



**THE EPIPHANY OF THE
LORD**

2 January 2022

LITURGY AND BULLETIN

OPENING PRAYER

Father,

*You revealed your Son to the nations
by the guidance of a star.*

*Lead us to your glory in heaven
by the light of faith.*

Amen.

FIRST READING: 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.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

Response: 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: 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.

Gospel Acclamation

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



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.

Reflection on the Gospel of Matthew 2:1-12

Have you thought? – Epiphany

The feast of the Epiphany celebrates the revelation of Jesus to humankind. The wise men are the representatives of humanity bearing witness to this revelation. However, the Epiphany celebrates the revelation of Jesus as not only the Messiah of Israel but the Saviour of the whole world.

Interestingly, in this gospel that emphasises the 'Jewish-ness' of Jesus, the witnesses to the birth are gentiles from a foreign land. Their inclusion is a powerful declaration that the revelation of Jesus is for all people. Regardless of the liturgical year, this reading is always used on the feast of the Epiphany to celebrate this pivotal moment.

Gospel Focus – Going home

The wise men, or Magi, are warned in a dream not to go back to Herod and they go home by a different way. How could they do anything but go home another way – indeed, go home as different people? They are changed by their encounter with the child Jesus and they go home a different way; in a different state; in a whole different frame of mind. When we genuinely encounter Jesus – in scripture, in life, in prayer, in ourselves – then we cannot go home the same way; we must go home by a different way as the Magi did.

PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

We pray for the people of every nation on earth, that they will come to know the peace and joy of God's all-embracing love. (Pause for silent prayer) Lord, hear us.

We pray for all seekers of wisdom: that they will be led by God's Spirit to the one who is our way, our truth and our life. (Pause for silent prayer) Lord, hear us.

We pray for the whole human family, that the beginning of this New Year will stir up fresh hope for a new era of justice, mercy and peace. (Pause for silent prayer) Lord, hear us.

We pray for all in positions of power: that they will use that power well to care for the earth, our common home. (Pause for silent prayer) Lord, hear us.

We pray for young people moving into work or tertiary studies, that they will find the way to best develop their gifts and put them at the service of others. (Pause for silent prayer) Lord, hear us.

We pray for fire-fighters, life-guards, rangers and all emergency service personnel: that they will stay safe themselves this summer, while protecting the community. (Pause for silent prayer) Lord, hear us.

We pray for all who suffer in mind, body, or spirit: especially Bob Fletcher, Paul Bishop, Richie Simpson, Paul Fa'Oa, Rongo Tee Peeti, Duncan McDiarmid, Helen Montgomery, Judy Nielson, Karen Suitor, Bob Haigh, Teonie McMahan, Helen Campbell-Davys, Ian Vardanega, John Shiels, Tony Riley, Rupert Ermet, Val Biggers and Celia Roach. (Pause) Lord, hear us

We pray for the recently deceased, including Bishop Desmond Tutu and for those whose anniversary of death occurs around this time, that they will live in the light of Christ forever. (Pause for silent prayer) Lord, hear us.

CONCLUDING PRAYER

Father, guide us with your light.

*Help us to recognise Christ and welcome him with love,
for he is Lord for ever and ever.*

Amen.

From Father Mick:

On the 23rd January I have asked Steve Scroope and Frank Stanford to speak at **Bungendore** and **Gundaroo** about a MenAlive weekend to be held in April. They will be in **Braidwood** the following weekend, 29 January 2022

A women's retreat weekend will be held in April and I'm organizing an international speaker to run the retreat. There will be more about this soon.

The third Sunday in February (20th), will be Mass at **Nerriga** at 11AM. Everyone from our region is invited to attend this Mass followed by lunch at the pub. As a courtesy to the staff at the pub, those attending should inform Helen (Braidwood) or Julie-Ann (Bungendore).

PARISH ADMINISTRATOR: Father Mick Burke

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PARISH OFFICE HOURS: Tuesdays: 9am – 3pm; Fridays: 9am – 12pm

Next weekend Mass time: Epiphany – Braidwood 10.15am Sunday 2nd January in the church

Weekday Mass: in recess until further notice

Social Justice Group: Tuesday 8 February 2022 at 10.30am, at the Presbytery

Dear Parishioners,

The church is closed to the public for the duration of the roof repairs. Mass will return to the school hall after the New Year. Masks are now mandatory, as is signing in with the QR code. Currently there aren't any density limits for churches.

Thank you to all who cleaned the church, arranged the flowers and put up the Christmas decorations. It was a big job but many hands made light work of it. You are all very much appreciated.

For anyone interested in the Plenary Council results the “fruits of the assembly” report can be found at the link below.

<https://adelaide.catholic.org.au/files/f/96343/Plenary%20Council%20First%20Assembly%20Report.pdf>

Archbishop's Christmas Appeal \$467.

Brother Brian's holidays in January (9 Jan – 4 Feb) afford us the opportunity to give the Presbytery a long overdue spring clean. If you are able to help, please let me know what days might be suitable for you and we will pick the one that suits most people. Helen 0430 169 849

9 January: Baptism of the Lord

1st: Is 40:1-5,9-11. 2nd: Titus 2:11-14,3:4-7. Gospel: Luke 3:15-16,21-22.

Ministry Rosters for our Masses

Date	Acolyte	Welcomer	Readers	Music/PP
2 Jan	James	Helen P	Rod/Bobbie	Helen H
8 Jan	Geoff	Cathy F	Wendy H/Germaine	Helen H
15 Jan	Felix	Geraldine	Wendy M-B/volunteer	Helen H
22 Jan	James	Helen P	Michael/Cathy F	Helen H

Have a happy New Year

Helen Hart