

St Christopher's Cathedral Parish, Canberra

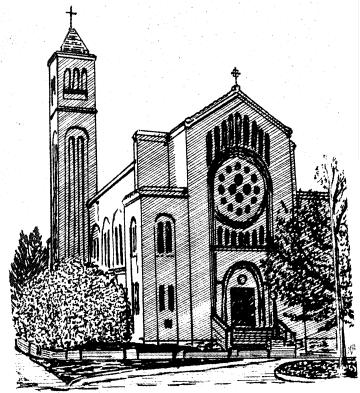
(including St Peter Chanel's Church, Yarralumla)

The Epiphany of the Lord

— Year A

4/5 Jan 2020

Archdiocese of Canberra & Goulburn
Archbishop: Most Rev Christopher Prowse DD STD
Vicar General: Fr Tony Percy VG
Administrator: Fr Trenton van Reesch
Assistant Priest: Fr Norvin Dias



Sunday Mass

St Christopher's

Cnr Canberra Ave & Furneaux Street, Forrest (Manuka) ACT

Sunday: 8.00am,
11.00am (sung) & cuppa
5.30pm

St Peter Chanel's

Cnr Weston & Loch Streets, Yarralumla ACT

Saturday: 6.00pm Vigil
Sunday: 9.30am

Weekday Mass

St Christopher's

Monday to Saturday: 12.15pm
Tuesday to Friday: 7.30am

St Peter Chanel's

Tuesday: 5.30pm
Thursday: 10.00am (9.30am Adoration): Anointing Mass first Thursday of the month.

Reconciliation

St Christopher's

Wednesday: 11.30am—12.00pm
Thursday: 6.00 - 6.30pm
Saturday: 11.00am - 12noon

St Peter Chanel's

Tuesday: 6.00 - 6.30pm
Saturday: 5.15 - 5.45pm

Adoration & Benediction

St Christopher's:

Friday weekly 5-6pm.
Adoration: First Friday of the month 12.45-2pm.
Holy Hour & Benediction for discernment of Priestly vocations:
1st Thurs of the month 7-8pm

Baptisms

St Christopher's: 2nd & 4th Sundays, 12.30pm

St Peter Chanel's: 3rd Sun, 10.30am

Weddings

St Christopher's: Saturday 1.30pm, 3.00pm and 4.30pm

St Peter Chanel's:
By arrangement

PARISH OFFICE

55 Franklin Street, Forrest ACT 2603

(02) 6239 9846 (bh)

cathedral@cg.org.au / www.cg.org.au/cathedral

Online Payments Link: <https://www.bpoint.com.au/payments/sccp>

Parish Secretary: Michelle O'Connor—Mon-Fri, 8.30am-12.15pm, 12.45pm-4.30pm

Accounts Officer: Karina Widjaja—Wednesday

Dear Parishioners and Visitors to Saint Christopher's Cathedral Parish,

In these days we celebrate the feast of Epiphany of Our Lord, and meditate upon the “manifestation” of Christ, as the One who has come to save us. Pope Francis speaks of how Jesus reveals Himself to all the nations in a *gentle light* that shines in humble love. He notes “the symbol... is light, which reaches and enlightens everything.” The manner in which God reveals Himself however, is surprising. The Gospels contrast the powerful of the earth and their palaces with the humble abode where Jesus is born. A God who does not impose, but offers Himself. “None of the powerful of the time realised that the Lord of history was born exactly in their days... and herein lies the surprise: God does not emerge at the forefront of the world in order to manifest Himself.”

The Epiphany is a ‘many-faceted’ mystery. In the Latin tradition it is closely linked to the visit of the Magi and the revelation to the Gentiles. In the East, focus is given to Jesus’ Baptism and His manifestation as the Beloved Son of the Father. The Gospel of John places us at the Wedding of Cana, where changing water into wine, Jesus “manifested his glory; and his disciples believed in him” (John 2:11).

When we focus on the Magi it is the star which often takes centre stage (Matt 2:1-12). The Magi were astronomers, who, in accordance with the scriptures having noticed the appearance of a unique star, understood this celestial marvel as the announcement of the birth of a king (Num 24:17). In effect, while pagan theology divinized the elements and forces of the cosmos, the Christian faith, in bringing the biblical Revelation to fulfilment, contemplates only one God, who is Creator, Master and Lord of the whole universe.

Reflecting upon the Epiphany, Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI observed how: “Christian thought compares the cosmos to a “book” [...] Galileo said this as well, considering it as the work of an Author who expresses himself in the “symphony” of the Creation. In this symphony is found, at a certain point, what might be called in musical terminology a “solo”, a theme given to a single instrument or voice; and it is so important that the significance of the entire work depends on it. This “solo” is Jesus, who is accompanied by a royal sign: the appearance of a new star in the firmament. Jesus is compared by ancient Christian writers to a new sun. ...The Son of man himself [therefore] epitomises the earth and Heaven, the Creation and the Creator, the flesh and the Spirit. He is the centre of the cosmos and of history....”

The Epiphany “is the manifestation of the Lord and as a reflection, it is the manifestation of the Church, since the Body is inseparable from the Head.” Such a thought ties into Pope Francis’ own observation of this feast of ‘light’. The Church Benedict says “is the humble mystery of reflected light. The Church is humanity illuminated, “baptized” in the glory of God, that is in his love, in his beauty, in his dignity. Benedict continued: “The Church knows that her own humanity, with its limitations and wretchedness, serve especially to highlight the work of the Holy Spirit. She can boast of nothing, save in her Lord. It is not from her that light comes; the glory is not hers. But this is precisely her joy, which no one can take from her: to be a “sign and instrument” of the One who is *“lumen gentium”*, the light of humanity (*Lumen gentium*, 1). Let us rejoice on this feast, in the manifestation of the *true Light, and glory* Who has unveiled Himself to the world (John 12:46) – the One who comes to us, and not only to us, but uses us, His Church, to be a light and revelation of God’s love to the nations.

Fr Trenton

PARISH NEWS

PARISH MINISTRIES

Director of Music: Jaki Kane

RCIA—Fr Trenton van Reesch
Weekly on Thursdays, 6pm

School of Religion

Weekly Liturgical Calendar

Mon 6 Jan	Christmas Time
Tue 7 Jan	Christmas Time
Wed 8 Jan	Christmas Time
Thu 9 Jan	Christmas Time
Fri 10 Jan	Christmas Time
Sat 11 Jan	Christmas Time
Sun 12 Jan	The Baptism of the Lord

Legion of Mary
Wednesday at 6.15pm
Haydon Hall

St Vincent de Paul
Assisting people in need and combatting social injustice in our community

Young Adults
Animating parish and Archdiocesan life through prayer and event participation
Thursday 6.30pm Rosary/Bible Sharing/Fellowship SCC
Geetanjali Rogers - 0438 585 177

Good Shepherd Prayer Group
Wednesday at 7pm SPC
Parish Room (Feb-Dec)

Christian Meditation
Saturday at 5pm SPC
"Be still and know that I am God" (Psalm 46:10)

Other Communities

Spanish Community
First Sunday of the month at 11.30am SPC

African Community
Second Sunday of the month at 11.45am SPC

Filipino Community
First Sunday bi-monthly at 5.00pm SPC

For details of any of the above, contact the Parish Office.

PARISH OFFICE CLOSED OVER CHRISTMAS — The Parish office will be closed from Tuesday 24 December and reopen on Monday 6 January 2020. May God bless you and your families this Christmas and throughout 2020.

PLENARY COUNCIL 2020 LISTENING AND DISCERNMENT SESSIONS

Theme: How is God calling us to be a Christ-centred Church that is Prayerful and Eucharistic; 6.30-9pm:

21 Jan 2020, Haydon Hall, 55 Franklin Street, Forrest ACT.



ATTENTION:

Call for Diocesan Delegates for the Plenary Council.

Have you been a part of the Plenary Council process of listening, prayer, dialogue and discernment? Do you feel called to be a delegate from our Archdiocese? Submit your Expression of Interest by speaking with Fr Trenton or Father Norvin. Expressions of Interest are due by noon, **25th January 2020**. Contact by emailing the Parish Office.

Any person expressing an interest **must** be available for **one** of the Preparation and formation days in: **Melbourne**: (Thursday 5.00pm 18 June 2020 – Saturday 1200pm 20 June 2020). **Brisbane**: (Thursday 5.00pm 25 June 2020 – Saturday 1200pm 27 June 2020). **Sydney**: (Thursday 5.00pm 16 July 2020 – Saturday 1200pm 18 July 2020). **Perth**: (Thursday 5.00pm 23 July 2020 – Saturday 1200pm 25 July 2020).

The **Plenary Council General Assembly 1** will be held on Sunday 2.00pm 4 October 2020 – Sunday 1200 11 October 2020. And the **Plenary Council General Assembly 2**, on Monday 12.00pm 28 June 2021 – Saturday 1200 3 July 2021.

Plenary Council Prayer

Come, Holy Spirit of Pentecost. Come, Holy Spirit of the great South Land. O God, bless and unite all your people in Australia and guide us on the pilgrim way of the Plenary Council. Give us the grace to see your face in one another and to recognise Jesus, our companion on the road. Give us the courage to tell our stories and to speak boldly of your truth. Give us ears to listen humbly to each other and a discerning heart to hear what you are saying. Lead your Church into a hope-filled future, that we may live the joy of the Gospel. Through Jesus Christ our Lord, bread for the journey from age to age. Amen.

Our Lady Help of Christians, pray for us. St Mary MacKillop, pray for us.

OTHER NEWS

A PROFOUNDLY REWARDING MISSION —Working in Education, Health and Trades? Assist to reduce poverty in overseas communities by sharing your skills. Mutual development assured! There are five places left on Palms Australia's January 4th – 12th Orientation Course. You must apply now for a position beginning any time in 2020. Call or text 0422 4PALMS (M-F). palms.org.au

TRIBUNAL OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH —Marriage breakdown is usually a traumatic experience for all those concerned with many divorcees unsure of the validity of this marriage within the Catholic Church. The Church reaches out in support of those whose marriage has broken down, while upholding the permanence of a true Christian marriage. If you are divorced or in the process of finalising your divorce and would like information about the annulment process, please contact the Tribunal on 6239 9813 or by email tribunal@cg.org.au. All enquiries remain confidential to the Tribunal.

CAN YOU VOLUNTEER AT VINNIES DURING CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS? Vinnies shops need short-term volunteers to help us during our busiest time of year! There are a variety of roles available – retail assistants, general hands (lifting and carrying!), and sorting donations. During this Christmas Holiday, your energy, compassion and skills can make a real difference to those doing it tough. If you are interested, please call 02 6234 7348 , email volunteer@svdp-cg.org.au or drop into your local Vinnies. You can find your nearest Vinnies shop by visiting www.vinnies.org.au/shops

FOOTSTEPS OF ST PAUL - Journey with St. Paul as you relive the Acts of the Apostles and the famous letters of the New Testament. Explore Greece and Greek islands in this 10N pilgrimage led by Catholic Priests that features Athens, Corinth, Mykonos, Kusadasi, Crete, Santorini, Hosios Loukas, Delphi, Thessaloniki, Philippi and Kavala for an all-inclusive Land Package price of \$4490 + Tips. The fare includes Entrances & Sites as per itinerary + Local Transfers in Deluxe coaches + Stay in Premium Hotels + 3N Cruise with Lunch + All Breakfast & Dinners + Catholic Priest + English speaking professional guides. 2020 Departures Available: 12th May 2020 and 20th Oct 2020. For inquiries & bookings call 03 8839 6615 or 1300721561 or email us info@magiholidays.com.au

SISTERHOOD CATHOLIC WOMEN'S CONFERENCE—20-22 – March 2020—weekend long event for women of all ages and stages of life at Stanwell Tops Sydney. Through keynote talks and workshops, mass, adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, reconciliation & quality sisterhood, women are given the opportunity to deepen in their personal relationship with Jesus Christ & develop community with other women. The conference seeks to provide keynote inputs, which are both spiritually enriching but also practical to the lives of women of all ages and stages of life. Early Bird Registration Ticket - \$239 including meals & accommodation. This special price is available only until December 17 2019. Tickets can be purchased via www.sisterhood.org.au.

KARINYA HOUSE: supporting women and babies in crises pregnancies. Please consider financially supporting by becoming a 'Friend of Karinya' today. www.karinyahouse.asn.au

Prayer for the Blessing of Rain

Lord God, Bless Australia – our Great South Land of the Holy Spirit.

Grant, that as the Cross shines in our southern skies, so may Christ bring light to our nation, to its peoples old and new. May we receive the blessing of abundant rain so that the "desert blooms with the life that lies in wait." We ask this through Christ, Our Lord.

Amen.



Tap & Go PayWave Machine to contribute to the Church collections without the necessity of carrying cash. Please PayWave your card at the pre-set Tap N Go machine located in the Church Foyer when you exit the church. Please contact the Parish Office with any questions.

We pray for...

Those who are ill: Brian Kelly, Lucy Duncan, Stella Lazar, Rod Duncan, Bruce Kennedy, Betty O'Neill, Anthony, Lisette D'Cruze, David Kibbey, Jacqueline Khin , Scott Pobihun

Anniversaries of death: Constantino Salza, Nola Palisi, Domenico Marando, Madeleine Marsh Wright, Domenico Virgara, Nuala Kelly, John McLennan Duffy, Giuseppe Bonfini, Philomena Burke, Fr Thomas Wright, Raymond Noonan, Eva Kotthoff, Kathleen Moriarty, Olga Knight, Margaret Wilson, Frederick Howley, Edith Dorn, Ellen Fenner, Anna Italiano, Judy Foschia, Bruna Romano, Mary Pini,

Recently Deceased: Patricia Smith, David Cusack, Anica Soldo, John Gallagher, David Askew, Andrew Italiano, Stanley Marris, Patricia Brennan (Mother of Fr Frank Brennan) Desmind Maquire, Patrick Maher, Florence Taylor, Pasquale Caggiano, Rosalie Novak, Betty O'Brien, Norman Stevenson, John Arganese, Antonio Russo,

Readings of the Day – The Epiphany of the Lord —Year A

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

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: Alleluia, alleluia! We have seen his star in the East; and have come to adore the Lord. Alleluia!

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

First Reading

Is 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.

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 Christ Jesus, through the gospel.

Gospel Reading

Mt 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: 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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LITURGICAL MINISTRIES ROSTER

Lectors			Extraordinary Ministers of Eucharist	
Mass	4/5 Jan	11/12 Jan	4/5 Jan	11/12 Jan
6.00pm (SPC)	Frances Bulbrook Felicity de Fombelle	Mike Nash Geraldene Ford	Mary Debus Sue Buckingham	Any available EMHC
8.00am (SCC)	Philip Pocock Assigned	Liza Quinn Mineke Peerboom	Mineke Peerboom Liza Quinn	Phillip Pocick Liza Quinn
9.30am (SPC)	Colliss Parrett Wanda Kaucz	Jaye Longland Lynn Chan	Colliss Parrett	Wilfred & Margaret Lawrence
11.00am (SCC)	Mark Hyman Liz Porra	Edwina Hyman Leeann Galloway	Jacqueline Hipwell Bronwen Grey	Ceciley Matthews Kathryn Ruston
5.30pm (SCC)	Jacob Madden Leeann Galloway	Youth Mass	Elizabeth Young Lionel D'Cruze	Elizabeth Young Lionel D'Cruze

St Christopher's Cathedral Parish encompasses the areas of Barton, Causeway, Deakin, Forrest, Fyshwick, Griffith, Kingston, Manuka, Parkes, Red Hill, Yarralumla