

LITURGY OF THE WORD The Epiphany of the Lord

First Reading *Is 60:1-6*

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

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.

The Word of the Lord

R. 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.

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.

3. The kings of Tarshish and the sea coast 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.

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

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

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Ephesians

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.

The Word of the Lord

R. 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*

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

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. The Gospel of the Lord

R. Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ

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REFLECTION by Dianne Bergant CSA

The Christmas season reaches an apex with the Epiphany. In some liturgical traditions, it is the central celebration of Christmas. It commemorates not only the birth of Christ and the visit of the Magi, but also his baptism in the Jordan and the manifestation of his glory at the wedding feast of Cana. In the Roman Catholic tradition, the focus is on the visit of the Magi and the implications of that visit for the glorious manifestation of God to all the peoples of the world. There is a wonderful summons to alertness and presence of mind and heart, a call for all the nations to witness the marvellous works of God that shine as light in the midst of the surrounding darkness. The light of God is known in the ways in which the most vulnerable in the city are cared for and acknowledged. In just action and righteousness, the city becomes the beacon of God, and all the nations are attracted by this light. The quality of the light leads the way through the darkness and sustains the world in goodness and peace. The manifestation of God among us changes the ways in which we perceive each other. Christ's birth provides us with the light by which we see a new criterion for relating. The Magi represent the multi-ethnic and cultural diversity in civic and parish situations, as well as the many religions of the world. All people, regardless of race or ethnic origin, can be co-heirs with Christ.

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SAINTS OF THE WEEK

MONDAY 3RD

- The Most Holy Name of Jesus

FRIDAY 7TH - St Raymond

Penyafort



ST BERNARD'S PARISH
BATEMANS BAY
2 David Avenue, Batehaven NSW 2536



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Website: www.cg.org.au/batemansbay
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Tuesday-Friday

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Secretary: Roslynn Trompp
Finance Admin: Anne Jackson
PC Co-ord: Marie Weatherall
Asst. PC Co-ord: Sr. Marie McAlister
Youth Minister: Liarna Miller

Principal: Mrs. Jo Wain
St. Bernard's Primary School, Batehaven
R.E.C: Sharon Beashel
Principal: Mrs. Jacqui Heffernan
Carroll College, Broulee
R.E.C: Erica Drewsen

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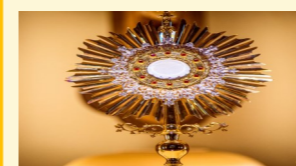
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Church
Cenacle Prayer Tues @ 4.45



Adoration Friday @5.30pm



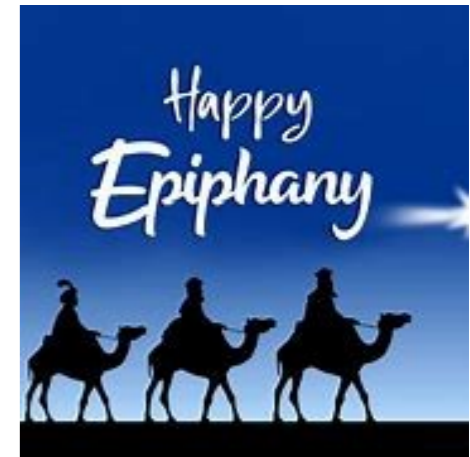
Bench Ministry By Request

The Epiphany of the Lord - Year C

The Manifestation of Christ to the world: Theophany

The Second Sunday of Christmas and every first Sunday of the New Year, we celebrate the feast of Epiphany. This feast calls to mind the official manifestation of the divinity of Christ to the whole world as God who is light and saviour of the world.

In the first reading taken from the prophecy of Isaiah, we hear Isaiah as he proclaims the message of hope to all who dwelt in the dark and shame: *your light has come, the glory of the Lord shines upon you.* That light refers to Christ, the new-born king who is come to illumine the darkened world. St. Paul in our second reading extends the radiance of the light of salvation brought by Christ to the gentiles, whom he considered to be coheir in the salvific incarnation of Christ.



At his birth, the gentiles, in the persons of the Magi, known as the three wise men from the east {Balthazar, Caspar and Melchior}, came to acknowledge his birth by their homage and the gift of loyalty by their royal gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh.

The entire episode is reflected in the gospel reading as recorded by Matthew. The gospel retells the journey of the three wise men who were led by the star to the baby Jesus.

Some lessons from the Feast - Christ as light has come to illumine the world darkened by sin and indifference. Everyone is invited to share in the salvation wrought by Christ, Jews and Gentiles alike. Like the star that led the wise men, the baptised are called to lead others to Christ. Christ gave us the gift of himself, we like the three wise men are encouraged to give him gifts not necessarily of gold, frankincense and myrrh but of our life, our time and attention. The three wise men adored the Christ-Child, inviting us to a sincere adoration of Jesus in the Eucharist, in the word and in others.

May Christ continue to reveal himself to us on this Feast Day and throughout the New Year 2022.

Happy New Year

Fr. Martins

*We Warmly Welcome Deacon Eden John
Langlands to the Parish*

*Pope Francis
Monthly Prayer
Intentions*

January

For true human fraternity

We pray for all those suffering from religious discrimination and persecution; may their own rights and dignity be recognized, which originate from being brothers and sisters in the human family.

WEEKLY MASS TIMES

Tues 4th: 5.30pm Mass
Wed 5th: 9am Mass
Thurs 6th: 9.00 am Mass
Fri 7th: 9.15am Mass/Rosary
9.30am Reconciliation
6pm Mass
Sat 8th: 9am Mass
6pm Mass
Sunday 9th: 9am Mass
5pm Family & Youth Mass

ROSTERS

Rosters will not be issued for Masses the weekends January 1/ 2, 8/9, 15/16. If you are attending any weekend Mass in that time can you please check if you may be needed. Rosters will resume 22/23 January. Thank you to everyone who has assisted this year.

Thank you all for supporting Mark's Farewell last Sunday. Special thanks to the Philipino Community for Catering.

PARISH FINANCIAL SUPPORT

If you would like to join the Parish e-platform giving for both the Priest and the Church, the details are as follows:
Acc. Name: St Bernard's Operating Account
BSB: 062-786 Bank
Acc: 000012939 Ref: Family Name

Welcome

We extend a very warm welcome to those who may be visiting our Parish over the summer. We hope you enjoy our church and our town.

FROM THE PARISH OFFICE

The office will remain closed from close until Wednesday 12th January 2022.

Fr Martins and Deacon Eden will be available for any enquiries.

HELP NEEDED.

We have an elderly lady living in Denhams's Beach and a couple in Lilli Pilli who are needing visitation and Holy Communion. If you are interested please contact Marie Weatherall on 0405 028 057. If you are new to the ministry 1:1 guidance is available and all resources will be given to you. You would be on a roster with others.
Many Thanks

Remembering the Sick:

Lola, Fr Kevin Murphy, Allan Rogers, Pam Wilson, Eileen Hogg, Antony and Andrew, Lois White, Rita Condon, Ben Copland, Femia and Mark, Roberto Alivio, Vince Burns, John Dillon, James Lee, Trish Hamilton, Daniel Coffey, Jim Banks, Dennis Sheather, Mary Henderson, Diane Lanzon, Marion O'Grady, Victor Edith, Jan Simpson, Dawn Robinson, Allan Odium, Luke Ward, Andrew Morton, Ken Evendon, Judy Betts, Janet Thornberry, Anica Bautovic, Angela Mylott, Jeanette Clarke, Kathryn King and those in our local Nursing Homes and Hospital

Death Anniversaries: Maureen Noyeaux, Sylvia Penberthy, Dorothy O'Hara, Patricia McLennan, Thomas Nagle, Malgorzata Colebrook, Edwin Lewis, Sue-Anne Clarke,
We pray for the recently deceased in the Parish Community:

Dermott, Joan Herne, Dr Bryan Chester, Lorraine Grace, Waine Williamson, Pat Cooper, Theresa Humphrey, Linda Weatherall, John Mula, Eva Maria Easton, Allan Mitchell, Margaret Harris, Wayne O'Toole, George Fitzgerald, Robyn Lynette Mundy, Lorna Gunn, Savannah Leane, Bill Guist, Kevin Allen, Evelyn Young, Isobel Evans, Michaeline Hatton, Ingeborg Fissler, Danielle Kempton.

Prayer For A Pandemic

May we who are merely inconvenienced
Remember those whose lives are at stake.
May we who have no risk factors
Remember those most vulnerable.
May we who have the luxury of working from home
Remember those who must choose
Between preserving their health or making their rent.
May we who have to cancel our trips
Remember those that have no safe place to go.
May we who are losing our margin money in the tumult of the economic market
Remember those who have no margin at all.
May we who settle in for a quarantine at home
Remember those who have no home.
As fear grips our country.
Let us choose love.
During this time when we cannot physically wrap our arms around each other,
Let us yet find ways to be the loving embrace of God to our neighbours.
Amen.

*Ursuline Sisters of Louisville
Prayer: Historic Saint Paul Catholic Church*



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LIVING FAITH IN THE EVERYDAY

A New Year ~ Starting Anew

Wisdom words from Fr Andrew Hamilton SJ

Forget the superficial 'resolutions' and instead spend time contemplating what we want from ourselves and our society as we begin the new year.

New Year's Day is usually a bit like a cheap easter egg. It has a shiny outside but is pretty thin inside. It comes between the ending of the Boxing Day Cricket Test and the New Year Test Match, comes shortly after the Sydney Hobart Yacht Race, and is preceded by fireworks. All these things are covered by television for the many people on holidays away from home.

This year will be no exception. But for most of us the coronavirus has made a difference. We have made our plans for the New Year with 'ifs' attached. We have become used to crises that cause lockdowns and wreck all our best plans.

We do not come to the new year with assurance that things will be as they were before but with a question mark. The question, too, may lead us to ask more deeply where we wish to go as persons and as a society. During the crisis we had to recognise that we relied on other people to live and to flourish. We had to sacrifice our own desires for freedom to travel where we wanted and to gather with people whenever we wanted in order to protect the health of those who were vulnerable. For many Australians Covid brought challenging experiences of learning and teaching at home, working from home, long periods of unemployment and of uncertainty. These experiences have inevitably made it difficult to plan for the long term and perhaps left us reluctant to return to the previous ways in which we balanced our commitments to work and home. We have asked ourselves what we want most deeply and what matters to us.

This new year is also overshadowed by large events, both present and future. We have seen the Climate summit in Glasgow. However we might rate its effectiveness, we have surely heard its stark warning about the consequence for our children of not addressing seriously climate change as a priority. We live also in the shadow of a coming federal election that will inevitably raise questions about how seriously we take climate change, inequality and the other deep challenges that we face in Australia. Our experience of the coronavirus may make us demand seriousness and honesty of our political leaders as they compete for votes. It may also make us impatient with any empty words that lack these qualities.

In the different cultures and religions that have enriched Australian life people emphasise different aspects of New Year. It used to be a time to make good resolutions. Many of us give less attention to this today after noticing how many of our good intentions died a week into the new year.

However, the New Year can be a time to refresh our hopes. That next year children will not have to fear being treated as criminals. That governments may invest heavily to support people in regions marked by disadvantage. That all homes may be free from violence and fear. To have hopes is the first step towards working to make them come true. In some Asian cultures the New Year is associated with water, where the faults and grime of the old year are washed away and a better life washed in. Water, too, can be used in celebration. People throw water on friends and strangers, washing away social boundaries and the ordinary rituals of deference that go with them. The beginning of the New Year reminds us of our equality when we come into the world and which remains in the eyes of God.

In Australia we have struggled to find ways of celebrating the New Year that bring out its deeper meaning. That may be so because in Christian societies it has been obscured by the celebrations of Christmas. New Year is a time for winding down, not for gearing up. Still, staying up till midnight drinking, and then shouting, lighting fireworks, and tooting horns can seem to lack a bit of seriousness.

However, we spend New Year's Day, we might find it helpful to reflect on the past year and to ask ourselves what we want of ourselves during the coming year.

(Fr Andrew Hamilton SJ)

Happy Birthday to those Born in December