

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Matthew 2:2

Alleluia, alleluia!

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

Alleluia!

GOSPEL

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew 2:1-12

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.

BACKGROUND ON THE GOSPEL READING

Loyola Press

The visit of the Magi occurs directly before the story of the Holy Family's flight into Egypt. Matthew's Gospel tells a version of Jesus' birth that is different than the one in Luke. Of the actual birth of Jesus, Matthew tells us little more than, "When Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, in the days of King Herod . . ." The story of the census is found only in Luke's Gospel, but we hear about the visit of the Magi only in Matthew's Gospel.

We know little about the Magi. They come from the East and journey to Bethlehem, following an astrological sign, so we believe them to be astrologers. We assume that there were three Magi based upon the naming of their three gifts. The Gospel does not say how many Magi paid homage to Jesus. In Matthew's Gospel, they represent the Gentiles' search for a Saviour. Because the Magi represent the entire world, they also represent our search for Jesus.



We have come to consider the gifts they bring as a foreshadowing of Jesus' role in salvation. We believe the meaning of the gifts to be Christological. Gold is presented as representative of Jesus' kingship. Frankincense is a symbol of his divinity because priests burned the substance in the Temple. Myrrh, which was used to prepare the dead for burial, is offered in anticipation of Jesus' death.

The word **Epiphany** means "manifestation" or "showing forth." Historically several moments in Christ's early life and ministry have been celebrated as "epiphanies," including his birth in Bethlehem, the visit of the Magi, his baptism by John, and his first miracle at Cana.



Parish Bulletin

The Epiphany of the Lord

7/8 January 2023

We have come from the East to worship the King



THEY OFFERED HIM GIFTS

For some Christians the feast of the Epiphany is the day on which gifts are exchanged.

As we observe the wise men opening their treasures in today's Gospel and offering gifts to Jesus, we can ask:

what precious gifts can we offer to Jesus today?

We may not have gold, frankincense and myrrh but we have our love, our fidelity, our time. We can give these to Jesus by giving them to those in need.

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Mal 3:1; 1 Chron 19:12

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

Liturgy of the Word

FIRST READING

Isaiah 60:1-6

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.

PSALM 71:1-2, 7-8, 10-13

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

St Joseph's Catholic Church
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SOUTH AUSTRALIA 5072

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Fr Roy John Elavumkal SMM
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Parish Office Hours
Mon to Fri 9:30am – 12:30pm
Ph: (08) 8431 6932
info@stjosephsparishtranmere.org.au

Parish Secretary
Melissa Hernandez – Tue-Fri
Police Checks Unit
Hiacinta Msomi – Sunday
Planned Giving Coordinator
Helen Mysak – Monday
WHS Officer
Angela Girolamo – Thursday
Sacristan
Weekdays: Michael Pierce
Sundays: Terence Yeow & Roger Worth


Mass Times
Sunday 9:30 am
Saturday Vigil Mass 6:30 pm
Tuesday to Friday 9:15 am
Confessions
Saturday 6:00 pm
Rosary
Tues to Fri 8:45am
Adoration of the Eucharist
Friday before Mass 8:30am
Novena to St. Joseph
Wednesday after Mass

St. Joseph's Primary School
Principal - Adrian Grbin
Ph: 8431 2834
Knights of the Southern Cross
Michael Boyle Ph: 8337 3270
Parish Pastoral Council
Chairperson – Alan Tyson
Ph: 0412 389 875
Youth Representative
Nancy Ngure Ph: 0431 896 610
Child Safety & REC
Anne Dudzinski Ph: 0418 847 804

LOVE HEALS

Rosters for 14/15 January 2023 2nd Sunday Ordinary Time	
Time	Commentator / Readers
6:30pm	Josh Page Dorothy Pierce, Michelle Page
9:30am	Nick McCabe Richard Dale, Stephanie Roach
Children's Liturgy	-
Count team	Paul Halliwell Paul Roocke Danielle Roocke
Altar	25th Dec to 22nd Jan Sarita Ingham Bronwyn Gleeson
<i>All those who have volunteered please arrive at least 15 minutes before the start time and report to the commentator for that Mass</i>	

SUNDAY COLLECTION SUMMARY	24/25 DECEMBER
First Collection	\$ 1,012.60
Planned Giving (Envelopes & Electronic)	\$ 501.00
Open Plate	\$ 1,079.00
Aboriginal Appeal	\$ 785.70
Extra donations	\$ 200.00
TOTAL	\$ 3,578.30



Pope Francis
@Pontifex

Jesus, Crucified and Risen, the Living One and the Lord, was the destination to which Pope Benedict led us, taking us by the hand. May he help us rediscover in Christ the joy of believing and the hope of living.



Please remember in your prayers
We pray for those listed and all the deceased relatives and friends of our Parishioners.

Recently Deceased: Rose May

Anniversary of death: Frank Librandi

Eternal rest grant to them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them; present them to God the Most High.

Sick: We pray for the sick and housebound of our Parish and our relatives and friends who are unwell.

Special Intention:

Death of Pope Benedict

Statement from Archbishop Patrick O'Regan Catholic Archbishop of Adelaide.

"I was saddened to hear of the death of Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI at the age of 95 on New Year's Eve, 2022.

Among his many gifts to the Church, two stand out: first his contribution as a theologian. From seminary days I remember being inspired by the clarity and inspiration of his writings.

In speaking of the last three popes it has often been said that people came to see Pope John Paul II; to listen to Benedict XVI and to be with Pope Francis.

Pope Benedict's series of books on Jesus are remarkable. His encyclicals, especially *Saved in Hope* in 2007 spoke deeply to the Church and the world about what hope is all about.

The second, and his most prophetic act was his decision to resign from the office of Bishop of Rome. In a celebrity-obsessed world he showed that it wasn't about him, but rather like John the Baptist he always pointed to Jesus Church who is the head the Church.


We mourn his death and give thanks for him showing us the hopeful face of Christ in an often troubled world. May he rest in peace."



THE EPIPHANY AND BAPTISM OF JESUS

This week we celebrate both the Epiphany of our Lord and His baptism in the Jordan river. Today (Sunday) is the Epiphany, which is the day that we remember the wise men from far away in the East coming to worship the newborn baby Jesus. God let them know that His Son was coming and gave them a special star in the sky to follow to find Him. When they found Jesus with His mother Mary they knelt down and gave Him their precious treasures of gold, frankincense and myrrh.

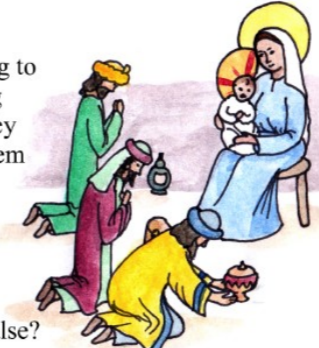
Tomorrow (Monday) we celebrate the baptism of Jesus in the Jordan river. Jesus went to Saint John the Baptist, who was baptizing people and helping them repent from their sins. John knew that Jesus hadn't sinned but Jesus asked him to baptize Him anyway. This was the beginning of Jesus' public ministry. Until this time He had been living a life hidden from the rest of the world.



Like the wise men, we can give Jesus our best treasure: ourselves! If we decide to live our lives for Jesus then we will show the love of Jesus by our love for others.

Answers to True or False: 1.false 2.false 3.true 4.true 5.true 6.true 7.false


Epiphany: True or False?

- How well do you know the story of the wise men? Which of these are true and which are false?*
1. Wise men came from the West to find the Baby Jesus. True or false?
 2. The wise men went and asked King Caesar where the Messiah would be born. True or false?
 3. The king told them to come back and tell him where the Baby was once they had found Him so that he could go and worship Him. True or false?
 4. When the wise men found the Child and His mother they bowed down and gave Him gifts. True or false?
 5. The gifts they gave were gold, frankincense and myrrh. True or false?
 6. When they were going to go back and tell the king where the Baby was, they had a dream that told them not to. True or false?
 7. The wise men went back to their land by the same road that they had come on. True or false?
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Parish Announcements

Rosters for Volunteers 2023
Our office will soon be preparing the rosters for the volunteers (Commentators, Readers, Counters, Flowers and Altar teams) Please let us know if you can no longer participate or if you want to join any of these teams this year.

Tea and Coffee - Sunday 8th January 2023
Please join us for a cuppa after Sunday 9:30am Mass, this is a great opportunity to get to know the members of our community.

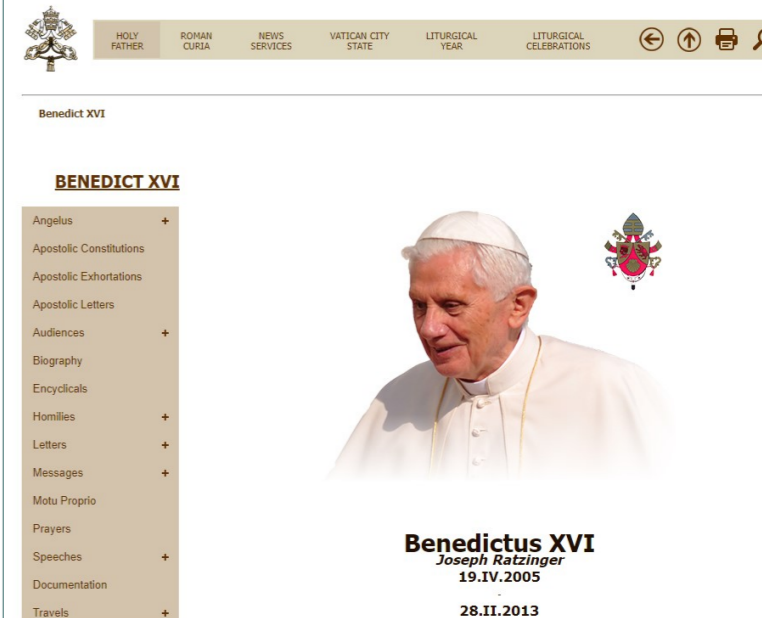


The Southern Cross – No January Edition
As usual, there will be no edition of The Southern Cross published in January. Our first issue for 2023 will be available in parishes on the weekend of February 4/5 and online from February 6

Australia Day Mass at the Cathedral
The Therry Dramatic Society, Catholic Women's League and Knights of the Southern Cross invite you to Australia Day Mass in St Francis Xavier's Cathedral which will be celebrated at 9am.

Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes Mass with anointing of the sick
February 11, 11.30am in St Francis Xavier's Cathedral. For more info, particularly regarding the needs of those who are ill and require special arrangements please contact the Archdiocesan Events office on 8210 8220 or email events@adelaide.catholic.org.au

Items of interest
The Vatican website contains a whole range of documents, homilies and messages of Pope Benedict XVI during his service
www.vatican.va/content/benedict-xvi/en.html



Benedict XVI

BENEDICT XVI

- Angelus
- Apostolic Constitutions
- Apostolic Exhortations
- Apostolic Letters
- Audiences
- Biography
- Encyclicals
- Homilies
- Letters
- Messages
- Motu Proprio
- Prayers
- Speeches
- Documentation
- Travels

Benedictus XVI
Joseph Ratzinger
19.IV.2005
28.II.2013

Mask Mandates have been lifted by the State Government Although the mandates have been lifted, we highly recommend you continue to wear a mask while inside the Church.
Our Parish is committed to Health and Safety