



HOLY EUCHARIST PARISH

1A Oleander Drive, St Albans South 3021
Office Hours: Tues - Fri: 9:00am - 3.30pm
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THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD, YEAR B

6 & 7 JANUARY 2024

REDEMPTORIST COMMUNITY

Parish Priest & Mission Leader

Fr Vincent Long Pham CSsR

Priests in Residence

Fr Joseph Xuan Hieu Nguyen CSsR

Fr Patrick Corbett CSsR

Parish Secretary

Mary-Lucy Atonio PH: 9366 1310

Parish School Principal

Michael Bonnici PH: 8312 0900

Filipino Chaplain

Fr Joselito Asis

South Sudanese Chaplain

Deacon George B.P.Meat

MASS TIMES

- ♦ **Tues-Fri:** 9:00am
- ♦ **Saturday:** 6:00pm
7.30pm Vietnamese
- ♦ **Sunday:** 8:45am, 10:00am,
6:00pm
12:00pm Vietnamese

Other Masses

- 1st & 2nd Sun. Sudanese Mass 3pm
- 3rd Sun Samoan Mass - 2.00pm
- 4th Sun Filipino Mass - 3.00pm

BAPTISM: There will be no Baptism celebration in the month of January, the next Baptism will be on the **3rd of February 2024.**

ANointing MASS: There will be no Anointing Mass in the month of January. Anointing Mass will start again on **2nd February 2024 9am.**

THE LIVING WORD

First Reading: Isaiah 60:1-6

Above you the glory of the Lord appears

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 your 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.

Responsorial Psalm Ps 71 (72):1-2,7-8,10-13

Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.

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

Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.

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.

Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.

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.

Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.

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.

Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.

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

It has now been revealed that pagans share the same inheritance

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 that the same promise has been made to them, in Jesus Christ, through the gospel.

Gospel Acclamation Matthew 2:2

Alleluia, alleluia!

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

Alleluia!

Gospel Matthew 2:1-12

The visit of the Magi

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.



There they found Mary and the baby Jesus and offered him **gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh**. As gentiles who acknowledged Christ's divinity, the Magi have an essential role in the feast of the Epiphany, the manifestation of God not only to the Jewish people but to the whole world. The Church interprets the gifts - gold his royal kingship. Frankincense- the burning of frankincense was closely associated with ceremonial worship of a deity. In this way, the inclusion of frankincense as a gift for Jesus indicates that the wise men understood that the prophecy of the newborn king carried with it a claim of deity. Myrrh reminds us of the spices the women prepared for the burial of Jesus.

GOSPEL REFLECTION

God's presence is revealed to us in diverse ways: we can read the book of God's vast creation; we can search out the meaning of our dreams; we can learn from our own and others' experience; and we can listen to the voice of our sacred scriptures. Being attentive to God's presence has nothing to do with naïve dependence on our own judgment or on the judgement of others. It has more to do with a way of being in the world that involves openness to the unexpected and a critical and careful personal and communal dialogue between our life experience and our faith tradition. A

deep awareness of our place in the Earth community teaches us humility. It also teaches respect for the whole of creation and for the power of the more-than-human to lead us beyond ourselves. While this has always been true, the present global conflicts and the extreme weather events of the past few years have brought home to most of us our utter dependence on right relationships within our planetary home and on a healthy environment.

Epiphany is the feast of the wise ones or astrologers “from the East” who are led beyond themselves and their immediate location by the rising of a star. They form their own preliminary hypothesis and travel west to search out the meaning of this sign. They learn from the official interpreters of the Jewish scriptures, the “scribes of the people”. They then follow the star that leads them to the new born child, the incarnate Wisdom of God. The gospel does not stipulate how many wise ones or magi come to pay homage to the child. There is no indication in the story as to whether they are men or women or both. The three gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh have been traditionally associated with three different characters, usually kings, of diverse nationality and colour. These strangers are the first to recognise “God-with-us” in the person of Jesus of Nazareth and to pay him homage. They also come to recognise, in a dream, the duplicity of King Herod. They have the wisdom not to accede to Herod’s request to “bring him word” of the newborn king. Warned once again in a dream, they return home “by another road”.

The story-teller Matthew leaves room in the tableau for the insertion of the wise ones who will emerge through the ages. There is an invitation for us to enter into Matthew’s drama, to be the wise ones, to join with people of diverse cultures, to engage in our own search for Wisdom, to honour the birth and the life of every child and to follow the star that leads to truth and lasting peace. There is also an invitation to be wary of self-serving rulers who find their positions threatened by the sort of power

that is based on vulnerability and openness to new life.

By Veronica Lawson RSM



Human hands hold a fragile 2024! May our hands join in prayer for a peaceful New Year for our parish, our nation our world. A Message of hope is captured in this juxtaposition of two images- one 2000 years old and the other as close as yesterday!- a Palestinian woman hold a child in the midst of the war in Gaza!



Praying before an Icon of Mary, Pope Francis spoke for all of us. “At this dark hour – this is a dark hour, mother, turn your eyes of mercy toward our human family, which preferred Cain to Abel...You suffer with us and for us, as you see your children suffering from conflicts and wars that are tearing our world apart, – we submerge ourselves in your luminous eyes, we entrust ourselves to your heart, sensitive to our problems,”

“Teach us to cherish and care for life – each and every human life – and to

repudiate the folly of war, which sows death and eliminates the future.”

“Queen of Peace, you suffer with us and for us, as you see so many of your children suffering from the conflicts and wars that are tearing our world apart

In his Urbi et Orbi address - to the city (Rome) and the world- on Christmas Day, the Pope prayed for an end to violence in Israel and Palestine, Ukraine, Armenia, Azerbaijan, and several other conflict areas in Africa and the Middle East!

Let there be peace on earth and let it begin with me.

PARISH OFFICE CLOSURE:

Please note that the Parish Office will be closed after Friday 22nd December 2023 and will be opened again Monday 22nd January 2024.

FOODBANK CLOSURE:

Last day for was 15th December 2023.

It will reopen in February. Please contact the Parish Office 03 9366 1310

SOCIAL OFFICE:

Office will be closed during the Christmas and New Year period. Contact 03 9366 1310

**HOLY EUCHARIST SCHOOL
Important Date:**

- ⇒ **Mon 29th Jan** -Staff return to school
- ⇒ **Tues 30th Jan** -Students in Prep to Year 6 return to school

CHURCH CLEANING

Week starting 10th January 2024 Group 1 - Samoan Community - Lia & Yoko

**READERS/COMMENTATOR/
COORDINATOR/EUCHARISTIC
MINISTERS**

Tues 9:00 AM, 09-01-24

Reader Xuan Duong
Eucharistic Min. Monica Lomen

Wed 9:00 AM, 10-01-24

Reader Carmen Camilleri
Eucharistic Min. Carmen Camilleri

Thurs 9:00 AM, 11-01-24

Reader: Shirley Krizmanic
Eucharistic Shirley Krizmanic

Fri 9:00 AM, 12-01-24

Reader Helen Maddela
Eucharistic Min. Catherine Bartolo

Sat 6.00 PM, 13-01-24

Lit. Coordinator: Reno Attard
Commentator: Carmen Camilleri
Readers: Agatha Saliba
Wendy Forbes-Perera
Eucharistic Min. Anthony Naidu
Violeta Montoro
Reno Attard

Sun 8.45 AM, 14-01-24

Lit. Coordinator: Monica Lomen
Commentator Wilma Marmur
Readers: Mini Eddy
Shirley Krizmanic
Eucharistic Min: Helen Maddela
Salve Nidea
Monica Lomen

Sun 10:00AM, 14-01-24

Lit. Coordinator: Saua Tufuga
Commentator: Ed Cabla
Reader: St Francis Choir
St Francis Choir
Eucharistic Min. Rita Martin
Saua Tufuga
Christine Pedroso

Sun 6.00PM, 14-01-24

Lit. Coordinator Lani Laririt
Commentator Xuan Duong
Reader Lani Laririt
Larnie Mendoza
Eucharistic Min. Rod Lalunio
Xuan Duong
Lani Laririt

CHOIR GROUPS

Saturday 13th January 2024

- ◆ 6.00pm – Samoan Choir

Sunday 14th January 2024

- ◆ 8.45am - Charlie Schembri
- ◆ 10.00am - St Francis Choir
- ◆ 6.00pm - Volunteer Choir

LET US PRAY FOR

The Sick

Marlene Ferdinand, Pam Norris, Alfred & Pauline Storace, Arnord Fernandez, Toni Antonowicz, Anna, Maria Kim, Yulette Tanner, Stella Sandle, Frank, Doris Carabott.

Death Anniversaries

Marko Dorinko(1st Anniv.) Jan & Jovan Vala, Elizabet & Jan Danicek, Maria Lojdova, Zammit, Ivica Krizmanic, Nihal Ellawala, Ananda Wickrema, Maria Nguyen Thi Dao, Joseph Formosa, Hoang Family (Fanxico, Maria, Maria & Teresa) & Nguyen Family(Joseph, Anna & Maria), Nazareno & Josephine Spiteri, Antonio Mifsud, Philip Gauci, Joseph, Frank & John Xerri, Cornelio Maddela, Grazio (Horace)Camilleri, Joseph & Franc Xiberras, Reno Cauchi, Mac-co Ngo Van Thinh, Lucia Huynh Thi Kim Hue, Phero Ngo Minh Truong, Maria Huynh Thi Thanh Kieu, Phero Le Nghia, Matta Le Thi Linh, Phero Le Quang Tuan, Theresa Nguyen Ngoc Giang Thu, Dominico Le Ngoc Son, Maria Tran Thi Huong, Mary Camilleri, Richard & Connie Curmi, Iro & Jessie Vella, Angela Chircop, Peter Disco, Wayne Camilleri, Bartolo family, Brincat & Galea family, Maria Vu Thi Yeu Thuong, Duong Family, Do Family, Vincent Duong Kham Su, Michael Alphonsus Schiller, Mollie Rice (Marie), Raymond Abela and All Souls

SAFETY FOR ALL

Holy Eucharist Parish is committed to the safety, wellbeing and dignity of all children, young people and vulnerable adults.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Holy Eucharist parish respectfully acknowledges the Wurundjeri people as the traditional custodians of the land on which we reside and worship.

VOCATION VIEW

Unless your family loves you, nothing else makes sense. In your family your vocation can grow in wisdom, age and grace

All information used in accordance with the terms of our privacy policy.