

BULLETIN

St Pius X Church

The Epiphany of the Lord - Year C

5th January 2025



Christ our Anchor

Manning Parish

Catholic Archdiocese of Perth

23 Paterson Street, Manning WA 6152

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Scripture Commentary by Dianne Bergant CSA



The test of the character of the royal rule is the care given to the most vulnerable of the society, the poor.

The psalmist prays that this rule will be steadfast in peace, including the entire world and all of the nations within it. The reading ends with a picture of righteousness in action. The kingdom has been rooted in the righteousness of God and the most vulnerable in the society have an advocate in the king.

The epistle insists that in Christ the Gentiles are co-heirs, co-members and co-partners with the Jews. What qualifies one as an heir is life in the Spirit of Christ and not natural generation into a particular national group. All belong to the body of Christ, not the bloodline of Abraham. The promise at the heart of the gospel is the promise of universal salvation through Christ, not that of descendants and prosperity in a particular land. The Gentiles are co-heirs precisely as Gentiles and not as initiates who have come to Christ through the faith of Israel. The one thing necessary is to be 'in Christ'. This is a radical insight for a church with Jewish roots and traditions.

The Three Kings or Wise Men were astrologers who studied the heavens in search of the meaning of human life. The gospel account is a haggadah, a Jewish story fashioned from diverse biblical material intended to make a theological point. The author of this account probably provided theological explanation of an actual astral phenomenon. Lest the astrological details lead us to believe that the birth was a myth, he then situates it squarely in time and place: the reign of Herod, Bethlehem and Jerusalem. The anonymous men come out of obscurity and return to obscurity. All we know is that they were not Israelite, and this is the whole point of the story. The child draws Jew and Gentile alike.

The reading opens with a twofold summons: 'Arise!' 'Shine!' Called out of darkness, the illumination into which Jerusalem emerges is not merely the light of a new day, a new era of peace and prosperity. It is the very light of God; it is the glory of the Lord.

Other nations will witness the glory of the Lord as it is revealed through the salvation of this people. The light they provide for others is really the radiance of God's glory. That glory is in fact the manifestation of Jerusalem's deliverance. Thus, Jerusalem's redemption enables others to behold and to walk in God's light. This is why it is told to 'Arise and shine forth!'

The psalmist asks God to bless the king with justice so that the king in turn can exercise justice over the people. This is no ordinary king; he has been placed over the covenanted people to rule them as God would, in justice and righteousness.

Fr Anthony Vu

Parish Priest

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Vinita Rai

Parish Secretary

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Office Hours

Tuesday to Friday 9am to 1.00 pm

SCHEDULES

Confession

Saturday 5.00 to 5.45pm

Or anytime by appointment

Weekend Masses

Saturday 6.00pm Vigil Mass

Sunday 7.30am, 9.00am Mass

& 11.00am Chinese Mass

Weekday Masses

Monday 8.00am Communion Service

Tuesday to Saturday 8.00am Mass

(Check Parish Calendar for Variations)

Sacrament of Baptism

Saturdays at 10.30am

Or any time by appointment

with Fr Anthony

Sacrament of Marriage

By appointment with Fr Anthony

At least 6 Months before wedding

Marriage Preparation Course Enrolment

Website: www.cmfs.org.au

Email: enquiries@cmfs.org.au

SPX Safeguarding Officers

The role of Safeguarding Officers is to ensure the safety of children, young people and the vulnerable in the Catholic Church

6pm Vigil Mass - Harry Rai

7:30am Mass - Marie Chaperon - 9313 4585

9am Mass - Tina Fernandes 0411 821 065

11am Chinese Mass

Gregory Lo 0435 383 417, Andrew Tai 0435 950 532

Juliana Tseng 0438 864 689

Email: safeguarding@manningparish.org.au



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Melissa Vranjes

Principal

Our Motto

At St Pius X Catholic Primary School, the values lived by Jesus Christ are the foundation for everything we do

First Reading

Isaiah 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.

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

Ephesians 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 Acclamation

Matthew 2:2

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

Gospel

Matthew 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.

Reflection for Young People By Lisa-Marie Calderone-Stewart

The astrologers in the Magi story went through quite a journey in search of the baby Jesus. They obviously believed in him and had faith in the star.

Have you ever 'followed a star'? Have you ever gone after a dream or an ideal you believed in? Are you still going after it? What gives you the energy to keep going? How do you know it is worth it?

The gifts brought by the Magi have significance.

Gold is a symbol of wealth and fidelity.

Frankincense is burned to purify the atmosphere by releasing an aromatic and pleasing smell. For centuries, indigenous people in many countries have burned smoke in order to bless and purify themselves, and monks have watched incense rise to the sky as a symbol of their prayers ascending to God.

Myrrh is a kind of resin or oil used for anointing and embalming. It is a symbol of comfort and soothing (who doesn't enjoy a rub-down?) but it is also a foreshadowing of death.

How were these gifts symbolic for Jesus?

What three gifts would be symbolic of you and your life so far? Explain the symbolism.

Next Sunday Readings

The Baptism of the Lord

12 January 2025 - Year C

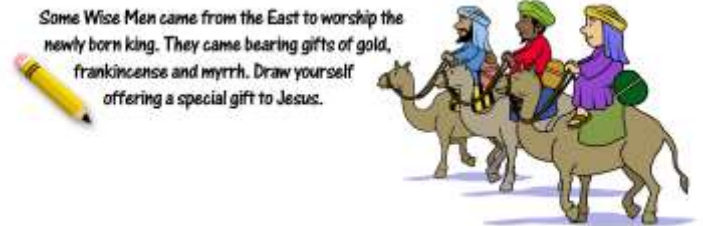
First Reading: Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11

Second Reading: Titus 2:11-14, 3:4-7

Gospel: Luke 3:15-16, 21-22

CHILDREN'S CORNER

Some Wise Men came from the East to worship the newly born king. They came bearing gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. Draw yourself offering a special gift to Jesus.




ROSTER		Weekend of 4/5 January	Weekend 11/12 January
Special Ministers	Sat 6.00pm	Christine Carvalho	Christine Carvalho
	Sun 7.30am	Marilyn Lamplugh	Marilyn Lamplugh
	Sun 9.00am	Lina DaSilva	Lina DaSilva
Readers	Sat 6.00pm	Edwin Carvalho	Krystyna Henderson
	Sun 7.30am	Les Price	David Jenaway
	Sun 9.00am	Shirley Whitfield	Vincent Whyte
Counters		Kas Luczak & G Shankar	H & F Tay

St Pius X Church Masses		
Jan Mon 6	8.00am	Communion Service
Tue 7	8.00am	Mass (Weekday of Christmas Time)
Wed 8	8.00am	Mass (Weekday of Christmas Time)
Thu 9	8.00am	Mass (Weekday of Christmas Time)
Fri 10	8.00am	Mass (Weekday of Christmas Time)
Sat 11	8.00am	Mass (Weekday of Christmas Time)
	6.00pm	Vigil Mass (The Baptism of the Lord)
Sun 12	7.30am	Mass (The Baptism of the Lord)
	9.00am	Mass (The Baptism of the Lord)
	11.00am	Chinese Mass (The Baptism of the Lord)



SPX Parish Office
 The Parish Office will be closed from Monday 23rd December - Monday 6 January 2025 (both days inclusive)



Line Dancing Classes
 Mondays and Wednesdays
 10am - 12noon \$6 per session
 All proceeds go to the Parish
 This is a community building initiative to keep you fit and active with the help of Francis and Hellen Tay
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Tai Chi Group
 Mondays in Parish Hall except holidays
 Starts 7:30pm and finishes at 8:30pm
 All parishioners are most welcome
 For more information, please contact or text Maurice on 0408 782 224 or Stephen on 0403 167 838

Jubilee Year 2025
Place of Grace and Pilgrimage
Schoenstatt Shrine
 All Catholics are encouraged during the Jubilee Year 2025 to undertake a Pilgrimage
 In the Archdiocese of Perth, the Schoenstatt Shrine at Mt Richon has been designated as a place of Grace and Pilgrimage
 Schoenstatt means a beautiful place. The Schoenstatt shrine is nestled among an expanse of grounds and natural bushland, providing an atmosphere of peace and tranquility
 The mission of the Schoenstatt Marian Movement is to bring the presence of Christ to all we meet, discovering God's love in every person, in all creation and in every event of our lives
 To arrange a parish or individual pilgrimage during 2025 please contact Sr Lisette on 0400 234 910

CHILDREN'S CORNER

Help the wise men find their way to Bethlehem - watch out for King Herod!




May Jesus Light shine on you all year long.
Blessed New Year

Wishing all our Parishioners and their families a safe, happy and Blessed New Year

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