



Cathedral Basilica of Our Lady of Peace

Cathedral of the Honolulu Diocese • Founded 1843 • National Historic Register

The Epiphany of the Lord

January 7, 2025

Beloved Disciples of Jesus,

Greetings of peace, love, joy!

“Walking Toward Peace With the Magi”

Before anything else, may I take this time to greet you all, a Happy and Hope-filled New Year, 2026!

Our celebration of Christmas still lingers among us, filling our days with the light and promise of Christ’s birth. This Sunday, we celebrate the Feast of the Epiphany of the Lord. Epiphany means “manifestation,” the revealing of God’s love made visible in Jesus. We remember how the magi, coming from distant lands, were drawn by a star to pay homage to the newborn King. Their journey from the East reminds us that Jesus is not only the Savior of Israel but also the Lord of all peoples, all nations, and all hearts.

At Christmas, Jesus was first revealed to the shepherds, simple, humble people who represent Israel. At Epiphany, He is revealed to the magi, seekers from afar who represent the whole world. Their search becomes ours: the daily desire to recognize Christ’s presence in our homes, workplaces, parish, and in every place our lives unfold.

As we begin this New Year, we cannot ignore the reality that our world is deeply wounded. Peace feels fragile, and division seems to grow. Love, the very force that can transform the world, often struggles to take root. The life God desires for us can feel overshadowed by fear, conflict, and sin.

Yet the Feast of the Epiphany invites us not to despair but to hope. It calls us not only to seek Jesus, as the magi did, but also to manifest Him, to reveal His presence in our words, choices, and compassion. The magi searched for the place where Jesus was born; today, the only true place He longs to dwell is within our hearts. When He is found there, others who are searching, perhaps quietly, perhaps desperately, can encounter Him through us and through this community of faith.

As we step into a new year, we acknowledge our need for healing and our call to be instruments of healing. We bring our brokenness to the Lord so that He may restore us and, through us, restore peace to the world. The Epiphany of the Lord challenges us to continue His work with renewed courage and tenderness, so that our celebrations are not merely traditions but living signs of God’s love breaking into the world.

May this New Year be a journey to seek Christ more deeply and reveal Him more clearly, so that peace, true, lasting peace, may take root in our hearts and radiate outward to all we meet.

Your Friend in the Lord,

Fr. Pascual