

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!
I am the servant of the Lord:
may his will for me be done.
Alleluia!

Gospel:

Mat: 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:

ou, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,

re by no means least among the leaders of Judah,

t of you will come a leader

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.

Second Reading: Eph: 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.

BACKGROUND ON THE GOSPEL READING

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.



"First, we listen, then, in silence, we appropriate what we have heard, reflect on it, interpret it, and only then are we ready to us how to do this, for it expands the heart, overturns our egocentrism, shows us how to listen to others and awakens in us the quiet of contemplation. Let us learn contemplation in our prayer, as we kneel before the Lord, not only with our legs but also with our hearts!"

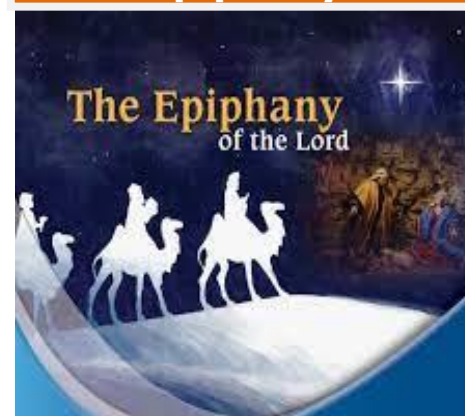
Pope Francis



Parish Bulletin

The Epiphany of the Lord, Year B

06/07 Janu 2024



THEY OFFERED HIM GIFTS.

For some Christians the feast of 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

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

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.

The word of the Lord

Responsorial Psalm Ps: 71: 1-2,7-8,10-13.

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

1. 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. **R.**

2. 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.**

3. 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.**

4. 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.**

Young Adult Summer Eco Camp – February 7-12 2024

This four-day event is for students and any young adults (18-35) who have a concern for the care of Earth. Participants will engage with the local natural environment, hear inspiring speakers and have time to reflect and share. Through attentiveness to Earth and each other, it is envisaged that participants will feel empowered to act for the care of our planet with hope. For more details see <https://jisa.org.au/2024-young-adult-summer-eco-camp/>

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 484 Magill Rd, Kensington
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 Fr Roy John Elavumkal SMM
 Email:
 parishpriest@stjosephsparish
 tranmere.org.au

Parish Secretary
 Pat Kwok – Tue to Fri

Planned Giving Coordinator
 Helen Mysak – Monday

WHS Officer
 Angela Girolamo – Thursday

Sacristan
 Sundays: Terence Yeow
 & Roger Worth

Parish Office Hours
 Mon to Fri 9:30am – 12:30pm Ph:
 (08) 8431 6932

info@stjosephsparishtranmere.org.au

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
 Chair – Alan Tyson Parish

Finance Council Chair -
 Edward Konieczny

Child Safe Contact Person
 Anne Dudzinski Ph: 0418 847 804

Vinnies Assistance Hotline
 1300 729 202 - 9:00am to 4:30pm

| Rosters: 13/14 Janu 2024 2 nd Sunday in Ordinary Time | |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Time | Commentator/Readers |
| 6.30pm Vigil | Josh Page Michelle Page |
| 9:30am | Antonetta Bartley Richard Dale Stphanie Roach |
| Children's Liturgy | Holidays |
| Count team | Frank Mazzarolo Sandy Mazzarolo Terry Pickering Christine Holmes |
| Altar and Flowers | Dolores Arboit Christina Wong volunteers |
| All those who have volunteered please arrive at least 15 minutes before the start time and report to the commentator for that Mass | |

| CHRISTMAS COLLECTION | 23/24/25/2023 |
|----------------------------------------------------------|---------------|
| Planned Giving | \$ 358. 00 |
| Open Plate | \$ 1388.85.00 |
| PARISH TOTAL | \$ 1641. 85 |
| This week's contribution to the Diocesan Presbytery Fund | \$ 1388. 85 |
| Special appeal Catholic Charities | \$ 1350. 00 |
| SUNDAY COLLECTION | 30/31/2023 |
| Planned Giving | \$ 378. 00 |
| Open Plate | \$ 479. 80 |
| PARISH TOTAL | \$ 857. 80 |
| This week's contribution to the Diocesan Presbytery Fund | \$ 624. 50 |

Let's pray together

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

For the Repose of the Soul:

Death Anniversary:
Cresecenzo and Angela 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.

If you know of sick or elderly parishioners who are house-bound or in care and would appreciate a visit, please phone and leave a message with the parish office.

Happy New Year 2024
 Dear Sisters, and Brothers,
 As we embark on this new year, let us embrace it as a journey of faith, hope, and love. May this year be one where we deepen our connections, cherish our blessings, and offer kindness to all. Let us walk hand in hand, guided by the light of compassion and understanding, supporting each other through trials and triumphs. May our actions reflect the love we have received, and may this year be a testament to our commitment to serving and uplifting one another. Happy New Year, dear parishioners!
 Fr. Roy John Elavumkal SMM

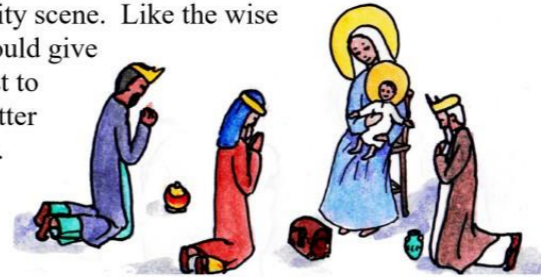
The Magi Come to Worship Jesus



Today we celebrate the feast of the Epiphany, which is when the Magi, or wise men, of the East came to find and worship Baby Jesus. They travelled for many weeks across harsh country to find the new King, bringing their best treasures to give to Him.

Where did these men find the baby King? Not in Jerusalem in the palace, with riches and servants! They found Him in a little town, in a house with just His mother, Mary. But they still knew Who the Baby was, so they bowed down to Him and gave Him their treasures.

The wise men teach us that we can honour God in all sorts of places. Jesus is there when you help ordinary people and poor people. He is honoured when you pray at a little nativity scene. Like the wise men, we should give our very best to Jesus no matter where He is.
















Answers to Cross-Word: Across: 4. myrrh 6. to 8. East 9. star 11. find 14. secretly 15. king 16. gold 18. Bethlehem Down: 1. frankincense 2. Jesus 3. at 4. Mary 5. Herod 7. overjoyed 10. they 12. as 13. its 17. he

thekidsbulletin@gmail.com

The Kids' Bulletin

Epiphany Sunday
January 7th, 2024

Here is the story of the Wise Men, with pictures to make it fun to read!

Long ago,  saw a special  in the sky. They followed it to find the newborn . But first they came to  Herod, and asked him if he knew where the  would be born. He asked the priests,  who told him the  would be born in Bethlehem. So the  went, and found the  where the  and His mother,  were staying. They knelt before the baby  and gave him their  of gold, frankincense and myrrh.

The feast of Epiphany offers several significant gifts to everyone:

Fr. Roy John Elavumkal SMM

- 1. Revelation and Awareness:** Epiphany invites you to recognize and celebrate the revelation of Jesus Christ to the world. It's a reminder that God's love and message of salvation are not confined to a particular group but are accessible to all.
- 2. Inclusivity:** This feast emphasizes the universal nature of Christ's message. It signifies that regardless of your background, nationality, or status, you're welcomed and valued in God's plan.
- 3. Spiritual Journey:** Epiphany invites you on a spiritual journey, much like the Magi, urging you to seek and encounter the divine in your life. It's an opportunity to reflect on your own faith journey and the ways in which you encounter God.
- 4. Guidance and Direction:** The guiding star of Epiphany symbolizes divine guidance. It offers you a beacon of light in your own life, guiding you toward the discovery of deeper meaning, purpose, and faith.
- 5. Offering of Gifts:** The gifts of the Magi represent offerings of the heart—gifts of devotion, love, and commitment. Epiphany encourages you to offer your own gifts of self to God, embracing your unique talents and abilities in service to others.
- 6. Embrace of Light and Hope:** Epiphany represents the arrival of light into the world. It signifies hope, renewal, and the opportunity for a fresh start in your spiritual journey.

Ultimately, the feast of Epiphany offers you an invitation to encounter the divine, embrace inclusivity and diversity, and embark on a journey of spiritual growth, guided by the light of Christ.