



Bombala-Delegate Catholic Parish



The Epiphany of the Lord

3 January 2021

First Reading Is 60:1-6

The glory of the Lord shines upon you.

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

**(R.) 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. (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 Eph 3:2-3, 5-6

The revelation means that pagans now share the same inheritance, that they are parts of the same body.

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.

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

We have come from the East to worship the king.

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.

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Reflection by Fr Michael Tate

Unlike the writers of the horoscope columns in our newspapers, these Wise Men were scholar astrologers, probably from Syria or Iraq. They believed that the stars controlled the destiny of human beings, but they were open enough to the Hebrew scriptures to be led to the amazing discovery of a star-child in Bethlehem.

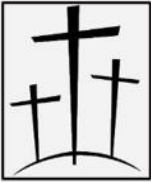
They knelt before this baby, doing homage, because they realised that the stars did not control *this* infant, but that there was something of this baby which caused the night sky to respond! They preserved the child from the deadly schemes of Herod, and then they returned to their home country, 'by a different way'. They were on a different journey after encountering the Child.

Who can doubt that the Holy Spirit led these wise men from the East to the manger? In fact, the Holy Spirit is at work in every human being, prompting each and every one to become seekers after Truth.

As a person responds to this prompting and tries to lead a good humane life, then the Church teaches that the Holy Spirit can draw them into the saving life of God. Thus, billions in China and India who have never heard the Gospel, can be saved. But, such persons do not savour the fullness of Truth as we do with the privilege of having the scriptures and the sacraments. Where it is possible, we are obliged to offer them the road map to the Truth.

We can take a moment to affirm our faith in the baby in the manger as the One of whom Dante spoke: 'the Love which moves the sun and other stars'. Come, let us adore him.

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Bombala-Delegate Catholic Parish



Epiphany of the Lord Year A, 2nd 3rd January 2021

"It is consoling to hear that Jesus Christ, the Son of God, is to be born. If Jesus justifies, who can condemn? If Christ heals, who can wound? If the Son of God exalts, who shall cast us down?"

From a sermon of St. Bernard.

Epiphany of The Lord

Mon:

Tue:

Wed: Mass 9.30 am Bombala

Thu: Sister Teresa to Delegate

Fri:

Sat: **Delegate** 6pm Liturgy of The Word & HC

Sun: **Bombala** 9am Liturgy of The Word & HC

"We do not have to talk very much in order to pray well.

We know that God is there...

Let us open our hearts to him.

Let us rejoice in his presence.

This is the best Prayer."

...St. John Vianney

STAMPS: Please keep your used stamps for the Peruvian Missions. With many receiving Christmas cards, we ask that you put your stamps in a small paper or plastic bag and leave them in the Church porch or give them directly to Sister Teresa.

Prayer for Vision

As I rise on this new day I pray;
To live deeply, with purpose,
To live freely; with detachment,
To live wisely with humility,
To live justly, with compassion,
To live lovingly, with fidelity,
To live mindfully, with awareness,
To live gratefully, with generosity.
To live fully, with enthusiasm.

Help me to hold this vision
And to daily renew it in my heart,
Becoming ever more one with you; my truest Self.

Joyce Rupp, Out of the Ordinary, 2002

Prayers of the Faithful

Feast of Epiphany

Celebrant: May the light of Christ revealed in today's liturgy touch our hearts as we pray for our own needs and the needs of the Church and the world.

That the Church may be guided by the light of Christ as delegates to the Plenary Council process submissions this year. We pray to the Lord:

That world leaders may be open to the light that God sends and work for peace for their people:

We pray to the Lord:

That the sick and suffering and all who wait to hear good news of health and healing may be strengthened by God's love and the care of family and friends:

We pray to the Lord:

That families unable to be together this Christmas be reunited this New Year and may Christ's coming bring a new joy into all our relationships:

We pray to the Lord:

In thanksgiving for the gift of rain and for God's love revealed through the sharing of goods for people suffering hardship and distress:

We pray to the Lord:

As we remember our deceased loved ones and all taken through the virus in 2020, may we be heartened by the way God brings life out of death and light out of darkness.

We pray to the Lord:

For Our Lady's intercession for a healthy and happy New Year: We pray: **Hail Mary...**

Celebrant: Loving God, we thank you for your Word made flesh, for your light come into the world and we say, **Glory be....**

HYMNS FOR TODAY: Books on seats.

No: 8 Hark the Herald

No: 25 Once in Royal David's City

No: 1 O Come All Ye Faithful

No: 12 Joy To The World