

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD - Mass Readings

Entrance Antiphon

Behold, the Lord, the Mighty One, has come; and kingship is in his grasp, and power and dominion.

First Reading Isaiah 60:1-63

Arise, shine out Jerusalem, for your light has come, the glory of the Lord is rising on you, though night still covers the earth and darkness the peoples. Above you the Lord now rises and above you his glory appears. The nations come to your light and kings to your dawning brightness. Lift up your eyes and look round: all are assembling and coming towards you, your sons from far away and daughters being tenderly carried. At this sight you will grow radiant, your heart throbbing and full; since the riches of the sea will flow to you; the wealth of the nations come to you; camels in throngs will cover you, and dromedaries of Midian and Ephah; everyone in Sheba will come, bringing gold and incense and singing the praise of the Lord.

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Responsorial Psalm

R. Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.

O God, give your judgment to the king, to a king's son your justice, that he may judge your people in justice and your poor in right judgment. **R.**

In his days justice shall flourish and peace till the moon fails. He shall rule from sea to sea, from the Great River to earth's bounds. **R.**

The kings of Tarshish and the sea coasts shall pay him tribute. The kings of Sheba and Seba shall bring him gifts. Before him all kings shall fall prostrate, all nations shall serve him. **R.**

For he shall save the poor when they cry and the needy who are helpless. He will have pity on the weak and save the lives of the poor. **R.**

Second Reading Ephesians 3:2-3, 5-6

You have probably heard how I have been entrusted by God with the grace he meant for you, and that it was by a revelation that I was given the knowledge of the mystery. This mystery that has now been revealed through the

Spirit to his holy apostles and prophets was unknown to any men in past generations; it means that pagans now share the same inheritance that they are parts of the same body, and the same promise has been made to them, in Christ Jesus, through the gospel.

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, Alleluia! We have seen his star in the East; and have come to adore the Lord. Alleluia!

Gospel Luke 2:22-40

After Jesus had been born at Bethlehem in Judaea during the reign of King Herod, some wise men came to Jerusalem from the east. 'Where is the infant king of the Jews?' they asked. 'We saw his star as it rose and have come to do him homage.' When King Herod heard this he was perturbed, and so was the whole of Jerusalem. He called together all the chief priests and the scribes of the people, and enquired of them where the Christ was to be born. 'At Bethlehem in Judaea,' they told him 'for this is what the prophet wrote: And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah you are by no means least among the leaders of Judah, for out of you will come a leader who will shepherd my people Israel. 'Then Herod summoned the wise men to see him privately. He asked them the exact date on which the star had appeared, and sent them on to Bethlehem. 'Go and find out all about the child,' he said 'and when you have found him, let me know, so that I too may go and do him homage.' Having listened to what the king had to say, they set out. And there in front of them was the star they had seen rising; it went forward and halted over the place where the child was. The sight of the star filled them with delight, and going into the house they saw the child with his mother Mary, and falling to their knees they did him homage. Then, opening their treasures, they offered him gifts of gold and frankincense and myrrh. But they were warned in a dream not to go back to Herod, and returned to their own country by a different way.

The gospel of the Lord

Praise to Lord Jesus Christ

Communion Antiphon

We have seen his star in the East; and have come to adore the Lord.

The Parish Activities for 2024:

- Altar Servers
- Catechists
- Readers
- Children's Liturgy
- Legion of Mary
- Choir
- Church Cleaning
- St. Vincent de Paul
- Commentators
- Counters
- Acolytes
- Bible Study on Thursdays - A detailed study of the Gospel of St. John this year. All are welcome to join the group.

If you are **interested to join** any of the activities in our church, please do contact Fr. Joseph, Deacon Trevor or Joela (Parish Secretary). Please provide them with your contact details. **Thank you.**

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD - Year B – 7th JANUARY 2023



PPC Chairperson **Mr Joe Kaciuba**
 Matthew Gibney **Mrs Therese Hussey**
 Columbarium **Mrs Jan Favacho**
 RCIA **Mrs. Deidre Lyra**

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PARISH EVENTS & MASS TIMES

Sat 6th	6:00pm	Vigil Holy Mass - For the Parishioners
Sun 7th	8:00am 9:30am 6:00pm	Holy Mass - For the Parishioners Holy Mass - Souls of Carmelita Batac, Nonna Gina. Holy Mass - For the Parishioners
Mon 8th	6:00 pm 6:30pm	Rosary Communion Service /Holy Mass
Tue 9th	6:00 pm 6:30 pm	Rosary Holy Mass
Wed 10th	6:00pm 6:30 pm	Exposition, Adoration & Novena Holy Mass
Thu 11th	10:45am 6:00 pm 6:30 pm	Holy Mass - Donovan Nursing Home Rosary Holy Mass
Fri 12th	9:00am 9:30am 6:00pm	Holy Rosary Holy Mass Adoration
Sat 13th	9:00am 9:30am 10:00am	Holy Rosary Holy Mass Confession

Reflection on the Epiphany of the Lord: - Daily Reflection :

"Epiphany" means manifestation. And the "Epiphany of the Lord" is Jesus' manifestation not only to these three Magi (wise Men) from the East, but it's also a symbolic but real manifestation of the Christ to the whole world. These Magi, traveling from a foreign and non-Jewish nation, reveal that Jesus came for all people and all are called to adore Him. God used what they were familiar with to call them to adore the Christ. He used a star. They understood the stars and when they saw this new and unique star over Bethlehem they realized that something special was happening. So the first lesson we take from this for our own lives is that God will use what is familiar to us to call us to Himself. Look for the "star" that God is using to call you. It's closer than you may think.

A second thing to note is that the Magi fell prostrate before the Christ Child. They laid their lives down before Him in complete surrender and adoration. They set a perfect example for us. If these astrologers from a foreign land could come and adore Christ in such a profound way, we must do the same. Perhaps you could try literally lying down prostrate in prayer this day, in imitation of the Magi, or at least do so in your heart through prayer. Adore Him with a complete surrender of your life.

Lastly, the Magi bring gold, frankincense, and myrrh. These three gifts, presented to our Lord, show that they acknowledged this Child as the Divine King who would die to save us from sin. Gold is for a King, frankincense is a burnt offering to God, and myrrh is used for one who would die. Thus, their adoration is grounded in the truths of who this Child is. If we are to adore Christ properly, we must also honor Him in this threefold way.

Reflect, today, upon these Magi and see them as a symbol of what you are called to do. You are called from the foreign place of this world to seek out the Messiah. What is God using to call you to Himself? When you discover Him, do not hesitate to acknowledge the full truth of who He is, lying prostrate before Him in complete and humble submission.

**FEASTS OF THE MONTH OF
JANUARY
SAINTS**

JAN 8: The BAPTISM OF THE LORD

JAN 17: St Anthony

JAN 24: St Francis de Sales

JAN 25: The CONVERSION OF St Paul

JAN 26: AUSTRALIA DAY - Holiday

JAN 31: St JOHN BOSCO

NEW PARISH CENTRE DEVELOPMENT | TARGET \$300,000.00

DECEMBER '23 - \$28,998.75 | AMOUNT RAISED - \$170,711.98

A big thank you to the families who have already donated. Would other families kindly consider our request and help us reach our target. There are brochures and a clearly marked Parish Fundraising Box in the Church foyer. EFTPOS terminal available for debit and credit card transactions with a printed customer receipt in the Sacristy after the weekend masses

EFT Bank Details:

National Australia Bank Limited

BSB No. 086-006

Account No. 90517-9623

Cheques Made Payable to:

St. Francis of Assisi Parish Fundraising

Thank you for your generosity. God Bless!

Fr. Joseph (Parish Priest) and Joe Kaciuba (PPC)

Parish Centre Diary		
Sun 7th	9:30 am	No Children Liturgy
Tue 9th	5:45 pm	Legion of Mary
Wed 10th	4:00pm	Ukulele group
Thu 11th	9:30 am 1:00 pm 5:00 pm 7:00pm	Craft Group Legion of Mary RCIA Bible Study
Fri 12th	10:00am	Morning Tea

Parish Centre Construction Update



Parish Centre work will recommence on the 8th of January with plumbing installation, the electrical installation the following week. Smart wiring installation will commence on 18th of January.

Parishioners need to be careful when entering and exiting the carpark and to abide by any signs. Parents should ensure children are supervised around the works and when visiting the toilets. Be aware that there are some stormwater pipes that may become a trip hazard near the old Parish Hall. **Thank you., PPC**

**DIVINE MERCY
DEVOTION**



**3 PM FIRST
SUNDAY**

Rosary at the Grotto

On 13th of every month at 12:00pm



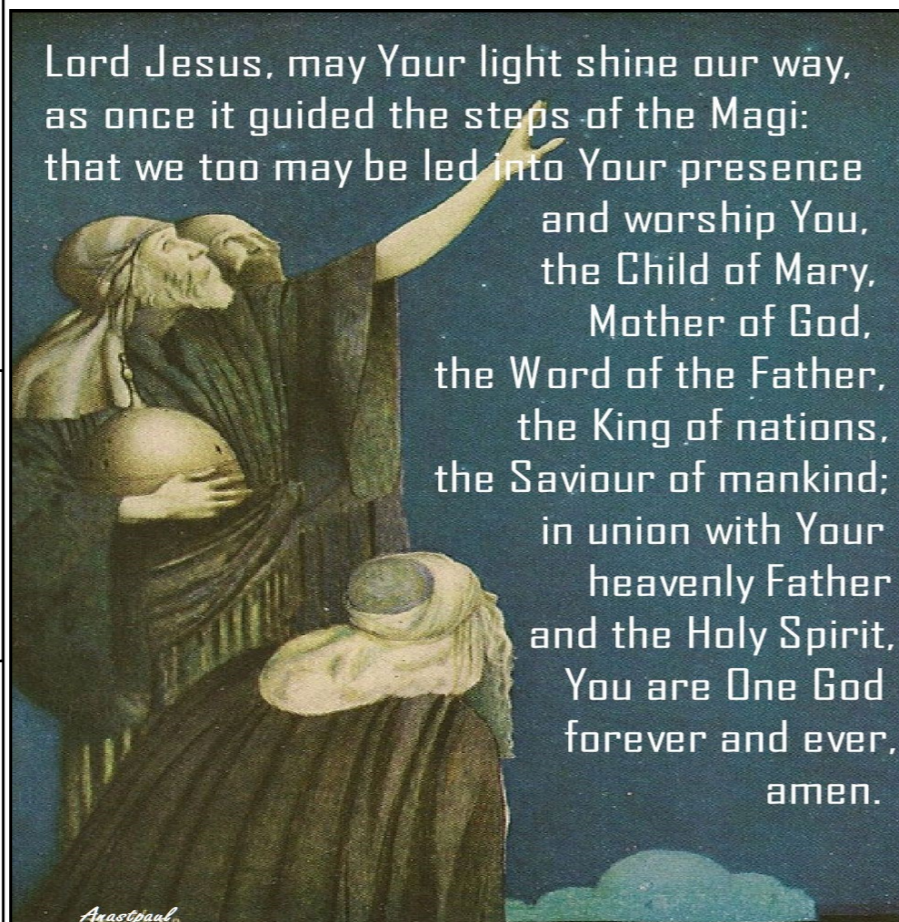
Everyone is welcome to come and pray as a community.

Feast of the Baptism of the Lord could be held on the 14th January Sunday with usual weekend Masses.

Thank you
- Fr. Joseph Rathnaraj

Prayer for the Epiphany of the Lord

Lord Jesus, may Your light shine our way, as once it guided the steps of the Magi: that we too may be led into Your presence and worship You, the Child of Mary, Mother of God, the Word of the Father, the King of nations, the Saviour of mankind; in union with Your heavenly Father and the Holy Spirit, You are One God forever and ever, amen.



For the Sick: Lynette Arnold, Chris Muller, Phillippe and Noelle Payet, Clare Arnold, Bernadette Lach, Joan Andree, Doreen Webber, Theresa Hendroff, Steven Mews, Rachel Kaciuba, Rudi Sirr, Justin Clohessy, Mary Aung-Sein, Florlito Tenido.

Contact Joela Sequeira, Parish Secretary for names to be added or continued to the Sick List, otherwise the names will be deleted after every two weeks. Thank you. Fr. Joseph

In Memoriam: Angela Poli, Joan Hegney, Christopher Pemeberton, Janet Foley, Gaetano Zucal, Lillian & William O'Callaghan, Kathleen Turner, Winiper Ryan, Shirley Ferraz, Bridie Rafferty, Carmelita Batac, Nonna Gina.

Inspirational Stories: Dirty Money



A well-respected speaker began a seminar by showing an audience of 150 people a crisp \$20 bill.

He asked, "Who wants this \$20 bill?"

All 150 people nodded.

He said, "I am going to give this money to someone, but first...."

Then he proceeded to crumple the bill up.

He asked the crowd again if anyone wanted it.

All 150 hands went up in the air.

The speaker then dropped the money on the floor and stomped all over it.

He then raised it in the air to show the crowd. The money was filthy.

"Does anyone want it now?"

Every hand went up.

The speaker proceeded to tell the crowd that no matter what he did to ruin the money, people still wanted it because its value remained the same.

It was still worth \$20.

The Moral: Life often beats us up to the point where we feel inadequate. We deal with bad circumstances and make bad choices that we have to deal with later. However, no matter what you go through, **your value will remain the same.** You have something special to offer that no one can take away from you.

6th/7th Jan	6:00 PM	8:00AM	9:30 AM	6:00 PM
Commentator	George F	Joe K	Helga S	Philip M
1st Reader	Jan F	Kevin F	Philomena T	Sarah M
2nd Reader	Abigail R	Sue D	Marguerite W	Margaret O
Acolyte	Michael	Clem	Lester R	Josef D

13th/14th Jan	6:00PM	8:00AM	9:30AM	6:00 PM
Commentator	Graham B	Amanda A	Matt W	Philip M
1st Reader	Imelda B	Dianne C	Helga S	Lauren M
2nd Reader	Jessie C	Frances A	Evelyn R	Paolo J
Acolyte	Lester R	Josef D	Brian M	Adrian

	6th/7th Jan	13th/14th Jan
Counters	Mary & Joe Kaciuba, Louise & Maurice Castelli	Maureen Ranford, Helga Sassenburg
Church Cleaner	Denise Burnaby, Patrick Burnaby, Pier Walkar	Clarrissa Dass, Marcia Nobrega
Reading for	Isaiah 60:1-6; Ephesians 3:2-3, 5-6; Matthew 2:1-12	1 Samuel 3:3-10, 19; 1 Cor 6:13-158, 17-20; John 1:35-42