

**1A Oleander Drive
St Albans South 3021
Sunshine Deanery**



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FEAST OF THE EPIPHANY – YEAR C
2 & 3 JANUARY 2010
“We welcome the stranger”

Parish Team

Fr Peter Carrucan PP

Pastoral Associates

Sr Margaret Maher fcl

Sr Catherine FMDM (VU)

Sr Maria Yen Bui MTGDL

Chaplains

Fr Philip Le & Fr Xua Nguyen

Vietnamese

Fr Lois Philippines

Fr John Malabar

Sudanese

Refugee Worker

Mathew Bul

Office Hours: Wed. 9am – 12 noon

Business Manager/Secretary

Sue O’Loughlin/Virginia Verano

Office Hours 8:30am/4:30pm Mon–Fri

Parish School

Principal - John Steele

Phone: 9366 2899

Mass Times

Saturday: 6pm

Sunday 9am, 11am, 6pm

12:30pm Vietnamese

Other Masses

1st Sun Filipino Mass 4:00 pm

2nd Sun: Sudanese Mass 2.30 pm

3rd Sun: Malibar Mass 4:00 pm

RECONCILIATION: (English)

Sat: 10.00am - 10:30am

5:15pm - 5:45pm

Thurs: 7.00pm - 7:30pm

Sun: 12 noon - Vietnamese

THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Baptisms take place on the 1st Sunday of every month during a Mass. Preparation session - Thursday evening beforehand 7:30pm in the Church.

THE SACRAMENT OF THE SICK

If anyone is sick, it is appropriate that they receive the Sacrament of the Sick (anointing). Please ring the Parish Office for regular Communion of the Sick home visits.

THE SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE

Six months notice should be given. Marriage preparation is necessary. Permission to marry in a church other than that of the bride or groom should be sought before making any arrangements. Church arrangements should be made

Dear Friends,

NEW YEAR

It was a quiet start to the New Year. Every policeman/woman prays for rain on the eve of the New Year. This year their prayer was answered. They reckon that rain dampens the energy of the revellers and makes it easier to control the crowd.

I wish you a very good and healthy 2010. There are many troubled spots and big issues. People everywhere get on with life: securing their jobs, pursuing their studies, marrying and looking after their kids. Good people wanting a safe world for their families. Many pray for God’s protection from evil, hoping the streets as well as the world are safe.

Resolutions are always good and worth a challenge. Maybe, a good one would be: **to start again each day.**

A fresh start for each day is good thinking, because the day before us finished and nothing can be done about what happened on that day. But, the new day is where people can do something.

Something else can be done: we can always forgive another for their hurt towards us. Forgiveness is such a power for good. It disarms another, creates and renews friendships. It is better than carrying around resentment and feelings of getting even. Finally, each day we can love another. It countless ways we can reveal our love for the other.

May 2010 be peaceful for ourselves, our homes and our world.

Thank you for your gifts and cards for Christmas and the New Year.

Peace,

Fr. Peter



An excerpt from the Holy Gospel according to Matthew:

‘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.’



**STEWARDSHIP CORNER
- THOUGHTS ON GIVING**

“And be thankful.”(Colossians 3:15)
St Paul reminder to be thankful. We recognize that we are God’s people and everything we have is a gift from God. When we fill out hearts with gratitude, we can stop striving for more and start appreciating and sharing the gifts we gave already been given.

BAPTISM OF THE LORD

SATURDAY/ SUNDAY 9/10 JANUARY

6: 00 PM

Readers: Pam Norris
Wendy Forbes-Perera
Head Spec Min: Mary Busuttill
Spec Min: Anne Philby
Janie Gatt
Charlie Bartolo
Charlie Busuttill
Mario Zammit
Carmen Camilleri

9:00 AM

Readers: Leanna Surrao
Wilma Marmur
Head Spec Min: Mary Farrugia
Spec Min: Josephine Grixti
Monica Lomen
Mini Eddy
Edith Gauci
Ana Brkljadic
Anthony Naidu

11:00 AM

Reader: Frank Carreon
Bruno Barreca
Head Spec Min: Judy Croos
Spec Min: Bini Samuel
Anna Grima
Helen Maddela
Wally & Toni
Antonowicz
Maryanne Craker

6:00 PM

Reader: Lani Laririt
Head Spec Min: Sharon Perena
Spec Min: Tess Elano
Ralph Perena

PIETY STALL 6 pm - J. Gatt
9 am - Volunteer
11am – L. Disco

CHURCH CLEANING

Week Beginning 4 Jan 2009

Group 2: Rita Azzopardi
Elizabeth Mercieca
Michael & Nina Desira
Joe Camilleri

WEEKDAY MASS TIMES

Tues 5 Jan 9.00am Mass
Wed 6 Jan 9:00am Mass
Thurs. 7 Jan 9:00am
Fri. 8 Jan 9.00am
Sat. 9 Jan 6:00pm Mass

DAILY GOSPEL READINGS

Mon: Mt. 4:12-17, 23-25
Tue: Mk. 6:34-44
Wed: Mk. 6:45-52
Thu: Lk. 4:14-22
Fri: Lk. 5:12-16
Sat: Jn 3:22-30



JANUARY BAPTISMS

Charlotte Ann Janson – Erik & Rachel

ACHIEVING NATURALLY

For a free information leaflet, please contact Bills LIFE on 1800 335 860.

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK

Herta Todero, Anna Kotula, Angela Costa, Connie Agius, Kam Camilleri, Charles & Lonza Briffa, Baskel Saliba, Viviana Santos, Sam Tabone, Peter Vu, Cecilia Bozickovic, Tennous Boulus, George Aquilina, Louis Thewma, Joseph Duca, Tom Milinkovic, Peter Disco, Tess Micallef, Teresa Vojtek.

MASS IN SUDANESE – NEXT SUNDAY 2:30PM

All information used in accordance with the terms of our Privacy Policy.

THANK YOU

The gifts from the Crib are being processed for distribution this week. Thank you all.

FOODBANK

The foodbank re-opens on Wednesday, 6th January from 2pm till 4pm. Volunteers are wanted for Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. If you are free in one of those afternoons would you let Fr. Peter know and he can tell you what is involved. The food is donated by people from the Footscary Market. It comes free, delivered by a volunteer from the parish. Usually, the goods are apples, onions, potatoes, fruit in season, capsicum and tomatoes. They are put in boxes, or bags and given to those who come with a Health Care Card. The Bank operates from the back of the Parish Office.

An application for a grant of \$20,000 to renovate the shed has gone to the Multicultural Committee of Victoria. We hope it will be successful. The builder assures us that it is the right

3RD NATIONAL FAMILY

GATHERING – SHARE THE DREAM

Friday 15 April – Sunday 17 April
Xavier College, Barkers Rd. Kew.
Join us in helping to build a new culture of life and love through Christian family life.

Sponsored by the Australian Catholic Bishop's Commission for Pastoral Life, together with the Archdiocese of Melbourne.

More information from: Life, Marriage & Family Office 9287 5579.

EPIPHANY HOME BLESSING

The Holy Family welcomed the Magi on Epiphany. There is a beautiful tradition that has been inspired by this event. Take some chalk and either have it blessed by your pastor or say your own blessing over it with your family. Ask God to welcome strangers to your home during the coming year. Finally write these numbers and letters over the front door of your home:

20 + C + M + B + the last digits of the current year.

The letters represent the traditional names of the Wise Men--Caspar, Melchior and Balthasar.

MYRRH AND FRANKINCENSE

The gifts brought by the Magi were both appropriate and expensive. The value of gold is obvious but what of the other presents? Myrrh is an aromatic substance made from the sap of Myrtle balsam trees found in India, Africa and Saudi Arabia. It is a natural antiseptic and useful as a medicine. Egyptians used myrrh for embalming mummies. It is now used for toothpaste and mouthwash. Incense is a hardened gum that also comes from trees found in the same areas. The word "Frank" comes from an old French word that means "marked." It is a stamp that the incense is "free" from contaminants or "pure". (Franking is still used for free mail rights given to members of Congress.) Incense was used primarily to cover up the smells caused by animal sacrifices. Hence it was connected with worship.

peoplespeak

gospel voices then and now

at a glance 

Today's Readings

Isaiah 60:1-6

Ephesians 3:2-3.5-6

Matthew 2:1-12

His glory appears

Mystery revealed

Go find the child

Next Week

God's beloved Son

Isaiah 40:1-5.9-11; Psalm 103

Titus 2:11-14; 3:4-7; Luke 3:15-16.21-22



The Epiphany of the Lord Year C

3 January 2010

in a nutshell

The prophet Isaiah proclaims the revelation of the Lord: 'above you his glory appears'. The wise men, pagans from a foreign land, come looking for the infant king of the Jews. A star in the heavens guides them to Jesus, a humble child who is God's gift to all, pagan and Jew alike. The wise men offer Jesus gifts of love and adoration. Do we give him ours too?

Raise your voices

Entrance antiphon: The Lord and ruler is coming; kingship is his, and government and power.

Response to the psalm: Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.

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

Communion antiphon: We have seen his star in the East and have come with gifts to adore the Lord.

One encounter

In she swooped. Under her billowing black habit she clutched her wooden box, plonked it down and set up the record, clicked the needle and shouted, 'Paint! Paint like you have never painted before! Feel!' she commanded, 'Feel the music. Listen! Listen with your inside ear!' And we did. 'It goes up and over.' She waved her arms like a windmill. 'There is dimension, strength, weakness, joy, grief, depth. Listen...feel ...paint.' Hypnotised by her engagement, her joy, we began. I was never to be the same again.

We had been promised a very special day and had been squeezed in beside the Form One's. We were given oversized paper. A luxury. As grade six's we knew this was a tremendous privilege. They wanted as many as possible to have the experience of Sister Mary Raymond.

We had been waiting in the packed room with the concertina doors opened. The air was electric. The other teachers were expectant. I gauged by her expression as she walked in that she was as surprised as we were. Her surprise was probably at the number to teach; ours at what was about to happen.

In one single afternoon we were introduced to classical music, painting and the relationship between the language of art and music. I have never been able to thank her. How could I know I would never be the same, or the influence that one encounter would have on me?

She looked over my shoulder. 'Good!' she squealed. 'Excellent!' She made another teacher look at my work. This was my first experience of getting something right, and I had fallen in love with art, paint and music, all at once... (continues next column)



church below the rooftops

An epiphany

... 'Let it all go', she continued, 'keep painting, even when your page is full. It is not about the painting, it is about feeling the paint. It is about feeling the music through the paint.'

I got it. I can still hear her voice. Sometimes our smallest encounters are our biggest. Sometimes we have to live in the smallest town to learn our biggest lessons. Sometimes we have no idea the effect our words have on another, the words of encouragement that come at precisely the right moment in your life. Our words, the most powerful tool we have.

The place of the teacher is sacred in the life of the student. The classroom is a sacred place, where teacher and student dance the ancient dance of relationship. In Sister Raymond's smile I recognised wisdom. She was able to reveal her wisdom, and a chubby, non-maths grade six girl had an epiphany which led her in time to teach through the medium of art. A love affair of a lifetime. With thanks and love to Sister Mary Raymond. (Chris)



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peoplespeak focuses on seeing the light of the gospel in daily events. By listening to the stories people tell of how the gospel illuminates their lives we become aware of the presence of Jesus within us and in those we meet.

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Readers' contributions welcome.