

SAINT PIUS X PRIORY
SINGAPORE

WEEKLY BULLETIN
& MASS SCHEDULE

8 JANUARY 2017
THE HOLY FAMILY

SUN 8 Jan	FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY <i>2nd Class, white</i> <i>First Sunday after the Epiphany</i>	7.30 – Rosary 8.00 – Low Mass 9.30 – Rosary 10:00 – Sung Mass
MON 9 Jan	Feria <i>4th Class, white</i>	18.30 – Rosary 19.00 – Low Mass
TUE 10 Jan	Feria <i>4th Class, white</i>	17.45 – Low Mass 18.30 “Tuesday with Mary” Devotions
WED 11 Jan	Feria <i>4th Class, white</i> <i>St. Hyginus, Pope, Martyr, (Comm.)</i>	11.30 – Low Mass
THU 12 Jan	Feria <i>4th Class, white</i>	18.20 – Rosary & Benediction 19.00 – Low Mass
FRI 13 Jan	BAPTISM OF OUR LORD <i>2nd Class, white</i>	18.20 – Stations of the Cross 19.00 – Low Mass
SAT 14 Jan	Saint Hilary <i>Bishop, Confessor, Doctor</i> <i>3rd Class, white</i>	11.30 – Low Mass
SUN 15 Jan	Second Sunday after the Epiphany <i>2nd Class, green</i>	7.30 – Rosary 8.00 – Low Mass 9.30 – Rosary 10:00 – Sung Mass

Confessions: 30 min before
Sunday Masses; on demand
every day.

**Children’s Catechism on
Saturday:**

Older Group (13-18 years)
14:45-15:30

First Communion 14:45-15:30

Post First Communion 15:30-
16:15

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Monday 9 to Saturday 14 January. Fr. Wailliez and Fr. Loschi are following their yearly retreat in India. They rely on your prayers!

Sunday 29 January. AGM of Friends of the International Priestly Society of St. Pius X after the 10am Mass. Please make sure you are up-to-date with your membership fees.

**Rosary Crusade: don’t forget to place your
tokens in the box**

SOCIETY OF SAINT PIUS X - DISTRICT OF ASIA

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Resident Priests: Rev. Fr. K. Stehlin (District Superior), Rev. Fr. B. Wailliez (District Assistant),
Rev. Fr. F. Laisney (District Bursar), Rev. Fr. F. Loschi (Prior)

Donations to SSPX by cheque: make it payable to “Friends of the International Priestly Society of St. Pius X”



BEHIND THE (NATIVITY) SCENE (1)



A few months ago we had the occasion of studying some masterpieces of Catholic art and of discovering the meaning hidden behind what appeared to be details but which were actually evocative symbols of our Faith.

Today, let us have a close look at a Nativity painted by Rogier van der Weyden (ca. 1399 – 18 June 1464), of the Flemish School, which contains some beautiful truths and could very well feed our meditation.

Nothing was left to chance in the setting of this picture of the first Christmas. Here is why:

Jesus

The posture of Jesus is a hint on the forthcoming Passion. Jesus is naked on the floor as deprived of any human comfort. His hands do not touch His body as if He were starting to stretch his arms preparing for His death on the Cross.

The Blessed Virgin Mary

Our Lady is wearing a white dress. White is the symbol of purity; Mary conceived Jesus as a virgin and remained a virgin after His birth. White also absorbs and reflects the light. Mary is dressed in white because she has just given birth to the Light of the World.

Saint Joseph

Saint Joseph is not inside the stable like Jesus and Mary, but he is kneeling on the threshold. He is also separated from Mary and Jesus by the column. The artist wants to show that Joseph is not the real Father of Our Lord, that is why he is seen somehow at a distance of the Divine mystery.

Saint Joseph has also taken his shoes off like Moses before the Burning Bush. The meaning is clear: this place is holy, filled with the presence of God.

Angels

There are two sets of three angels; a symbol of the Holy Trinity and of the two natures of Christ (divine and human).

Windows

You find the same message with the three windows of the house. Two are actually one set separated by a column. It represents also the two natures of Christ united in one Person, the Divine.

Marble column

The stable is run down and yet, there is a beautiful and massive marble pillar that supports the roof. Marble is a noble stone that lets the light go through. It is a symbol of the Divinity of Christ.

The column also tells us about the reason for the Incarnation: Jesus came in order to unite Heaven (the roof) and the earth (the floor) as He is God and man. Jesus renews the Covenant between God and man.

The column is also a prefiguration of the Passion as Jesus will be scourged tied to a column. Our Lord came on Christmas Day in order to be sacrificed.

Three steps

The Column has its base on three steps. In a church, there are three steps leading to the altar. On the church altar the mystery of Christmas is re-enacted as Jesus is present on the altar with His Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity. The three steps tell us about the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass being identical in value to the sacrifice of Jesus on the Cross.

The candle

Saint Joseph is holding a candle. At the time of the painting, a candle was considered a symbol of Christ. The wax represents the body of Christ, the wick His soul enshrined in the body and the flame is His Divinity. Saint Joseph is depicted protecting and hiding the flame, a symbol of His mission on earth. Indeed, Saint Joseph had the task of being Jesus' foster-father thus hiding the Divinity of his putative Son from inconsiderate eyes. Saint Joseph was also the protector and caretaker of Jesus until He came of age and began His public life.

Holes

There are two holes at the bottom of the painting. One at the foot of Saint Joseph, closed with a grill, and another one next to the man in black, wide open (*The man in black is the lord of the city in the background who paid for the painting*). The closed hole represents the Limbo where the saints of the Old Testament were waiting to go to Heaven. The open hole is the one that Jesus will use to visit them after His death on the Cross and through which He will bring them to Heaven after His Ascension.

All is said! Who knew there was so much to learn from a Nativity scene?

Father Fabrice Loschi