

CONDOLENCES: We have been advised of the passing of Jenny McCaskill and Peter Cahill (Tim Cahill's father, aged 97). Rest in peace Jenny and Peter and please keep the McCaskill and Cahill families in your prayers.

BIRTHDAYS: Happy Birthday to **Gabby Strahlendorf** who celebrates her special day on the 10 January.

JAMBEROO RETREAT 2023: The dates for next year's retreat are 20-23 March and payment will be required late January. For more detailed information including prices and accommodation and/or to express your interest, please contact Susie McCosker 0426 820 860.

NOTICES FROM THE ARCHDIOCESE

Former **Pope Benedict XVI** died, aged 95, last Saturday, 31 January almost a decade after he stood down because of ailing health. Benedict led the Catholic Church for fewer than eight years until, in 2013, he became the first Pope to resign since Gregory XII in 1415. Pope Benedict spent his final years at the Mater Ecclesiae monastery within the walls of the Vatican where he passed away. Following his death, the Holy See announced that his body would lie in state in St. Peter's Basilica from 2 January 2023. His successor Pope Francis led the "solemn but simple" funeral on 5 January and the former Pope was buried in the papal tombs under St Peter's Basilica. Rest in Peace Emeritus Pope Benedict XVI and please pray for the repose of his soul.

Pope Benedict XVI -



16 April 1927 – 31 December 2022

SACRED HEART PARISH MORUYA



36 Queen Street (PO Box 23) Moruya NSW 2537
Phone: 4474 2024 Email: moruya@cg.org.au

Web: <http://cg.org.au/Moruya>

Priest: Fr Anthony Riosa, SSS

Secretary: Mrs Vickie Moore

Parish Office hours: Wed and Fri 9am—2pm

Mass Times:

Moruya: Sat: Vigil 6:00pm Sun: 10:00am

Tue: 5:30pm, Wed, Thu & Fri: 9:15am/1st Saturday of the month 9:15am

Reconciliation: Sat @ Moruya: 1st Saturday of the month 8:30am-9:00am before mass
5:15pm-5:45pm before Mass

Tuross Mass: Sun: 8am

Schools: St Mary's Moruya: 4474 2817

Carroll College Broulee: 4471 5600

Caring Group: Tuross Head: 0497 315 534 Moruya: 0431 354 993

Devotions: Daily Rosary and Saturdays 9:30am Adoration 40 mins before weekday Mass



The Epiphany of Our Lord

- YEAR A -

January 7 & 8 2023

Epiphany of Our Lord

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

The word Epiphany, which means appearance or manifestation or showing forth, marks Jesus' first appearance to the Gentiles.

"Epiphany" refers to God's self-revelation as well as to the revelation of Jesus as His Son. Epiphany is an older celebration than the feast of Christmas, having originated in the East in the late second century. In Italy and Spain, the gifts traditionally associated with the Christmas season are exchanged today, on the feast of the Epiphany. Among Italians, it is believed that the gifts are brought by the old woman, Befana (from Epiphany),



whereas Spanish custom attributes the gifts to the kings or magi. The feast commemorates the coming of the Magi as the first manifestation of Christ to the Gentiles in the Western Church. In the Eastern Church, it is also the commemoration of the baptism of Christ. The angels revealed Jesus to the shepherds and the star revealed him to the Magi, who had already received hints of Him from Jewish scriptures. Later, God the Father revealed Jesus' identity at His baptism in the Jordan. In the synagogue at Nazareth, Jesus revealed himself as the promised Messiah. These multiple revelations are all suggested by the Feast of the Epiphany.

Liturgy of the Word

First Reading Is 60:1-6

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

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

All: Thanks be to God

Responsorial Psalm Ps 71:1-2, 7-8, 10-13, R. see v.11

(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.)**

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

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Ephesians
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 Christ Jesus, through the gospel.

The Word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God

Gospel Acclamation Mt 2:2

Alleluia, alleluia!

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

Alleluia!

Gospel Mt 2:1-12

P: The Lord be with you

All: And with your spirit

P: A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

All: Glory to you O Lord

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

All: Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ

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

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

Prayer after Communion: Lord, we thank you for coming into our hearts in Communion. We believe you are truly present in the Blessed Sacrament. You are our life and our hope. Draw us more deeply to yourself and transform our hearts through your abiding love. May we come to know Sunday as a special day of faith, the day of our Risen Lord. May our celebration of the Eucharist on Sunday consecrate this day to you. O Sacrament Most Holy, O Sacrament Divine, All Praise and All Thanksgiving be every moment thine.

THE WORD AND LIFE this week ...

1) Let us adore Jesus: a) by worshipping Jesus at Mass with the gold of our love, the myrrh of our humility and the frankincense of our adoration. Let us offer our very selves, promising God that we will use His blessings by doing good to our fellow men. b) by choosing a better path for our lives. Just as the Magi chose another route to return to their home, let us choose a better way of life, abstaining from proud and impure thoughts, evil habits and selfish behaviour and actively doing acts of charity. c) by becoming the Star, leading others to Jesus, as the star led the Magi to Him. We can remove the darkness of evil around us by being like burning candles radiating Jesus' love by selfless service, unconditional forgiveness and compassionate care.

2) Like the Magi, let us offer Jesus our gifts on this feast of Epiphany. (a) the first gift might be friendship with God. After all, the whole point of Christmas is that God's son became one of us, to redeem us and call us friends. God wants our friendship in the form of wholehearted love, commitment and devotion. (b) a second gift might be friendship with others expressed by encouraging them by our visits and helping them in their needs. c) a third gift might be the gift of reconciliation. This is the gift of repairing damaged relationships in and outside our families. Giving it requires honesty, humility, understanding, forgiveness and patience. d) the fourth gift of this season is the gift of peace: the seeking of God's peace in our own lives through prayer, sacramental life and daily meditation on the Word of God.

There is a 19C English Christmas Carol, Christina Rossetti's *A Christmas Carol*, which begins "In the bleak midwinter". The carol sums up in its last stanza the nature of "giving to the Christ child". What can I give him, poor as I am?/If I were a shepherd, I could give a Lamb. If I were a wise man, I could do my part./What I can I give Him? (I can) Give Him my heart!

NOTICES FROM THE PARISH

This weekend we officially and warmly welcome **Fr Anthony Riosa** to our Parish. Please introduce yourself when you can and come along to a 'welcome' morning tea after 10am mass. Fr Anthony's

Oath of Faith and **Profession of Faith** will be held before **9:15am mass this Saturday, 7 January.**

The official Letter of Appointment is included with this Bulletin.

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK: We continue to pray and extend our support to those at Banksia Village, IRT Moruya, and the sick members of our Parish: Ben Pollock, Kathleen Ebbelaar, Gerry, Ebbelaar, Kylie Leplaw, Andy McCosker, Bala Stankovich, Paul Croese, Clare Broekhuysse, Pat Morris, Julie and John Kay, Lee Maat, Kirk Dowling, Rosemary Patyus, Kay Morton, Rod McDonald, Hans Brosch, Father Giles Setter OFM, Jenny McCaskill, Annette Moore, Annette and John Nader, John Harnett, Ross Hay, Bernard Carroll, Taine Woodford, Jaijing Greenwood, Robyn Barkley, Mark Wales and Lyn Timms.