

BULLETIN

St Pius X Church

Epiphany of the Lord - Year B

3rd January 2021



Christ our Anchor

Manning Parish

Catholic Archdiocese of Perth

23 Paterson Street, Manning WA 6152

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Sunday Reflection by Fr John Thornhill sm



Through the Incarnation, the generosity and mercy of God have finally appeared among us - in the life of one who is the very expression of the Father's greatness. And so, from earliest times the Church's Christmas celebration has made reference the Epiphany, or 'Manifestation' of the Lord - symbolised in the story of today's gospel, but also realised in a special way in the Lord's baptism, and in the 'first sign' he worked at the marriage in Cana. It comes as no surprise, when we hear it read, to find that today's first reading from Isaiah has a very ancient association with this festival: 'Arise, shine out Jerusalem. The nations come to your light and kings to your brightness'. This passage - from the writings of the Isaian tradition from the period after the return from the exile - expresses a vision of Israel fulfilling its role as 'a light to the nations'. Sharing in the 'glory' (or incomparable greatness) of the Lord himself, the holy city will attract the wealth of the nations as the kings of the earth share in its rebuilding.

This Old Testament text and its parallels (see Ps 72:10) may have inspired the story recounted by Matthew in today's gospel. It is possible that an unusual astronomical event may also have contributed to its inspiration, calling to mind the prophecy of Balaam, 'a star is emerging from Jacob' (Num 24:17). As it stands, the story is filled with symbolic meaning. The Magi represent the nations of the earth finding the Saviour of the world - in contrast to the scribes of Israel, familiar with the scriptures but not recognising their fulfilment; the gifts of the Magi are symbolic of the world's confession of faith

in Christ - gold for royalty, frankincense for priesthood, myrrh for the one who is to die; notoriously ruthless Herod reminds us of earthly powers that obstruct the designs of God. We should note, especially, the significance of the words, 'going in they saw the child with his mother, Mary'. While Luke's narrative of Christ's conception and birth has Mary as its central figure, Matthew's account of the virgin birth is centred on Joseph. The words we have quoted, however, reflect the importance already given to Mary in the community that gave us Matthew's gospel.

The second reading from Paul's letter to the Ephesians continues the theme of 'manifestation', as it takes us into the depths of Paul's vision of faith in Christ. For Paul, of course, God's dealings with the human family have come to a magnificent climax in what God has done for the world in Christ. As we read in the opening lines of the letter to the Ephesians, Paul interprets Christ's saving work as the revelation of a great 'mystery' - the real purpose God has had in mind since the beginning of creation: 'He has let us know the mystery of his purpose, to bring everything together under Christ as head, everything in the heavens and everything on earth'. Through his ministry, Paul has seen the realisation of what is symbolised in the story of the Magi - the whole human race is called with old Israel, to share 'the same inheritance', to be 'parts of the same body', to share in 'promise' that the 'gospel' has brought to the world 'in Christ Jesus'.

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With this app, you only have to scan a QR code to check in (QR code will be displayed at Church entrance/foyer). More information is available here:

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Office Hours

Tuesday to Friday 9am to 12 noon

Safeguarding Officers

Barbara Thomson, Tina Fernandes, Jeevan Joseph, Greg Lo, Ryan Gonsalves

SCHEDULES

Confession

Saturday 5.00 to 5.30pm

Or anytime by appointment

Normal Weekend Masses

Saturday 6.00pm Vigil Mass

Sunday 7.30am, 9.00am Mass

& 11.00am Chinese Mass

Normal Weekday Masses

Monday 8.00am Communion Service

Tuesday to Saturday 8.00am Mass

(Check Parish Calendar for Variations)

Sacrament of Baptism

Welcoming & Naming

First Sunday at 9.00am Mass

Baptism outside Mass

Second Saturday at 10.30am

No Baptism during Mass in Lent

Third Sunday during 9.00am Mass

Other Time

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Sacrament of Marriage

By appointment with Fr Patrick

At least 6 Months before wedding

Marriage Preparation Course Enrolment

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Manning WA 6152

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admin@stpiousx.wa.edu.au

Melissa Vranjes

New Principal 2021

Our Motto

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

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ROSTER		Weekend of 2/3 Jan	Weekend of 9/10 Jan
Special Ministers	Sat 6.00pm	Suspended temporarily	Suspended temporarily
	Sun 7.30am	Suspended temporarily	Suspended temporarily
	Sun 9.00am	Suspended temporarily	Suspended temporarily
Readers	Sat 6.00pm	Jean Pavey	Krystyna Henderson
	Sun 7.30am	Les Price	Michelle Cota
	Sun 9.00am	Shirley Whitfield	Maria Fernandes
Altar Servers	Sat 6.00pm	Suspended temporarily	Suspended temporarily
	Sun 9.00am	Suspended temporarily	Suspended temporarily
Counters		Sharon & Ryan Moore	Colleen & Pat Lowry

PARISH CALENDAR		
Jan Sat 2	6.00pm	Vigil Mass (Epiphany of the Lord Year B) Church
Sun 3	7.30am	Sunday Mass (Epiphany of the Lord Year B) Church
	9.00am	Sunday Mass (Epiphany of the Lord Year B) Church
	11.00am	Chinese Mass (Epiphany of the Lord Year B) Church
Mon 4	8.00am	Communion (Monday after Epiphany) Church
Tue 5	8.00am	Mass (Tuesday after Epiphany) - Church
Wed 6	8.00am	Mass (Wednesday after Epiphany) Church
Thu 7	8.00am	Mass (Thursday after Epiphany) Church
Fri 8	9-30am	Funeral Mass Rosawati Surjadi There will be no 8.00am Mass
Sat 9	8.00am	Mass (Saturday after Epiphany) Church
	5.00-5.30pm	Confession - Church



Line Dancing Classes

Every Wednesday 10am - 12noon
\$5 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 & Hellen Tay
All are welcome; no age limits!

CHILDREN'S CORNER

Three 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.



PLEASE TAKE YOUR BULLETIN HOME - DON'T LEAVE IT BEHIND (COVID-SAFE RULE)

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.

Schedule for 2021

All the activities below are having a break now

Line Dancing

Date Recommence: 6 January 2021

Tai Chi:

Date Recommence: TBA

Osteo Exercise

Date Recommence: 7 January 2021

Next Sunday Readings

Baptism of the Lord Year B - 10 January 2021

First Reading: Isaiah 55:1-11

Second Reading: 1 John 5:1-9

Gospel: Mark 1:7-11



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