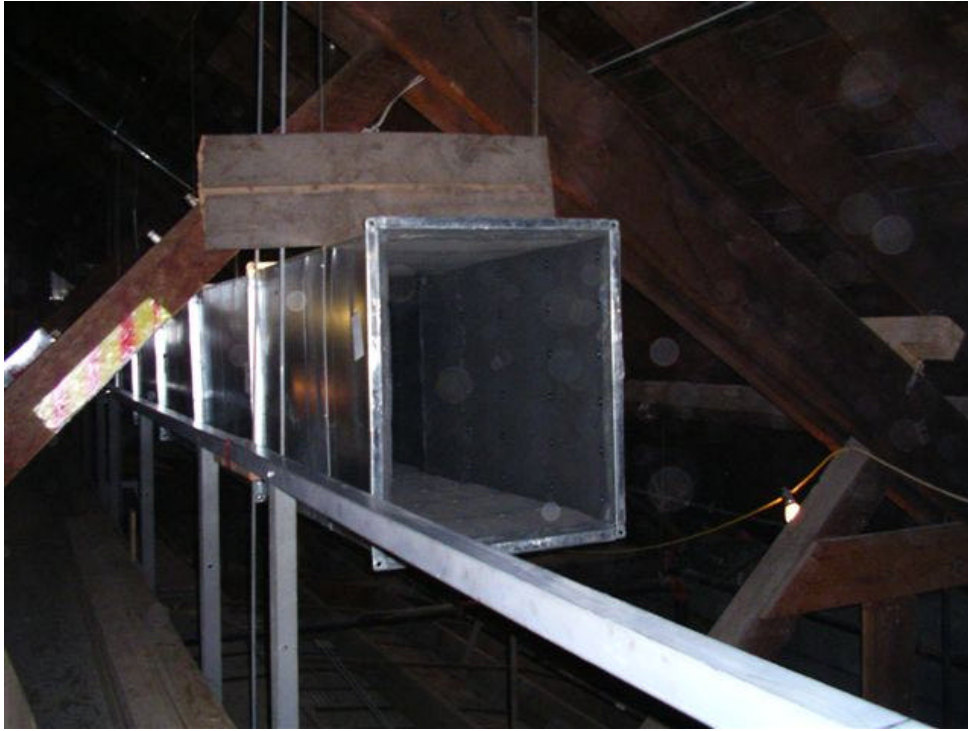


# HOT SUMMERS IN RENOVATED CATHEDRAL

Shown in the accompanying picture is one of the giant exhaust ducts (plenums is the technical name) in the Cathedral attic that will conduct the hot air out of the building while the cooling system is operating far below. A giant fan in the west end of the attic (not shown in the photo) draws the hot air from the Cathedral through these ducts, thus acting as an auxiliary to the main cooling system below.



The main cooling system consists of cold air that comes up through vents under the pews in the

Cathedral. That air is cooled by blowing it through coils that are filled with chilled water in the basement. The chilled water in turn is piped in from an 18,000-pound chiller that has been installed on the roof of the Bishop Manogue Building next to the Cathedral.

The heating system will work in the same way, in this case using hot water that comes from a boiler, also installed on the roof of the Manogue Building.

## SANTO NINO NOVENA AT ST ELIZABETH'S

In preparation for the annual Santo Nino de Cebu celebration on January 21, a novena Rosary will be held at St Elizabeth's Church every evening beginning on January 12 at 7:00 pm. The novena will culminate in a noon Mass at St Elizabeth's on Saturday, January 21.

Every year at this time Filipino families observe this novena commemorating the miraculous preservation of the statue of the Holy Infant from a fire in the City of Cebu in the Philippines during the war between the

Spaniards and the natives. Many miracles are believed to be associated with the statue which is on display in a shrine in Cebu.

All are welcome to pray the Rosary during this novena. For information call Dave and Cita Basco (419-7198) or Klint and Lenie Robins (372-3882) or Rod and Yolie Maulina (419-7358).

*THE CHURCH IN THE MODERN WORLD*

## EPIPHANY

*Reverend George Dyer, S.T.D.*

True or False? The Gospel of Matthew tells us: There were three Magi. They were Kings. They rode camels. Their names are Melchior, Balthasar, and Gaspar.

If you answered "False," go to the head of the class. Christian imagination has supplied us with each of those details.

We have been so charmed by this story that we may miss Matthew's point in telling it. As we see the Magi and the Chief Priests before Herod, we are struck by the contrast. The Jewish priests could read God's revelation in their scriptures; the gentile magi must listen for God's voice in nature. The priests knew precisely where Jesus was to be born but failed to search for him. The Magi saw a star, were filled with wonder and followed it to the Christ child.

Matthew's little story makes it clear that Jesus belonged to the world and not just to the Jewish people. It was a crucial lesson for Matthew's friends who, like him, were Jews who had embraced Christianity. Their world had recently been shaken to its foundations. Their leaders at Jerusalem had decided that gentile converts did not have to embrace Judaism in order to be Christians. They did not have to be circumcised or observe the Jewish customs of Kosher or ritual purification. Only the Ten

Commandments bound them. This was a defining moment for Christianity. It turned the young Christian movement outward to the world and the world responded with a flood of gentile converts.

The Jewish Christians of Matthew's community felt the ground shifting under their feet. They had grown up in a culture that held gentiles at arm's length. Now they were told to embrace them as their brothers and sisters in Christ. The Rabbis added to their consternation by excluding them from the synagogue, their spiritual home. How did they react? Thanks to Matthew, they proved themselves not only devout Jews but showed themselves to be tolerant and accepting of gentile converts. They readily embraced the command of their risen Lord to "make disciples of all nations."

Even under the heaviest pressure, Matthew's community showed itself to be flexible, tolerant, and open to the future. That seems precisely the formula the Catholic Church in the United States needs as it moves into the New Year.

## CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL PLACEMENT TESTS

All Sacramento Catholic high schools (St. Francis, Loretto, Jesuit, and Christian Brothers) will conduct Catholic high school entrance placement tests on Saturday, January 29, 2005. All prospective students must register to take these tests with the Director of Admissions of the school desired. The tests are four hours long beginning at 8:00 am and concluding at 12 noon. There is a charge for the test. For your convenience, the telephone numbers of those directors are listed below:

Jesuit High School: 482-6060 ext 227

St. Francis High School: 452-3461 ext 195

Loretto High School: 482-7793 ext 103

Christian Brothers High School: 733-3690

## SINGLE CATHOLIC ADULTS

The Catholic Alumni Club of Sacramento will hold its monthly Meet and Mingle gathering TODAY, Sunday, January 2, 2005, at Coco's Restaurant, 5:30 pm., 1830 Arden Way. The Catholic Alumni Club provides social, religious, and community service activities for single Catholic adults. Hotline: (916) 962-6107.

### MASSES FOR THE WEEK

**MON 1/3/2004**                    **The Holy Name of Jesus**

7:00 am: All Souls

12:00 noon: Claude Mitchell +

**TUES 1/4/2004**                    **St. Elizabeth Ann Seton**

7:00 am: All Souls

12:00 noon: Rita Guiney, S.I.

**WED 1/5/2004**                    **St. John Neumann**

7:00 am: All Souls

12:00 Noon: Noel Canniffe +

**THURS 1/6/2004**                    **Blessed Andre Bessette**

7:00 am: Nabila Zara, S.I.

12:00 noon: Jane Lippe +

**FRI 1/7/2004**                    **St. Raymond of Penyafort**

7:00 am: Remedios A. Ferrer, S.I.

12:00 noon: Victoria Elorduy, S.I.