ Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

℟ Therefore let us keep the feast.

Communion

Behold the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.
The Gifts of God for the people of God.

A Prayer for Spiritual Communion for all who worship remotely

In union, O Dear Lord, with the faithful at every altar of your Church, where your blessed Body and Blood are being offered to the Father, I desire to offer you praise and thanksgiving. I present to you my soul and body, with the earnest wish that I may ever be united to you. And since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, I beseech you to come spiritually into my heart. I unite myself to you, and embrace you with all the affections of my soul. O let nothing ever separate me from you. Let me live and die in your love. Amen. —*The Anglican Church of the Province of Melanesia*

Communion Antiphon—Omnes qui in Christo baptizati

All you who were baptized into Christ Jesus have clothed yourselves with Christ, alleluia.

Postcommunion Prayer

Hear, O merciful Lord, the humble prayers of those whom you have nourished with the bread of life: and grant that by listening in faith to your only-begotten Son we may be made worthy to be called your children; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Epiphany Blessing

May Almighty God, who led the Wise Men by the shining of a star to find the Christ, the Light from Light, lead you also, in your pilgrimage, to find the Lord.

Amen.

May God, who sent the Holy Spirit to rest upon the Only-begotten at his baptism in the Jordan River, pour out that Spirit on you who have come to the waters of new birth. *Amen.*

May God, by the power that turned water into wine at the wedding feast at Cana, transform your lives and make glad your hearts. *Amen.*

And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever. *Amen.*

Dismissal

☩ Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

℟: Thanks be to God.

GRACE NOTES

JANUARY 10, 2021

We welcome our visitors to Mass today.

Please, if you will, complete a visitor's card at <http://bit.ly/GraceChurchVisitorCard>.

A MESSAGE FROM THE RECTOR



This past Wednesday was the Feast of Epiphany. It was also the day that our nation's Capitol Building was stormed and vandalized by a fierce mob resulting in two people shot dead; some even carried Confederate flags. Like many of you, I was shocked, not imagining that there was much that could shock me after the past year. I stepped back from wanting to say

anything in the evening's homily, but Eleanor, our ministry intern, encouraged me to speak from faith to the current events.

When I read the Gospel for The Feast of the Epiphany, I noticed an unexpected connection. You might remember the story of Herod fearfully squeezing the Magi, the Wise Men, for information about the birth of the child some were already calling "The

King of the Jews.” At Epiphany we usually are thinking about the Magi, the three kings, and the unravelling mystery of who Jesus is as “Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace” (Isaiah 9:6).

But this time Herod popped out in my reading. Here was a half Jewish man whom the oppressive Roman empire had placed in control of the Jewish people. He was *in fact* “The King of the Jews.” But hearing about another king whom the people might put their trust in, as they hoped for a Messiah, Herod was no doubt deeply threatened. We know so, because his response after the Magi decided not to return to Herod and tell him where the star had led them to the child, Herod was to order the slaughtering of all Jewish boys under 2 years of age in and around Bethlehem (Matthew 2:16-18). Herod was frightened to the core and all he could do was lash out.

Surprise, shock, and fear rose within me this past Wednesday about what was happening. There is a stark contrast between the Magi finding the child Jesus with those storming the Capitol Building. But there was a much closer similarity between King Herod’s fear that leads him to overtake his perceived enemies with violence and what was happening on Wednesday.

Let me be clear. I am not addressing political issues about which we may agree or disagree. I am not talking about one political leader or another. This has nothing to do with one party or another. I am speaking about what the Gospel has to say about the threat to the peace of our nation and the world. No matter our politics, as Christians we are compelled to be united in our desire for peace.

As I chewed on the comparison of the text I was reading and what was happening, I remembered that this text really is not about Herod; it really isn’t even about the Magi. Despite the fear of Herod, despite the fear Herod instigated in the citizens of Jerusalem, this story really is about the child Jesus. It was Jesus the Magi were coming to see. And they came to see him despite the fact that they were from a different nation, a different religion, spoke a different language, and no doubt had different ideas about government, and were likely scared from their encounter with Herod. The only thing that mattered was just who was this child to whom the stars in the heavens had led them. And they found out. As Zechariah had prophesied, Jesus was coming “to give light to those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the way of peace” (Luke 1:79). May we like the Magi follow the light of that star in the heavens during this time of Epiphany to welcome the Prince of Peace.

A Prayer of Peace from the Book of Common Prayer, Page 815

Eternal God, in whose perfect kingdom no sword is drawn but the sword of righteousness, no strength known but the strength of love: So mightily spread abroad your Spirit, that all peoples may be gathered under the banner of the Prince of Peace, as children of one Father; to whom be dominion and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

Faithfully,
Father Bates

THE LORD'S PRAYER CHALLENGE IN EPIPHANY

For how long have you been praying the Lord's Prayer? How many times have you said it? Have you spent much time considering what it means? As we celebrate the revelation of Jesus Christ in Epiphany, why not take some time to reflect on the meaning of the words Jesus himself taught us to pray? Please feel free to submit your rephrasing of The Lord's Prayer at the following link, and consider yourselves encouraged to forward the link to anyone else you think might be interested! Everyone's answers will be collected and possibly shared at a later date, so that we might all grow in understanding of this timeless prayer. <http://bit.ly/LordsPrayerChallenge>

PLEDGE ENVELOPES ARE READY FOR PICK UP

For those who use envelopes to submit their pledges and other offerings, they are now available for you to pick up at the Parish House. Please stop by the Parish House anytime from 10:00AM to 6:00PM, Wednesday through Saturday, and around mass times on Sunday. Please feel welcome to reach out to Eleanor, the Ministry Intern, at the parish phone number or at andersen@gracechurchinnewark.org to ensure a smooth pick up. Please consider helping deliver envelopes to other parishioners.

PLEASE USE ONLINE GIVING OR MAIL PLEDGE DONATIONS

There are three ways to make donations toward your pledge:

Mail donations to the church: 950 Broad St., Newark, NJ 07102.

Online donations are easy at <http://bit.ly/GraceOnlineGiving> with a bank account number. Credit and debit cards may also be used, but charge a transaction fee to the church. Scan the QR code.

Bill Pay is provided free-of-charge by almost all banks where they write and mail a check for you.



PRAYER LIST

Active members of our parish—Dietrich Harris; Bruce Ford; Marie & Fred Gaspard; Winifred Langevine; Marge Lindstrom; Jeff & Allie Ulrich and Allison & Nahuel; Lloyd Prator; Shevon & Nora'a Armstrong; Daphne Annibourne, Donna and Tracy Cummings; Darria Pigott, Ottie Blamah-Sah, Ifeoma Moneme, Sherry Phillips-Kolanage, Valerie Munro, and all the nurses of our parish and hospital chaplain Allie Ulrich; Rose and the Thompson-Quartey family; Tillis; George Gavin and Jim Cramer; Elaine Davis; Anita Elisée and Monique Elisée; Clare Bates; André Devers; Jordan Elisée; Alice Richardson and family; Catherine Satterlee; Joan Knowles; Comfort Abogan; Lisa Zeiger; Duncan Eyre; Beatrice Breton; Brisco Kayjay; Dolores Brown; James Porter; Eleanor Hill; Henry Cadogan; George Bowen; William Carter; Paola Breton; Hervé Gaspard; and Rhonda Dover.

Friends of the Parish—Ryan Foster, father of Choristers Ulani and Rainey, and husband of Vanessa; Larry & Cheryl Anderson, cousins of Father Bates, who lost their father; Evelyn Kearney, mother of Tony; Betty Scanlon, mother of Jeeps; Linda Gerstner, sister of Jerry Gould; Heather Hall

Chambers, sister-in-law of Jewel Lowe; Eric Barnes, father of Shawn; Kenneth J. Jones III, nephew of Courtney Dover; Judy Beck, widow of Gil; the family of Norma Khurdan; Adrienne and Rudy, family of member of Brick City Chorus; Mahdiah Brown, Daughter of Tony Kearney; Marjorie & India Calloway, Laverne Poole, Phyllis Smallwood, Nettie Wills, Henrietta Pemberton, Mary Reid, Elsie Hodge, Mary Carroll, Annie Myhand, friends of Joan Knowles; Nate Williams, Connie Jeffrey, Louis Neblett, Brooklyn Joan, nephews and niece of Joan Knowles; Shamar O'Neil, Ronney Davis, Charon Davis, Mike's and Joan Knowles grandsons; the Riddick family, relatives of Joan Knowles; Elijah Lassiter, great-grandson of Daphne Turner; Ann Clay, Eunice Clay, and Sharon Robinson, sisters of Ernest; Kayla Milevoi, cousin of George Gavin; John Canfield, Miriam & Gene Wagner's grandson-in-law; Tom Durrell, husband of Sandra; Jean Armand Gaspard & Nicole Brevil, brother and sister-in-law of Fred Gaspard; Wilner Altidor, brother-in-law of Fred Gaspard; Michelle Portee, Ariel Maldonado, and Stan Zilinski, friends of Fred Gaspard; Yvonne Dunn, sister of Alman Clarke; Sean Devers, son of André; Kerry Beekman, Steven Beekman, and Janet Beekman, family members of Brian, friend and former member of the parish; Michael Redmond, former member and friend of the parish; Joseph Jolly, husband of Deleena and father of Brisco and Mariyam; Mary Davis, friend of Father Bates; Jay Gordon, former curate of Grace Church.

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www.GraceChurchinNewark.org
The Rev. Dr. J. Brent Bates, *Rector*
Ms. Eleanor Andersen, *Ministry Associate, Intern*
The Rev. Canon George H. Bowen, *Rector Emeritus*
The Rev. Lloyd Prator, *Priest Associate*
The Rev. Marjorie D. Lindstrom, *Priest Associate*
Mr. James B. McGregor, *Director of Music Emeritus*
James Cramer & Tracy Cummings, *Wardens*
Curtis Branch, Rosemary Kearney, *Class of 2020*
Sam Armah, Sandra Durrell, Bruce Ford, *Class of 2021*
Sherry Phillips-Kolanage, Darria Pigott, Peter Woolley, *Class of 2022*